

Tuberculosis Of Wrist: Case Series

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INTRODUCTION:

Tuberculosis (TB) is a public health challenge. However, musculoskeletal involvement represents 10–15% of all extrapulmonary cases. Upper extremity involvement is extremely rare. Hence, the patients who have tuberculosis of wrist are usually misdiagnosed. We report 5 cases of tuberculosis of wrist presented to Serdang Hospital from the year 2010 to 2015.

METHODS:

Cases were retrospectively evaluated on its demographic, nature of history, clinical presentation, culture finding, histopathological finding, treatment, complication as well as the clinical outcome from the year 2010 to 2015 in Serdang Hospital.

RESULTS:

A total of 5 cases were evaluated retrospectively. Three of the patients were more than 60 year old and two were less than 30 years old. All of the patient were presented with chronic pain and swelling over the wrist. Only one of the patients had history of pulmonary TB contact where the others don't. All patients underwent surgery. One of the patient had acid fast bacilli (AFB) stained negative. Four of the patient had positive culture for Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex and histopathological examination shows necrotizing granulomatous inflammation from specimen taken intraoperatively, which confirmed the diagnosis of tuberculosis of wrist. All patients were right hand dominant and were started on anti tuberculosis drug for at least for eight months. All of the patient regain their full range of motion post operatively.

DISCUSSIONS:

Our small study shows that the common presentation of tuberculosis of the wrist was comparable to other literature. Due to its rarity, it may be misdiagnosed, resulting in delayed in the proper treatment.

CONCLUSION:

Chronic wrist pain, swelling and unexplained bone erosion around wrist area must be highly suspected of being osteoarticular TB, especially in endemic areas. Anti tuberculosis drug need to be commenced and surgery was indicated in selected case as the disease had a good clinical outcome.

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