

Share this pamphlet with others.
Help us fight tuberculosis.

We have Chest Centers throughout the city that provide a variety of TB services. All services are free and confidential.

"TB can be prevented!"



"TB can be cured!"



Student TB Patrol

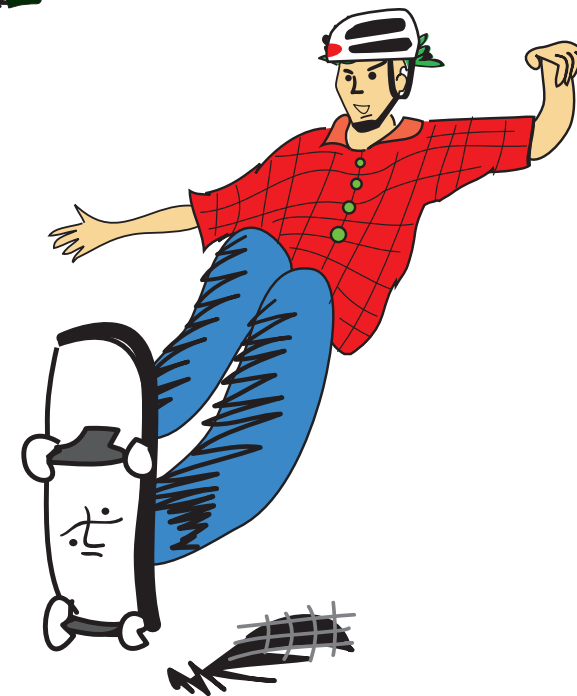
presents
"Students Fight
Against
Tuberculosis"

Patrol: Hey, we are the NYC TB Patrol, and we are here to teach you about the dangers of TB in our community.

Mike: TB? Is that a band?

Patrol: No. TB is short for tuberculosis (too-bur'-cue-low'-sis). It's a disease that can seriously hurt your lungs.

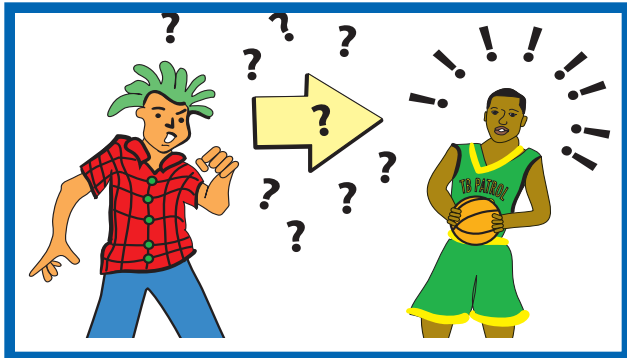
Mike: Ohh... word? TB sounds serious.



For more information, tell your parent(s) or guardian(s) to call 311
or visit our website at www.nyc.gov/health

Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH, Commissioner of Health

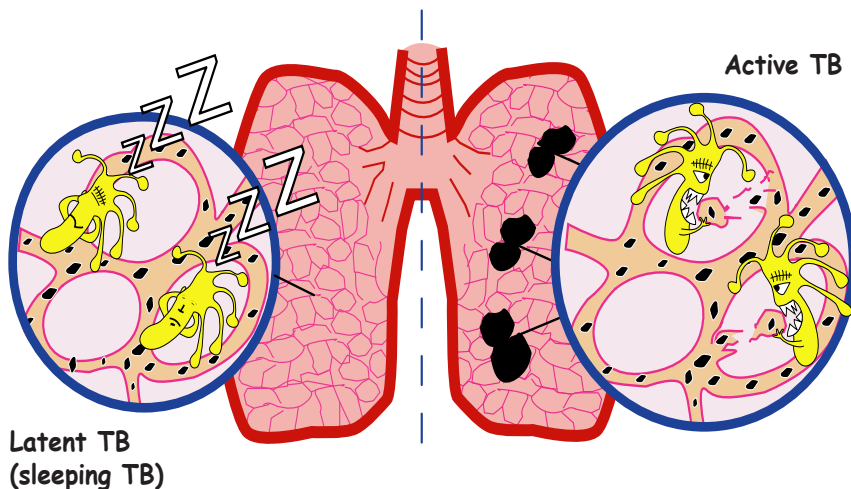
Patrol: TB germs are spread through the air. If you spend a long time with someone who is sick with TB, you may breathe in TB germs whenever that person laughs, coughs, or sneezes.



Mike: Ahh-choo! Oops...

Patrol: Like that.

Patrol: Next time just remember to cover your mouth. When you first breathe TB germs into your lungs, your body protects you by building a wall around the germs. This makes the germs go to "sleep" and stops them from hurting your body. Sleeping TB germs are called "latent TB." People infected with latent TB germs are said to have **latent TB infection (LTBI)**.



Patrol: Latent TB germs can stay asleep for a long time, sometimes for life. People with LTBI won't feel sick. They cannot spread TB to other people. However, sometimes the TB germs "wake up" and your body cannot protect you. When this happens, you have **active TB disease**. This can make you feel very sick, and you can spread TB to other people.

Mike: So, how do you know if you have TB germs in your body?



Patrol: You just need to get a simple skin test for TB. And, if you do have TB germs in your body, you can stop them from "waking up" and making you feel sick by taking medicine for nine months.



So, remember:

**By taking all your medicine,
TB can be prevented!
TB can be cured!**

Do you know that...

- 1/3 of the world's population is infected with TB and that someone becomes newly infected with TB every second?
- Worldwide, over 250,000 children will die from TB this year ?