



CLINICAL PROFILE AND FACTORS AFFECTING OUTCOME OF CHILDREN DIAGNOSED WITH HEPATIC TUBERCULOSIS AT THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER



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INTRODUCTION

The burden of tuberculosis in the pediatric population cannot be underestimated. Hepatic tuberculosis is seen as part of disseminated type of tuberculosis or isolated. Outcome in these cases depend on adequate treatment since complications such as portal hypertension contribute greatly to prognosis. However, data on impact of morbidity is scarce. Determination of factors affecting outcome would help in the management.

OBJECTIVES

To determine the clinical profile and factors affecting the outcome of patients diagnosed with Hepatic Tuberculosis

METHODOLOGY

A retrospective, descriptive study on all patients from 0 to 18 years old diagnosed with hepatic tuberculosis at the out-patient department or admitted .

RESULTS

Thirty seven cases were identified in two hundred thirteen charts reviewed. Incidence of hepatic tuberculosis was at 1.26%.

The mean age was 11 years old with predominance of male patients and majority with no wasting but with severe stunting. Clinical manifestations commonly seen were jaundice, abdominal distention, abdominal pain and variceal bleeding.

RESULTS (CONTINUED)

Most patients had pulmonary and hepatic tuberculosis followed by isolated hepatic tuberculosis. Derangement in Alkaline Phosphatase and Bilirubin were seen. Treatment with anti-TB drugs were started on all patients. Five patients developed portal hypertension as a complication.

CONCLUSION

Hepatic tuberculosis in the pediatric age group is rare and clinical as well as laboratory findings identified here describe the clinical course. Emphasis on awareness and treatment should be done since complications from liver involvement raise morbidity.

Better monitoring of the course of diagnosed cases to ensure adequate treatment and avoid complications is recommended.