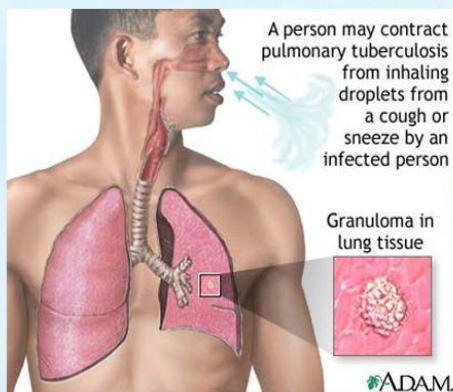


## TUBERCULOSIS (TB)



**Tuberculosis (TB)** is a contagious infection that usually attacks your **lungs**. It can also spread to other parts of your body, like your **brain** and **spine**. A type of bacteria called ***Mycobacterium tuberculosis*** causes it.

### How is TB Spread?



- TB is spread through the air from one person to another. The primary mode of transmission for TB is inhalation. When a person with active TB disease of the lungs or throat coughs or sneezes, individuals nearby may become infected by breathing in the bacteria.

# Tuberculosis Symptoms



fever



fatigue



weight loss



persistent cough



blood in cough



night sweats

## What is the first stage of tuberculosis?

Early symptoms of TB include unusual fatigue, fever, loss of weight, headache, coughing, and irritability. An infected child may have night sweats and cough up blood. In advanced stages, the patient will suffer persistent coughing, breathlessness, and fever.

There are 3 stages of TB—exposure, latent, and active disease. A TB skin test or a TB blood test can diagnose the disease. Treatment exactly as recommended is necessary to cure the disease and prevent its spread to other people.

Tuberculosis **is curable and preventable**. TB is spread from person to person through the air. When people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel

the TB germs into the air. A person needs to inhale only a few of these germs to become infected.

