



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVPUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

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SCOTT M. SHONE, PhD, HCLD (ABB) • Laboratory Director, State
Laboratory of Public Health

Memo

To: Submitters of Clinical Samples to the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health
From: Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB), Public Health Laboratory Director
Date: October 14, 2026
Re: Addition of Moxifloxacin to First-Line TB Drug Susceptibility Testing

On October 12, 2026, the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health (NCSLPH) began performing in-house moxifloxacin susceptibility testing at the WHO-recommended critical concentration breakpoint of 0.25 µg/mL using the BD BACTEC MGIT 960 system. This addition supports the increasing clinical use of fluoroquinolone-containing treatment regimens for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (MTBC), including the newer 4-month regimen that combines the first-line drugs isoniazid, rifapentine, moxifloxacin, and pyrazinamide.

Moxifloxacin will be included automatically in the first-line *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (MTBC) drug susceptibility testing (DST) panel for any specimen that meets criteria for DST. A separate order for moxifloxacin testing is not required. The reporting format will remain unchanged.

As fluoroquinolones are now more commonly used when first-line TB drugs cannot be tolerated or when resistance to them is suspected, timely phenotypic detection of fluoroquinolone resistance has become increasingly important for patient management. Performing this testing in-house reduces external referrals and shortens turnaround time, providing clinicians with timely and clinically actionable results. While levofloxacin results will generally correlate with moxifloxacin results, the correlation is not perfect, and if use of levofloxacin is being considered, clinical consultation should be requested.

Mycobacteriology testing should be ordered through the NCSLPH Lab Web Portal (LWP) for users with access to the system. Additional information about LWP can be found on the LWP Resources webpage or by contacting slph.eto@dhhs.nc.gov. The current paper [Mycobacteriology test requisition \(DHHS-1247\)](#) can also be found on the [NCSLPH Specimen Submittal Form website](#).

For questions or additional information, please contact the NCSLPH Mycobacteriology Laboratory at 919-733-7367.