

P1053 Lymph node tuberculosis: it's time to worry!

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Background: Tuberculosis (TB) is a global public health problem. Extrapulmonary tuberculosis (EPTB) accounts for 46% of cases and is dominated by lymph node involvement. Epidemiological studies allow us to evaluate the current state of lymph node forms and to plan an effective prevention strategy. The aim of our study is to know epidemiological features of lymph node tuberculosis of Sfax, Southern Tunisia.

Materials/methods: A retrospective study (1995 – 2016) of EPTB new cases of ages all ages was conducted.

Results: We gathered 754 cases (45.6%) with lymph node tuberculosis (LNTB) among 1650 cases of EPTB. LNTB was significantly more common in women (473 cases (52.5%); $p < 10^{-3}$). Median age of LNTB cases was 32 years (IQR = [22-49 years]). There were 373 patients with LNTB aged between 15 and 39 years (49.5%). In children, LNTB was significantly the most common clinical form of EPTB (67.9%; $p < 10^{-3}$). Patients coming from urban areas were significantly more affected (48.2% vs. 42.4%, OR = 1.26, $p = 0.021$). LNTB cases were more frequently followed in a public health institution (537 cases; 71.2%, $p < 10^{-3}$). Median duration of treatment was 9 months (IQR = [7-15 months]). Single-dose regimen was more commonly used (66.6%). LNTB was significantly associated with more favorable outcome than other forms of EPTB (91.8% vs. 83.9%, $p < 10^{-3}$). We noted only 2 cases of relapse (0.3%).

Conclusions: LNTB should be suspected in presence of ganglionic swelling with clinical and epidemiological arguments advocating tuberculosis. Microbiological diagnosis and quick treatment are recommended.

