

# NO LONGER AWESOME

Time was when a case of tuberculosis was considered an awesome threat to the whole community. People who had the disease were cosigned to a special kind of hospital—TB sanatorium. Elaborate precautions were taken to protect doctors, nurses, hospital personnel and visitors from infection.

Now all that's changed. In an untreated patient, TB is often still highly contagious. But once treatment starts, contagiousness is almost always knocked out very soon. Powerful drugs, mainly streptomycin and isoniazid, make the TB patient socially acceptable without danger to anybody.

Unfortunately, that doesn't mean there is no longer any danger of anybody's coming down with a new case of tuberculosis. There is; and thousands do every year. Whom do they catch it from? Somebody who has the active disease. But if he has the active disease why hasn't he been treated and made non-infectious? Because in most cases, he doesn't know he has it.

How does one find out? A tuberculin test shows whether the germ has invaded the body. A chest X-ray can help determine whether, if present, it is damaging the lungs. The earlier these determinations are made, the better chance of early treatment and recovery. Your Alaska T. B. Association suggests a tuberculin test or chest X-ray as part of everyone's

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# ***Not Awesome . . .***

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periodic medical checkup.

For further information contact Fairbanks area members of the Alaska Tuberculosis Association Board of Directors, Mrs. J. Harold Perry, James S. Couch or Mrs. Lecil Schlichtig or the office of the Alaska Tuberculosis Association, 406 G street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.