

Physician Gives Herself Tuberculosis so She Doesn't Have to Get Any More Flippin' PPDs

LITTLE ROCK, AK - University Hospital pulmonologist Roberta Koch has had it with getting yearly [PPDs](#), so she has come up with what she sees as a foolproof method of never having to receive one again: actually getting tuberculosis.

“I work at four different hospitals and each one of them requires a separate PPD because none of the hospitals will accept another hospital’s results. So each year I have to wait like an idiot in each separate occupational health office, get a PPD, and then go back two or three days later to have it read, that is if I don’t forget. It’s a real waste of time! Then I remembered people who had tuberculosis could refuse the PPD because of the terrible skin reaction.”



In response, Dr. Koch took a long needed sabbatical and exposed herself to the tuberculosis bacillum which she had taken from the [pathology](#) lab. After confirming herself with three positive [sputums](#) that she had tuberculosis, she began quadruple therapy, and now just six months later, she is happily tuberculosis free.

“I only had one [seizure](#) from the isoniazid, but it is a small price to pay for not having to get any more PPDs. I’m very happy with my decision,” said Dr. Koch.