Up to 13 million people in the U.S. have latent tuberculosis (TB) infection.

Latent TB Infection
Latent TB infection means TB germs are in the body, but not enough to cause sickness or spread germs to others.

TB Disease
If TB germs become active & multiply, latent TB infection turns into TB disease and can spread to others.

1 in 10
Without treatment, 1 in 10 people with latent TB infection will develop TB disease.

PEOPLE WHO SHOULD BE TESTED FOR TB INFECTION INCLUDE:
- Contacts of people with TB disease
- People who were born in or who frequently travel to countries where TB disease is common
- People with health problems that make it hard to fight TB disease
- People who spend time in places where TB is more common

TREATING LATENT TB INFECTION PREVENTS TB DISEASE
- A skin test or blood test can be used to diagnose TB infection
- Shorter regimens help patients finish treatment
- 1 dose 1 time per week 12 weeks
- Treating latent TB infection is less costly than treating disease

$500
TO TREAT LATENT TB INFECTION
$20,000
TO TREAT TB DISEASE

ELIMINATING TB REQUIRES EXPANDING TESTING & TREATMENT OF LATENT TB INFECTION. CDC WORKS TO:
- Engage Affected Communities & Medical Providers
- Promote Effective Testing & Treatment Options
- Develop New Guidance & Tools

To learn more about latent TB infection: www.cdc.gov/tb
October 2021