

Health matters:

what you need to know

Tuberculosis (TB)

What is TB?

TB is a serious but curable infectious disease. It usually affects the lungs but it can affect other parts of the body.

What are the symptoms?

Any of the following symptoms may occur:

- a cough
- phlegm
- high temperature
- sweating at night
- weight loss
- fatigue/general tiredness
- swollen glands

If you are concerned that you might have TB, or develop any of these symptoms, please contact your family doctor for advice.

How do you catch TB?

It is usually spread through the air from someone with the infectious type of TB.

The germ gets into the air when that person coughs, sneezes or spits.

Who can get TB?

Anyone can get TB but it is difficult to catch.

It mainly depends on the amount of time that is spent in contact with someone with infectious TB.

How is TB treated?

TB is curable. Treatment consists of a long course of special antibiotics.

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