

Tuberculosis Learning Activity



Elder Stories

TB Fact: TB is treated here in Nunavut and is curable

Purpose: This activity explores the history of TB among Inuit in the Arctic. This activity emphasizes that the efficacy of TB treatment has improved over time and the delivery of treatment has changed so that TB patients are no longer required to leave their homes for treatment.

Key messages:

- TB has had a significant impact on Inuit history and culture
- Most people with active TB disease can be fully cured
- People do not need to leave their home communities to be treated for TB

Preparation:

- Invite community volunteers who are open and comfortable about sharing their experience with tuberculosis
- Set up circle of chairs in a quiet venue
- Ensure interpreter will be available if needed

Supplies:

- Honorarium and thank you card for community volunteers

Description of activity: 1-2 community volunteers would share their stories about being diagnosed and treated for tuberculosis. Ideally, this would be an elder who can share about what happened to Inuit who had TB in the 1950s and 60s and someone else who has been treated more recently in their home community.

Teaching Points: Draw from the group the differences that they see between the experiences of people with TB 50 years ago and now.

Time: 15-20 minutes