

What is Tuberculosis?

Should I be tested?

How do I know if I have Tuberculosis (TB)?

Only your doctor can tell if you have TB. First you will be given either a skin test or the new blood test. A positive skin or blood test means TB germs are in your body—*Latent TB Infection*. If you have a positive test, you will need a chest x-ray to find out if the germs have caused any damage in your lungs—*Active TB Disease*. You may be asked to cough up sputum (mucus) from your lungs to check for TB germs.

If you have had a positive TB test in the past or have taken TB medication, please tell the healthcare worker at the time you are screened for TB.

TB Test Sites in your area:

- Adult Immunization and Travel Clinic: 101 Grove Street (Rm 102), (415) 554-2625
- Castro - Mission Health Center: 3850 17th Street, (415) 934-7700
- Children's Health Center at SFGH: 1001 Potrero Avenue (Rm 6M5), (415) 206-8376
- Chinatown Public Health Center: 1490 Mason Street, (415) 364-7600
- Curry Senior Center: 333 Turk Street, (415) 885-2274
- Glide Health Services: 330 Ellis Street (4th Floor), (415) 674-6140
- Haight Ashbury Free Clinic: 558 Clayton Street, (415) 746-1950
- Lyon Martin Women's Health Service: 1748 Market Street, #201, (415) 565-7667
- Maxine Hall Health Center: 1301 Pierce Street, (415) 292-1300
- Mission Neighborhood Health Center: 240 Shotwell Street, (415) 552-3870
- Mission Neighborhood Resource Center: 165 Capp Street, (415) 869-7977
- Native American Health Center: 160 Capp Street, (415) 621-8051
- North East Medical Services: 1520 Stockton Street, 82 Leland Avenue, 2308 Taraval Street, (415) 391-9686
- Ocean - Park Health Center: 1351 24th Avenue, (415) 682-1900
- Potrero Hill Health Center: 1050 Wisconsin Street, (415) 648-3022
- St. Anthony's Free Medical Clinic: 150 Golden Gate Avenue, (415) 241-8320
- San Francisco Free Clinic: 4900 California Street, (415) 750-9894
- South of Market Health Center: 551 Minna Street, (415) 626-2951
- Southeast Health Center: 2401 Keith Street, (415) 671-7000
- Tom Waddell Health Center: 50 Lech Walesa Street, (415) 355-7400

WHO should have a TB test?

Anyone can get tuberculosis, but some people are more likely to be infected than others. The following people are at high risk and may need to be tested:

- People who have symptoms of TB such as cough, tiredness, night sweats, fever, weight loss, or coughing up blood
- Homeless people
- Injection drug users
- People with HIV infection (the virus that causes AIDS)
- Diabetics
- Dialysis patients
- People with special medical conditions that weaken the immune system (cancer, organ transplant, or steroid medication)
- People who share the same breathing space (such as family members, friends, coworkers) with someone who has TB disease
- People recently arrived from areas of the world where TB is common (for example, Asia, Africa, or Latin America)
- People who live or work in prisons, nursing homes, or homeless shelters

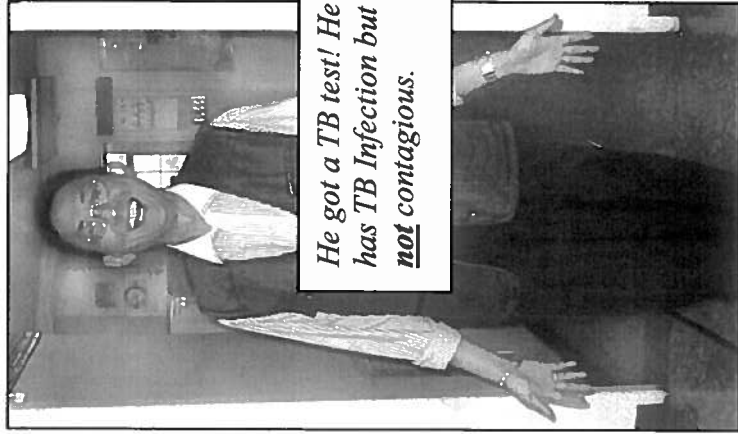
There is a difference between *TB Infection* and *TB Disease*!

You **CANNOT** get TB from:

TB Infection

If you are among the many people infected with TB:

- You have dormant (sleeping) TB germs in your body.
- You are not sick, and you have no symptoms.
- You cannot give the germs to anyone else.



Active TB Disease

If you are among the few people with active TB disease:

- You have many active TB germs in your body.
- You are sick and you may have symptoms like a cough, fever, and weight loss.
- You need to see a doctor!
- You can give TB germs to others.



TB germs are coughed into the air by someone who is sick with **Active TB Disease**. You can only catch tuberculosis by breathing in the germ.

- Clothes
- Sharing eating utensils
- Food
- Bedding
- Toilet seats
- Shaking hands
- Sexual intercourse
- Using and sharing needles

