

**STUDY OF ANTIBIOTIC SUSCEPTIBILITY PATTERN OF *MYCOBACTERIUM
TUBERCULOSIS* IN PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS VISITING
NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS CENTER, THIMI, BHAKTAPUR, NEPAL**

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted by Central Department of Microbiology, Tribhuwan University in collaboration with National Tuberculosis Center (NTC), Thimi, Bhaktapur, Nepal from September 2005 to May 2006 to study the anti-tuberculosis drugs susceptibility pattern of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* isolated from the suspected pulmonary tuberculosis (PTB) patients visiting National Tuberculosis Center (NTC).

The study included total 295 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis patients attending NTC. Among 295 cases, 250 cases were previously treated patients and 45 cases were untreated patients. The sputum samples were examined by auramine fluorochrome staining method and cultured on Ogawa media followed by biochemical tests (Niacin test, Nitrate test & Catalase test). Finally, Drug susceptibility testing was performed on lowenstein-Jensen media by Proportional Method.

Among 295 PTB cases, 73.56% were males and 26.44% were females. According to drug sensitivity test, EMB (66.10%) was found to be the most effective drug followed by RMP (60.33%), SM (59.66%) and INH (41.69%) against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The highest number of cases belonged to the age group 21-30 (28.81%).

Among 45 isolates isolated from untreated patients, primary drug resistant to one drug in 20%, to two drugs in 17.77%, to three drugs in 11.11%, to four drugs in 6.66% and primary multi-drug resistance in 22.22% of the total isolates. Among 250 isolates isolated from previously treated patients, acquired resistant to one drug was found in 23.60%, to two drugs in 12.40%, to three drugs in 16.40%, to four drugs in 18.80% and acquired multi-drugs resistance in 37.20% of the isolates. Among 250 treated cases, 68.4% were relapse, 18% were chronic, 7.6% were follow-up, 3.2% were defaulted and 2.8% were treatment

failure. MDR- TB was found the highest in chronic cases (64.44%) followed by follow-up cases (47.36%), treatment failure cases (42.85%), relapse cases (27.48%) and defaulted cases (12.5%).

Only 150 culture positive cases were interviewed during the study. Among 150 culture positive isolates obtained from the interviewed PTB patients, 47.33% (n=71) were resistant and 52.66% (n=79) were sensitive. Out of 71 resistant isolates isolated from interviewed patients, 39.43% (n =28) had the habit of smoking, 35.21% (n=25) with habit of taking alcohol and 29.57% (n=21) had previous history of TB in their family. The habits of smoking, taking alcohol and having previous history of TB in their family were not significantly related with the development of drug resistance.

Key words: *M. tuberculosis*, pulmonary tuberculosis, Drug susceptibility test, Proportion method, RMP, INH, EMB, SM, MDR-TB

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title page	I
Recommendation	II
Certification of approval	III
Board of examiners	IV
Acknowledgement	V
Abstract	VII
Table of contents	IX
List of tables	XII
List of figures	XIII
List of photographs	XIV
List of abbreviations	XV
List of appendices	XVII
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 2: OBJECTIVES	4
2.1 General objective	4
2.2 Specific objectives	4
CHAPTER 3: LITERATURE REVIEW	5
3.1 Global history	5
3.2 Tuberculosis disease	9
3.3 Mycobacterium	12
3.3.1. Definition	12
3.3.2. Mycobacterial species	13
3.3.3. Morphology of <i>M. tuberculosis</i>	

16

3.4	Characteristics of Mycobacteria	16
	3.4.1. Antigenic structural characteristics	16
	3.4.2. Genetic characters	18
	3.4.3. Cultural characteristic	19
3.5	Mode of transmission	20
3.6	Risk of infection	20
3.7	Predisposing factors in the development of tuberculosis	21
3.8	Pathogenesis of TB	21
3.9	Primary pulmonary tuberculosis	22
3.10	Post-primary tuberculosis	23
3.11	Extra pulmonary tuberculosis	23
3.12	Immunology of tuberculosis	24
3.13	Diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis	25
	3.13.1. Clinical diagnosis	25
	3.13.2. Radiological diagnosis	25
	3.13.3. Laboratory diagnosis	26
	3.13.4. Identification tests	28
3.14	Treatment	39
	3.14.1 Treatment categories	42
	3.14.1.1 Treatment categories in Nepal NTP	42
	3.14.1.2 Registration categories of TB patients	45
3.15	Adverse effects of anti-TB drugs	46
3.16	Development of drug resistance tuberculosis	48
3.17	Types of drug resistance	50
3.18	MDR TB	51
	3.18.1 Global situation of DR-TB/MDR-TB	54
	3.18.2 Situation of DR/MDR-TB in Nepal	55
3.19	Molecular basis of anti-TB drug resistance in TB	56

CHAPTER 4: MATERIALS AND METHODS	63
4.1 Materials	63
4.2 Methodology	63
4.2.1 Study site	63
4.2.2 Study population	63
4.2.3 Sample collection	64
4.2.3.1 Sputum	64
4.2.3.2 Sample evaluation	64
4.2.3.3 Sample smear microscopy	65
4.3 Culture of sputum	66
4.4 Identification of isolates	68
4.5 Drug susceptibility testing	70
4.6 Quality control for tests	73
CHAPTER 5: RESULT	75
CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSION	87
CHAPTER 7: SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION	93
7.1 Summary	93
7.2 Recommendations	94
CHAPTER 8: REFERENCES	95
APPENDICES	

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1:	Approved mycobacterial names arranged alphabetically	15
Table 2:	Symptom based approach to adverse effect of TB drugs (WHO, 1996)	48
Table 3:	Interpretation of the result (stained smear)	66
Table 4:	The grading of primary culture based on WHO/IUATLD	67
Table 5:	The preparation of drug containing media for the Proportion method	71
Table 6:	Critical concentrations of drugs	72
Table 7:	Age and sexwise distribution of PTB patients studied	76
Table 8:	Pattern of antibiotic susceptibility of isolates	76
Table 9:	Antibiotic susceptibility pattern in patients with or without past history of treatment	78
Table 10:	Antibiotic susceptibility pattern in patients with past history of treatment	79
Table 11:	Comparison of primary and acquired anti-TB drug resistance	81
Table 12:	Agewise distribution of resistant <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in male	83
Table 13:	Agewise distribution of resistant <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in female	84
Table 14:	Distribution of drug susceptibility of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in patients with family history of TB	84
Table 15:	Distribution of drug susceptibility of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in patients with habit of taking alcohol	85
Table 16:	Distribution of drug susceptibility of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in patients with habit of smoking	86

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig 1: Sexwise distribution of pulmonary TB patients enrolling in the study	75
Fig.2: Percentage of treated and untreated PTB patients	77
Fig 3: Different positive cases PTB from sputum smear microscopy	80
Fig.4: Pattern of drug resistance in primary and acquired drug resistant	81
Fig.5: Agewise distribution of resistant <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in male patients	82
Fig. 6: Agewise distribution of resistant <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in female patients	83

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1: Auramine flouochrome staining of AFB

Photograph 2: Observation of auramine flouochrome stained slide by fluorescent microscope

Photograph 3: Researcher working in biosafety cabinet

Photograph 4: Heat labile catalase test

Photograph 5: Nitrate test

Photograph 6: Niacin test

Photograph 7: Culture of *Mycobacterium* on 2% Ogawa medium

Photograph 8: Sensitive isolate of *M. tuberculosis* on LJ drug medium

Photograph 9: Multi-drug resistant (MDR) isolate of *M. tuberculosis* on LJ drug medium

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AFB	Acid Fast Bacilli
AIDS	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
AMP	Adenosine Monophosphate
BCG	Bacilli Calmetti Gurein
Chr	Chronic
CMI	Cell mediated Immunity
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short Course
DR	Drug Resistant
DRS	Drug Resistance Surveillance
DST	Drug Sensitivity Testing
EMB or E	Ethambutol
FU	Follow UP
GENETUP	German-Nepal Tuberculosis Project
INH or H	Isoniazid
IL	Interleukin
IUATLD	International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
M	<i>Mycobacterium</i>
MDR-TB	Multi Drug Resistant Tuberculosis
MTB	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>
NTC	National Tuberculosis Centre
NTP	National Tuberculosis Programme
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PDR	Primary Drug Resistant
PPD	Purified Protein Derivative
PTB	Pulmonary Tuberculosis

PZ or Z	Pyrazinamide
RAD	Return After Default
RMP or R	Rifampicin
Re	Relapse
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Corporation
SM or S	Streptomycin
STC	SAARC Tuberculosis Centre
T	Thiacetazone
TB	Tuberculosis
TF	Treatment Failure
TST	Tuberculin Skin Test
WHO	World Health Organization
ZN	Ziehl-Neelsen Staining Method

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix I: Materials	I
Appendix II: Bacteriological media	IV
Appendix III: Reagents and chemicals	VII
Appendix IV: Questionnaire for the PTB patients	XI
Appendix V: Master chart	XIII
Appendix VI: Statistical analysis	XXIX