PATIENT EDUCATION | INFORMATION SERIES

What is Tuberculosis (TB)?

TB is a contagious disease that is transmitted from person to person through coughing and breathing in airborne droplets that contain bacteria. TB primarily affects the lungs, but can affect any part of the body. As one of the most common infections in the world, TB remains a major problem in many countries and among vulnerable populations.



What causes TB?

TB is caused by slow-growing bacteria called Mycobacterium tuberculosis. When these bacteria enter the lungs, they are usually walled off into harmless capsules (granulomas) in the lung, causing infection but not disease. These capsules may later wake up weeks, months or decades later causing active TB disease.

Who gets TB infection and TB disease?

People who are more likely to acquire TB infection are the following: (1) People recently exposed to someone who has symptomatic TB disease; (2) People who live in congregate settings with high risk persons; (a) People who live or have lived in countries where TB is common; or (4) People who are health care workers who are in contact with TB patients when proper infection control procedures are not followed. Many people who acquire TB infection do not have symptoms and may never develop TB disease. These people have latent TB infections (LTBI). However, people with TB infection who have weaker immune systems due to diabetes, HIV infection, kidney failure, or take certain immunosuppressive medications such as TNF-alpha blockers may be more likely to develop active TB disease with symptoms.

What are the signs and symptoms of TB disease?

Symptoms are usually mild and tend to present over a period of weeks, months, or sometimes years. TB disease symptoms are often initially mistaken for a smoker's cough, allergies, or chronic bronchitis from a lingering cold or flu infection. TB infection most often

affects the lungs but can cause problems in other parts of the body. The classic symptoms of TB in the lungs include:

- Cough lasting more than three weeks
- Unexplained weight loss.
- Low-grade fever
- Night sweats

If you have these symptoms, you should check with your health care provider.

How is TB diagnosed?

Given that latent TB infection is asymptomatic, infection must be diagnosed using a screening test, either a tuberculin skin test (TST) or a blood test called an interferon gamma release assay (IGRA). The TB skin test is also called a Mantoux test or a PPD skin test because the material used in the skin test is called purified protein derivative (PPD). These tests detect the immune response our body mounts to components of Afycobacterium tuberculosis. A positive result indicates that a person has been infected with the tuberculosis bacteria at some point in his or her life.

TB disease is suspected clinically when a person. presents with the symptoms mentioned above usually together with abnormal findings on a chest x-ray. If TB disease is suspected, the person should be isolated from the public until the diagnosis is made and treatment is started as he or she can be contagious and transmit Mycobacterium tuberculosis to others.

TB disease is often diagnosed by microscopic examination of three separate samples of sputum (phlegm) often collected on different days. The sputum



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Katrin Zwirglmaier

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Foods & Nutrition Encyclopedia, 2nd Edition, Volume 1 Marion Eugene Ensminger, Audrey H. Ensminger, 2023-07-21 Foods and Nutrition Encyclopedia 2nd Edition is the updated expanded version of what has been described as a monumental classic work This new edition contains more than 2 400 pages 1 692 illustrations 96 of which are full color photographs 2 800 entries topics and 462 tables including a table of 2 500 food compositions A comprehensive index enables you to find The Obstructed Path Henry Stuart Hughes, The years of political and social despair in information guickly and easily France from the great depression through the Nazi occupation Resistance and liberation to the Algerian War forced French intellectuals to rethink the values of their culture Their faltering attempts to break out of a psychological impasse are the subject of this thoughtful and compassionate book by a distinguished American historian In this first treatment of contemporary French thought to bridge philosophy literature and social science and to show its relation to comparable thinking in Germany Britain and the United States Hughes also assesses the work of other writers in terms of their emotional biography and role in society Hughes found those who struggled to find meaning and purpose amid chaos to be among the most brilliant minds of their century They included the social historians Bloch and Febvre the Catholic philosophers Maritain and Marcel the proponents of heroism Martin du Gard Bernanos Saint Exup ry Malraux and DeGaulle and the phenomenologists Sartre and Merleau Ponty They also included the strangely assorted trio of Camus Teilhard de Chardin and L vi Strauss who showed the way to a wider cultural community Yet in nearly every case these scholars achieved something quite different from what they set out to do For this self questioning generation the interchange between history and anthropology became most compelling and of greatest interest to the world outside The Obstructed Path blends H Stuart Hughes concern for the many ways in which historians define and practice their craft his lifelong interest in literature his fascination with the influence of Marx and Freud and his empathy with the varieties of Christian thought It also demonstrates his delicate grasp of singular personalities such as Bernanos Merleau Ponty Jean Paul Sartre and L vi Strauss His profound insight into the flaws of many elaborate philosophical constructions and into the core of deep emotions bold images and searing passions that were often hidden in them bring us close to these thinkers and makes this an enduring work The Publishers Weekly ,1912 American Constitutional Law, Volume II Ralph A. Rossum, 2018-05-15 This book examines how the Constitution and its amendments not only grant the national and state governments sufficient power to control the governed but also oblige these governments to control themselves It considers the distribution of power in the national Trübner's American and Oriental literary record Trübner and Co,1865 Making of the West. Volume government II: Since 1500 Lynn Hunt, Thomas R. Martin, Barbara H. Rosenwein, Bonnie G. Smith, 2012-01-04 Students of Western civilization need more than facts They need to understand the cross cultural global exchanges that shaped Western history to be able to draw connections between the social cultural political economic and intellectual happenings in a given era and to

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