



ADMISSION CRITERIA TO RICHMOND TB HOSPITAL

Referral from PHC clinics and general hospitals to TB hospital is indicated if at least one of the following admission criteria is met:

- A medical reason for admission when clients diagnosed with TB are too ill or too weak to go home, including severely emaciated TB clients without other complications.
- Re – treatment TB cases requiring streptomycin injections that cannot be managed at clinic.
- Social or socio medical reasons for admissions, when the clinic or community supported care cannot be achieved, particularly in the case of high risk groups like alcohol or drug dependence, mentally disturbed clients or previously non-compliant clients.
- In all cases, a completed TB referral form should accompany referrals. This must include relevant basic personal, clinical and diagnostic information e.g. confirmed sputum smear or culture results or other reasons for making the diagnosis of TB (clinical findings, x – rays report or other)

Admission of clients from general hospitals, clinics or private institutions to TB hospitals should only take place when the TB diagnosis has been confirmed and the clients on other medical conditions have been stabilized:

- Clients with negative smears require a culture to confirm PTB. Other conditions such as bacterial or viral pneumonias, congestive cardiac failure, asthma, chronic obstructive lung disease, bronchiectasis and bronchial carcinoma need to be excluded in the differential diagnosis.
- TB clients with medical conditions such as diabetes mellitus, epilepsy and severe hypertension should be stabilized before referral.
- Severely ill clients with extra – pulmonary TB (TB meningitis, TB pericarditis) need to be stabilized in general hospitals before transfer to TB hospital.

Mr NP Dladla
Chief Executive Officer
Richmond Hospital