Dear Colleagues:

This summer was very productive for us at the Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis. We provided several educational training opportunities, much activity with our consultations, and some major updates to our products. We are particularly pleased to announce the field testing of our Tuberculosis Management Resources for the Emergency Department product. This online resource provides access to a variety of tools that enable health professionals to quickly and easily find information about TB in an emergency department setting.

People

Dr. Sundari Mase, the medical consultant of the CDC’s Division of Tuberculosis Elimination has accepted a new position with the World Health Organization (WHO) in India. We thank her for her many contributions and dedication to the goal of eliminating TB. We wish her well in her new position!

Dr. Ritu Banerjee, a Mayo Clinic physician in Pediatric Infectious Diseases, has accepted a position at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN. We are fortunate she will continue to provide her expertise on our pediatric consults.

Philip Wegner, RN, MPH, is taking a leave of absence from the Wisconsin DHS to volunteer for a post in Jakarta, Indonesia, for a one-year assignment as USAID-Infectious Disease Team Leader with a possibility of a one-year extension.

We are delighted to welcome four new TB Controllers for our region: Stephanie Atella in Chicago, Eric Hawkins in Indiana, Samanatha Birch in Wyoming, and Julie Tans-Kersten in Wisconsin.
Spotlight:
As a way for us all to get to know one another better, we will be highlighting one regional TB Controller per issue and providing some interesting information about that person. Dee Pritschet came up with the idea, so she will be the first to introduce herself.

Dee Pritschet
Dee is the TB Prevention and Control Coordinator for the North Dakota Department of Health. She has been in her position for a little over four years. Some information about Dee includes:

Interesting cases Dee has worked on:
- TB outbreak with more than 30 cases
- Human to cow *Mycobacterium bovis* transmission.
- MDR-TB case

What Dee fears most:
- Snakes (she shivers just thinking of them)

Pet Peeve:
- When others don’t put things back where they belong (yes, she admits to being borderline OCD)

Dee’s ideal job:
- To own a Bistro-Boutique

Things you may not know about Dee:
- She’s a Trekkie
- She loves to mow the lawn
- She makes really good bread rolls

Dee’s Motto:
- Life isn’t fair (ask my kids how often they heard that one)
- Everything happens for a reason

Dee is happiest when:
- She’s cooking and feeding her family (thank you Pinterest)

Bucket List:
- Travel to Ireland and Scotland
- Ride in a Hot Air Balloon

Dee’s Spare-time Activities:
- Playing in her craft room, making and designing greeting cards

Education Activities
The Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis offers a wide variety of educational products to meet our learners’ needs. Please visit one of the links below to learn more about our educational offerings.

- Upcoming Courses
- Products
- 2016 Education Calendar
- Mini-fellowship Application
- Course Archives

2017 Courses
Our 2017 calendar is filling quickly. Please contact us as soon as possible if you wish to plan a course.
Fall 2016 Education Highlights:

Live courses:
- September 29-30, 2016. Tri-State Clinical Intensive, Dearborn, MI.
- October 24-27, 2016. TB Contact Investigation and Interviewing Skills course, Chicago, IL.
- November 3, 2016. TB Summit, Kimberly, WI.
- November 29-December 1, 2016. Clinical Intensive, Rochester, MN.

Webinars:
- September 14, 2016. Tuberculosis and Biologics with invited speaker, Dr. Leonard Calabrese, D.O.

Summer 2016 Activities Included:
- **TST Training.** This course was held in Indianapolis, Indiana on June 13 and 14.
- **TB Nurse Case Management Course.** On August 4 and 5, The Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis hosted the Great Plains Area Indian Health Services Public Health Training Conference. Tuberculosis, HIV, Hepatitis C, and sexually transmitted infections are among the diseases which impact the health and lives of the Northern Plains tribes. Educational content including epidemiology, diagnosis, and treatment along with medication management of these diseases was presented during this 1 ½ day intensive course.
- **Webinar:** June 15, 2016. Dr. Elena Beam, Dr. Omar Abu Saleh, and Dr. Nancy Wengenack presented a webinar on MDR TB. This was a joint project among the five RTMCCs, National Jewish Health and the CDC. It provides a forum to discuss challenging or complicated cases with other TB experts. Dr. Sundari Mase of the CDC acted as the moderator.
- **International AIDS Society (IAS) Held Global TB Conference on the Eve of AIDS 2016 on July 16 and 17**
  In Durban, South Africa, the IAS hosted "TB2016," a two-day conference dedicated to highlighting new TB science and its importance for the future of global health. The meeting was a unique partnership between HIV and TB scientists and advocates, convened to draw attention around the need for greater urgency and innovation to combat both epidemics. Dr. Zelalem Temesgen, M.D., Executive Director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis, was on the steering committee of this conference.

  Attending the conference from the Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis were: Dr. Stacey Rizza MD, Dr. Jennifer Whitaker MD, Dr. Zelalem Temesgen MD, and Dr. James Sunstrum, MD. Dr. Temesgen was the co-chair for the first plenary session. The Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis also presented a **poster** at this conference describing its work on developing the Tuberculosis eCurriculum Series for TB practitioners in Ethiopia.

**Product Updates**

**The Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis Knowledge Base** – The Knowledge Base is a comprehensive Internet Point-of-Care tool that allows health care professionals to access various information sources to answer tuberculosis questions that arise in clinical practice. This resource has seen a great deal of traffic since its launch on September 14, 2015. There were 1,466 users, 2,135 sessions, and 16,655 page views for the year. The ten most frequently-viewed records were:

1. LTBI
2. Active TB
3. TST Screening Guidelines
4. Active Tuberculosis Treatment
5. IGRA
6. Linezolid
7. Rifampin
8. Infection Controls
9. Tuberculosis Basics
10. Risk Factors for Acquiring TB

Users from 71 countries have visited the Knowledge Base site. The top ten most frequent users were from:
Tuberculosis Management Resources for the Emergency Department – This is an online resource that is designed to provide emergency department professionals with useful information about TB. This product began its field testing on July 28, and the launch is scheduled for this fall. This product contains four major areas:

- **Think TB:** This decision tree helps ED personnel determine if tuberculosis should be suspected when a patient arrives in their emergency department and the procedures they should follow.
- **Managing TB:** This second decision tree discusses management of patients who arrive at the emergency room because of complications of tuberculosis or because of side effects to anti-tuberculosis drugs.
- **Public Health Resources – Reporting and General Information.** This page displays contact information for state and local TB offices as well as reporting forms.
- **A Deeper Dive – TB Basics, TB Detection, and TB Management.** In this section, users can find links to other sites for more in-depth information about TB. It is divided into subcategories of Guidelines, Training, Slide Sets, Fact Sheets and Checklists, Posters and Wall Charts, Handouts and Patient Materials, Electronic Tools, and Other Sources.

To access this resource, please see the Tuberculosis Management Resources for the Emergency Department on our website. To provide feedback, please email the TBCenter.

**Medical Consultations**

Our consultation process brings together our top experts to provide public health providers answers that are both quick and thorough. Specialties of our consulting faculty include: infectious disease, general internal medicine, pediatric infectious disease, pharmacy-medical therapy management, clinical microbiology, and public health nursing. To request a consult, complete the Consultation Form on our website consultation page or click the image to the right, save it to your desktop, and attach it in an email addressed to TBCenter@mayo.edu. Consultations are provided for the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

**Journal Articles**

Mayo Clinic Proceedings
- [Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: Principles of Resistance, Diagnosis, and Management](#)

The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
- [Medium Matters: Modeling the Impact of Solid Medium Performance on Tuberculosis Trial Sample Size Requirements](#)

The Huffington Post in Association with The Times of India Group
- [Implementation Failures are Threatening Our Plans to End the TB Epidemic](#)

The Journal of Clinical Tuberculosis and Other Mycobacterial Diseases
- [The Nematode Caenorhabditis Elegans Displays a Chemotaxis Behavior to Tuberculosis-specific Odorants](#)

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