



Tuberculosis FACT SHEET

Tuberculosis Prevention and Control

TB infection

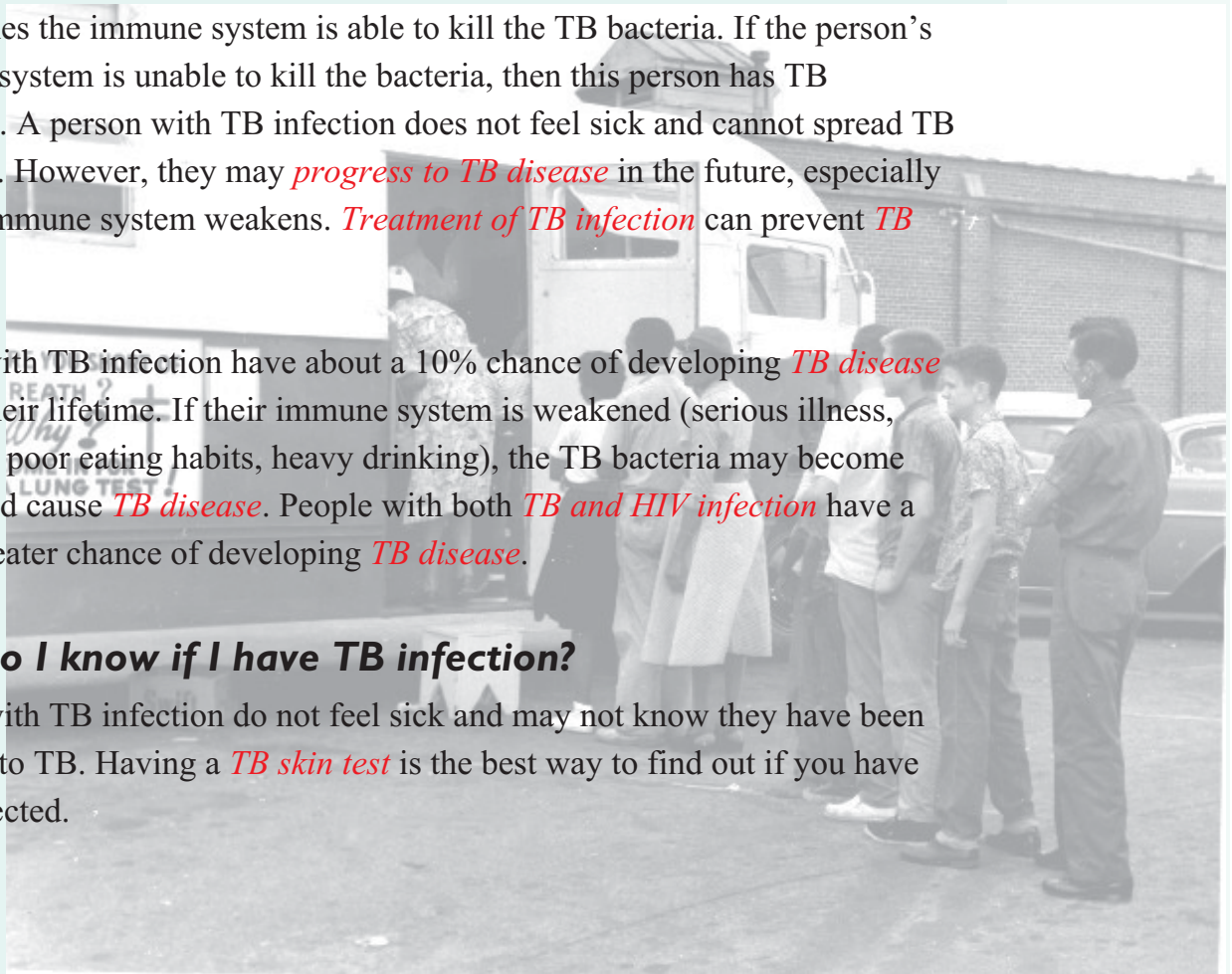
What is TB infection?

A person with TB infection has breathed TB bacteria into his/her lungs. Sometimes the immune system is able to kill the TB bacteria. If the person's immune system is unable to kill the bacteria, then this person has TB infection. A person with TB infection does not feel sick and cannot spread TB to others. However, they may *progress to TB disease* in the future, especially if their immune system weakens. *Treatment of TB infection* can prevent *TB disease*.

Adults with TB infection have about a 10% chance of developing *TB disease* during their lifetime. If their immune system is weakened (serious illness, diabetes, poor eating habits, heavy drinking), the TB bacteria may become active and cause *TB disease*. People with both *TB and HIV infection* have a much greater chance of developing *TB disease*.

How do I know if I have TB infection?

People with TB infection do not feel sick and may not know they have been exposed to TB. Having a *TB skin test* is the best way to find out if you have been infected.



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