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Epidemiology and Treatment Outcomes of Tuberculosis With Chronic Hepatitis B Infection—California, 2016–2020

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# Epidemiology and Treatment Outcomes of Tuberculosis With Chronic Hepatitis B Infection—California, 2016–2020

verso running head: Bertumen et al

recto running head: Epidemiology and Outcomes of TB With cHBV

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ciae169\_Supplementary\_Data

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## Background

Improved epidemiologic and treatment data for active tuberculosis (TB) with chronic hepatitis B virus (cHBV) infection might inform and encourage screening and vaccination programs focused on persons at risk of having both conditions.

## Methods

We matched the California Department of Public Health TB registry during 2016–2020 to the cHBV registry using probabilistic matching algorithms. We used chi-square analysis to compare the characteristics of persons with TB and cHBV with those with TB only. We compared TB treatment outcomes between these groups using modified Poisson regression models. We calculated the time between reporting of TB and cHBV diagnoses for those with both conditions.

## Results

We identified 8435 persons with TB, including 316 (3.7%) with cHBV. Among persons with TB and cHBV, 256 (81.0%) were non-US-born Asian versus 4186 (51.6%) with TB only ( $P < .0001$ ). End-stage renal disease (26 [8.2%] vs 322 [4.0%];  $P < .001$ ) and HIV (21 [6.7%] vs 247 [3.0%];  $P = .02$ ) were more frequent among those with TB and cHBV compared with those with TB only. Among those with both conditions, 35 (11.1%) had TB diagnosed >60 days before cHBV (median, 363 days) and 220 (69.6%) had TB diagnosed >60 days after cHBV (median, 3411 days).

## Conclusions

Persons with TB and cHBV were found more frequently in certain groups compared with TB only, and infrequently had their conditions diagnosed together. This highlights an opportunity to improve screening and treatment of TB and cHBV in those at high risk for coinfection.

## Summary

Persons with tuberculosis and chronic hepatitis B are more likely to be non-US-born Asian people and have chronic medical conditions. Their 2 conditions were diagnosed with 60 days of each other only 19% of the time.

## KEYWORDS

- tuberculosis
- hepatitis B
- diagnostic timing
- treatment outcomes
- epidemiology

Active tuberculosis (TB) disease and chronic hepatitis B virus (cHBV) infection are 2 conditions that lead to substantial morbidity and mortality. In 2022, TB caused an estimated 1.6 million deaths and cHBV caused 820 000 deaths worldwide [1, 2]. California has the third highest TB incidence rate in the United States (4.7 cases/100 000 population) and reports the most TB cases of any state [3]. Similarly, California has among the highest reported cHBV incidence rates (24.8 reports per 100 000 population) in the United States [4]. Tuberculosis is preventable through testing and treatment of latent TB infection (LTBI); cHBV is prevented by HBV vaccination. However, the cascade of care for both infections remains suboptimal, and only a limited percentage of those at risk for these infections are screened and linked to care [5–9].

The 2 infectious diseases share multiple risk factors, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) coinfection, substance use, history of incarceration, and birth in countries with a high reported prevalence of TB and cHBV [5, 10, 11]. Despite these shared risk factors, limited US data regarding persons with both TB and cHBV are available. This is mainly because national and state surveillance systems for TB and HBV have not routinely collected coinfection data, although a variable to collect viral hepatitis coinfection was recently added to the national TB disease case report form [5, 12]. Prior literature suggests a high prevalence of TB and cHBV coinfection outside of the United States [13, 14]. To date, data in the United States have been restricted to LTBI and cHBV coinfection and smaller studies that might not be generalizable to the California population [6, 15, 16].

Given the severity of both conditions individually, TB with cHBV infection could increase the risk for poor treatment outcomes, compared with TB only. Much of the literature regarding TB treatment outcomes among those with cHBV infection focuses on hepatotoxicity secondary to TB medications, with only a limited number of studies analyzing mortality during TB treatment and TB treatment completion [15, 17–20]. Data regarding the timing of TB and cHBV diagnoses have been limited to LTBI and cHBV coinfection, and improved data might elucidate how well providers screen for 1 condition in the presence of the other [16].

Current US guidelines recommend TB screening of populations with risk factors and universal HBV screening of all adults, but do not recommend routine screening for TB in those with cHBV and vice versa [10, 11]. Characterizing the epidemiology of TB with cHBV might inform and encourage screening and vaccination programs focused on communities with persons at risk of having both conditions. Additionally, a better understanding of the timeliness of detection and of treatment outcomes might lead to improvements in prevention and care for both conditions.

California has the largest non-US-born population of any state in the United States, with many of California's residents reporting their births in countries with a high prevalence of TB or cHBV [21–23]. This, plus California's high burden of both conditions, raises concern that there might be many persons with TB and cHBV. We sought to characterize the epidemiology of TB with cHBV and describe TB treatment outcomes among persons with both conditions.

## METHODS

### Data Sources

We analyzed data among California residents aged 15 years and older from the California Department of Public Health TB and cHBV registries, which include surveillance data collected from all 61 local health jurisdictions in California. Persons who received a diagnosis of TB during 1 January 2016–31 December 2020 were included in this analysis. We identified persons reported to the cHBV registry during 1989–2020 who were born before 1 January 2006 (ie, would be  $\geq 15$  years during the study period).

### Tuberculosis and Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Definitions

We defined TB disease as a report of TB with microbiologic confirmation (ie, positive acid-fast smear, positive culture, or nucleic acid amplification test for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*). In the TB treatment outcomes analysis, we included those who were alive at the time of TB diagnosis, had either TB with cHBV infection or TB only, and had a recorded TB treatment start date. We defined cHBV using the Council of State Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) case definition for confirmed or probable cHBV infection [24].

### Analysis

We applied a probabilistic matching algorithm using Match\*<sup>[AQ6]</sup>Pro v2.0.6 software (Information Management Services, Inc., Rockville, Maryland) for the persons identified in the TB and cHBV registries for the study period to identify persons with both conditions in California. The matching algorithm used first name, last name, date of birth, sex, and postal code of residence (or local jurisdiction of residence if postal code was missing) at the time of first report of TB or cHBV. Potential matches between persons in the registries were required to match exactly on first name, last name, or date of birth and meet a threshold score for the person to be considered to have both conditions.

We chose 3 TB treatment outcomes for this analysis: treatment completion, all-cause mortality during treatment, and treatment duration. Tuberculosis treatment completion and mortality were based on the treatment outcome variable in the TB registry, which categorizes a person with TB as having died during treatment, completed treatment in 365 days or less or more than 365 days, as lost to follow-up, or refused treatment. For mortality analysis, all those who were not listed as having died during treatment were treated as having lived through treatment. For treatment completion analysis, those who were not listed as having completed treatment, including those who died, were treated as not having completed treatment. We calculated TB treatment duration as the total time between recorded treatment start and stop dates, inclusive of treatment interruptions. We assessed duration by creating 3 possible dichotomous outcomes—more than 6 months, more than 9 months, and more than 12 months—versus shorter duration—which represent the most common TB treatment durations. Treatment duration was intended to indirectly evaluate treatment failure, treatment interruption, or drug intolerance, because these events are not captured in the registry data but all necessitate a longer treatment duration.

We performed modified Poisson regression models with robust variance to calculate adjusted relative risk (aRR) of TB treatment outcomes among those with TB and cHBV and those with TB only. We created a directed acyclic graph to find confounders for adjustment in the model, including race and ethnicity, age, HIV infection, non-HIV immunosuppressive conditions, substance use, and sex (Supplementary Figure 1).

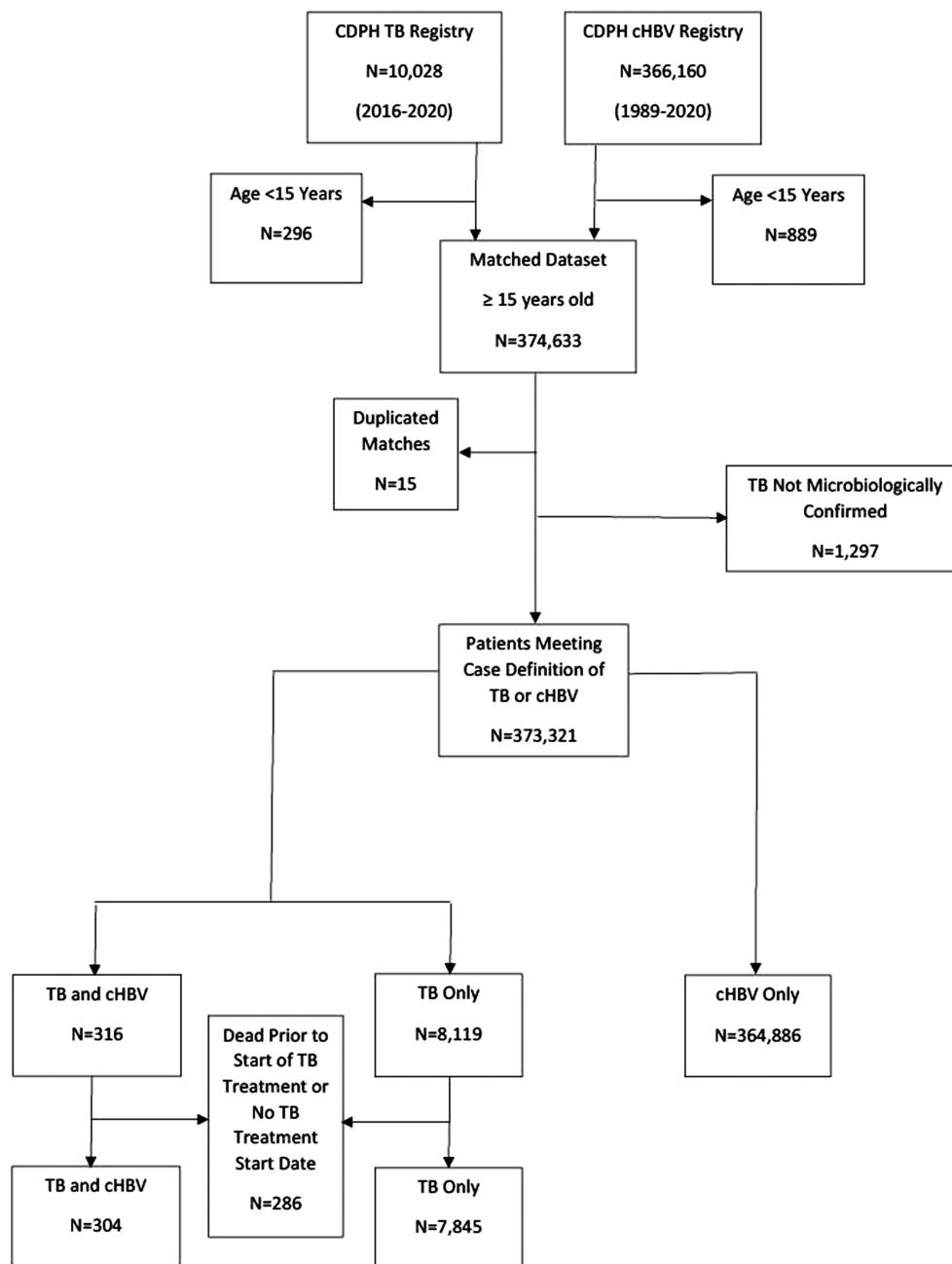
We used chi-square analysis to compare the proportion of persons with TB and cHBV with the proportions of those with TB only for multiple demographic characteristics, risk factors, and clinical characteristics. We calculated the time elapsed between TB and cHBV diagnoses using the dates of first report to the TB and cHBV registries. We categorized persons with both diagnoses into 3 groups: TB before cHBV (TB reported >60 days before cHBV report), simultaneous (TB reported ≤60 days either before or after cHBV report), and TB after cHBV (TB reported >60 days after cHBV report). We chose a 60-day interval to account for the time needed to complete diagnostic workup for TB. We used SAS version 9.4 (SAS Institute, Inc, Cary, North Carolina) to perform all analyses. This activity was reviewed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and was conducted consistent with applicable federal law and CDC policy [see, e.g., 45 C.F.R. part 46.102(l)(2), 21 C.F.R. part 56; 42 U.S.C. §241(d); 5 U.S.C. §552a; 44 U.S.C. §3501 et seq].

## RESULTS

During 2016–2020, 10 028 reports of TB were submitted to the California TB registry. California's cHBV registry showed a total of 366 160 persons with confirmed or probable cHBV during 1989–2020. After 2497 persons were excluded because of duplicate reports, or did not meet age or microbiologic confirmation criteria, data for 373 321 persons were included in this analysis (Figure 1 [AQ9]). In total, 8435 persons were reported with TB disease. Of those, 316 (3.7%) had TB and cHBV and 8119 persons had TB only. There were 364 886 persons with cHBV only (Figure 1).

### Figure 1.

Patient selection flowchart—California, 2016–2020. The persons identified from the CDPH TB registry were reported during 1 January 2016–31 December 2020. All persons in the CDPH cHBV registry were reported during 1989–2020 [AQ17]. Abbreviations: CDPH, California Department of Public Health; cHBV, chronic hepatitis B virus; TB, tuberculosis.

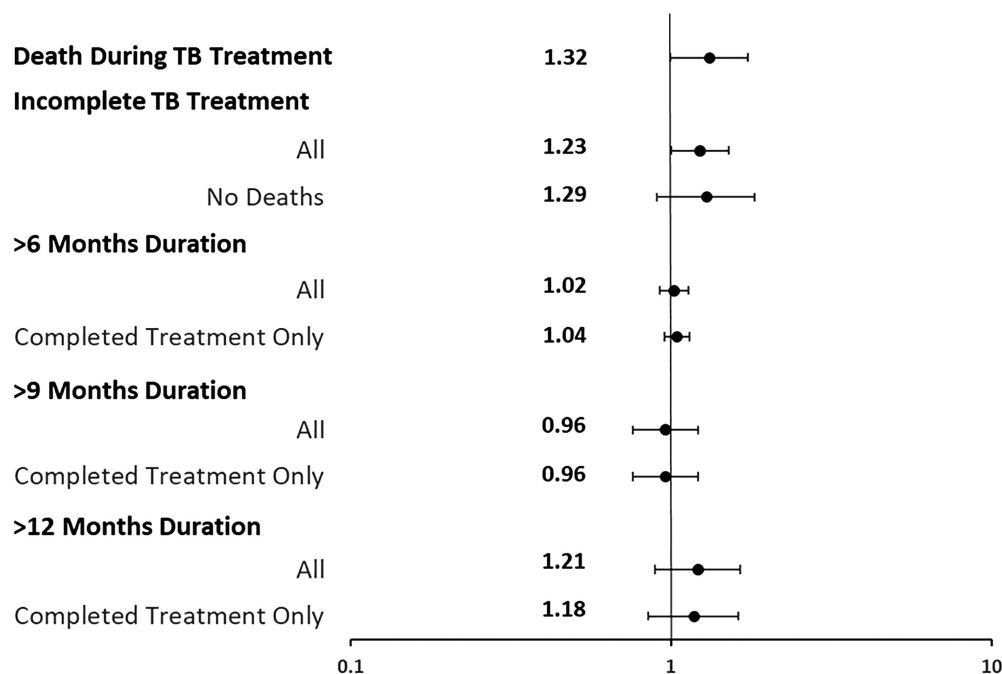


### Tuberculosis Treatment Outcome Statistical Analysis

In total, 304 persons with TB and cHBV and 7845 with TB only were included in the TB treatment outcome analysis (Figure 1). The aRR for incomplete TB treatment among those with TB and cHBV, compared with those with TB only, was 1.23 (95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.00, 1.51). Of the 1539 persons who did not complete TB treatment, 826 (53.7%) died during treatment. When the analysis was restricted to only persons who did not die during treatment, the aRR for incomplete TB treatment was 1.29 (95% CI: .90, 1.82). The aRR for all-cause mortality during treatment was 1.32 (95% CI: .99, 1.74) (Figure 2).

**Figure 2.**

Adjusted relative risk with 95% CIs for TB treatment outcomes for TB and cHBV cases versus TB-only cases—California, 2016–2020. Mo[AQ18]del adjusted for age, gender, race and ethnicity, substance use, HIV infection, and other non-HIV immunosuppressive conditions. Abbreviations: cHBV, chronic hepatitis B virus; CI, confidence interval; HIV, human immunodeficiency virus; TB, tuberculosis.



The median TB treatment duration for persons with TB and cHBV was 250 days (range: 3–937 days) compared with 254 days (range: 0–3417 days) for those with TB only. The aRRs for treatment durations of more than 6 months and more than 9 months were 1.02 (95% CI: .92, 1.13) and .96 (95% CI: .76, 1.21), respectively. The more-than-12-month treatment duration aRR was 1.21 (95% CI: .89, 1.64) (Figure 2). No statistically significant differences were observed for all 3 durations for the unadjusted analysis (Supplementary Figure 2) and for subanalysis that was restricted to those who completed therapy (Figure 2).

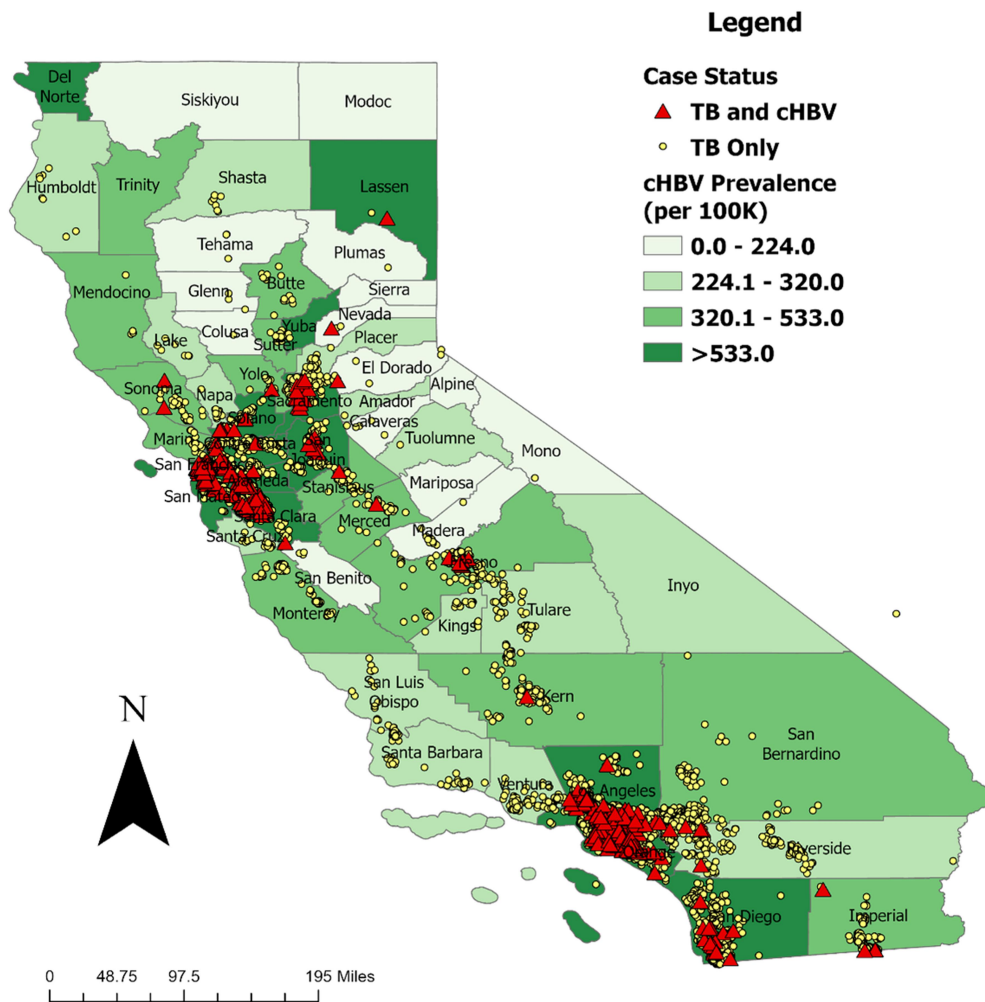
### Descriptive Analysis

The descriptive analysis showed that 259 (82.0%) persons with TB and cHBV were aged 45 years or older, compared with 5520 (68.0%) persons with TB only ( $P < .001$ ) (Table 1). Analysis of race, ethnicity, and place of birth showed that 256 (81.0%) cases of TB and cHBV occurred among non-US-born Asian persons, compared with 4186 (51.6%) persons with TB only ( $P < .0001$ ) (Table 1). Of those with TB and cHBV, 233 (74.0%) were born in China or Southeast Asia, compared with 3312 (40.9%) persons with TB only ( $P < .0001$ ). More persons with TB and cHBV (212; 67.1%) resided in either the San Francisco Bay Area or Los Angeles County at the time of their TB report (Figure 3), compared with those with TB only (4318, 53.1%;  $P < .0001$ ) (Table 1).

**Figure 3.**

Geographic distribution of active TB and cHBV and TB-only cases in California (2016–2020) over overall local jurisdiction cHBV reported prevalence (1989–2020). Plotted points for TB and cHBV and TB-only cases are randomly relocated (“jittered”) by 3 kilometers jittered [AQ19] for confidentiality purposes. For case status, persons with TB and cHBV are represented by the [AQ2] red triangles and persons with TB only are represented by the yellow circles. The [AQ2] For cHBV prevalences (per 100 000), the 4 shades of green (from lightest to darkest) represent 0.0 to 224.0, 224.1 to 320.0, 320.1 to 533.0, and >533.0, respectively. Abbreviations: cHBV, chronic hepatitis B virus; TB, tuberculosis. [AQ26]





**Table 1.**

Demographic Characteristics of Persons With Active Tuberculosis Disease (TB) and Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection (cHBV), TB Only, and cHBV Only—California, 2016–2020[AQ20]

|         | TB and cHBV, n (%) | TB Only, n (%) | cHBV Only, n (%)    | P(TB and cHBV vs TB Only) |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Total   | 316                | 8119           | 364 886             |                           |
| Sex     |                    |                |                     | .38                       |
| Male    | 204 (64.6)         | 5042 (62.1)    | 189 024 (51.8)      |                           |
| Female  | 112 (35.2)         | 3077 (37.9)    | 171 131 (46.9)      |                           |
| Other   | 0                  | 0              | 28 (0.01)           |                           |
| Unknown | 0                  | 0              | 4703 (1.3)          |                           |
| Age     |                    |                |                     | <.001                     |
| 15–24 y | 4 (1.3)            | 666 (8.2)      | 31 586 (9.0)        |                           |
| 25–44 y | 53 (16.8)          | 1933 (23.8)    | 162 838 (46.5)      |                           |
| 45–64 y | 132 (41.8)         | 2523 (31.1)    | 115 575 (33.0)      |                           |
| ≥65 y   | 127 (40.2)         | 2997 (36.9)    | 39 862 (11.4)       |                           |
| Missing | 0                  | 0              | 20 196 <sup>a</sup> |                           |

|  |            |             |               |        |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------|--------|
| Race   |            |             |               | <.0001 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native                                   | 0          | 7 (0.1)     | 544 (0.3)     |        |
| Asian (non-Hispanic)   | 259 (82.0) | 4336 (53.4) | 25 375 (75.8) |        |
| US birth   | 3 (1.0)    | 144 (1.8)   | 1567 (4.7)    |        |
| Non-US birth   | 256 (81.0) | 4186 (51.6) | 23 808 (71.1) |        |
| Black (non-Hispanic)   | 18 (5.7)   | 355 (4.4)   | 1534 (4.6)    |        |
| US birth   | 9 (2.9)    | 204 (2.5)   | 1050 (3.1)    |        |
| Non-US birth   | 9(2.9)     | 150 (1.9)   | 484 (1.5)     |        |
| Hispanic   | 27 (8.5)   | 2854 (35.1) | 2286 (6.8)    |        |
| US birth   | 6 (1.9)    | 582 (7.2)   | 633 (1.9)     |        |
| Non-US birth   | 21 (6.7)   | 2260 (27.8) | 1653 (4.9)    |        |
| Multirace or other (non-Hispanic)                                  | 0          | 17 (0.2)    | 78 (0.2)      |        |
| US birth   | 0          | 8 (0.1)     | 17 (0.1)      |        |
| Non-US birth   | 0          | 9 (0.1)     | 61 (0.2)      |        |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander<br>(non-Hispanic) <sup>b</sup> | 3 (1.0)    | 51 (0.6)    | ...           |        |
| US birth   | 1 (0.3)    | 31 (0.4)    | ...           |        |
| Non-US birth   | 2 (0.6)    | 20 (0.3)    | ...           |        |
| White (non-Hispanic)   | 9 (2.9)    | 498 (6.1)   | 2166 (6.5)    |        |
| US birth   | 5 (1.6)    | 287 (3.5)   | 1397 (4.2)    |        |
| Non-US birth   | 4 (1.3)    | 208 (2.6)   | 769 (2.3)     |        |
| Unknown  | 0          | 1 (0.01)    | 674 (2.0)     |        |
| Missing <sup>c</sup>   | 0          | 0           | 331 419       |        |
| Places of birth (n = 37 386) <sup>[AQ21]</sup>                     |            |             | n= 37 386     | <.0001 |
| Africa   | 8 (2.5)    | 138 (1.7)   | 745 (2.0)     |        |
| Australia  | 0          | 1 (0.01)    | 4 (0.01)      |        |
| Canada   | 0          | 2 (0.02)    | 22 (0.06)     |        |
| China  | 49 (15.5)  | 542 (6.7)   | 10 976 (29.4) |        |
| Europe   | 1 (0.3)    | 61 (0.8)    | 359 (1.0)     |        |
| India  | 4 (1.3)    | 498 (6.2)   | 359 (1.0)     |        |
| Mexico   | 16 (5.1)   | 1793 (22.2) | 1185 (3.2)    |        |

|                                      |            |             |                |        |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|--------|
| Other Asia (except Southeast)        | 22 (7.0)   | 551 (6.8)   | 5400 (14.4)    |        |
| Other Southeast Asia                 | 33 (10.4)  | 347 (4.3)   | 2186 (5.8)     |        |
| Other Latin America                  | 5 (1.6)    | 473 (5.8)   | 486 (1.3)      |        |
| Other Pacific Islands                | 3 (1.0)    | 31 (0.4)    | 320 (0.9)      |        |
| Philippines                          | 60 (19.0)  | 1595 (19.7) | 2559 (6.8)     |        |
| United States                        | 23 (7.3)   | 1234 (15.3) | 5293 (14.2)    |        |
| Vietnam                              | 91 (29.1)  | 828 (10.2)  | 7492 (20.0)    |        |
| Missing <sup>d</sup>                 | 0          | 25          | 327 500        |        |
| California region <sup>e</sup>       |            |             |                | <.0001 |
| San Francisco Bay Area               | 117 (37.0) | 2252 (27.7) | 117 097 (32.1) |        |
| Mexican Border                       | 23 (7.3)   | 1150 (14.2) | 22 529 (6.2)   |        |
| Central                              | 26 (8.2)   | 917 (11.3)  | 34 030 (9.3)   |        |
| Los Angeles County                   | 95 (30.1)  | 2066 (25.4) | 120 836 (33.1) |        |
| Northern                             | 2 (0.6)    | 54 (0.7)    | 3247 (0.9)     |        |
| Southern (except Los Angeles County) | 53 (16.7)  | 1680 (20.7) | 65 824 (18.4)  |        |
| Missing                              | 0          | 0           | 1323           |        |

Pers[[AQ22](#)]ns with TB and cHBV and TB only were reported during 2016–2020. Those with cHBV only were reported during 1989–2020. Unknown = entered by local jurisdiction as information on variable is not known; data included in percentages. Missing = variable not completed for patient, data not included in percentages. Border: San Diego and Imperial; Central: Alpine, Amador, Calavera, El Dorado, Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Madera, Merced, Mariposa, Mono, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Sutter, Yuba, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yolo; Northern: Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity; Southern: Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Long Beach City, and Pasadena City. Unknown = entered by local jurisdiction as information on variable is not known; data included in percentages. Missing = variable not completed for patient, data not included in percentages.

**a** 5.5% of age data are missing for cHBV-only cases.

**b** The cHBV registry does not have a separate Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander category for the race and ethnicity variable.

**c** 9.2% of cHBV cases have both race and birth country values available.

**d** 10.2% of cHBV cases have birth country values available.

**e** Bay Area: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and Berkeley; Border: San Diego and Imperial; Central: Alpine, Amador, Calavera, El Dorado, Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Madera, Merced, Mariposa, Mono, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Sutter, Yuba, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yolo; Northern: Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity; Southern: Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Long Beach City, and Pasadena City. Unknown = entered by local jurisdiction as information on variable is not known; data included in percentages. Missing = variable not completed for patient, data not included in percentages.

Analysis revealed that 26 (8.2%) persons with TB and cHBV had end-stage renal disease at the time of reporting, compared with 332 (4.0%) persons with TB only ( $P < .001$ ). Additionally, 21 (6.7%) persons with TB and cHBV were HIV positive, compared with 247 persons (3.0%) with TB only ( $P = .03$ ); 32 persons (11.4%) with TB and cHBV had non-HIV immunosuppressive conditions, compared with 637 persons (7.9%) with TB only ( $P = .01$ ) (Table 2).

**Table 2.**

**Risk Factor and Clinical Characteristics of Persons With Active Tuberculosis Disease (TB) and Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection (cHBV), TB Only, and cHBV Only—Californ[[AQ23](#)]ia 2016 – 2020**

|   | TB and cHBV,<br>n (%) | TB Only, n<br>(%) | cHBV Only,<br>n (%) | P (TB and cHBV vs<br>TB only) |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total   | 316                   | 8119              | 364 886             |                               |
| Risk factors  |                       |                   |                     |                               |
| Incarceration at date classified or<br>diagnosis received |                       |                   |                     |                               |
| Yes   | 4 (1.3)               | 185 (2.3)         | 3809 (1.0)          | .43                           |
| No  | 312 (98.7)            | 7925 (97.6)       | 360 358 (99.0)      |                               |
| Unknown   | 0 (0)                 | 7 (0.1)           | 0 (0)               |                               |
| Missing   | 0                     | 2                 | 719                 |                               |
| Homelessness  |                       |                   |                     | .20                           |
| Yes   | 11 (3.5)              | 441 (5.4)         | N/A                 |                               |
| No  | 305 (96.5)            | 7652 (94.3)       | N/A                 |                               |
| Unknown   | 0 (0)                 | 24 (0.3)          | N/A                 |                               |
| Missing   | 0                     | 2                 | N/A                 |                               |
| HIV status  |                       |                   |                     | .02                           |
| Positive  | 21 (6.7)              | 247 (3.0)         | N/A                 |                               |
| Negative  | 265 (83.9)            | 6981 (86.1)       | N/A                 |                               |
| Not offered   | 21 (6.7)              | 639 (7.9)         | N/A                 |                               |
| Test done, results unknown                                | 0 (0)                 | 9 (0.1)           | N/A                 |                               |
| Procedure refused   | 3 (1.0)               | 78 (1.0)          | N/A                 |                               |
| Unknown   | 6 (1.9)               | 165 (1.9)         | N/A                 |                               |
| Diabetes  |                       |                   |                     | .71                           |
| Yes   | 97 (30.7)             | 2414 (29.7)       | N/A                 |                               |
| No  | 219 (69.3)            | 5705 (70.3)       | N/A                 |                               |
| End-stage renal disease                                   |                       |                   |                     | <.001                         |
| Yes   | 26 (8.2)              | 322 (4.0)         | N/A                 |                               |
| No  | 290 (91.8)            | 7797 (96.0)       | N/A                 |                               |
| Substance use   |                       |                   |                     | .03                           |
| Yes   | 23 (7.3)              | 907 (11.2)        | N/A                 |                               |
| No  | 293 (92.7)            | 7212 (88.8)       | N/A                 |                               |

|  |            |             |                |     |
|--|------------|-------------|----------------|-----|
| Other non-HIV immunosuppression <sup>a</sup> |            |             |                | .02 |
| Yes  | 32 (11.4)  | 637 (7.9)   | N/A            |     |
| No   | 280 (88.6) | 7482 (92.2) | N/A            |     |
| Clinical characteristics                     |            |             |                |     |
| Dead at diagnosis                            |            |             |                |     |
| Yes  | 10 (3.2)   | 202 (2.5)   | 1925 (0.5)     | .45 |
| No   | 306 (96.8) | 7916 (97.5) | 362 961 (99.5) |     |
| Unknown                                      | 0 (0)      | 1 (<0.0001) | 0 (0)          |     |
| Completed TB treatment                       |            |             |                | .04 |
| Yes  | 233 (76.6) | 6377 (81.3) | N/A            |     |
| No   | 71 (23.4)  | 1468 (18.7) | N/A            |     |
| Died during TB treatment                     |            |             |                | .05 |
| Yes  | 42 (13.5)  | 785 (10.0)  | N/A            |     |
| No   | 263 (86.5) | 7060 (90.0) | N/A            |     |

Persons with TB and cHBV and TB only were reported during 2016–2020. Those with cHBV only were reported during 1989–2020. Unknown = entered by local jurisdiction as information on variable is not known; data included in percentages. Missing = variable not completed for patient, data not included in percentages.

Abbreviations: HIV, human immunodeficiency virus; N/A, not applicable [A Q24].

**a** Conditions include organ transplantation, tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  inhibitor use, and other nonspecified immunosuppressive conditions.

### Diagnostic Timing

Among persons with TB and cHBV, 255 (80.7%) had their diagnoses reported more than 60 days apart. This included 35 (11.1%) persons in the TB-Before-cHBV group (median: 363 days; range: 67–1554 days) and 220 (69.6%) in the TB-After-cHBV group (median: 3411 days; range: 62–10 338 days). Among 61 (19.3%) persons in the Simultaneous group, the median time between report dates was 3 days (range: 56 before–58 days after cHBV report) (Table 3).

**Table 3.**

**Time Between Report Dates of Active Tuberculosis Disease (TB) and Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection (cHBV)—California, 2016–2020**

|                                     | TB Before cHBV | Simultaneous                              | TB After cHBV |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---|---------------|
| Total: 316, n (%)                   | 35 (11.1%)     | 61 (19.3%)                                | 220 (69.6%)   |
| Median time between report dates, d | 363            | 3   | 3411          |
| Range between report dates, d       | 67 to 1554     | From 56 before to 58 after cHBV reporting | 62 to 10 338  |

TB Before cHBV = TB reported >60 days before cHBV reporting; Simultaneous = TB reported within 60 days before or after cHBV reporting; TB After cHBV = TB reported >60 days after cHBV reporting.

## DISCUSSION

Our estimated prevalence of cHBV among California's population with TB of approximately 4% is consistent with prior estimates of cHBV prevalence among persons with TB in the United States [5, 15]. The higher prevalence of cHBV among non-US-born Asian persons with TB is consistent with the literature showing a 15-fold higher incidence rate of TB among non-US-born persons relative to US-born persons, and a 35-fold higher rate among Asian persons compared with White persons [5, 6]. It is also consistent with the nearly 50-fold higher prevalence of cHBV among non-US-born Asian persons compared with US-born White

persons [5, 6, 16, 23, 25]. The proportion of TB and cHBV cases reported in the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles County, compared with those with TB only, might be explained partially by patterns of Asian immigration in these regions [21]. Additionally, robust screening programs such as Hep B Free (a program that provides hepatitis B education, screening, and prevention in the San Francisco Bay Area) are available in larger population centers [26].

Tuberculosis disease affects older persons because, with advanced age, there is a higher likelihood for LTBI and progression to active TB [13, 16, 27]. The substantial proportion of persons aged greater than 45 years with both conditions might reflect the ability of LTBI and cHBV to persist into older age. The higher proportion of chronic medical conditions in persons with both conditions is likely because of shared risk factors and potential interactions between immunological status and infections. For example, HIV is a common risk factor for both TB and cHBV [5, 13]. End-stage renal disease is a risk factor for TB and a potential complication of cHBV [28, 29]. Persons with immunosuppressive conditions such as solid-organ transplant and tumor necrosis factor  $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ) inhibitor use are at increased risk, including progression of LTBI to TB disease, and worsening manifestations of cHBV infection [30–32].

Our analysis showed an increased risk for all-cause mortality of TB with cHBV compared with TB only. Although the increased aRR for death during TB treatment was not statistically significant, the results are concerning and consistent with prior studies that have shown increased mortality among those with TB and cHBV, compared with those with TB only [15, 17–19]. However, no similar studies have been reported at the state level using adjusted multivariable analysis. One potential reason for the increased risk for all-cause mortality is that persons with uncontrolled cHBV infection are more likely to have liver dysfunction [33]. This might make survival and recovery in those with TB disease less likely. Moreover, studies have reported that persons with uncontrolled cHBV are at increased risk for hepatotoxicity from TB medications, including liver failure exacerbation and death, potentially leading to longer TB treatment regimens or complications [15, 17–19].

Our analysis also showed an increased risk for incomplete TB treatment among those with cHBV, compared with those with TB only. However, over half of those who did not complete treatment because they died during treatment, and the aRR lost its statistical significance when those persons were removed from the analysis. Hepatotoxicity and other medical adverse effects also increase the risk for TB treatment interruption or discontinuation [20].

An unexpected result was the lack of difference in TB treatment duration. We had hypothesized that patients with cHBV might experience more hepatotoxicity or be treated with alternate liver-sparing regimens that would necessitate longer duration, thus making treatment duration a proxy for hepatotoxicity or concern for hepatotoxicity [34]. While this study was not specifically powered to detect a difference, 1 potential reason for a lack of difference might be that some patients may have received effective treatment of cHBV, which has been shown to improve tolerance of these medications and reduce complications [35].

The finding that approximately 81% of persons with both conditions had their diagnoses reported more than 60 days apart was concerning because this might mean that those persons had previously undiagnosed LTBI or cHBV, possibly for many years. The median time of approximately 1 year between reporting among those in the TB-Before-cHBV group showed that many had completed their TB treatment before cHBV screening was complete. The median time of 10 years between reporting for those in the TB-After-cHBV group showed that those with cHBV might not have been routinely screened for LTBI. This supports prior findings that only a limited percentage of those at risk for TB or HBV are being screened for both infections despite sharing risk factors [5–9]. Undiagnosed LTBI or cHBV potentially can lead to increased morbidity and mortality.

The major strength of this analysis was the use of statewide TB and cHBV data to develop a comprehensive assessment in California's large, diverse population. Additionally, the adjusted multivariable analysis combined with the evaluation of diagnostic timing are unique, compared with prior studies. Limitations include the frequency of missing variables in the cHBV registry, which prevented certain comparisons between persons with TB and cHBV and those with cHBV only. Additionally, the US TB surveillance system only includes treatment completion, death, loss to follow-up, and patient refusal as possible treatment outcomes [12]. As a result, occurrence of TB treatment failure could not be fully evaluated. Treatment duration was analyzed instead because it is a proxy of treatment success, as treatment is continued until one of those outcomes is attained. Additionally, we could not detect hepatotoxicity nor resulting treatment regimen changes because neither laboratory parameters of liver dysfunction nor TB treatment regimen changes after 2 weeks of the initial treatment were available in either registry. This information could have revealed mechanisms for potentially poorer outcomes in patients with both TB and cHBV. Third, actual dates of diagnosis were not available to calculate the diagnostic timing of TB and cHBV. Therefore, the first public health report dates were the best approximation of diagnosis for both conditions. Last, it was assumed that many of the persons with TB and cHBV who were not diagnosed simultaneously had undiagnosed LTBI or cHBV when their other condition was reported, given the chronicity and general underdiagnosis of both infections, and therefore represent missed opportunities to prevent TB disease and uncontrolled cHBV [7, 36]. However, this cannot be proven with the current data.

## Conclusions

Our estimate of cHBV infection among patients with TB in California of approximately 4% was similar to prior estimates of prevalence of TB with cHBV in the United States. Most persons with TB and cHBV were born in Asia, particularly in Southeast Asia and China. Treatment analysis was concerning for worse TB treatment outcomes among those with cHBV, compared with TB only. Our analysis also showed opportunities for the prevention and treatment of these infections, with more than 80% of those with both conditions having their diagnoses first reported more than 2 months apart. Analysis of LTBI among persons with cHBV could reveal further opportunities to prevent TB and reduce disparities in those at risk for coinfection.

The results of this study can serve as baseline estimates as California begins to track viral hepatitis in persons with TB with the updated TB surveillance report form [12]. California TB and cHBV programs can collaborate to ensure that persons with TB or cHBV in communities at high risk for both conditions will be tested for the other. Concomitant LTBI or untreated cHBV could potentially be identified and treated, therefore preventing worse outcomes, and vaccination could be offered to HBV-negative persons.

### Supplementary Data[AQ25]

Supplementary materials are available at *Clinical Infectious Diseases* online. Consisting of data provided by the authors to benefit the reader, the posted materials are not copyedited and are the sole responsibility of the authors, so questions or comments should be addressed to the corresponding author.

### Notes

**Author contributions.** J. B. B. was primarily responsible for developing the concept and analysis plan[AQ10], performing the analyses, and writing the initial manuscript. P. B. is the senior author who supervised the first author. L. P. assisted in the concept and analysis plan development. E. H. performed the match of the 2 registries. L. S. and R. G.-F. provided much of the hepatitis B intellectual content. R. J. W., A. C., and D. J. provided much of the TB intellectual content, including coinfection with HBV. M. J. and P. G. helped interpret the data from Los Angeles County, which had a lot of missing data. S. M. helped develop the figures for this manuscript. All authors reviewed the manuscript and provided revisions to the first author.

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