

Information about TB for people in prisons

What is TB?

TB is short for 'tuberculosis' which is an infectious disease.

How do you get TB?

Is my cough TB?

It could be from smoking, drugs, another infection or TB.

TB germs travel through the air when someone with TB in the lungs coughs.

But you need to be around the person a lot to get infected.

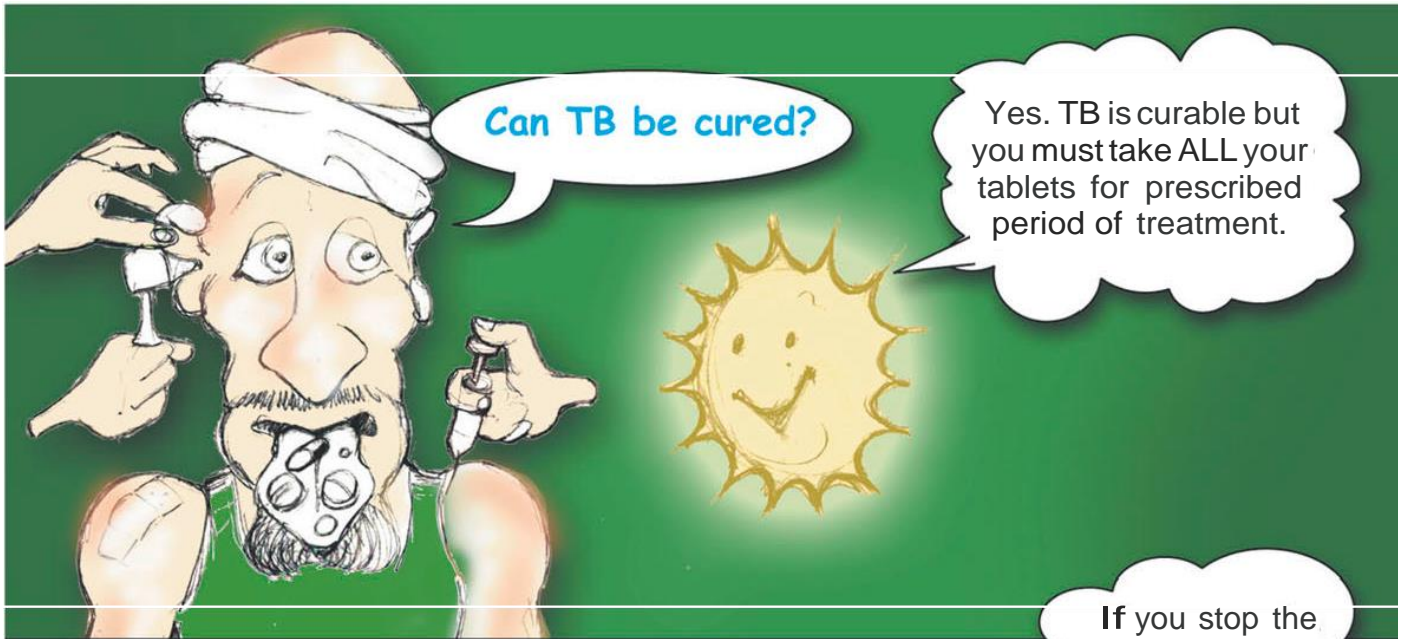


If you have a cough and at least two symptoms below, you may have TB. You should ask to see a nurse or doctor urgently.

- Persistent fever
- Heavy sweating at night
- Loss of appetite
- Loss of weight for no reason
- Unusual sense of tiredness and being unwell
- Coughing up blood
- Recent contact with someone who has TB.

I think I have two or more symptoms. Do I have TB or not?

You might not have TB. Another infection or coming off drugs can cause symptoms listed.



Can TB be cured?

Yes. TB is curable but you must take ALL your tablets for prescribed period of treatment.



What happens if I stop my treatment too early?

If you stop the medicine too soon, some germs could survive and your illness could become worse.

Can I get TB from the loo or a mug?

No, you can't get it from shared stuff.



What if I have shared a cell with someone diagnosed with TB? Will I get infected?

You will only get infected if you spend a long time with someone who has TB of the lungs.

If you are worried then ask to see a nurse or doctor