



TUBERCULOSIS

WHAT IS TUBERCULOSIS?

Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by germs that are spread from person to person through the air. TB usually affects the lungs, but it can also affect other parts of the body, such as the brain, the kidneys, or the spine. A person with TB can die if they do not get treatment.

WHAT WE KNOW.

Overall, about 5 to 10% of infected persons who do not receive treatment for latent TB infection will develop TB disease at some time in their lives. For persons whose immune systems are weak, especially those with HIV infection, the risk of developing TB disease is much higher than for persons with normal immune systems.

FACTS:



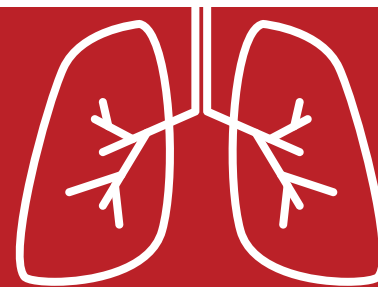
In 2018, the U.S. reported 9,025 cases of TB (a rate of 2.8 cases per 100,000 persons).



In SC, there were 82 cases of TB in 2018, (a rate of 1.7 cases per 100,000 persons) and 65% of TB cases occurred among males.



African-Americans have the highest death rates of all ethnic groups and males are more prone than females to contract the bacteria.



TUBERCULOSIS

WHAT IS TUBERCULOSIS?

Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by germs that are spread from person to person through the air. TB usually affects the lungs, but it can also affect other parts of the body, such as the brain, the kidneys, or the spine. A person with TB can die if they do not get treatment.

WHAT WE KNOW.

Overall, about 5 to 10% of infected persons who do not receive treatment for latent TB infection will develop TB disease at some time in their lives. For persons whose immune systems are weak, especially those with HIV infection, the risk of developing TB disease is much higher than for persons with normal immune systems.

FACTS:



In 2018, the U.S. reported 9,025 cases of TB (a rate of 2.8 cases per 100,000 persons).



In SC, there were 82 cases of TB in 2018, (a rate of 1.7 cases per 100,000 persons) and 65% of TB cases occurred among males.



African-Americans have the highest death rates of all ethnic groups and males are more prone than females to contract the bacteria.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

TB bacteria usually grow in the lungs, with symptoms, such as a persistent bad cough, chest pain, and coughing up blood. Other symptoms are weakness or fatigue, weight loss, loss of appetite, chills, fever, and night sweats. People who have latent TB infection don't feel sick, don't exhibit any other signs or symptoms, and can't spread the disease to others.

PREVENTION:

In the United States, the Bacille-Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine is provided to children who have a negative TB skin test and are at risk of exposure as well as to health care workers who are in contact with high-risk people. For most Americans, the TB skin test and/or blood test is the most common preventive measure. For those with TB infection and latent TB, there are several treatment options, most involving long courses of medications. While the treatment regimen can last for several months, TB can be cured.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU CONTRACT TB?

If you are experiencing symptoms of TB or feel you have been exposed to TB, contact your provider immediately to protect yourself as well as those around you. Your doctor will ask questions about your symptoms, places you've been and people you've been around to determine the scope of the situation, and upon a confirmed diagnosis, a plan to ensuring the bacteria does not continue to spread.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We must continue to find and treat cases of active TB disease and also test and treat latent TB infection to prevent progression to disease and turn TB elimination into a reality. Clinicians, health care agencies, and community organizations, especially those serving at-risk populations, have a critical role in TB elimination.



The mission of the South Carolina Tuberculosis Association is to promote and assist in the elimination of Tuberculosis through education, collaboration, research, and practice.

Need Further Assistance? Contact Us:

Hold Out the Lifeline: A Mission to Families

Each One Can Reach One

803.461.3201 hotlifeline.org



facebook.com/hotlifeline



twitter.com/hotlifeline

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

TB bacteria usually grow in the lungs, with symptoms, such as a persistent bad cough, chest pain, and coughing up blood. Other symptoms are weakness or fatigue, weight loss, loss of appetite, chills, fever, and night sweats. People who have latent TB infection don't feel sick, don't exhibit any other signs or symptoms, and can't spread the disease to others.

PREVENTION:

In the United States, the Bacille-Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine is provided to children who have a negative TB skin test and are at risk of exposure as well as to health care workers who are in contact with high-risk people. For most Americans, the TB skin test and/or blood test is the most common preventive measure. For those with TB infection and latent TB, there are several treatment options, most involving long courses of medications. While the treatment regimen can last for several months, TB can be cured.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU CONTRACT TB?

If you are experiencing symptoms of TB or feel you have been exposed to TB, contact your provider immediately to protect yourself as well as those around you. Your doctor will ask questions about your symptoms, places you've been and people you've been around to determine the scope of the situation, and upon a confirmed diagnosis, a plan to ensuring the bacteria does not continue to spread.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We must continue to find and treat cases of active TB disease and also test and treat latent TB infection to prevent progression to disease and turn TB elimination into a reality. Clinicians, health care agencies, and community organizations, especially those serving at-risk populations, have a critical role in TB elimination.



The mission of the South Carolina Tuberculosis Association is to promote and assist in the elimination of Tuberculosis through education, collaboration, research, and practice.

Need Further Assistance? Contact Us:

Hold Out the Lifeline: A Mission to Families

Each One Can Reach One

803.461.3201 hotlifeline.org



facebook.com/hotlifeline



twitter.com/hotlifeline