

How do I know if I have TB?

Only a doctor can assess if you have TB via several procedures:

- You will be given either the Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) Skin Test or the QuantiFERON (QFT) Blood Test. A positive skin or blood test indicates TB germs are in your body – **latent TB infection (LTBI)**.



- 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.

Where can I get a TB test?

- Your primary care provider can give you a skin or blood test for TB.
- ZSFG Tuberculosis Clinic, Ward 94, provides TB testing for individuals who have been exposed to active TB disease only.

If you had a positive TB test or took TB medication(s) in the past, inform the healthcare worker when you are screened for TB.

If my first TB test is negative, am I okay?

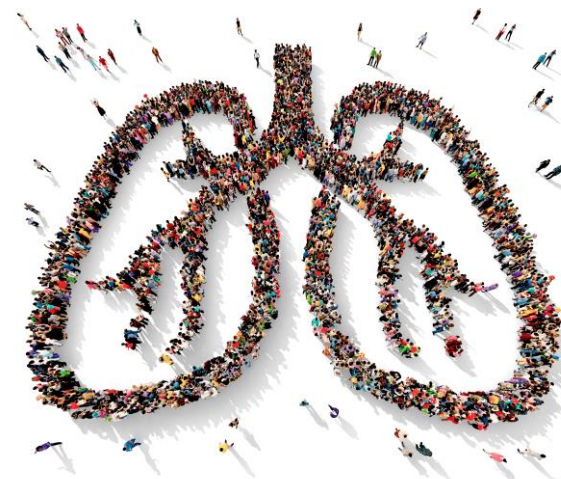
Even if your first TB test is negative, you could still have TB germs in your body. You may need a second TB test 8-12 weeks later to confirm you do not have TB germs.

Contact Us

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TUBERCULOSIS



I Have Been Exposed to Tuberculosis (TB)

What should I do now?

What is Tuberculosis (TB)?

Tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious, airborne disease that is caused by a bacterium (germ) called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. When a person who is sick with active TB coughs or sneezes, their germs enter the air. You can only get TB by breathing in this germ.

TB has two different stages:

Latent or Inactive TB Infection (LTBI)	Active TB Disease
<p>If you are among the many people with LTBI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">You have dormant (sleeping) TB germs in your body.You are <u>not</u> contagious. You <u>cannot</u> pass the germs to others.You are not sick and have no symptoms.	<p>If you are among the few people with active TB disease:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">You have many active TB germs in your body.You <u>are</u> contagious. You <u>can</u> pass TB germs to others.You are sick and may have symptoms such as cough, fever, and weight loss.You <u>must</u> see a doctor.



You cannot get TB from:

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



If you have spent time with a person who has active TB disease, you may have breathed in some of the TB germs.

You should be tested for TB.

Not everyone who comes in contact with TB gets infected.

If you are infected, there are TB medications that can cure the infection and prevent you from getting sick with active TB disease.