

**OCTOBER 2006** Volume 1 Issue 4

**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 Centers (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.

[More info...](#)

The **focus** of the October 2006 issue of Close Contact is **Medical Consultation**.

## Medical Consultation in the Southeast

**Does this sound familiar?** . . . You are a Medical Director of a TB clinic in the southeast. You have a female patient in her 30s who was diagnosed with peritoneal tuberculosis following exploratory surgery. The diagnosis was confirmed with a nucleic acid amplification test but other diagnostic tests were negative. The patient has recently completed a six-month treatment regimen. You think you know what follow-up care and testing is warranted, but would like a second opinion.

**What about the following?** . . . You are a physician in a southern state. You have a 30 year patient who immigrated from India over a year ago. He was treated with RIPE for a month before learning that he was resistant to INH and RIF. Presently, you have placed him on EMB, PZA, LQ and CS. You are concerned about his 14-month-old niece who lives in the house with him. She had a 0 mm TST and was placed on INH but hasn't tolerated the crushed tablets well. Once the uncle's resistance was noted, you stopped INH. You have consulted the Curry book on MDR-TB and have decided on a course of treatment but would like to have the choice validated by another TB physician.



Is there a resource available to help guide your treatment decisions? Are there TB experts outside of your state who can validate your clinical judgment? **YES!**

### Toll-Free Hotline

SNTC provides a medical consultation service to licensed healthcare professionals and TB program staff in our southeastern jurisdiction. This service is available toll free 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

**1-800-4TB-INFO or 1-800-482-4636**

[More info...](#)

## Web-Based Database

A web-based medical consultation database has been developed and was launched in September.

The features of this database include:

- Electronic capture and storage of incoming call information and consultation response
- Providing consultants the ability to easily retrieve and filter case information
- Improve accuracy and completeness of consultation records by supporting multiple input and retrieval devices
- Electronic distribution of case-specific information and materials
- Support for quality assurance process with automated surveys, historical case retrieval, electronic capture of the QI data and workflow automation

A demonstration of the Medical Consultation Database will be given at the SE TB Controller's Meeting in Nashville on Thursday, October 19th.

## Upcoming Events

### Training

#### Comprehensive Clinical TB Course

December 4-8, 2006

Offered quarterly at A.G. Holley TB Hospital in Lantana, Florida, this 4.5 day clinical course will familiarize TB staff with all aspects of TB infection, disease and patient care through an interdisciplinary and interactive approach.

[More info...](#)

### Upcoming Audio and Web Conferences

#### The Impact of Quinolones and the Control of TB

October 25, 2006, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EDT

Timothy Sterling, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Vanderbilt University.

[More info...](#)

#### TB Morbidity and Mortality Review

October 25, 2006, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. EDT

David Ashkin, M.D., Deputy Florida State TB Health Officer, A.G. Holley TB Hospital Director, and Southeastern National TB Center Medical Director.

[More info...](#)

### Mini-Fellowship Opportunities

The SNTC offers an individualized training experience with various TB experts tailored to meet the unique needs of the participant. Intensive, supervised TB clinical and field experience is available. Topics may include various aspects of TB prevention and control and are based on the participant's previous experience, interest, and time available. Contact Karen Simpson, SNTC's Director of Education and Training for more information.

### Contact 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 about our e-newsletter. We welcome your comments.  
[sntc@medicine.ufl.edu](mailto:sntc@medicine.ufl.edu)

### SNTC is coming to your state

- **SOUTH CAROLINA**  
19th Annual East Migrant Stream Forum  
October 21
- **FLORIDA**  
Statewide Meeting  
November 1-3
- **GEORGIA**  
Put the Cuffs on TB - Corrections  
November 9
- **ALABAMA**  
TB101, Contact Investigation and Interviewing Skills  
November 13-17
- **LOUISIANA**  
Contact Investigation and Interviewing Skills  
November 28-29

**For information on scheduling a course in your area, please contact the SNTC at 888-265-SNTC.**

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