

# DEFINITIONS

**AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME)** – a disease that weakens the immune system and makes it easier for people to get infections and diseases. It is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

**ANTIBIOTIC** – a medicine that kills bacteria or stops bacteria from growing. Used to prevent or treat infections and diseases caused by bacteria

**BACTERIA** – tiny living organisms that may cause disease; also called germs

**BCG (BACILLUS CALMETTE-GUERIN)** – a vaccine for TB that helps prevent serious forms of TB, especially in infants and young children

**BIOPSY** – a test to remove a small piece of tissue to look for disease

**BRONCHOSCOPY** – a test to look at the lungs and remove liquid or tissue to look for disease; a thin tube is passed down the throat to look inside the lungs

**CHEST X-RAY** – a test that takes a picture of the inside of your chest to see if TB bacteria have damaged the lungs

**CONTACT** – a person who has spent a lot of time with someone who has contagious, active TB disease (e.g., family, household members, close friends, room mates, classmates, co-workers)

**CONTAGIOUS** – infectious; can spread TB bacteria to other people

**DOT (DIRECTLY OBSERVED THERAPY)** – a program to ensure people with TB take the medicine needed to treat and cure their TB

**GASTRIC WASHINGS** – a test to remove liquid from the stomach to look for disease; a thin tube is passed down the throat into the stomach

**HIV (HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS)** – the virus that causes AIDS

**IMMUNE SYSTEM** – cells, tissues and organs in our body that fight or kill bacteria, viruses, parasites and tumour cells that can make us sick; body defenses to protect us from infection and disease

**LTBI (LATENT TB INFECTION)** – also called inactive TB; a condition when the person is infected with TB bacteria, but has not developed TB disease. They have no symptoms, do not feel sick and cannot spread the bacteria to others, but they usually have a positive TB skin test

**INDURATION** – swelling and hardness that may be felt on the spot where a TB skin test was done

**INFECTIOUS** – contagious; can spread TB bacteria to other people

**IGRA (INTERFERON-GAMMA RELEASE ASSAY)** – a blood test that is sometimes used to find out if a person has been infected with TB bacteria

**MEDICINE** – drugs to treat an infection or disease

**MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS** – the bacteria (germs) that cause latent TB infection and active TB disease

**PLEURA** – a membrane or covering that surrounds each lung

**RISK FACTOR** – something that increases a person's chances of becoming infected or developing a disease

**SIDE-EFFECT** – an unwanted result of a medicine or treatment

**SPUTUM** – mucous coughed up from deep inside the lungs; also called phlegm

**SPUTUM INDUCTION** – a method used to get sputum from a person who cannot cough up sputum on their own. The person inhales a mist through a mask and it makes the person cough from deep in their lungs

**SYMPTOM** – a change in the way the body feels or functions that is noticed by the person who has TB

**TB DISEASE** – a disease in which TB bacteria (germs) grow and damage parts of the body and make a person sick; also called active TB

**TB SKIN TEST** – also called tuberculin skin test or mantoux test; a test used to find out if a person has been infected with TB bacteria. Testing fluid, called tuberculin or PPD, is injected under the skin on the lower part of the arm, and then 48 to 72 hours later a health care provider looks at the arm and measures any induration