

Prevalence of tuberculosis (TB) treatment outcomes among TB/HIV co-infected patients in East-Coast Malaysia: 5 years record review

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that remains a major global health concern. In Malaysia, the prevalence of Tuberculosis (TB) treatment success rate among TB/HIV co-infection is still below the success target of the World Health Organisation (WHO). Our objective was to assess the prevalence of successful TB treatment outcomes among TB/HIV co-infected patients in East Coast Malaysia. **Methods:** This was a cross-sectional study involving the secondary data from MyTB online system from January 2016 to December 2020, carried out at TB/Leprosy Sector, Ministry of Health Malaysia. The data were analysed using SPSS version 25.0 and STATA 14. The ethics approval was obtained from MOH's Medical Research Ethics Committee (MREC). **Results:** There were 1223 TB/HIV co-infection in East-Coast Malaysia (Kelantan=506, Pahang=371, Terengganu=346). The mean age was 42.1 ± 12.06 years, and the mean duration of treatment was 5.6 ± 3.87 months. The successful TB treatment outcomes range from 59.0% to 66.4%. The overall prevalence of successful TB treatment outcomes was 62.7%, with 33.5% cured and 29.2% completed treatment. While the unsuccessful was 37.3%, with 6.4% defaulted and 30.9% died. There were no treatment failure cases identified. **Conclusion:** A slightly consistent trend was observed from 2016 to 2020. The magnitude of successful TB treatment in this study is low and still under the international target by WHO. It is essential to know the associated factors related to successful treatment. Therefore, further investigation should be carried out, and other interventions should be organized once the associated factors have been identified.