

A Rare Presentation In a Patient with Silicosis: Soft Tissue Tuberculosis

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Case

Silicosis, the most common of the pneumoconioses, is associated with inhaled crystalline silica (1). Silica particles exposed people have increased risk for tuberculosis and other mycobacterium-associated diseases (1). The possibility of tuberculosis occurrence in patients with silicosis has been demonstrated by several studies (1-2). Herein, we aimed to report a 32-year-old man who represented a soft tissue tuberculosis caused by silicosis.

A 32-year-old male patient was admitted to our clinic with intermittent dyspnea and discharge from the anterior part of the chest for two weeks. The patient was diagnosed as silicosis after working as a denim grinder for 3 years. The lesion was unresponsive to 2 weeks of antibiotic treatment, and the lesion was raised from the surface and hyperemic. Sputum acid-fast bacteria (AFB), culture samples and biopsy material were taken from the patient who had higher c-reactive protein and

sedimentation rate. Thorax computed tomography demonstrated that bilateral lymph nodes with the largest diameter of 18 mm in the hilar, subcarinal, prevascular, aorticopulmonary lower-upper paratracheal areas, some of which had calcifications in the periphery. Diffuse, localized, milimetric nodules in the upper lobes of both lungs and irregularly limited focal consolidation areas in the lower lobe of the left lung and in the superior segment of the lower lobe of the right lung were observed (**Figure 1-2**). Sputum AFB and culture was negative. In the biopsy material was shown that granulomatous inflammation characterized by Langhans type cells containing caseification necrosis (**Figure 3**). The patient was diagnosed with as granulomatous inflammation, and antituberculosis treatment including isoniazid, rifampin, pyrazinamide and ethambutol was started. In the second month of the treatment, the lesion of the patient healed and the treatment was completed to 9 months. The written consent form was taken for this case presentation. The patient is being followed up in our clinic.

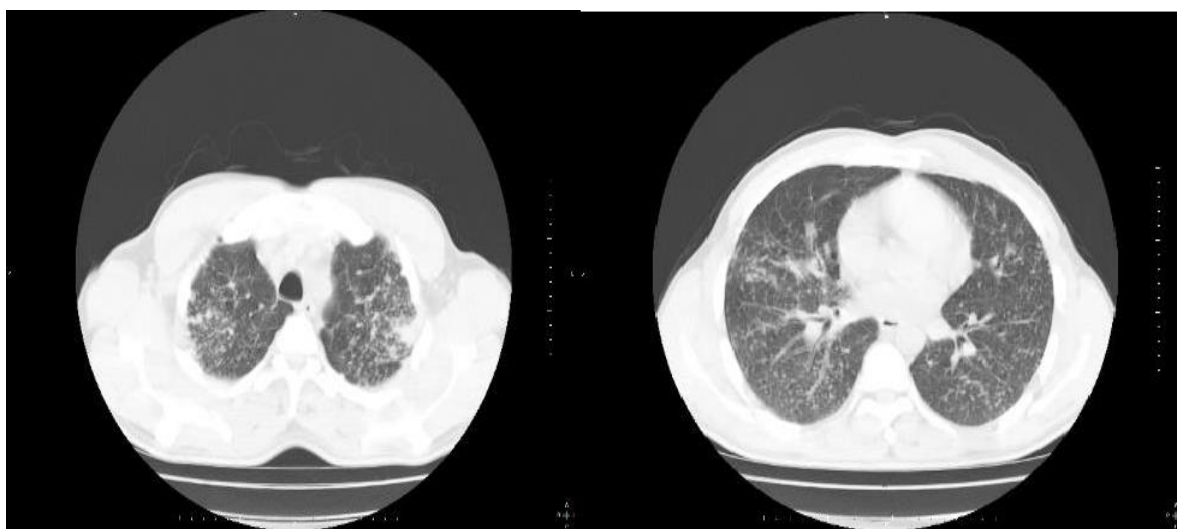


Figure 1-2. Thorax computed tomography slides of the patients

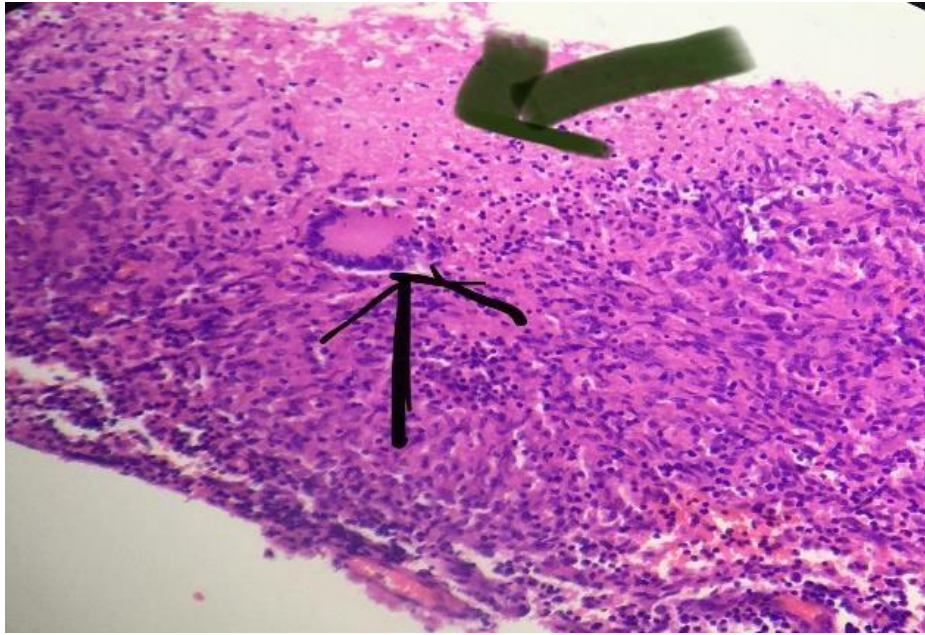


Figure 3. The biopsy material including granulomatous inflammation characterized by Langhans type cells containing caseification necrosis

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