

**TUBERCULOSIS 2006 - PATIENTS' CONTROL, DURING THE YEAR 2006, AT THE MBTB  
REFERENCE CENTER OF THE ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI PNEUMONOLOGICAL  
CLINIC IN THE GENERAL HOSPITAL "G. PAPANIKOLAOU"**

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**The purpose** of this study was the diagnosis of tuberculosis (Tb) during the year 2006, the drug susceptibility testing of Tb patients and the follow up of Tb patients.

**Material and Methods.** We examined 3420 Tb suspect patients. We performed 23383 laboratory tests of 12003 biological specimens (8540 of sputum and 3463 of other biological specimens). In particular 5018 biological specimens were inoculated in Lowenstein – Jensen (L-J) medium, 3099 were tested by the genetic technique Amplified Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Direct test Gen –Probe, 8779 by the Ziehl – Neelsen (Z-N) staining, 1555 by the MGIT method and 4932 anti-tubercular drug susceptibility tests were conducted.

### **Results**

- The biological specimens' examination resulted to the isolation of 166 Tb strains by L-J, to which anti-tubercular drug susceptibility tests were conducted using L-J (Canetti method) and the MGIT method. 249 Tb strains were isolated by the MGIT method. During 2005 we isolated 425 Tb strains by L-J from 16256 biological specimens (MB Percentage 2.60%) and 594 Tb strains by the MGIT method.
- 300 biological specimens of an equal number of patients were Gen-Probe positive (MB Percentage 2.50%).
- We studied the behavior of the 166 MbTb strains to the anti – Tb drugs before and during treatment. Of these 19 (11.5%) strains showed primary resistance to one and more drugs, 6 (3.6%) to two and more drugs and 3 (1.8%) to three and more drugs. During 2005, of a total of 114 isolated strains, 87 (76.3%) showed primary resistance to one and more drugs, 45 (39.5%) to two and more drugs and 24 (21.0%) to three and more drugs.
- 3 patients (1.8%) showed secondary resistance. During 2005, 21 patients (18.4%) showed secondary resistance.

### **Conclusion**

1. Low reduction of Tb.
2. A low reduction of the virulence of the biological specimens.
3. Gen-Probe is the most sensitive laboratory method for the diagnosis of Tb.
4. Decrease of primary and secondary drug resistance.

