



# TB Times

## Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis (MCCT)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Select links for details

#### [2024 Civil Surgeons Webinar Series](#)

March 21, 2024  
Webinar

#### [MCCT Innovations in TB: Latent TB Infection \(LTBI\)](#)

March 22, 2024  
Webinar

#### [APHL Course TB Treatment Regimens](#)

March 25, 2024  
Webinar

#### [Wisconsin TB Summit Virtual Series](#)

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

#### [National Tuberculosis Coalition of America \(NTCA\) TB Conference](#)

April 16-19, 2024  
Baltimore, MD  
In-person

#### [Kansas ID Symposium](#)

May 9-10, 2024  
Overland Park, KS  
In-person

#### [TB Clinical Intensive](#)

**New Date!** October 9-10, 2024  
Rochester, MN  
In-Person

#### [Iowa TB Clinical Intensive](#)

October 24-25, 2024  
Des Moines, IA  
In-Person



## A Webinar Extravaganza!

We're thrilled to share the exciting lineup of virtual learning we have for you in 2024. Our diverse webinar series is designed to cater to your professional growth and busy schedules. Read more about each series below.

#### Innovations in TB

Join us every month for our "Innovations in TB" webinar series, where we discuss the latest insights in TB management.

[Learn more here.](#)

#### TB for Civil Surgeons

Our four-part "Civil Surgeons" webinar series delves into IGRA, TB screening, LTBI, and the eMedical reporting system.

[Learn more here.](#)

#### Lunch and Learn

Our Lunch and Learn series are held on select Thursdays each month and designed for participants to discuss real TB cases facilitated by experts in the field.

[Learn more here.](#)

## Miss a webinar? No Problem. Catch the Recording!

We have just released 2 recorded courses from our January and February Innovations in TB webinar series. Both webinars offer continuing education credits. See details below.

- **Pediatric TB: Radiologic Considerations** discusses the role of radiology in pediatric TB, including characteristics of radiographic TB disease patterns in children. Follow this [link](#) for more information.
- **Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in Active TB** provides insights into effectively identifying, interpreting, and applying therapeutic drug monitoring in TB treatment. Follow this [link](#) for more information.

## Congratulations Dr. Swift!



MCCT would like to thank Melanie Swift, MD, MPH, for providing her time and expertise as a Civil Surgeon and congratulate her on receiving the National Leadership Award from the Central States Occupational and Environmental Medicine Association for her contributions to occupational TB programs. Dr. Swift is Associate Professor of Medicine and Vice Chair of the Division of Public Health, Infectious Diseases, and Occupational

Medicine and oversees the Occupational Health Service's tuberculosis program at Mayo Clinic Rochester.

Dr. Swift's remarkable contributions to TB elimination include co-authoring the 2020 ACOEM/NTCA guidance on TB testing and treatment for healthcare personnel and leading the planning committee for MCCT's Civil Surgeons webinar series on TB management. See what Dr. Swift has to say about what makes this work challenging as well as rewarding.

### How frequently do you work with tuberculosis?

"TB remains a major concern for certain industries. Most of my work is in the healthcare sector where screening new employees, contact tracing, post exposure testing, and monitoring workers at higher risk of TB exposure are routine parts of our day. Mostly, we are finding latent TB infection, but you must remain vigilant because active disease still occurs among otherwise healthy workers. I also work as a civil surgeon and frequently diagnose latent TB in immigrants who are adjusting their status."

### What is your most significant success working with TB?

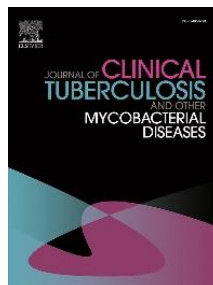
"We have been able to publish aspects of our experience, shining a light on the need to increase uptake of LTBI treatment in healthcare workers. It may seem counterintuitive, but physicians are often very resistant to LTBI treatment. Unless they work in this area, they are often still remembering the attitudes and historical practices from when they were a medical student. Depending on where they trained, it may not have been the norm to treat LTBI. We have reengineered our approach to ensure consistent counseling and clear medical recommendations and we are starting to see an improvement."

### What is your biggest challenge working with TB?

"Many barriers still exist in treating LTBI, but shorter course regimens have helped greatly. The biggest challenge is identifying the patient's beliefs and concerns about LTBI treatment. It requires building trust and providing the information they need to feel comfortable starting treatment. It's a big leap of faith for an asymptomatic condition, unless they really understand the risks and benefits."

## Journal of Clinical TB Spotlight

- **[TB-free Ebeye: Results from integrated TB and noncommunicable disease case finding in Ebeye, Marshall Islands](#)** This newly released study showcases the effectiveness of active case finding in Ebeye, Marshall Islands, where an impressive 90% of residents were screened and 39 new tuberculosis cases were uncovered.
- **[A teenage girl with altered mental status and paraparesis](#)** This article highlights a complex case of a 16-year-old girl diagnosed with TB meningitis.



## Wisconsin TB Summit



The Wisconsin TB summit is just around the corner! Join us virtually for our first session on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can find more information [here](#).

## Oklahoma State Medical Consultant

Dr. Charles Harvey, the esteemed Oklahoma State TB Medical Consultant, is retiring. Oklahoma is actively seeking a qualified individual to step into this vital role. If you or someone you know is interested in this opportunity you can view the job posting [here](#). For additional information, please reach out to Amy Hill, TB Program Manager for Oklahoma at [AmyH@health.ok.gov](mailto:AmyH@health.ok.gov).

## TB COE News

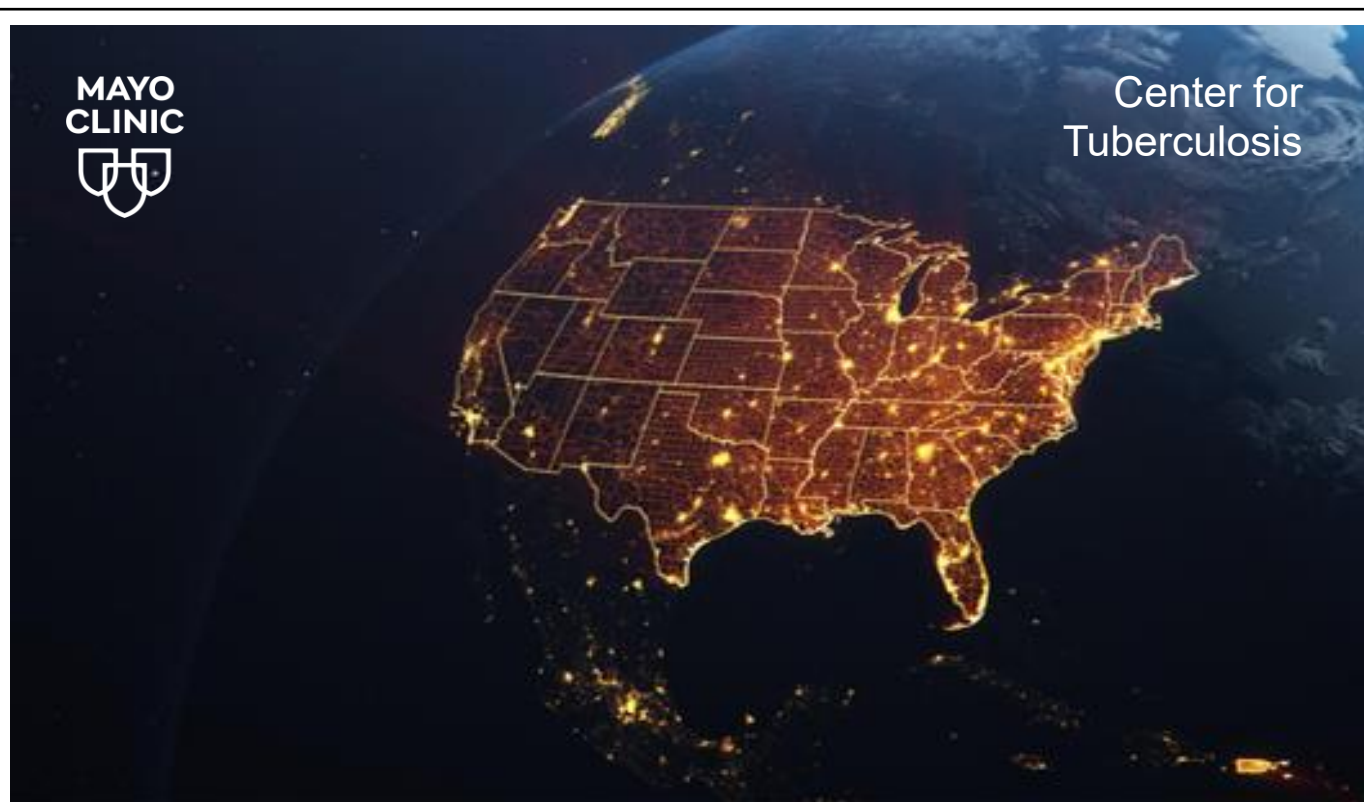
### Curry International TB Center

Curry has recently released ***Navigation Mental Health and Tuberculosis: Soft Landing Please!*** This archived webinar now available is part of a collaborative Nurse Education series. Follow this [link](#) for more information.

## CDC Updates

### TB Technical Instructions for Civil Surgeons

The 2024 Technical Instructions for Tuberculosis (TB TIs) for Civil Surgeons have been posted and are effective as of March 11, 2024. You can access the 2024 TB TIs for civil surgeons [here](#).



## 2024 CIVIL SURGEONS

### Webinar Series

12 PM -1 PM CST

March 21 All About IGRA

June 20 Screening and Referral Process

September 19 Basics and Management of LTBI

December 19 Reporting in eMedical

[Learn More Here](#)

This **free** webinar series will include four sessions to provide civil surgeons with knowledge and skills in the management of tuberculosis screening, testing, and treatment for individuals who are seeking admission into the United States.

## Newsletter Content Suggestions

We invite you to be active participants in shaping the content of our newsletter. We will do our best to provide clarity on your TB related questions and include topics and events you would like to showcase. Simply submit your ideas to [TB Times Content Suggestion](#). Each issue we will feature suggested content, making this newsletter a true reflection of your needs.

## Vision

To become a regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized Center of Excellence for tuberculosis.

## Mission

To contribute, in a meaningful way, to the control, management, and elimination of tuberculosis regionally, nationally, and globally.



## Medical Consultation

MCCT provides expert medical consultation to public health and medical professionals in our assigned region. We have colleagues with expertise in public health nursing, pharmacy, laboratory, occupational health, pediatrics, and radiology just to name a few.

Consultations can be requested using one of the following options:

- Submit at [IDCrowd Platform](#)
- Email [tbcenter@mayo.edu](mailto:tbcenter@mayo.edu)
- Call 507-284-0275

IDCrowd is a new platform for submitting requests used by all TB COEs. If you are using IDCrowd for the first time, choose the option to register for a new membership. Additional information on how to submit a request can be found [here](#).

## Mini Fellowships

As part of the TB COE initiatives, MCCT is providing mini-fellowship opportunities for healthcare professionals seeking to deepen their understanding of TB.

Experiences will be curated to meet individual learning needs. Some experiences that may be offered include shadowing healthcare professionals as they interact with patients, observing directly observed therapy (DOT), and participating in TB case reviews.

You can find out more information by emailing [tbcenter@mayo.edu](mailto:tbcenter@mayo.edu). To be considered for a mini fellowship, please submit an [application here](#).

## Educational Requests

MCCT is able to support a variety of TB related needs including virtual and in-person training, educational material development, and technical assistance. Please contact us to discuss ways we can support your work in treating and preventing tuberculosis.

## Contact Us



[TBcenter@mayo.edu](mailto:TBcenter@mayo.edu)



[centerfortuberculosis.mayo.edu](https://centerfortuberculosis.mayo.edu)



507-284-0275