

## ABSTRACT

### **A Description and Analysis of the trends in Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew, Jamaica over the ten year period 1982 to 1991**

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A retrospective study utilizing health records from the Chest Clinic and National Chest Hospital in Jamaica provided data for describing and analysing the trends in pulmonary tuberculosis in Kingston and St. Andrew over a ten year period (1982-1991). It was postulated that the worldwide trend of increasing tuberculosis with the increase in incidence of HIV infection and AIDS may be seen in these parishes. Such a study had not been done before.

A line listing of all new and reactivated cases of pulmonary tuberculosis over the ten year period in these parishes was made and relevant information pertaining to the objectives of the study recorded and analysed.

Results showed that there has been no dramatic trends in pulmonary tuberculosis over the years and that the disease continues to afflict those of the lower socio-economic group in age group 15 to 59 years, just as it did decades and centuries ago. The males in these groups are however affected more than females with a ratio of about 2:1. The incidence rate fluctuates within a narrow margin and in the last two years averaged 7.2 per 100,000 population.