



TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis (TB) is a BIG word. It is the name of an illness that causes coughing that won't go away, losing weight, and feeling tired and weak all the time. A long time ago there were a lot of people with this illness. No one knew how to cure the disease, but doctors believed rest, fresh air and healthy eating would help.

Sanatorium is another BIG word. It is a place, sort of like a hospital, where people with TB went to rest, eat healthy food and get lots of fresh air. Guess where a lot of sanatoriums were located? In the west, where there is a lot of fresh air. The sanatoriums didn't work. The fresh air and healthy diets helped, but people still died from TB.

It took a long time for doctors to find out that bacteria causes TB. TB is cured by taking antibiotics. Sanatoriums began closing after antibiotics were discovered.