

**A cohort study of factors associated with LBTI treatment initiation and completion in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada**

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**Appendix A**

Co-variates:

Variable	
Age	Age was derived by subtracting date of birth from episode start date (date entered into database). Age was then dichotomized into five age categories (<18, 18-30, 31-49, 50-64, 65+ years). The reference category was age 18-30 years.
Female	Female was coded 1 if female and 0 otherwise. Male is the reference category.
High TB birth country	<p>Individuals from endemic TB countries may have greater awareness of the health consequences of TB exposure and therefore may be more receptive to LTBI treatment. On the other hand, a diagnosis of LTBI may have become normalized in endemic countries and so individuals diagnosed with LTBI may view treatment as unnecessary.</p> <p>This variable was coded 1 if birth country was a WHO-identified top 20 high-incidence TB country: India, China, Pakistan, South Africa, Indonesia, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Ethiopia, Congo (Dem. Republic of), Myanmar, Nigeria, Mozambique, Viet Nam, Russian Federation, Kenya, Brazil, Thailand, Tanzania (United Republic of), Zimbabwe, Uganda, Cambodia, or Afghanistan.</p>
Immigrated <6 years	<p>Since an individual with LTBI has the greatest risk of reactivation of TB in the first five years after exposure, we hypothesized that greater risk may be associated with higher rates of initiation and completion of LTBI treatment.</p> <p>Therefore, this variable was code 1 if immigrated five or less years ago and 0 otherwise. Time since immigration was derived by subtracting episode date (date entered into database) from immigration date.</p>
High TB birth country X Immigrated <6 years	We also investigated whether the combined attributes a recent immigrant (< 6 years) and originating from an endemic country were associated with treatment initiation and completion. This variable was coded 1 if both attributes were true and 0 otherwise.
FSA income =<\$32,000	The income variable was a proxy for SES measured at the FSA level. This variable was coded 1 if median individual income for the FSA was less than or equal to \$32,000 and 0 otherwise.

	Since no single measure of SES at the FSA level is ideal, we explored several variations on this variable, including the proportion of the FSA population below LICO cut-off, median economic family income, <sup>1</sup> and various threshold points for median individual income.
Identified by immigration screening	This variable was coded 1 if the LTBI case was identified through the Canadian immigration medical screening program.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada defines an economic family as two or more related people living in the same household. Variables based on economic family would therefore not capture singles living alone or with a roommate.