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Title: Cyst hydatid patients in a pediatric pulmonology department in Turkey

Prof. Ayse Tana 30935 Aslan aysetana@yahoo.com MD ¹ and Dr. Tugba 30936 Eyuboglu tsismanlar@yahoo.com MD ¹. ¹ Gazi University, Pediatric Pulmonology, Ankara, Turkey, 06500 .

Body: Human hydatid disease due to *Echinococcus granulosus* is of worldwide importance in many countries. The aim of this study is to review our experience in pediatric pulmonary hydatid cysts focusing on clinical symptoms, location of the cyst, type of the intervention, postoperative complications and long-term results. Between January 2007- December 2011 there were 26 patients with Cyst Hydatid Disease (CH) at Gazi University Pediatric Pulmonology Department. There were 26 patients with a mean age of 12,8 (8-18) years. Hydatid cysts were localized in the lungs in 18 patients, in the liver in 14 patients. Nine patients have lung and liver CH together. Two patients have vertebral, one patient has splenic and one patient has surrenal involvement. The most common symptoms were cough and chest pain. Cysts were found in right lung in 6 patients, in left lung in 7 patients and bilateral in 4 patients. The cysts were perforated into the bronchia in 3 patients. Surgical treatment was performed in 15 patients. Cystotomy plus capitonage was the most frequent administered surgical technique. The mean hospitalization time was 14 days. There were no complication related to surgery such as pneumothorax and infection. Nine patients had PAIR. All of the patients received albendazole therapy and 6 patients received praziquantel therapy. Mean follow-up time was 17.6 (1-52) months. Six patients left the follow-up. There were two recurrence, one patient was with pulmonary CH and the other was with vertebral CH. 18 patients continue to follow-up of without recurrence. Cyst hydatid is an important public health problem especially in countries where it is common in agriculture and animal husbandry.