## TUBERCULOSIS

## **Definition:-**

- Oldest infectious disease in human history
- Bacterial, chronic, any part of the body.
- T.B  $\rightarrow$  disability and death in many parts of world.
- No  $Rx \rightarrow 1/2$  of cases die within 2y.
- Rx nearly always results in cure
- 95% of initial infection  $\rightarrow$  a long latent phase.
- < 5% may progress to PTB or EPTB.</p>



- Those with pulmonary TB  $\rightarrow$  infect between 10-15/year.
- 99% percent of TB deaths occur in the developing world



- One-third of the world's population is infected by tuberculosis. Each year
- **8 million** of these develop the clinical disease  $\rightarrow$  active TB
- Globally, TB is the second commonest cause of death, killing almost 2 million people annually
- TB kills 4,700 people every day
- One person is infected every second

### **Global and Regional Incidence**

- No country is free from T.B.
- Cities > rural areas
- Poor > rich
- Globally: 2.1 billion infected
  - o 9 million New cases & 2 million deaths a year
  - o 90% in developing countries
  - o 80% in reproductive age group(15-54 Yrs)
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- Kills economically productive age group, bet 15-49 years.
- It primarily affects lungs, but can also affect skin, intestines, meninges, bones & joints, lymph glands & other tissues of the body.
- Bovine tuberculosis which mainly affects cattle, can also be transmitted to man.

FIGURE 1 Estimated TB incidence rates, by country, 2009



### Features of early stage: Fatigue, fever and weight loss are important early features

- Features of advanced stage: Chest pain, cough and hemoptysis
- CXR: "can precede clinical manifestations"
   -pulmonary infiltration
   -cavitations
  - -fibrosis



## **Agent and Reservoir:**

- M. tuberculosis in human, and M. bovis in cattle.
- Age:
  - -Mortality and morbidity increase with age.
  - -Serious outcome of initial infection is more frequent in unimmunized infants, adolescents and young adults.
  - -Risk of developing disease is highest under 5 years of age, lowest later in childhood and high again among adolescents, young adults and the very old
- Gender:
  - Childhood  $\rightarrow$  No difference.
  - Adult  $\rightarrow$  mortality and morbidity in males>female .

### **Incubation Period:**

From infection to primary lesion (or positive tuberculin test) 4-12 wk

The highest risk of progressive PTB (or EPTB) is within the first or second year !!

### **Mode of Transmission**

- **TB** is contagious airborne  $\rightarrow$  droplet nuclei.
- When infected people cough, sneeze, talk or spit, they propel TB bacilli, into the air.
- Small no. needed for infection
- Bovine TB is transmitted through un-pasteurized milk or milk products.
- EPTB is not communicable
- TB can also be transmitted by direct invasion through wounds.

### Communicability

- As long as there are viable bacilli in the sputum, but Infectivity is low
- But with intimate, prolonged contact there is 30% risk of infection
- Epidemics are reported among people congregated in enclosed spaces such as nursing homes, shelters for the homeless, hospitals, schools, prisons and office buildings.
- Communicability is influenced by the dose of bacilli, virulence, adequacy of ventilation and aerosolization of bacilli by cough
- Antimicrobial therapy can reduce the risk of infection significantly within few days to few weeks.



- Patients remain infected unless treated.
- Effective chemotherapy reduces infectivity by 90% within 48 hours

# Susceptibility

Markedly increased with:

- Immuno suppression (including HIV).
- Malnutrition.
- Silicosis.
- DM.
- Gastrectomy.
- Drug abuse.

# **Case Detection**

 TB Dx → Hx, clinical exam and diagnostic tests.
 Sputum smear microscopy is the most costeffective method of screening PTB.



Incidence of all New TB cases 56 / 100000 Pop.
Incidence of New SS+ PTB 25 / 100000 Pop.
Mortality of TB 11 / 100000 Pop.
CDR (case detection) 43%

> TSR(treatment success) 85%

### Why **TB** Incidence, Mortality Increasing?

- Poor strategic Plans
- > HIV/AIDS: **HIV is accelerating the spread of TB:** 
  - HIV  $\leftrightarrow$  TB
  - TB  $\rightarrow$  leading cause of death in HIV-positive

#### > MDR-TB:

disease due to TB bacilli resistant to at least INH and R (most powerful 2). MDR-TB is rising at alarming rates in some countries, especially in former Soviet

- Poverty
- War, Immigration
- No effective Vaccine
- No New Drugs

## POSITIVE TUBERCULIN TEST



Size of reaction	Persons considered to have $\oplus$ test
>5 mm	HIV $\oplus$ or immunosupp (eg, prednisone 15 mg/d $\times$ >1 mo) Close contacts with Pt w/ active TB; CXR w/ apical fibrosis c/w TB
>10 mm	All other high-risk or high-prevalence populations Recent conversion (↑ in induration by >10 mm in last 2 y)
>15 mm	Everyone else
False ⊝	Faulty application, anergy (including from active TB), acute TB (2–10 wk to convert), acute non-TB infections, malignancy
False ⊕	Improper reading, cross-reaction with nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM), BCG vaccination (although usually <10 mm by adulthood)
Booster effect	↑ induration due to immunologic boost by prior skin test in previously sensitized individual (by TB or NTM, or BCG). Test goes from $\bigcirc \rightarrow \bigoplus$ but does <i>not</i> represent true conversion due to <i>recent</i> infection. 2nd test is Pt's true baseline. Can be 1 y after initial test.

### Tuberculin reaction is suppressed in

- Critically ill TB patients
- Infections (measles)
- Live attenuated viral vaccines
- Immunosuppressed
- Pregnancy

### At the Source

### By treating tuberculosis according to WHO recommendations

## **PREVENTION of T.B**

- 1. Health Education:
- Mode of spread
- Methods of control
- Importance of early diagnosis
- Importance of proper prolonged treatment
- 2. Provide facilities for early diagnosis and treatment for:
- Cases
- Contacts (symptomatic or not)
- Suspects who:
  - Have chronic respiratory symptoms
- 3. Outreach Services:
- Supervision of treatment of cases
- Arrange for examination of contacts and suspects in the community
- 4. BCG vaccination for:
- Infants
- Negative tuberculin (esp. contacts)
- 5. Bovine T.B.
- 9/21/20 Selaughter of tuberculin reactors
- Pasteurization of milk

# CONTROL of T.B

- 1. Report to local health authorities
- 2. Cases :
- Prompt treatment
- Hospitalize if :
  - -Severely ill
  - -Open case
  - -Home treatment is difficult or impossible for social or medical reasons
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- Re-emphasize adherence to Rx regimen.
- Adequate ventilation

### CHEMOTHERAPY

#### **ANTI-TUBERCULOUS DRUGS:** should be

- Highly effective
- Free from side-effects
- Easy to administer
- Reasonably cheap, free or easily available

#### **TWO-PHASE CHEMOTHERAPY:**

- Short, aggressive & intense phase,1-3 months, (3 or more drugs are combined)
- Continuation phase of 6-9 months



#### **BACTERICIDAL DRUGS:**

- Rifampicin
- o Isoniazid
- o Streptomycin
- Pyrazinamide

#### **BACTERIOSTATIC DRUGS:**

- o Ethambutol
- Thioacetazone

## DOTS

It is the most effective strategy available for controlling the TB epidemic today !!!

- DOTS is a successful mean of TB control and management practice for widespread use through PHC network
- implementation of DOTS include health sector reforms
- The technical, logistical, operational and political aspects of DOTS work together to ensure its success and applicability in a wide variety of contexts

- WHO and its international partners have formed the DOTS-Plus Working Group, which is attempting to determine the best possible strategy to manage MDR-TB. One of the goals of DOTS-Plus is to increase access to expensive second-line anti-TB drugs for WHOapproved TB control programs in low and middle income countries



- The best cost effective strategy being used world-wide to ensure cure of tuberculosis.
- During intensive phase a health worker watches as patients swallow the drugs.
- In continuation phase, medicine is issued in multi blister pack weekly.
- Successful chemotherapy depends on adequate and regular drug intake.
- Through DOTS a cure can be assured.



five key components:

1. Government commitment to sustained TB control activities.

2. Case detection by sputum smear microscopy among symptomatic patients self-reporting to health services.

3. Standardized treatment regimen of six to eight months for at least all sputum smear- positive cases, with DOTS for at least the initial two months.

4. A regular, uninterrupted supply of all essential anti-TB drugs.

5. A standardized recording and reporting system that allows assessment of treatment results for each patient and of the TB control program performance overall (WHO 2004).

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### Advantages of DOTS

- Accuracy of TB diagnosis is doubled
- Treatment success rate is upto 95%
- Prevents spread of infection, thereby, reducing incidence and prevalence rates
- Improve quality of health
- Prevents failure of treatment & emergence of MDR-TB
- Helps alleviating poverty by saving lives

## **Effective TB Control**

- WHO targets are to detect 70% of new TB cases and to cure 85% of those detected.
- WHO-recommended Rx strategy for detection and cure of TB is DOTS
- DOTS combines five elements;
  - political commitment
  - microscopy services
  - drug supplies
  - surveillance and monitoring systems

- use of highly efficacious regimes with direct <sup>9/21/202</sup>observation of treatment



#### Once Dx by microscopy, health and community workers and trained volunteers observe and record patients swallowing the full course of the correct dosage of anti-TBs (Rx lasts 6-8 month)

- The most common anti-TBs; INH, rifampicin, pyrazinamide, streptomycin and ethambutol.
- Sputum smear testing is repeated after two months, to check progress, and again at the end of treatment.
- DOTS produces cure rates of up to 95% even in poorest countries
- DOTS prevents development of MDR-TB by ensuring full Rx
- DOTS → "most cost-effective of all health interventions."

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