

# Who were the tuberculosis patients who died precociously due to the disease in southern Brazil? A retrospective cohort study.

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## Abstract

**BACKGROUND:** A diagnosis of tuberculosis (TB) does not necessarily mean that the disease will be treated successfully, as death still occurs among those who are diagnosed by health services. The study aimed to identify the TB patients who died precociously due to the disease and associated factors in southern Brazil.

**METHODS:** We conducted a retrospective cohort study, where all deaths from TB were gathered, including cases of TB/HIV coinfection (ICD A15.0-A15.9 and ICD B20.0), which occurred between 2008 and 2015 in southern Brazil. After bivariate analysis, techniques for survival analysis were applied, including the Kaplan-Meier test and Cox's regression, from which the mean, median and CI95% of survival (in days) were estimated; the hazard ratio (HR) was obtained and the associated causative factors were identified.

**RESULTS:** A total of 143 patients were analysed: 83 (58%) of them had a diagnosis of TB (ICD A15.0 to A19) and 60 (42%) were diagnosed with TB/HIV (ICD B20.0) in basic death cause. The first group (only TB) had a median survival of 21 days, and the second group (TB/HIV) had a median survival of 34 days; however, the difference was not statistically significant. The median survival for the whole sample was 23 days; 82 (57.3%) of the patients died within 30 days after diagnosis, and 101 (71.3%) died within 60 days after diagnosis (minimum survival 2 day; maximum 349 days; standard deviation (SD) = 69.5 and mean = 52.1 days). Additionally, the alcohol use alcohol use (HR=1.65, CI95%=1.03-2.68) and other comorbidities (HR=1.79, CI95%=1.13 - 2.84) were related precocious deaths.

**CONCLUSION:** Most of the deaths occurred precociously (within two or one months), which indicates that the diagnosis was made too late, when the disease was already at an advanced stage. The use of alcohol and other comorbidities were related with precocious deaths. Although diagnosis and treatment are free in Brazil and the patients had received a diagnosis, they died. Early, sensitive diagnosis, with social support and comprehensive care might reduce early mortality among patients with addiction problems.

## Background

Even though the treatment of tuberculosis (TB) has been established since the late 1940s, the illness is still one of the top 10 causes of death by disease globally [1]. In 2017, a total of 1.3 million HIV-negative people, in addition to some 300 000 people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), died as a result of TB [1]. At present, a group of 30 countries accounts for 84% of TB cases worldwide, and Brazil is currently in 19<sup>th</sup> place in this world ranking [1]. In Brazil, the mortality rate as a result of TB was 2.2 deaths for every 100,000 people in 2017, and the prevalence of the disease was 32.4/100,000 inhabitants [2].

TB is the main cause of death among PLWHA [1,3], and the risk of dying from TB is up to 10.6-fold higher in this group, when compared with the general population under study [3]. Mortality from TB is also higher among people with comorbidities such as diabetes mellitus and risk factors such as alcohol consumption and tobacco smoking [4,5,6]. Other factors have also been identified as possible causes,

such as age, being male, having a lower educational level, as well as socio-economic factors such as the location of one's abode and social conditions [4,7].

Studies using the technique of survival analysis have found that death from TB is most common in the first three months after diagnosis among patients with coinfection with human immunodeficiency virus and TB (TB/HIV) [8], while another study observed that the majority of deaths took place within two months after the start of treatment for TB [3]. A study investigating an HIV-negative population found that the median survival was 12 days, considering those who died of TB [9].

Some studies that evaluated survival in relation to TB focused mainly on people with TB/HIV coinfection [3,8,10,11] and on the delay in the commencement of treatment for TB, considering the period from diagnosis to the start of antituberculosis activities [8,12]. Some studies have addressed the issue of premature deaths from TB [9,11,13], considering those deaths which occurred in the intensive stage of treatment, which comprises the first two months of treatment [9,14]. Some researchers have analysed premature death and found low BMI and elevated respiratory rate [9]; moreover, subjects with an undetectable baseline CD4 lymphocyte count ( $HR=9.39$ , 95% CI=2.56-34.5) had higher mortality [10], and TB deaths occurred in patients with advanced age and comorbid illnesses [13].

Thus, there is a knowledge gap in the analysis of premature death from the moment of diagnosis up to the moment of death from TB, as well as the associated factors. This would serve to advance existing knowledge on the topic and improve the control of this disease in Brazil [15,16]. It is also relevant to establish the survival time and the factors related to premature mortality among TB patients. In the light of the points raised here, this study aimed to identify the TB patients who died precociously due to the disease, the time survived and associated factors in southern Brazil.

## Methods

### *Study design and population*

This was a retrospective cohort study, consisting of survival analysis. The population was made up of cases of death from tuberculosis and TB associated with HIV (TB/HIV) which occurred between 2008 and 2015 in a municipality in the south of Brazil.

### *Inclusion and exclusion criteria*

Were included in the survival analysis cases registered with a certificate of death from the Mortality Information System (MIS), with the basic cause of death registered under CID 10 codes A 15.0 to 19.0 (tuberculosis) and B 20.0: HIV disease resulting in tuberculosis (TB/HIV). To analyse the survival, patients under 18 years of age, and in which death occurred equal or less 1 day after diagnoses were excluded in the study. For reasons the State Death Commission analysed the death cases and defined the diagnosis based on the registered disease and clinical history after death. More than one criterion was

adopted to exclude the analysed cases: one year after treatment death occurred. The national TB control programme in Brazil recommends the maximum 9 months period of treatment, for this reason we understood that over twelve months to finalise treatment in System, can be inconsistent data, being excluded in the study.

### ***Place of study***

The region of the study was the south of Brazil, and the cohort studied corresponded to the municipality of Curitiba, the capital of the State of Paraná, with an estimated population of 1,971,185 people and a demographic density of 4,027.04 people per square kilometre [17]. This is a Brazilian state capital with a Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.823, placing Curitiba in tenth place on the national ranking. The percentage of people considered poor stood at 1.73%, while 7.93% of the population was vulnerable to poverty, and the GINI Index stood at 0.55 [18]. Within the municipality of Curitiba, the municipality had the following coefficients: prevalence of 14 cases per 100,000 people, and mortality of 1.2 per 100,000 people [19]. The deaths were clustered in the southern region of the municipality and were associated with low HDIs in the respective regions [20].

### ***Data source and procedures***

The data were obtained from the Mortality Information System (MIS) and from the Disease Notification Information System (DNIS). All analysed variables were obtained from this site and were controlled by the Secretariat of Health of the State of Paraná (SESA). Information from the latter source completed the clinical and operational picture regarding TB.

### ***Variables under study***

The main variable under analysis was the total time (in days) that elapsed between the date on which the diagnosis of TB was confirmed and the date of death as a result of TB. Deaths that occurred within the first 60 days after diagnosis were considered as premature or precocious, in agreement with the authors [9,14]. Additionally, a comparison was made between the cut-off time points of 30 days and 60 days to death. The independent variables included social and demographic dimensions, as well as clinical and operational variables.

**Table 1** Source of data and independent variables under study

\*Source: Mortality Information System -MIS

\*\*Source: Disease Notification Information System - DNIS

### ***Linkage of databases***

We established linkage between the MIS and DNIS databases, so as to obtain the clinical and operational variables in addition to the date of diagnosis of TB as obtained from SINAN. In this procedure, we considered the keys, which are the elements of information that identify the registration number, date of birth and identification of the mother, in a unique manner. For the application of this technique, we used SPSS software, version 24.0 (IBM Corp. Released 2016. IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 24.0. Armonk, NY: IBM Corp.).

### ***Data analysis***

We applied descriptive statistics in order to obtain the absolute values and percentage frequencies of the categorical variables. In the case of continuous variables (time in days and age) we obtained the minimum and maximum values, arithmetic mean, median and standard deviation (SD). Firstly, two cut-offs (30 days and 60 days between diagnosis and TB death) were adopted assess the behaviour of the variables.

To analyse the relationship between time death and variables, we carried out a Cox proportional hazards regression model [21,22,23]. First, we performed a bivariate analysis, by which we identified the variables of interest for inclusion in the multivariate model. The criteria we used for this selection were variables with  $p < 0.25$ . Then, we selected the best multivariate model considering the lowest Akaike information criterion (AIC) value, using the backward elimination method. At the end of the analysis, we carried out the test of proportional hazards assumption for the Cox regression model fit for each covariate.

The results are shown as hazard ratios (HR) with right censored data, with confidence intervals of 95% (CI95%). A type I error rate of 5% was also established, considering results with  $p < 0.05$  as statistically significant. The analysis was carried out using the SPSS and R software, versions 24.0 (IBM) and 3.6.1, respectively.

The study was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of São Paulo University (USP), under number CAAE No. 64515717.9.0000.5393.

## **Results**

Were included in the analysis, 143 cases; Firstly, we compiled total of 205 cases, of which 131 (63.9%) had a diagnosis of TB (ICD A15-A19) and 74 (36.1%) were diagnosed

with TB/HIV (ICD B20.0) as the main cause of death in the files. Linkage was also established between MIS and DNIS for 179 (87.3%) of the cases. After criterion exclusion was adopted, 143 cases were included in the analysis; thus, we considered these cases of death (Table 1). Figure 1 provides a flow chart presenting the cases of death analysed in this study.

**Figure 1-** Flow chart of deaths analysed in this study

Out of the 143 deaths that occurred and were analysed in the studied period, 83 (58%) of them had a diagnosis of TB (ICD A15.0 to A19) and 60 (42%) were diagnosed with TB/HIV (ICD B20.0). The descriptive results are shown in Table 2, where one can see that most cases, i.e. 112 (78.3%), occurred in males. The white race prevailed among the deaths, with 93(69.9%) cases, while the mean age was 47 (minimum 20, maximum 83, median= 46 and SD = 14).

**Table 2-** Distribution of social, clinical and operational characteristics of the patients who died as a result of TB and TB/HIV in Curitiba, shown in groups according to number of days to TB death (2008-2015).

Variables	Categories	Death <30 days (cut-off)		Death <60 days (cut-off)		All deaths	
		n(82)	(%)	n(101)	%	N(143)	(%)
Coinfection (basic cause)	Yes TB/HIV	29	35.4	38	37.6	60	42.0
	No (only TB)	53	64.6	63	62.4	83	58.0
Sex (143)	Female	19	23.2	24	23.8	31	21.7
	Male	63	76.8	77	76.2	112	78.3
Ethnicity (133)	White or Oriental	57	69.5	66	65.3	93	65,0
	Afro descendant	19	23.2	27	26.7	40	28,0
	Not informed	06	7.3	08	7.9	10	7.0
Educational level	0-7 years of schooling	47	57.3	57	56.4	82	57,3
	8 or more years of schooling	22	26.8	28	27.7	41	28,7
	Not informed	13	15.9	16	15.8	20	14.0
Marital status	Married/common law marriage	24	29.3	31	30.7	45	31,5
	Single/widowed/separated or divorced	48	58.5	56	55.4	82	57,3
Type of entry	Not informed	10	12.2	14	13.9	16	11,2
	New case	69	84.1	82	81.2	112	78,3
	Re-entry or retreatment	10	12.2	14	13.9	25	17,5
Institutionalised	Not informed	03	3.7	05	5.0	06	4.2
	No	61	74.4	76	75.2	113	79,0
	Yes	11	13.4	14	13.9	16	11,2
X-ray confirmation of diagnosis	Not informed	10	12.2	11	10.9	14	9.8
	No	12	14.6	13	12.9	22	15,4
	Yes/suspicious	70	85.4	88	87.1	121	84.6
Clinical form	Pulmonary	61	74.4	75	74.3	103	72.0
	Extrapulmonary	21	25.6	26	25.7	40	28.0
Use of alcohol	No	47	57.7	56	55.4	89	62,2
	Yes	30	36.6	40	39.6	48	33,6
	Not informed	05	6.1	05	5.0	06	4.2
Diabetes mellitus (DM)	No	75	91.5	93	92.1	133	93,0
	Yes	02	2.4	02	2.0	03	2.1
Bacilloscopy	Not informed	05	6.1	06	5.9	07	4.9
	Negative	23	28.0	28	27.7	40	28,0
	Positive	45	54.9	58	57.4	78	54,5
Sputum culture (40)	Not informed	14	17.1	15	14.9	25	17.5
	Negative	07	8.5	10	9.9	20	14,0
	Positive	08	9.8	11	10.9	20	14.0
Rifampicin	Not informed	67	81.7	80	79.2	103	72,0
	No	03	3.7	03	3.3	05	3.5
	Yes	70	85.4	88	87.1	126	88,1
Isoniazid	Not informed	09	11.0	10	9.9	12	8.4
	No	03	3.7	03	3.3	05	3.5
	Yes	70	85.4	88	87.1	126	88,1
Pyrazinamide	Not informed	09	11.0	10	9.9	12	8.4
	No	05	6.1	05	5.0	06	4,2
	Yes	68	82.9	86	85.1	125	87,4
	Not informed	09	11.0	10	9.9	12	8.4

Ethambutol	No	21	25.6	25	24.8	36	25,2
	Yes	52	63.4	66	65.3	95	66,4
Streptomycin	Not informed	09	11.0	10	9.9	12	8.4
	No	72	87.8	90	89.1	128	89,5
	Yes	01	1.2	01	1.0	03	2.1
Ethionamide	Not informed	09	11.0	10	9.9	12	8.4
	No	72	87.8	90	89.1	130	90,9
	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medication used: other drugs	Not informed	10	12.2	11	10.9	13	9.1
	No	68	82.9	84	93.2	119	83,2
	Yes	01	1.2	02	2.0	07	4,9
Supervised treatment	Not informed	13	15.9	15	14.9	17	11.9
	No	10	12.2	11	10.9	18	12,6
	Yes	63	76.8	78	77.2	111	77,6
	Not informed	09	11.0	12	11.9	14	9.8

The most common clinical presentation was pulmonary TB, with 103 cases (72%). There were a total of 112 new cases (81.8%), and in 121 of the cases (84.6%) the diagnosis was confirmed by radiographic examination.

When we compared the different groups according delay between diagnoses and death (cut-off 30 days, and 60 days) we can observe similarities. Thus, was chosen the cut-off group most relevant to the next analyse based on the best result.

The overall medial survival, was 23 days; it was also observed that 82 (57.3%) of the patients died within 30 days after diagnosis, and 101 (71.3%) died within 60 days after diagnosis (minimum survival 2 day; maximum 349 days; standard deviation (SD) = 69.5 and mean = 52.1 days).

After the initial selection of variables from the bivariate analysis (Table 2), these were inserted in the multivariate model for the survival analysis.

**Table 3-** Bivariate analysis between social, clinical and operational characteristics of the patients who died as a result of TB and TB/HIV in Curitiba, shown in groups (cut-off)

according to number of days to TB death (2008-2015).

	Death <30 days (cut-off)		Death <60 days (cut-off)	
Variables	chi-squared	p-value	chi-squared	p-value
Basic cause (TB/HIV)	<b>3.43</b>	<b>0.046</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>0.07</b>
Sex	0.25	0.38	0.88	0.24
Ethnicity	2.17	0.10	0.16	0.41
Educational level	0.15	0.42	0.02	0.52
Marital status	0.32	0.35	2.88	0.55
Type of entry	<b>3.90</b>	<b>0.040</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.07</b>
Institutionalised	<b>1.23</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>0.08</b>
X-Ray confirmation of diagnosis	1.09	0.236	-	-
Clinical form	0.53	0.29	<b>0.84</b>	<b>0.23</b>
Alcohol use	<b>1.19</b>	<b>0.181</b>	<b>6.19</b>	<b>0.01</b>
DM	0.12	0.599	0.01	0.66
Other comorbidities	<b>7.85</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>3.26</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Bacilloscopy	0.0	0.56	0.25	0.38
Sputum culture	0.17	0.50	0.10	0.50
Rifampicin	0.04	0.60	0.22	0.48
Isoniazid	0.04	0.60	0.22	0.48
Pyrazinamide	1.94	0.17	0.57	0.40
Ethambutol	0.14	0.43	0.0	0.57
Streptomycin	0.62	0.41	1.89	0.22
Medication used: Other drugs	<b>4.90</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.38</b>	<b>0.03</b>
Supervised treatment (DOTS)	0.01	0.56	0.61	0.30

**Table 4** - Results of the Cox proportional hazards regression model of patients who died of TB and TB/HIV and social, clinical and operational variables, Curitiba (2008-2016).

Variables	coefficient	HR	CI95%	p value
TB/HIV coinfection				
No	1	1	-	-
Yes	-0.40	0.06	0.41-1.07	0.09
Type of entry				
new case	1	1	-	-
relapse	-0.59	0.55	0.30 - 1.01	0.06
Alcohol use				
No	1	1	-	-
Yes	0.50	1.65	1.03 - 2.68	<b>0.04</b>
Other diseases				
No	1	1	-	-
Yes	0.58	1.79	1.13 - 2.84	<b>0.01</b>

We carried out a multivariate model by inserting the selected variables. The results of the survival analysis are shown in Table 3. The model presented as variables associated with early mortality the alcohol use ( $HR=1.65$ ,  $CI95\% = 1.03-2.68$ ) and other associated comorbidities ( $HR=1.79$ ,  $CI95\% = 1.13 - 2.84$ ).

To evaluate the validity of the Cox model assumptions, we performed the respective test, which is shown in Table 4. The test of proportional hazards assumption showed no violation of the Cox model assumptions, indicating the suitability of the final model.

**Table 5** - Results of the test of proportional hazards assumption of the Cox regression model fit, Curitiba (2008-2016).

Variables	chisq	df	p value
Type of entry	8.29	1	0.58
Use alcohol	1.68	1	0.19
Other diseases	3.52	1	0.06
Global	6.53	3	<b>0.08</b>

**Figure 2** Curves obtained in the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, with regard to disease aggravation by alcohol consumption in patients who died of TB and TB-HIV. Curitiba

(2008-2016).

**Figure 3** Curves obtained in the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, with regard to disease aggravation by others comorbidities in patients who died of TB and TB-HIV. Curitiba (2008-2016).

## Discussion

The study identified that precocious deaths due to tuberculosis were associated with alcohol consumption and other comorbidities. The associated variables in the bivariate analysis were basic cause (TB/HIV), type of entry, whether the patient was institutionalised, clinical form and medication used (other drugs).

Alcohol use has a known association with tuberculosis [31]. One study performed in the same Brazilian state showed an association between outcomes, i.e. not cured with alcoholism, confirming the importance this characteristic in patients with TB in this region [32]. One metanalysis [33] found that the use of alcohol was linked to a greater risk (RR 1.35, CI95% 1,09-1,68) of progression from TB infection to TB disease when compared with those who not use substance. In addition, the risk of the disease developing increased together with an increase in the consumption of ethanol (in grams per day).

There are also other factors that could be linked to the use of alcohol, such as malnutrition, overcrowded housing and use of other substances [33,34]. Additionally, alcohol use disrupts the immune response, increasing susceptibility to respiratory diseases such as tuberculosis [9,35].

The variable on other comorbidities included several chronic diseases that were not specifically mentioned in the Information System questionnaire, but could include arterial hypertension, metabolic diseases, psychiatric disorders and others. There is a need recognise the complexity of individual and social conditions that can influence TB transmission, development and mortality [32-34]. Mortality due to TB often is associated with several medical conditions, in this study, this variable expresses multifactorial process [33,34].

One of the objectives of this study was to assess patient survival time. It was found that most of the deaths occurred within two months, and comparing the two cut-offs provided similar results. Late TB diagnosis may explain the premature deaths we found in our study. Some studies [9,13,14] have investigated the phenomenon of premature death among patients with TB. One such study in Korea observed similar results with a median survival time of 21 days [13]; another study found that 19% of the patients died within 7 days and 41% died within the first month after the start of treatment for TB [14]. Another study, performed in Africa, found a mean survival span of two months in 53.3% of the people who started their TB treatment; in this case, mortality among HIV-positive people was higher than for those who were HIV-negative or whose HIV status was unknown [3].

The short survival period found (less than a month) points to the severity of the disease at the moment of diagnosis [9,10]. Another study found a higher percentage of treatment abandonment and a lower rate of cure in those Brazilian municipalities where the DOTS strategy was more widely applied; in contrast, those municipalities that made less use of the strategy obtained poorer results [24].

The difficulty in accessing services at the moment of symptom onset [13], especially in vulnerable groups or when health service providers are not qualified to recognise a cough as being a clinical sign of TB, should be borne in mind [25]. This result suggests the need for an attention model that gives higher value to the active search for patients within the territories, and the tracking of TB among the population at large, and through regular appointments for patients living with HIV [15,16,24].

Brazil has a special protocol in place for monitoring the deaths that occur with some mention of TB as one of the causes, a protocol which, among other aims, seeks to investigate the individual health conditions in these patients and their access to health services, as well as to analyse and correct the information that appears in the different information systems used, namely DNIS, MIS and the TB site [16]. This is a strategic initiative to improve the qualification of the data; however, according to evidence from the present study, it is important to verify the phase at which the patient passed away, in a stratified fashion, whether the case was being monitored by the service and if this happened in the early or the later phase of treatment. This is important because, depending on the phase at which the patient met his or her demise, actions also need to be modulated, as premature death makes us think about whether measures and protocols have been effectively implemented so as to impact on mortality from TB [28].

The difference in survival between people with TB and those with TB/HIV did not show any statistical significance, even though the median of the group with coinfection was higher, meaning that they survived longer than the group that only had TB. One point that could justify this result is the fact that people living with HIV/AIDS often receive ongoing medical monitoring from a multiprofessional team, including medical appointments, examinations and regular administration of medication, which leads to intermittent contact with health professionals and also increases opportunities for recognition of signs and symptoms of TB. This, in fact, is recommended as part of the protocol of caring for these patients, i.e. the investigation of TB at every medical appointment [15].

Due to monitoring in health services and antiretroviral therapy, PLWHA could be afforded some protection when compared with groups that did not receive any monitoring, which would justify the longer survival within this group in the present report [15].

One of the limitations of this study is the small sample size; therefore, the generalisability might be limited. Other limitations are related to the use of secondary data that were entered into the form in advance, as there were gaps in form-filling or missing information. Only recently (2017) [2,16] was the protocol launched for monitoring deaths with a mention of TB. One of the purposes of this was to correct, both quantitatively and qualitatively, the information that appeared in the different information systems, DNIS and MIS.

# **Conclusion**

The study found deaths from TB occurring prematurely, which points to the possibility of a tardy diagnosis of the disease, at a more advanced phase. The consumption of alcohol and other comorbidities also increased the risk of premature death from TB. These deaths should be avoided through the adoption of the actions mentioned in the programmes for the control of TB, such as the application of DOTS supervised treatment, the intensification of active screening and the tracking of possible cases that could lead to worse disease outcomes and premature death. The physicians, nurses and other professional can look more closely these patients for improving this outcome. TB is an old disease, yet one that is still present; at one time it was a synonym for death, and it is not acceptable that this disease should continue to end lives in this day and age, especially considering patients who have already been diagnosed and who could have received the necessary intervention, so that the outcome of death could have been avoided.

# **Declarations**

## **Ethics approval and consent to participate:**

The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board at the University of São Paulo (USP) under CAAE No. 64515717.9.0000.5393. Informed consent was not required, as data were based on official data sets and were previously anonymised.

## **Consent for publication:** Not Applicable

## **Availability of data and material:**

The database is carried out by the Epidemiological Surveillance Division and Secretary of Health of the State of Paraná, Brazil and restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, so are not publicly available. The first author had registered with details as well as contact data in case of interest in collaborative work or further information.

## **Competing interests:**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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## **Author contributions:**

Nunes C and Santos DT conceived the study. Santos DT, Alves LS, collected and initially computed the data. Santos, DT, Nunes C, Alonso JB, Arroyo Luiz H, and Arcencio RA analysed and constructed the results from the data. Santos DT, Nunes C, Arcencio RA and Cartagena D writing the manuscript. Crispim, J, Alves JD, Ramos AV, Dessunti EM, Pinto IC and Palha PF reviewed and edited the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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## Table 1

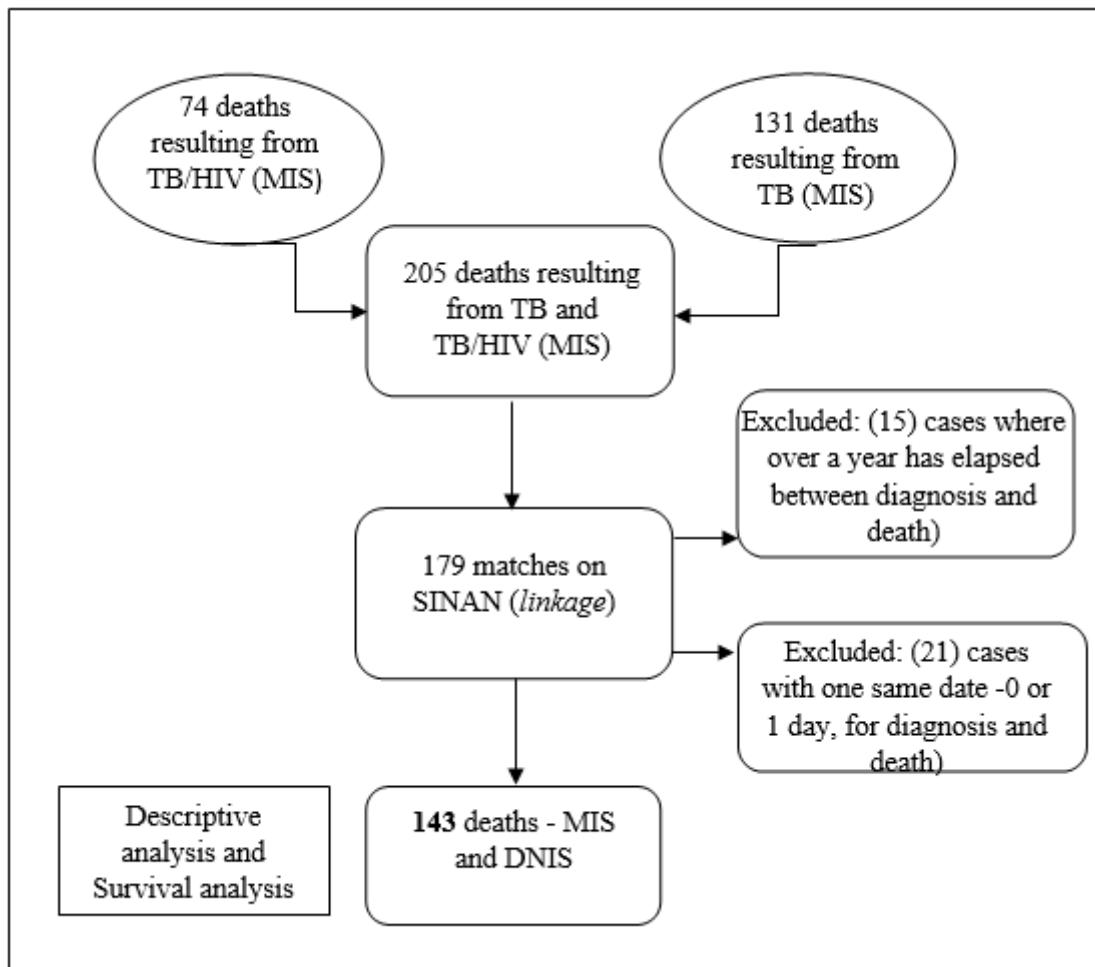
**Table 1** Source of data and independent variables under study

	<b>Independent Variables</b>	<b>Classes</b>
Individual and social characteristics	Date of Death	Date
	Gender	Female
		Male
	Age	Continuous
	Ethnicity	White / Oriental
		Afrodescendant
	Educational Level	8 years of schooling or more
		7 years of schooling or less
	Marital Status	Married / Common-Law Marriage
		Single / Widowed / Separated or Divorced
Comorbidities	Type of Entry	New case
		Re-entry or Retreatment
	Institutionalised	No
		Yes
	Examination: X-ray	Normal
		Yes, suspicious results
	Clinical category	Pulmonary
		Extrapulmonary
	Aggravation - Use of alcohol	No
		Yes
Operational: examinations and treatment**	Aggravation - <i>Diabetes Mellitus</i> (DM)	No
		Yes
	Examination: Bacilloscopy	Negative
		Positive
	Culture	Negative
		Positive
	Medication used: Rifampicin	Yes
		No
	Medication used: Isoniazid	Yes
		No
	Medication used: Pyrazinamide	Yes
		No
	Medication used: Ethambutol	Yes
		No
	Medication used: Streptomycin	Yes
		No
	Medication used: Other drugs (second line TB drugs)	Yes
		No
	Supervised treatment -DOTS	Yes
		No

\*Source: Mortality Information System -SIM

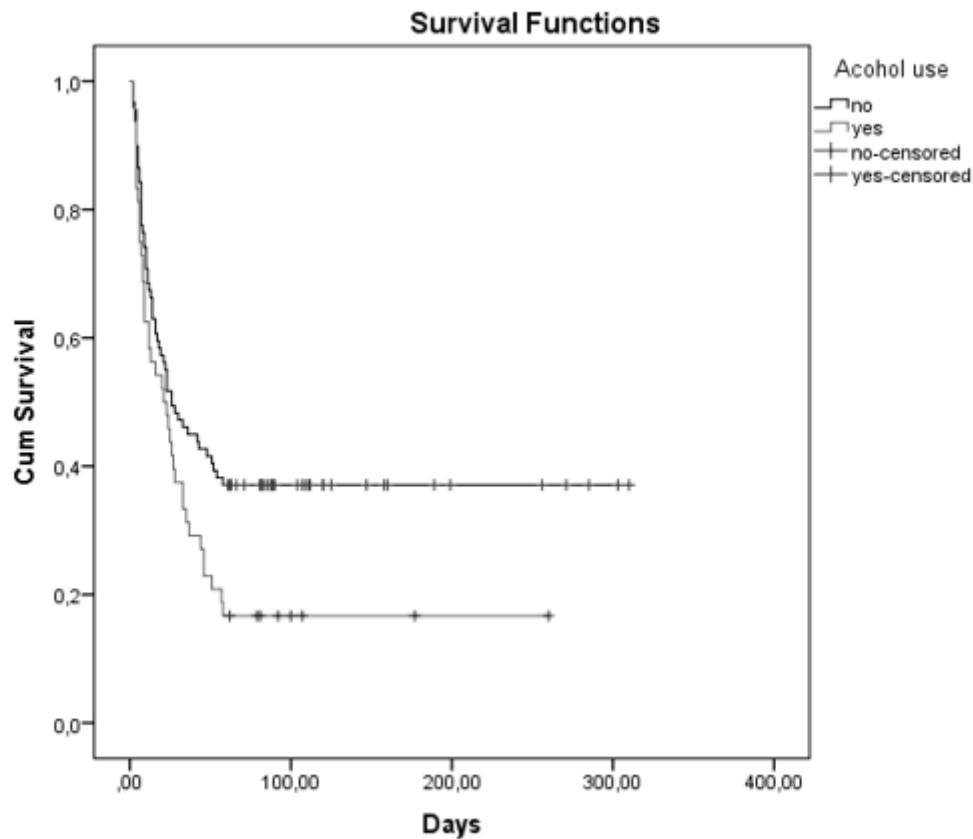
\*\*Source: Disease Notification Information System -SINAN

## Figures



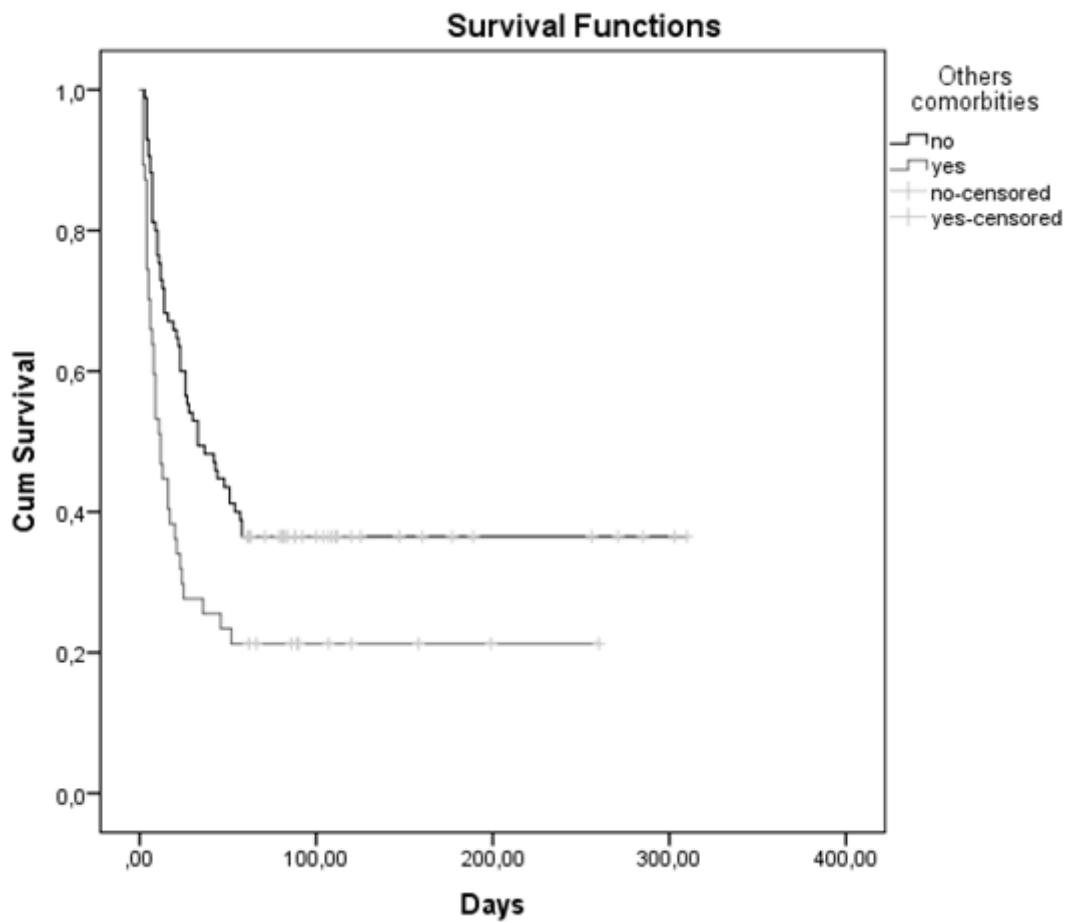
**Figure 1**

Flow chart of deaths analysed in this study



**Figure 2**

Curves obtained in the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, with regard to disease aggravation by alcohol consumption in patients who died of TB and TB-HIV. Curitiba (2008-2016).



**Figure 3**

Curves obtained in the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, with regard to disease aggravation by others comorbidities in patients who died of TB and TB-HIV. Curitiba (2008-2016).