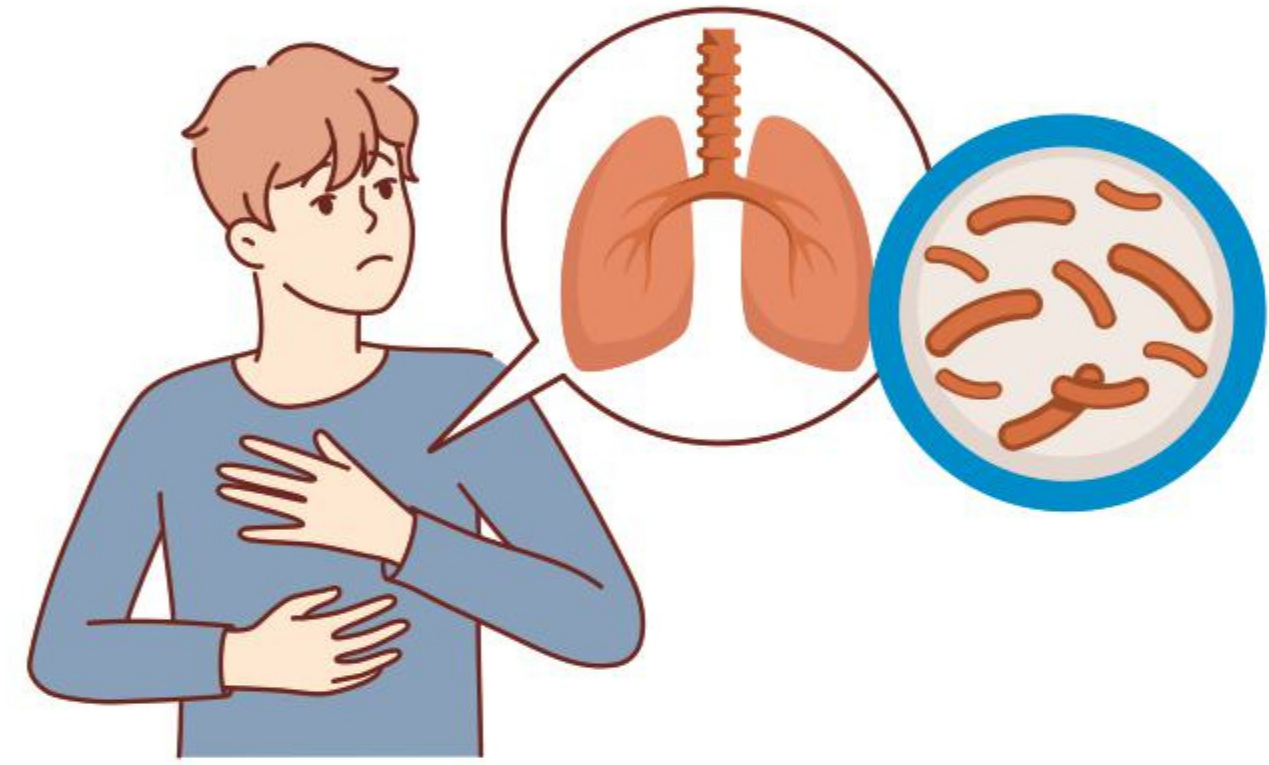


Definition of Tuberculosis



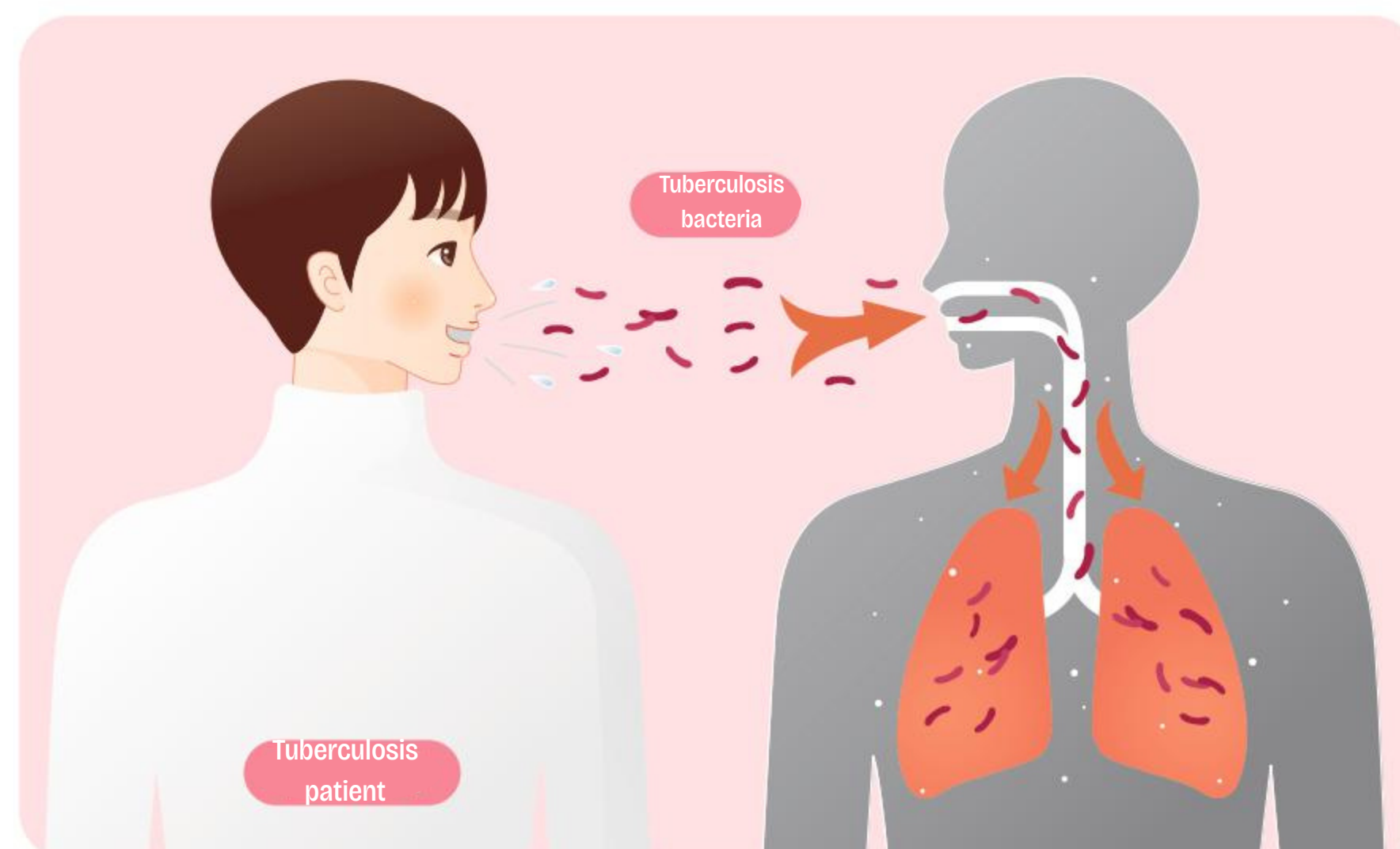
1 What is tuberculosis?

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a respiratory infectious disease caused by TB bacteria. It mainly affects the lungs but can also affect other parts of the body.



2 How is tuberculosis transmitted?

- TB bacteria are released into the air when a person with infectious pulmonary tuberculosis coughs, sneezes, or speaks. Other people may become infected when they breathe in air containing TB bacteria.



Questions & Answers (Q&A)

KOREA DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION AGENCY



Q1 How much does tuberculosis treatment?

A1 National Health Insurance Subscribers

TB treatment is fully covered until treatment is completed.

* However, patients may have to pay for meals and certain items not covered by health insurance.

Person Without National Health Insurance

Although patients must bear the full cost of tuberculosis treatment, they can receive free treatment at public health centers or the National Tuberculosis Hospital*.

* However, patients may have to pay for meals and certain items not covered by health insurance.

* People diagnosed with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis during a short-term or unauthorized stay may receive support within the budget until they are no longer infectious.

National Tuberculosis Hospital Information

Masan National Tuberculosis Hospital



215, Gapo-ro, Masanhappo-gu, Changwon-si, Gyeongsangnam-do, Republic of Korea

☎ 055-249-5051

Mokpo National Tuberculosis Hospital



75 Sinjimaetul 1-gil, Mokpo-si, Jeollanam-do

☎ 061-280-1114

Q2 I would like to return to my home country for tuberculosis treatment. If I leave, will I be unable to re-enter South Korea?

A2 No. You may re-enter Korea once it is confirmed* that you continued and completed tuberculosis treatment in your home country after returning.

* Documentation confirming treatment completion must be submitted via the Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Korea in your home country.

Q3 What happens if you stop your tuberculosis treatment on your own or don't follow the treatment plan?

A3 In South Korea, individuals undergoing tuberculosis treatment who are “non-compliant” or “discontinue treatment” are registered as high-priority cases.

The public health center may take measures such as hospitalization orders, and if it is confirmed that the person has left the country*, entry restrictions** may be applied.

*The local public health center verifies through the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency or the Immigration Office whether the individual has returned to their home country.

****The entry ban may be lifted once it is confirmed that tuberculosis treatment has been completed in the home country** (requires submission of documentation certifying completion of treatment through the Embassy (or Consulate) of the Republic of Korea in the home country).

For Foreign Patients with Tuberculosis

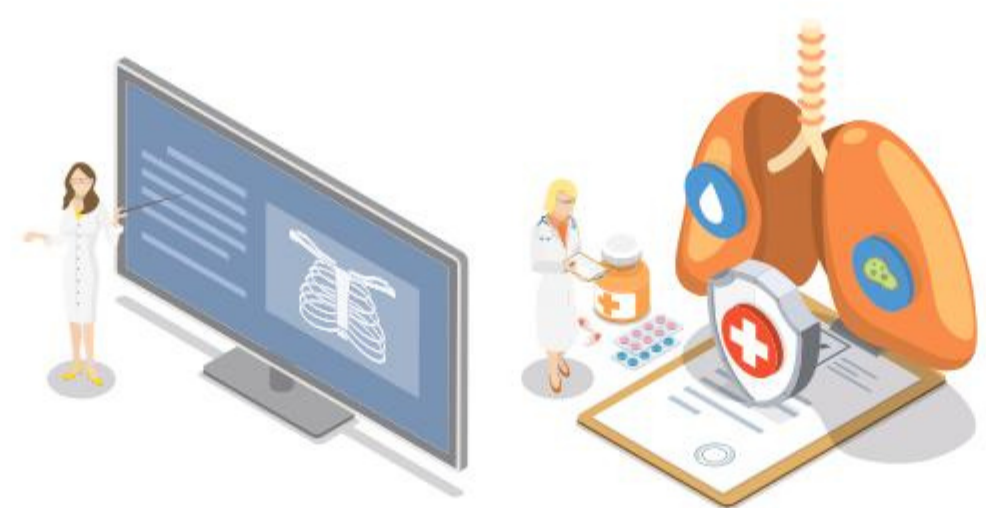
Tuberculosis

Treatment Management Guide



Tuberculosis Screening

KOREA DISEASE CONTROL AND
PREVENTION AGENCY



1 What are the main symptoms of tuberculosis?



A cough lasting
more than two weeks



Weight loss



Fever



Night sweats



General weakness



Loss of appetite

2 What should I do if I suspect I have tuberculosis?

- Please visit your nearest public health center or medical facility to get screened for tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis Screening Costs

Public Health Center



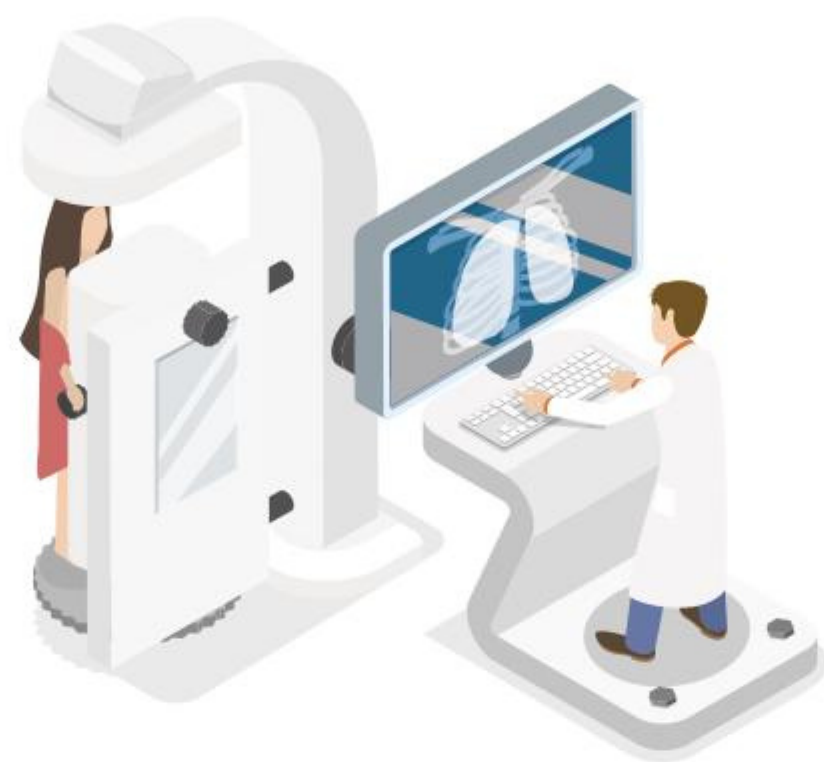
Free

Medical Facility



Out-of-pocket cost for the
person being screened

3 Which tests are conducted during tuberculosis screening?



① Chest X-ray

- This is a basic test for diagnosing tuberculosis.
- If test results suggest suspected tuberculosis, a sputum test is required to confirm the diagnosis.



② Sputum Test

- This is a test in which a sputum sample is collected to check for the presence of tuberculosis bacteria.
- If you are diagnosed with tuberculosis, you must undergo treatment.

Tuberculosis Treatment

KOREA DISEASE CONTROL AND
PREVENTION AGENCY



1 Treatment of Drug-Susceptible Tuberculosis

- Tuberculosis can usually be cured with at least six months of consistent treatment. Because the disease may recur if you stop medication or hospital visits on your own when symptoms improve, treatment must continue until your healthcare provider confirms completion.

Isoniazid

Rifampicin

Ethambutol

Pyrazinamide

Tubis

*Drugs for Treating Drug Susceptible Tuberculosis



Infection Control Guidelines
for Patients with Contagious Tuberculosis

- 1 Use a well-ventilated, separate room alone.
- 2 When you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue and throw it away in a covered trash bin.
- 3 Always wear a mask when going out for medical appointments or other activities.

2 Treatment of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis

- Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis requires a longer treatment period (typically 6 to 20 months) than drug-sensitive tuberculosis, and the treatment regimen is more complex. It is recommended that you seek treatment from experienced medical professionals.

What is multidrug-resistant tuberculosis?

This refers to tuberculosis that has developed resistance to two powerful antituberculosis drugs commonly used to treat the disease (isoniazid and rifampin).

Why does multidrug-resistant tuberculosis occur?

It can occur when a person is infected with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis from the outset, or when a patient does not take their medication regularly as prescribed or stops taking it prematurely.

Guide to Medical Facilities Specializing in
Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis

