

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 966

Publication Number: P2600

Abstract Group: 10.2. Tuberculosis

Keyword 1: Tuberculosis - diagnosis **Keyword 2:** Tuberculosis - mechanism **Keyword 3:** No keyword

Title: Features and treatment outcome in caseous pneumonia

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Body: Caseous pneumonia is a clinical X-ray form of infiltrative TB or a complication of the acute progression of fibro-cavitary TB. Aim of study is evaluation of features and treatment outcome in CP. A retrospective study included 95 patients with CP. Most of them (84%), were new cases of infiltrative TB and 16% fibro-cavitary TB. New-onset TB were 70% cases, relapse cases were 21%, after treatment failure 7% and after default 2%. Male/female ratio was 2/1, average age 42,6 yrs, unemployed 64%, disease disabled 11%, with bad living conditions 72%, homeless 10%, with medium level of education 59%. Regarding the way of detection, all were detected passively, 68% were late detected (average time 6 weeks). Regarding clinical picture, 77% had well-defined respiratory syndrome and 85% intoxication syndrome. Co-morbidities had 40% cases (alcoholism 19%, hepatitis 11%, diabetes 7%, HIV-infection 4%). Hematological predominates anemia in 61% cases, lymphocytosis 48%, lymphopenia 51%, increased ADA 42%. Radiological were revealed destructive lesions in 90% with bilateral localization in 89%, involving more 3 lobes in all cases. At the detection, smear positive for acid-fast bacilli were 83%, culture positive 84%. Primary drug resistance was identified in 34% cases. Conversion rate of smear positive patients at 2 months of treatment was 56%. DOTS received 91%, individualized treatment 9%, compliant with treatment were 84% cases. Treatment outcome: anti-TB treatment completed 61%, dead 23%, treatment failure 12%, default 4%. Features that affect the outcome of CP are: late detection, co-morbidities (associated with low economical status), previous anti-TB treatment, high rate of primary resistance, bilateral involving.