IT’S a disease most people – even some doctors – think was wiped out over a century ago. But TB is back and thriving – not only in developing countries like South Africa where it kills around one person every 15 seconds, but in rich nations too, affecting women and children in countries as far apart as Sweden and South Korea. Experts are warning of an alarming rise in cases due to rising antibiotic resistance over time, leading not only to a personal health risk but to a wider economic and social problem.

By JENNA SLOAN in South Africa and KATE WIGHTON

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