

How do I know if I have 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 you have been infected with the germs—*Latent (inactive) 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 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.



If my first test is negative, am I OK?

Even if your first TB test is negative, you could still have TB germs in your body. You may need another test in 12 weeks to make sure you do not have TB germs.

Where can I get a TB test?

Testing for people who have been exposed to active TB disease only:

Tuberculosis Clinic, Ward 94
SFGH Building 90, 4th Floor
2460 22nd Street
415-206-8524

Your primary care doctor can give you a skin or blood test for tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS

I Have Been Exposed to Tuberculosis (TB)

What do I do now?

If you have spent time with someone who has active tuberculosis disease, you may have breathed in some of the TB germs. You should be tested for TB.

Not everyone who comes in contact with tuberculosis gets infected.

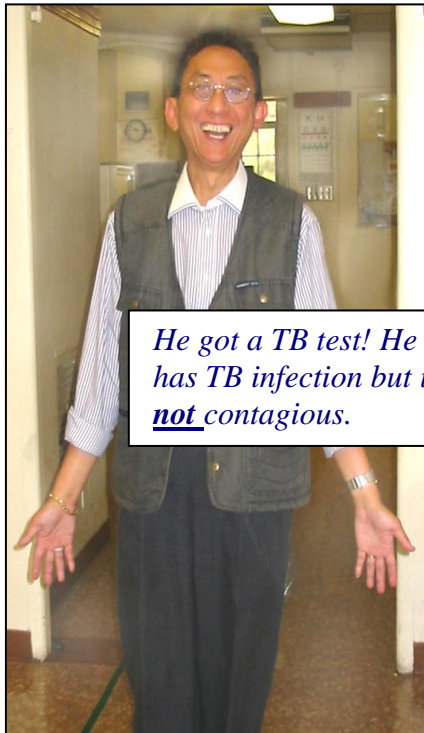
If you are infected there are medicines that can cure the infection and prevent you from getting sick.

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

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.



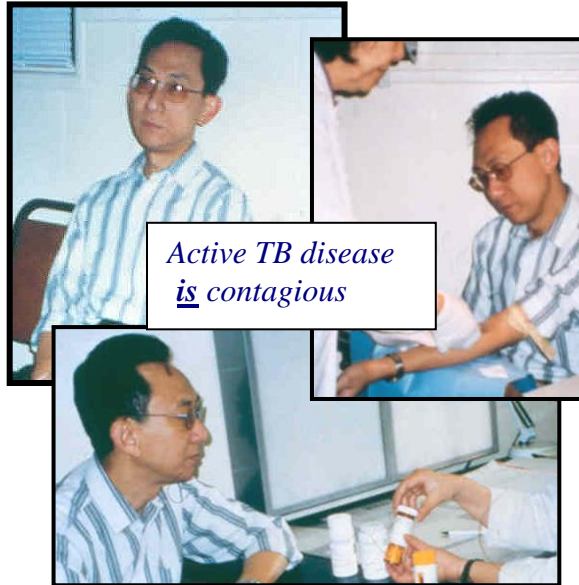
He got a TB test! He has TB infection but is not contagious.



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.



Active TB disease is contagious

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.

You CANNOT get TB from:

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

