

Communities can work together to eliminate TB!



TB is CURABLE
and **PREVENTABLE...**

Think **TB!**

Please return to the health centre on

to have your test checked.

Health centre phone number:

Tests not read by a nurse within 48 to 72 hours of being given will need to be repeated. All tests, even when there appears to be no change to the skin, must be checked.

**For more information
contact your local health centre**

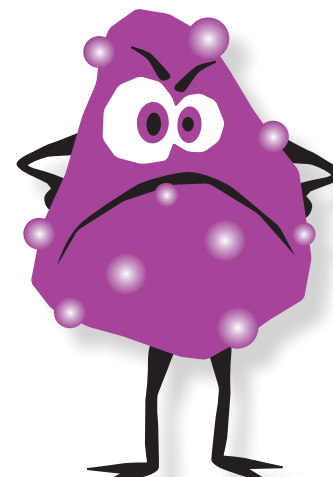
www.hss.gov.yk.ca

Yukon
Health and Social Services

*Adapted with permission from
The Lung Association, Alberta and NWT*

2010

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TB

Contacts &
Skin Tests

Is TB disease contagious?

Only **TB** disease of the lungs is contagious.

I've been told I'm a contact. What does that mean?

Being a contact means you have shared close air space with a person who has contagious **TB** disease. You may have breathed in the germ and become infected with **TB**.

What will happen next?

If you have been told you are a contact, or think you may be a contact, visit your health centre.

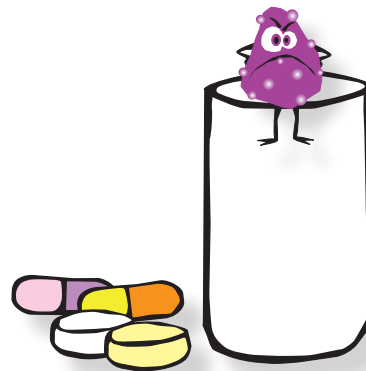
- The nurse will ask about:
 - your health history
 - time spent with the person with **TB**
 - symptoms of **TB**
- The nurse will do a **TB** skin test to determine if you have **TB** germs in your body. You may also need more tests.
- If you have had **TB** disease or a positive skin test before, you will need to have a chest X-ray and sputum tests.

Does this mean I am going to develop TB disease?

Most people who breathe in the **TB** germ do not develop **TB** disease, but **1 in every 10 people infected will develop TB disease at some point in their life.** People who are very young or very old or have weak immune systems have a greater chance of developing **TB** disease.

Will I need to take medications?

If the skin test shows you have the **TB** germ in your body, you may be offered medications to treat the infection. This will kill the sleeping germs and prevent you from getting sick with **TB** disease. If you do not take the medications, you will need follow-up tests to ensure the germs do not wake up and cause damage to your body.

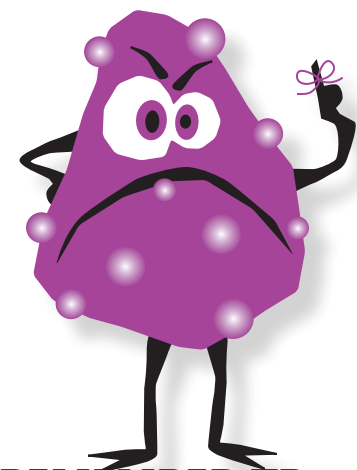


What is a TB skin test?

A **TB** skin test will show if you have **TB** bacteria in your body. A nurse will inject a small amount of special fluid into the skin of your arm. Forty-eight to 72 hours later, the nurse will read the test by examining your arm.

What do the TB skin results mean?

A positive skin test may mean that you have breathed in the **TB** germ at some time in your life. Tests, such as a chest X-ray or sputum sample will show whether the germ is asleep (**TB** infection) or awake (**TB** disease).



REMEMBER TB can be **TREATED** and is **CURABLE!**