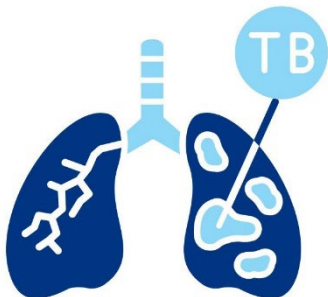


6. Tuberculosis (TB)

Tuberculosis (TB)	
What it is	TB is a disease caused by bacteria that affects the lungs, and can affect other parts of the body like bones, kidneys and the brain. TB is curable and treatment is available for free in BC. Examples: • TB infection (when people don't have symptoms and can't spread TB) • TB disease (when people have symptoms and can spread TB) Note: The measures in this handbook are for TB disease. • Extrapulmonary TB (TB in organs other than the lungs) 
Symptoms	• Coughing up blood • Swollen lymph nodes • Fever • Shortness of breath or chest pain • Extreme fatigue or tiredness • Unexplained weight loss • Drenching night sweats
How it spreads	• Through the air • When an person who is infected coughs, sneezes or talks

Learn more about Tuberculosis (TB)

- Poster on TB in poster section of Appendices
- BCCDC Information: [Tuberculosis](#)
- HealthLinkBC: [Tuberculosis](#)

6.1 How to Manage Tuberculosis (TB)

Client(s) – What clients should do if they have TB:

- ☐ **Stay** in their room.
- ☐ **Follow prevention measures**, including cleaning hands often and respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes, wearing a mask).
- ☐ **Try not to** take part in group activities.
- ☐ **Get** medical help as needed.

Staff – What to do if someone has TB:

- ☐ **Inform Public Health**
 - If client reports TB diagnosis
 - If site is concerned for a client having TB specific symptoms (e.g. client coughing up blood, having night sweats)
- ☐ **Work to prevent** the spread by:
 - Providing a separate room for affected person if possible
 - Encouraging hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette among clients and staff
- ☐ **Watch** for potential spread among staff and clients.
 - If a staff member is affected, they should stay home

Public Health – What to expect from Public Health if someone has TB:

- ☐ **Recommend** isolation of person with TB symptoms
- ☐ **Recommend** use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- ☐ **Testing** may be recommended and coordinated through your local Public Health office if deemed necessary (assessed on a case-by-case basis)