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LATENT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION AMONG HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS CASES IN CENTRAL STATE, SUDAN: PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS

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Introduction: Tuberculosis is a major health problem in developing countries including Sudan. Screening for TB cases through Household contacts (HHCs) investigation is an appropriate strategy to interrupt transmission of TB.

Objectives: To determine the prevalence tuberculosis infection and risk factors for tuberculosis infection among household contacts in Wadimadani locality, Central State, Sudan, between November 2015 and April 2016.

Methods: An analytical cross-sectional study conducted. During study period, To confirm TB diagnosis all suspects contacts were tested through sputum samples, tuberculin skin test or chest x-ray. Structured questionnaire was used to collect socio-demographic and environmental factors.

Results: One hundred forty six patients of smear-positive pulmonary tuberculosis were included in the study, 657 household contacts were identified and screened. Forty three new TB cases were detected from household contacts, yielding a prevalence of 6.5% (95% confidence interval= 0.05, 0.09) of latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI). Two factors were significantly associated with LTBI among HHCs: duration of contact with a TB patient ≤ 4 months ($P= 0.03$) and the educational status ($P= 0.02$).

Conclusion: Screening of HHCs of index case of TB will contribute in early detection and treatment of new cases, and considered as a forward step towards eliminating TB.

Biography

Zeidan Ali was a assistant professor in University of Khartoum, Sudan from the year 1993-2003 and after that he was an associate professor in University of Khartoum, Sudan 2003-2011. Currently he is the professor of epidemiology and community medicine. He has 24 years of experience in community medicine and epidemiology.

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