



TBeat

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Childhood tuberculosis in the United States: shifting the focus to prevention

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Full article available at http://www.inqentaconnect.com/content/iuatld/ijitld/2015/00000019/A00112s1/art00010#aff_2

SUMMARY

In the last century, the United States has transitioned from a high to a low tuberculosis (TB) incidence country. A major factor in this decline has been the emphasis on identification and treatment of patients with tuberculous infection. While identification, testing and preventive therapy post challenges, recent developments in childhood TB offer more options for effective strategies that are acceptable to both children and their families. These include screening and testing in non-traditional settings, use of more specific assays (interferon-gamma release assays) for testing, and implementation of shorter-course preventive regimens.

KEY WORDS: directly observed preventive therapy; isoniazid/rifampentine; tuberculous infection

Notes from the Field: Investigation of Tuberculosis in a High School - San Antonio, Texas, 2012

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Full article available at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6431a5.htm?s_cid=mm6431a5_w

On February 21, 2012, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) Tuberculosis Clinic was notified that two students at Madison High School had laboratory-confirmed pulmonary tuberculosis (TB). During March–September 2012, public health officials from SAMHD collaborated with the school district to conduct an outbreak investigation that included performing tuberculin skin tests (TSTs) on high-risk contacts of active TB patients. To ensure compliance, all TSTs were performed at the school.



Letter to the Editor

Hello from New Orleans, LA

Giyatri Mirani, MD¹

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Per US Census Bureau, the estimated population for the state of Louisiana (LA) was 4.65 million as of 2014. 63% of the population is white and 32% black, 1.8% Asian, and 4.8% Hispanic or Latino. Per CDC data and LA Office of Public Health, the number of tuberculosis (TB) cases declined from 139 in 2013 to 121 in 2014 (with a decline in case rate of 3.0 to 2.6 per 100,000 persons in the last two years). In 2013, Louisiana was ranked 10th in the country with its TB rates, and fell to 17th in 2014. Louisiana Office of Public Health operates through nine Regional Offices covering the nearest parishes



in and around the Region for TB control (*See Map*). Villa Feliciana Medical Complex located in East Feliciana Parish in Jackson, Louisiana was founded in 1964 by John Avender London to care for the elderly (*See a photograph provided by LA DHH website*). Its mission has evolved over time to include the provision of medical care and rehabilitative services to medically complex patients diagnosed with chronic diseases, disabilities and terminal illnesses.

Currently, it has a capacity to house eight patients with TB, needing negative pressure rooms and more beds available for patients who are smear negative for TB. The facility provides comprehensive inpatient TB care, as well as management of other co-morbidities. Mr. Charles DeGraw has served as the state TB Controller since 1974, and now Mr. Michael Lacassagne is taking over that position, with a role as a State Program Manager for the Tuberculosis Control and Prevention. Dr. Louis Trachtman, who is the medical director of the Tuberculosis prevention and control program, has been with the TB program for 45 years.



Region 1, comprising Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes is the largest, with a population of 887,892, with the highest number of TB cases in the State (*See Clinic Location Picture, left*). In 2014, Region 1 had 47 cases (case rate of 5.4/100,000). Majority of TB cases are in US born population in the state of LA, in contrast to the rest of the US.

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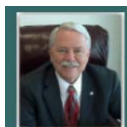


Letter to the Editor - Hello from New Orleans, LA, *continued*

More than half of our regional TB clinics are set up as teaching clinics where residents and medical students rotate once a week to see TB patients and learn about TB management under the mentorship of an experienced pulmonologist or infectious diseases provider. As a pediatric infectious diseases fellow at Tulane University Medical Center for the last three years, I had the same opportunity. The fascination with TB culminated into a year-long fellowship, funded through the generous support of the Wetmore Foundation. The charitable trust established through the Foundation has supported Region 1 TB clinic for close to 40 years. This wonderful foundation has provided funds for variety of services including an X-Ray Machine and incentives for patients on long-term TB treatment.

A year-long non-ACGME accredited fellowship in TB through the Wetmore Foundation support and academic support through the Tulane University Division of Adult Infectious Diseases has been created. Dr. Juzar Ali and Dr. David Mushatt serve as co-directors of the fellowship. In the first six months, I have been busy with community outreach and education, managing adult and pediatric patients with active disease and latent TB infection at the clinic, building relationships with other Regional clinics and primary care providers, teaching, and reviewing of the data available through the LA department of Health and Hospitals. The majority of the outreach activities have been supported through an Implementation Grant, entitled, "Pediatric TB: Connecting the DOTS" funded by American Academy of Pediatrics Community Access to Child Health Program. The TB fellowship has provided me with an amazing opportunity to learn TB from medical, psychosocial and public health perspectives. During the remainder of the fellowship, I hope to continue to expand outreach network, create sustainable collaborations with primary care providers in the community, and complete research studies. I also hope to continue and expand the connections made during the Heartland National TB Center Medical Consultant Meeting in November 2015.

Leaders of Louisiana TB



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HNTC Highlights



10 years of Service - Delphina Sanchez, MA, started with the Heartland National TB Center in November of 2005 as an Administrative Specialist III. In 2009, she was promoted to Project Coordinator, then Training Specialist II in 2013.



Dr. Jeffrey R. Starke, along with Dr. Peter R. Donald, recently edited a soon to be published book entitled *Handbook of Child and Adolescent Tuberculosis*. The publication will be available in February. For ordering information, please see the T-Bit section of the Newsletter.



Heartland Expert Pediatric consultants in attendance at the HNTC Medical Consultant Meeting, November 2015. *From left, Anna Mandalakas, MD, Baylor College of Medicine; Philana Ling Lin MD, M.Sc., Childrens Hospital of Pittsburg of UPMC; Lisa Armitige, MD, PhD, Heartland National TB Center; Todd Bell, MD, Texas Tech University; Kim Smith, MD, MPH, UT Health Houston; Andrea Cruz, MD, Baylor College of Medicine; and Gayatri Mirani, MD, Wetmore TB Clinic Louisiana.*

Resources

TB Education and Training Network

<http://www.cdc.gov/tb/education/Tbetn/default.htm>

National TB Controllers Association

<http://www.tbcontrollers.org>

Find TB Resources

www.findtbresources.org

Tuberculosis Epidemiologic Studies Consortium (TBESC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/research/TBESC/default.htm>

Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers' TB Training and Education Products

<https://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/rtmccproducts.aspx>

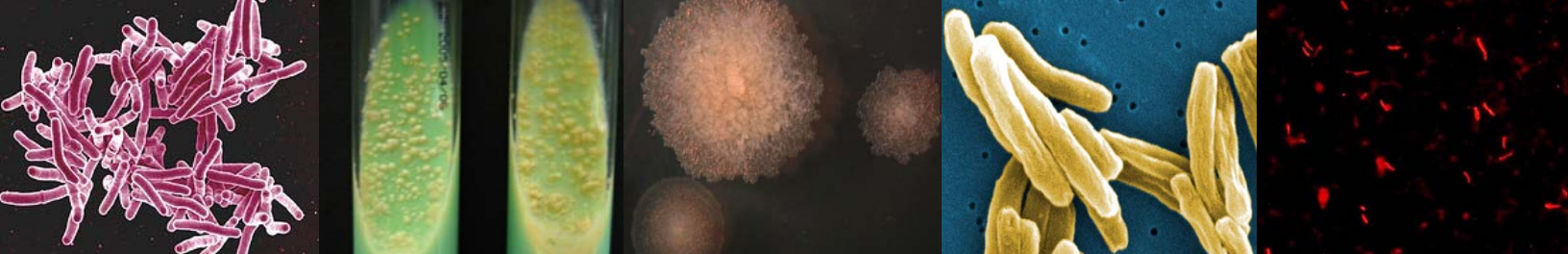
Program Collaboration and Service Integration (PCSI)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/programintegration/Default.htm>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination

<http://cdc.gov/tb/>

****If your organization has any additional links for TB resources you would like published, please send them to Alysia.Wayne@uthct.edu****



Trainings

2016 HNTC Training Calendar

Date(s)	Course	Location
January 6, 13, 20, 27	Introduction to TB Nurse Case Management	Online
February 24	*Using Epidemiology for Data Driven Decision Making in TB Programs	Denver, Colorado
March 21-23	Central College Health Association Annual Meeting	Maryville, Missouri
March 24	Co-morbidities Effect on TB Nurse Case Management Part 1: Principles of TB Nurse Case Management	Web Series
April 5-8	TB Intensive	San Antonio, Texas
April 12	Co-morbidities Effect on TB Nurse Case Management Part 2: Alcohol	Web Series
May 18	Comorbidities Effect on TB Nurse Case Management Part 3: Behavioral Health	Web Series
July 7, 14, 21, 28	Introduction to TB Nurse Case Management	Online
November 14	Co-morbidities Effect on TB Nurse Case Management Part 4: Diabetes	Web Series
December 1	Co-morbidities Effect on TB Nurse Case Management Part 5: HIV/AIDS	Web Series

*Jointly sponsored by the Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers and The Union

The calendar will be updated in every newsletter as well as on the website to show trainings that have been confirmed

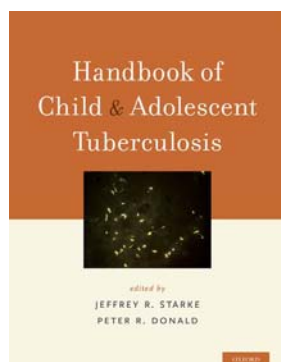
Please visit our website: <http://www.heartlandntbc.org/training/calendar.php> to find detailed information concerning registration and participation.

Proposed topics are subject to change; check website for the latest updates.

Products from the Heartland National TB Center are available for download at

<http://www.heartlandntbc.org/products/>

TBit: To Be Published



Handbook of Child and Adolescent Tuberculosis Edited by Jeffrey R. Starke and Peter R. Donald

- Vitaly important subject matter in US, where 65% of new tuberculosis cases occur in foreign-born patients
- The first truly international book in more than a half-century to address tuberculosis in children and adolescents -- an area of growing need across all sectors of medicine globally
- Edited and authored by world's foremost physicians and researchers in childhood tuberculosis
- Suitable for use in areas of high and low tuberculosis burden across the world
- Liberal use of tables and figures illustrate key concepts and maximize clinical utility and ease of use

Hardcover (448 pages, 7 x 10) - This item is not yet published. It is available for pre-orders and will ship on January 14, 2016.

Published: February 11, 2016

To order: <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/handbook-of-child-and-adolescent-tuberculosis-9780190220891?cc=us&lang=en&>



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The **MISSION** of the Heartland National TB Center is to build capacity with our partners. We will share expertise in the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis by: developing and implementing cutting-edge trainings, delivering expert medical consultation, providing technical assistance, and designing innovative educational and consultative products.

The **VISION** of Heartland National TB Center is to provide *excellence, expertise, innovation* in training, medical consultation, and product development to reduce the impact of tuberculosis in our region.