Abstract

Predictors for Quality of Life of Pulmonary Tuberculosis Patients in Yunnan Province of China

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Tuberculosis (TB) is an important chronic infectious disease. However, quality of life (QoL) of these patients has rarely been studied. We recruited 150 acid-fast bacilli (AFB) sputum-positive TB patients from Kunming and Xishuangbanna of Yunnan province in China to test and validate a TB patient QoL scale (TBQoL). The scale includes 24 items among 6 domains after principal component factor analysis and necessary modification. The uniqueness of each item is lower than 0.6 and Cronbach's alpha of each domain is greater than 0.7.

For multiple regression analysis, QoL of TB patients is associated with marital status, education, occupation, religion, ethnicities, income and payment style; family income has dose-response relationship with most of domains of the TBQoL. Patients with low income have worst QoL that need more attention. Low education TB patients have poorer social support and poorer relationship with doctor, thus the care provider should be aware of this problem.