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Teaching Tuberculosis Content: Web-Based Resources for Nurse Educators

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Teaching Tuberculosis Content: Web-Based Resources for Nurse Educators, Betty S Fair, PhD. UTHSC-H School of Nursing, Hou, TX, 77030.

Introduction: Tuberculosis (TB) is a global health concern with one-third of the world's population infected. With the goal of eliminating TB, a component of appropriate management of the disease is ensuring baccalaureate nursing students receive current and consistent TB education.

Purpose: In 2003, the National Tuberculosis Curriculum Consortium (NTCC) was awarded a National Institutes of Health, five-year, \$6.2 million contract (N01-HR-36157) to address inconsistent TB curricular content and enhance TB educational reform in US health schools.

Methods: Members of the NTCC have developed Web-based interactive educational resources useful to teach TB content in a baccalaureate nursing program.

Results: One of the first objectives met was the creation of a Web portal (<http://ntcc.edu/>) that provides links to existing National TB resources. Public access to the Web portal requires an established account, which is quick and simple to set-up. Available Web-based materials include a 93-item TB question and answer Test Bank. Traditional slide presentations on various aspects of TB disease are available for basic classroom didactic. The 66-item Multimedia Bank consist of images and videos of content such as microbiology slides, TB skin test results, and contact investigations for active cases of TB. The Clinical Case Descriptions are modeled according to a medical record, and can be downloaded to use as an interactive tool in the classroom setting. Computerized Cases are sophisticated internet-based clinical case scenarios in which the student works through the self-paced learning module. Lastly, available through the Web portal are learning competencies and specific objectives that can be used for baccalaureate nursing lectures containing TB content.

Conclusion: The NTCC products are appropriate as primary or adjunct resources for teaching TB content at the undergraduate nursing level. By using NTCC Web-based educational resources, nurse educators can make an impact of the prevention and treatment of TB disease.