

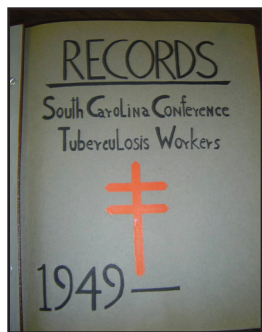
Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center's e-news
Informing the southeast region about TB-related resources and training opportunities

800-4TB-INFO • 24-Hour **HOTLINE**
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The focus of our February 2008 issue is the South Carolina Tuberculosis Control Division, Department of Health and Environmental Control.

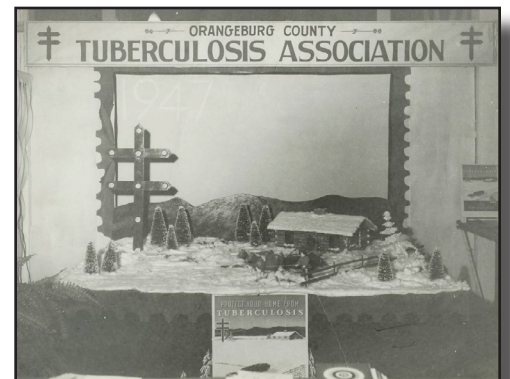
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Tuberculosis Control Division

South Carolina (SC), as does many of our southeastern states, has a rich history of public health efforts for TB control. The first organized efforts at TB control in the state included the creation of TB clinics and camps throughout the state. The first SC State Sanatorium opened in 1915 and the SC Chapter of the National TB Association was established in 1917. During the 1920s to 1940s, TB continued to be the leading killer of young adults and waiting lists for beds at the Sanatorium were long. A new, more modern TB Sanatorium opened in 1938 and in 1945, 25,000+ TB patients were treated in the state, including 1,230 admissions to the Sanatorium. The SC Anti-Tuberculosis Association remained very active throughout this period.



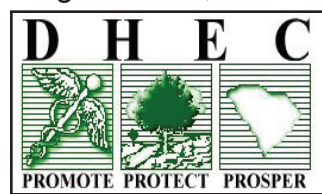
Patients with TB benefited from the introduction of drug therapy during the 1960s and 70s; hospital stays decreased and preventive therapy started in health departments. The SC TB Program introduced an intensive *TB Today!* course in 1976 that became a model for training. That same year saw the introduction of mandatory screening for TB among inmates in the SC correctional system. In 1983, the SC TB Sanatorium closed and a Regional TB Hospitalization Program was established. SC started a Supervised Intermittent Therapy Program (SIT) which was the precursor of the Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) program.

The 1990s were no different for SC than the decade was for other TB programs. Multiple outbreaks occurred in community, hospital and correctional settings. "Strain W", a multi-drug resistant strain (resistant to seven drugs), was identified as the source and recently identified cases also share this fingerprint. With these complex cases, the TB Program has continued the state's rich history of providing training, instituting an *Advanced TB Today* course in 1997.



More information about SC's TB history, including photographs, is available at <https://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/Files/OnTheFly/SC-TB-Hist2.html>. This presentation of SC's TB history was prepared for the 2007 SE TB Controller's Meeting hosted in Greenville, SC.

More recent history indicates that, similar to the United States (US) pattern, there has been an overall decline in TB case rates in SC from 1997 to 2006. However, the case rates for the state continue to be higher than what is observed for the US (5.2 per 100,000 in SC as opposed to 4.6 in the US). In 2006, the vast majority of TB cases were among US-born African-American males and 65% were among persons between the ages of 25 and 64. The TB cases are challenging with 11% drug resistant, 10% co-infected with HIV/AIDS and 45% have a recent history of alcohol abuse.



An ongoing challenge for the current program relates to the antiquity of the state TB laws and the lack of adequate and appropriate hospital space for those patients requiring inpatient, specialized care, especially when there is a court-ordered commitment. Fiscal issues also predominate but in May of 2007, staff of the TB Division was successful in getting a state appropriation to replace some of the previously lost state and federal funding but financial challenges remain. The program has been extremely hard hit by

retirements in recent years which left the state office with a deficit of 140 plus years of TB experience. Positions are being reviewed and redesigned before being filled to ensure the SC TB Control Program is staffed appropriately to address current and future issues of TB control and prevention. The current staff is lead by Division Director Shea Rabley, MN, RN and the program maintains the historical commitment to successful partnerships with all public, private and voluntary healthcare providers.

Upcoming Events

March 3 - 6
Comprehensive Clinical TB Course
Lantana, Florida

March 7
TST Train-The-Trainer Course
Lantana, Florida

April 16
TB-HIV/AIDS Ongoing Challenges in the USA
Carol Dukes Hamilton, MD
Grand Rounds at AGH/Web-Based Seminar

April 16
TB Morbidity and Mortality Review
Live at AGH/Web-Based Seminar

SNTC in ACTION

COMING TO YOUR STATE SOON

FEBRUARY
Florida

MARCH
Florida
North Carolina

APRIL
Florida
Virginia

MAY
Florida
North Carolina
South Carolina

Newsy Bytes

Training Event Calendar - 2008 <http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/Files/News/Training%20Event%20Calendar%20-%202008.pdf>

The SNTC training and education calendar for 2008 has been finalized and is now available on our website. Many of our events require pre-registration and some require an application. Please check the registration page frequently as more information about each event is posted several months prior to the event. Contact the SNTC at 1-888-265-7682 or by email at sntc@medicine.ufl.edu if you have any questions.

Cultural Competency Survey <http://www.zoomerang.com/recipient/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB227CP7QX9P9>

In response to our January request for assistance from the Southeast Region, **66** of you have completed the online survey regarding your knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs about cultural competency and TB. Thank you! For those of you who haven't had the chance, the link will remain open until March 15th. The web-based survey is designed to take between 15-20 minutes to complete and the responses will be used to develop education and training materials about this important topic.

Contact the Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center (SNTC)

The Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center is one of four Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers (RTMCCs) funded by the CDC. 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.

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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