

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

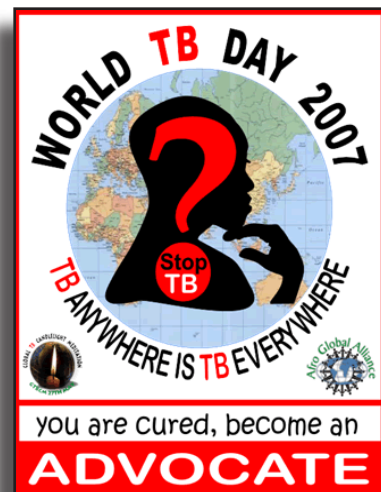
800-4TB-INFO - 24-Hour **HOTLINE**
352-265-7682 - SNTC Office
Se Habla Español

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 the March 2007 issue of Close Contact is "World TB Day."

World TB Day - TB Anywhere is TB Everywhere



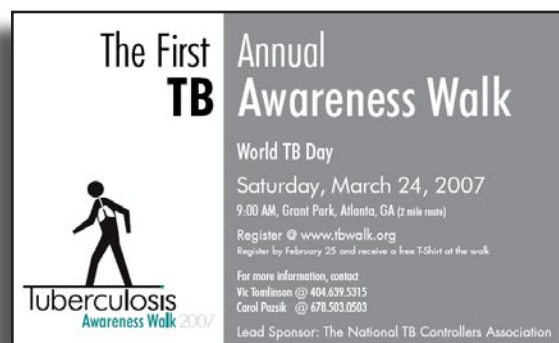
March 24th of each year is set aside to build public awareness that TB remains an epidemic in much of the world. It commemorates the day in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch astounded the scientific community by announcing that he had discovered the cause of tuberculosis, the TB bacillus. At the time of Koch's announcement in Berlin, TB was raging through Europe and the Americas, causing the death of one out of every seven people. His discovery had unprecedented impact on the potential for diagnosing and curing TB.

Evidence of TB has been found dating back to the Egyptian mummies, ancient Greece and Imperial Rome. During the first half of the 20th century, TB was referred to as "consumption" or "white plague" and was a leading cause of death. Frederick Chopin, Anton Chekov, Robert Louis Stevenson, Emily Bronte, Franz Kafka, George Orwell, and even D.H. Lawrence suffered and died from TB.

In 1982, on the 100th anniversary of Dr. Koch's presentation, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) proposed that March 24th be proclaimed **World TB Day**. In 1996, the World Health Organization (WHO) joined with the IUATLD and other concerned organizations to recognize the importance of Koch's discovery, increasing the impact of World TB Day.

World TB Day - In The Southeast Region Education and Community Awareness

- ▶ In Kentucky and Tennessee look for various TV interviews, press releases and public service announcements as well as a variety of information at health fairs. Events will target audiences of healthcare providers, homeless coalitions, daycare centers, churches, and prisons. Both states will also concentrate on "Think TB" mailings and newsletters to healthcare providers.
- ▶ Both Georgia and South Carolina have organized TB Awareness Walks.
- ▶ South Carolina will hold events targeting similar audiences as Kentucky and Tennessee. In addition, South Carolina will hold a fundraiser for the Photovoice Project.
- ▶ Puerto Rico has a variety of activities planned with the Lung Association. These activities will include a television interview, press releases, radio public service announcements, conferences, panel discussions, and lectures. **SNTC faculty and staff will conduct training in Spanish as part of this event.**
- ▶ Florida has media events planned including a Governor's proclamation acknowledging World TB Day. Throughout the state you'll see booths at health fairs and as with the other states, many educational events are planned.
- ▶ Many of the region's special activities will be organized through the various **local health departments**.



World TB Day - Resources

TB Links

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC Division of TB Elimination - World TB Day
Find TB Resources
Stop TB Partnership
TB ETN
The Global Fund
Wikipedia
World Health Organization

SNTC in ACTION		
COMING TO YOUR STATE SOON		
MARCH Florida Puerto Rico Virginia	MAY Florida Georgia	JULY Florida North Carolina
APRIL Georgia	JUNE Florida Georgia	AUGUST Georgia

Upcoming Events

Training and Education

TB Program Management Course
May 23 - 25, 2007

Comprehensive Clinical TB Course
June 4 - 7, 2007

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

Newsy Bytes . . .

The SNTC hosted a Round Robin Meeting

for the CDC project team and the four RTMCCs on February 6th and 7th at our Clinical Training Campus at A.G. Holley TB Hospital. This meeting provided an opportunity for sharing current and proposed training materials and educational opportunities and discussion on collaborations and partnership possibilities among the RTMCCs. Look for great things to come . . .

Medical Consultation Now Available on Our Website!

In addition to the 1-800-4TB-INFO (24-hour Hotline), non-urgent requests for consultation can be made via the SNTC website.



Contact the Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center (SNTC)

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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