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Abstract (publication only)

Evaluation of 89 cases of Brucellar spondylodiscitis

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Objective: Spondylodiscitis due to brucellosis as well as longer duration of treatment required during the diagnosis and computed tomography with magnetic resonance imaging examinations such as the use of advanced disease with focal organ involvement is one of the most troublesome. In our study, we followed the patients were evaluated with brucellar spondylodiscitis. Methods: Our clinic between March 2004-October 2011 total of 487 cases of brucellosis were monitored prospectively, and these patients 89 (18.2%) cases were identified spondylodiscitis. The diagnosis of spondylodiscitis was established by physical examination and radiological findings obtained by diagnosing imaging tools. Results: Total 89 cases, while 49 men and 40 women mean age 58.02 (age range :26-86 years), respectively. Fifty one cases (57.3%) acute, subacute, 34 (38.2%) and 4 (4.4%) were considered chronic. Three patients (3.3%) relapsed with a spondylodiscitis is determined. The most common site of lumbar spine involvement in 64 (71.9%), respectively, while the thoracic and cervical spine involvement was found to be 25.8% and 2.2%. Thirty-six cases of blood culture both yielded *Brucella* spp. In addition to the twenty-eight cases of paravertebral abscess, spondylodiscitis, 20 cases of epidural abscess and one patient was found intraosseous abscess. In two patients with neurological deficits due to surgical treatment is applied to identify other medical treatment was performed in all cases. Medical treatment was performed at least 4 months. All patients had healed without sequelae. Conclusion: In our study, approximately one fifth of spondylodiscitis seen almost all cases of brucellosis with the most common cause of focal involved organ. Contrary to expectations, a large portion of patients diagnosed with acute or subacute period, and again a large part of the paravertebral and epidural abscess has been identified as a serious involved. Spondylodiscitis due to other factors in different cases of epidural and paravertebral abscess is improved with medical treatment without the need for surgical treatment. This is so serious, especially in endemic areas, brucellosis should be considered in the differential diagnosis of vertebral involvement in cases of spondylodiscitis