

Why need to have TB Clearance

*To Control and Prevent
Tuberculosis*

How to ID Tuberculosis

- There are two kinds of **tests** that are used to determine if a person has been infected with **TB** bacteria: the tuberculin skin **test** and **TB** blood **tests(Interferon–Gamma)**.

tuberculin skin **test** (also called a Mantoux tuberculin **test**) is done to see if you have ever been exposed to **tuberculosis (TB)**. The **test** is done by putting a small amount of **TB** protein (antigens) under the top layer of skin on your inner forearm.

How Can You Get TB?

- TB is a highly contagious bacterial infection that can quickly spread if not caught, isolated, and treated early. Tuberculosis is an airborne disease, and can be caught by breathing in the air that an infected person has contaminated through:
 - Breathing
 - Coughing
 - Talking
 - Singing
 - Sneezing

- But even if you've been around an infected person, or breathed in the bacteria they expelled into the air, you still have a chance at escaping TB — not everyone who breathes in the bacteria will develop tuberculosis

- **Who's Most Contagious**
- **Who is most susceptible to TB**
- **Could you have TB and not know it**

- TB generally doesn't cause symptoms immediately. Instead, it goes through three stages:
- Primary TB infection
- [Latent TB infection](#)
- Active disease

- Latent tuberculosis is a common bacterial infection that does not cause sickness or any symptoms, so you need a **TB test** to diagnose it.
- People with latent tuberculosis are not contagious, but they should be **treated** to reduce the chances of developing active disease

- In most people with TB, the condition is latent, meaning the bacteria are present in the body but are in a dormant state, neither making the person sick nor infecting others.
- Tuberculosis is more likely to enter the active phase in people who have acquired the infection recently (in the past two years).

When your TB skin test is negative:

- You don't have TB germs in your body. OR
- TB germs are not showing up in your body at this time. Sometimes the test may have been done too soon to show the TB germs.

When you need more test

- You have been around someone with TB disease.
- Your TB skin test was within 8 weeks of your exposure to TB.
- You have signs of T B disease, like coughing, chest pain, fever, weight loss, or tiredness.
- You have HIV infection, since the TB skin test may not react the way it should.

What abnormal Result mean

An abnormal (positive) result means you have been infected with the bacteria that cause TB. You may need treatment to lower the risk of the disease coming back (reactivation of the disease). A positive skin test does not mean that a person has active TB. More tests must be done to check whether there is active disease.

- **A TST reaction of ≥ 5 mm of induration is considered positive in:**
 - HIV-infected persons
 - Recent contacts of a person with infectious TB disease
 - Persons with fibrotic changes on chest radiograph consistent with prior TB
 - Patients with organ transplants and other immunosuppressed patients (including patients taking the equivalent of ≥ 15 mg/day of prednisone for 1 month or more or those taking TNF- α antagonists)
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- A chest radiograph should be ordered as part of a medical evaluation for a person who has a positive TST or IGRA result.

larger than or equal to 10 mm are considered positive.

Thank you