



## Tuberculosis FACT SHEET

### Tuberculosis Prevention and Control

## TB disease

### What is TB disease?

TB bacteria cause TB disease if a person's immune system can't stop the bacteria from growing. A person with TB disease feels sick and may spread TB to others if he/she has *infectious TB disease*.

### What are the symptoms of TB disease?

Tuberculosis is a serious disease that attacks the lungs and sometimes spreads to other parts of the body (*TB disease outside the lungs*). Symptoms depend on where the TB bacteria are growing. TB in the lungs may cause the following:

- a bad cough that lasts longer than 2 weeks
- pain in the chest
- coughing up blood or sputum (phlegm)
- weakness or feeling very tired
- weight loss
- no appetite
- chills
- fever
- night sweats.

### How do I know if I have TB disease?

If you feel sick, see your doctor. Your doctor will examine you and order tests like a chest x-ray. If you are coughing, your sputum (phlegm) may contain TB bacteria. If you have TB disease, you need *treatment of TB disease* to kill the TB bacteria in your body. Without treatment, a person with TB disease can die.

