ABOUT THE HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Houston Health Department provides traditional public health services and seeks to use innovative methods to meet the community’s present and future needs.

Our mission is to work in partnership with the community to promote and protect the health and social well-being of all Houstonians.

HHD is the first health department in Texas and the second in a large U.S. city to earn national accreditation.

THANK YOU

The Houston Health Department thanks you for your support. To get a list of services by site and for a list of our partners and tenants visit us online at Houstonhealth.org.

CONTACT US

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STOP TB

TUBERCULOSIS AND DIABETES

HOUSTONHEALTH.ORG
WHAT IS TUBERCULOSIS (TB)?
Tuberculosis, commonly called TB, is a bacterial disease that usually affects the lungs.

HOW DOES TB SPREAD?
TB germs can spread from person to person through the air when a person who is sick with TB coughs, sings, laughs or sneezes.

TB is not spread by shaking hands, sharing utensils or hugging.

DIABETES AND TB
People with diabetes are more likely to develop TB

About 15% of global TB cases may be linked to diabetes.

How does TB infection affect people with diabetes?
If you have diabetes, you are at a higher risk of progressing from latent TB infection to active tuberculosis.

What happens if you have TB Infection?
• Your doctor may prescribe medication to treat your TB infection.

PREVENTING TB
• Get tested for TB.
• If the test is positive, follow up with medical evaluation.
• Take medication to treat your TB infection and avoid progression to TB disease.

TB TESTING
• There are two types of tests available for TB infection: the TB skin test and the IGRA blood tests (QFT and T-Spot).
• A TB skin test requires two visits with a healthcare worker. On your first visit the test will be placed, and on your second visit the healthcare worker will read and interpret your skin reaction.
• The blood test results are usually available in a week or two and does not require a second visit.