



Balane, GI, Pancho, JSR, Gler, MS, Quelapio, MID, Tupasi, TE, “Tuberculosis among household contacts of infectious multi-drug resistant TB patients,” *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*, Vol. 11, No. 11, (November) 2007, Supplement 1: S52.

Background and objective: This is a descriptive study on the prevalence of TB disease among household contacts (HCs), people sharing the same house for >3 months with infectious MDR-TB patients treated from January 2000 to December 2006 in the Programmatic MDR-TB Management project at the Makati Medical Center DOTS Clinic, Philippines.

Methodology: 1810 (82%) of 2201 household contacts of 460 consecutively enrolled MDR-TB index cases had symptom screening and chest x-ray. Those with radiographic findings consistent with TB submitted sputum for examination.

Results: Among 874 (48%) symptomatic HCs, radiographic evidence of PTB was noted in 144 (17%); among 936 asymptomatic HCs, there were 107 (12%). Bacillary PTB was in 32 (27%) of 125 and in 10 bacillary patients, MDR was noted in 24 (55.8%), drug resistance (DR) in 7 (16.3%) and pansusceptibility (PS) in 11 (27.9%). Except for four cases, all these patients received treatment appropriate to their drug sensitivity test findings.

Conclusion: Overall, radiographic TB was 14% among HCs, bacillary TB was 17% among those with radiographic TB and 10% of them were MDR. While the yield in symptomatic HCs was substantial, PTB was likewise noted even in asymptomatic HCs. Without genotyping, transmission of secondary MDR-TB cases from within the household is not possible to determine. However, transmission from within the community is a possibility with the finding of DR and PS strains in the MDR-TB HCs.

| | Symptomatic | Asymptomatic |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>n</i> = 874 | <i>n</i> = 936 |
| | <i>n</i> (%) | <i>n</i> (%) |
| Chest X-ray coverage | 847 (97) | 902 (96) |

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| CXR consistent with TB | 144 (17) | 107 (12) |
| Sputum coverage | 125 (87) | 86 (80) |
| Available culture results | 118 (94) | 63 (73) |
| Culture positive | 32 (27) | 10 (16) |
| MDR | 18 (56) | 6 (60) |
| MDR treated | 17 (94) | 5 (80) |
| DR | 5 (16) | 2 (20) |
| DR treated | 4 (80) | 2 (100) |
| Pansusceptible | 9 (28) | 2 (20) |
| Pansusceptible treated | 8 (89) | 2 (100) |
