# SCREENING OF NEWLY ARRIVED MIGRANTS IN ITALY

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# OUTLINE

- Overview of patterns of immigration to Italy
- Diseases screened and target groups addressed
- Results and examples of screening practices targeting newly arrived migrants in Italy
- Challenges and Possible solutions



# ITALY

- Final and transit destination for economic migrants as well as for asylum seekers and refugees
- Italy composed by 19 regions and 2 autonomous provinces with competence also on health
- Immigration centres of different types (general CdA, asylum seekers CARA, irregular migrants CIE) managed by providers contracted by the Min of Interior



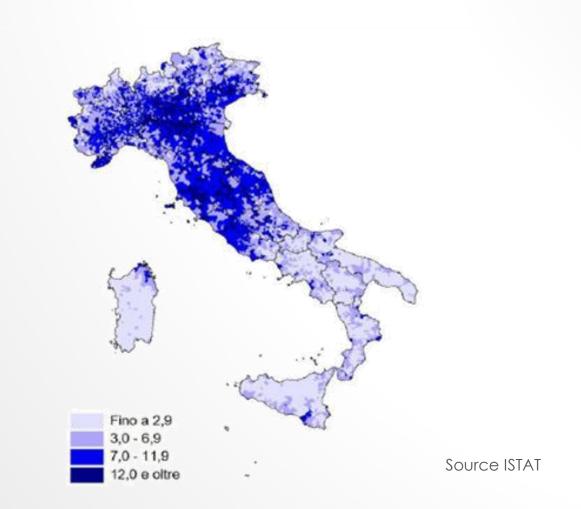
Source Italian Ministry of Interior

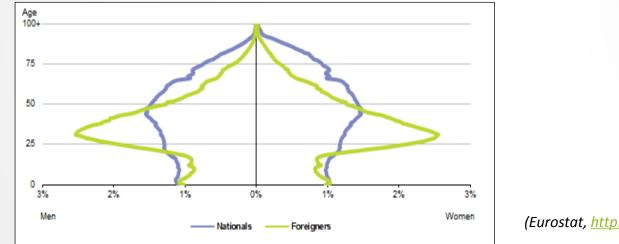
#### SOME NUMBERS...

		Source
Regular migrants (end 2014)	8% (resident foreigners) ≈ 5,000,000	ISTAT
Asylum Seekers in Italy (July 2014)	22, 200	<u>UNHCR</u>
Refugees in Italy (July 2014)	76,263	<u>UNHCR</u>
Irregular migrants (2012)	Est. 326,000 people	ISMU

#### ... MAPS ....

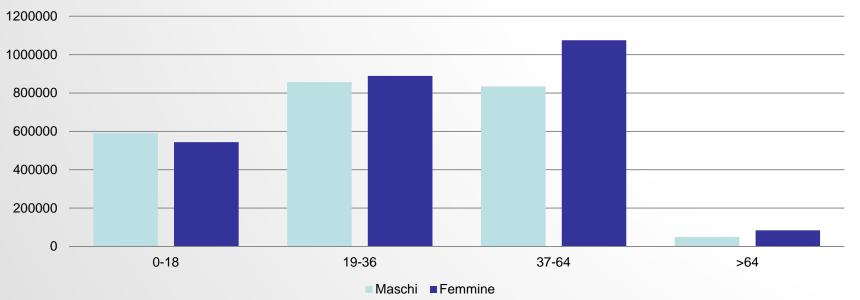
Regular migrant residents/100 residents by Italian municipality, as of 1 Jan 2013





(Eurostat, <u>http://bit.ly/1qfH8dC)</u>

Foreign borne population residing in Italy as of 1January 2014 by age group and sex



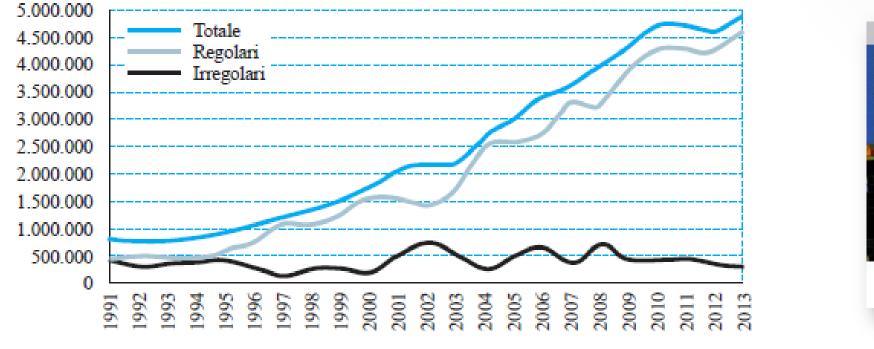
... AND TRENDS

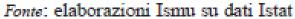
Estimated number of foreign-born people in Italy by migration status (1991-2013)

Fondazione Ismu

**Ventesimo Rapporto** 

sulle migrazioni: 1994-2014





#### MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION SYSTEM: MAJOR MARITTIME AND LAND ROUTES



Source BBC (<u>http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-24521614</u>), map based on iMap data. Some routes and detail have been omitted for clarity.

#### 

#### Number of asylum applications submitted in Italy | 2010 - 2014

Source of data UNHCR

HEALTH IS AN INDIVIDUAL INDEFEASABLE RIGHT AND A FUNDAMENTAL INTEREST FOR THE COMMUNITY

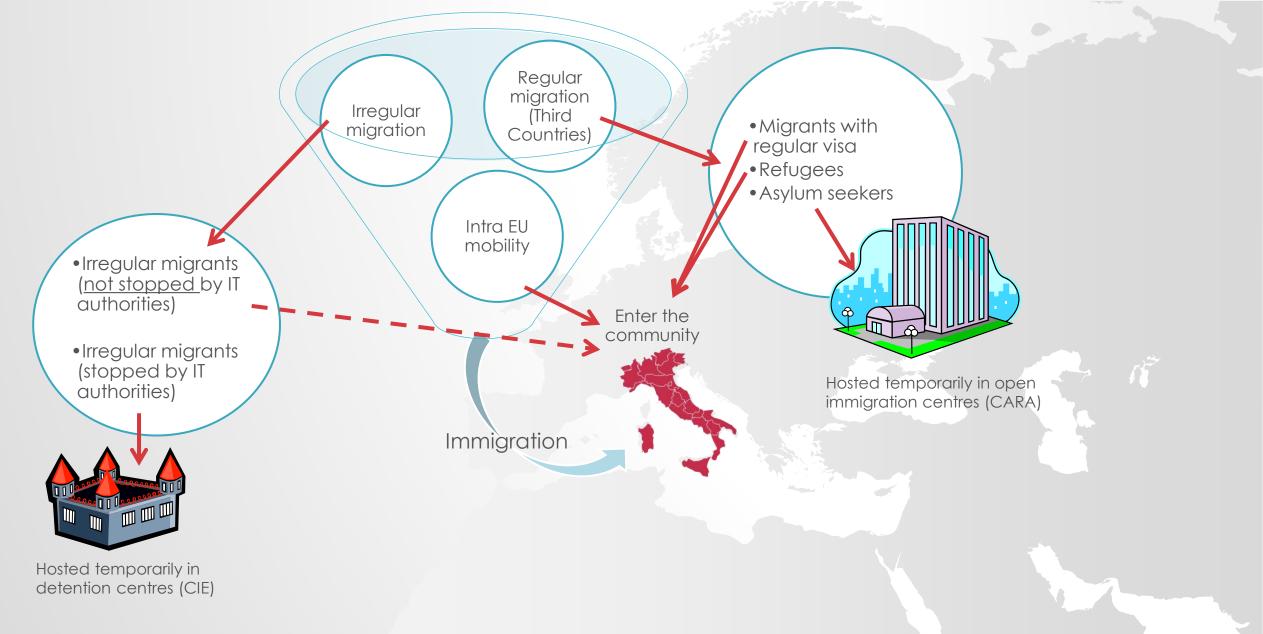
Art.32 of the Italian Constitution

ACCESS TO DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, AS WELL AS **PREVENTION** ACCORDING TO NATIONAL PREVENTION PLAN, IS AMONG THE LIST OF INDEFEASIBLE RIGHTS FOR ALL MIGRANTS

Art. 35 of the law on immigration

DOCUMENTED MIGRANTS → The registration in the NHS lasts for the entire duration of the residence permit.

UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANT → STP card is issued by hospitals or Local Health Unit. It's free and valid for 6 months (renewable)



**Depending on their status** new migrants to Italy may <u>access screening and medical follow-</u> up at immigration centre level (Min Interior) or at community level (Min Health/NHS).

### NATIONAL GUIDELINES

- Immigration centres are required to provide to newly arrived migrants a so called "medical screening". However how this should be done is not specified.
- Screening guidance of **tuberculosis** among migrants is provided in the context of disease specific guidelines, issued by the Ministry of Health (1998, 2010).
- National vaccination guidance for migrants children 0-14 with/without certificate (1993)
- <u>No other national guidelines</u> addressing which screening practices should be adopted for newly arriving migrants to Italy.

. Umistero della Saluto Linee guida per il controllo dell su proposta del Ministro della Sanità, a lettera b), del decreto legislativo La tubercolosi costituisce tuttora un rilevante p AGGIORNAMENTO DELLE RACCOMANDAZIONI PER LE ATTIVITÀ controllo è necessario un intervento organico di i nella popolazione. Le misure individuate dalle interventi individuali, concorrono complessivame DI CONTROLLO DELLA TUBERCOLOSI Le principali attività necessarie per realizzare ordine di importanza: 1) Il trattamento farmacologico e la gestione degli 2) L'identificazione, la sorveglianza e il trattament a) contatti di un caso di tubercolosi b) persone con infezione da HIV; c) altri gruppi a rischio. 3) La vaccinazione con BCG "Politiche efficaci a contrastare la tubercolosi nella popolazione immigrata" Completano e fanno parte integrante dei program 4) La sorveglianza epidemiologica e la valutazion 1.Terapia e gestione degli ammalati con tube La diagnosi tempestiva e il trattamento efficace alle forme polmonari con esame dell'espettorat sono i cardini fondamentali su cui si basa il contro Il trattamento ha, infatti, un duplice scopo: a) perseguire la guarigione del soggetto ammala b) ridurre il numero delle fonti di infezione p paziente non contagioso nel più breve tempo oltre ad avere consequenze negative nel persistenza di fonti di contagio e l'acquisizione Per un trattamento efficace sono indispensabili Anno 2010 la prescrizione d'uno schema terapeutico con armaci in associazione, per un periodo di posologia corretta. l'assunzione regolare dei farmaci da parte terapia ricorrendo anche al trattamento direttamente

Fanno parte integrante del corretto trattamento l'educazione alla terapia del paziente e la continua supervisione del trattamento stesso da parte di personale sanitario qualificato.

#### TB SCREENING AND MIGRANTS ITALY'S POSITION della malattia tra gli immigrati? assicurare alle persone con

**Evidence:** 

- TB screening on migrants from highly endemic countries can be useful to ensure rapid treatment and minimize disease transmission.
- Case detection of screening programmes is low (especially for active TB)



Promuovere l'of Immigrati di una diagnosi precoce

I 3.4 E' opportuno utilizzare tutte le occasioni di contatto degli immigrati con il servizio sanitario o con centri di volontariato, per informare sulla malattia (Raccomandazione forte).

1 3.5 | Medici di Medicina Generale (MMG) per ogni nuova persona iscritta proveniente da un paese ad alto rischio (incidenza stimata dall'OMS >100 casi/100.0001) devono (Raccomandazione forte)

- informare sui rischi legati alla tubercolosi e sui sintomi iniziali di questa malattia:
- raccogliere l'anamnesi tubercolare (precedente vaccinazione con BCG, malati di TB in famiglia)
- o indagare sulla eventuale presenza di sintomi suggestivi di tubercolosi e se presenti proporre una radiografia del torace.

I 3.6 I Pediatri di Libera Scelta (PLS) per ogni nuovo bambino iscritto (inclusi i bambini adottati) nato in un paese ad alto rischio (incidenza stimata dall'OMS >100 casi/100.000) dovrebbero (Raccomandazione forte)

informare sui rischi legati alla tubercolosi e sui sintomi iniziali di guesta malattia

### TB SCREENING AND MIGRANTS ITALY'S POSITION Strong Recommendations

Goal	How	Who	When
Favour access to health services	<b>Inform</b> on NHS organization, on the choice of family doctor (GP) and paediatrician and on the importance of early diagnosis of diseases including TB.	Staff involved	When new migrants <b>request permit/sign up</b> to the NHS
	<b>Encourage</b> migrants to choose and be assigned to a family doctor (GP)	HCW working with migrants	When migrants <b>access dedicated health care services</b> (NHS/voluntary groups)
	Activate communication campaigns within migrant communities (on access to NHS, early symptoms of TB, risk of TB transmission within households)	NHS + migrant community leaders	-
Promote early diagnosis	Provide information on TB	HCW working with migrants	When migrants <b>access dedicated health care services</b> (NHS/voluntary groups)
	<b>Inform on risks associated to TB</b> and early signs of disease, collect TB anamnesis (BCG vaccination, TB affected family members), assess for signs and symptoms of TB and if needed propore CXR	GPs	<b>New person</b> signed up coming from a high incidence country (WHO estimate >100/100,000)
	<b>Inform on risks associated to TB</b> and early signs ofdisease, collect TB anamnesis (BCG vaccination, TB affected family members), assess for signs and symptoms of TB and if needed propore CXR, propose cutaneous test and if positive treat LTB, propose vaccination if child in high risk community	Paediatrician	<b>New child</b> signed up coming from a high incidence country (WHO estimate >100/100,000)

### SUB-NATIONAL PRACTICES

- There are diverse screening practices targeting migrants at service/local/regional level.
- Some are documented in scientific and grey literature.



### SOME EXAMPLES

Disease addressed	Level	Target group	Some Reference examples
TB	Several experiences in different regions (Regional HS and service/s based)	Newly arrived migrants, Migrants accessing services	<ul> <li>M. Sañé Schepisi et al. BMC Public Health 2013, T. Prestileo et al. Le Infezioni in Medicina 2013, S. Tafuri et al. Am J Infect Control. 2011;</li> <li>I. Baussano et al. AIE conference 2012, L.E. Pacifici et al.: Giornale italiano di malattie tropicali 2010</li> </ul>
STD including HIV, HPV	Multiregional	Irregular migrants, Newly arrived migrants, ad hoc initiatives (prevalence studies)	T. Prestileo et al. Le Infezioni in Medicina 2013, M.C. Pezzoli et al. Emerg Infect Dis. 2009, , M. Chironna J Immigr Minor Health 2013; L.E. Pacifici et al.: Manuale di Buone Pratiche Esperienze da un Centro di Accoglienza per Richiedenti Asilo 2010
Measles, Rubella, Varicella, HBV	Several experiences in different regions (service/s based)	Newly arrived migrants, migrant children (vaccination status)	I. El-Hamad et al. J Travel Med. 2015; T. Prestileo et al. Le Infezioni in Medicina 2013, L.E. Pacifici et al.: Manuale di Buone Pratiche Esperienze da un Centro di Accoglienza per Richiedenti Asilo 2010
Polio	Regional HS and Service based	Ad hoc initiatives (surveillance)	<b>S. Tafuri</b> et al Journal of Travel Medicine, 2011
Chagas Disease	Service based	Migrants based on country of origin within community/ acceding service	Anselmi M. quoted in Z. Bisoffi et al. IJPH 2011
Neisseria meningitidis	Regional HS and	Ad hoc initiatives (prevalence studies)	<b>S. Tafuri</b> et al Journal of Travel Medicine, 2012

# EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

- Screening can be the first contact with local medical staff in contexts, such as migration centres, where cultural mediation can be available
- Screening facilitates access to the NHS services:
  - Treatment and counselling is provided when appropriate
  - Vaccinations for not-immunized children/at risk adults
- Screening can trigger public health actions (e.g. contact tracing)
- The screening is offered to all migrants but it is not compulsory

# WHAT DO WE REALLY NEED?

- 2011 Migration surge in Italy: people arriving were young and in good health, no public health emergencies took place (F. Riccardo et al. Eurosurveillance 2012; C. Napoli et al. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2014)
- Promote early diagnosis
- Cost effectiveness of screening practice (eg TB debate)
- Favour access to health services



# CHALLENGES

Guidance for screening/early diagnosis of communicable diseases → to help at National level

✓ Goals and objectives

✓ Target population

✓ Setting(s)

Evidence based cost/effective screening practices

→Common action lines and strategies OR panorama of possible options

#### THANK YOU

