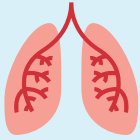


Tuberculosis

What you should know

Tuberculosis (TB) is a bacterial infection.



Most people with TB have it in their lungs. But it can infect any part of the body.



Antibiotics can cure TB.

TB isn't easily spread.

You have to spend a lot of time close to a person with active TB disease to catch it.



TB isn't easily spread outdoors because air flows freely and sunlight kills the bacteria.

TB has 2 stages.



A person with latent TB infection:

- Has TB bacteria but isn't sick.
- Can't spread TB.
- Should get treatment before developing active TB disease.



A person with active TB disease:

- Has TB bacteria and is sick.
- Can spread TB through a cough, sneeze, laugh, shout or singing.
- Must get treatment to avoid getting very sick and dying.

TB isn't spread when people:



Share clothes.

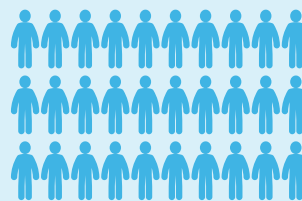


Share utensils.



Hug, kiss or have sex.

TB is uncommon in the U.S.



About 30 TB cases occur in Pierce County each year.

Active TB disease symptoms:



- Coughing 3 weeks or more.
- Fever.
- Weight loss.
- Fatigue.
- Coughing up blood.
- Night sweats.

People at highest risk for TB:



Live with a person with active TB disease.



Travel to or were born where TB is common.



Have a health problem.

To learn more, visit tpchd.org/tb.