

[Long ER, Ferebee SH \(1950\)](#). A controlled investigation of streptomycin treatment in tuberculosis. Public Health Reports 65:1421-1451.

Key passages

A Controlled Investigation of Streptomycin Treatment in Pulmonary Tuberculosis

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Admission of Cases

The cooperating clinical investigators submitted X-ray films and laboratory and clinical data on patients under care in their institutions whom they considered suitable candidates for the study. This material was received in a central office, where the Study Section's Selection Panels met at 3-week intervals from November 1947 through February 1949 to consider cases submitted by the investigators. Each panel was composed of three clinical experts in tuberculosis who determined independently, without knowing the name of the patient or the institution, whether each case satisfied the criteria for admission to the study.

At the time of selection, every "admitted" case was classified by each member of the selection panel in the scale between "arrested" and "dead" according to the prognosis for 1 year without streptomycin. This prognostic rating was used to array separately for each hospital the cases in an order ranging from the most to the least favorable prognosis. It was determined by chance for each hospital whether the odd- or even-numbered cases should be allocated to the streptomycin group. Thus, in each hospital, the patients in the groups receiving and not receiving streptomycin were approximately equal in number and severity of disease. In this way, any conditions within a hospital which might influence response to therapy would presumably bear equally on both the streptomycin and control groups.

Of the 629 candidates proposed by the clinical investigators, 541 were approved by selection panels for study. No new cases were accepted for study after February 1949.