

Grant County Health District – Always Working for a Safer and Healthier Grant County



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 05/18/2011

To: Grant County Media

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GRANT COUNTY, WA - March 24 was World TB Day - the day the world recognizes the deadly bacterial disease tuberculosis, more commonly known as TB. According to the World Health Organization, more than two billion people, equal to one third of the world's total population, are infected with the TB bacteria. One in every 10 infected individuals will become sick with active TB in his or her lifetime.

In recognition of World TB Day, Grant County Health District honors a community partner for their participation in TB control. The 2011 "Spittoon Award" recipient is Dr. Mary Klingner, an ER doctor at Quincy Valley Medical Center. Last year Dr. Klingner worked closely with Grant County Health Officer Alexander Brzezny, MD to coordinate the best care possible for two TB patients. "Because of her recommendation, one of the patients was able to stay in the Quincy Valley Medical Center, closer to home and family," states Lois Swenson, Public Health Nurse. Christy Jackson, the SageView Family Care clinic manager, was also presented with a partnership award on behalf of the clinic for their assistance coordinating the care of the TB patients during the treatment.

World TB Day is an opportunity to remember that TB, while treatable, is a public health concern and priority in Grant County. Washington State law requires local public health districts and departments to control infectious TB. In 2010, Grant County Health District and the local healthcare community evaluated and investigated 12 patients who were suspected to have TB; five received treatment and one was determined to have infectious TB. Attached is the 2010 TB Year in Review Fact Sheet for the Grant County Health District TB program.

"The staff at the Grant County Health District appreciates the efforts of the entire healthcare community to control the spread of TB in Grant County," states Jefferson Ketchel, Grant County Health District Administrator.

For more information on World TB Day visit:

www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/TB

www.cdc.gov/tb/events/WorldTBDay/default.htm

www.who.int/tb/en

Attachments:

- Picture of Dr. Mary Klingner, Quincy Valley Medical Center ER Physician and Christy Jackson, SageView Family Care Clinic Manager with the Spittoon Award
- Grant County Health District 2010 TB Fact Sheet



Tuberculosis (TB)

Grant County Health District
2010 a year in review.

Did you know?

1 in every 3 people worldwide carries the bacteria that causes TB.

Active Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by bacteria that are spread from person to person through the air. TB usually affects the lungs, but it can also affect other parts of the body, such as the brain, the kidneys, or the spine. TB is treatable.

Grant County

967 staff hours and \$81,000 were spent on investigating and managing active TB.

Washington State

239 new cases of TB were reported.

*0 deaths in 2010 and 3 deaths in 2009
75 years ago there were 1,000 deaths.*

*It is estimated each case will cost
over \$10,000 to treat and cure.*

World

*TB is a treatable disease yet it
causes 5,000 deaths per day.*

- Grant County responsibly met and continues to fully meet its Washington State law obligations to fund control and prevention of TB.
- In 2010, public health nurses, bilingual and other outreach/support staff averaged 53 hours per week working in the Grant County Health District's Tuberculosis Control Program.
- 12 suspect TB patients were investigated. Five received treatment; one was determined to have infectious TB.
- Foreign born residents remain at greatest risk for developing TB, accounting for nearly 75% of all cases.
- In Washington State, drug resistant TB is also increasing, with 25 cases reported last year.
- It is estimated to cost over \$100,000 per case to cure a patient with multi-drug resistant TB disease.

LTBI (latent tuberculosis infection) occurs when a patient has been infected with TB, but has not developed active TB disease. A patient with LTBI is not infectious. They are often prescribed treatment to prevent them from developing TB disease.

Grant County

*1,797 staff hours were
spent on latent TB.*

World

*1 in 10 patients with LTBI
Will develop the disease.*

- Grant County Health District is collaborating with the medical community to manage the treatment of patients with LTBI.
- 142 patients were evaluated by Health District for LTBI.
- 91 patients were referred to healthcare providers for LTBI treatment.
- A person with LTBI has no symptoms and is only diagnosed by a skin or blood test and a chest x-ray.

Get informed about TB by visiting these web sites.

Washington State Department of Health: www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/TB/default.htm

United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/tb

World Health Organization: www.who.int/topics/tuberculosis/en



PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNER AWARD

The recipient is awarded to
Quincy Valley Medical Clinic

For excellence in treatment and elimination of TB in
Great County

Great County Health District
Great County Health District, a public health agency serving the
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