**Tuberculosis among the Roma population in Macedonia**

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**Introduction:** The latest data by WHO show that80% of TB cases in Europe are in the countries which have numerous Roma population. The number of Roma in Macedonia is 53 870 (2.66%).

**Aim:** To fi nd out what is their participation in thetotal number of TB patients, what is their incidence and are they a risk group for TB and possible reasons for that.

**Patients and methods:** For this purpose we analyzeddata in latest six (6) years with special accent on Roma population with TB (sex, age, incidence).

**Results:** We had 563 patients with TB in 2007; theincidence was 27.8/100 000 for general population, but the incidence for Roma people was 74.2/100 000. The next year incidence in Roma population was 59.4/100 000 and in general population 23.8/100 000. In 2009 the incidence in Roma population was 42.6/ 100 000 and in general population 23.4/100 000. The next year the incidence in Roma people was 70.5/ 100 000 and in general population 20.8/100 000. In 2011 the incidence in Roma people was 51.9/100 000 and in general population 17.9/100 000. The last year there were 356 regsitrated TB patients in the country with incidence of 17.2/100 000. The incidence of Roma people was 46.4/100 000.

**Conclusions:** Roma are more vulnerable community.They are risk group for TB because their incidence is three times higher than in general population. Possible reasons for this are: substandard living conditions, lack of education and low rate of employment.

