



TB Times

Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis (MCCT)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Select links for
details

[Therapeutic
Drug
Monitoring TB](#)
February 20
Webinar

[TB
Diagnostics
Demystified](#)
March 20
Webinar

[Save the Date
Union NAR TB
Conference](#)
Feb 26-March 1
Vancouver, BC

[Save the Date
World TB Day](#)
March 24
Worldwide

[Civil Surgeons
Series
IGRA
Interpretation](#)
May 14
Webinar

[Save the Date
NTCA
Conference](#)
June 2-6
Atlanta, GA



Save the Date and Volunteer!

Mark your calendars for the 2025 National TB Conference from June 2-6, 2025, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel. It will be co-sponsored by the National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA) and the American Public Health Laboratories (APHL).

For more details and to volunteer, [visit the provided link](#).

MCCT Training Highlights

[Civil Surgeons: Interpreting Chest X-rays](#)

"In case you missed it!"

This webinar provides civil surgeons with essential knowledge on interpreting chest radiographs (x-rays) in the context of TB screening. The speaker discusses key radiological findings such as infiltrates, cavitary lesions, and pleural effusion, as well as the importance of high-quality digital radiography and proper documentation.

[Innovations in TB Series: Therapeutic Drug Monitoring TB](#)

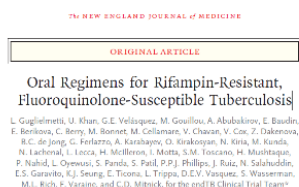
"Coming soon!"

Join us for the Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in TB webinar on February 20, 2025, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Central Time! As part of the Innovations in TB series, this session will dive deep into essential TDM concepts, result interpretation, and practical applications in TB treatment, all aimed at enhancing patient care.

Journal Highlight

Oral Regimens for Rifampin-Resistant, Fluoroquinolone-Susceptible Tuberculosis

A recent phase 3 trial compared standard therapy for fluoroquinolone-susceptible, rifampin-resistant tuberculosis (TB) with five new 9-month oral regimens. The study, which included 754 participants, found that three of these regimens were as effective and safe as the standard therapy. These findings suggest that the new treatments could offer effective and safe alternatives, potentially improving tuberculosis care.

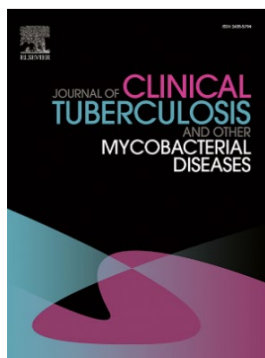


JCTUBE Spotlight

Discordance of 3rd and 4th generation QuantiFERON-TB Gold assays by pregnancy stages in India

Researchers investigated the performance of the 3rd and 4th generation QuantiFERON-TB Gold assays (QFT and QFT-Plus) during different pregnancy stages in India. The study involved screening 516 pregnant women for TB infection and comparing the results of QFT and QFT-Plus at delivery and postpartum. The findings revealed that QFT-Plus showed higher positivity rates than QFT at delivery, suggesting that QFT-Plus may be more effective in detecting TB infection during pregnancy.

This research highlights the potential of QFT-Plus to enhance antenatal TB detection, which is crucial for improving maternal and fetal health outcomes.



Congratulations, Andrea Liptack!
New Member of the TB PEN Steering Committee for 2025

2025 TB PEN Steering Committee

The Tuberculosis (TB) Program Evaluation Network (PEN) Steering Committee is part of the CDC. It includes representatives from various TB programs and organizations, focusing on evaluating and improving tuberculosis programs.

The goal of the TB PEN Steering Committee is to build capacity for TB program evaluation activities in state and local TB programs. We meet throughout the year to discuss and plan for PEN meetings and conferences, engage, and provide technical assistance to evaluation focal points identified by TB Programs. We also share effective program evaluation strategies by hosting Open Forums every other month.

Health Alert Network Update

Tuberculosis Cases Increasing in Iowa Among Persons from Pacific Island Communities

Iowa has seen a rise in tuberculosis (TB) cases among individuals from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia. From 2011 to 2020, 17 cases were reported, but 49 cases have been identified since 2021. This increase coincides with higher migration from these regions, where TB rates are high, and pre-travel medical screening is uncommon.

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is urging clinicians to screen individuals from these communities for TB. Recommended screening includes checking for TB symptoms, using an IGRA or TST (for children under two) to detect latent TB, and conducting a chest X-ray for those with symptoms. Clinicians should also consider TB in patients with pneumonia-like symptoms, especially young children, and report suspected cases to the Iowa HHS TB Control Program.

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
- Call 507-284-0275

IDCrowd is the preferred 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. 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



centerfortuberculosis.mayo.edu



507-284-0275