

MELIOIDOSIS-ASSOCIATED PERI-PROSTHETIC HIP JOINT INFECTION

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INTRODUCTION:

Melioidosis-associated peri-prosthetic joint infection is extremely rare¹. It is caused by the *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, that is known to have high fatality rates in humans². This case report is about an immunocompromised patient who had Melioidosis-associated septic arthritis of the hip following total hip arthroplasty.

REPORT:

A 30-year-old female with underlying systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and end stage renal failure secondary to lupus nephritis presented with fever and left hip pain for a week. She had a history of left total hip replacement in 2008 due to avascular necrosis of her left hip. Due to the SLE, she was on prolonged steroids.

On admission, her vital signs were normal except tachycardic. Examination revealed a swollen left hip, tender on palpation with limited range of motion. Her initial white blood cell count was 27.5 predominantly neutrophil (88%) with C-reactive protein level of 271. Plain radiograph showed soft tissue shadow. Computed tomography scan reported as left hip septic arthritis with extension to the left gluteus minimus muscle. She underwent open drainage and joint washout of the left hip. Intraoperatively, thick pus around 50 ml was evacuated from the hip joint and the implant was covered with biofilm. Peripheral blood and bone culture identified *Burkholderia pseudomallei*.

She was treated with a prolonged course of antibiotic and no clinical features of recurrent infection with septic parameters within normal limits. During follow-up at 5 months post-operation, she was already ambulating and returned to work.



Figure 1

Figure 1: Left Hip Xray

CONCLUSION:

This case highlights the possible occurrence of Melioidosis in a peri-prosthetic joint infection thus should be included in the differential diagnosis. Early surgical intervention and commencement of antibiotics is essential in managing this kind of case³.

REFERENCES:

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