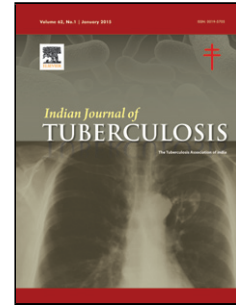


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**Tuberculosis at Raffic Hariri University Hospital (RHUH) during 10years period 2005-2015, Cross Sectional, Observational Study.**

Dr. Loubna Tayara, Dr. Catherina Zadeh

**ABSTRACT**

**Aim:** Tuberculosis is a contagious disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis. It represents, according to WHO, one of the most leading causes of death worldwide (1).

**Background:** Based on our regional conditions, such as Syrian immigration, poor nutritional status, are contributors for the development of the disease (2).

**Methods:** This was a retrospective analytical cross sectional study done to review all cases of tuberculosis newly diagnosed at RHUH during 10 years period (2005-2015). 128 TB labeled patients were retrieved. A standardized checklist was used to collect data. Patients were then classified as TB diseased and TB infected.

**Results:** The total number of TB suspected patients was 128 over 10 years which represents 1.77% of all patients admitted to the medical floor. Among these, the total number of PPD positive patients was 40.6% from our study population (2005-2015), 48% were TB infected and 52% had positive CXR. Among those with positive CXR, 41% were confirmed TB disease and 59% not confirmed TB disease. There were significant variation in evolution through years (2005-2015). By comparing the socio-demographic findings between TB disease, TB infection and non-TB group no statistical significance was found. Same analysis were repeated between TB infection and TB disease groups showed one significant association between age and TB disease vs TB infection ( $p=0.034$ ), where the younger population belongs to TB infected group(42%), while 50% of TB diseased group were older . As for scoring severity index, ANOVA in the three groups showed a significant association with a p value of 0.046. The TB diseased patients have the highest severity score index.

**Conclusion:** TB disease is still present in Lebanon with fluctuating level with the highest peak found in 2013 explained by the influx of Syrian refugee population. Followed by a gradual drop in the following years. The younger population belongs to TB infected group, while TB

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