

## Mycobacterium Tuberculosis

Principal Investigator: M. Talmage M'cMinn, CPT, MSC

**OBJECTIVE:** To monitor the occurrence of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in Thailand.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Department of Bacteriology maintains facilities with special equipment and media for the recovery and identification of acid-fast bacteria. Two technicians are trained in the necessary techniques of Mycobacterium sp. isolation.

While no active research is being conducted regarding acute tuberculosis at present, our laboratory facility has performed a valuable service to local hospitals in Thailand.

**RESULTS:** The results of this service are presented in Table 1.

Table 1.  
Specimens Received & Examined for Mycobacterium Tuberculosis & Other Species

Type of Specimens	Total No. Examined	Number of Negative Cultures	Number of Positive Cultures
Sputum	137	135	2 <u>Mycobacterium</u> species
Gastric Washing	47	44	3 <u>M. tuberculosis</u>
Urine	35	35	
Cerebrospiral fluid	17	16	1 <u>Mycobacterium</u> species
Pleural fluid	7	7	
Joint fluid	4	3	1 <u>M. tuberculosis</u>
Abdominal fluid	2	2	
Thoracic fluid	3	3	
Aspiration from neck	3	3	
Stool	1	0	1 <u>M. tuberculosis</u>
Lymph node	2	2	
Bone marrow	2	2	
Biopsy	7	6	1 <u>M. tuberculosis</u>
Lung tissue (monkey)	4	4	
Unidentified specimens	3	3	
Throat swab	1	1	
Granuloma	1	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>9</b>