conducted to assess the quality of directly observed treatment of tuberculosis in Dhaka city to enhance Stop TB strategy supported by National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP), Bangladesh.

**Methods** Data were collected from 11 DOT centers located in 11 out of 90 wards in Dhaka city using a two-stage systematic sampling technique. All the facilities providing DOT services were the primary sampling unit for this study. A total of 62 pulmonary tuberculosis cases selected were interviewed at home.

**Results** Mean ages of the patients were 31±12 years, 61.3% were male and 38.7% literate. About 95% patients gave ≥3 sputum samples whereas only 62% followed correct procedure for giving sputum for diagnosis. 75% of the patients swallowed drug at home. About 74% respondents swallowed drug under direct observation. Treatment follow-up schedule was followed by 88% smear positive and 95% smear negative patients. Patients had highly positive attitude towards DOT though 58% of the patients showed average knowledge level regarding tuberculosis. Overall 75% patients showed adherence to DOT. Level of education showed significant association (p<0.05) with patients’ opinion about necessity of direct observation and “following of sputum giving procedure correctly for diagnosis.

**Conclusion** Although patients level of knowledge was average but showed highly positive attitude and good adherence towards DOT. Strict monitoring, frequent sensitisation and assistance regarding diagnosis and treatment follow-up may increase the adherence as well as quality of DOT.

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**FRUIT AND VEGETABLES INTAKE AND PLASMA HOMOCYSTEINE LEVELS AMONG RESIDENTS OF MUNICIPALITY OF SÃO PAULO**


**Introduction** The elevated concentration of plasma homocysteine (pHcy) was recently identified as risk factor for cardiovascular disease. Many studies have linked consumption of fruits and vegetables (F&V) with decreased of pHcy.

**Objectives** To investigate the pHcy concentrations according to consumption of F&V.

**Methods** A cross-sectional analysis was conducted in a sample of 291 individuals of both sexes, aged 12 y or over, that are from a population-based study performed in 2008–2010 in municipality of São Paulo. The consumption of fruits and vegetables were measured by two 24-h dietary recalls applied in non-consecutive days. biochemical analysis of pHcy was conducted by the fluorescence polarisation immunoassay method. The cut-off point of pHcy used was <8 μmol/l for individuals younger than 15 y, <12 μmol/l for individuals with 15–65 y and <16 μmol/l for those over 65 y. The median consumption of F&V was described according to the pHcy levels (normal or high) in both sexes and analysed using the Kruskal–Wallis test.

**Results** The median of F&V was 97.9 g/day; with females exhibiting the higher consumption (134 g/day). Considering the WHO recommendation (>400 g/day), only 5.6% of individuals had adequate intake. There were no differences in the medians of intake of fruit and vegetables in females according to pHcy levels (normal: 112.88 g/day; high: 155.25 g/day). Unlike, we found lower consumption of F&V in males with hyperhomocysteinemia (normal: 96.80 g/day; high: 23.30 g/day, p=0.01).

**Conclusion** F&V intake is low in this population, especially in men with hyperhomocysteinemia. Therefore, it is necessary to encourage the F&V intake in this population.

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**SP3-74 INCREASE OF RAILWAY SUICIDES IN GERMANY AFTER THE RAILWAY SUICIDE DEATH OF ROBERT ENKE, A FAMOUS GERMAN FOOTBALL PLAYER**

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**Introduction** Robert Enke, an internationally respected German football goal keeper committed railway suicide on the 10 November 2009. Concerns were raised about the potential of this event to spark copycat suicides afterwards. Therefore, we analysed the impact on the frequency of subsequent railway suicides.

**Methods** The daily incidence of railway suicides was derived from the Event Database Safety (EDS), the national database of person accidents on the German railway net. We compared the daily numbers of suicides from 11 November to 31 December in 2006–2009 and the number of suicides 28 days before and after the event by estimating incidence ratios with 95% CIs using Poisson regression.

**Results** The mean daily number of suicide acts in the critical time window in 2006 to 2008 was about 2 but almost 4 in 2009. The incidence ratio was 1.81 (95% CI 1.48 to 2.21), thus showing a daily increase after Enke’s suicide by 81% compared to the previous year.

**Conclusion** The present study indicates that a celebrity suicide may bring about copycat behaviour in an unforeseen amount, even if the reporting in the media seems to be rather sensitive and other preventive measures are taken.