

Social determinants of health among residential areas with a high tuberculosis incidence in a remote Inuit community

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What is already known on this subject

► Tuberculosis (TB) remains a significant health burden among Inuit in Canada. Social determinants of health play a key role in TB infection, disease and ongoing transmission in this population. Policy makers are faced with difficult decisions when tackling SDH in the Canadian Nunangat given the long list of inequities that are present between the Nunangat and the rest of Canada which can make prioritization a challenge.

What this study adds

► The present study determined that after adjusting for many other key social determinants of health, crowding and Inuit ethnicity were associated with latent TB infection in residential areas at high risk for TB. On World TB day, March 24, 2018, the Federal Government and Inuit Tapariit Kanatami (ITK, National Inuit organization) vowed to eliminate tuberculosis among Inuit communities by 2030. In addition to screening and treatment of TB, the present study offers support to solving the housing crises in the Nunangat as a priority if TB elimination is to be achieved in this remote region of Canada.