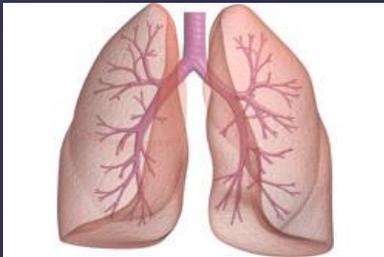


Investigation of Knowledge and Perception of Tuberculosis among Utah County Hispanics



Tyler Boulter
Solanda Moran
Gene Cole, DrPH



Department of Health Science
Brigham Young University

Demographics

Hispanic Population

USA

- 50.5 million (16.3%)

Utah

- 358,340 (13%)



Utah County

- 56,883 (11%)

More than HALF of the total growth of the United States between 2000 and 2010 was due to the increase in the Hispanic population.

Previous Reported Findings

- Latinos were the least likely of any minority to identify factual information about TB.
- **Knowledge gap was greatest in regard to:**
 - TB Transmission
 - Disease symptoms (easily recognizable)
 - Minority status as a potential risk factor
- More than 5 x the TB incidence of the general population.
- Adherence to treatment is a major problem.
 - **(Only 64% still compliant by six months)**

Methods

Mixed Methods Approach



166 Surveys

- 24 Questions

2 Focus Groups

- 9/29/2012- 10 Participants
- 11/10/2012- 9 Participants

3 Key Informant Interviews

Survey

Where

Festival LatinoAmericano
Provo, UT



When

Labor Day weekend
(8/31/12- 9/3/13)

What

Comprehensive Survey
(24 questions)

Who

Hispanic population (166)
Male- 70
Female- 96



Survey Results

Transmission

- Only 35% identified “overcrowded living conditions’ to be the major risk factor for TB transmission
- **The vast majority (81%) correctly identified the main mode of transmission as coughing**
- The majority reported that TB is very contagious and not hard to pass from one person to another (64%)



Survey Results

Testing and Diagnostics

- The majority of respondents had been tested for TB (66%)
- **7% of the sample had been told by a physician that they had TB**
- The vast majority identified TB as primarily a pulmonary disease affecting the lungs (82%)



Survey Results

Treatment

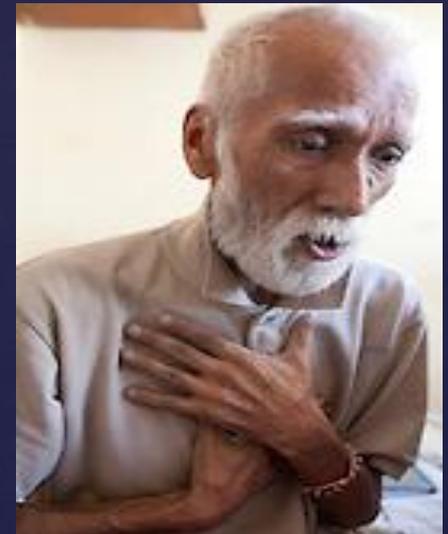
- Almost all participants knew that TB can be deadly (93%)
- **A majority recognized that TB is curable (75%)**
- Many recognized the added risk of TB involved with HIV as a comorbidity (75%)
- **Most had received some form of treatment for TB at some time (88%)**



Focus Group Findings

Signs & Symptoms

- “People that have TB do not cough.”
- “I worked in a hospital down in Peru - the people who were infected with TB were very skinny.”
- “..those that have TB always have pale countenance..”



Focus Group Findings

Transmission

- “I know that if someone is sick and coughing the germs stay in the air and that is how one person can transmit the disease to other people.”
- **“What is the first thing that comes to your mind with you hear the word ‘tuberculosis’? That it is very contagious.”**



Focus Group Findings

Transmission Risk Factors

“Factors could include living together with a lot of people in a crowded place.”



Focus Group Findings

Testing & Diagnosis

- “I have heard a lot of people say, if they get the skin test, ...they don't want to go back because they are scared that they have the disease.”
- “Yes, the nurse told me that I needed to go get an x-ray, but I never got one I did not know that it was that important”.

Focus Group Findings

Testing & Diagnosis

- “With my husband, if they were to test him for TB he would develop an active case of the disease, so we learned to say no to the test.”
- “The TB test itches and well, we scratch the area where they poked us and it gets swollen and then the nurse says that we have TB.”

Focus Group Findings

Treatment

- “We did not have a cure before, but now we have medicine for it.”
- “I would tell them not to take the medicine, because if they drank the juice and the nutritious foods I prepared for them they would get better.”
- “I take the medicine and then I start to feel good, so I think that I don’t need the medicine anymore. I stop taking the medicine and I don’t finish and often there are pills leftover.”

Focus Group Findings

Education

- “I feel like there is a huge of lack of knowledge.”
- “You understand us as Hispanics if there is a table set up I don’t get close and if I get close, I grab something and I don’t even read what it is about.”
- “Mothers don’t have enough time to look after their kids, but they have time to log onto Facebook.”

Focus Group Findings

Education Awareness

- The best way to promote a community awareness would be to use the programs that we already have (church, school, Centro Hispano).
- **The Festival Latinoamericano and other festivals really are a great way. We Hispanics go to the festivals.**

Focus Group Findings

Education Awareness

- I think that if we try to educate through the children the information will get lost. We should go through the adults.
- **Only if we have an epidemic will the community begin to worry about Tuberculosis.**

Study Conclusions

- **While it appears that this population has some knowledge of TB disease, there remain gaps in understanding that pose a risk to the community.**
- There is an element of fear in this population relative to being diagnosed with TB, hence a lack of proper testing, diagnosis, and treatment.
- **There was an overwhelming agreement that there needs to be a more focused emphasis on educating this population about TB.**
 - Study participants made specific recommendations about how best to implement a culture-appropriate intervention.

Study Recommendations

- **We recommend a more focused effort to educate the Hispanics in Utah County, Utah about TB transmission, signs and symptoms, testing, diagnosis, and treatment.**
- **It is recommended that the Utah County Health Department, in association with other Hispanic health care and service organizations, collaborate to develop a more effective and culturally specific TB intervention for this demographic.**

Acknowledgements



Carla Lott, RN



Dr. Bruce Grover, MD



Angelica Nash

¡Muchas Gracias!

