TB What You Should Know

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Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health Video Communications and Distance Learning Division

Faculty

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Outline of Discussion

- Review of basics
- Latent TB infection/active TB disease
- Preventive treatment
- · Stop the spread
- Masks
- Reporting TB
- Questions

What is TB (Tuberculosis)?

- · A disease caused by bacteria
- Usually affects the lungs
- · Spread in the air
- Can be cured with medicine





Testing Tools: TB Skin Tests

 TB skin tests can tell us if someone has ever breathed TB germs into their lungs





TB Chest X-ray

GOT: a positive skin test (TB infection) from breathing in the germ

GET: chest x-ray and make sure you do not have TB disease



2 Types of TB

• Latent TB infection



• TB disease



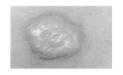
Latent TB Infection

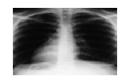
- Has breathed in TB germs
- Feels fine, is not sick
- Cannot spread TB germs to others



Latent TB Infection

- A person with latent TB infection:
 - -Has a POSITIVE skin test
 - -Has a NORMAL chest x-ray





TB Infection

- Positive skin test is very common
- About 1 out of every 3 people in the world is infected with TB germs



TB Preventive Medicine

 For positive skin test or latent TB infection, health departments can give you medicine to kill the TB germs so you will not get sick with TB disease





Remember!

 You CANNOT get TB from someone with latent TB infection



TB Disease

- Feels sick
- Can spread TB germs to others
- TB disease can be cured with medicine

Symptoms of TB Disease

- Cough
- Feel weak/fatigue
- Unexplained fever
- Unexplained weight loss
- May cough up blood
- Sweat a lot at night
- Weight loss
- Abnormal chest X-ray

TB Disease: Lungs or Respiratory System

- TB disease:
 - -Positive TB skin test
 - Abnormal chest x-ray
 - -Has symptoms
 - -May transmit to others
 - May be treated and cured

How is TB Spread?

- TB germs can be spread when a person with TB disease:
 - -Coughs
 - -Sneezes
 - -Speaks
 - -Sings

sending TB germs into the air for someone to inhale

Sneezing and Coughing



Remember!

- You get TB from being in VERY
 CLOSE contact with someone who is sick with TB
 - -Breathing the same air



TB Germs are NOT Spread by Sharing:

- Spoons and forks
- · Drinking glasses
- Bathrooms



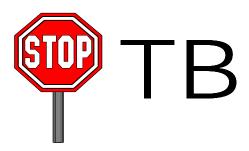
TB Germs are NOT Spread by Handling:

- Bedding
- Rubbish
- Clothes or towels
- Food



TB Prevention-Protection

• Tips for you and your family



Know the Risk Factors for TB Disease:

- HIV infection
- Recent TB infection
- Diabetes
- Substance abuse
- Low body weight
- Cancer of head and neck

Know the Signs and Symptoms of TB Disease:

- Constant tiredness
- Fever
- Weight loss
- Night sweats
- Cough

Know the Signs and Symptoms of TB Disease:

- · Loss of appetite
- · Spitting up blood
- Chest pain

Live Healthy

- Eat right
- · Get enough sleep
- Keep your immune system strong



Preventing Spreading TB

- Keep windows open
 - -TB cannot spread outside or in fresh air
- · Ventilate and circulate air
- Ultraviolet light kills TB germs







Cover the Cough







• TB patient wears paper mask

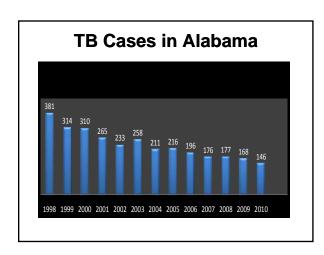
Health Care Workers Use the N-95 Mask

- Proper fit testing is needed annually
- · Get the right size
- No gaps
- Filters out germs



Remember!

- Only people who are sick with TB disease can spread TB
- TB is a disease that can be prevented and cured



Public Health Laws

- Tuberculosis is a notifiable disease for:
 - -Healthcare workers
 - Hospital administrators
 - -Correctional facilities
 - -Patient-transport workers
 - -Medical examiners
 - Nursing-home administrators

Public Health Laws

- -Laboratory authorities
- -Pharmacists
- -School authorities
- Daycare facilities
- Emergency medical service employees

Public Health Laws

- Confirmed or suspected cases must be reported within 24 hours.
 - -Code of Alabama 22-11A-9:

HIPAA Regulations:

- 45 CFR 164.512 Uses and disclosures for which consent, an authorization, or opportunity to agree or object is not required:
- (b) Standard: uses and disclosures for public health activities
- (1) Permitted disclosures. A covered entity may disclose protected health information for the public health activities and purposes describes in this paragraph to:
- (i) A public health authority that is authorized by law to collect or receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease,....and the conduct of public health surveillance, public health investigations, and public health interventions; or, at the direction of a pubic health authority....

Questions?

