

Adaptation and Validation of a TB Stigma Scale for Adolescents in Lima, Peru

S. S. Chiang, C. Zeng, B. Roman-Sinche, E. Altamirano, C. B. Beckhorn, K. Leon-Ostos, R. Espinoza-Meza, L. Lecca, M. F. Franke

STUDY BACKGROUND

TB-related stigma contributes to poor clinical outcomes and reduced wellbeing for affected individuals. Adolescents may be particularly susceptible to TB-related stigma due to their heightened sensitivity to peer acceptance, yet few studies have evaluated TB-related stigma in this group. Without a validated scale, it remains challenging to measure TB-related stigma in adolescents.

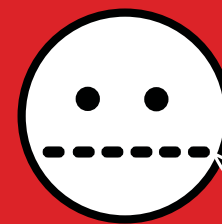
STUDY CONCLUSIONS

This adolescent TB stigma scale may serve as a practical tool to measure TB-related stigma and evaluate the impact of stigma-reduction interventions in adolescents.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



25.7% of adolescents often or always felt scared to tell people that they have TB



55.9% of adolescents often or always were careful about who they tell that they have TB



56.8% of adolescents often or always felt guilty that they got TB because they didn't eat well.

14.9% of adolescents often or always felt guilty of having TB because they were a burden to the family.

16% of adolescents 15 years or older undergoing TB treatment had suicidal ideation.

26.5% of adolescents 15 years and younger undergoing TB treatment had suicidal ideation.



Source: *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*, Volume 27, Number 10, 1 October 2023, pp. 754-760(7)