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Research Title : ABDOMINAL TUBERCULOSIS: REVIEW OF 78 CASES
ABDOMINAL TUBERCULOSIS: REVIEW OF 78 CASES

Descriptipn : Seventy-eight patients with abdominal tuberculosis (TB) were admitted to the medical and surgical departments at two major teaching hospitals in Jeddah, during the period from January 1991 to August 2001. They were young patients with average age of 31 years. They all belonged to low socio-economic class. The majority of patients presented with non-specific symptoms which included fever, weight loss, abdominal pain, vomiting and change of bowel habit. There was a predilection for a single organ involvement. The peritoneum being the commonest site (61.50%) followed by the liver (16.60%), mesenteric lymph nodes (10.20%), small bowel (3.80%) and colon (2.60%). The spleen, appendix, pancreas and perineum were involved in 1.3% (one case each). Abnormal chest x-ray suggestive of active or old tuberculosis and positive Mantoux test were present in 41% and 14.60% of the patients respectively. Laparoscopy was helpful in establishing the diagnosis of peritoneal tuberculosis in 43 patients. Seven patients (8.90%) required various surgical procedures. The outcome of treatment with anti-TB chemotherapy for 6 months was successful. One patient developed post-operative abdominal fistulae and two patients died. The morbidity was 1.3% and the mortality was 2.56%

Research Type : Article

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Researchers :

Researcher Name (Arabic)	Researcher Name (English)	Researcher Type	Degree	Email
Dr.Abdulrahman Sibiany		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Faisal Al-Mashat		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Ahmed Kensarah		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Adbulrahman Meccawi		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Basim Awan		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Nawal Al-Ghamdi		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Nawal Sharwani		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Fayza Fadl Elahi		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	
Dr.Shahid Barlas		Researcher	أستاذ مشارك	

Attatchments :