

Mr. Warner

TUBERCULOSIS
IN NEW YORK CITY
1955

PREVALENCE OF THE DISEASE IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT



A review by

ANTHONY M. LOWELL

Sanatorium and Hospital Reports, 1955
Tuberculosis Sanatorium Conference
of Metropolitan New York



NEW YORK TUBERCULOSIS
AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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Summary of
TUBERCULOSIS HIGHLIGHTS
NEW YORK CITY
YEAR 1955

Among the eight million people residing within the boundaries of New York City:-

24,221 persons with active tuberculosis, old and new cases, were known to the health authorities in 1955.

13,842 tuberculosis victims remained under care or supervision on December 31, 1955.

6,214 residents were found with TB for the first time.

1,084 lost their lives because of tuberculosis.
Deaths (1,084): Males = 840, Females = 244

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Tuberculosis among males is more prevalent than among females.
New cases (6,214): Males = 3,971, Females = 2,243

Four out of every five newly reported cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were in the moderately advanced or far advanced stages of the disease.

A total of 711,364 chest x-ray examinations for the detection of tuberculosis were taken by the Department of Health (619,247) and the three Tuberculosis and Health Associations (92,117).

On the last day of 1955 of the 13,842 New Yorkers with active tuberculosis 6,650 were in hospitals or sanatoria, 4,428 under clinic care, 1,117 received medical care from private physicians, and 1,647 were under other types of supervision.

Routine chest x-ray examinations of patients admitted to general hospitals were being instituted in public and voluntary institutions.

Specific chemotherapy treatment for tuberculosis by the Department of Health included 4,412 patients by year end.

Cost of tuberculosis -- \$50,000,000, estimated to have been spent in New York City during the year.

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Forty-four tuberculosis hospitals and sanatoria in Metropolitan New York and the State of New Jersey reported treating 23,975 patients in 1955, rendering 2,927,794 patient days care and discharging 16,759 persons during the twelve-month period, with 7,366 still under their care by the end of the year.