

Tuberculosis Learning Activity



TB Makes A Mess

TB Fact: You may be able to infect other people if you have active TB disease in your lungs because TB spreads through the air

Purpose: This station demonstrates how active TB disease affects the lungs and the mode of transmission of the disease.

Key messages:

- TB usually grows in the lungs
- TB bacilli can be exhaled from the lungs of a person with active TB disease into the air
- Another person may inhale the bacilli and develop TB infection in their lungs

Supplies:

- Pictures of chest xrays, drawings, and photographs of healthy lungs and lungs with varying stages of TB disease. This can be easily obtained on the internet.
- (optional) Animal lungs, knife, pan, medical gloves
- (optional) Drawing supplies (paper, coloured markers or pencils)

Description of the activity: A facilitator familiar with how TB works will explain how the lungs function and the difference between healthy and diseased lungs using teaching pictures of xray films, pictures of lungs, and lungs from a freshly hunted animal, if available. If it is not possible to get lungs, question the group about their experiences hunting. It's very likely that several members of the group will have experience as hunters and be able to describe what animal lungs feel like when handled. (optional: Have the participants draw a set of healthy lungs and a set of lungs affected by TB)

Teaching points:

- What do lungs look like and feel like? (ex. balloon vs sponge). Use animal lungs or participants description, pictures of lungs, and picture Xray so that participants can see lungs in different ways.
- TB causes holes in the lungs known as cavitation
- Use pictures to demonstrate how cavitation progresses to the point where the TB can get out of the lungs into the air where someone else can breathe it in.

Time: 7-10 minutes

For additional learning activities and more information about the Taima TB projects, see:

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