

A-14 Comparison of socio-demographic features among recurrent Tuberculosis patients

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Treatment in tuberculosis can be unsuccessful due to 3 main reasons. Incomplete therapy (where patients default in completing the course of treatment) is the commonest cause of failure (defaulters). Among non-defaulters, treatment failures (T) are where patients continue to be positive for acid fast bacilli (AFB) and relapses (R) are where patients after becoming sputum negative, return with a positive sputum and recurrence of symptoms.

A pre-tested questionnaire was administered to these patients to determine the socio-demographic status, biological and behavioural risk factors.

Lower level of education, alcohol consumption and smoking were significantly higher among the defaulters. Biological risk factors were not significantly different between the 2 groups. Supervised treatment is recommended for TB patients who have the above mentioned socio-behavioural risk factors to prevent recurrence of tuberculosis.

Risk factors	defaulted (n=87)	non-defaulted [(n=47)(r=42;T=5)]	p value
Biological			
1. Sex (M)	84	33	p<0.0001
2. Chronic illness	17	12	0.5>p>0.1
3. Contact history	5	4	p>0.5
4. Symptoms	61	31	p>0.5
Socio-economic			
1. Level of education (<grade 10)	78	36	.05>p>0.02
2. Family income (<Rs 5000/mnt)	78	40	p>0.5
3. Been overseas	6	4	p>0.5
Behavioural			
1. Alcohol consumption	75	29	.01>p>.001
a. Type-Kasippu	50	15	.01>p>.001
Arrack	27	19	0.5>p>0.1
Toddy	2	2	p>0.5
b. Quantity (³ 1/2 bt/daily)	58	19	.01>p>.001
c. Duration (>10 yrs)	46	17	.1>p>.05
2. Smoking	73	23	p<0.001
a. Type-Cigarette	62	17	p<0.001
Beedi	33	8	.02>p>.01
b. Quantity (³ 10 daily)	36	8	.01>p>.001
c. Duration (> 10 yrs)	52	13	p<0.001
3. Drug addiction	26	2	p<0.001
4. Imprisonment	22	4	.05>p>.02
5. Contact with prisoners	24	8	0.5>p>0.1