

CAN YOU DIE FROM TB?



- 1 TB is curable with anti-TB medication.
- 2 A person with TB may die if they do not seek appropriate treatment.
- 3 According to the Global TB Report by the World Health Organization (WHO), about 1.3 million people passed away from TB in 2022.



Fortunately, Singapore has few TB-related deaths. TB mortality rate among Singapore residents is 0.5 case per 100,000 population, with 19 deaths from TB in 2019.



IS TB CURABLE?



- 1 TB can be treated and cured.
- 2 If you are identified as a close contact of an infectious TB case, you will be referred to National Tuberculosis Screening Centre (NTBSC) for screening.
- 3 If you are diagnosed with latent TB infection, you may be offered preventive treatment by the doctor.
- 4 If you are diagnosed with active TB disease, you will be referred to National Tuberculosis Care Centre (NTBCC) for treatment. Severe complications and death can be prevented with early diagnosis and treatment.



HOW IS ACTIVE TB TREATED AND MANAGED?



1 Active TB treatment involves taking a combination of different drugs, typically for 6-9 months under DOT*.

2 Patients have to visit the National Tuberculosis Care Centre (NTBCC) or polyclinics for DOT or follow-up.

#DidYouKnow?



- **>95% of patients** are cured when they follow the regimen.
- Poor adherence to medication can lead to drug-resistant forms of TB. This slows down recovery and makes the disease harder to treat.
- Treatment is **heavily subsidised** for Singapore Citizens/PRs.

*DOT is Directly Observed Therapy where patients take their medication, observed by a doctor, nurse or trained personnel.



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HOW IS **LATENT TB** TREATED AND MANAGED?



1

Latent TB management involves taking Preventive Treatment* to reduce the risk of developing Active TB disease in the future.

2

Preventive treatment involves taking an anti-TB drug, either:

- Rifampicin for 4 months, OR
- Isoniazid for 6 months



#DidYouKnow?

Medication to treat latent TB infection is provided **Free-of-Charge.**

*Prevents the patient from developing active TB in the future.



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