

Task Order 23

“Determinants of Early Diagnosis, Prevention,
and Treatment of TB in the African-American
Community”

Suzanne Keller
Co-Investigator

Tuberculosis Epidemiologic Studies Consortium (TBESC)

- The Centers for Disease Control funds sites across the country to research issues in tuberculosis.

Study Sites

- TO 23 will take place at sites with large numbers of African-American TB cases:

Georgia

North

Carolina

Maryland/
Virginia

Tennessee

New Jersey

Texas

New York City

Study Partners

- VDH is collaborating with Johns Hopkins University and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Health and Hygiene as a co-investigator
- National research group
- Local health departments and case managers
- Patients who enroll

Study Goal

- Help understand factors involved in diagnosis and treatment delays among African-American TB patients

Findings will be used to help:

- Develop programs to increase TB knowledge
- Shorten the time to diagnosis in order to:
 - limit the spread of TB in the community
 - reduce TB rates

Tuberculosis Case Rate Among US-Born African Americans, Virginia: 2003-2008

Year	Number	Percent of US-Born Cases	Case Rate/100,000
2003	68	54	5.1
2004	64	57	4.8
2005	76	58	5.7
2006	62	61	4.6
2007	45	57	3.2
2008	37	46	3.1

Study Population

- Will enroll approximately 59 US-born persons newly diagnosed with TB
- White persons will be recruited as a comparison group
- Goal is to enroll 42 African American and 17 White cases

Research Study Steps

- Identify eligible cases
- Recruit them into the study
- Obtain informed consent
- Conduct an interview
- Abstract the medical record
- Complete health department survey.

Confidentiality

- All information obtained during interviews will be maintained in strict confidence
- Information will not be shared with Health Dept. staff or anyone outside the study