

SEQUALAE OF PAEDIATRIC OSTEOARTICULAR INFECTION: A CASE OF ISOLATED PAN OSTEOMYELITIS OF FIBULA

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Introduction: Acute osteomyelitis and septic arthritis represent inflammatory disease that can affect bone and synovial joints. Both are primarily caused by bacterial infections. The two disease can occur alone or in combination. Osteomyelitis can also be a sequela to septic arthritis. The incidence for both approximately 8 cases per 100,000 children per year, with high prevalence in those aged 5 years.² We report a case of isolated pan osteomyelitis of fibula in paediatric patient as a sequela of septic arthritis ankle with positive history of trauma.

Discussion: An 8-year-old boy initially treated with left ankle septic arthritis with preceding history of fall from ladder presented to outpatient clinic 2 week after being discharged from ward. He complained of discharging wound over lateral aspect of left ankle with minimal pain. Examination revealed swelling over lateral aspect left ankle with raw area of 2x3 cm, fluctuant upon palpation with pus discharge. Left tibia fibula radiograph showed pan osteomyelitis of left fibula with pathological fracture over distal 3rd fibula. Blood investigation taken; total white blood cell 14.9, erythrocyte sedimentation rate 89, C-reactive protein positive. He underwent wound debridement over left ankle. Intraoperatively, noted multiple sinuses over lateral ankle tracking to fibula bone with pus discharge and friable bone. Samples sent for histopathologic examination and culture & sensitivity. Bone C&S came back as *Pseudomonas Aeruginosa* and HPE revealed acute inflammation with abscess. He completed 4 weeks course of antibiotics. Upon review at outpatient clinic, wound epithelized with full range of motion left ankle. Left ankle radiograph showed presence of callus over distal fibula.

Conclusion: Acute osteomyelitis and septic arthritis are two infections whose frequencies are seen on the rise in paediatric populations. Thorough assessment and appropriate treatment should commence promptly to avoid devastating sequela.