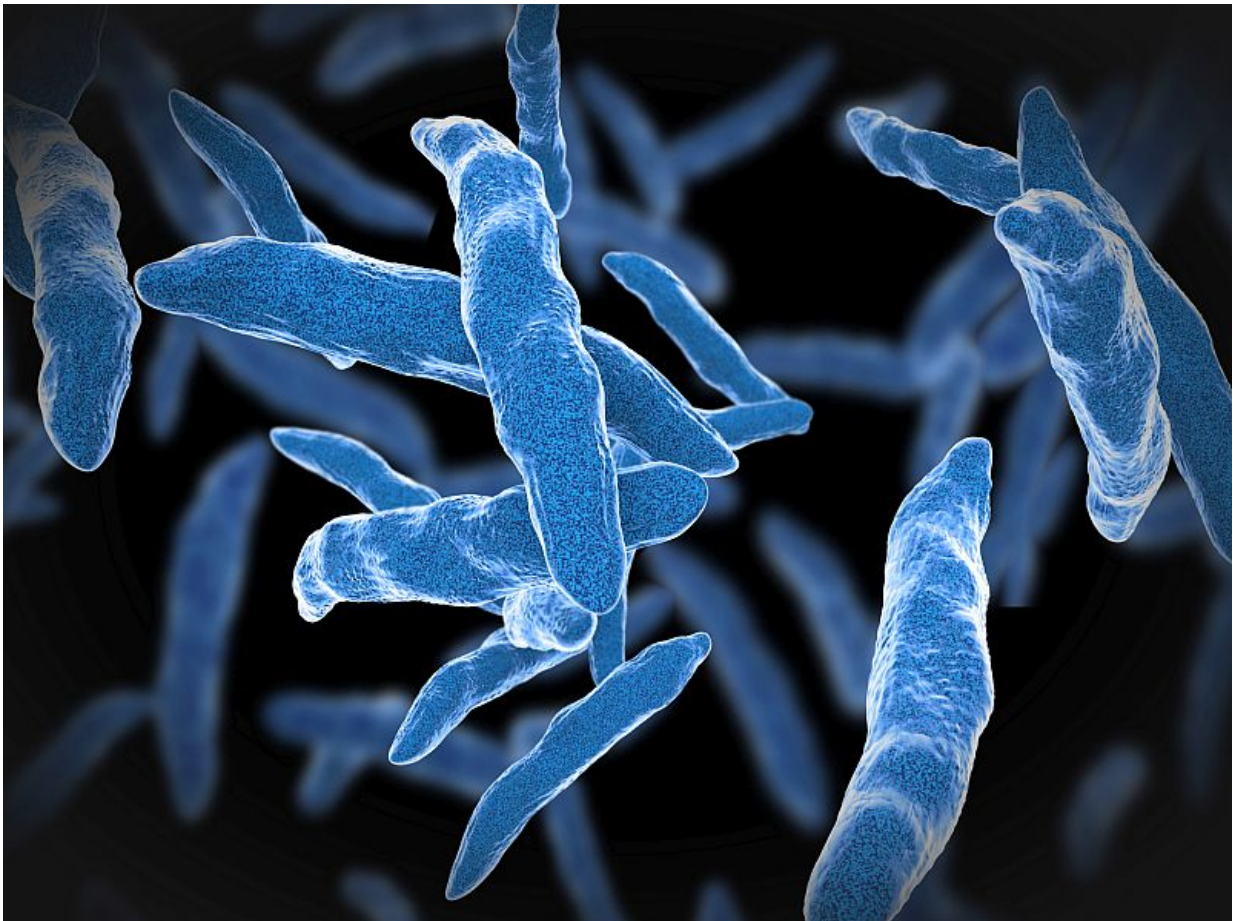


# Change in conversion definition may improve TB detection

August 4 2017

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(HealthDay)—A change of QuantiFERON-TB interferon (IFN) $\gamma$  values

from 0.7 IU/mL is associated with an increased incidence in the rate of tuberculosis, according to a study published online July 24 in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

Elisa Nemes, Ph.D., from the University of Cape Town in South Africa, and colleagues assessed sources of QuantiFERON-TB variability and identified optimal procedures. The authors analyzed distributions of IFN $\gamma$  response levels in healthy adolescents, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*M.tb*)-unexposed controls, and pulmonary tuberculosis patients.

The researchers found that IFN $\gamma$  values were

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