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ABSTRACT

It is known that tuberculosis (TB) is one of the 10 main causes of human death worldwide and is considered the main cause of death by a single infectious agent. The Region of the Americas accounts for 3% of the global prevalence of the disease, of which 33% is attributed to Brazil, which is one of the 22 countries prioritized by the WHO, which together represent 80% of the worldwide occurrence of this bacteriosis. The present study aimed to describe the behavior of the disease in the state of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil, from 2008 to 2017. This is a descriptive and retrospective study that evaluates the annual incidence of tuberculosis in the state of Rio Grande do Norte and the occurrence of its clinical forms. The primary data were obtained from the Tuberculosis Program in Rio Grande do Norte, from the Subcoordenadoria de Vigilância Epidemiológica - SUVIGE / SESAP-RN, while the secondary data were collected from Sinan / Ministério da Saúde.

Of the clinical forms of the disease, predominantly the most observed in the Potiguar territory is the pulmonary, with an annual incidence of 37.1 cases per group of 100 thousand inhabitants; followed by extrapulmonary and associated: 11.76 and 2.81, respectively. There was a divergence between the incidence coefficients calculated with primary data from those published in Epidemiological Bulletins: 37.1 to 27.0, per group of 100 thousand inhabitants; in addition, the disease showed a linear growth trend in Rio Grande do Norte. In addition, the disease showed a tendency to grow in the years observed (Graph 1), contrary to what is proposed by the Ministry of Health to make Brazil free from tuberculosis. Comprehensive measures to protect the population and the environment, as well as the strengthening of health services, are important to achieve the goals proposed at the end of TB, whether for control and / or eradication.

Graph 1 - Annual behavior of Tb in the Rio Grande do Norte, according to new reported cases, from 2008 to 2017.

DATA SOURCE: Suvige/SESAP-RN/Sinan.

Keywords: End TB; Human TB; Rio Grande do Norte.