

A study to assess impact of Covid-19 on trends of TB prevalence in Tumkur district.



Dr Gopinath S,
Department of Community Medicine,
Sri Siddhartha Medical College, Tumkur .



INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis (TB) still continues to be endemic in various regions of the world and about 10 million people worldwide were infected in 2019. According to the World Health Organization, 26% of the global TB cases are from India. Besides, India also accounts for 27% of the worldwide burden of rifampicin-resistant TB.

In 2020, a total of 1.8 million cases reported as against 2.6 million in the previous year. The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic derailed the momentum gained and the routine TB related services were adversely affected across the country due to COVID containment measures. This disruption has affected important TB notification and scheduled treatments. Hence this study is intended to assess the impact of TB prevalence in the district of Tumkur, Karnataka.

METHODOLOGY

A cross-sectional study to compare the prevalence of TB cases before and during the Pandemic.

By convenient sampling technique the secondary data was drawn from Medical records of patients diagnosed with TB from DTO in Tumkur.

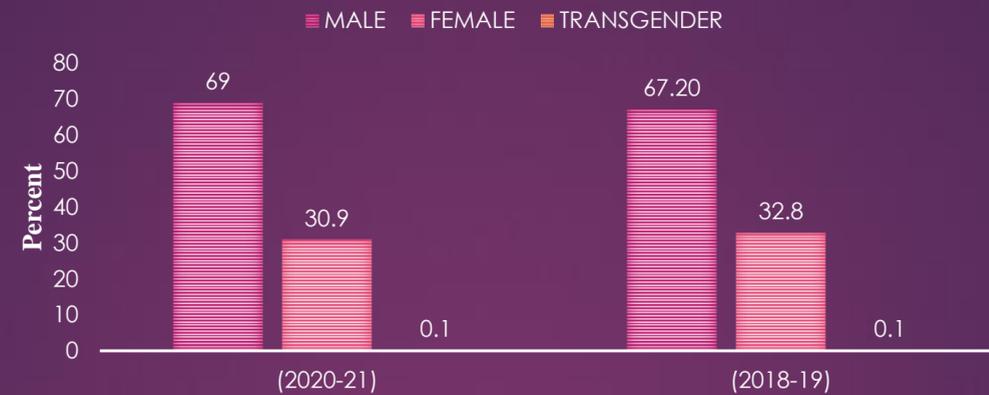
INCLUSION CRITERIA: All cases reported and tested in District TB Centre

EXCLUSION CRITERIA: All cases with incomplete data

Data was entered in MS excel and analysed using SPSS version 21 software. Testing rate, diagnostic tools, treatment groups and treatment outcome were analysed.

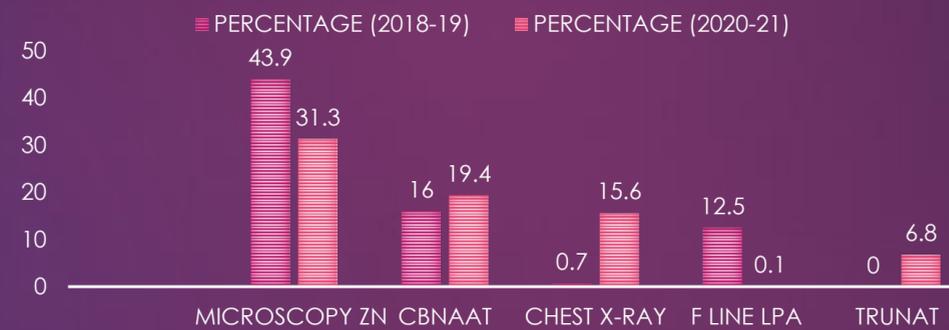
RESULTS

PREVALENCE



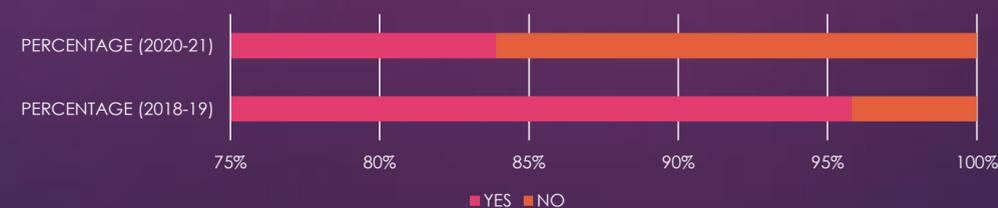
Obtained were 6719 samples before the pandemic and 3719 during the pandemic. The study found high prevalence in males during entire study period.

BASIS OF DIAGNOSIS



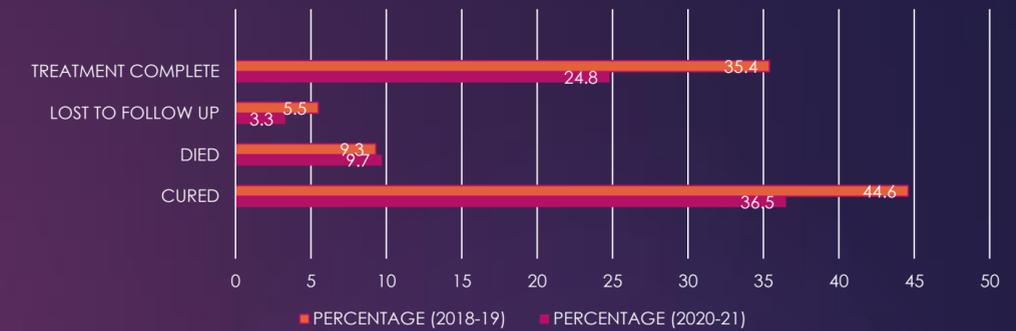
The sputum smear examination was lower during the pandemic. chest x ray and CB NAAT were utilized more during the pandemic. TrueNat which was started during the pandemic, accounted for 6% of total samples tested.

CONTRACT TRACING



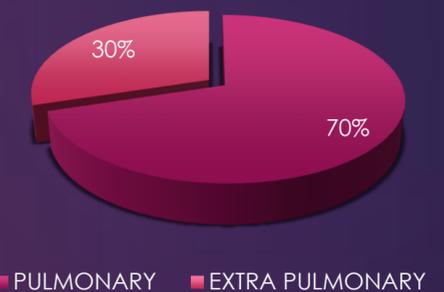
When compared contact tracing was very low before the pandemic which totalled to 84% as 96% during the pandemic.

TREATMENT OUTCOME



In treatment outcome, cured and treatment complete percentages are low in pandemic.

SITE OF DISEASE



Extra pulmonary tb made up to 30% of total cases during the pandemic

The following challenges need to be addressed to confront these dual diseases together.

- Drop in diagnosis of new cases
- Contact tracing
- Monitoring and supply of anti-TB medications
- Prevention of drug resistance TB

CONCLUSION

The case notification and treatment outcome are drastically reduced during the pandemic.

With limited resources, less infrastructure it's hard for middle income countries like India to cope up pandemic crisis. Hence the goal of achieving NTEP by 2025 is not possible.