

**FACTOR RELATED TO DEFAULT AMONG TUBERCULOSIS
PATIENTS TREATMENT WITH DOTS PROGRAM IN
KOTAMOBAGU SUBDISTRICT, NORTH SULAWESI PROVINCE,
INDONESIA**

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ABSTRACT

A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted among two hundred of patients being treated for tuberculosis under the directly observed therapy short course (DOTS) program in Kotamobagu subdistrict, Indonesia. The objective was to identify factors related to default among tuberculosis patients treated in a DOTS program. Data was collected on January 17 to February 4, 2005 by interview questionnaire designed by researcher.

Nearly one half (45.5 %) of respondents were found in the 15 – 34 age group. More than one half (56.0 %) were male, had secondary school and higher and were farmers. Almost two thirds (65.5 %) had a monthly family income less than or equal to 556,553 rupiah.

The result of this study showed that 11 percent of the patients had default behavior with their treatment. There were significant association between marital status (p -value = .001), occupation status (p -value = .042), availability of drugs (p -value = .000) and default of patients tuberculosis treatment. Female, single people, unemployed people, and patients with less access to drugs were more likely to default. There was no significant association between age, gender, family income, knowledge, attitude, availability of health providers, time for traveling, and cost for traveling, family support and default of patients treatment in this study area.

The patients who had completed treatment could be members of the Social Welfare Support Program to set a good example of cured tuberculosis patients. They could act as educators to those patients who are under treatment and encourage them to complete treatment to get cured of the disease.

KEY WORDS: TUBERCULOSIS/DEFAULT/DOTS

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