

ABSTRACT

Introduction

Komamboga health center III is one of the public health center in Kawempe division offering free TB diagnostics services therefore determining factors that contribute to delayed TB detection would be a great improvement in controlling TB transmission, morbidity and mortality rates.

Tuberculosis delayed diagnosis results into sever morbidity and higher mortality. In a population it also increases the period of infectivity (WHO, 2013). Early TB diagnosis and treatment is the main aspect for all successful TB control programs.

Study objective

The main objective of the study was to determine factors contributing to delayed TB case detection among patients attending public health facilities in Kawempe division, case study Komamboga health center III in the timeframe of September to October 2016.

Methodology.

A cross sectional study of 281 PTB diagnosed patients was conducted at Komamboga Health Center III TB diagnostic and treatment unit in Kawempe division, from September to October 2016.

Data collection for qualitative data was done using administered questionnaires and qualitative data using the key informant guide.

Poisson regression model was used to estimate the odd ratios and their 95% confidence interval for the delays in comparison with the independent variables.

Results

The study revealed that the patient related factors that were statistically associated with delay TB detection among the respondents were; onset of cough (Chi-square 37.406 and p-value 0.000), days taken before visiting health facility (Chi-square 73.757 and p-value 0.000), place of care (Chi-square 54.144 and p-value 0.000), HIV status (Chi-square 13.327 and p-value 0.000), attachment to any HIV clinic (Chi-square 5.387 and p-value 0.009) and alcohol (Chi-square 14.368 and p-value 0.000).

Conclusion.

Delayed detection of PTB is high in Kawempe division and this is because of different factors.

The socio-demographic factors; females, age group of 26- 34 years, and employment status were significantly associated with delayed TB detection.

Days taken before visiting health facility, place of care, HIV status, attachment to HIV clinic and drinking alcohol were the patient related factors that were significant associated with delayed TB.

The health provider factors significantly associated with delayed were TB clinic visits, health worker absenteeism and time taken to receive results.

Recommendations.

Community sensitization on the importance of early TB detection to specific target groups. Implementation of policies on drug dispensing. Drug shop attendants on how to detect key TB symptoms and ensure steady TB diagnostic supplies to health facilities on time.