



Bone Helminthiasis: An Issue in Tropical Medicine

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Editorial

Bone is an important structural organ of human beings. The bone disease is considered important health problem. Bone infection is an important group of bone disease. The infection of bone might be due to bacteria or other pathogens. The bone infection by parasitic helminth is an interesting issue in tropical medicine that is little mentioned in the literature. Indeed, the helminthiasis or parasitic worm infection is a common problem in tropical countries and the disease can also be seen in non-tropical countries due to the globalization at present. The bone helminthiasis might be a new emerging disease in any non-tropical countries and might be difficult to diagnose.

Many parasitic worms might cause bone helminthiasis. The good example is the hookworm, a parasitic round worm. During the tissue migration, the hookworm might also cause the lesion at bone [1]. Indeed, during the larva migration of hookworm or strongyloides parasite, the reactive articular problem as reactive arthritis might be detectable and it is usually not recognized by practitioner [2-3]. Regarding strongyloidiasis, the parasitic arthritis is also reported in the literature [4]. The histological finding of parasite worm can help diagnosis of strongyloidiasis parasitic arthritis [4]. Similarly, the chronic polyarthritis is also reported as a possible clinical manifestation of toxocariasis [5]. The patient usually has the problem of unexplained joint problem associated with eosinophilia [5]. Not only the round worm but also tapeworm can cause the bone and joint problem. For cysticercosis, the arthritis is a possible clinical problem in case with disseminated infection [6]. Regarding sparganosis, the intraosseous infection is also possible and the case might firstly present with pathological fracture [7]. As suggested by Di Pietro et al. [8], the parasitic arthritis should be included in the list of differential diagnosis of joint problem in any patients from endemic area or having history of travel to that area.

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