Primary laryngeal tuberculosis: Experiences at a tertiary care teaching hospital of India

Primary laryngeal tuberculosis is a chronic bacterial infection of the larynx by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* without affecting the lungs. It is a rare type of extrapulmonary tuberculosis seen in clinical practice. This study aimed to evaluate the clinical presentation, diagnosis, and treatment of primary laryngeal tuberculosis at a tertiary care teaching hospital in eastern India. This is a retrospective study of 11 cases of primary laryngeal tuberculosis managed between December 2013 and January 2018. The detailed clinical presentations, investigations, and treatment of primary laryngeal tuberculosis of the patients were studied. Primary laryngeal tuberculosis is common in men with mean age of 38.63 years. Hoarseness of the voice is the most common symptom, and the most common site for primary laryngeal tuberculosis is the vocal fold with ulcerative lesion. Endoscopic examinations of the larynx in laryngeal tuberculosis are nonspecific and are to be confused with laryngeal cancer. Histopathological and bacteriological examinations are confirmatory tests for the diagnosis. After confirmation of the diagnosis, all patients had taken antitubercular therapy for 6 months, which gave excellent outcome. Delayed diagnosis or untreatable laryngeal tuberculosis will lead to high morbidity and mortality of the patient. Although primary laryngeal tuberculosis has nonspecific clinical presentations, it is very important to have a high index of suspiciousness to rule out tubercular lesion in the larynx as this disease is curable.

Biography

Santosh Kumar Swain pursued MS in Otorhinolaryngology from VSS Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, India; completed Senior Residency from Christian Medical College, Vellore, India; passed Diplomate of National Board (DNB) in Otorhinolaryngology. He is the Head of the Department of Otolaryngology and Head-Neck Surgery at the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital, Siksha O Anusandhan University, India. He is a Member of National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. Currently, he is also working as a mentor for the Department of Science and Research Government of India on the research project: “Development of molecular kit to minimize the ciprofloxacin and amoxyclav resistance strains from chronic suppurative otitis media.” He has published more than 70 research articles in peer reviewed journals. In 2017, he was awarded Medical Talent of the Year at New Delhi, India.

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