



Certificate Course in Tuberculosis

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*Conducted by the
Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology
Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo*

Introduction

Tuberculosis (TB) infection is an enormous health burden and a leading cause of mortality worldwide. Globally, about two billion people are infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; 8 to 10 million develop active disease and two million die every year. About 10% of people infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* will develop active TB and become ill during their lives while in others the infection becomes latent. It is necessary to correctly diagnose both active TB and latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) in order to achieve the End TB target by 2035 as proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and reduce TB incidence by 95% as compared to 2015.

This course is aimed at developing better awareness, skills and knowledge on tuberculosis among healthcare workers and thereby to achieve, End TB target by 2035 as proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO). This comprehensive online and onsite-learning certificate course in tuberculosis offers better awareness and knowledge on tuberculosis with the emphasis on laboratory diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

In view of the above, the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo is offering a certificate course in tuberculosis to provide awareness, knowledge and skills and to impart correct attitudes in proper diagnosis, treatment and prevention of tuberculosis.

Aim of the course:

This course aims to improve the knowledge, skills and competencies of tuberculosis amongst healthcare professionals, assist them with tools and insights to improve their understanding and their work with regard to proper diagnosis, treatment and prevention of tuberculosis in the community and the hospital settings.

Target group:

This course is intended to improve the awareness, knowledge and skills on tuberculosis in health care professionals responsible for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis in all settings,



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including hospitals, clinics and the community. The specific personnel include doctors and other healthcare professionals (medical laboratory technicians, nurses, public health inspectors, microscopist, physiotherapists, and healthcare administrators).

Structure of the course:

Core Modules:

Module 1 - Introduction to tuberculosis (Dr. Nilanthi Senanayake, Consultant Microbiologist & Senior Lecture, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo)

Module 2 – Epidemiology of Tuberculosis (Dr. Nirupa Pallegatte, Consultant Community Physician, Deputy Director NPTCCD, Ministry of Health)

Module 3 – Treatment and drug resistant tuberculosis (Dr. Yamuna Rajapaksha, Consultant Chest Physician & Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo)

Module 4 – Public health in tuberculosis (Dr. Mizaya Cader, Consultant Community Physician, NPTCCD, Ministry of Health)

Module 5 – Infection control and Laboratory Diagnosis of Tuberculosis (Dr. Nilanthi Senanayake, Consultant Microbiologist & Senior Lecture, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo)

Learning outcomes:

At the completion of this course the participants will be able to,

- acquire a comprehensive overview of tuberculosis and extra-pulmonary tuberculosis
- gain a good knowledge about treatment and drug resistant tuberculosis
- acquire a comprehensive overview of public health aspects of tuberculosis with regard to epidemiology and prevention
- Identify optimal infection control practices in tuberculosis and will learn to maintain the expected standards of infection control during various procedures and in different settings
- Gain comprehensive knowledge with regard to the laboratory diagnosis of tuberculosis

Orientation:

One day initiation workshop will be held to provide hands on computer training

Entry requirements:

Candidates currently employed in health care settings will be eligible for the course.



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Admission process:

A duly completed application form should be submitted with documentary evidence of qualifications and required experience. An objective marking scheme will be used for assessing the applications of candidates.

Time duration:

Approximately 100 hours online work over 6 months

Delivery mode:

Blended mode (online & Onsite learning & discussion, course content, practical sessions and tutorials).

The main method of delivering this course will be by online learning, through self-learning material, video clips and online discussions. Some modules will include a full day seminar and practical sessions with role play.

Course fee : LKR 40,000/- (Local)

US \$ 400.00 (Overseas)

Assessment:

- A summative assessment will be conducted at the end of each of the five modules using online mode.
- All online end of module assessments will have to be completed within a specified time period. On request, students will be granted extensions of one week duration for a maximum of two of the five modules. Re-registration for specific modules will be required if the candidates fail to complete the course at designated time periods.

Those who complete all the assessments successfully (obtain a total of 50% or more for all five modules) will be awarded a certificate of completion of the Certificate Course in Tuberculosis by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo.

Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo



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Name & address of the Course Director:

Dr. Nilanthi Senanayake,

Consultant Microbiologist and Senior Lecturer in Microbiology, Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo.

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