

able. For the incidence of tuberculosis is one of the most critical of all problems that characterize the state of health of the peoples of the Siberian North.

Editorial Information

The incidence of tuberculosis among the peoples of the North is 7 to 9 times higher than in the RSFSR as a whole. In the Chukotsk Autonomous District the figure is 405.5 per 100 thousand people, in the Khanty-Mansiisk and Yamalo-Nenetsk Autonomous Districts -- from 31.6.5 to 347.9, and in the Taimyr and Nenetsk Autonomous Regions 309.7 and 108.8 respectively.

Where does the reason for such a situation lie? It is believed in the Ministry of Health of the RSFSR⁴ that the reason lies first and foremost in the lack of an integrated approach to this problem. As was correctly noted at the meetings both in Yakutsk and an Anadyr', tuberculosis is still viewed locally as a medical problem and little attention is paid to social questions. Yet this serious disease is directly related to people's nutrition and residence. However, in the Yakutsk ASSR¹ and in the Krasnoyarsk Territory more than 60 per cent of contagious patients were not removed in time from dormitories and crowded, shared apartments.

The problem of nutrition is no less grave. The system of food supply for indigenous peoples is beneath all criticism, based as it is on the all-Union quotas, which leads to the piling up and spoilage of some types of products and to a complete absence of other types.