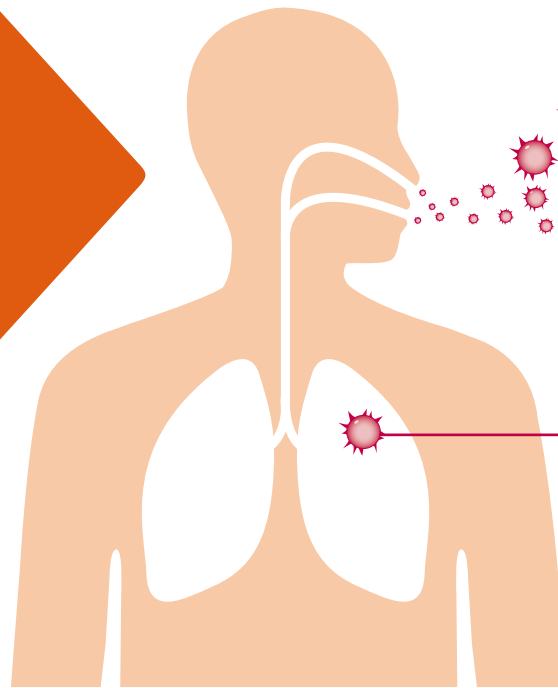


If HIV has weakened your immune system, you are more vulnerable to infection with tuberculosis (TB).



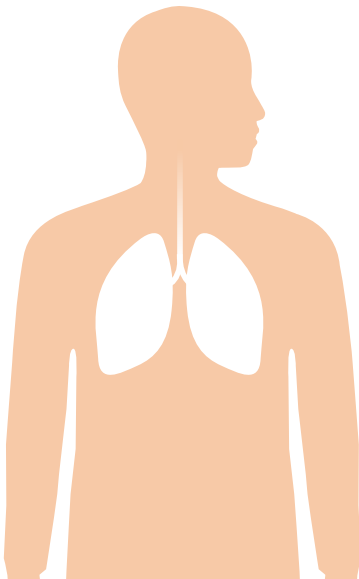
1 TB is caused by infection with TB bacteria. The bacteria can pass from one person to another through the air. They can enter the body when you breathe.

2 The bacteria usually infect the lungs. But they can also infect other parts of the body (such as bones and joints).

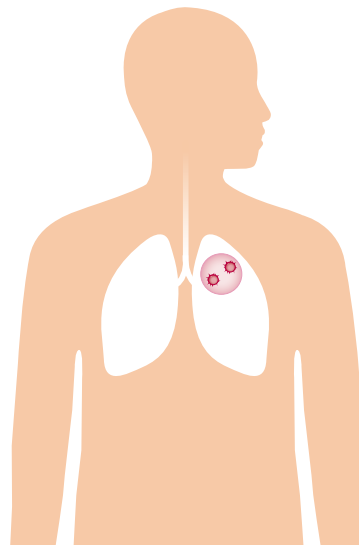
3 The bacteria don't make everyone ill. It depends on how strong your immune system is.



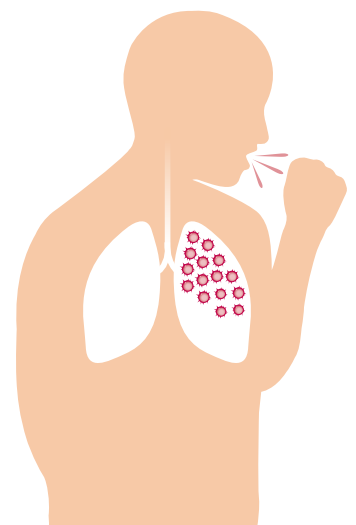
If your immune system is very strong, it kills the bacteria.



If your immune system is fairly strong, it doesn't kill the bacteria but it keeps them under control - you don't feel ill. This is called 'latent infection'.



If your immune system is weak, it can't control the bacteria. The TB bacteria grow and make you ill. This is called 'active infection'.



grupo de trabajo sobre
tratamientos del VIH
contact@gtt-vih.org
www.gtt-vih.org
Barcelona (España)

POR FAVOR, FOTOCÓPIALO Y HAZLO CIRCULAR

Subvencionado por:



Colaboran:



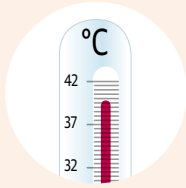
Symptoms include:



A cough for more than three weeks



Loss of appetite



Fever



Tiredness

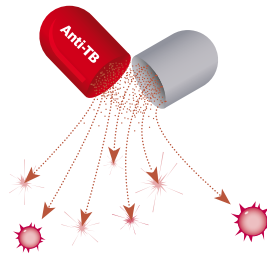


Night sweats



Weight loss

4 You can kill the bacteria with TB drugs.



5 You can make your immune system stronger with HIV drugs.



Important points

- TB is caused by bacteria which pass through the air.
- Untreated HIV weakens your immune system and makes you more likely to become ill with TB than other people.
- TB is a very serious illness but there is a cure.

Notes

In people with HIV, the most common cause of a **weakened immune system** is not taking HIV treatment. The immune system can sometimes also be weakened by other medical conditions, not having enough to eat, poor housing, pregnancy, very young age or old age.



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grupo de trabajo sobre tratamientos del VIH
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