

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) on Tuberculosis (TB) and TB/HIV Co-infection in Nepal

Background: Tuberculosis (TB) is a major public health problem in Nepal with about 4% of total population infected with TB. Every year, 40,000 people develop active TB, of whom 20,000 have infectious pulmonary disease. 5,000-7,000 people still die per year from TB.

Objective: To assess Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice on prevention and control measures of TB and TB-HIV co-infection among community people, people living with TB, and family members of TB infected in Nepal.

Methods: An exploratory and cross sectional descriptive study was adopted in ten districts representing all 5 developments and 3 ecological regions. 403 community people, 208 people living with TB and 164 family members of TB infected were selected.

Findings: More than 80% of community people, TB-infected people and their family members didn't know about main causative agent of TB, 66% knew coughing major sign of TB infection and >60% about TB transmission. 16% community people, TB infected and 10% their family member knew about TBHIV co infection. More than half of community people, and family members of TB infected agreed upon not isolating TB infected from their family. More than 70 percent of community people, TB infected people and their family members cover mouth and nose while coughing and sneezing and 20% TB infected people dispose cough at definite place and cover with mud.

Conclusion: Community people, TB infected people and their family members should be provided with the knowledge regarding main causative agent of the TB, main probable sign and symptoms of the TB infection, TB and TBHIV co infection its transmission and prevention include various social dimensions of TB and its related stigma.

