

# TB & Me : Elders

A Resource for Elders



## Some facts:

### Elders over age 65:

- Are more likely to get sick from TB if they have TB infection than at any other time in their lives
- Who develop active TB may be caught late because doctors may think there is something else besides TB causing them to be sick
- May have other health problems that further increase their risk



“ I was in hospital for pneumonia and they found out I had TB. ”


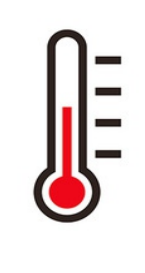






## What can I do?

### Know your Latent TB Infection status



If you have had a positive TB skin test in the past you have TB infection. The TB germs are sleeping in your body but can wake up and make you sick.

### Know signs and symptoms of TB

 Cough >2weeks	 Fevers that come and go	 Coughing blood	 Night sweats
 Chest pain	 Tiredness, Don't feel lazy	 Don't feel like eating	 Weight loss

### Understand other health problems may also increase my risk

 Diabetes	 Kidney disease	 some medications
 some cancers	 Tobacco	 Alcohol and drugs

### See your health care provider if you have any TB symptoms



### Your health care provider may screen you for active TB if:

- You have symptoms of TB or have health problems that increase your risk
- You are in a community with a high incidence of TB

