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Skeletal tuberculosis: Review of literature and few case reports

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Extrapulmonary tuberculosis forms 15% of total tuberculosis in India. Skeletal tuberculosis which constitutes bone and joint tuberculosis, results from haematogenous spread from a pulmonary or other visceral or lymph node focus. Tuberculosis osteomyelitis was described by Nelatoo (1837); histologic morphology was given by Rokitsansky (1884); tuberculosis nodule in a joint was seen by Koster (1869); and synovial tuberculosis by Volkmann (1879). Case No.1: A case of shoulder joint tuberculosis which was relatively rare was diagnosed in a middle-aged farmer after taking proper history of pain and inability to move. He was investigated appropriately with radiological images and the case eventually responded to the anti-tuberculosis treatment. Case No.2: A case of rib osteomyelitis was diagnosed when the young lady had only a complaint of pain in lower chest right side. The diagnosis of TB was reached after she had empyema and the same pus was tested for TB DNA. The decrease in pain and relieve of symptoms noticed after the initiation of treatment with anti-tuberculous treatment. She had surgical intervention for the same. Case No.3: A young lady complained of pain and swelling in left wrist for a long duration. MRI showed bone marrow oedema in distal row of carpal bones with loss of articular cartilage and small erosion

noted in trapezoid, base of metacarpal and capitates and base of third metacarpal joint. The diagnosis of tuberculosis was supported with immunoglobulin releasing assay (IGRA) which was positive. Anti-tuberculous drugs were given, and she responded well. Case No.4: A middle aged man who was suffering from low back ache from three years had been diagnosed as Potts spine at L5-S1 with the help of MRI spine. He was started with anti-tuberculosis drugs and he responded well. All the cases were also worked up primary pulmonary involvement but found in none.

Speaker Biography

C Sumalata has completed her MBBS from Sri Venkateswara Medical College, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh, India in 2008 and MD in Pulmonary Medicine from Siddhartha Medical College in 2015. She is a qualified Medical Practitioner with specialization in treating pulmonary and chest related ailments. She was very good at academics and participated in many quiz competitions. She also has experience in teaching at National Conferences and training undergraduate residents in medical courses. Her areas of interest included Interventional Pulmonology and Tuberculosis. She volunteered in many public events. She had been a Facilitator for trainings in National programmes to Medical Officers and Field Staff working at Ground level. Her areas of interest led her to participate in many respiratory National Conferences, trainings, continuous medical education (CME) and conferences. Presently, she is working as State TB Epidemiologist, State TB Training and Demonstration Centre, Hyderabad, Telangana, India. She has publications in several journals and most of them constitute case reports.

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