

# Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know

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# Introduction to the Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know

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# About the Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know

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## Purpose

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The *Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know (Core Curriculum)* presents information about tuberculosis (TB) for health-care professionals. This document, produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Tuberculosis Elimination (DTBE), updates the 2000 *Core Curriculum*. It is intended for use as a reference manual for clinicians caring for persons with or at high risk for TB disease or infection. In addition, it was designed to be useful in developing educational programs. It is **not** meant to provide detailed answers to all public health or clinical questions about TB, **nor** is it meant as a substitute for any specific guidelines. It is anticipated that new guidelines will be published at future dates that will supersede information in the *Core Curriculum*, and these new guidelines will be posted on the CDC DTBE website: [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb).

An update on TB for clinicians is critical today. Research to find new treatment regimens and more effective use of current ones continues as multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant TB cases challenge the public health community. The increased complexity of TB and HIV co-infection has required updated guidelines for prevention and treatment. Testing, diagnosis, and patient management and public health practice have also been revised.

## Target Audience

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The audience for this course includes clinicians who are caring for persons with or at high risk for TB disease or infection.

## Goal

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The goal of the *Core Curriculum* is to provide the reader with information about TB. Upon completion of this educational activity, the reader should possess a clear working knowledge of the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of TB infection and disease.

## Materials

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### The Curriculum

The *Core Curriculum* includes the following materials:

- Print-based self-study manual with the following 8 chapters:
  - » Chapter 1. Overview of Tuberculosis Epidemiology in the United States
  - » Chapter 2. Transmission and Pathogenesis of Tuberculosis
  - » Chapter 3. Testing for Tuberculosis Infection and Disease
  - » Chapter 4. Diagnosis of Tuberculosis
  - » Chapter 5. Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection
  - » Chapter 6. Treatment of Tuberculosis Disease
  - » Chapter 7. Tuberculosis Infection Control
  - » Chapter 8. Community Tuberculosis Control
- Each chapter includes
  - » Chapter objectives
  - » Content topics with study questions
  - » Chapter summary
  - » References
- Appendix A – Glossary
- Appendix B – Answers to the study questions
- Appendix C – PowerPoint slides

## Estimated Time for Completion

The curriculum is designed in a self-study format so that each person can work at his or her own pace. The actual time it takes to complete the *Core Curriculum* may differ from person to person. Listed below are estimates of the time needed to complete each chapter and the entire 8-chapter course.

### Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know Estimated Time for Completion

Chapter	Title	Estimated Time for Completion
1	Overview of Tuberculosis Epidemiology in the United States	15 minutes
2	Transmission and Pathogenesis of Tuberculosis	25 minutes
3	Testing for Tuberculosis Infection and Disease	45 minutes
4	Diagnosis of Tuberculosis	50 minutes
5	Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection	55 minutes
6	Treatment of Tuberculosis Disease	100 minutes
7	Tuberculosis Infection Control	65 minutes
8	Community Tuberculosis Control	35 minutes
TOTAL		6 hours and 30 minutes

## Study Questions

Study questions are included throughout each chapter to provide a review of the content and help the reader apply the content to real-life situations. The format of the questions includes either multiple choice or matching. For each question, select the ONE BEST ANSWER. Answers to the study questions are available in Appendix B.

## PowerPoint Slide Set

The *Core Curriculum* is accompanied by a PowerPoint slide set for use in presentations and training programs. Images of the slides are included in Appendix C. The slide set may be downloaded from the CDC DTBE website at [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb).

## To View or Order the Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis

To view or download the *Core Curriculum*, please visit: [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb).

If you would like to request a print copy of the *Core Curriculum*, please use the CDC publication online ordering system at [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb).

**All copies are free of charge.**



## Course Objectives

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The overall objectives for the entire *Core Curriculum* are listed below.

- Identify TB disease trends in the United States.
- Describe the transmission and pathogenesis of TB.
- Identify appropriate TB testing methods.
- Describe the five components of a TB medical evaluation.
- Describe LTBI treatment regimens.
- Describe treatment regimens for TB disease.
- List common adverse drug reactions to TB medications.
- Discuss the three levels of an effective TB infection control program.
- Describe the roles and responsibilities for TB control and prevention in the public and private health care sectors.

## Continuing Education

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Continuing education (CE) is offered free of charge for various professions based on approximately 6.5 hours of instruction. In order to receive CE credit/contact hours, you must complete an exam and course evaluation. No minimum score is necessary to receive credit/contact hours. Upon successful completion of the course, exam, and evaluation, your CE certificate will be issued by CDC Training and Continuing Education Online.

### Continuing Education Registration and Test

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You can register and take the test for CE credits online for the *Core Curriculum*. Check the online registration website to determine the expiration date of the CE units. Origination Date: February 15, 2014.

### Continuing Education Units

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The following CE units are available free of charge for the *Core Curriculum*:

- **Continuing education units (CEUs)**  
CDC has been approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET), 1760 Old Meadow Road, Suite 500, McLean, VA 22102. CDC is authorized by IACET to offer **0.6** ANSI/IACET CEUs for this program.
- **Continuing medical education (CMEs)**  
CDC is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CDC designates this **enduring material** for a maximum of **6.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Non-physicians will receive a certificate of participation.

- **Continuing nursing education (CNEs)**  
CDC is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This activity provides **6.5** contact hours.
- **Continuing education contact hours (CECHs)**  
Sponsored by CDC, a designated provider of CE contact hours (CECHs) in health education by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. This program is designed for Certified Health Education Specialists (CHESs) to receive up to **6.5** Category I CECHs in health education. CDC provider number **GA0082**.

## Online Registration and Test

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To receive continuing education, you must register for this specific course and submit an evaluation at the CDC Training and Continuing Education Online website.

- Go to [www2a.cdc.gov/TCEonline](http://www2a.cdc.gov/TCEonline)
- Log in as a participant. (Note: If you are a first-time user of this online system, you will need to log in as a new participant and create a participant profile.)
  - » When you receive your reset password by e-mail, log in as a participant and change the password.
- At Participant Services, click on Search and Register, type a keyword from the course title into the keyword search, such as “Core,” and click View. You can also find the course by typing in the course number. The course number for this activity is SS1604.
- Click on the title, *Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis*, select the type of credit/contact hours you wish to receive at the bottom, and click Submit.
- Verify the demographic information and click Submit at the bottom.
- Complete the course evaluation.
- Complete the course posttest (if applicable).
- At Participant Services, click on Certificates and Transcripts and print your continuing education certificate.

For assistance with the online system, call 1(800)-41-TRAIN Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, or [e-mail ce@cdc.gov](mailto:ce@cdc.gov).

## Disclosure Statement

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CDC, our planners, and our reviewers wish to disclose they have no financial interests or other relationships with the manufacturers of commercial products, suppliers of commercial services, or commercial supporters.

There was no commercial support received for this activity.

# Key Tuberculosis Resources

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## Tuberculosis Reporting, Guidelines, and Recommendations

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Clinicians should immediately contact their state health department if they have a patient with suspected or confirmed TB disease. The health department can assist in providing guidance and overall public health management of the patient. Contact information for each state TB control office can be found at [www.cdc.gov/tb/links/tboffices.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tb/links/tboffices.htm).

For additional information about TB guidelines and recommendations, contact the following sources:

- CDC DTBE website: [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb)
- TB Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers (RTMCCs):
  - » New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute: [www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/home.htm](http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/home.htm)
  - » Heartland National Tuberculosis Center: [www.heartlandnbc.org/](http://www.heartlandnbc.org/)
  - » Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center: <http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/>
  - » Curry International Tuberculosis Center: [www.currytbccenter.ucsf.edu/](http://www.currytbccenter.ucsf.edu/)
- American Lung Association: [www.lungusa.org/](http://www.lungusa.org/)
- American Thoracic Society: [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org)

## Additional Education and Training Resources

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- Find TB Resources website: [www.findtbrsources.org](http://www.findtbrsources.org)
- TB Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers product list: <https://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/rtmccproducts.aspx>

## Content Experts

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Content experts included staff from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination.

## For Additional Information

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For additional information on TB, visit the CDC DTBE website at [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb). If you have questions on state-specific TB guidelines, please contact your state TB control office. A list of state TB control offices can be found on the CDC DTBE website at [www.cdc.gov/tb/links/tboffices.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tb/links/tboffices.htm)