

# An unresolving case of pyomyositis

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## INTRODUCTION:

Pyomyositis is a rare infection arising from skeletal muscle that often coincides with abscess formation deep within large striated muscles<sup>1</sup>. It is a disease mostly seen in tropical countries and can be rapidly progressive from a localized infection to full blown sepsis in a matter of days<sup>2</sup>.

## REPORT:

We report the case of a 16-year-old boy that complained of left knee pain and swelling for two weeks. He went to a private clinic and was discharge with antibiotics. He presented to the emergency department 1 week later in septic shock with multiple abscesses in both his lower limbs and right arm. (Figure 1) (Figure 2).



Figure 1



Figure 2

A plain radiograph of the pelvis also showed that he had osteomyelitis changes of the left proximal femur. (Figure 3).



Figure 3

His blood investigations pointed towards an infective pathology with an increase white blood cell count and acute phase reactants. We proceeded with an ultrasound of the swelling. He underwent 3 operations in total to drain this abscess and newly developed abscess after the first operation. Intraoperative muscle tissue culture and sensitivity grew *Staphylococcus aureus* in line with the most probable organism of pyomyositis. He kept having recurrent temperature spikes in ward despite being on intravenous antibiotics for 6 weeks. He was diagnosed with concurrent pulmonary tuberculosis infection as well. We postulate that the infection put him in an immunocompromised state which subjected him to develop pyomositis.

## CONCLUSION:

Pyomyositis is a rare infection of the skeletal muscle. The nature of the disease calls for quick diagnosis and initiation of treatment due to the possibility of septicemia if left undiagnosed.

## REFERENCES:

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2. Giovane, R., L. Ahmed, V. Sui and H. Taylor (2018). "Pyomyositis, a Case Report and Review of the Literature."