

## **Table of contents    Page**

### **Chapter 1**

#### **Introduction and background**

1.1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.2	BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM	1
1.3	RATIONALE FOR THE STUDY	5
1.4	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY	5
1.5	AIM OF THE STUDY	6
1.6	STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM	6
1.7	DEFINITIONS	7
1.8	ASSUMPTIONS	9
1.9	RESEARCH DESIGN	10
1.10	SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY	10
1.11	OUTLINE OF THE STUDY	10
1.12	CONCLUSION	11

### **Chapter 2**

#### **Literature review**

2.1	INTRODUCTION	12
2.2	GUIDELINES AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHC NURSE TO DIAGNOSE TB IN CHILDREN	13
2.3	DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS/TESTS AVAILABLE TO THE PHC NURSE TO ASSIST IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF TB IN CHILDREN	13
2.3.1	Tuberculin skin test	14
2.3.2	Chest radiography	15
2.3.3	Contact tracing	16

2.3.4	Suspicion	19	
2.3.5	Tuberculosis score chart (TSC) for the diagnosis of TB in children		20
2.3.6	Acid-fast bacilli (AFB) microscopy	23	
2.3.7	Culture of the specimens submitted for microscopy		25
2.3.8	“Road to Health” card	25	
2.3.9	Alternative specimens that can be used for microscopy (AFB) and TB culture		26

## **Table of contents    Page**

2.3.9.1	Bronchial washings	26	
2.3.9.2	Urine	26	
2.3.9.3	Laryngeal swabs	26	
2.3.9.4	Pleural, ascitic, peritoneal and joint fluids	26	
2.3.9.5	Cerebrospinal fluid	26	
2.3.9.6	Biopsy/histology	27	
2.3.9.7	Gastric aspiration/gastric washing	27	
2.3.9.8	Stools	27	
2.3.9.9	ELISPOT test	27	
2.3.10	Classification of children as having suspected, probable or confirmed respiratory TB	28	
2.3.11	New diagnostic tools for TB	28	
2.4	FURTHER RESEARCH NEEDED	31	
2.5	CONCLUSION	31	

## **Chapter 3**

### **Research design**

3.1	INTRODUCTION	32	
3.2	DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY	32	
3.3	GEOGRAPHICAL AREA	32	
3.4	RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY		36
3.5	PHASES OF THE RESEARCH DESIGN		36
3.5.1	Phase 1: Research objectives and questions		36
3.5.1.1	Research questions	37	
3.5.1.2	Research objectives	37	
3.5.1.3	Data collection	38	

3.5.1.3.1	Sections A and B: Personal questionnaires	38
3.5.1.3.2	Section C: Clinic record review for patient contacts (GW 20/12)	39
3.5.1.3.3	Section D: Clinic audit	39
3.5.2	Phase 2: Population and sampling	40
3.5.2.1	Sampling	40
3.5.2.2	Sampling and target population	41
3.5.2.3	Target population	41
3.5.2.4	Pre-testing	41
3.5.2.5	Validity and reliability	42
3.5.2.6	Ethical considerations	43

## **Table of contents    Page**

3.5.3	Phase 3: Data collection	44
3.5.3.1	Data collection process	45
3.5.3.2	Data analysis	45
3.6	CONCLUSION	46

## **Chapter 4**

### **Data analysis and interpretation**

4.1	INTRODUCTION	47
4.2	SAMPLING	47
4.3	DATA INTERPRETATION	48
4.3.1	Characteristics of study population	48
4.3.2	Respondents' knowledge of TB management in children in general	53
4.3.3	Clinic record review for TB patient contacts	65
4.3.4	Clinic audit of management of children with suspected TB	70
4.4	THE IMPACT OF TRAINING	72
4.4.1	Knowledge of TB management in children	73
4.4.2	Diagnostic tools	74
4.5	CONCLUSION	81

## **Chapter 5**

## **Findings, limitations and recommendations**

5.1	INTRODUCTION	82
5.2	SUMMARY OF THE STUDY	82
5.3	FINDINGS	83
5.3.1	Determine the knowledge of the PHC nurses in the Gert Sibande district, Mpumalanga, regarding TB diagnosis in children	83
5.3.2	Establish whether the PHC setting is equipped to diagnose TB in children	86
5.3.3	Evaluate the completeness of TB child contact screening of confirmed TB smear positive adult cases	86
5.3.4	Determine the need for a plan of action for PHC nurses in Mpumalanga for improved diagnosis of TB in children	87
5.4	LIMITATIONS OF THE RESEARCH	87
5.5	PRACTICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY	87
5.6	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY	88
<b>Table of contents</b>		
<b>Page</b>		
5.7	RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NURSING PRACTICE AND CARE OF PATIENTS	88
5.8	CONCLUSION	89
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	90

## List of tables Page

Table 1.1	TB in children in Mpumalanga and South Africa, 2001-2003	3
Table 1.2	Children as a proportion of total population and children diagnosed with TB as a proportion of all TB patients diagnosed in Mpumalanga, South Africa, 2001– 2003	3
Table 1.3	Percentage of TB patients 0-<5 years and 5-<15 years, out of total TB patients Gert Sibande district, Mpumalanga, 2001-2003	3
Table 1.4	Proportion of all registered TB cases that were children 0-<5 and 5-<15 years of age per province, South Africa 2002	4
Table 1.5	Proportion of all registered TB cases that were children 0-<5 and 5-<15 years of age per province, South Africa 2003	4
Table 4.1	Respondents' qualifications (N=62)	49
Table 4.2	Duration of training (N=33)	51
Table 4.3	Year of TB training (N=33)	51
Table 4.4	Respondents' responsibilities for TB management in children (N=62)	52
Table 4.5	Gert Sibande TB statistics, 2001 – 2003 (N=62)	52
Table 4.6	Strategies mentioned for preventing TB in children (N=62)	53
Table 4.7	Determinants of the risk of childhood TB infection in a given population (N=62)	54
Table 4.8	Recommended upper age for administering BCG to a child (N=62)	55
Table 4.9	Conditions that may suppress tuberculin test reaction (N=62)	57
Table 4.10	Monitoring response to TB treatment in children (N=62)	59
Table 4.11	Symptoms suggestive of TB in children (N=62)	60
Table 4.12	Factors associated with an increased risk of TB in children (N=62)	61
Table 4.13	Responsibility for contact tracing (N=62)	66
Table 4.14	Prophylactic TB treatment provided to child contacts and period of treatment (N=62)	67
Table 4.15	Follow-up of children on prophylactic treatment (N=62)	68

Table 4.16 Record keeping of children on prophylactic treatment (N=62)	68
Table 4.17 Record-keeping of child contacts (N=62)	69
Table 4.18 Record review of GW20/12 (N=95) (with information completed)	69
Table 4.19 Strategies mentioned for preventing TB in children (N=62)	74
Table 4.20 Indication for tuberculin test (N=62)	74

## List of tables Page

Table 4.21	Interpreting a positive tuberculin test (N=62)	75
Table 4.22	Conditions that may suppress tuberculin test reaction (N=62)	75
Table 4.23	Correct site for administering a tuberculin test (N=62)	76
Table 4.24	Correct reading of the Mantoux test (N=62)	76
Table 4.25	X-ray status in diagnosing TB in children (N=62)	77
Table 4.26	Group at risk of developing serious forms of TB (N=62)	77
Table 4.27	Monitoring response to TB treatment in children (N=62)	78
Table 4.28	Diagnosing of TB in children (N=62)	79
Table 4.29	Group of children more susceptible to TB (N=62)	79
Table 4.30	Gastric washing as a useful tool in diagnosing TB in children (N=62)	80
Table 4.31	“Road to health” card (N=62)	81

## List of figures Page

Figure 2.1	How to identify and manage the child contacts of infectious adults	18
Figure 2.2	Paediatric TSC (courtesy of Dr Keith Edwards, University of Papua New Guinea)	21
Figure 2.3	Paediatric TB flow chart	22
Figure 2.4	Proposed criteria for the diagnosis of PTB in childhood	24
Figure 2.5	The WHO provisional guidelines for the diagnosis of PTB in children	29
Figure 2.6	Suggested diagnostic pathways for children with possible PTB	30
Figure 3.1	Mpumalanga	33
Figure 3.2	Gert Sibande district	34
Figure 3.3	Population pyramid	35
Figure 4.1	Age of respondents (N=62)	48
Figure 4.2	Types of participating health facilities (N=62)	50



## List of abbreviations

AFB	Acid-fast bacilli
AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ARC	Anti-retroviral therapy
BACTEC	Automated radiometric culture methodology
BCG	Bacillus Calmette-Guerin
CDCC	Communicable Diseases Control Co-ordinator
CHC	Community health centre
CR	Chest x-ray
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
CT	Computed tomography
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DOH	Department of Health
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short Course
DPT	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis
Etc	Etcetera
FIND	Foundation for Innovative New Diagnosis
GW20/12	Clinic record review for patient contacts (Patient clinic/hospital card)
HIV	Human immuno deficiency virus
INH	Isoniazid
MTB	Mycobacterium tuberculosis
PHC	Primary health care
PPD	Purified Protein Derivative
PTB	Pulmonary tuberculosis
qid	4x per day
SAS	Statistical Analysis System
TB	Tuberculosis
TBM	TB Meningitis
TSC	Tuberculosis score chart
TST	Tuberculin skin testing
Unisa	University of South Africa
WHO	World Health Organization

ZN

Ziehl-Neelsen

# List of annexures

## **ANNEXURE A: APPLICATION LETTERS**

A1 Application to do a research project (Gert Sibande district)

## **ANNEXURE B: APPROVAL LETTERS**

B1 Approval (Unisa Health Studies Research Ethics Committee)  
B2 Approval (Mpumalanga Health Research Ethics Committee)  
B3 Approval (Gert Sibande District Director)  
B4 Approval (Health Facility Managers)

## **ANNEXURE C: QUESTIONNAIRES**

C1 Section A: Biographical information  
Section B: Diagnosing TB in children  
C2 Section C: Clinic record review for patient contacts (GW20/12)  
C3 Section D: Clinic audit

## **ANNEXURE D: AGREEMENT**

D1 Respondent's agreement letter