Abstract: Introduction and Objectives: Mycobacterium tuberculosis is one of frequent germs in Iran and its neighboring countries. This study was performed to examine the prevalence of tuberculosis (TB) in Afghan immigrants in Kerman province of Iran.

Materials and Methods: Total of three hundred samples were collected from Afghan immigrants and were analyzed by PCR using primers corresponding to the rec F gene of M. tuberculosis complex. The direct sequencing was performed to analyze the prevalence of tuberculosis (TB) in Afghan immigrants in Kerman province of Iran. All the statistical analyses carried out using SPSS version 14. Chi-square and Fisher's test was used for determination of significance of association. The p≤ 0.05 was considered significant.

Results: Our results showed that Mycobacterium tuberculosis DNA was present in 36 out of 300 (12%) sputum samples. 32 out of 36 patients were women (88%) and 4 cases were men (12%).

Conclusion: Our results demonstrated that these immigrants are high risk for TB infection and surprisingly women are more affected. Therefore, a wide variety of strategies are needed for prevention and treatment of TB in this population.

Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Immigrants, Rec F gene, Women, Men

Presentation: Poster