

Title: A case report on Tuberculous Pleural Effusion diagnosed clinically and cytologically

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The diagnosis of tuberculous pleural effusion is made by detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in pleural fluid and biopsy. Adenosine deaminase (ADA) has also been documented to be a useful test in such cases. However, there are some countries that are limited in performing diagnostics such as pleural biopsy and ADA, only relying on clinical and cytological evaluation. We herein report a case of a 12-year-old Asian female presenting with prolonged fever accompanied by dry and nondistressing cough, not relieved by completion of Clarithromycin and Co-amoxiclav. She was reported to have previous primary Koch's infection. She is residing in a tuberculosis endemic country with a questionable history of exposure to tuberculosis in household. There was documented adenopathies and decreased breath sounds on left lung field with no signs of mediastinal shifting and distress. Diagnosis of pleural effusion of yet undetermined etiology was made and this was also confirmed radiographically. Complete blood count and peripheral smear were unremarkable. She underwent ultrasound-guided thoracentesis and cytology revealed increased lymphocytes, total protein and lactate dehydrogenease. Patient was treated as a case of tuberculous pleural effusion with anti-Koch's medications and corticosteroid. Significant improvement on symptoms and radiographic findings were noted within 72 hours. Follow up after 2 weeks showed drastic clinical recovery and radiographic clearing of effusion. In countries where resources are limited, history and clinical findings are helpful in the interpretation of pleural fluid analysis. This report still recommends the use of pleural fluid culture and pleural biopsy in places amenable to do such diagnostics.

Biography

Maria Gabriela Quesada completed her pediatric residency training in 2019 at Capitol Medical Center, Inc, Philippines. She had her medical degree in Far Eastern University – Dr. Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation. She has interest in research and has won a few poster presentations locally early in her career.

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