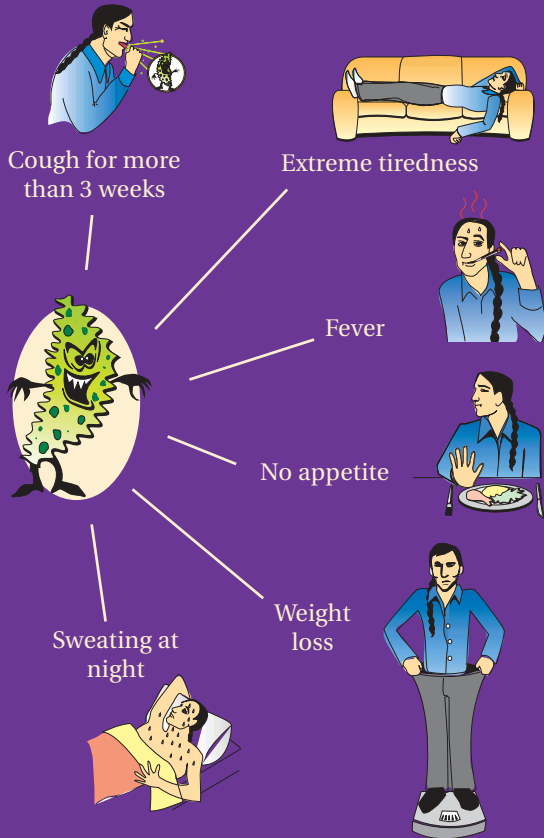


*Communities
can work together
to eliminate TB!*



*TB is curable
and preventable...*
Think TB!

*TB disease - the germ is awake
and causing harm to the body.
It can cause these symptoms...*



For more information contact
your local health center:



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TB Disease



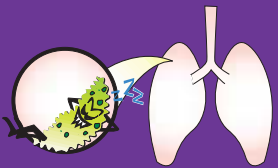
What is tuberculosis (TB)?



TB is caused by bacteria (germs) and is spread when a person with TB disease of the lungs coughs the germs into the air. People sharing that air may breathe in the germs and develop either...



TB infection...



The germs are asleep, not causing damage, and cannot be spread to others.

TB disease...



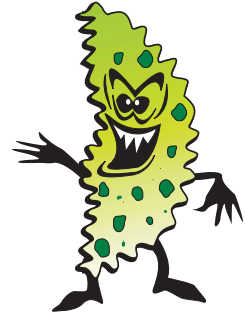
The germs are awake and causing damage. TB disease of the lungs is contagious.



The germs can wake up and cause TB disease later in life.

Can TB Disease be cured?

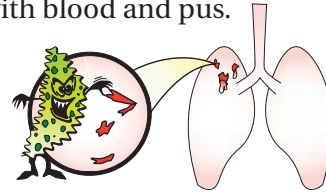
YES! Taking TB medications kills the bacteria and cures TB disease. It is important to take your medication as directed for the medicine to work.



What does TB do to the body?

TB can occur almost anywhere in the body. It occurs most often in the lungs. Only TB of the lungs is contagious.

When TB germs start to grow they cause hard lumps to form in the body. As more germs grow the lumps get bigger and damage the area causing holes filled with blood and pus.



TB can cause serious illness and even death if not treated. Remember TB can be treated and is curable!



Treatment of TB Disease

- If you have contagious TB, you will need to take the first weeks of treatment in the hospital.
- Once you are no longer contagious, your treatment will be completed in your community
- TB is treated with several special antibiotics. Treatment usually lasts from 6-9 months
- By taking the medication until you are cured, you protect your family and friends from TB
- A community nurse or CHR will give each dose of your medication
- Blood work will be done during treatment to make sure that your body is tolerating the TB medications
- Other tests such as X-rays or specimen samples (such as sputum) may be required.
- Alcohol and drugs should be avoided during treatment because they make your liver work harder while on TB medications

**TB is
PREVENTABLE
AND CURABLE**