

## WRIST TUBERCULOSIS: A RARE MANIFESTATION OF EXTRAPULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

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**Introduction:** Extrapulmonary tuberculosis is less common manifestation of tuberculosis (TB). Frequently it involves lymph node and spine, but rarely involves small joint. As osseous tuberculosis is a paucibacillary and its smears usually negative, the verdict is often delayed.

**Results:** This is a case of 80-year-old gentleman with underlying hypertension, presented with one-month history of right wrist swelling. Initially treated as abscess with osteomyelitic changes, multiple debridement was required but the wound poorly healed. Otherwise, patient has no prolonged cough, constitutional symptoms or TB contact. On examination of the right wrist, there was a diffuse fluctuant swelling dorsally. Wound about 1x1cm over radial styloid, clean with no discharge. His wrist radiograph showed lytic lesion of right radial styloid and ulna styloid indicative of osteomyelitic changes while chest x-ray was normal. MRI wrist done suggestive of inflammatory process with involvement of adjacent bone. Wound debridement and bone curettage were done. Empirical antibiotic was started until cultures came back as mycobacterium tuberculosis. Anti-tuberculosis regime was started. Patient responding well to treatment and still on follow up.

**Conclusion:** Tuberculosis should be considered in patient with unusual soft tissue or skeletal lesion. The disease may resemble inflammatory arthritis thus need high index of suspicion for timely treatment and halt its progression as well as advance disability.