

Tuberculosis is Still A Threat (An Explanation)

by Philip Fisher, M.D.

Years ago tuberculosis was a fearful disease since it meant long stays, sometimes years, at TB sanitariums, surgery, and taking drugs which had toxic side-effects. Today, after the development of new drugs which are more potent and have fewer side-effects, sanitariums are no

longer needed and surgery is rarely indicated.

Although the incidence of tuberculosis has declined, the disease is still present and will probably continue to exist for a long time. In 1977, there were five new cases of active disease diagnosed in Warm Springs, and 15 new people were infected and

required treatment but did not actually develop clinically detectable disease.

The bacteria that causes the disease is transmitted from man to man, usually coughed in the form of tiny air-borne droplets. When the droplets are breathed and implanted in the lungs of another individual, that person

has become "infected".

The infection can be detected by the tuberculin skin test which becomes positive three to eight weeks later. Usually the infection is controlled by natural body defenses at this point, and becomes "dormant." In one of ten people, however, the infection may spread to other parts of the lungs and body and that person has the tuberculosis "disease".

If the disease is localized in the lungs, usually the person will have a productive cough and demonstrate other symptoms such as sweating at night and weight loss. A chest X-Ray will show evidence of the disease in the lungs. A person who has the infection in a dormant state carries the risk of developing the disease at any time, even many years later, particularly if his natural body defenses have been lowered.

All persons who have become infected, as demonstrated by a positive skin test and a normal chest X-Ray, should receive an antituberculous drug called INH for one year. The dormant state will be destroyed and the risk of developing the disease will be forever eradicated.

Those people over age thirty-five or who are not known to have had a previous skin test may or may not be treated depending on other factors involved, and at the discretion of the physician. In addition, those people (usually members of the

same household who have been in close contact with a person who has active disease) should be treated even if their skin test is negative.

Treatment is discontinued if the skin test remains negative after three months. Those people who have active TB are treated with two or three drugs for eighteen to twenty-four months, depending on the severity of the disease. Newly diagnosed cases are usually hospitalized for a short stay to obtain sputum samples, blood tests, chest X-Rays and to determine the extent of the disease and to start therapy.

A chest clinic is held at the Warm Springs Health Center four times yearly for the purpose of maintaining a check on those people having tuberculosis infection or disease. With the assistance of the public health nurse, a physician from the health center reviews chest X-Rays and medical records to determine the patient's clinical status. At times, the personal appearance of a patient is re-requested to go over his or her progress and to emphasize drug therapy.

Today, a great deal of responsibility for the treatment of tuberculosis has been placed on the patient himself. Poor drug compliance is the major cause of treatment failure for tuberculosis. Despite the fact that TB is a curable disease, it will remain a significant cause of death and sickness if the treatment plans are not followed.



Noting that TB is still around and still dangerous, Dr. Fisher goes over the X-rays and medical records of a young patient who is currently being treated for the disease. A chest clinic is held four times a year to maintain a check on those having or exposed to TB. Rangila Photo

Public Notice Budget Hearing On Revenue Sharing

The Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon will hold a public hearing at 4:30 p.m. on June 16, 1978 in the Administration Building at Warm Springs for the purpose of hearing written and oral comment from the public concerning the proposed budget for 1978 for the use of Revenue Sharing Funds as contained in the proposed budget, summarized below.

General Revenue Sharing is a program of General Fiscal support from the Federal Government to state and local governments with only limited Federal requirements on how the money should be spent. Decisions on the use of funds are made at the local level by the government and people closest to local problems. The revenue sharing regulations require a hearing on the proposed use of these funds in relation to the

overall budget before the budget is adopted each year.

All interested citizens, groups, senior citizens and organizations representing the interests of senior citizens are encouraged to attend and to submit comments concerning Revenue Sharing Funds available.

Summary of Proposed 1978 Budget:
Revenue Sharing Funds Available \$99,558.00

1978 EXPENDITURES				
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	TRIBAL FUNDS	OTHER OUTSIDE FUNDS	REVENUE SHARING
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES	\$ 1,089,682.00	\$ 635,388.00	\$ 419,894.00	\$34,400.00
MUNICIPAL SERVICES	1,830,700.00	1,379,615.00	413,185.00	37,900.00
OTHER PROGRAMS	514,730.00	492,730.00	22,000.00	
ADMINISTRATION	1,999,064.00	617,962.00	1,378,002.00	3,100.00
COUNCIL & COMMITTEES	399,705.00	399,705.00		
MANAGEMENT	525,228.00	439,430.00	71,798.00	14,000.00
ENTERPRISE DEPARTMENTS	888,200.00	566,153.00	311,889.00	10,158.00
CAPITALIZED BUDGET	976,221.00	976,221.00		
ENTERPRISE EXPENDITURES	180,047.00	180,047.00		
PER CAPITA	2,177,100.00	2,177,100.00		
TOTAL	\$ 10,580,677.00	\$7,864,351.00	\$2,616,768.00	\$99,558.00

PROGRAM	AMOUNT
ALCOHOL PROGRAM	\$ 11,800.00
DRUG PROGRAM	2,400.00
CRISIS & FAMILY UNIT	4,700.00
MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL	1,400.00
RESIDENTIAL GROUP HOME	4,600.00
OUTREACH PROGRAM	7,500.00
P.A.T.H. FOSTER CARE PROGRAM	2,000.00
FIRE & SAFETY	2,660.00
HEADSTART	22,180.00
DAY CARE	13,060.00
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER	3,100.00
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL	14,000.00
UTILITIES	10,158.00
TOTAL	\$ 99,558.00

THE NEED FOR THESE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES IN CALENDAR YEAR 1978 HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE UPDATING OF THE TRIBAL SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM WHICH RESULTED IN MANY SALARY INCREASES ABOVE THOSE PROGRAMED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET. LISTED ARE SPECIFIC PROGRAMS TO RECEIVE REVENUE SHARING FUNDS.

A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION, OTHER REVENUE SHARING INFORMATION AND RECORDS, ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. WEEKDAYS AT THE TRIBAL OFFICE