

## WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF TUBERCULOSIS

Some people who acquire Mycobacterium Tuberculosis, the bacterium that causes TB, do not experience symptoms.

This condition is known as latent TB.

TB can stay dormant for years before developing into active TB disease.

It's called active TB if you have symptoms.

However, in some cases, symptoms might not develop until months or even years after the initial infection.

Sometimes the infection does not cause any symptoms. This is known as latent TB.

General symptoms of TB.

Because active TB typically causes many symptoms.

Your symptoms might not begin until months or even years after you were initially infected.

While symptoms usually relate to the respiratory system, they could affect other parts of the body, depending on where the TB bacteria grow.

Symptoms caused by TB in the lungs include:

- Extreme tiredness or fatigue
- Cough lasting more than 3 weeks
- Coughing up blood or sputum (phlegm)
- Chest pain
- General TB symptoms
- Unexplanable fatigue
- Weakness
- Fever
- Chill's
- night sweats
- Appetite loss
- Weight loss
- Along with general symptoms

TB that spreads to other organs can also cause blood in urine and loss of kidney function, if TB affects the kidneys back pain and stiffness, muscle spasms, and spinal irregularity if TB affects the spine, nausea and vomiting, confusion, and loss of consciousness, if TB spreads to the brain.

These symptoms can have many different causes, however, and are not always a sign of TB.

Most TB infections affect the lungs, which can cause a persistent cough that lasts more than 3 weeks and usually brings up phlegm, which may be bloody, breathlessness that gradually gets worse.

TB outside the lungs less commonly, TB infections develop in areas outside the lungs, such as the small glands that form part of the immune system (the lymph nodes), the bones and joints, the digestive system, the bladder and reproductive system, and the brain and nerves (the nervous system).

Symptoms can include:

- Persistent swollen glands
- Abdominal pain
- Pain and loss of movement in an affected bone or joint
- confusion
- Persistent headache
- Fits (seizures)