Dear Colleagues:

With the snow melted and the green grass starting to appear, the final year of our grant cycle is in full swing and is filling up quickly. We have taken to the road and sky to offer trainings around our 11-state region. Our year started with Clinical Intensives in Casper, Wyoming, and Tumon, Guam, and then we traveled across the Minnesota border to Verona, Wisconsin for the 6th Annual TB Summit. This year, we are able to repeat many of past years' events, but also have the opportunity for partnerships and offerings in new states.

We have also provided many successful medical consultations and have just reached a milestone of 1,500 total consults.

People

Spotlight:
As a way for us all to get to know one another better, we are highlighting one regional TB Controller per issue and providing some interesting information about that person. This month, we are pleased to tell you about the TB Controller from Wyoming, Samantha Birch.
Samantha Birch, Field Epidemiologist
Wyoming Department of Health

Samantha was born (Mountain Home) and raised (Bern–Bear Lake area) in Idaho. She earned a B.S. in biology from BYU-Hawaii and an MPH from the University of Montana. Upon graduation, Samantha worked as a clinical lab scientist in hospital settings and later with the University of Montana student health center as the lab supervisor. That's where her experience with TB (testing, in particular) started. She has been a field epidemiologist with the Wyoming Department of Health and the state TB controller for 1.5 years. Away from work, Samantha likes to hike/backpack, eat, read good books, trail run, and fly fish every once in a while. She is a hobby seamstress, enjoys live music, and wishes she could live in a cabin in the woods and have a huge garden and chickens.

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
- 2017 Education Calendar
- Mini-fellowship Application
- Course Archives

Pacific Island Courses
In 2017, the Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis has the honor of leading a collaborative effort with the CDC and all of the RTMCCs on a joint project to provide a series of trainings in the United States Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI). These trainings are in response to the ongoing MDR outbreak and related issues in the USAPI. The following five courses will occur during 2017:

- Tuberculosis Clinical Intensive (Guam) – March 22-23. There were 92 attendees at this event.
- Tuberculin Skin Test Train-the-Trainer (Guam)
- TB Case Management and Contact Investigation Intensive (Hawaii)
- TB Case Management and Contact Investigation Intensive (American Samoa)
- Pacific Island TB Controllers Association (PITCA) Conference (Hawaii)

Spring 2017 Education Highlights:

Live Courses:

- March 2 and 3 - Clinical Intensive, Casper, Wyoming
- March 20 – MI World TB Day Celebration, Lansing, MI
• March 23-24 – Clinical Intensive, Guam
• March 30 - TB Summit, Verona, Wisconsin
• May 3-4 - White Earth Summit, Mahnomen, MN
• June 14 – Clinical Intensive geared for Primary Care Providers, Aurora, IL

Webinars:
• February 3, 2017 – Practical Implementation of the 2016 ATS/CDC/IDSA Treatment of Drug-Susceptible Tuberculosis Guidelines: Caveats and Controversies. This webinar was jointly sponsored by the Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers
• March 29 - IL World TB Day Webinar

National Tuberculosis Controllers Association (NTCA), 2017 Conference
NTCA is partnering with the Association of Public Health Laboratories to organize the 2017 conference. The 2017 National TB Conference will be held April 18-21, 2017, in Atlanta, Georgia. If you will be attending this conference, please stop by our booth and visit us.

Round Robin, 2017
On February 27 and 28, a Round Robin was hosted by the Curry International Tuberculosis Center in Oakland, California. All five RTMCCs, along with representatives from the CDC were present. Dr. Temesgen and Jennifer Curran attended from the Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis and presented metrics from our two newest products, the Knowledge Base and the Tuberculosis Management Resources for the Emergency Department.

From left to right: Wanda Walton (CDC), Jennifer Curran (Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis), Karen Simpson (Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center), Sarah Segerlind (CDC), Anita Khilall (Rutgers Global Tuberculosis Institute), Jessica Simpson (Heartland National Tuberculosis Center), Kelly Musoke (Curry International Tuberculosis Center), and Amera Khan (CDC).
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. Users have the option to type a keyword in the search term box or choose from a drop-down list of main topics. Twelve new extrapulmonary TB records have been added to the Knowledge Base in 2017 for a total of 66 live records. We are currently developing several other mini topics such as pulmonary tuberculosis types, nutritional support, mental health, and substance use/abuse.

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<tr>
<th>Knowledge Base Metrics for 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Sessions</td>
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Tuberculosis Management Resources for the Emergency Department – This online resource is designed to provide emergency department professionals with useful information about TB. This product began its field testing on July 28, 2016, and was launched in September. Major areas include:

- **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 with 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:** In this section, users can find links to other sites for more in-depth information about TB: TB Basics, TB Detection, and TB Management. Each of these areas 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.

Also included on the landing page is a sample letter that state health departments can edit and send to emergency department personnel when there is an outbreak in their area. This sample letter includes symptoms to watch for and groups that are at higher risk of TB.

To access this resource, please see the Tuberculosis Management Resources for the Emergency Department on our website.
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
- 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 and Publications

- Journal of Clinical Tuberculosis and Other Mycobacterial Diseases
  - Mind the gap: Time to address implementation gaps in tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment
  - Impact of fluoroquinolone treatment on delay of tuberculosis diagnosis: A systematic review and meta-analysis
  - Intraocular Manifestations of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis: A Review of the Literature
  - Tuberculosis Screening at a Diabetes Clinic in the Republic of the Marshall Islands
  - Yield of facility-based verbal screening amongst household contacts of patients with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in Pakistan
  - The experience of scaling up a decentralized, ambulatory model of care for management of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in two regions of Ethiopia
  - Sharing the spotlight in Durban: A report from IAS TB2016 at AIDS2016

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - Tuberculosis Among Foreign-Born Persons Diagnosed ≥10 Years After Arrival in the United States, 2010–2015

- Translational Pediatrics/NCBI
  - Primary extrapulmonary multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in an immunocompetent child presenting with pleural effusion

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, please click Unsubscribe. Questions or Comments? Email us at TBCenter@mayo.edu