

**Mosqueda, PM, Alcaneses, MRA and Tupasi, TE, "A three-year follow-up of TB infection and disease in pediatric household contacts of smear-positive PTB," *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*, Vol. 10, No. 11, (November) 2006, Supplement 1: S73.**

**Objective:** To determine the incidence of TB infection and disease in pediatric household contacts of smear positive pulmonary tuberculosis three years after initial evaluation.

**Methods:** A cohort study among 128 pediatric household contacts of 86 smear positive adults with PTB was done. The children were classified as either having disease, infection or non-infection during the initial evaluation in January 2002-December 2003. The previously non-infected children underwent a repeat tuberculin test in January 2006. If it was positive, they had a chest x-ray taken; if PTB was found, they had sputum exam. The previously infected children underwent a repeat chest X-ray and subsequent sputum examination if there was evidence of PTB.

**Results:** On initial evaluation, the prevalence of TB disease among the pediatric contacts was 3%, infection was 57.8%. The age of more than 5 years was associated with an increased risk for infection (OR=4.3, 95% CI=1.8- 10.1). 52% (n=65) of the original study population came for reevaluation. An additional 12.5% was found to be infected resulting to a cumulative incidence of 77%. None of these children were found to have the disease on follow up.

**Conclusion:** Contact screening is of great value for detecting infection and disease among the pediatric- household contacts of adults with smear positive PTB. Follow up of such cases contribute significantly to the detection of more cases of tuberculosis infection in this group of patients.