Background: The global increase in diabetes prevalence highlights an urgent need to address diabetes interaction with tuberculosis (TB) prevention and treatment. In Kazakhstan where multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB) is serious, an estimated 26% of new TB cases have MDR-TB. Studies show that for individuals with TB, co-occurring diabetes is often associated with TB treatment failure which may lead to MDR-TB. The factors associated with the synergistic relationship between TB and diabetes is understudied in Kazakhstan. The aim of this paper is to examine factors associated with the co-occurrence of diabetes and TB in Kazakhstan using data from a population based study of the Social, Environmental and Genetic Factors Determining Susceptibility to Tuberculosis project.

Methods: Using a cross sectional study design, we collected data from 1600 participants consisting of TB positive individuals, household controls and community controls recruited from June 2012 to May 2014 from four regions in Kazakhstan: Almaty city, Almatinskaya oblast (province), Kyzylordinskaya oblast, and Kostanayskaya oblast. For this analysis, we focused on the TB positive individuals and used multivariate analysis to test the prevalence of co-occurring TB and diabetes as well as the associated multilevel risk factors.

Findings: Of the 562 TB positive individuals 7.1% report having concomitant diabetes. A significant proportion of new TB positive cases were associated with both diabetes and smoking — accounting for 28%. We found that major risk factors associated with co-occurring TB and diabetes include: age, education and living in a rural area.

Interpretation: To our knowledge, this is the first study on the co-occurrence of TB and diabetes in Kazakhstan. The high prevalence of co-occurring TB and diabetes has implications on screening index or TB positive cases as well as individuals with diabetes. National TB programs in countries like Kazakhstan should move towards integrated screenings for both diseases given the increasing prevalence of diabetes and its negative effects on TB treatment and management. Integrated screenings for both TB and diabetes in Kazakhstan is not only urgent but must address risk factors such as age, education and rural living. More evidence based research on co-occurring TB and diabetes is needed in high TB burdened settings.

Funding: The Mapping of Social, Environmental and Genetic Factors Determining Susceptibility to Tuberculosis in Kazakhstan project was funded by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Abstract #: 1.004_NEP

Hematological abnormalities among patients with systemic Lupus Erythematosus at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi

C. Alch1, J. Njoroge2, P. Keiser3; 1University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston TX, 2University of Nairobi, Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi Kenya

Background: Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), an autoimmune disease characterized by multi-organ failure, has been increasingly identified in clinics in African settings. Hematological abnormalities have been demonstrated to be common among SLE patients with SLE in other continents. This study aimed at determining the hematological abnormalities associated with SLE patients at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi.

Methods: A cross sectional study was done to determine hematological abnormalities seen in SLE patients at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi. Hematological parameters of SLE patients a were compared with controls. Difference in the hematological parameters were analyzed using student’s t-test. The study was approved by the institutional ethics committee.

Findings: A total of 200 SLE patients and 100 healthy controls were recruited. There was a significant difference in the mean hematocrit levels between the SLE and the healthy controls. There was also a significant difference in the mean platelet levels between the SLE and the healthy controls. However, there was no significant difference in the mean white blood cell levels between the SLE and the healthy controls.

Interpretation: The study showed that hematological abnormalities are common in SLE patients at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi. Further research is needed to determine the significance of these hematological abnormalities in SLE patients.

Funding: The study was supported by the National Research Fund, University of Nairobi.

Abstract #: 1.003_NEP

Diabetes and tuberculosis interaction in Kazakhstan

A. Afif, N. El-Bassel; Columbia School of Social Work, New York, NY

Methods: A cross sectional study was conducted to determine the prevalence of diabetes and tuberculosis interaction in Kazakhstan. A total of 1600 participants were recruited from June 2012 to May 2014 from four regions in Kazakhstan: Almaty city, Almatinskaya oblast (province), Kyzylordinskaya oblast, and Kostanayskaya oblast. For this analysis, we focused on the TB positive individuals and used multivariate analysis to test the prevalence of co-occurring TB and diabetes as well as the associated multilevel risk factors.

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Funding: The Mapping of Social, Environmental and Genetic Factors Determining Susceptibility to Tuberculosis in Kazakhstan project was funded by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Abstract #: 1.004_NEP

Working with neuro-rehabilitation programs to address oral health in India

C. Gianfrancesco1, K.P. Ahluwalia1, R. Prasad2; 1Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, New York, NY, USA, 2Indian Head Injury Foundation, New Delhi, India

Methods: Ten semi-structured key informant interviews with nurses) and environmental scans of three programs were conducted to assess the structure of the neuro-rehabilitation system. Structured training and policy designed to integrate oral health in existing systems of care.

Findings: 89% of lay caregivers are female, 17% have received oral health education, and 67% find providing daily oral care difficult; 63% of patients have never seen a dentist due to low caregiver perceived need. Professional caregivers recognize the importance of oral health but do not have the skills to address it, and policies around delivery of oral health and healthcare are not comprehensive.

Interpretation: Integration of oral health in existing neuro-rehabilitation systems can serve as a sustainable model of oral care delivery with high reach, but lay and professional caregivers must be trained and incentivized. The data will be used to inform training and policy designed to integrate oral health in existing systems of care.

Funding: Latino Health Collaborative, a program of Reach-Out Organization.

Abstract #: 1.002_NEP

Factors Determining Susceptibility to Tuberculosis in Kazakhstan

C. Alch1, J. Njoroge2, P. Keiser1; 1University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston TX, 2University of Nairobi, Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi Kenya

Methods: Using a cross sectional study design, we collected data from 1600 participants consisting of TB positive individuals, household controls and community controls recruited from June 2012 to May 2014 from four regions in Kazakhstan: Almaty city, Almatinskaya oblast (province), Kyzylordinskaya oblast, and Kostanayskaya oblast. For this analysis, we focused on the TB positive individuals and used multivariate analysis to test the prevalence of co-occurring TB and diabetes as well as the associated multilevel risk factors.

Findings: Of the 562 TB positive individuals 7.1% report having concomitant diabetes. A significant proportion of new TB positive cases were associated with both diabetes and smoking — accounting for 28%. We found that major risk factors associated with co-occurring TB and diabetes include: age, education and living in a rural area.

Interpretation: To our knowledge, this is the first study on the co-occurrence of TB and diabetes in Kazakhstan. The high prevalence of co-occurring TB and diabetes has implications on screening index or TB positive cases as well as individuals with diabetes. National TB programs in countries like Kazakhstan should move towards integrated screenings for both diseases given the increasing prevalence of diabetes and its negative effects on TB treatment and management. Integrated screenings for both TB and diabetes in Kazakhstan is not only urgent but must address risk factors such as age, education and rural living. More evidence based research on co-occurring TB and diabetes is needed in high TB burdened settings.

Funding: The Mapping of Social, Environmental and Genetic Factors Determining Susceptibility to Tuberculosis in Kazakhstan project was funded by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

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