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**Risk factors of multi drug resistant tuberculosis among pediatric patients: A retrospective cohort study**

**Raziel Vina S Espino**  
East Avenue Medical Center, Philippines

This study determines the risk factors of pediatric patients diagnosed with multi drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) conducted in a tertiary hospital in Quezon City and Health Centers from January 2011 to December 2016. A minimum cohort study of 156 patients of 0-18 years old, either bacteriologically confirmed or clinically diagnosed tuberculosis was included in the study. Patients whose significant data of their charts went missing were excluded in the analysis. The following information were gathered a) demographic profile of age, gender, nutritional status, socioeconomic status, district b) clinical profile: history of exposure, results of laboratories, clinical presentation, delay in treatment, previous treatment with tuberculosis and outcome. 162 patients were analyzed, 12/162 had MDR- TB and 150/162 had Non MDR-TB. Results of univariate analysis showed that age and symptoms of weight loss, back pain, night sweats and fever had significant association with MDR-TB, of these factors, back pain ( $p=0.001$ ; RR:31.771; 95% CI:3.801, 265.554) and fever ( $p=0.020$ ; RR:7.6587; 95% CI:1.380, 42.494) were independent factors significantly related with MDR-TB. Age, weight loss, back pain, night sweats and fever had significant association with MDR-TB. Larger sample population and a prospective study is recommended to assess the epidemiologic data and further identify other possible risk factors for resistance.

raziiespino@gmail.com