中文題目：2011 年至 2022 年中部地區類鼻疽病人的基礎資料、臨床表現、檢驗結果和預後分析

英文題目：Demographic and clinical characteristics, laboratory findings, and outcome of melioidosis patients in central Taiwan

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Background: Melioidosis, caused by glucose-nonfermentated gram negative bacilli *Burkhoderia pseudomallei*, is frequently reported in the Southeast Asiais but is rarely in Taiwan. Most cases in Taiwan have been repoted in the southern area. Here we reported the clinical profiles and laboratory data of melioidosis patients in central Taiwan.

Methods: During a 12-year period (2011-2022), there were 10 melioidosis patients confirmed by cultivation and identification of *B. pseudomallei* from sterile sites in one university-affiliated medical center in central Taiwan. The demographic profiles, clinical characteristics, associated laboratory data, microbiologic surveys, and outcome of the 10 cases were analyzed.

Results: Totally, ten laboratory-confirmed melioidosis were identified, all were male and with the age ranging from 31 to 73 years old. Among them, eight (80%) lived in the suburbs. The surveys of underlying disease showed that 4 (40%) had diabetes mellitus, 3 (30%) had hypertension (30%), and one (10%) had no comorbidity. All presented with fever, 3 (30%) dyspnea, and none with shock at admission. The entry of *B. pseudomallei* was identified from the skin and soft tissue (2, 20%) and respiratory tract (4, 40%). At admissioin, 6 (60%) had renal insufficiency, 1 (10%) had liver dysunction, all (100%) had elevated Hs-CRP. Seven cases (70%) were confirmed with bacteremia, 3 (30%) had positive sputum culture, 2 (20%) had positive cultures from splenic abscess, and 1 (10%) had positive bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) culture. Half of them (5, 50%) had source control of infection foci, 3 (30%) given with empiric broad-spectrum antibiotics, and only one (10%) was given inappropriate antibiotics empirically and after disease confirmed. Nine (90%) patients were prescribed with appropriately targeted antibiotics after confirmation of melioidosis. All except one were cured with medical treatment including appropriate antibiotic therapy and/or infection source control,

Conclusion: According to the database from the reported disease system of Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Taiwan, there are 370 and 42 confirmed melioidosis cases during 2011-2022 identified in the nation and in central Taiwan, respectively. Here we report 10 cases in central Taiwan with comprehensively analyzing the clinical and laboratory profiles, and half of them are diabetes. With early case identification, appropriate empiric and

targeted antibiotic therapy, and adequate source control, all except one survived. We believe the melioidosis is endemic in central Taiwan and is underdiagnsed.