

Predictors of Non-adherence to Anti-Tuberculosis Medication in Tuberculosis Patients in Thailand

Karl Peltzer^{1,2,3} and Supa Pengpid^{1,4}

¹*ASEAN Institute for Health Development, Mahidol University, Salaya, Phutthamonthon,
Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, 73170*

²*Department of Psychology, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa*

³*HIV/AIDS/STIs and TB (HAST), Human Sciences Research Council, Private Bag X41,
Pretoria 0001, South Africa*

⁴*Department of Research Innovation and Development, University of Limpopo, Turfloop
Campus, Sovenga 0727, South Africa*

E-mail: ¹<karl.pel@mahidol.ac.th> ⁴<supaprom@yahoo.com

KEYWORDS Self-reported TB Medication. TB Treatment Status. TB Knowledge. DOT Supporter. Socio-demographics. Health System

ABSTRACT The study aimed to assess the prevalence of and correlates the non-adherence to anti-tuberculosis (TB) medication in tuberculosis patients in Thailand. In 2014, a cross-sectional interview survey was conducted among 225 TB patients across 42 hospitals, 21 provinces, in all four regions in Thailand. Systematic sampling was used for all new TB and new retreatment patients within one month of the anti-TB treatment. The dependent variable was the self-reported TB medication non-adherence (<90% anti-TB medication). Results indicate that 15.6 percent of TB patients had been non-adherent to their TB medication in the past 10 days. In multivariate logistic regression, male gender, secondary or higher education, was diagnosed with TB through community screening, being a retreatment TB patient and not having chosen their own DOT supporter was associated with TB medication non-adherence. Findings can be used to apply to practice levels to improve TB treatment adherence.