HO-12

KIKUCHI DISEASE: A CASE STUDY REPORT AND REVIEW OF CURRENT CASES IN TURKEY

Mehmet Yildiz, Ozlem Cakir, Halime Kucukyilmaz, Nevzat Iliman
Second Department of Internal Medicine
Diskapi Education and Research Hospital, Ankara, Turkey

BACKGROUND: Kikuchi Fujimoto Disease (KFD) is a rare histiocyctic necrotizing lymphadenitis, with a benign self-limiting clinical course. Abnormal autoimmune reaction has been its suggested cause and infection is often considered to be an inciting agent. We report a case study and review of cases in Turkey at present.

METHODS: The clinical features of 14 cases of Kikuchi's disease diagnosed in Turkey up to now were determined. The cases were identified from pathology records using the search term histiocytic necrotizing lymphadenitis.

RESULTS: Most patients (57%) were men who presented with cervical lymphadenopathy. The median age was 29 years. There was spontaneous resolution of symptoms within a 6-month period, in the 9 cases. Five patients with lymphadenopathy had atypical symptoms. One patient demonstrated leucocytoclastic vasculitis from erythematous skin lesions and was initially started on steroids. One month after the onset of therapy, fever and lymphadenopathy became inappreciable. Another patient revealed infectious mononucleosis due to the Epstein-Barr virus, with its unusual complication of brachial neuritis. Steroids were given as treatment. A third patient was observed to have KFD and infection of Entomoeba histolytica so Ornidazole treatment was given. However, one patient who also had KFD was found to be pregnant.Steroid therapy was initiated for that particular case. In one patientKFD was observed to be accompanied by chronic renal failure.Exicision biopsy of the affected lymph node was method of choice for diagnosis.

CONCLUSION: Kikuchi's disease is not common in the Turkish population. Recently, cases have been reported throughout the world and in all races though. Establishing an early diagnosis is crucial since the clinical presentation can mimic tuberculous lypmhadenitis or malignant lymphoma.

Key Words: histiocyctic necrotizing lymphadenitis, Kikuchi's disease, lymphadenopathy