

TB & Me: Alcohol and Drug Abuse

A Resource for Heavy Drinkers or Marijuana users



Some facts:

Heavy Alcohol and Drug use:

- Increases your risk for getting sick from TB if a person has Latent TB Infection (LTBI)
- Makes it harder to realize you are sick because you often feel unwell from their alcohol and drug abuse
- Especially Marijuana, increases risk because it is smoked in small spaces, and it makes people cough which spreads the TB germs into the air

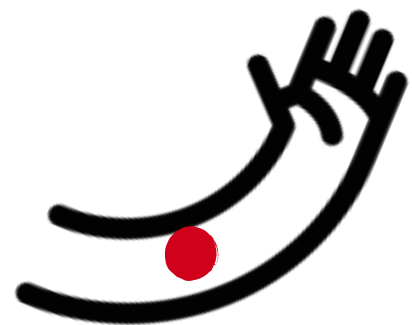


I wasn't takin' too good care of myself. I was drinking a lot and I got sick from TB. I didn't realize I was sick for a long time.



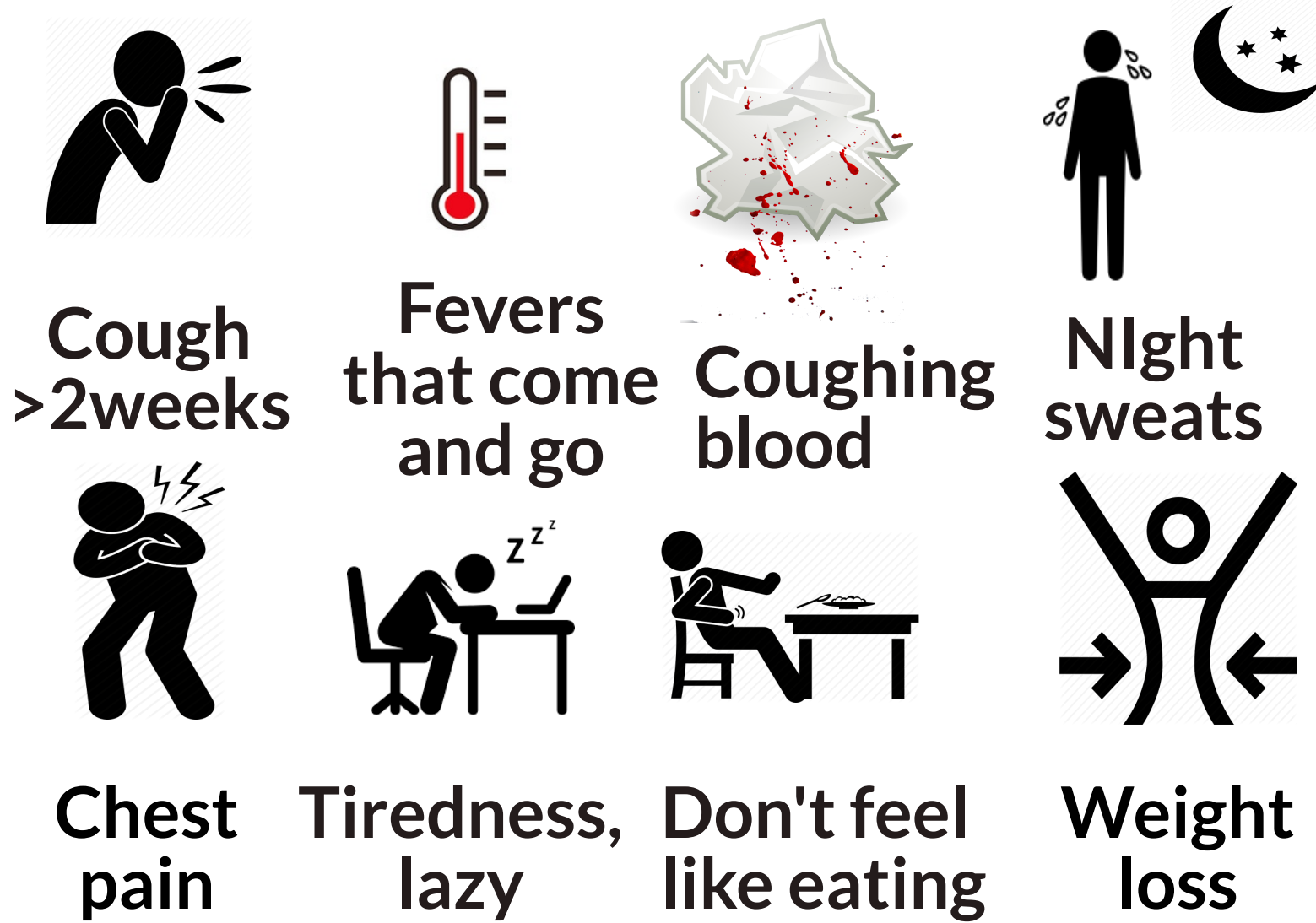
What I need to know:

Latent TB Infection status



If you have had a positive TB skin in the past this means you have TB infection. The TB germ is sleeping in the body but can wake up and make me sick

Signs and symptoms of TB



HIV makes someone very high risk for TB. Everyone should know their status- Get Tested!

Its important to see my health care provider right away if I have symptoms



Your Health Care Provider may screen you for active TB if:

- You have some symptoms of TB
- You live in a community with a high incidence of TB

They will:

1

They will ask you about your symptoms and if you have been around anyone who has TB

2

Ask you to collect sputum

3

Refer you for a chest x-ray or other health care provider



NITHA TB Program



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