Quick Facts

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by germs.
- It is spread from person to person through the air. TB is transmitted when a person with active TB of the throat or lungs coughs, sneezes, speaks or sings.
- TB usually affects the lungs but can also affect other parts of the body.
- A person with TB can die if they do not get treatment.
- The most common symptoms are:
  - Feelings of sickness
  - Weakness
  - Weight loss
  - Fever
  - Night sweats
  - Cough with or without blood
- Tuberculosis infection can be latent or active. Latent is when a person is not sick because the germs are not active. When they are active the person has symptoms and can spread the germs to others.
- Treatment for TB is usually with several medicines administered for several months (6 to 12 months).
- It is very important to take the entire treatment as is directed by your healthcare provider.
- The vaccine for TB is BCG (Bacille Calmette-Guerin).
- The BCG vaccine does not prevent TB infection, however it helps protect against more severe forms of TB.
- Protect yourself, your family and your community, learn to live life to the fullest!