



Tuberculosis FACT SHEET

Tuberculosis Prevention and Control

Treatment of TB disease

Can TB disease be cured?

YES! Antibiotics have cured thousands of people with *TB disease* in Canada. The most common drugs used to fight TB are the following:

- Isoniazid (INH)
- Rifampin
- Pyrazinamide (PZA)
- Ethambutol

Your doctor will determine the best antibiotics for you. Antibiotics must be taken for at least 6 months to kill all the TB bacteria. Taking more than one antibiotic at a time prevents *drug-resistant TB*.

Are these antibiotics safe?

Treatment for *TB disease* is relatively safe. Sometimes the drugs may cause side effects. Some side effects are minor problems. The side effects listed below are serious. If you have any of these see your doctor immediately:

- no appetite
- vomiting
- fever for 3 days or more
- tingling fingers or toes
- easy bleeding
- dizziness
- easy bruising
- ringing in the ears
- nausea
- yellowish skin or eyes
- stomach pain
- skin rash
- sore joints
- tingling or numbness around the mouth
- blurred or changed vision
- hearing loss.

It is always best not to drink alcohol while you are *taking TB drugs*.

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