

Case Study

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Tubo-Ovarian Mass-A Rare case of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Infection

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ABSTRACT

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A nulliparous married female, aged 21 years, visited gynecologic OPD of the MS RMC with the complaints of pain abdomen and bleeding P/V since 1 month. PA examination revealed a soft to firm pelvic mass on left side. On vaginal examination, a large mass was palpated on left side which is firm in consistency. Severe anemia (Hb - 6.5 g/dL) and high ESR.USG of whole abdomen reveals a heterogeneous lesion in left adnexa mass measuring 102x57x54mm. Patient underwent USG guided aspiration of ovarian cyst. ZN Stain showed few acid fast bacilli. TB of the female genital tract is nearly always secondary to a focus elsewhere in the body. The clinical diagnosis of genital TB requires a high index of suspicion. The most common initial symptom of genital TB is infertility followed by menstrual disorders.

Introduction

Genital tuberculosis (TB) in females is not common, particularly in communities where pulmonary or other forms of extragenital TB are endemic. TB can involve any organ system in the body and can present without any clinical manifestation. Genital TB may be asymptomatic and diagnosis requires a high index of suspicion.²

Female genital TB is a disease of young women in the age group of 20-40 years with 80-90% of cases diagnosed during the workup for infertility.⁴

Genital TB develops from dissemination of *Mycobacterium* from other site of the body usually pulmonary and sometimes renal, gastrointestinal, bone, joint, or it may be a part of a generalized miliary disease process.

The criteria necessary for a diagnosis of primary genital TB includes are: (1) The genital TB lesions should be the first TB infection in the body, and (2) regional lymph nodes should demonstrate the same stage of TB development as do the genital organs.

Case Report

A nulliparous married female, aged 21 years, visited gynecologic out-patient department of the MS Ramaiah hospital with the complaints of mass per abdomen since 1 month. She also complained of bleeding P/V since 1 month associated with lower abdominal pain. She had received the Bacille Calmette–Guerin vaccination at birth and there was no history of contact with any case of TB. No long-term history of medication was present.

Investigation

Per abdominal examination revealed a soft to firm pelvic mass (size 2 weeks) on left side.

On vaginal examination, a large mass was palpated on left side which is firm in consistency. The mass was tender on palpation. Blood tests showed a severe anemia with a hemoglobin 6.5 g/dL, total leukocyte count- 8920/mm³, platelet count- 3.88 lakhs/mm³ and erythrocyte sedimentation rate- 43mm/hr. Bleeding and clotting time were normal. VDRL and HIV were non-reactive.

Ultrasonography of whole abdomen reveals a heterogeneous lesion in left adnexa mass measuring 102x57x54mm. The provisional diagnosis of Tuboovarian mass was made.

Patient underwent USG guided aspiration of ovarian cyst. The pus was thick, purulent non foul smelling, not blood stained. Gram's stain showed numerous inflammatory cells with no organism. ZN Stain showed few acid fast bacilli. Patient referred to RNTCP and started on ATT. Routine aerobic and anaerobic culture remains sterile. Rough Buff colored growth was seen on LJ media after 5 weeks. MPT 64 test confirmed positive for Mycobacterium complex. The sensitivity was done at Elbit diagnostics and is sensitive to all antibiotics.

Discussion

TB of the female genital tract is nearly always secondary to a focus elsewhere in the body.³The TB bacilli reach the genital tract by three principal routes. Haematogenous spread represents about 90% of cases, with the primary focus being the lungs, lymph nodes or skeletal system. Descending direct spread occurs, with infection reaching the genital organs via the lymphatic system or directly from the gastrointestinal tract,

mesenteric nodes or the peritoneum.^{3,5} Approximately 50% of patients might have had pulmonary TB, TB pleurisy, peritonitis, erythema nodosum, or renal, osseous TB. A history of primary infertility in a woman in whom examination reveals no apparent cause and who gives a family history or personal history of TB of any organ should arouse suspicion of genital TB.

The most common initial symptom of genital TB is infertility. Lower abdominal pain and menstrual disorders are the other most common symptoms after infertility. 10-40% patient of genital TB have abnormal uterine bleeding. Menorrhagia, menometrorrhagia, intermenstrual bleeding, oligomenorrhea, and postmenopausal bleeding may be present.¹

Infertility for which no obvious cause can be found, chronic pelvic inflammatory disease refractory to standard antibiotic therapy, or adnexal disease with ascites in virgin females should alert the clinician to look for TB of the genital tract.¹

Conclusion

Genital TB in females is one of the most important causes of infertility so the possibility of TB infection of the genital tract should always be considered especially in a patient from an area where TB is endemic.

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