

MARCH 20, 2024

MCHD HEALTH BLOG

The greatest wealth of a community is the health of the people.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
MORGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.



WORLD TB DAY

Did you know that Tuberculosis or TB is still one of the leading causes of infectious disease deaths throughout the world? According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are an estimated 13 million people in the United States with inactive TB. People with inactive TB don't have any signs or symptoms of TB and can't spread the disease but it can turn into active TB and be very dangerous for the person with the disease and those around them.

March 24th is World TB Day and the Morgan County Health Department (MCHD) wants to help spread the message about TB to protect our community and prevent the spread of disease. Anyone can get TB, but there may be things that put you at a greater risk for TB including: if you were born in or frequently travel to countries where TB is common (Asia, Africa, Latin America), if you live in or used to live in a large group setting (homeless shelter, prison, or jail), if you have spent time with someone who has active TB, are on medications that weaken your immune system, or if you work in areas that are at high risk for the transmission of TB (hospitals, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, or nursing homes). If you have any of those risk factors, the next step is to get tested. Testing for TB can consist of a skin test or a blood test. Talk with your healthcare provider about getting tested. If your test comes back positive and you aren't having symptoms, there are still forms of treatment available to decrease your risk of getting active TB.

MCHD does perform TB skin testing by appointments on Mondays and Tuesdays with a return for the reading of the test on Thursdays. Call 740-962-4572 to schedule an appointment.

When it comes to TB- Think. Test. Treat. Together we can end tuberculosis.