



Applicant Information

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Abstract Details

Title:

Implementation of Tuberculosis Preventive Therapy among people living with HIV in two selected Municipalities in the Volta Region, Ghana

Category:

Communicable diseases (Malaria, TB, HIV, NTD)

Authors:

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Objectives:

Tuberculosis preventive therapy (TPT) is a key intervention for the prevention of Tuberculosis among people living with HIV (PLHIV). TPT implementation remains suboptimal despite compelling evidence of its benefits. This study assessed the implementation of TPT among HIV patients receiving care in two municipalities in the Volta region - Ghana.

Method:

Records of HIV patients aged >18 from ART clinics (2021-2022) were extracted, and a cross-sectional study was conducted. Sociodemographic and clinical data, including TPT implementation barriers, were collected using a structured questionnaire. Data analysis involved descriptive and logistic regression using STATA/MP 17.0, with significance set at $p < 0.05$ (95% confidence interval).

Results:

A total of 2,471 entries were analyzed, with 80.05% screened for TB; 98.48% were eligible for TPT, but only 23.92% initiated treatment. The study included 806 participants, predominantly females (74.3%), with a mean age of 44.7 years. Poor knowledge regarding TPT was noted among 59.70% of participants, and only 29.28% of those eligible started treatment, with 83.05% completing. Key findings indicated that PLHIV with good knowledge were 7.35 times more likely to initiate TPT, and those diagnosed with HIV for over a year were 4.56 times more likely than recent diagnoses. Barriers included distance, poor education, and limited drug availability.

Conclusion:

The consequences of low TPT initiation rates could be an increased risk of TB infection in PLHIV; this could lead to higher TB transmission rates and worsened HIV disease progression. The study emphasizes improved drug and logistics availability, patient education, and further research into the complex factors influencing TPT implementation.

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