

Supplementary Material

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of information available on *Mycobacterium* infections in wild meerkats in the Kalahari, South Africa.

A) TB prevalence								
Reference	Exposure	Clinical TB signs	Confirmed TB infection	Mortality	TB detection	Sample size	Data collection	Comments
Alexander et al., 2002	100%	100%	N = 1	100%	Signs, PM, MC	N = 20	1998/1999	Tracking TB spread through 1 group following immigration of positive individual
Drewe, Foote et al., 2009	n.r.	91.2%	91.2%	91.2%	PM, MC	N = 57	2005 - 2007	Detailed pathology of 52 individuals euthanized for TB (5 individuals as control)
Drewe, Dean et al., 2009	46.7%*	n.r.	13.2%	n.r.	MC, IRT	N = 240	2005 - 2007	Exposure determined by immune-reaction assay
Drewe 2010	n.r.	n.r.	9% to 33%	n.r.	MC, IRT	N = 110	2006/2007	TB transmission study, prevalence reported in 3 months periods
Drewe et al., 2011	30%*	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	MC, IRT	N = 134	2006/2007	Exposure determined by immune-reaction assay, longitudinal testing of 37 individuals
Clarke et al., 2016	n.r.	n.r.	34.7%	n.r.	IRT	N=108	2014/2015	TB detected by immune-reaction assay, 24.7% to 82.4% depending on estimated exposure risk
Patterson et al., 2017	n.r.	6%	6%	6%	Signs	N = 2388	2001 - 2015	TB defined as clinical signs followed by TB related euthanasia
Patterson et al., 2021	n.r.	17.5%	8.95%	11.1%	PM, MC, IRT, PCR	N = 268	2014 - 2016	TB detection assay validation

Patterson et al., 2022	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	19%	MC, IRT	N = 135	2014 - 2016	Intervention study
Duncan et al., 2021	n.r.	63% (group level)	n.r.	63% (group level)	Signs	N = 98 groups	1993 - 2019	TB effect on demography
Donadio et al., 2022	100%	56.1%	60.6%	27.3%	Signs, PCR	N = 66	1998 - 2018	TB detection assay validation; individuals selected for likely TB exposure and signs; TB infections: 53% signs + PCR, 7.6% PCR only
present study	71%	16.1%	n.r.	11.6%	Signs	N = 3420	1993 - 2020	TB quantification

B) TB progression

Reference	Exposure – infection	Exposure - signs	Infection - signs	Signs - death	TB detection	Sample size	Data collection	Comment
Alexander et al., 2002	n.r.	~6 and 14 m	n.r.	n.r.	Signs, PM, MC	N = 20	1998/1999	See above
Drewe 2010	10m (1.5-25.3m)	n.r.	n.r.		MC, IRT	N = 110	2006/2007	See above
Drewe et al., 2011	12.6m	n.r.	n.r.	8.1m (infection to death)	MC, IRT	N = 134 (37 longitudinal testing)	2006/2007	See above
Patterson et al., 2017	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	< 6 months	Signs, TB related euthanasia	N = 2388	2001 - 2015	See above
Duncan et al., 2021	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	10 months (group level)	Signs	N = 98 groups	1993 - 2019	See above

Donadio et al., 2022	14.0 ± 10.8m	n.r.	11.5 ± 6.9m	5.3 ± 5.7m	Signs, PCR	N = 66	1998 - 2018	See above
Present study	n.r.	17.1 ± 13.8m	n.r.	6.6 ± 10.8m	Signs	N = 3420	1993 - 2020	See above

Abbreviations: PM: post mortem examination; signs: clinical signs of TB; MC: Mycobacterial cultures; IRT: Immune response tests; n.r.: not reported
 *Positive in immune reaction assays
 For all studies, durations reported in days were transformed into months to allow easier comparison between studies