

LEPROSY HAND COMPLICATED WITH OSTEOMYELITIS, A FORGOTTEN DISEASE: A CASE REPORT

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Introduction: Leprosy or Hansen's disease is an ancient disease which caused by mycobacterium leprae. It can manifest at the skin, peripheral nerves, upper respiratory tract, and eyes. Through this case report, we attempt to report the rarity of this case.

Discussion: 61-year-old man with underlying leprosy, presented with a swelling over left middle finger for 1 week associated with pus discharge. However, he denied any history of trauma or insect bites prior to swelling. On examination, deformity of all fingers, with diffuse swelling of left middle with ulcer over dorsum aspect. Xray shows osteomyelitis changes over middle phalanx. Patient then had undergone left rays' amputation. Culture and sensitivity results grows staphylococcus aureus from bone and tissue samples which sensitive to oxacillin.

Conclusion: In only 5% of admitted patients presented with bony lesion directly invaded by the bacilli. The invasion either occurs indirectly via lesion in surround tissue, peripheral neuropathy or the blood. For leprosy patient, due to the loss of sensation they did not aware of self-inflicted injuries to the limbs, leading to neglect of surface injuries which can leads to infection. For this patient, loss of cutaneous tissue over the middle finger favors pyogenic infection and spreading to the bone. This can lead to septic osteomyelitis of non-leprous origin which accompanied by bony destruction as shown in the x-ray and compromising finger movement due to muscular paralysis secondary to nerve damage. Indication for amputation in leprosy are few and very specific. For this patient amputation was chosen in view of severe bone and joint disintegration with concurrent infection. Many of the proposed pathological mechanisms of leprosy and complications has proven to be related to orthopedic. However, because of the polymorphic character of leprosy and the lack of knowledge about its clinical manifestations there is no definite guideline to manage its complication.