THINK TEST TREAT TB

Inactive Tuberculosis (TB) Testing & Treatment

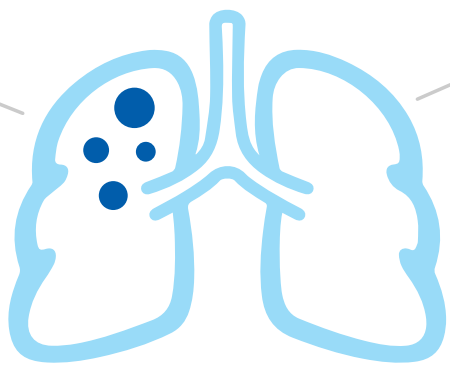
Up to 13 million people in the United States may have inactive TB (also called latent TB infection). Without treatment, 1 in 10 people with inactive TB will get sick with active TB disease, and can spread TB to others through the air. **You can help prevent the spread of TB.**

1 Think

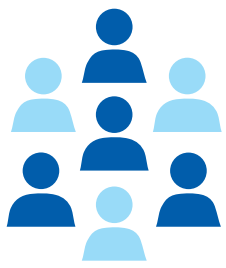
Am I at risk for TB infection?

Talk to your healthcare provider about getting tested if you:

were born in or frequently travel to countries where TB is common, including those in Asia, Africa, and Latin America



recently spent time with someone who has active TB disease



live or used to live in large group settings where TB is more common, such as homeless shelters, prisons, or jails

have a weaker immune system because of certain medications or health conditions such as diabetes, cancer, and HIV

Even people who received the TB vaccine, also called the bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine, should be tested since the vaccine weakens over time.

work in places with high risk for TB transmission, such as hospitals, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, and nursing homes

2 Test

What TB test do I need?

There are two types of tests for TB infection: **the TB blood test and the TB skin test.** TB blood tests are the preferred method of TB testing for people who have received the TB vaccine (BCG). Healthcare providers and patients should discuss which test is best.

3 Treat

What are my treatment options?

Treating inactive TB is the best way to protect you from developing active TB disease. When possible, CDC recommends using short and convenient **3- or 4-month rifamycin-based** treatments for inactive TB.

To learn more about TB and how you can protect yourself and others, visit www.cdc.gov/thinktesttreattb

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