

Factors Associated with Tuberculosis Mortality in a State of Malaysia

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Tuberculosis (TB) is one of the main causes of death from communicable diseases worldwide. In Malaysia, tuberculosis mortality is still a public health problem and ranks among the top three main causes of death from communicable diseases. Thus, the objective of this study were to identify TB mortality and its associated factors among registered TB patients in Selangor State. A total 4343 TB cases were registered with the Malaysian National Tuberculosis (My TB) Surveillance Registry of the State of Selangor in 2014. Sociodemographic and clinical data were also retrieved from the surveillance registry. The mean (SD) age of TB patients was 40.0 (16.5) years with 13.9% was elderly and 16.6% non-Malaysia. More than half had sputum smear positive, whereas the extra-pulmonary TB and military TB was 16.0% and 3.0% respectively. The HIV co-infection was 6.4%. The percentage of TB mortality was 7.8%. The mean (SD) age of TB death patients was 52.4 (17.3) years. The factors associated with TB mortality were elderly with aged 60 and above (AOR: 5.0, 95% CI: 3.6, 7.0), Malaysian nationality (AOR: 3.5; 95% CI: 2.3, 5.3), extra-pulmonary TB (AOR: 3.0; 95% CI: 1.8, 4.8), sputum smear positive at diagnosis (AOR: 2.8; 95% CI: 1.3, 6.1); and HIV co-infection (AOR: 3.8; 95% CI: 2.2, 6.7). However, longer duration of treatment was protective against TB mortality (AOR: 0.51; 95% CI: 0.48, 0.54). In conclusion, the TB mortality in Selangor State was less than 10%. Intervention to reduce TB mortality should target those at higher risk.

Biography

Salmiah is an associate professor in the Department of Community Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University Putra Malaysia. She completed her Master in Community Medicine in 2007 and her undergraduate studies (Doctor of Medicine) at University Kebangsaan Malaysia in 1993. Salmiah has been registered as a Public Health Specialist with the National Specialist Register, Academic of Medicine of Malaysia since 2014. Thus, she has been involved in teaching public health subjects especially epidemiology and also medical statistics for undergraduate and post-graduate programme. She had conducted several studies and published her manuscripts on tuberculosis, hepatitis C and hand-foot-and-mouth diseases.