



Fundamentals of TB

Lisa Armitige, MD, PhD

Co-Medical Director
Heartland National TB Center

Professor of Medicine/Pediatrics/Adult ID
UT Health Sciences Center at Tyler

Epidemiology



Global Epidemiology of TB

FIG. 5

Estimated TB incidence rates, 2023

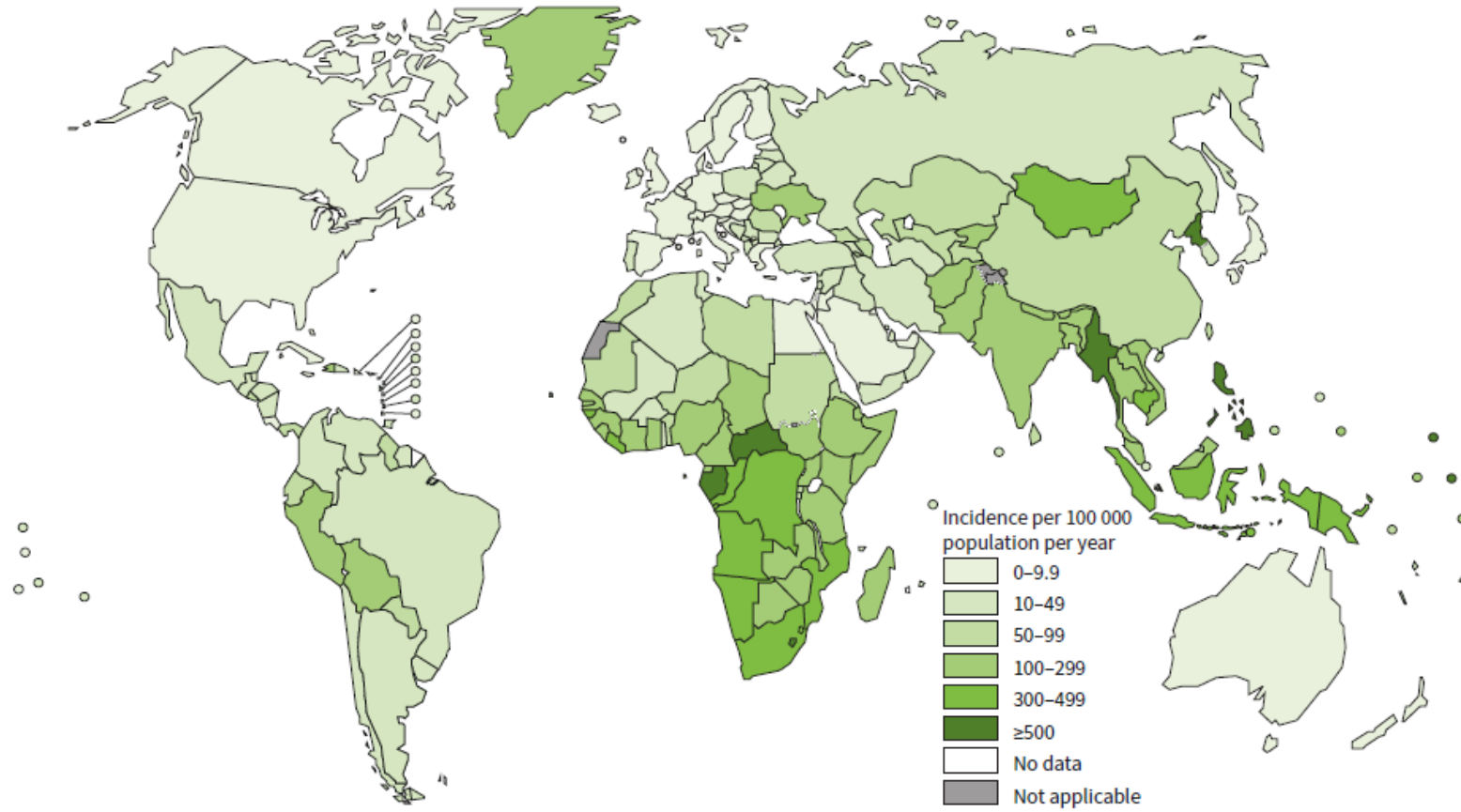
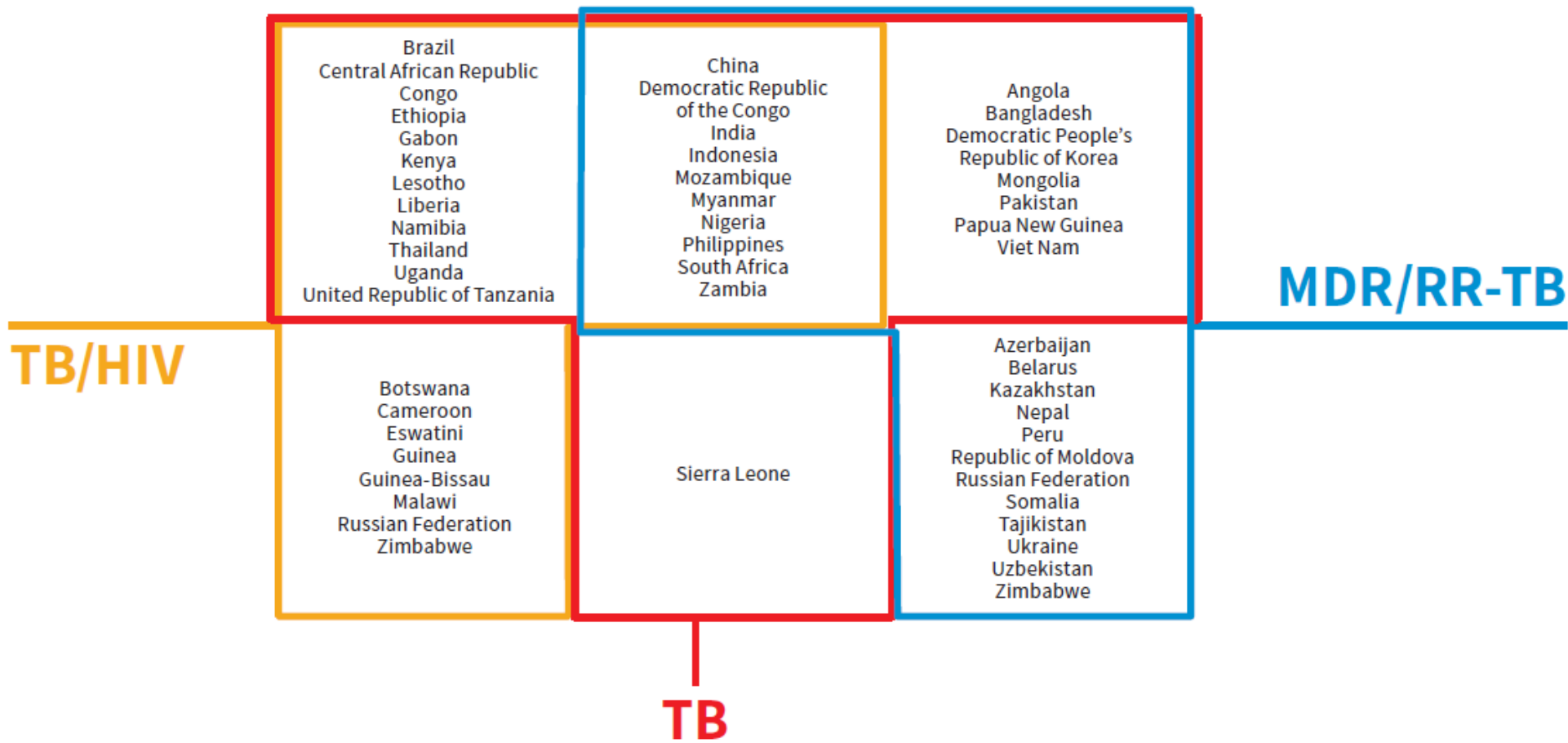


FIG. A3.1

The three global lists of high-burden countries for TB, HIV-associated TB and MDR/RR-TB being used by WHO in the period 2021–2025, and their areas of overlap

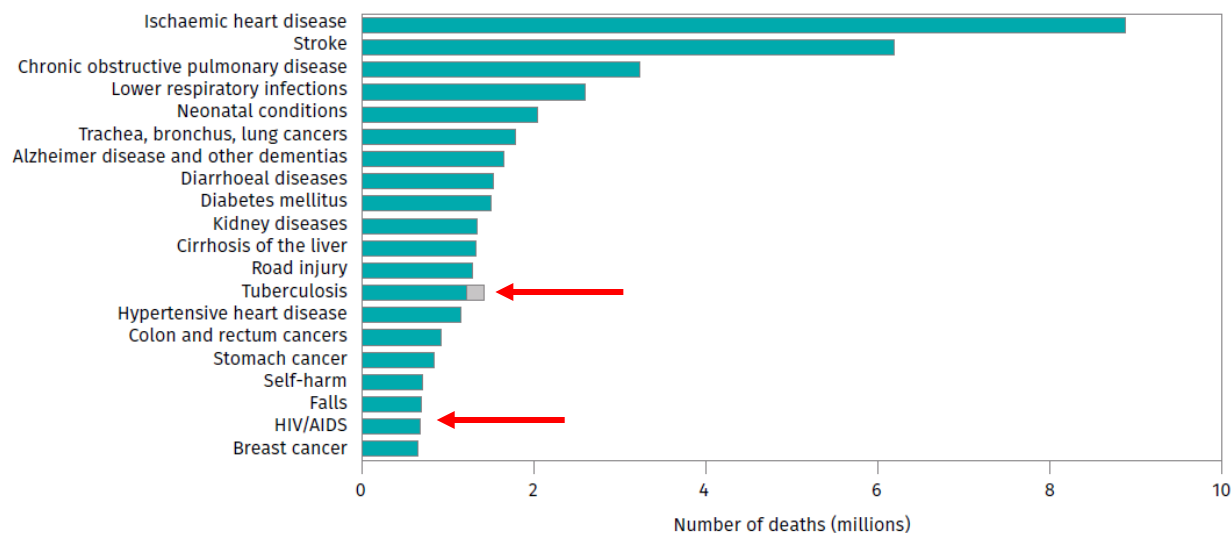


TB: Greatest Infectious Killer Worldwide -2019

FIG. 7

Top causes of death worldwide in 2019^{a,b}

Deaths from TB among HIV-positive people are shown in grey.



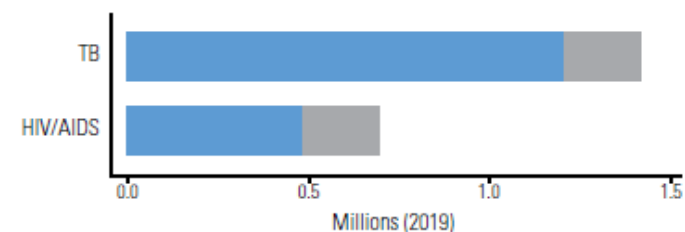
^a This is the latest year for which estimates for all causes are currently available. See WHO estimates, available at <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/mortality-and-global-health-estimates/ghe-leading-causes-of-death>

^b Deaths from TB among HIV-positive people are officially classified as deaths caused by HIV/AIDS in the International Classification of Diseases.

FIG. 4.15

Estimated number of deaths worldwide from TB and HIV/AIDS in 2019^{a,b}

Deaths from TB among HIV-positive people are shown in grey.



^a For HIV/AIDS, the latest estimates of the number of deaths in 2019 that have been published by UNAIDS are available at <http://www.unaids.org/en/> (accessed 16 August 2020). For TB, the estimates for 2019 are those published in this report.

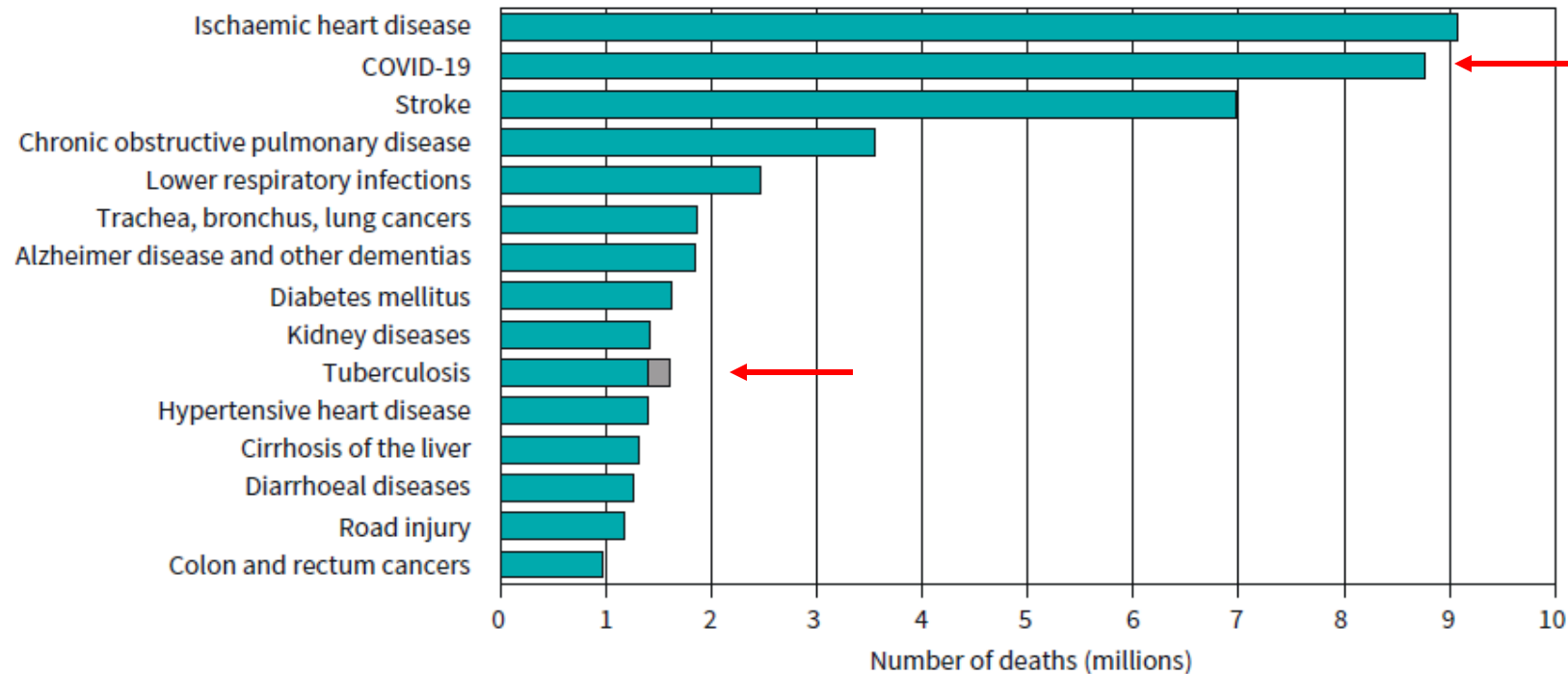
^b Deaths from TB among HIV-positive people are officially classified as deaths caused by HIV/AIDS in the International Classification of Diseases.

Covid Surpasses TB as the #1 Infectious Killer

FIG. 12

Top 15 causes of death worldwide in 2021^{a,b}

Deaths from TB among people with HIV are shown in grey.



^a This is the latest year for which estimates for all causes are currently available. See WHO estimates, available at <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/mortality-and-global-health-estimates/ghe-leading-causes-of-death>.

^b Deaths from TB among people with HIV are officially classified as deaths caused by HIV/AIDS in the International Classification of Diseases.

In 2022, TB remained the second leading cause of death from an infectious disease, after COVID-19

Estimated number of **TB** deaths among HIV-negative people*

1.13 million
(95% UI: 1.02–1.26)

Officially reported number of deaths from **COVID-19**

1.24 million

Estimated number of deaths from **HIV/AIDS**

0.63 million
(95% UI: 0.58–0.67)

*Deaths from TB among people with HIV officially classified as deaths from HIV/AIDS

Sources: Coronavirus (COVID-19) dashboard. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2022 (<https://covid19.who.int/>)
AIDS info. Geneva: UNAIDS; 2023. (<https://aidsinfo.unaids.org/>).

TB Returns to the Top Spot



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Tuberculosis resurges as top infectious disease killer

29 October 2024 | News release | Washington D.C., USA | Reading time: 4 min (950 words)

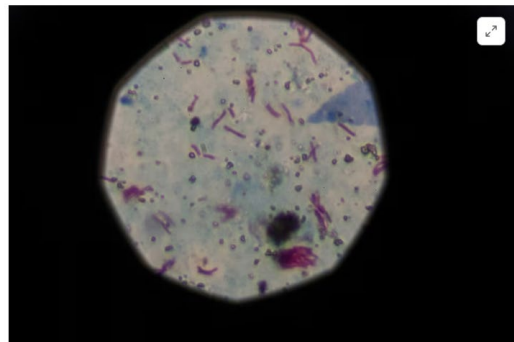


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Tuberculosis returns as top infectious disease killer, WHO says

By Reuters

October 29, 2024 5:22 PM CDT - Updated 5 months ago



[1/2] A sample that tested positive for tuberculosis is seen from a microscope in Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 29, 2019. Cases of the "white death" illness, closely linked to poverty, malnutrition and poor housing, have been on the rise since the turn of the decade as Latin America's third largest... [Purchase Licensing Rights](#) [Read more](#)

Oct 29 (Reuters) - Tuberculosis replaced COVID-19 to become the top cause for infectious disease-related



Pan American Health Organization



World Health Organization Americas Region

Home TOPICS

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Tuberculosis resurges as top infectious disease killer



1 Nov 2024



New global report shows that while cases continue to rise in the Americas, improvements in diagnosis and treatment are helping to reduce deaths

1 November 2024 – The World Health Organization (WHO) published a new report on



Global recovery in reported number of people newly diagnosed with TB

7.5 million in 2022: highest number since WHO started global TB monitoring in mid-1990s

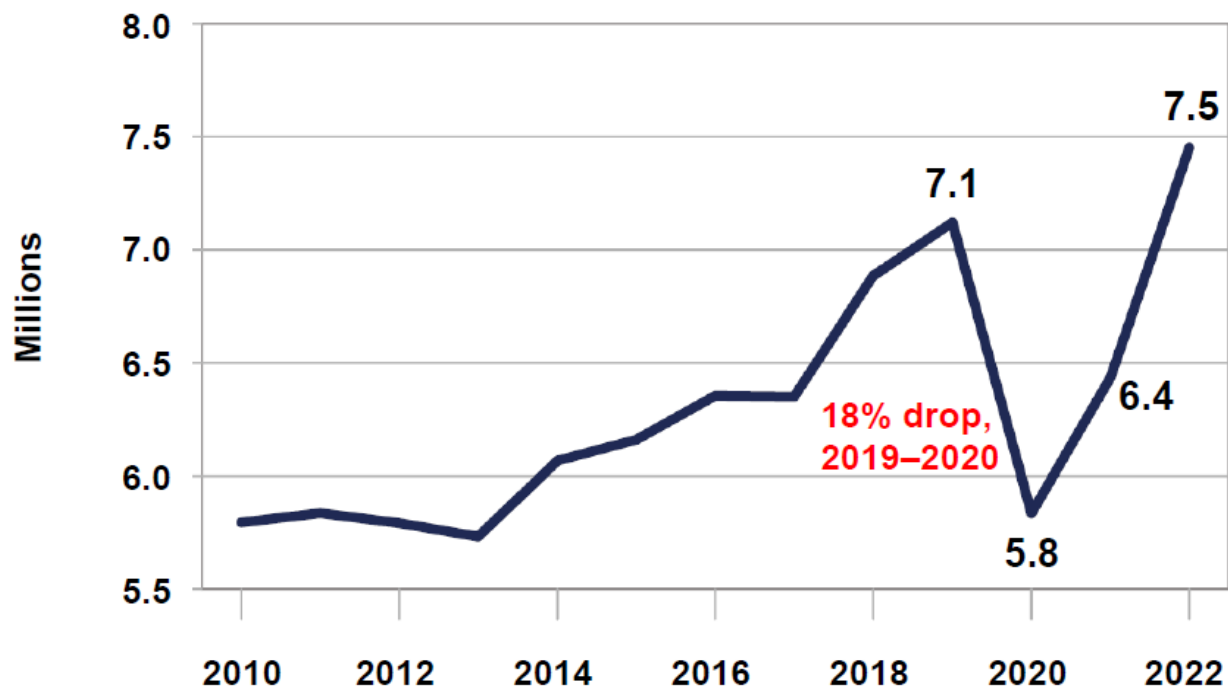
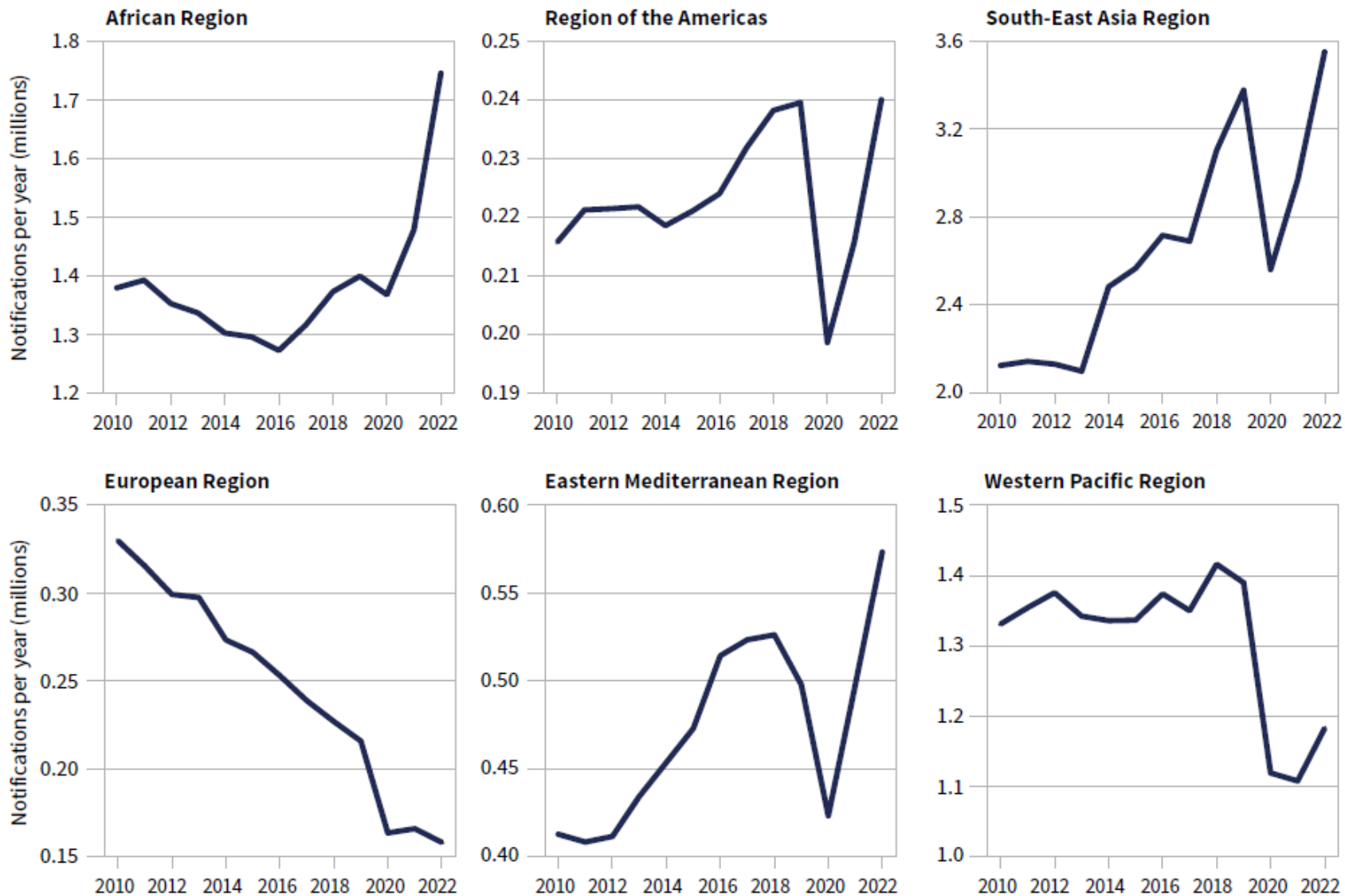
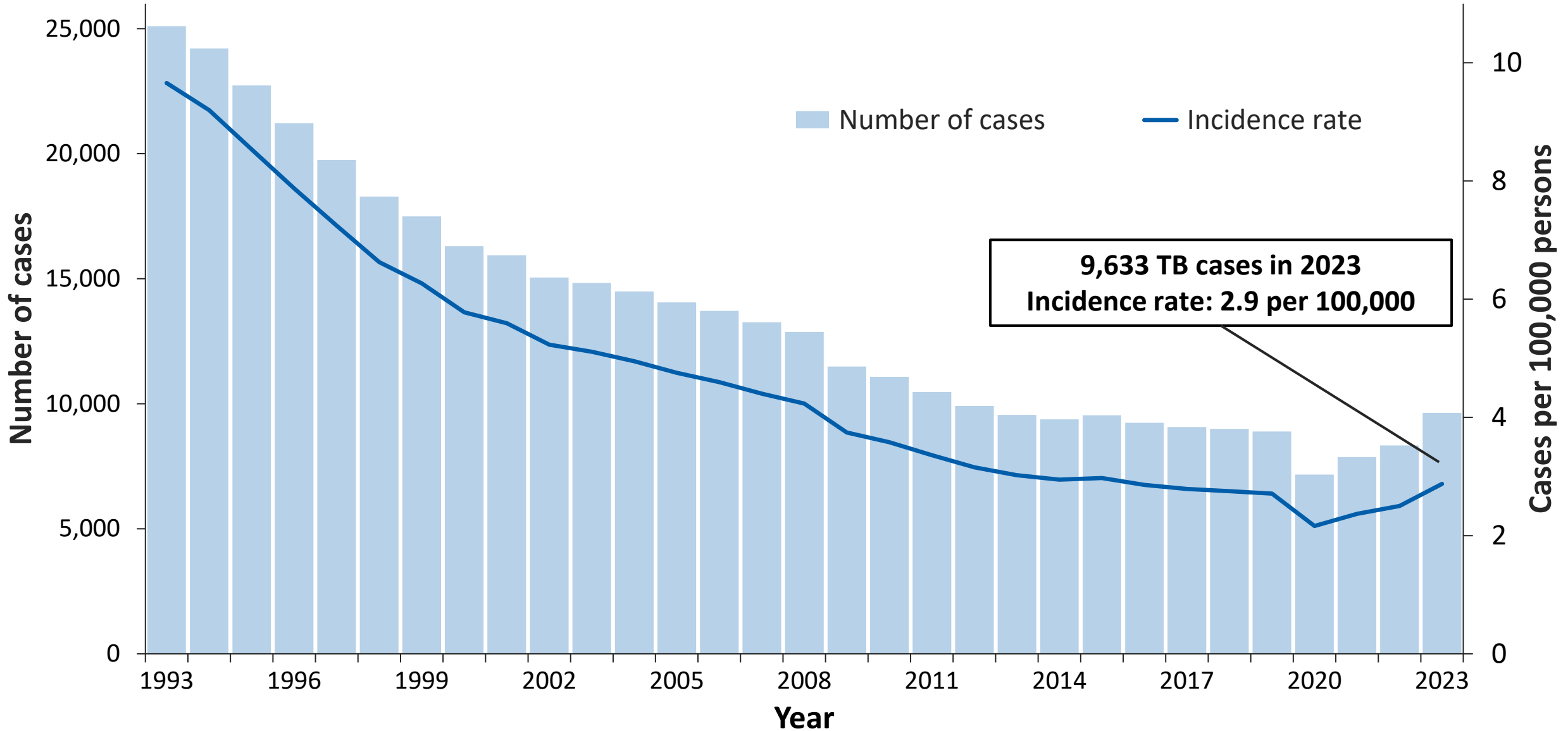


FIG. 2

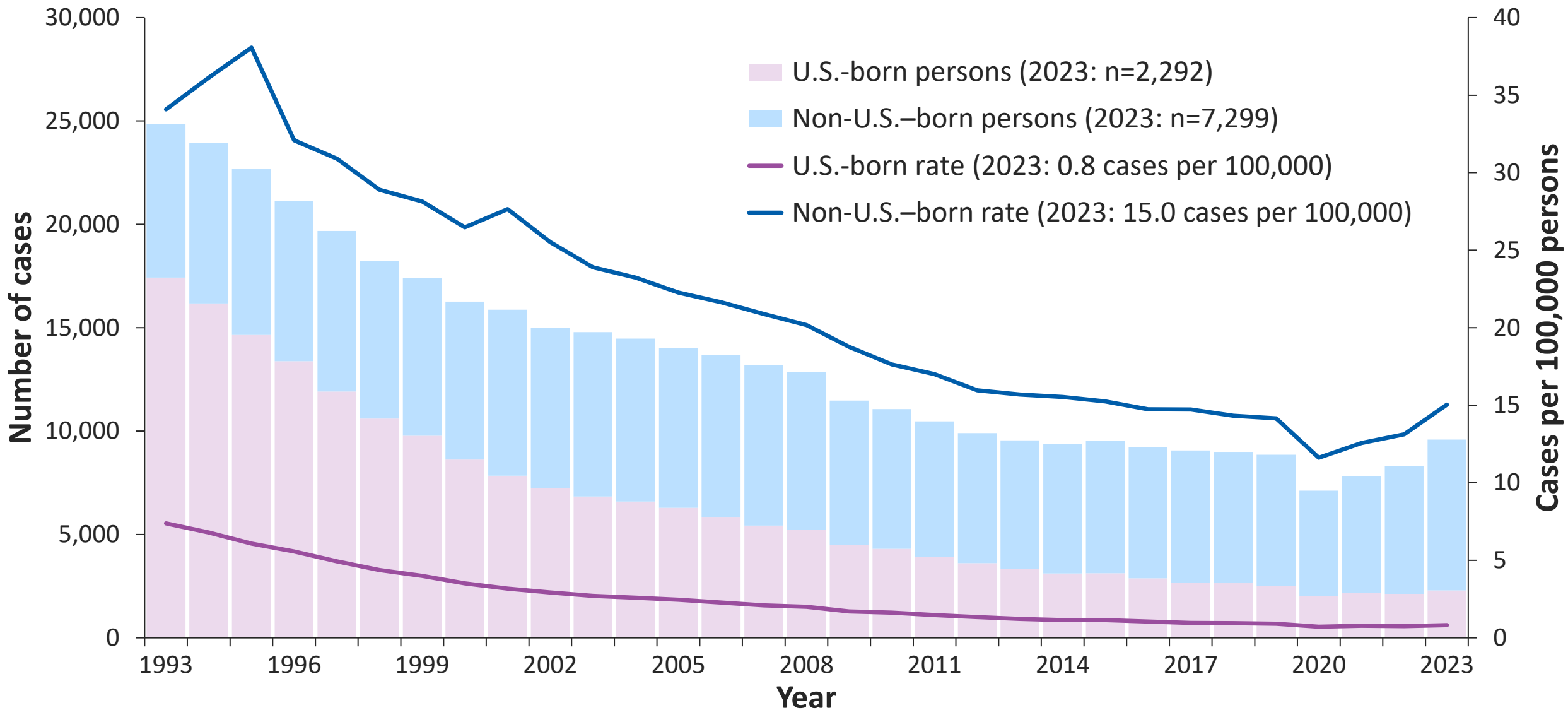
Trends in case notifications of people newly diagnosed with TB by WHO region, 2010–2022



TB Cases and Incidence Rates, United States, 1993–2023

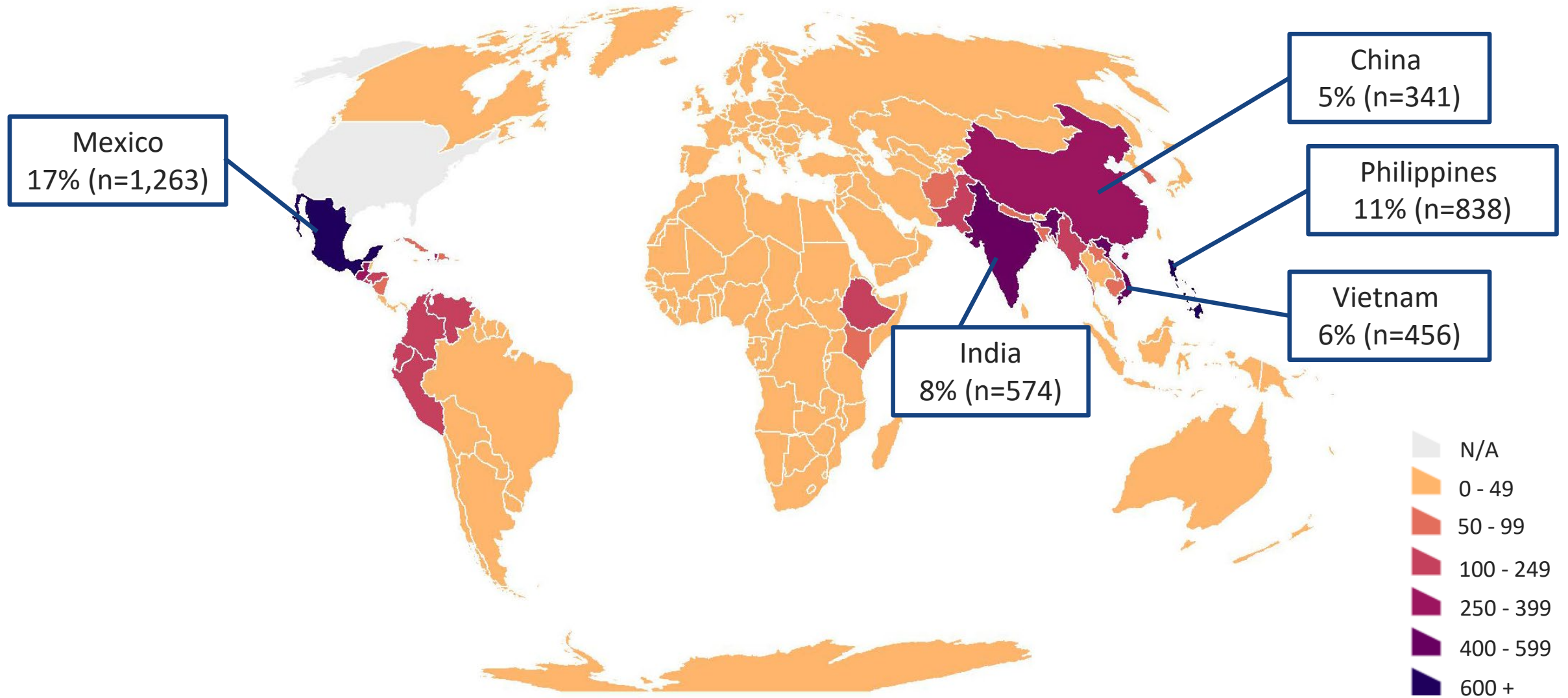


TB Cases and Incidence Rates by Origin of Birth,* United States, 1993–2023



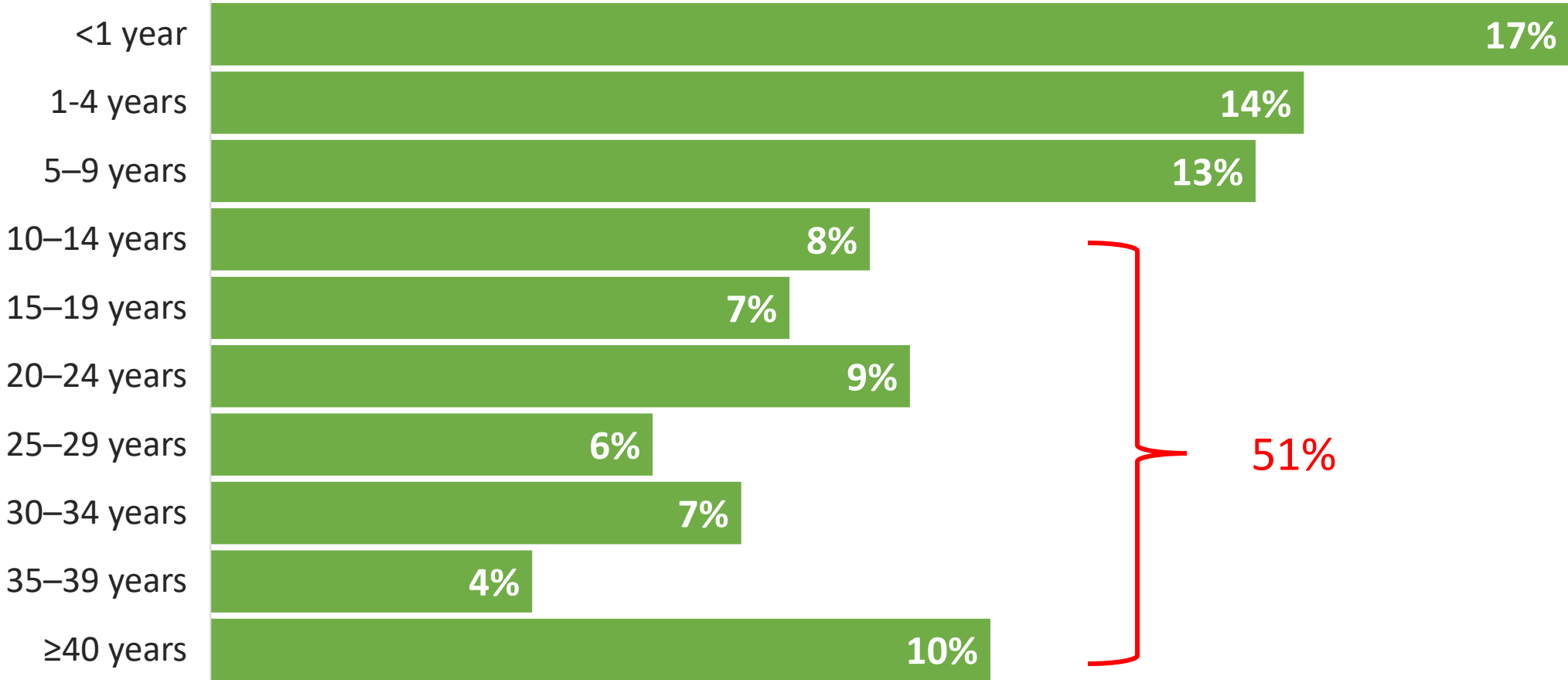
*Persons born in the United States, certain U.S. territories, or elsewhere to at least one U.S. citizen parent are categorized as U.S.-born. All other persons are categorized as non-U.S.-born.

TB Cases by Countries of Birth Among Non-U.S.–Born* Persons, United States, 2023 (N=7,299)



*Persons born in the United States, certain U.S. territories, or elsewhere to at least one U.S. citizen parent are categorized as U.S.-born. All other persons are categorized as non-U.S.–born.

Percentage of TB Cases Among Non-U.S.–Born* Persons by Years Since Initial Arrival in the United States at Diagnosis,† 2022 (N=6,148)



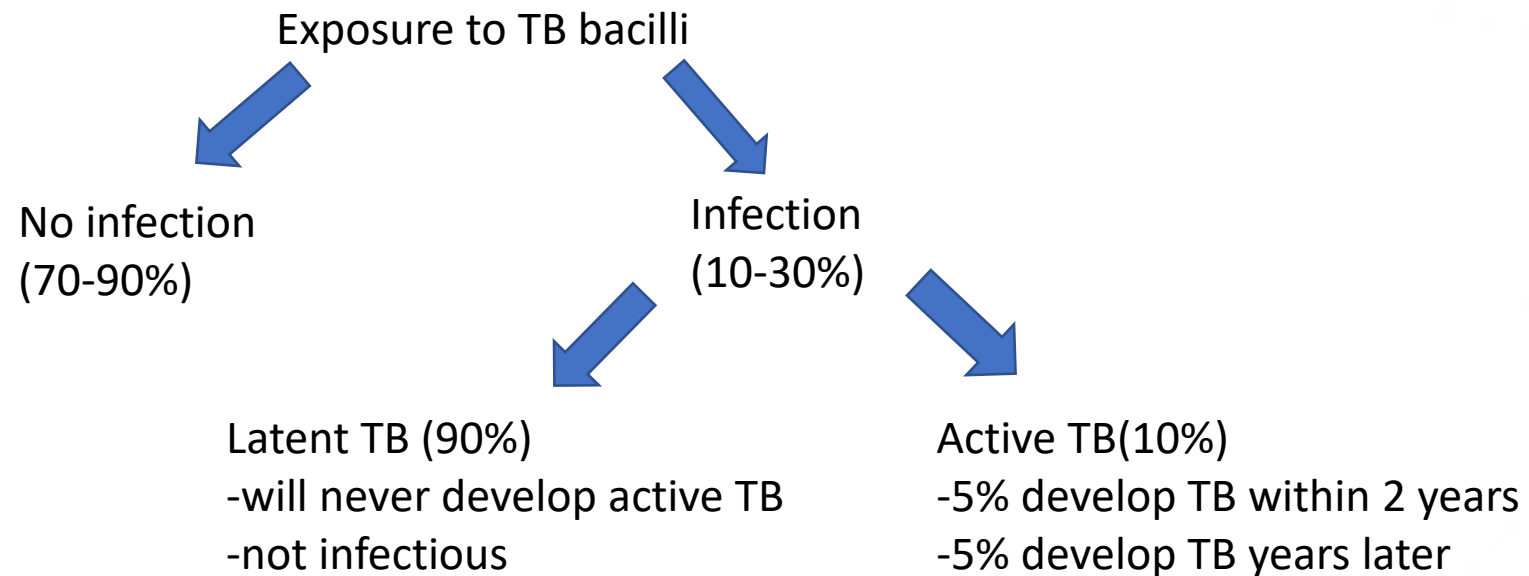
51%

*Persons born in the United States, certain U.S. territories, or elsewhere to at least one U.S. citizen parent are categorized as U.S.-born. All other persons are categorized as non-U.S.–born.
†The number of years since initial arrival in the United States at diagnosis was unknown or missing for 7% of non-U.S.–born persons. These persons were included in the denominator when percentages were calculated.

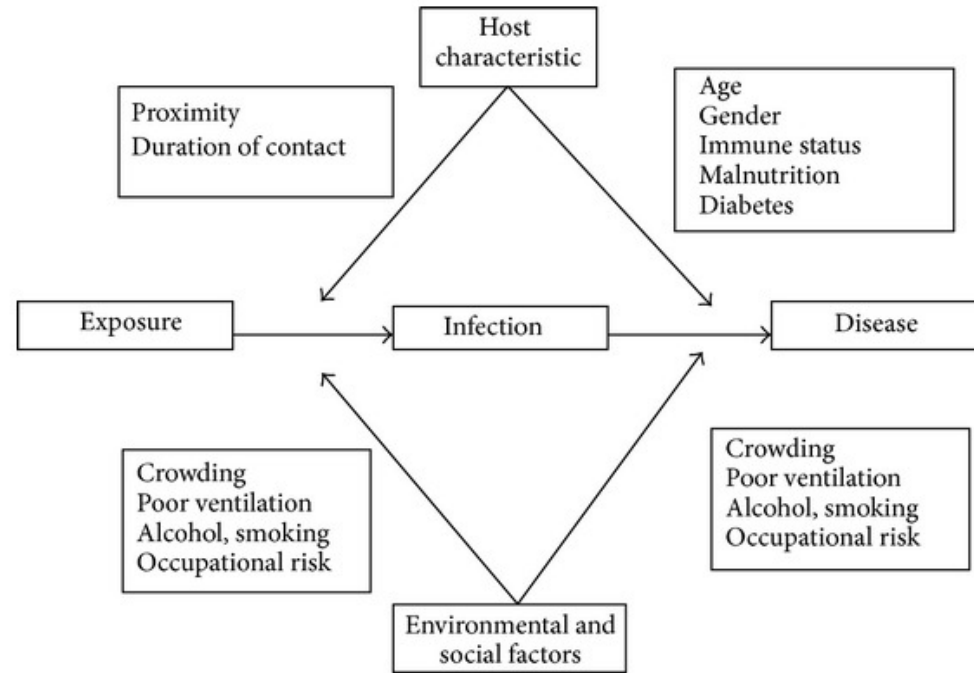
Who is more likely to be exposed to or infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*?



Pathogenesis of Tuberculosis



Risk Factors for Tuberculosis



Who is more likely to be **exposed** to *M. tuberculosis*?

- Persons from countries with a high incidence of TB disease
- Residents and employees of high risk congregate settings (e.g. correctional facilities, long term care facilities)
- Healthcare workers
- Contacts to persons with infectious TB disease
- Persons who spend time in shelters
- Persons who use illicit drugs





Table 1. Prevalence of Latent Tuberculosis Infection among U.S. Residents, as Assessed by Tuberculin Skin Testing.*

Group and Study	Expected Prevalence (95% CI) %
Foreign-born persons	
Bennett et al. ⁴	18.7 (13.5–25.2)
Close contacts of persons with infectious tuberculosis†	
Marks et al. ⁸	37.1 (35.7–38.5)
Homeless persons	
Kong et al. ⁹	12.8 (12.2–13.5)
Moss et al. ¹⁰	32.4 (30.5–34.4)
Injection-drug users	
Riley et al. ¹¹	16.1 (12.5–22.4)
Grimes et al. ¹²	27.7 (19.3–37.5)
Brassard et al. ¹³	22.4 (17.7–28.5)
Salomon et al. ¹⁴	14.0 (11.4–17.1)
Prisoners	
Lobato et al. ¹⁵	17.0 (16.8–17.1)
U.S.-born, no other risk	
Bennett et al. ⁴	1.8 (1.4–2.1)

* See the Supplementary Appendix for the definition of a positive test result. CI denotes confidence interval.

† This group was not strictly defined but is generally considered to consist of members of the household of an infected person.

Latent Tuberculosis Infection in the United States, Horsburgh R., NEJM, 4/14/2011

BCG

What does it do? Who does it protect?



Figure 2 BCG vaccination at birth and the risk of all tuberculosis, stratified by infection status and age

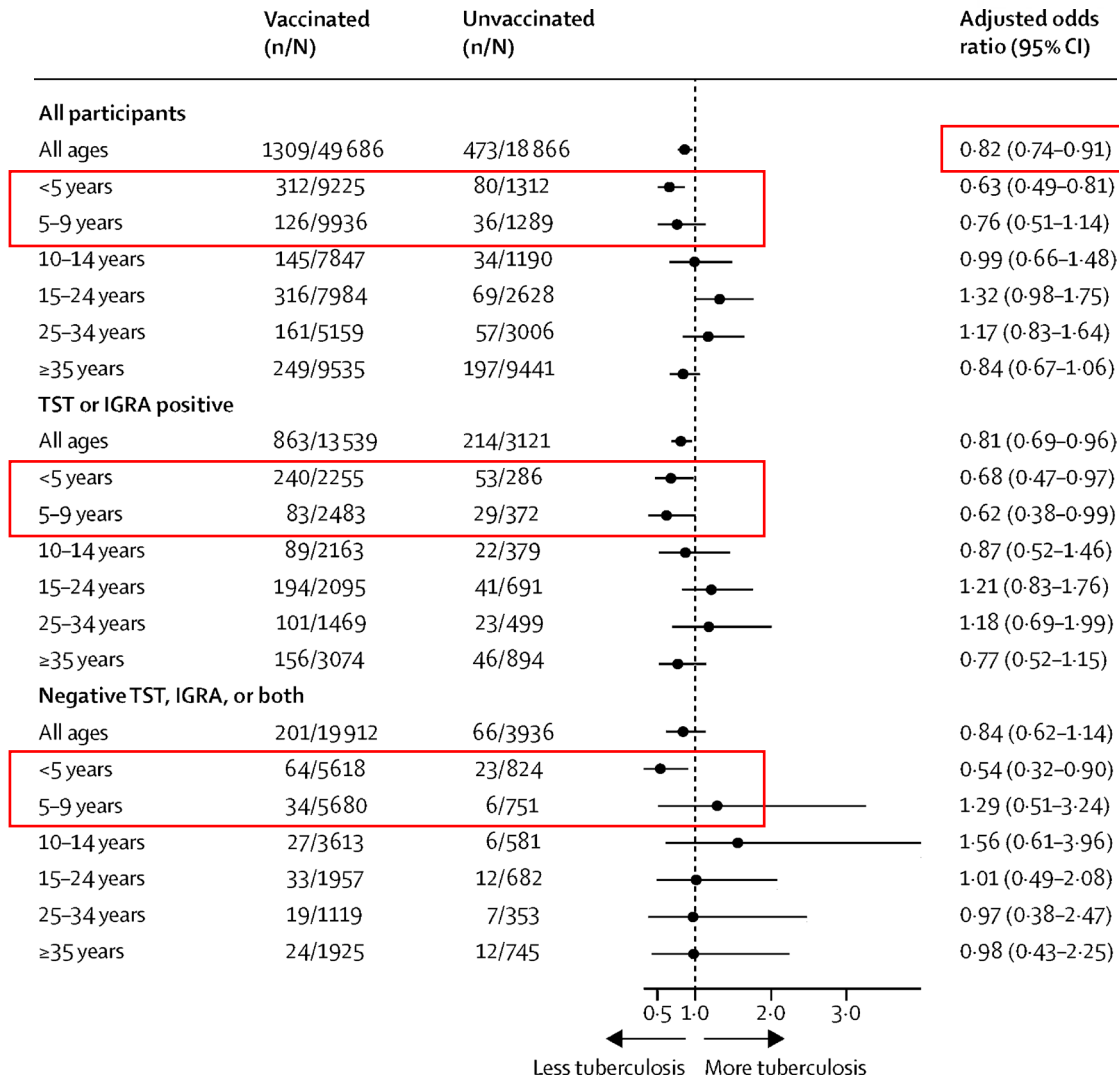
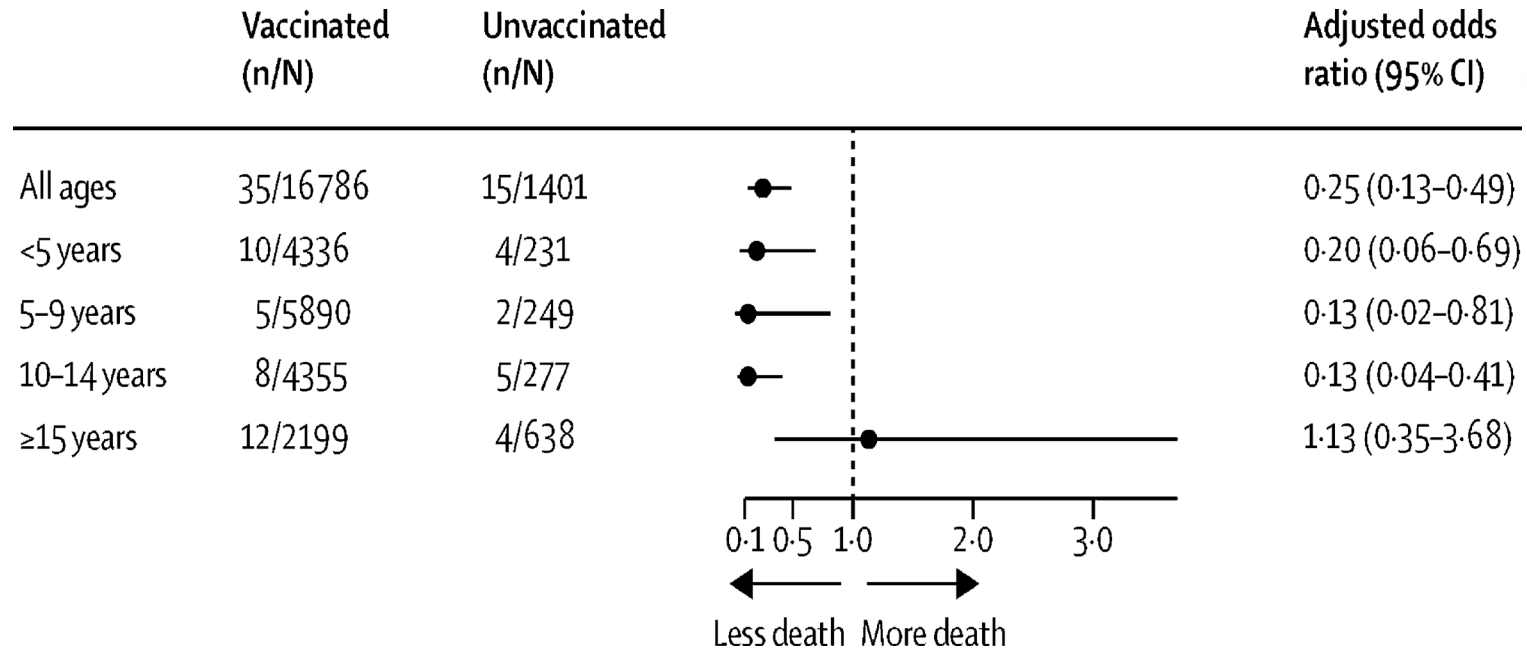


Figure 3 BCG vaccination at birth and the risk of death, stratified by age

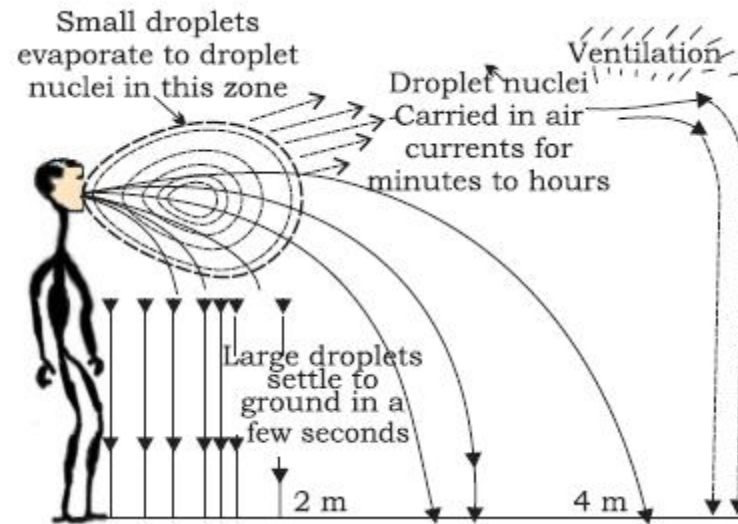


Contacts to persons with infectious TB disease

- Factors include:
 - Infectiousness of TB patient
 - Susceptibility of contact
 - Duration of contact
 - No safe exposure time has been established
 - Proximity of contact
 - Difficult to determine
- Working with the health department is imperative

What are environmental factors which increase likelihood of TB transmission?

- Poorly ventilated settings
- Crowding



Healthcare workers

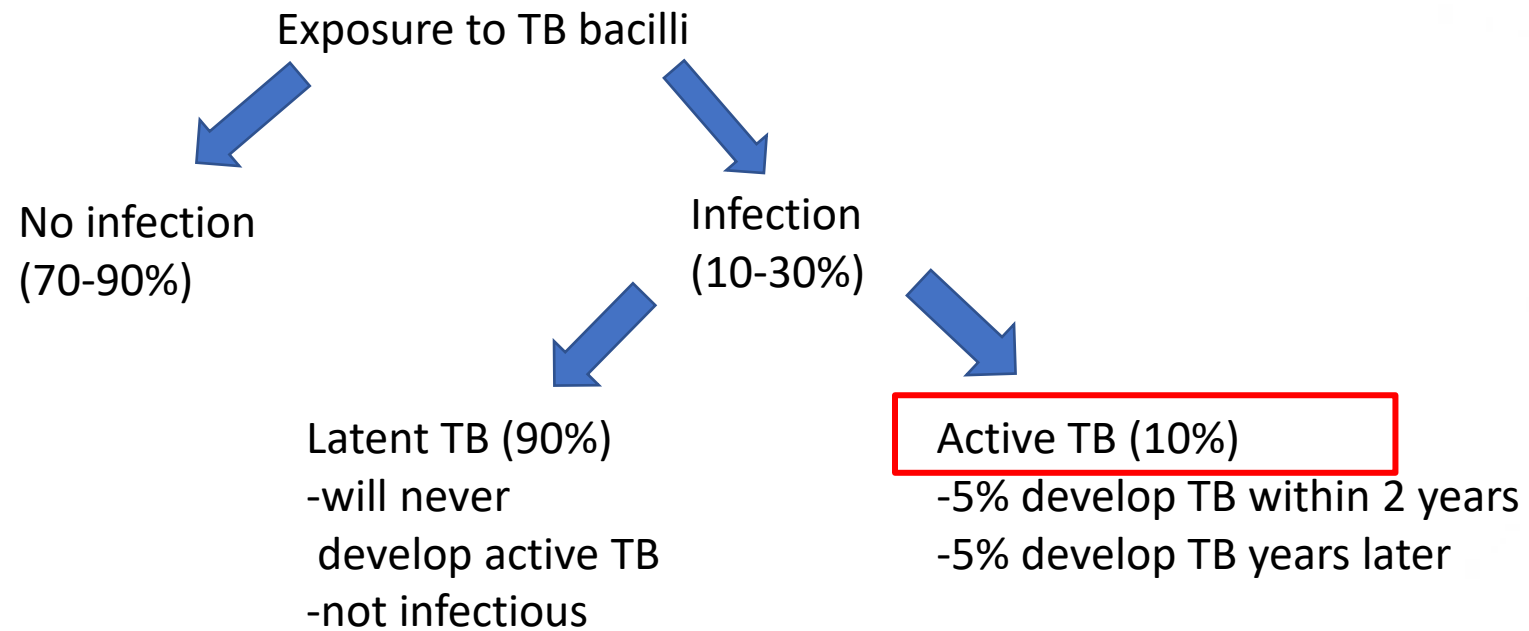
- Misconception: 'TB immune' or 'TB proof'
- A certain numbness regarding risks
 - “Why are you wearing that (N95) mask? I have worked here for many years and have never gotten TB.”
- Stigma
- Career implications





Who is likely to progress to TB disease
after infection with *M. tuberculosis*?

Pathogenesis of Tuberculosis



Effect of HIV on Progression from Latent to Active TB

Tuberculosis in the Homeless; A Prospective Study
Moss, A.; J Respir Crit Care Med Vol 162. pp 460–464, 2000

INCIDENCE OF REPORTABLE TUBERCULOSIS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL HOMELESS COHORT BY HIV AND TUBERCULIN SKIN TEST (TST) STATUS AT BASELINE

	n	Person-years	Cases	Rate per Person-Year	95% Confidence Interval
TST+, HIV+	40	134	6	4.46	(1.76–9.10)
TST+, HIV–	695	2,524	12	0.48	(0.25–0.80)
TST–, HIV+	155	559	3	0.56	(0.14–1.46)
TST–, HIV–	1,382	4,422	3	0.07	(0.02–0.18)
TST unknown, HIV+	49	185	1	0.54	(0.02–2.14)
TST unknown, HIV–	443	1,418	0	0	(0.0–0.21)
Total	2,764	9,221	25	0.27	(0.18–0.39)

HIV infected had about a 10 times higher risk of reactivation than those HIV uninfected



IVDU and TB

REVIEW



Tuberculosis and HIV in people who inject drugs: evidence for action for tuberculosis, HIV, prison and harm reduction services

*Haileyesus Getahun^a, Christian Gunneberg^a, Delphine Sculier^a,
Annette Verster^b, and Mario Raviglione^a*

- People who live with HIV and inject drugs have a **2–6-fold increased risk of developing TB** compared with non-injectors, and commonly have comorbidities with hepatitis B (HBV) and C viral (HCV) infection.
- They are also at increased risk of criminalization and incarceration.
- The risk of **TB disease in prisons** is on average **23 times higher** than the level in the general population.

Tuberculosis Outbreak Investigations in the United States, 2002–2008

Kiren Mitruka, John E. Oeltmann, Kashef Ijaz, and Maryam B. Haddad

Emerging Infectious Diseases • www.cdc.gov/eid • Vol. 17, No. 3, March 2011

Table 2. Tuberculosis risk factors for patients in CDC–investigated TB outbreaks, United States, 2002–2008*

Risk factor†	No. (%) patients
Total	398 (100)
Medical	
HIV co-infection	46 (12)‡
Diabetes	23 (6)
Immunosuppression (not HIV associated)	14 (4)
History of TB	16 (4)
Incomplete treatment	7 (44)
Social	
Any substance abuse	233 (58)
Alcohol abuse	204 (51)
Nonintravenous drug use	117 (29)
Intravenous drug use	19 (5)
Incarceration history§	126 (32)
Homelessness	78 (20)

Table 3. Predominant characteristics of CDC–investigated TB outbreaks, United States, 2002–2008*

Characteristic	No. (%) outbreaks†
Total	27 (100)
US born	24 (89)
Male sex	22 (81)
Substance abuse (alcohol/drugs)	18 (67)
Acid-fast bacilli smear positive	17 (63)
Non-Hispanic black	16 (59)
Incarceration history	8 (30)
Cavitary disease on chest radiograph	7 (26)
Non-Hispanic white	4 (15)
Homelessness	4 (15)
Hispanic	3 (11)
HIV co-infection	1 (4)

*TB, tuberculosis; CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

†Outbreak had ≥50% of patients with the select characteristic.



Alcohol and TB Disease

INT J TUBERC LUNG DIS 16(7):886–890
 © 2012 The Union
<http://dx.doi.org/10.5588/ijtld.11.0624>
 E-published ahead of print 8 May 2012

Table 2 Differences in disease characteristics between North Carolina tuberculosis cases reporting excess alcohol use

Characteristic	Excess alcohol use		
	Yes	No/unknown	
Site of disease			
Pulmonary (±extrapulmonary)	1227 (92.5%)	3266 (77.2%)	
Extrapulmonary only	99 (7.5%)	964 (22.8%)	
Chest radiographic findings			
Cavitary	452 (36.8%)	920 (28.2%)	1.31 (1.19–1.43)
Non-cavitary	775 (63.2%)	2346 (71.8%)	
Sputum smear			
Positive	809 (65.9%)	1495 (45.8%)	1.44 (1.36–1.52)
Negative	418 (34.1%)	1771 (54.2%)	
Sputum culture			
Positive	1038 (84.6%)	2270 (69.5%)	1.22 (1.18–1.26)
Negative	189 (15.4%)	996 (30.5%)	

Chest radiographic, sputum smear, and sputum culture data are for cases with pulmonary involvement only.

Tuberculosis and alcohol misuse in Scotland: a population-based study using enhanced surveillance data

B. de la Haye,^{**} S. H. Wild,^{*} J. Stevenson,^{**} F. Johnston,[§] O. Blatchford,[§] I. F. Laurenson[†]

^{*}Centre for Population Health Sciences, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, [†]Scottish Mycobacteria Reference Laboratory, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, ^{**}Public Health Department, Lothian Health Board, Edinburgh, [§]Health Protection Scotland, Glasgow, UK

Pulmonary Disease
92.3% vs 61.1%

Smear positive
74% vs 57.6%

IV drug use
4.2% vs 0.8%

TABLE 3—Adjusted^a Odds Ratios (ORs) and 95% Confidence Intervals (CIs) for Tuberculosis among Patients Discharged from Civilian Hospitals in California during 1991, by Race/Ethnicity

Variable	Whites		Hispanics		Blacks	
	Adjusted OR	95% CI	Adjusted OR	95% CI	Adjusted OR	95% CI
Sex (male vs female)	1.51	1.42, 1.61	1.02	0.96, 1.10	1.87	1.68, 2.08
Age, y						
<25 (reference)						
25–54	4.98	4.35, 5.70	2.87	2.66, 3.10	5.92	5.02, 6.98
>54	12.71	11.02, 14.65	9.98	8.93, 11.15	4.90	4.00, 6.01
Foreign born ^b	1.18	1.15, 1.21	1.14	1.11, 1.19	0.94	0.90, 0.99
Poor education ^b	1.40	1.31, 1.50	0.96	0.88, 1.05	2.33	2.02, 2.68
Median income ^c	0.99	0.98, 0.99	1.00	0.99, 1.01	0.97	0.95, 0.99
Health insurance						
Other (reference) ^d						
Medicare	2.22	2.04, 2.42	1.78	1.54, 2.06	2.58	2.17, 3.07
Medicaid	5.87	5.33, 6.46	3.71	3.39, 4.05	5.21	4.50, 6.02
None	2.10	1.88, 2.36	2.51	2.29, 2.76	5.39	4.61, 6.29
Diabetes mellitus	1.31	1.19, 1.45	2.95	2.61, 3.33	0.93	0.78, 1.09
Type II, uncomplicated	0.99	0.87, 1.15	1.67	1.39, 2.01	0.63	0.49, 0.82
Type I, uncomplicated	1.49	1.17, 1.88	2.22	1.66, 3.00	0.80	0.56, 1.13
Poor control/complicated	1.93	1.64, 2.28	5.73	4.78, 6.87	1.52	1.18, 1.95
HIV-related conditions	54.26	47.66, 61.77	237.81	160.81, 351.56	79.37	52.64, 119.67
Chronic renal insufficiency	4.11	3.30, 5.11	10.92	7.50, 15.89	2.23	1.61, 3.09
Alcohol-related conditions	10.19	8.87, 11.70	24.49	18.95, 31.64	9.29	6.92, 12.47
Drug use	4.63	3.26, 6.58	9.51	6.36, 14.20	9.26	6.26, 13.70

^aRace stratified models containing all the variables listed in the table. The odds ratios for all variables, except drug use, were statistically different across race/ethnicity ($P < .01$ for each two-way interaction term).

^bRisk associated with a 10% increase in the prevalence of foreign-born people or the proportion not completing high school in the zip code area where patients resided.

^cRisk associated with a \$1000 decrease in the mean income per capita in the zip code area where patients resided.

^dHealth insurance other than Medicare or Medicaid.

The role of diabetes mellitus in the higher prevalence of tuberculosis among Hispanics;
Pablos M.A.; Am J Public Health 1997; 87:574-9

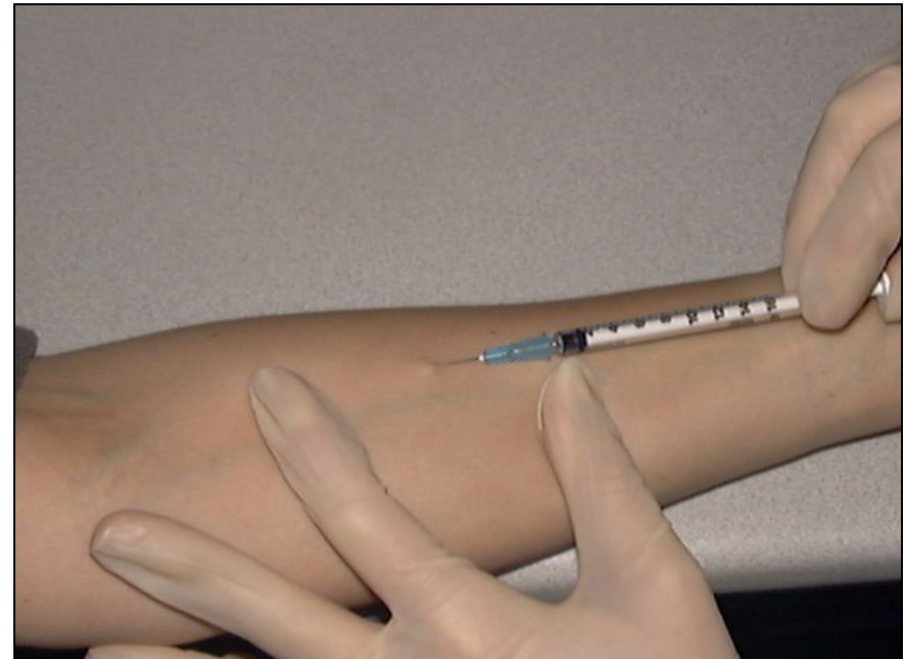
TB Infection Diagnosis Recommendations

Available Tools



The Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

- 0.1 ml of 5 TU PPD tuberculin injected intradermally
- Induration in millimeters read 48-72 hours after injection



Reading the TB Skin Test

Measure induration,
not erythema!!!



© AAP

TB Skin Test (TST)

- Pros:

- Inexpensive
- Simple to perform
(if you know what you are doing)

- Cons:

- Must return in 48-72 hrs
- Interpretation is somewhat subjective
- False Negatives:
 - Elderly
 - Immunosuppressed
- False Positives:
 - Low risk populations
 - Non-tuberculous mycobacteria
 - BCG vaccination



Classifying the Tuberculin Reaction

- Requires that you know something about the patient
- 5 mm is classified as positive in High-Risk Individuals
 - HIV/Immune suppressed
 - Recent contact with a person with infectious TB
 - Persons with evidence of old disease
- 10 mm is positive in Persons in High-Risk Settings
 - Immigrants from countries with high rates of TB ($> 20/100K$) (Mexico 28/100K)
 - Residents/Employees of congregate settings
- 15 mm is positive.....period



Antigens for Newer Generation IGRAs

- Negative control or nil (e.g., saline, heparin)
- Positive control or mitogen:
 - non-specific immune response stimulator (e.g., phytohemagglutinin)
- *M. tuberculosis*-specific antigens
 - Unlike PPD used in TST, do not cross-react with BCG or NTM (some exceptions)
 - ESAT-6, CFP-10 (actually simulated using overlapping peptides)



QuantiFERON[®]-TB Gold Plus

Mitogen – Positive Control

Low response may indicate inability to generate IFN- γ

Nil – Negative Control

Adjusts for background IFN- γ

TB1 – Primarily detects CD4 T cell response

TB2 – Optimized for detection of CD4 and CD8 T cell responses



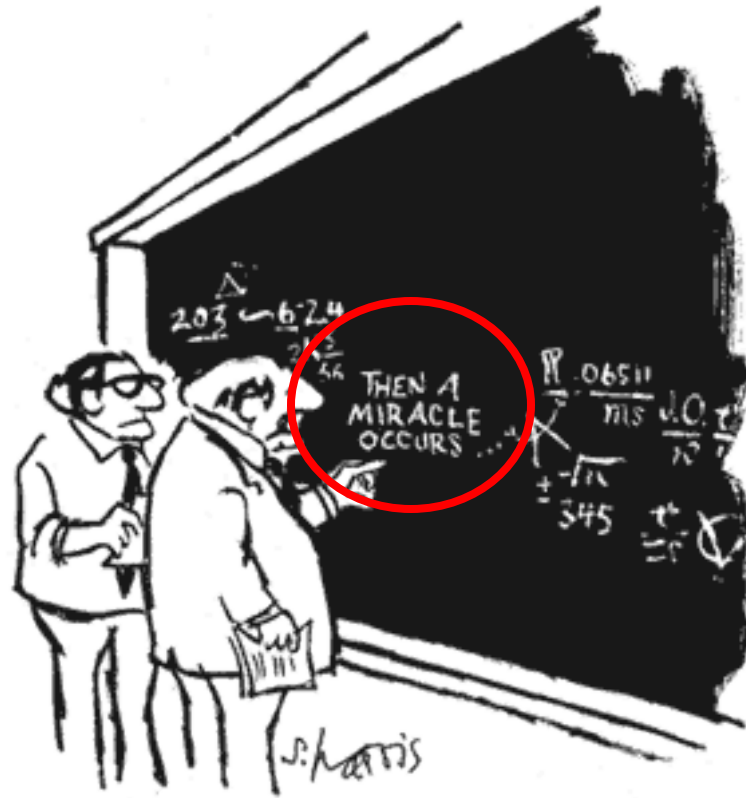
- Essentially 2 tests in one blood draw
- TB1 and TB2 should be close in value

Interpretation Criteria for the QFT-GIT Test

Nil (IU/mL)	TB Antigen minus Nil (IU/mL)	QFT-GIT (IU/mL)	Mitogen	Interpretation
≤ 8.0	≤ 0.35 or $< 25\%$ of Nil value	Negative	≥ 5.0	<i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection unlikely
≤ 8.0	≥ 0.35 and $\geq 25\%$ of Nil value	Positive	ANY	<i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection likely
≥ 8.0	ANY	Indeterminate	ANY	Indeterminate
≤ 8.0	≤ 0.35 and or $< 25\%$ of Nil value	Indeterminate	< 5.0	Indeterminate



QFT calculation.....



"I THINK YOU SHOULD BE MORE EXPLICIT HERE IN STEP TWO."



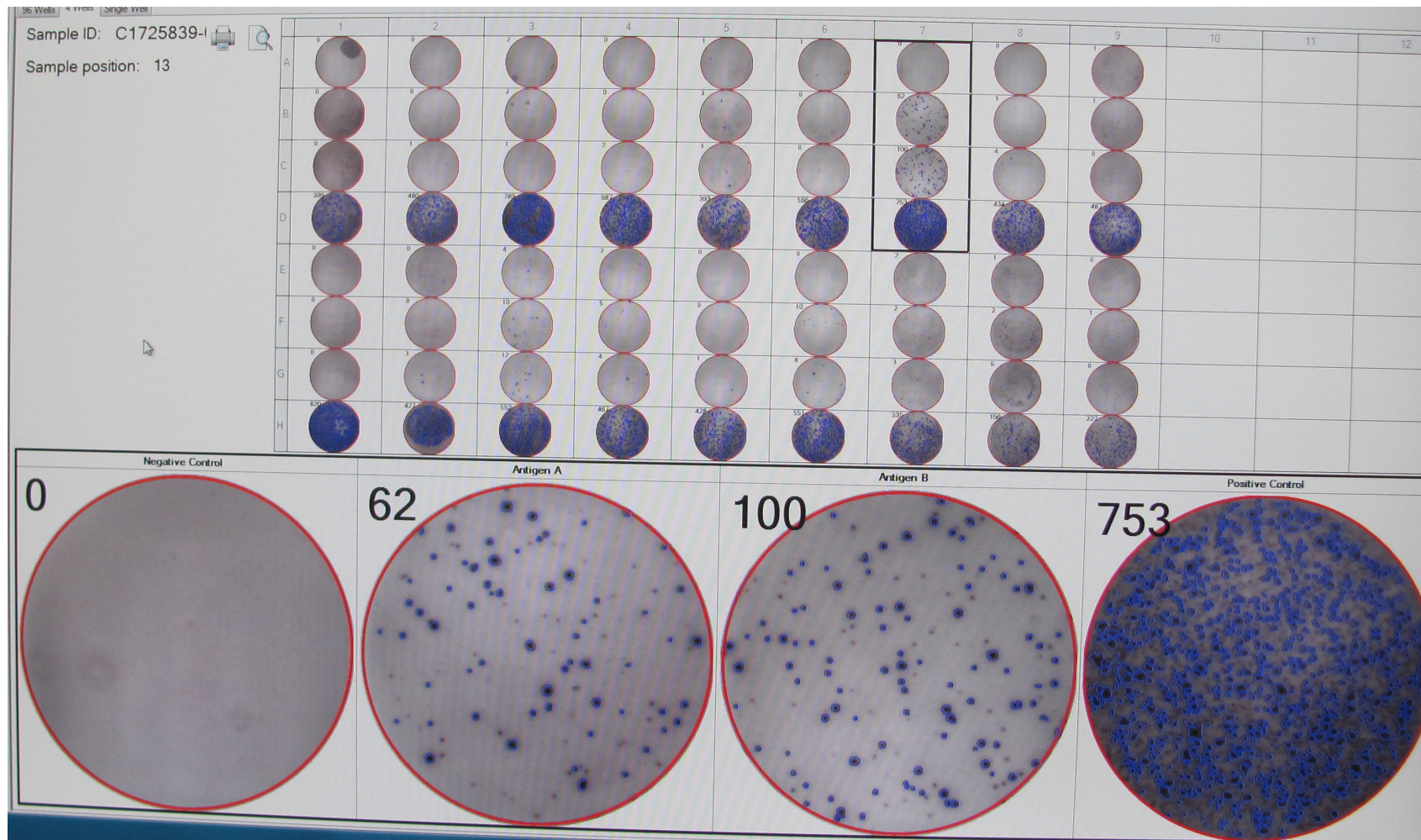
QuantiFERON-TB Gold

TABLE 2. TEST SENSITIVITY AND SPECIFICITY FOR CFP-10 AND ESAT-6 AT VARIOUS CUTOFFS IN WHOLE-BLOOD IFN- γ ASSAY

Cutoff, IFN- γ (IU/ml)	CFP-10		ESAT-6		CFP-10 and/or ESAT-6	
	Specificity (%)	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	Sensitivity (%)
0.05	92.5	81.4	94.8	94.9	89.4	97.5
0.10	94.4	77.1	96.2	90.7	92.0	95.8
0.15	95.8	72.9	97.6	88.1	93.9	93.2
0.20	96.7	71.2	99.1	86.4	96.2	91.5
0.25	97.2	67.8	99.1	84.7	96.7	91.5
0.30	97.7	66.9	99.1	83.1	97.2	89.8
0.35	98.6	65.3	99.5	81.4	98.1	89.0
0.40	98.6	61.9	99.5	79.7	98.1	88.1
0.45	98.6	60.2	100.0	78.8	98.6	86.4
0.50	99.1	60.2	100.0	75.4	99.1	83.9

Sensitivity was determined on the basis of data from 118 patients with culture-positive tuberculosis, and specificity was determined on the basis of data from 213 low-risk subjects. The chosen cutoff (0.35) is in boldface.

T-Spot.TB



Interpretation Criteria for the T-Spot.TB

Result	TB			Interpretation+
	Nil*	Response# #	Mitogen++	
Positive	≤ 10 spots	≥ 8 spots	Any	<i>M.tuberculosis</i> infection likely
Borderline	≤ 10 spots	5, 6, or 7 spots	Any	Uncertain likelihood of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection
Negative	≤ 10 spots	≤ 4 spots		M Tb infection unlikely
Indeterminate	> 10 ≤ 10	Any < 5 spots	Any < 20 spots	Uncertain likelihood of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection



Indeterminate and Borderline Results

- Indeterminate

- Negative control result is too high
 - High background production of IFN- γ
- Positive control result is too low
 - Immunocompromised patients may not respond to mitogen
- Something went wrong with performing the test

- Borderline (T-Spot only)

- Falls within borderline zone close to negative/positive cut point

Repeat the test



Which is the better test?

- For use in testing, the QFT-Gold Plus and T-spot can be considered equivalent.
- The goal is to get an answer!



More important questions

- Who are you testing?
- What does your lab say?
- Where are you testing/how often do you test?



Who are you testing?

- BCG vaccinated populations
- Those unlikely to return for a reading
- Children
 - 4 tubes of blood from little people that don't like needles.....
- Persons living with HIV/persons with low WBCs (such as with chemotherapy)
 - May not have that many cells to start with, concentrating them may help



What does your lab say?

- Where will the tubes go once the blood is drawn?
- How can we make our clinic hours and lab hours work together?
- Is my lab giving me what I need or do I need to consider other options?



Where are you testing and how often?

- Hospitals and low volume clinics may have more issues with QFT
- Get to know your rep and have them come out for training if need be



TB Testing Take Homes

- TST expertise is fading fast
 - When can I still use it?
 - If you trust the person placing/reading it knows what they are doing
 - No history of BCG
 - To add sensitivity
 - Repeatedly indeterminate or borderline IGRAs
- IGRAs are becoming the preferred screening tests for TB
 - Single visit
 - Objective result (positive or negative.....ish)
- TB screening tests are tools that add to the answer
 - They are not the answer themselves
 - They do not distinguish between TB infection (LTBI) and TB disease



Evaluate for Tuberculosis Disease



Evaluate to Exclude Active TB Disease

- If there are signs or symptoms to suggest TB disease
- If the TST or IGRA is Positive

OR

- Child < 5 or immunocompromised person with recent exposure **even if TST/IGRA negative**
 - History
 - Physical examination
 - Chest X-Ray



Is There Evidence of Disease?

Is Patient at Risk of Progression to Disease?

- Symptoms*

- Fever
- Chills
- Night Sweats
- Weight Loss
- Cough (dry/productive)
- Hemoptysis
- Fatigue

* **only one may be present**

- Medical History:

- HIV
- Silicosis
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Diabetes
- Immunosuppression
- Drug/alcohol/tobacco
- TB exposure



Physical Exam

- General assessment – does person look well?
- Lung exam
- Check for lymph nodes
- Palpate liver
- Look for anything that will complicate therapy!
- *In children* look at growth curve/weight/activity



Radiologic Exam

- CXR must be done **before treatment of TB Infection**
 - Must be read as normal
- Or
- IF abnormal:
 - Not consistent with Active TB
 - Stable abnormality confirmed over a 3 month period



Management of Positive TST or IGRA When CXR is Abnormal and the Patient Has ANY Signs or Symptoms of TB

- The patient should be suspected of having TB disease
- Collect 3 sputa for smear and culture
- Consider referring out for TB care or starting standard 4 drug (RIPE) treatment
- If positive smear and/or Gene Xpert
 - Report to the health authority and start 4 drug (RIPE) treatment
- Never (ever!) start a treatment for TB infection in a patient with possible active TB



Pediatric Considerations for TB Screening

- Young immune systems, like young bodies, are growing
- By the time you have 5 candles on your birthday cake, your immune system behaves more like an adult's
- There is grey area in children < 6 months of age (any test....every test), treat any positive and some negatives
- We overtreat and we are not sorry



TB Testing in Pregnant Persons

- Test in every instance you would test if they were not pregnant
 - HIV
 - Contact to an active case
 - Immigrant from a high-risk country
- The immune system may not react as expected
- Yes, you can/should get a CXR



Yes! You can X-ray a pregnant patient!



The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

ACOG COMMITTEE OPINION

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Committee on Obstetric Practice

This document is endorsed by the American College of Radiology and the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine. This Committee Opinion was developed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Committee on Obstetric Practice. Member contributors included Joshua Copel, MD; Yasser El-Sayed, MD; R. Phillips Heine, MD; and Kurt R. Wharton, MD. This document reflects emerging clinical and scientific advances as of the date issued and is subject to change. The information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed.

Table 2. Effects of Gestational Age and Radiation Dose on Radiation-Induced Teratogenesis ↵

Gestational Period	Effects	Estimated Threshold Dose*
Before implantation (0–2 weeks after fertilization)	Death of embryo or no consequence (all or none)	50–100 mGy
Organogenesis (2–8 weeks after fertilization)	Congenital anomalies (skeleton, eyes, genitals)	200 mGy
	Growth restriction	200–250 mGy
Fetal period	Effects	Estimated Threshold Dose*
8–15 weeks	Severe intellectual disability (high risk) [†]	60–310 mGy
	Intellectual deficit	25 IQ-point loss per 1,000 mGy
	Microcephaly	200 mGy
16–25 weeks	Severe intellectual disability (low risk)	250–280 mGy*

*Data based on results of animal studies, epidemiologic studies of survivors of the atomic bombings in Japan, and studies of groups exposed to radiation for medical reasons (eg, radiation therapy for carcinoma of the uterus).

[†]Because this is a period of rapid neuronal development and migration.

Modified from Patel SJ, Reede DL, Katz DS, Subramaniam R, Amorosa JK. Imaging the pregnant patient for nonobstetric conditions: algorithms and radiation dose considerations. *Radiographics* 2007;27:1705–22.

Table 3. Fetal Radiation Doses Associated With Common Radiologic Examinations ↵

Type of Examination	Fetal Dose* (mGy)
<i>Very low-dose examinations (<0.1 mGy)</i>	
Cervical spine radiography (anteroposterior and lateral views)	<0.001
Head or neck CT	0.001–0.01
Radiography of any extremity	<0.001
Mammography (two views)	0.001–0.01
Chest radiography (two views)	0.0005–0.01
<i>Low- to moderate-dose examinations (0.1–10 mGy)</i>	
Radiography	
Abdominal radiography	0.1–3.0
Lumbar spine radiography	1.0–10
Intravenous pyelography	5–10
Double-contrast barium enema	1.0–20
CT	
Chest CT or CT pulmonary angiography	0.01–0.66
Limited CT pelvimetry (single axial section through the femoral heads)	<1
Nuclear medicine	
Low-dose perfusion scintigraphy	0.1–0.5
Technetium-99m bone scintigraphy	4–5
Pulmonary digital subtraction angiography	0.5
<i>Higher-dose examinations (10–50 mGy)</i>	
Abdominal CT	1.3–35
Pelvic CT	10–50
¹⁸ F PET/CT whole-body scintigraphy	10–50



Questions?

