

Thesis Title : Psycho-social aspect of Pulmonary
Tuberculosis patients' regularity
of attendance at Bangkok Chest
Clinic

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ABSTRACT

At present, it is understood that psycho-social aspect of pulmonary TB patients may play equally important role in studying its epidemic, spread of the disease, and regularity of treatment.

The aim of this study was to evaluate some psycho-social factors affecting regularity of clinic attendance of pulmonary tuberculosis patients at Bangkok Chest Clinic.

A survey of 200 TB patients attending the TB centre at Bangkok Chest Clinic was done. A structured questionnaire covering information regarding psycho-social characteristics of the patients were the research tool to collect data.

It was found that 69.5% of TB patients were males which show a predominance of the Tuberculosis. The high proportion fell into the groups between 21-50 years of age which was 75% of 200 cases. Most of the TB patients had no occupation and low income. Most of them had lower level of education and poor attitude and low knowledge of TB epidemic and treatment, which were the cause of high irregularity of clinic attendance.

It was suggested that TB control activities must be aligned with the front-line health care programs of primary health care in order to avoid negative impact of psycho-social factors of TB patients and to enhance the regularity of clinic attendance. The prevalence of Tuberculosis must be reduced from 2 per 1000 population and achieve the goal of health for all by the year 2000.