



Bronx and Staten Island

Morrisania Chest Center 1309 Fulton Avenue, 1st Floor, Bronx
Phone 718-579-4157 / 718-579-4163

Richmond Chest Center 51 Stuyvesant Place, 4th Floor, Staten Island
Phone 718-420-1028 / 718-420-1167

Brooklyn

Bedford Chest Center 485 Throop Avenue, 3rd Floor
Phone 718-574-2462 / 718-574-2463

Brownsville Chest Center 259 Bristol Street, 3rd Floor
Phone 718-495-7258 / 718-495-8281

Bushwick Chest Center 335 Central Avenue, 2nd Floor
Phone 718-573-4886 / 718-573-4891

Fort Greene Chest Center 295 Flatbush Avenue Extension, 4th Floor
Phone 718-643-8357 / 718-643-8358

Manhattan

Chelsea Chest Center 303 Ninth Avenue, 3rd Floor
Phone 212-239-1757 / 212-239-1790

Washington Heights Chest Center 600 W. 168th Street, 3rd Floor
Phone 212-368-4500

Queens

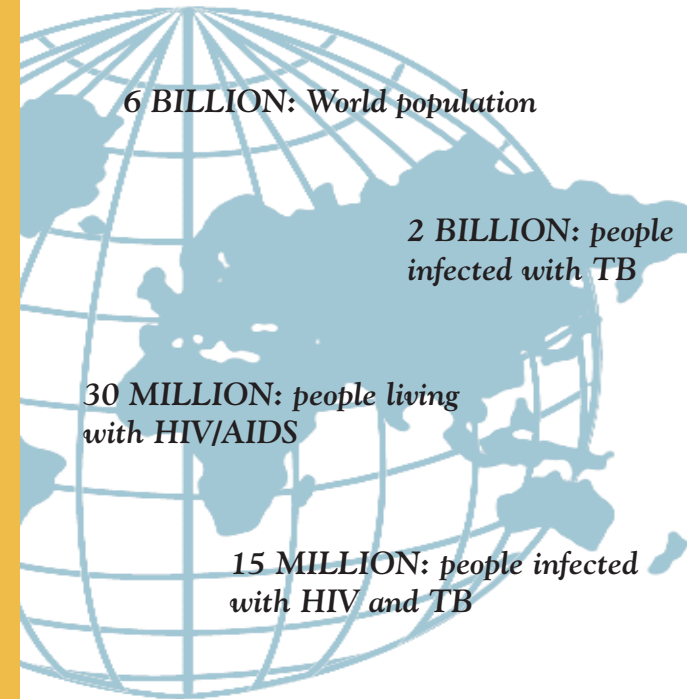
Corona Chest Center 34-33 Junction Boulevard, 2nd Floor
Phone 718-476-7635 / 718-476-7636

Far Rockaway Chest Center 67-10 Rockaway Beach Boulevard, 2nd Floor
Phone 718-474-2100 / 718-474-2101

Jamaica Chest Center 90-37 Parsons Boulevard, 4th Floor
Phone 718-262-5539

HIV
↕
TB

**WHAT'S
THE TB/HIV
CONNECTION?**



My Chest Center	
Phone:	
Directions:	
Hours:	
Other:	

Check-ups Are Important

You must come to the center to:

- ✓ Get your medicine
- ✓ Make sure you are not having any side effects
- ✓ Ask any questions you have

What is TB?

TB (tuberculosis) is a disease that can seriously damage the lungs and other organs. However, TB can be prevented with treatment. It can also be cured.

How is TB spread?

TB germs are spread through the air, not by shaking hands or by sitting on a toilet seat. If you spend a long time with someone who is sick with TB, you may breathe in TB germs whenever that person coughs, sneezes, or laughs.

What happens when someone has TB?

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,” and people with latent TB are said to have **latent TB infection (LTBI)**. 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. You can also spread TB to other people.

Then what's HIV?

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS, a condition that weakens the immune system. When the immune system is weak, it's easier for a person to get sick from many diseases, particularly TB.

How is HIV spread?

HIV is spread through three basic routes:

- unprotected sex (anal, vaginal, oral)
- blood exposures (sharing needles)
- from mother to child (during pregnancy, labor/delivery, breast feeding)

TB ⇒ HIV
**If you think you have TB,
then it's important that
you know about HIV**

People with TB and HIV need special care.

So, what's the connection between TB and HIV?

Together, TB and HIV are a deadly pair. Each speeds up the progress of the other.

Here are some facts about TB and HIV co-infection:

- In some countries, up to 70% of patients with TB are HIV-infected.
- If you have HIV and latent TB infection (LTBI), you are 30 to 100 times more likely to develop active TB disease.

*But you can take
medicine to
prevent active
TB disease.*

- TB is the #1 cause of death among people with HIV worldwide.

TB ⇐ HIV
**TB & HIV co-infection:
each speeds up the
progress of the other**

What should I do?

- ✓ **If you have HIV, get a TB skin test.**
- ✓ **If you have LTBI or are a close contact of someone with active TB disease, get HIV counseling and testing.**
- ✓ **If you have TB and HIV, you need treatment for both.**

TB Can Be Prevented. TB Can Be Cured.

How can the Health Department help me?

If you think you have been exposed to TB, you should get a TB skin test. We have Chest Centers throughout the city that provide TB services as well as HIV counseling and testing. All our services are free and confidential. Our staff speaks many languages. We can answer your questions about TB and HIV. At our centers you do not need health insurance, and you do not need to worry about immigration. Your health is our primary concern.

You can also call the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene AIDS hotline at 1-800-TALK HIV (or 1-800-825-5448) to find the nearest HIV testing site. The call is free and anonymous. The hotline can answer your questions about HIV and refer you to HIV/AIDS services.