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BRICS - – How strong is this group when speaking about publication regarding infection control in TB

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Background: Annually, the WHO publishes a Global Tuberculosis Report, describing the 30 TB high burden countries (HBC), we're on it, the BRICS block (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) is responsible for 46% of world's TB cases and accounting for 54% of the available funding for TB in 2018 (WHO, 2018)





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MATERIAL & METHODS

This study evaluated the infection control publications as part evidence-based to promote an alliance between practice and science among the 30 TB HBC, focusing on the BRICS block. During 2012 and 2018, the Mesh terms "tuberculosis" and "infection control" were used on five Data Bases - CINAHL, SCOPUS, PROQUEST, PUBMED, WEB OF SCIENCE.





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MATERIAL & METHODS

Then, we carried out a more specific search, with keywords:

"Active case finding", "air filtration", "antiretroviral",

"cough etiquette", "diagnostic delay",

"healthcare workers-HCW",

"isoniazid preventive therapeutic-IPT",

"LTBI", "mask", "mechanical ventilation", "N95", "natural ventilation", "personal protection",

"physical separation", "prevention measures", "prompt initiation", "prompt treatment", "rapid diagnostic", "respirators", "respiratory hygiene", "time spent", "triage" and "UV light"





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Results

323 articles were identified. 30 TB HBC were mentioned in 160 (49%) articles; among them, 113 (70%) had mentioned at least one country from the BRICS. South Africa was responsible for 77 (68%) of all publications followed by China with 16 (14%) and India with 13 (11%). Regarding keywords used in the articles, "HCW" was the most cited with 27 (17%) publication followed by "IPT" 15 (9%), "Prevention measures" 13(8%) and "Respirators" 11(7%).





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Conclusion

Infection control of tuberculosis is essential to halt this epidemic disease. However, less than half of all publications did mention any country from the 30 TB HBC list. But among those articles published from TB HBC, the majority came from BRICS countries highlighting that BRICS could play a key role in the fostering Pillar 3 at Global End TB Strategy





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