

Screening for Tuberculosis (TB) in pregnant and non-pregnant women of reproductive age: Findings from an observational study in Pune, India.

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Introduction

- Of the ~3.2 million global cases of incident tuberculosis (TB) in women, **75%** were in their **reproductive years (15-45y)**¹
- These women have a **high rate of progression** of TB from infection to **disease and death**^{2,3}
- **The aim of this study was to define the prevalence of active and latent TB in reproductive-aged women in India**

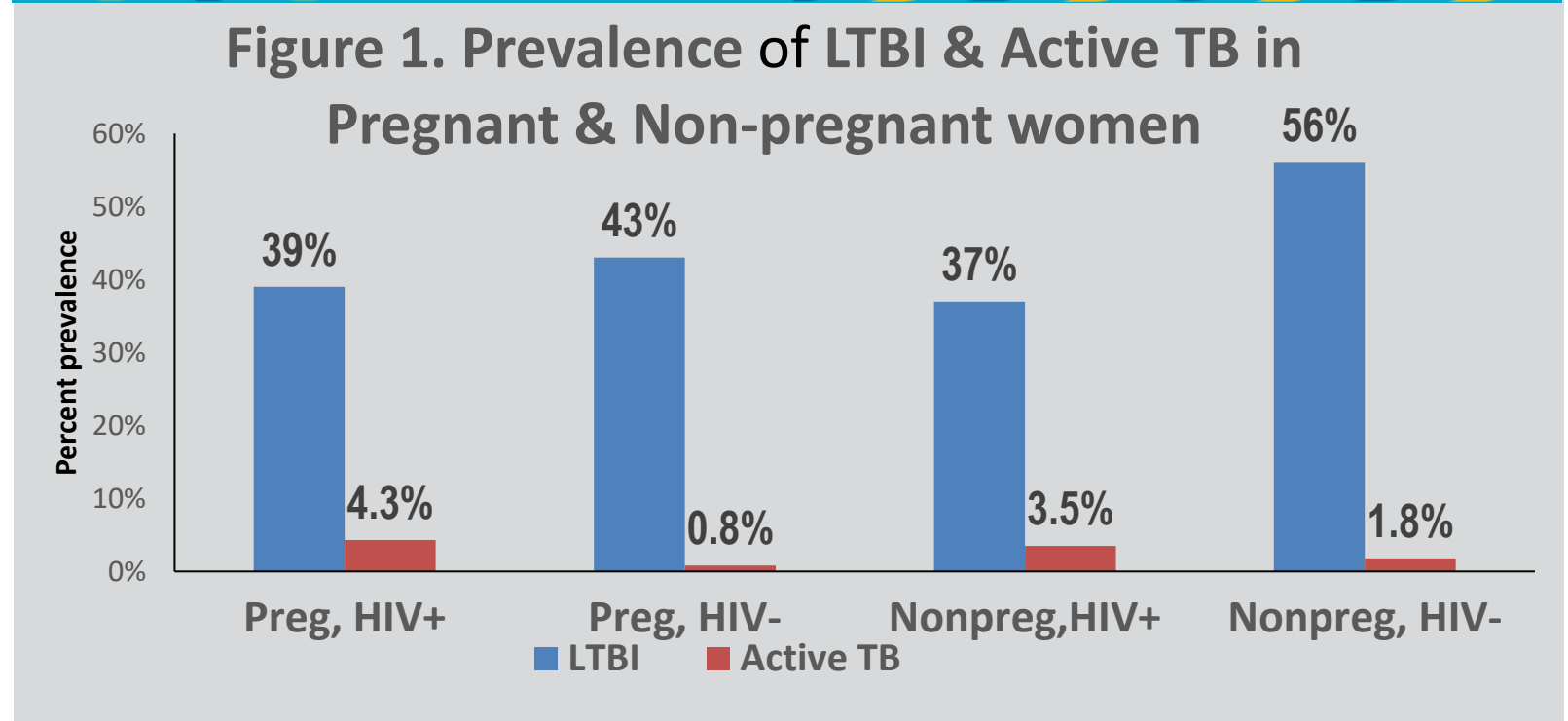
Results

Table 1. Baseline Characteristics

Characteristics	Pregnant (n=507)	Pregnant w/TB (n=8)	Non-preg. (n=644)	Non-preg. w/TB (n=18)
Med. Age, yrs (IQR)	23 (20-26)	22.5 (19-30)	30 (26-34)	30 (26-33)
HIV-Positive	115 (23%)	5 (62%)	371 (57%)	13 (72%)
Med. CD4 (IQR)	450 (363-675)	443 (97-752)	543 (373-758)	758 (542-970)
On ART	112 (97%)	5 (100%)	273 (73%)	11 (57%)
HH income <\$5/d	153 (31%)	2 (25%)	258 (40%)	11 (61%)
Education < 4 th gr.	105 (20%)	1 (12%)	134 (20%)	10 (55%)

References:1. TB in women, WHO 2019; 2. Katherine Horton, PloS Med 2016; 3. Ben Marias, A Gupta, Lancet, 2010

Key findings

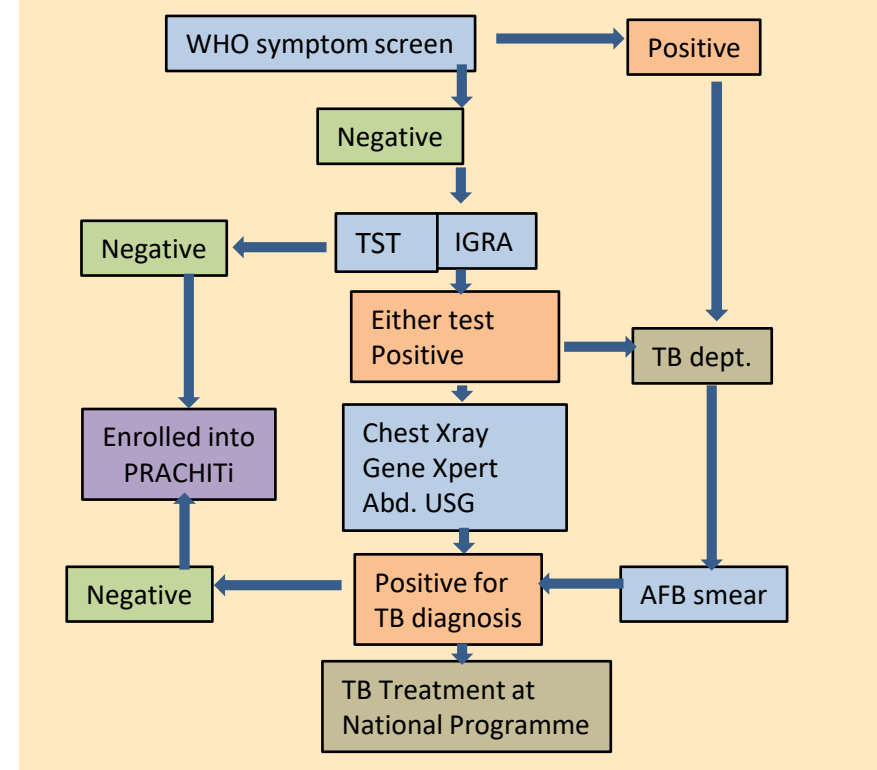


Challenges Solutions

- | Challenges | Solutions |
|--|--|
| No decision making power:
Req. family approval to enroll | ➤ Included husband /mother in law for counselling and education |
| Ignorance:
Reluctance for blood tests and X-ray | ➤ Counselling and education with pictorial charts, spoons for volume
➤ Demonstration of protected X ray |
| Time constraints:
Competing responsibilities | ➤ Prioritization of screening visits
➤ Fast tracking hospital procedures
➤ Baby sitting by study staff |

Methods

Study: Observational cohort study on pregnancy, HIV and TB (PRACHITi)
Study setting: Sassoon Hospital, BJ Medical College, Pune (2016-2019)
Screened: Pregnant: GA:14-34 weeks
 Non-pregnant: Up to 40 yrs. of age



Conclusions

- **Systematic screening of women** yields high burden of TB.
- **Challenges in screening young women** need to be addressed.