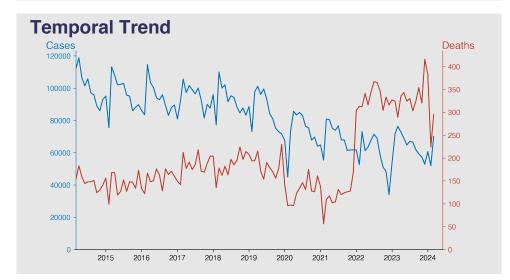
Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

Tuberculosis

March 2024

Introduction

Tuberculosis (TB) is a highly infectious bacterial disease caused primarily by Mycobacterium tuberculosis and mainly affects the lungs, though it can spread to other organs. TB is typically spread through airborne particles when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Patients often exhibit persistent coughing, weight loss, fever, and night sweats. Vaccination, early detection, and long-term antibiotic treatment are the main means of controlling the disease. Despite advances in treatment and prevention, TB remains a major global health concern.



Highlights

- Tuberculosis (TB) cases in the Chinese mainland have generally decreased over the past decade from approximately 111,975 cases in March 2014 to around 70,013 cases in March 2024.
- The number of TB-related deaths, however, has shown an alarming upward trend in the same period, rising from 153 deaths in March 2014 to 295 deaths in March 2024.
- The data reveals notable seasonal variance in TB cases, usually peaking in March and then gradually decreasing until September/October.
- The spike in TB-related deaths in January 2022 is anomalous and could be attributed to factors such as intensified case finding, improved death reporting, or increased disease severity.

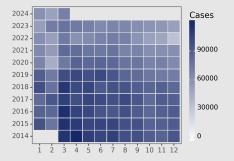
Cases Analysis

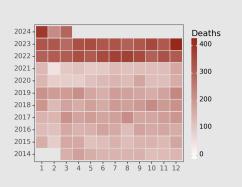
The data on Tuberculosis cases in mainland China depicted a consistent cyclical pattern with peak cases reported between March and May each year. From 2014 to 2024, the monthly count of cases showed a general declining trend throughout ten years, with a slight resurgence in cases in early 2023. The number of cases started from even over 111,975 cases in March 2014 and decreased to approximately 70,013 in March 2024, indicating an effective control and prevention measures over these years.

Deaths Analysis

The average monthly deaths due to Tuberculosis in mainland China is approximately 177 deaths, from March 2014 to March 2024. The number of deaths showed a general increasing trend over this period, with a noticeable jump in January 2022. Even though there were fluctuations throughout the decade, the mortality rate due to Tuberculosis continues to rise. With relatively stable cases, this may signify issues with healthcare access or the effectiveness of treatments, demanding further investigation.

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