

STOP TB USA* - 2/20/08 TB WIRE

* Formerly known as the National Coalition for Elimination of Tuberculosis (NCET).

REMEMBER: 2/28-3/1 IUATLD North American Annual Meeting and the North American Region STOP TB Meeting

You are welcome to attend the North American Region **STOP TB Meeting** that will be held in San Diego at the Bahia Hotel on February 28 where the new **STOP TB USA** coalition will be officially launched. The **STOP TB Meeting** will be followed by the **2008 International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) - North American Region Annual Meeting**. Although pre-registration has ended you may still register on site for these meetings. For additional information contact the following websites: http://www.bc.lung.ca/lungdiseases/tuberculosis_iuatld.html or http://www.lungchicago.org/site/epage/23955_487.htm

Below is the agenda for the 2/28/08 **STOP TB** meeting:

- 8:30 – 9:00 am** From “**NCET**” to “**STOP TB USA**”
Fran Du Melle, American Thoracic Society
- 9:00 – 9:50 am** **The Global STOP TB Partnership**
Marcos Espinal, Secretariat, STOP TB Partnership
- 9:50 – 10:05** Break
- 10:05 – 10:45** **The Development of STOP TB in the North American Region**
STOP TB Canada: Anne Fanning, University of Alberta
STOP TB Mexico: Martin Castellanos, National TB Program, Mexico
- 10:45 – 11:15** **The Need for Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization**
John Fawcett, RESULTS, Washington, DC
- 11:15 – 11:50** **STOP TB USA (the Future)**
Reports from **STOP TB USA** Workgroups
Updating the U.S. TB Elimination Plan: Randall Reves, Denver Public Health
Launching **STOP TB USA**: Wanda Walton, Division of TB Elimination, CDC
Chaired by Randall Reves

12:00 – 1:00 **Working Lunch for Organizing Advocacy Planning***

*** All are welcome and lunch will be provided (limited number of 100) on a first come, first served basis**

NEXT: 2008 ATS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR TORONTO

The 2008 International Conference of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, May 16-21, 2008. **In the next few days, STOP TB USA will send out a detailed preliminary agenda for this conference showing the TB-Related Sessions/Other Sessions of Special Interest.** For further information regarding the ATS conference and registration, please see <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/meetings-and-courses/international-conference/2008/index.html>.

This ATS Conference will again include the Public Health Poster session which has become the TB public health focal point for attendees at this ATS annual meeting. **Although abstracts are no longer being submitted for the other ATS sessions, there is still time to submit a Public Health abstract for this session and we have been asked to forward the following message about this session:**

TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL STRATEGIES POSTER SESSION AT 2008 ATS TORONTO

This year the Public Health Poster session will be jointly sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), and the Canadian Tuberculosis Committee (CTC). Dr. Kashef Ijaz (CDC) and Dr. Edward Ellis (PHAC) will be co-chairpersons for the poster session. This session will take place on Sunday, May 18th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The forum will focus on innovative techniques that are helping to meet the challenges of TB prevention, control, and elimination in the United States and Canada. The TB public health poster sessions have always been well attended at past conferences. The poster presentations are excellent, the discussions lively, and the session provides a great opportunity to meet others involved in TB control.

Please consider developing an abstract for poster presentation on a significant or innovative aspect of your TB control program for this joint 2008 poster forum. This is an excellent opportunity for you or someone in your program to exchange information about an effective strategy or intervention that may be useful to other colleagues. Techniques that are associated with improvements in TB control practices would be especially appropriate for poster presentation during this session. We are interested in posters regarding:

- Updated policies/procedures and successful activities for conducting TB-related contact investigations, including successful treatment completion in contacts identified with tuberculosis infection. Posters detailing the use of programmatic and epidemiologic data to develop and update policies and procedures will be especially welcome.
- Successful activities for the evaluation and treatment of immigrants and refugees.
- Reports of tuberculosis outbreaks, including surveillance and program activities related to detection and control of outbreaks, MDR TB outbreaks, and the development and use of outbreak response plans.
- Successful activities or interventions to prevent and eliminate tuberculosis in high-risk populations, such as African-American communities, foreign-born persons, aboriginal populations, homeless persons, or populations along the U.S./Mexico border.
- Innovative and successful interventions to increase adherence and completion of treatment for tuberculosis disease and infection.
- Successful activities or interventions to prevent and eliminate tuberculosis in persons with HIV-infection.
- Successful activities or interventions to prevent and eliminate tuberculosis in persons incarcerated in correctional facilities.
- Successful training and education materials, courses, or sessions for tuberculosis program staff, public and private healthcare providers, or successful educational efforts developed for patients with tuberculosis infection or disease.
- Successful efforts to comprehensively evaluate and improve tuberculosis prevention and control programs.
- Successful implementation of the use of new diagnostic tests for latent TB infection or TB disease.

This year we are again asking for electronic submission of the poster abstracts. Since this session is a jointly sponsored by CDC, PHAC, and CTC, rather than the ATS, these abstracts will not be published in the ATS conference book. However all abstracts will be printed and handed out at the session. Instructions for abstract submission, related forms, and a sample abstract are attached. Please use the attached electronic form to describe your proposed poster. **U.S. abstracts should be submitted to Dr. Kashef Ijaz at kijaz@cdc.gov. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is February 29, 2008.** We will make notifications regarding acceptance of abstracts by March 21, 2008.

Unfortunately, we may have to limit the number of accepted posters because of anticipated space and time restraints. Posters will be selected based on quality, date of receipt, innovation, and potential for application elsewhere. For further information, submitters from the United States should contact Dr. Kashef Ijaz at kijaz@cdc.gov or by telephone at (404) 639-5314. **Submitters from Canada should contact Dr. Edward Ellis at Edward_Ellis@phac-aspc.gc.ca** or by telephone at (613) 948-2153.

Please forward this announcement to clinicians, public health nurses, and others in your area who may be interested in submitting a poster abstract.

REGIONAL TB TRAINING AND MEDICAL CONSULTATION CENTERS (RTMCCs)

The four CDC-funded TB Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers provide free TB-related medical consultation, develop TB educational materials, and also provide training and technical assistance for TB program staff. The Centers are regionally assigned to cover all 50 states and U.S. territories. Additional information about the Regional Training Centers, their services and programs, can be obtained from their telephone numbers and websites (below). (Please note: Regional Tuberculosis Training and Medical Consultation Centers are obligated to prioritize participants from within their respective regions for training courses - but they may accept applicants from all areas when there is available space.) Please check their websites below for upcoming courses. .

The Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center in Gainesville, Florida: Phone: 352-265-7682

Website: <http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/>

New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute in Newark, New Jersey: Phone: 973-972-3270 Toll-Free: 800-482-3627. Website: <http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/courses.htm>

The Heartland National Tuberculosis Center in San Antonio, Texas: Phone: 800-TEX-LUNG (800-839-5864)

Website: <http://www.heartlandntbc.org>

Francis J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center in San Francisco, California: Phone: 415-502-4600 Fax: 415-502-4620

Website: <http://www.nationaltbcenter.edu>