# A screen shot of a computer Description automatically generatedtuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that puts healthcare workers at risk. It is an airborne bacterium that can be spread from person to person. It typically affects the lungs; however, it can also affect other parts of the body as well. Not all people infected with the germs have symptoms (latent TB). However, in either case if not treated TB can be fatal.

For those with higher risks for exposure, certain protective measures should be in place.

*Personal Protective Equipment:*

* Disposable gloves
* Protective clothing
* Disposable shoe protection
* Protective goggles or face shield
* Respiratory protection (N95)

*Additional Safety Measures:*

* If there is a higher potential for exposure avoid contact without protective equipment on.
* Be aware of hazard analysis done for specific work areas and follow any specific instructions for each.
* Know the company infection control procedures and follow them.
* If symptoms are present in a patient or employee, report it to a supervisor immediately and follow safety protocol.

All healthcare employees should be screened initially upon hire for TB as recommended by the CDS. More information can be found at [TB Screening and Testing of Health Care Personnel | TB | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/testing/healthcareworkers.htm).

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