



## TUBERCULOSIS (TB) *Disease & Treatment*

### ***How do I know I have tuberculosis disease in my lungs?***

Tuberculosis can cause coughing, coughing up blood, losing weight, sweating at night, and feeling tired.

### ***What are the tests for TB?***

A skin test and a chest x-ray will be done. You may be asked to give a sample of what you are coughing to the laboratory.

### ***Can TB be cured?***

Yes. Your health care provider will give you several antibiotics (the most common are isoniazid, rifampin, pyrazinamide, and ethambutol) for at least six months. In some cases, TB medicines may need to be taken longer.

### ***Do TB medicines have side effects?***

All medicines can cause side effects in some people. Be sure you know the side effects to look for and call your health provider right away if you have concerns.

### ***Can I pass on TB to others?***

Possibly. It depends on how many TB germs there are in your body. There is a test to find out if you have enough germs to give TB to others.

### ***What else is important?***

Let your health provider know if you might be pregnant, have other illnesses, or are on other medications.

*Remember: Tuberculosis is curable if you take all your medicines for the length of time prescribed by your health provider.*

*You may qualify for Medi-Cal benefits. People with TB infection or TB disease may also qualify for TB-Cal. To find out about your eligibility and to request an information packet and application, please call 1-858-514-6885. Collect calls are accepted.*