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ABSTRACT BOOK

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Review of socio-economic interventions for health improvements: reproducibility for TB control?

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Objective: To synthesise data on the health impact of socioeconomic interventions, to evaluate their applicability to TB control; to identify knowledge gaps and map out directions for future research on social determinants of TB.

Data source: Published and unpublished references from low and middle income countries identified from clinical and social electronic databases, grey literature, web sites and experts consultation.

Methods: Systematic search of studies reporting the health impact of: 1) urban-regeneration (including slum upgrading and housing); and 2) poverty reduction strategies. Interventions of interest were identified through a pre-defined conceptual framework

mapping the link between socioeconomic determinants and TB.

Outcomes of interest were: 1) TB; 2) TB surrogates (e.g. respiratory diseases); and, 3) TB mediators (e.g. malnutrition). Interventions applicability was assessed in terms of feasibility, sustainability, transferability and cost-effectiveness.

Results: So far 58 studies met the inclusion criteria. Surrogate and mediating outcomes were the focus of 3 and 55 studies, respectively. No intervention addressing TB was found. 47 of these studies reported positive outcomes; however, the health impact assessment was heterogeneous and largely qualitative. Two interventions based on slum upgrading, one on housing and two on poverty reduction strategies met the criteria for applicability to TB control.

Conclusions: References appraisal is in progress and the preliminary assessment provides evidence that socioeconomic interventions may be applicable to TB control. This review shows that to date these interventions are virtually not existent in the TB field; however, through the secondary analysis of TB trends, it could be still possible to identify those interventions that may have had a positive incidental effect on TB control.