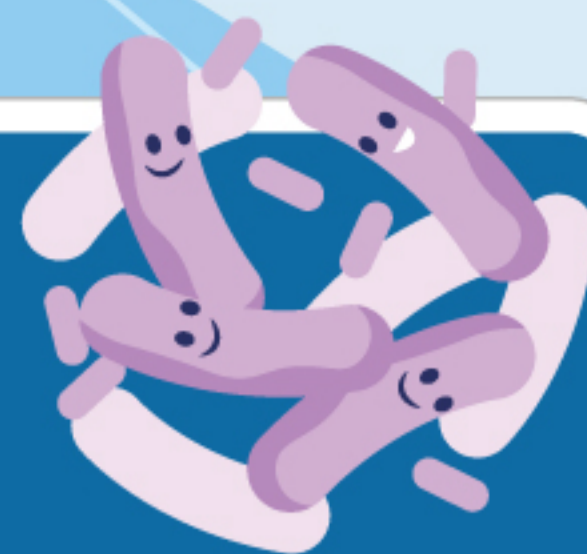


Latent tuberculosis infection VS Active tuberculosis disease

Do you know them?



Latent TB infection	VS	Active TB disease
No	Symptoms	Persistent cough for more than 3 weeks, fever, blood in sputum, night sweats, chest discomfort, fatigue, poor appetite and weight loss
No	Infectiousness	When a person with active pulmonary TB coughs or sneezes, the bacteria get into the air and infect the susceptible person
Normal	Chest X-ray	Chest X-ray may show patchy infiltrates or cavities
Interferon gamma release assay (IGRA) or Tuberculin Skin Test	Examination	Sputum smear, PCR test and culture examination
Close contact with a person with infective pulmonary TB (e.g. family members).	Susceptible persons	The following persons have a greater chance of developing active TB disease:
TB bacteria could live in human body for a long time. About 5 to 10% chance of developing active TB disease over a lifetime, depending on the host's immunity, and the highest risk is usually in the first 2 years after contracting the TB bacteria.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newborn babies and elderly - People living with HIV - Patients with diabetes or pneumoconiosis - First 2 years after contracting the TB bacteria - Patients taking immunosuppressive drugs - Smoker/ alcoholics /drug addicts - Street sleepers / malnourished people

