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### Abstract 8230

#### Development and validation of a questionnaire to explore tuberculosis knowledge, attitudes and practices in foreign-born subjects from high tuberculosis-incidence countries

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**Background:** Italy is a low tuberculosis (TB) incidence country, and TB cases cluster especially among foreign-born subjects from high TB incidence countries. Several determinants of health contribute to active TB development in this population and TB control strategies should address all. TB knowledge represents only one of these determinants, and all alone does not increase person's empowerment. However, TB knowledge could represent a contribution to TB control, when integrated into a framework of actions. To our knowledge, there are no validated questionnaires to explore TB knowledge, attitudes and practices in foreign-born subjects from high TB incidence countries who are living in a low TB incidence country.

**Materials/methods:** The questionnaire's item pool was compiled from literature reviews. The questionnaire collected demographic data, social determinants' data, TB knowledge, attitudes and practices information. Questionnaire had to be performed face-to-face and answers were open-ended or multiple choice. Content validity was assessed by content validity index (CVI) and Delphi technique. Linguistic and cultural barriers were assessed performing a focus group and two pilot tests. Reliability was assessed calculating Cronbach's alpha coefficient. We enrolled and interviewed 86 adult foreign-born subjects from high TB incidence countries in November 2019 in four different facilities (a school, a refugee centre, an infectious diseases unit and an immigrant-health ambulatory) in Ferrara, Italy.

**Results:** Seven TB experts evaluated the questionnaire with two Delphi technique rounds. Nineteen (50%) out of 38 items presented CVI <80% and were deleted. The focus group was conducted with four foreign-born subjects and two items were deleted; 11 subjects underwent the first pilot test and 40 subjects the second one: no items were deleted. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0.65 for knowledge items (four items).

**Conclusions:** We developed and validated a questionnaire as a reliable and valid tool for measuring TB knowledge among foreign-born subjects from high incidence TB countries, who are living in a low TB incidence country. We hope this questionnaire could contribute to TB control.

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