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Prevalence of extrapulmonary tuberculosis among pediatric patients aged 1-18 years old admitted in A tertiary government hospital from 2014-2016: A three year retrospective study

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Tuberculosis is an infectious disease which is curable and preventable. Extra-pulmonary TB refers to tuberculosis involving organs other than the lungs. Tuberculosis is still a major public health problem in our country. This study aims to give an overview on the prevalence of EPTB among pediatric patients and help to increase awareness for the magnitude of the problem to improve management of Tuberculosis programs among pediatric population in the country. This is a retrospective, descriptive study done in a tertiary government hospital in Manila. This study includes patients aged 1-18 years old admitted at Ospital ng Maynila Medical Center with the diagnosis of EPTB from year 2014-2016. The patient's files were reviewed. Clinico-demographic profile, clinical findings, treatment and outcome were obtained. Data were arranged in tables expressed as proportions and percentages. The results of the study revealed a prevalence rate of 0.35% for EPTB among all pediatric admission for the years 2014-2016. Majority of the cases were children aged 1-5 years old, (64%) mean age 10 years old. There are no sex predilections. Majority of cases have no known TB disease and TB exposure. Cases of EPTB include TB meningitis (84%) presenting with changes in sensorium. Gastrointestinal TB (8%) presented with abdominal distension and a case of TB Uveitis presented with whitish lesion in the eye. Among these patients, 33% were discharged as improved and 42% died all of which are TB meningitis patients. With these data, it showed that there is a need to strengthen our TB program in terms of active case finding to further decrease the transmission of TB and initiate early treatment. It is important to educate health professionals to identify possible cases of EPTB and prevent fatal outcomes.