

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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Se Habla Español

*The focus of the May/June 2008 issue of Close Contact is the Virginia Department of Health's Tuberculosis Program (VDH TB Program)*

## Virginia's TB Program



Like many of the states within the SE Region, Virginia has a rich history of public health efforts to control TB. These efforts date back to the early 1600s. There also has been a long-standing commitment of the program to educate healthcare professionals and patients about the disease.



A "CURE COTTAGE" ALLOWED FOR CONTINUOUS FRESH AIR.

### TB in Virginia Timeline

- 1610** – First Sanitation Law in Virginia was passed
- 1872** – State Board of Health created
- 1904** – A hospital in Petersburg, Virginia provided first TB sanatorium services
- 1906** – The Virginia General Assembly passed the Anti-Spitting Law. Tuberculosis made reportable in the City of Richmond, VA
- 1908** – State Health Department organized and TB was highlighted as a primary concern.
- 1909** – Virginia Anti-Tuberculosis Association (now the ALAV) formed
- 1909** – Catawba Sanatorium opened; First state-run sanatorium facility was exclusively for whites
- 1918** – Piedmont Sanatorium opened; Second state-run sanatorium facility opened for African-Americans
- 1920** – Blue Ridge Sanatorium, third state-run sanatorium facility opened in close proximity to the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. A special course in TB was developed for third and fourth year medical students, to be taught by the Medical Director of the Sanatorium and his staff.
- 1978** – Blue Ridge Sanatorium closed – the last of the TB sanatoriums in Virginia
- 2007** – First annual VA TB Summit held in Charlottesville
- 2008** – State Health Department celebrates 100th anniversary; TB still a concern

Recent epidemiologic data for Virginia indicates that, similar to the U.S. pattern, there has been an overall decline in TB case rates, with 332 active TB cases in 2006 and 309 in 2007. However, the number of reported cases among the foreign-born continues to increase as does the complexity of the cases. [Read more.](#)

Every case/suspect in VA is assigned to a local PHN case manager. The success of the nursing case management activities across the state is evident; over 92% of eligible patients complete treatment within 1 year and many MDR-TB cases are successfully managed and treated as outpatients. [Read more.](#) Over the last 6 years, annual training programs have been held to not only update the knowledge and skills of the PHN case managers, but to also work on various nursing issues related to TB case management. One item that has evolved from workgroups held during the annual training sessions is the TB Service Plan. To learn more about this plan, [click here.](#)

The VDH TB program also has continued the historical commitment to patient education, developing content for a variety of multimedia formats, including more recently, iPhones. The multi-cultural educational materials have been translated into nine languages and allow the patient to hear the material, especially important for those who can not read. Click here to access, <http://www.healthroadsmedia.org/topics/tuberculosis.htm>

### VA TB SUMMIT

**VIRGINIA Tuberculosis SUMMIT** In November 2007, the American Lung Association of Virginia and the SNTC co-sponsored a two-day TB Summit in Charlottesville, VA. The vision for the Summit was based on the recognition that successful TB control depends upon the collaboration of public and nonpublic partners. This first Summit was held to draw stakeholders together to create a greater sense of ownership for TB prevention and control in VA. This Summit, the first of its kind, is a model for pursuing and establishing the collaboration and innovation necessary to meet the challenges of TB control and prevention. The Summit was financially supported by the Virginia TB Foundation. A special issue of Close Contact will provide more information about the Foundation, their support of TB services in the southeast, and a pilot project funded by the Foundation to provide regionalized access to TB laboratory services. For more information about the Summit, including photos, [click here.](#)

## Upcoming Courses

**July 15-17**  
**TB Program Management**  
Charlottesville, Virginia

**August 6**  
**Fans, Filters or Rays: Reconsidering TB Transmission and Control Interventions in the Era of HIV and XDR-TB**  
Webinar & Lantana, Florida

**August 6**  
**TB Morbidity and Mortality Review**  
Webinar & Lantana, Florida

**August 13**  
**Arresting TB: Understanding the Culture of Corrections**  
Webinar

**August 20**  
**Country Specific Guides: Gaining Insights to Your Foreign-Born Client's Culture and Beliefs about TB**  
Webinar

**August 26-28**  
**TB in Corrections: Contact Investigation and Discharge Planning**  
Columbia, South Carolina

**September 8-11**  
**Comprehensive Clinical TB Course**  
Lantana, Florida

**September 12**  
**TST Train-the-Trainer**  
Lantana, Florida

### SNTC in ACTION COMING TO YOUR STATE SOON

**JULY**  
Florida  
Mississippi  
Virginia

**AUGUST**  
Florida  
Georgia  
South Carolina

**SEPTEMBER**  
Alabama  
Florida  
Louisiana

## Newsy Bytes

### TB Lab Training Assessment

The four RTMCCs and the CDC are interested in learning about the training needs you have related to TB laboratory and diagnostic services. If you haven't already completed the assessment, click here to access it: <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB227VYBMGYMJ>. This web-based assessment will remain open until July 22.

### 2008 National Conference on Latinos and AIDS

This conference takes place July 28-29, 2008 at the Miami Beach Resort and Spa. The goal is to update the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of healthcare providers who care for patients with HIV/AIDS. SNTC's Dave Ashkin, MD, will deliver the TB-HIV lecture. Visit <http://www.minority-healthcare.com> to view the complete program and register.

## 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](mailto:sntc@medicine.ufl.edu)