



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

**Sarasota County Health Department
EPIDEMIOLOGY AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL
Tuberculosis Profile -- 2007**

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES:

The Sarasota County Health Department (SCHD) is responsible for assuring *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (TB) control in our community.

- Private physicians, hospitals and laboratories are required to report all suspects/cases of TB to the SCHD via telephone 941-861-2873. After the case is confirmed, each case is reported to the Florida State Department of Health (DOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- SCHD staff monitors the progress of all (public and private) TB suspects and confirmed cases until they are determined not to be a TB case or “cured” if a case. The nurse case managers work closely with Disease Intervention Specialists, community healthcare providers, as well as SCHD physicians and DOH TB specialists to provide case management and continuity of care.
- Investigation and follow-up on contacts to suspects and active TB cases is conducted. Follow-up includes TB skin testing, chest x-ray, laboratory testing specific to TB medications and treatment for Latent TB Infection (LTBI) usually over a period of nine months or as indicated.
- Suspects, active cases and LTBI therapy patients who are indigent may receive medical care at the SCHD, if eligible, during their course of treatment.
- All suspects, active cases and individuals with positive TB tests (who meet certain criteria and/or require LTBI therapy) are eligible to receive TB medications at the SCHD.
- Every TB suspect, case and select LTBI treatment patients are placed on Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) thought out the course of treatment. A SCHD employee observes the patient take his/her TB medication and monitors them for side effects.
- SCHD nurse(s) are members of the Infection Control Committees at area hospitals, infection control organizations (Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Florida Professionals in Infection Control). Facilitating community partnerships, exchange of information and conducting active and passive surveillance is a driving principle of the Disease Intervention Team.
- Community education and health promotion are ongoing TB activities. Presentations are provided to an assortment of medical providers and community groups during the year. One-on-one education is a key component of each TB encounter.



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

STATE AND COUNTY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR:

Limit the incidence of tuberculosis (cases per 100,000 population).

TB STATISTICS:

It is helpful to look at rates, rather than numbers, when comparing incidence from year to year, or when comparing one area with another; however, when the numbers are small, it is also useful to consider the actual numbers. The rate of TB for the County is consistently lower than both the state and the nation.

TB cases per 100,000 population

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Rates	Cases	Rates	Cases	Rates	Cases	Rates	Cases
Sarasota	2.0	7	3.6	13	3.4	13	3.3	13
Florida	6.1	1,076	6.1	1,094	5.6	1,038	5.2	980
U.S.	4.9	14,517	4.8	14,097	4.6	13,779	N/A	N/A

Rate = cases per 100,000 population

Source: Florida Department of Health (DOH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

N/A

= Not available

PROJECTIONS:

Generally it is difficult to project the number of Tuberculosis cases we will have in our county because of the mobility of our population. We have more immigrants, refugee and homeless cases. The average number of TB cases in Sarasota County during the last 10 years is 14.6. TB cases in Sarasota will most likely stabilize at a rate in the vicinity of 2.0 – 4.0 percent per 100,000 population. The ultimate goal is the elimination of TB in Florida and the United States.

Major emphasis is placed on case management and treatment of TB suspects/cases, contacts to cases, and those considered high-risk for progression to TB. It is not recommended to skin test individuals at low risk of contracting TB.