

## **LEFT WRIST ABSCESS; A RARE PRESENTATION OF TUBERCULOUS OSTEOMYELITIS OF LEFT RADIAL BONE IN A 6 MONTH OLD CHILD. A CASE REPORT.**

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**Introduction:** Tuberculosis (TB) is a multisystem disease with myriad of presentations. While most common sites of extrapulmonary nonspinal tuberculosis are the pleura , lymph nodes, the isolated involvement of the radial bone is particularly rare. Mimicking malignancies, pyogenic osteomyelitis prompt diagnosis is crucial. Here by we present a case of tuberculous osteomyelitis of distal radius metaphysis presenting as a lytic lesion in a 6 month old boy.

**Discussion:** A 6 month old boy presented with increasing swelling and pain of the left wrist for 2 weeks prior to admission. Had history of insect bite before, initially treated with oral antibiotics and was discharged. Swelling gradually increasing in size and erythematous. Child otherwise generally active, had low grade fever upon admission. A radiograph of the left wrist showed lytic lesion with periosteal reaction over distal left radius, ultrasound suggestive of the left wrist suggestive of cold abscess. Incision and drainage done, sloughy bone cavity found and the tissue AFB is positive, while bone and tissue biopsy showed granulomatous inflammation. Multiple wound debridement done due to non healing wound and the second sample MTB gene expert result is positive. Tuberculin test positive. Initially treated as non tuberculous mycobacterium infection, wound improved after anti tubercular therapy started. No family history or contact with TB patient.

**Conclusion:** TB poses significant diagnostic challenges in children. The detection rate on microscopy from extrapulmonary samples are lower due to paucibacillary nature disease at these site. Diagnosis is notoriously difficult; radiological findings, manifestations are nonspecific with most children are asymptomatic in early disease, resulting in delay treatment. High index suspicion of unusual manifestations of TB will likely allow for proper diagnosis and management which will prevent further debilitating sequelae.