

Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center's e-news
Informing the southeast region about TB-related resources and training opportunities

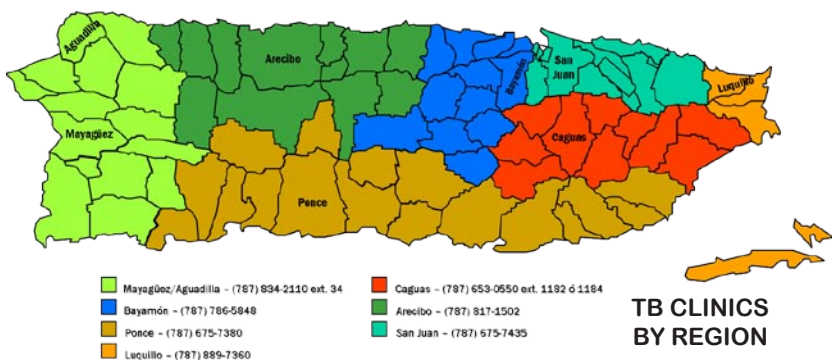
800-4TB-INFO - 24-Hour **HOTLINE**
352-265-7682 - SNTC Office
Se Habla Español

Regional Training and Medical Consultation Center (RTMCC)

The Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center (SNTC) is one of four RTMCCs funded by the CDC. As a RTMCC, the SNTC seeks to address the training, education, medical consultation, and technical assistance needs of healthcare providers and TB programs in 11 southeastern states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The focus of this issue is "Puerto Rico."

Puerto Rico's TB Control Program



The Puerto Rico Department of Health TB Control Program's mission is to prevent the transmission of tuberculosis and eliminate it as a public health problem in Puerto Rico. The Program's goals include:

- Identifying every person with active tuberculosis and assuring its proper treatment, ideally under directly observed therapy, and
- Assuring that people at high risk for developing active disease receive preventive treatment and do not develop TB disease.

The Program is divided into six regions (Mayaguez, Bayamón, Ponce, Caguas, Arecibo, and San Juan) with eight clinics located throughout the country. The TB Program employs a variety of clinical staff, administrative personnel and one health educator. The Program currently has a total of 40 employees and was reopened in early 1970. In Puerto Rico, both nurses and case managers can administer TB medicines to patients.

Recent statistics indicate 113 reported TB cases in Puerto Rico during 2005. This translates to 2.9 cases per 100,000 inhabitants. The TB Program is currently offering a variety of TB trainings for its clinical staff and is working closely with the bi-lingual staff of the SNTC. SNTC staff provide ongoing technical assistance, suggestions for educational and training curriculum and provision of speakers (in Spanish) for trainings and conferences sponsored by the Puerto Rico TB Program.



El castillo de San Cristobál



En Español . . .

El miércoles, 21 de marzo de 2007, entre las 8:30 a.m. y 3:00 p.m., el Programa para el Control de la Tuberculosis del Departamento de Salud, en colaboración con el SNTC, llevó a cabo la actividad "Celebrando el Día Mundial de la TB-2007" en las facilidades del Departamento de Familia ubicado en Hato Rey (San Juan).

And in English . . .

Wednesday, March 21st, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the TB Control Program of the Department of Health, in collaboration with the SNTC held the "Celebrating World TB Day 2007" activity in the Department of Families building located in Hato Rey, San Juan.

The conference speakers were Michael Lauzardo, MD, SNTC; Ana Alvarez, MD, University of Florida – Jacksonville; and personnel from the TB Control Program and TB

Laboratory - Sra. Luz Delia Sánchez; Sra. Enid Méndez; Sra. Maritza Ronda; Sra. Luze Palmira; and Sra. María del Carmen Bermúdez. The themes of each presentation were: TB Advocacy, TB Pediatrics, TB/HIV Co-Infection, and the Control of TB in Puerto Rico. All were conducted in Spanish. The presentations of Drs. Alvarez and Lauzardo are available at the SNTC website (<http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu>) on the home page in "What's Happening."

Upcoming Events Training and Education

TB Program Management Course

May 23 - 25, 2007

Comprehensive Clinical TB Course

June 4 - 7, 2007

TST Train-the-Trainer

June 8, 2007

Newsy Bytes . . .

Don't miss out on your chance to register for the TB Program Management Course being held in Atlanta, Georgia from May 23 to May 25. The application deadline is May 1. This course is designed to improve the planning and managerial capabilities of TB program managers throughout the southeast. The application can be found on the SNTC website: <http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/Training.aspx>. For additional information call Kristina Ottenwess at 888-265-SNTC.

Max Salfinger, MD, recently assumed the position of Chief of the Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Laboratories. Many of you may know Max, or recognize his name, as being a world leader in issues related to laboratory diagnostics for TB. We are thrilled to have Max in Florida and look forward to involving him in future SNTC activities. He is a faculty member in our Comprehensive Clinical TB Course conducted quarterly at AG Holley TB Hospital, and will be working with SNTC staff in 2007 developing educational materials and trainings related to laboratory issues. Please join us in welcoming Max to the SNTC team and the Southeastern region.

Contact the Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center (SNTC)

Central Office at the University of Florida
1329 SW 16th Street, Room 5174, Gainesville FL 32608
Phone - 352-265-SNTC; Fax - 352-265-7683
sntc@medicine.ufl.edu

Clinical Training Campus at A.G. Holley TB Hospital
1199 Lantana Road, Lantana FL 33462

Medical Consultation - 800-4TB-INFO

We need your input and ideas . . . Please help us serve you better by giving us feedback and suggestions on our e-newsletter. We welcome your comments and ask that you send them to sntc@medicine.ufl.edu

SNTC in ACTION
COMING TO YOUR STATE SOON

APRIL Georgia	JUNE Florida Georgia	JULY Florida Mississippi North Carolina
MAY Florida Georgia	AUGUST Georgia	

Upcoming Audio and Web Conferences

Tuberculosis, Mummies and Vampires: An Interrupted History of Man, Cow, and the Arts with John Bass, MD
preceded by **Historical Reflections from Dan Ruggiero**
May 9, 2007, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EDT