

ABSTRACT

Objectives:

To determine the epidemiological profile and treatment outcome of tuberculosis (TB) between 2001 and 2005 in Yueyanglou district, China. To explore the factors influencing these indices.

Methods:

The study was based on secondary data analysis. A retrospective cohort analysis for TB patients registered at local NTP centres was carried out. Comprehensive literature review was also conducted to address the research questions.

Main findings:

The incidence and prevalence of TB in Yueyanglou district has shown steady rise. From 2001 to 2005, the incidence for registered smear-positive TB had increased from 10/100 000 to 67/100 000 and the prevalence for registered all TB cases had increased from 12/100 000 to 144/100 000. Most notified new smear-positive TB cases in Yueyanglou district were aged 15-54 years and male patients were more than females with a ratio of 2:1. The treatment success rates have been high and remained above 90% for all types of TB patients during 2000 to 2004.

Conclusion:

The most essential aims of DOTS programme are to achieve high cure rates and to improve case detection. In Yueyanglou district, China, the observed increase of TB incidence and prevalence can be explained by the two major factors: the improvement of case detection led by a stronger political commitment on TB control since the end of 2002; and the change of the population structure posed by the floating population from rural to urban areas as labour workers. Under a situation with low prevalence of HIV/AIDS and MDR-TB, if the high cure rate can be guaranteed, along with the improved case detection, the reduction of TB incidence and prevalence in Yueyanglou district can be expected.

Key words: Tuberculosis; Epidemiology; Treatment Outcome; China