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## **TUBERCULOSIS AND WAR**

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### **SUMMARY**

Even today, tuberculosis represents a great health problem in the world as well as with us, and in regions caught by war it reaches the level of the most serious and most spread types.

The aim of this work is to show the most significant characteristics and types of tuberculosis with patients treated in our Clinics during the war, and to compare them with pre-war and post-war period.

A group was analyzed of 1024 persons sick with tuberculosis that were treated in our Clinics during the war period, i.e. between 1992. and 1996.

The results show that during that period male persons were much more often sick, about 70 percent, and almost a half of them, about 45 percent were persons subject to military service, while out of the total number of the treated over 50 percent were refugees and displaced persons. During that period, younger persons were catching tuberculosis with average age of 40 years. Over 70% were serious types of, already spread on both sides, tuberculosis characterized by fibrous, caseous & cavernous formations checked by direct microscopy & high specific cultures. During this period, there were more than 7 percent of relapses, while mortality rate during the same period was of about 5 percent.

From given results, it is obvious that the war as an event has a great influence on significant characteristics of tuberculosis, above all in considerable occurrence of serious types of spread tuberculosis in younger age groups, with increased number of relapses and lethal exit, especially with persons subject to military service and refugees displaced persons which confirms that psychotraumas and poor social conditions encourage the occurrence of serious types of tuberculosis.

## **TUBERKULOZA I RAT**

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### **Sažetak**

Tuberkuloza i danas predstavlja značajan zdravstveni problem u svijetu i kod nas, a u ratu zahvaćenim podričjima postiže zamah sa najtežim i najproširenijim oblicima.

Cilj rada je da se prikažu najznačajnije karakteristike i oblici tuberkuloze liječenih bolesnika u našoj klinici za vrijeme ratnih dejstava, te da ih uporedi sa prijeratnim i poslijeratnim periodom.

Analizirana je grupa od 1024 tuberkulozna bolesnika liječenih u našoj klinici za vrijeme ratnih dejstava u periodu od 1992. do 1995. godine.

Rezultati pokazuju da su u tom periodu znatno češće oboljevale osobe muškog pola oko 70%, blizu polovine oko 45% bili su vojnici, dok je od ukupnog broja liječenih preko 50% bilo izbjeglog i raseljenog stanovništva. U tom periodu oboljevale su osobe mlađeg doba sa prosječnom starošću do 40 godina. Preko 70% bilo je teških oblika jako proširenih, obostranih, sa direktnom mikroskopijom i kulturelno pozitivnih fibrokazeokavernoznih tuberkuloza. Recidiva u ovom periodu bilo je preko 7% dok je smrtnost u tom periodu iznosila oko 5%.

Iz navedenih rezultata se vidi, da rat kao pojava utiče značajno na bitne karakteristike tuberkuloze prije svega u znatnoj pojavi teških oblika proširene tuberkuloze u mlađim dobnim skupinama, sa povećanim brojem recidiva i smrtnih sličajeva, naročito kod vojnih obaveznika i izbjeglog i raseljenog stanovništva, što potvrđuje da psihotraume i loše socijalne prilike pogoduju nastanku teških formi tuberkuloze.

### TB IN WAR

YEAR	MEN	WOMEN	TOTALLY	SOLDIERS	%
1992.	202	55	257	44	17,12
1993.	183	68	251	80	31,87
1994.	216	60	276	95	34,42
1995.	176	64	240	100	41,66
TOTALLY	777	247	1024	319	31,15

### CHARACTERISTICS OF TB IN WAR

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>NEW DISCOVERED TB</b>	<b>RELAPSE TB</b>	<b>PLEURISY TB</b>	<b>TOTALLY</b>	<b>DECEASED</b>
<b>1992.</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1993.</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1994.</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>1995.</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>TOTALLY</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>1024</b>	<b>22</b>

**SOLDIERS WITH TB**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>TB SOLDIER</b>	<b>NEW DISCOVERED TB</b>	<b>RELAPSE TB</b>	<b>PLUERISY TB</b>	<b>DECEASED</b>
<b>1992.</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1993.</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1994.</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1995.</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>TOTALLY</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>18</b>

## DISCUSSION

YEAR	A ALL PATIENTS	B TB PATIENTS	A B %	% MEN/WOMEN	AVERAGE AGE OF TB PATIENTS	DECEASED	MORTALITY RATE
<b>1988- 1991.</b>	<b>5125</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>85-15%</b>	<b>61-39%</b>	<b>48,1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0,76%</b>
<b>1992- 1995.</b>	<b>5024</b>	<b>1024</b>	<b>79-21%</b>	<b>76-24%</b>	<b>43,6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2,15%</b>
					SOLDIER <b>37,1</b>		SOLDIER <b>5,64</b>
<b>1996- 1999.</b>	<b>5076</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>83-17%</b>	<b>59-41%</b>	<b>47,5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0,92%</b>

From given results, we can notice that during the war there were more TB cases; the patients were usually younger men, especially soldiers with mortality rate above 5%.