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Title: Non-pharmacological factors for the emergence of drug resistance in patients of pulmonary tuberculosis: An Indian overview

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Body: Aim: to evaluate the impact of or non pharmacological factors on the emergence of drug resistant tuberculosis in eastern Uttar Pradesh. Material and methods: 150 diagnosed cases of drug resistance pulmonary tuberculosis via culture and sensitivity were evaluated of their socio-economic background with special reference to their literacy, annual income, housing, reason of discontinuation of treatment, migration status etc. Data was collected and analysed statistically. Observation: prevalence of drug resistance was more in large families (76%), with lower housing area per person (62%), with at least one migration history (75.33%), having at least one member previously sputum positive (65.33%) and lower annual income (66%). Also was more in illiterates (58%). The reason of discontinuation were adverse effect (18%), resolution of basic symptoms/ early asymptomatics (40%), advised by unqualified doctors (12%), social stigma (8%), and non affordable private treatment (15.33%).

Table 1 Reason of discontinuation of drugs

Factors	No. and percentage of total patients
No discontinuation	10, 6.66%
Adverse effects	27, 18%
Resolution of basic symptom (early asymptomatics)	60, 40%
Advised by unqualified doctors	18, 12%
Fear of related social stigma	12, 8%
Can't afford expenditure of treatment	23, 15.33%

Conclusion: role of socioeconomic factors can't be denied in emergence of drug resistance. Patient centered approach especially proper counselling may help in this regard.