

TUBERCULOSIS AND LUNG DISEASE

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Role of imaging in management of tuberculosis

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Imaging plays an important role in management of Tuberculosis. Primary tuberculosis may manifest as lymphadenopathy, pulmonary consolidation, and pleural effusion. Postprimary tuberculosis may manifest as cavities, consolidations, and centrilobular nodules. Miliary tuberculosis manifests with miliary lung nodules and multiorgan involvement. Imaging findings, particularly the presence of cavitation, can affect treatment decisions, such as the duration of therapy. In patients who are suspected of having latent tuberculosis, chest radiographs are used to stratify for risk and to assess for asymptomatic active disease. Sequelae of previous tuberculosis that is now inactive manifest characteristically as fibronodular

opacities in the apical and upper lung zones. Stability of radiographic findings for 6 months distinguishes inactive from active disease. Nontuberculous mycobacterial disease can sometimes mimic the findings of active tuberculosis. Familiarity with the imaging of tuberculosis is important for diagnosis and management.

Speaker Biography

Arun Nachiappan has completed his MD at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, USA. He is an Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. He specializes in thoracic radiology and has a clinical interest in tuberculosis. He is also the Director of Medical Student Education for the Department of Radiology at the University of Pennsylvania.

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