

R2676

Abstract (publication only)

The evaluation of 46 cases presenting with rare adherence and complications due to brucellosis

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Objectives: The study was established in order to take care of the physicians from all departments rather than Infection Diseases about differential diagnosis of brucellosis that can present atypical adherence and complications, also imitate other infectious and non-infectious diseases. **Methods:** Between January 2002 and October 2011, totally 487 cases with brucellosis were followed and treated prospectively in our clinics. Forty-six of these cases who did not have spesific sign, symptoms and/or laboratuary findings about brucellosis and also presented unexpected adherence and complications were included to study. **Results:** Seventeen of the 46 cases were female and 29 of them were male. The mean age was calculated as 40.8 years. Thirty-six of the cases were detected as acute, while nine of them subacute and one of them chronic brucellosis. *Brucella melitensis* was isolated in blood samples of 17 cases, urine sample of one case, both urine and blood samples of one case, abcess samples of four cases, blood sample and mitral valv of one case, pleural and peritoneal fluid samples of one case. The distribution patern of the patients due to affected systems and organs with symptoms at application time was presented in Table 1. Also, it was detected that 37 (80.4%) of the cases were initially evaluated by different clinics rather than Infection Diseases. **Conclusion:** As seen in our study, an important proportion that can not be underestimated (9.4%) of brucellosis might progress with atypical clinics and be evaluated by different clinics rather than Infection Diseases. The treatable disease can be easily overlooked if it is not mentioned in differantial diagnosis in endemic regions. Therefore, we think that the differantial diagnosis of brucellosis might be kept in mind by not only the specialists of Infection Diseases but also the physicians of other branches, too.

Table 1. The distribution pattern of the patients due to affected systems and organs with symptoms at application time

| Organs/Systems | Rare adherence and complications | Case number | Symptoms at application time |
|---|--|--------------------|--|
| Muscle-Skeleton System | Cervical spondylodiscitis | 3 | Neck pain |
| | Cervical + torocal spondylodiscitis | 1 | Neck and back pain |
| | Sternoclavicular osteomyelitis and abscess | 1 | Sternal swelling and pain |
| | Tendinitis, Tenosynovitis | 4 | Shoulder pain, swelling, fever |
| | Psoas abscess | 3 | Abdominal pain, fever |
| | Knee prosthesis infection | 1 | Knee swelling, redness, pain |
| Cardiovascular System | Native aortic and mytral valv endocarditis | 1 | Fever, dyspnea |
| | Native mytral valv endocarditis in a case with aortic valv replacement | 1 | Fever and chest pain |
| Hematologic Adherence | Dissemine intravascular coagulation | 1 | Gingival and nasal he morragia |
| | Cause of painful crisis in cases with sickle cell anemia | 3 | Fever, prevalent severe bone pain |
| Nevre System | Transversemyelitis | 1 | Unable to walk, urinary retantion |
| | Miller Fisher Syndrome | 1 | Diplopia, unable to walk Unbalanced walking, vertigo |
| | Cerebellar abscess | 1 | Crural prickle |
| | Progressive spastic paraparesis | 1 | Muddy vision and diplopia |
| | Optic neuritis and ve abducence nerve paralysis | 1 | Sightless, headache, fever |
| | Ophthalmoparesis, papillitis, premacular he morragia, endocarditis | 1 | Muddy vision, fever, diplopia |
| Genitourinary System | Supranuclear oftalmoplegia | 1 | Quadriplegia, diplopia |
| | Urinary tract infection | 2 | Disuria |
| | Ovarian abscess | 2 | Abdomial pain |
| Skin and Mucosal Adherence | Testicular abscess | 1 | Testicular swelling |
| | Maculopapuler eruptions | 2 | Total body eruption |
| | Erythema nodosum | 2 | Painfull crural swelling |
| | Psoriaform lesion | 1 | Knee crust |
| | Palmar erythema | 1 | Palmar redness and pain |
| | Molar eruption | 1 | Buccal mucosal hyperemia |
| Serosal Tissue and Organ Adherence | Palmar eczama | 1 | Palmar redness, prunitus |
| | Pleuritis+peritonitis | 1 | Abdomial pain, cough |
| | Orchitis+peritonitis septa | 1 | Abdomial pain, fever |
| | Pneumonia and pleural effusion | 1 | Dyspnea, cough |
| Other | Splenic abscess | 1 | Fever |
| | Seronegative bruceellosis | 2 | Fever |
| | Cause of febrile neutropenia | 1 | Fever |