

POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

# The multiple faces of tuberculosis in HIV infected patients – a continuous challenge

Raluca Ioana Dulamă\*, Cristina Popescu, Irina Lăpădat, Alina Lobodan, Anca Ruxandra Negru, Mihaela Rădulescu, Cătălin Tilișcan, Violeta Molagic, Raluca Năstase, Roxana Petre, Victoria Aramă

From The 7th Romanian National HIV/AIDS Congress and The 2nd Central European HIV Forum Sibiu, Romania. 29-31 May 2014

Tuberculosis (TB)/HIV co-infection represents a major problem in many regions of the world, including Romania. TB is a leading cause of death among people infected with HIV and HIV infection is the most important risk factor for progression from latent to active TB. TB can occur at any stage of HIV disease and its manifestations depend on the severity of immunosuppression. The proportion of extra-pulmonary tuberculosis in HIV infected patients has increased. Aim: to analyze the cases of pulmonary and extrapulmonary TB in HIV-seropositive patients monitored in Third Department of the “Matei Balș” Institute.

We performed a retrospective analysis of all HIV infected patients monitored in our clinic from 2000 to 2014 in order to establish the location of TB, the diagnosis methods, the correlation with the immune status and the outcome.

122 patients were retrospectively analyzed; from them, 18 patients were diagnosed with certain, probable or possible TB infection (14.75%). Sex ratio in TB group was M: F=1.57:1 and mean age was 39.7 years old at the moment of TB diagnosis. TB occurs at a variable level of immunosuppression (CD4 count from 6 to 460/cmm) - 4 patients (22.2%) in stage 2 - CD4=200-500/cmm and 14 patients (77.8%) in stage 3 - CD4<200/cmm. Mean CD4 count in TB group was 113.23/cmm vs. 218.33 mean nadir CD4 count in non-TB group. Pleuro-pulmonary TB accounted for only 27.7% of all cases - one pleural effusion and 4 pulmonary TB. In most of cases, TB infection was extrapulmonary (72.3%): 5 cases of meningoencephalitis (27.7%), 3 cases of disseminated TB (16.66%), 2 cases of lymph node TB (11.11%) and 3 cases with unknown location (16.66%). TB was microbiologically confirmed in only 6 cases – 33.33%, 3 by blood culture, 2 by PCR (one from

CSF and one from pleural effusion) and 1 by histopathologic exam (lymph node biopsy). In 9 cases TB was probable but without bacteriologic confirmation and in 3 cases TB was possible – prolonged fever with a good outcome under anti-TB medication. Quantiferon TB was performed in only 8 cases – in 6 cases was positive, in one case was negative and in one case was undetermined. Three patients died: one patient because of disseminated TB and two patients because of other HIV-related comorbidities.

HIV infected patients developed especially extra-pulmonary TB infection. TB can occur in any stage of HIV infection. Microbiological diagnosis in TB is positive in a small number of cases.

Published: 29 May 2014

doi:10.1186/1471-2334-14-S4-P31

Cite this article as: Dulamă et al.: The multiple faces of tuberculosis in HIV infected patients – a continuous challenge. *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2014 14(Suppl 4):P31.

**Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central and take full advantage of:**

- Convenient online submission
- Thorough peer review
- No space constraints or color figure charges
- Immediate publication on acceptance
- Inclusion in PubMed, CAS, Scopus and Google Scholar
- Research which is freely available for redistribution

Submit your manuscript at  
[www.biomedcentral.com/submit](http://www.biomedcentral.com/submit)

 **BioMed Central**

National Institute for Infectious Diseases “Prof. Dr. Matei Balș”, Bucharest, Romania

 **BioMed Central**

© 2014 Dulamă et al; licensee BioMed Central Ltd. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited. The Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication waiver (<http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/>) applies to the data made available in this article, unless otherwise stated.