

# CAN YOU DIE FROM TB?



- 1 TB is curable with anti-TB medication.
- 2 But a person with TB can die if they do not seek appropriate treatment.
- 3 According to the Global TB Report by the World Health Organization (WHO), about 1.6 million people died from TB in 2021.



Fortunately, Singapore has few TB-related deaths. TB mortality rate among Singapore residents is 0.7 case per 100,000 population, with 28 deaths from TB in 2018.



# IS TB CURABLE?



**1** TB can be **treated and cured**.

**2** If you are identified as a close contact of an active / infectious TB case, **please visit the Tuberculosis Control Unit (TBCU) for screening**.

**3** If you are diagnosed with active or latent TB, you **will be treated to prevent progression of TB**.

**4** With early diagnosis and effective treatment, **severe complications and death can be prevented**.



# 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 TBCU 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 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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