

HEAR **A**CT **L**EARN **T**REAT **TUBERCULOSIS** **Tuberculosis (TB) Facts**



HEAR

What is TB?

“TB” is short for a disease called Tuberculosis. TB disease primarily affects the lungs but can attack any part of the body (e.g. the kidneys, the brain, or the spine). People who have TB disease need to be seen by a medical professional, if they don’t get help, they can die. However, TB can be treated and cured.



ACT

How To Get Tested For TB?

A TB skin test is the only way to find out if a person has been infected with TB. Skin tests are available at health department or a local doctor’s office for a nominal fee.



LEARN

How is TB Spread?

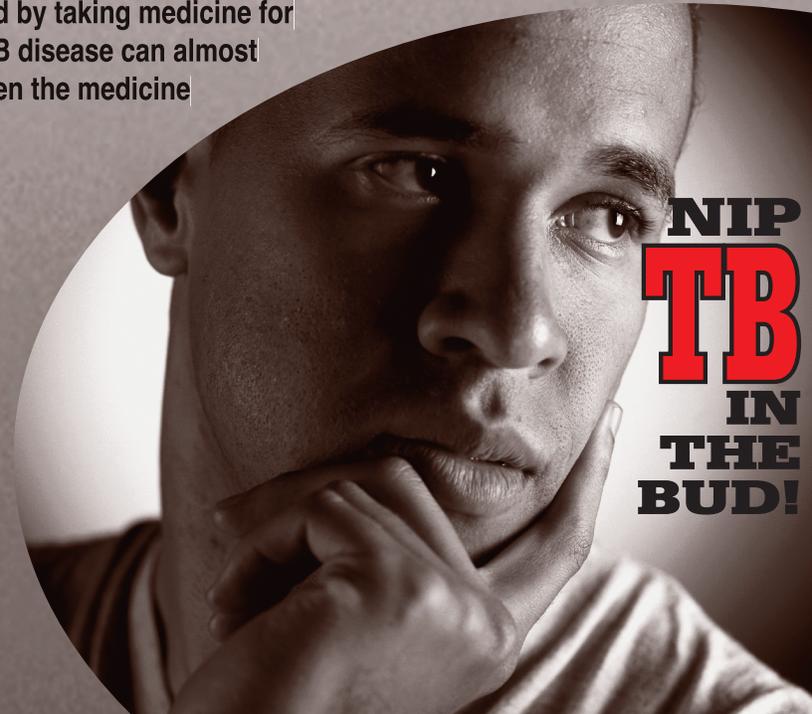
TB is spread through the air when a person with TB disease of the lungs or throat coughs, shouts, sings or sneezes. The people nearby can then breathe the TB germs into their lungs.



TREAT

How is TB Disease Treated?

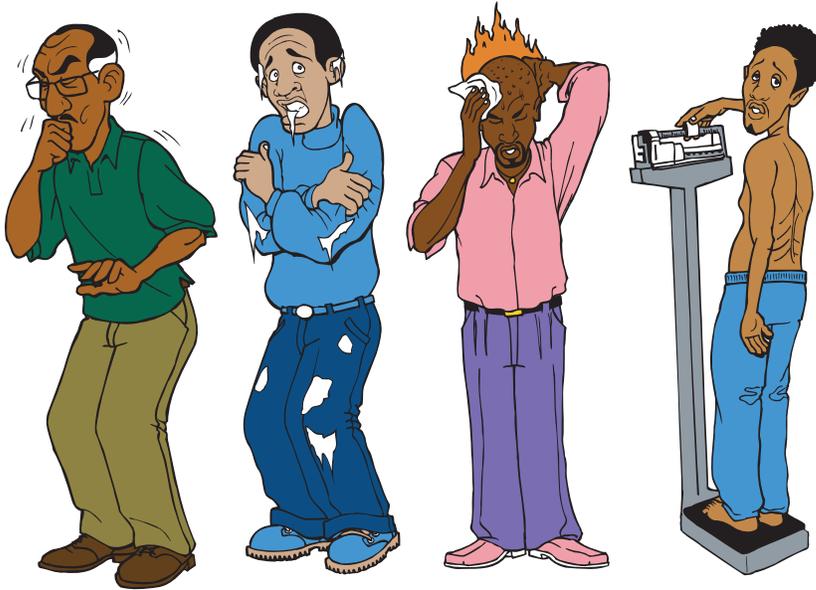
TB disease is treated by taking medicine for at least 6 months. TB disease can almost always be cured when the medicine is taken properly.



**NIP
TB
IN
THE
BUD!**

What Are The Symptoms of TB Disease?

Symptoms of TB depend on where in the body the TB germs are growing. TB disease in the lungs may cause:

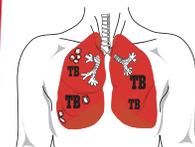


- A bad cough that lasts longer than 2 weeks
- Chills
- Coughing up blood or phlegm (“flem”)
- Fever
- No appetite
- Pain in the chest
- Sweating at night
- Weakness or fatigue
- Weight loss

A person should get tested for TB if:

- The person spends time with someone known or suspected to have TB disease
- The person has HIV infection or another condition that puts them at high risk for TB disease
- The person thinks they might have TB disease

- The person injects drugs
- The person lives in an area where TB disease is more common (homeless shelter, prison, jail or nursing home)
- The person lived or spent time in countries where TB disease is very common (most countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Russia)



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For more information call: 404-730-1450
<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/tb/>