

# CUTANEOUS TUBERCULOSIS

-Dr. Neeta Gokhale(Professor, Dept. of Dermatology)

# Introduction

- Cutaneous TB caused by *M. Tuberculosis* and rarely *M. Bovis*.
- *Mycobacteria* is aerobic, non motile, non- sporing forming, acid fast bacilli
- Acid fastness is due to mycolic acid .
- Cell wall contain arabinogalactan, mycolic acid, peptidoglycan.

# Epidemiology

- Total number of cases in 2016 is 1.4 million
- 90% cases are in India, South America, Philippines, Brazil, Africa
- At a time 1 billion people carry *M. tuberculosis* bacteria.
- 5-10% develop overt TB and out of these 3.4% are MDR and 5 lakh people are XDR.
- Cutaneous TB is 0.1% of overall TB.
- 13% pts. are associated with HIV

# Immunology

- Protective immunity involves T-lymphocytes
- After first infection organism is recognized by toll like receptors.
- Mycobacteria is phagocytosed by macrophages with help of TLR.
- More macrophages are attracted along with neutrophils and monocytes.
- Later on activate T lymphocytes.
- Main cytokine are TNF ,interferon gamma and IL1 2.
- Delayed Hypersensitivity and protective immunity develops.

# Predisposing Factor

---

- Steroid therapy
- Nutritional Deficiency
- Chemotherapy
- Associated with HIV

# Diagnostic test

- 1) Tuberculin test using Inj. PPD (I.D): 0.1 ml is injected which measures 5 tuberculin units.
  - Induration is measured after 48hrs.
  - 5mm induration in high risk patient.
  - 10mm induration in endemic areas
  - 15mm people with no risk factor
  - False positive with other *Mycobacteria* disease.

# Other tests:

---

2) Interferon gamma test

(Gold standard: Quantiferon Tb in spot/ tube test.)

3) PCR test: DNA amplification test

4) Gene Xpert test for Rifampicin resistance.

# Classification

## A) Multibacillary with low resistance

- Tuberculous chancre
- Scrofuloderma
- Tuberculous gumma
- Miliary TB
- Orofacial TB

## B) Paucibacillary with high resistance

- TBVC
- Lupus Vulgaris
- Tuberculids



# Tuberculous Chancre

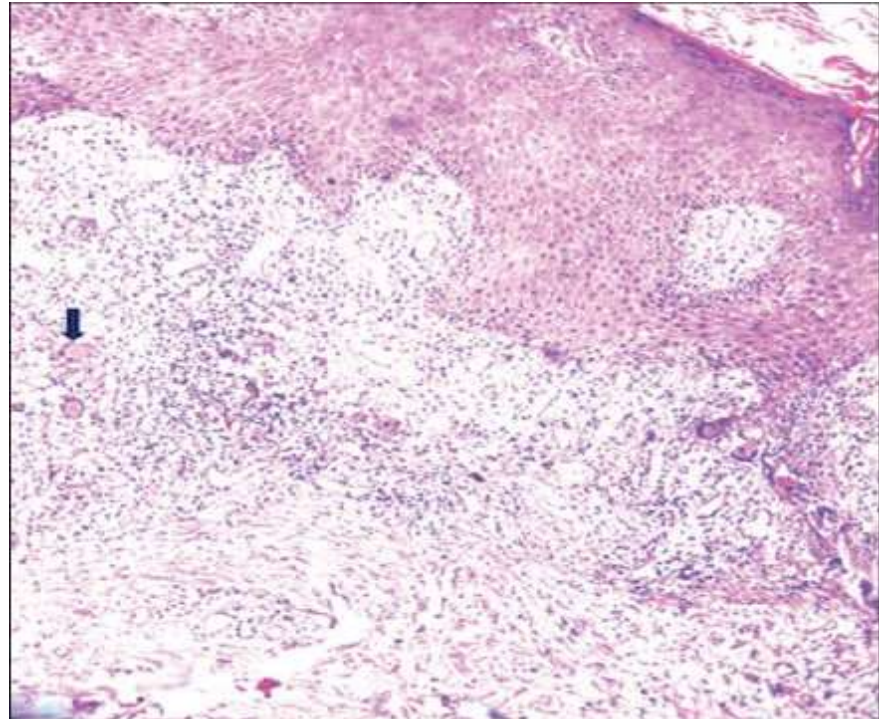


# Primary TB

- Primary inoculation of *Mycobacteria* in skin or mucosa.
- No natural immunity.
- Commonly affects health worker and children.
- Enter through skin abrasion.
- Sites are buttocks, hands.

# Histopathology

- Acute neutrophic infiltrate ,
- Multiple AFB seen,
- After few weeks caseation and granuloma formation occurs



# Risk factors are:

---

- Children
- Over crowding
- Positive open cavitory patient in family.
- Low socio- economic status

# Clinical features:

- Small brownish papule which may ulcerate to form undermined edges, granulomatous base, and adherent crusts.
- Regional lymphadenopathy after 4-8 weeks
- Ghons focus is formed
- Many times heals on there own.
- In patients with low immunity org. may disseminate to form miliary TB.

# Course and prognosis:

- Occ. may progress into Lupus Vulgaris and Scrofuloderma.
- Tuberculin test negative in beginning later on may turns positive.

# Scrofuloderma



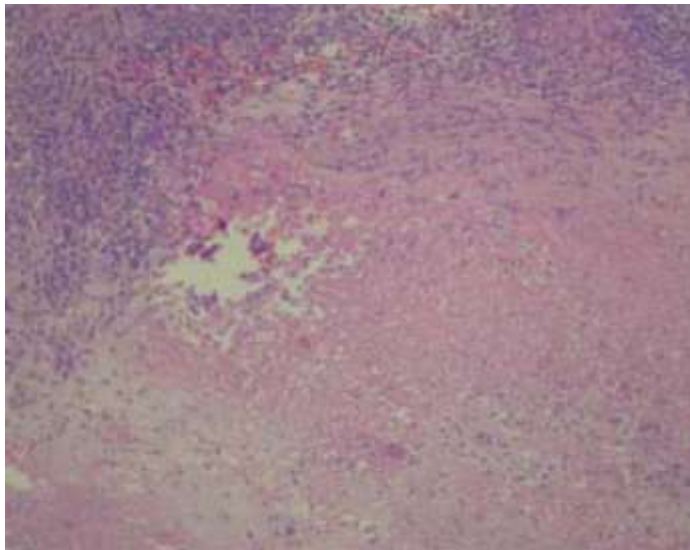
# Scrofuloderma

- Spread: Joint, bone, subcutaneous nodules are involved.
- Involvement of skin is secondary
- Commonest site: cervical and retro auricular lymph nodes are involved.
- Age: childhood, adolescent and old age.
- Males more common than females.
- HIV is more common.



# Histopathology:

- Ulceration of skin, dermal abscess, Epithelioid or macrophages can be seen and sometimes caseous necrosis is present.



# Clinical features:

- Protracts sinuses, non healing ulcers which heals with scarring.
- Liquefactive necrosis matted together that break down to form sinuses which discharge necrotic material and sometimes leads to form ulcers.
- Ulcers have undermined edges.
- Heals with forming puckered scars.

# Differential diagnosis:

---

- Lymphoma
- Sporotrichosis
- Hidradenitis suppurativa.
- Deep fungal infections

# Investigation:

---

- Biopsy
- Tuberculin test
- Tuberculous bacilli in culture

# Orofacial TB

- ❑ Characterized by tubercular infection of mucosa or adjoining orifices.
- ❑ Most lesions are produced by autoinoculation
- ❑ Mainly hematogenous spread
- ❑ More common in elderly
- ❑ Males more than females.
- ❑ Malnutrition, immunosuppression, are predisposing factors.
- ❑ Sites : most common is side and tip of tongue, soft or hard palate, buccal mucosa, or genitals.

- Histopath:
- Non specific inflammation in upper dermis, deep dermis pronounced necrosis with AFB.
- Clinical features :
- Small nodule with rapidly breaks to form ulcer with necrotic base and surrounded by Erythema.
- Ulcer are painful.
- Resistance power is low.
- Prognosis is poor.

- Differential diagnosis:
- Aphthous ulcer
- Bechets disease
- Crohns diseases
  
- Investigations
- Presence of AFB on biopsy culture and pcr
- HIV and malnutrition should be ruled out
- Tuberculin test is negative

# Tuberculous Gumma





# Tuberculous Gumma

- Due to hematological spread of bacteria from primary lesion.
- Seen in Immuno-compromised, malnourished, individuals.
- Single or multiple lesion children.

- Histopathology: Massive necrosis with large number of AFB
- Clinical features:
  - Multiple tender nodules,
  - Overlying skin breaks down forming abscess, sinuses and fistula,
  - Prognosis is bad.

# Investigation:

---

- Biopsy
- Tuberculin test can be negative
- Culture is positive
- PCR.

# Miliary TB

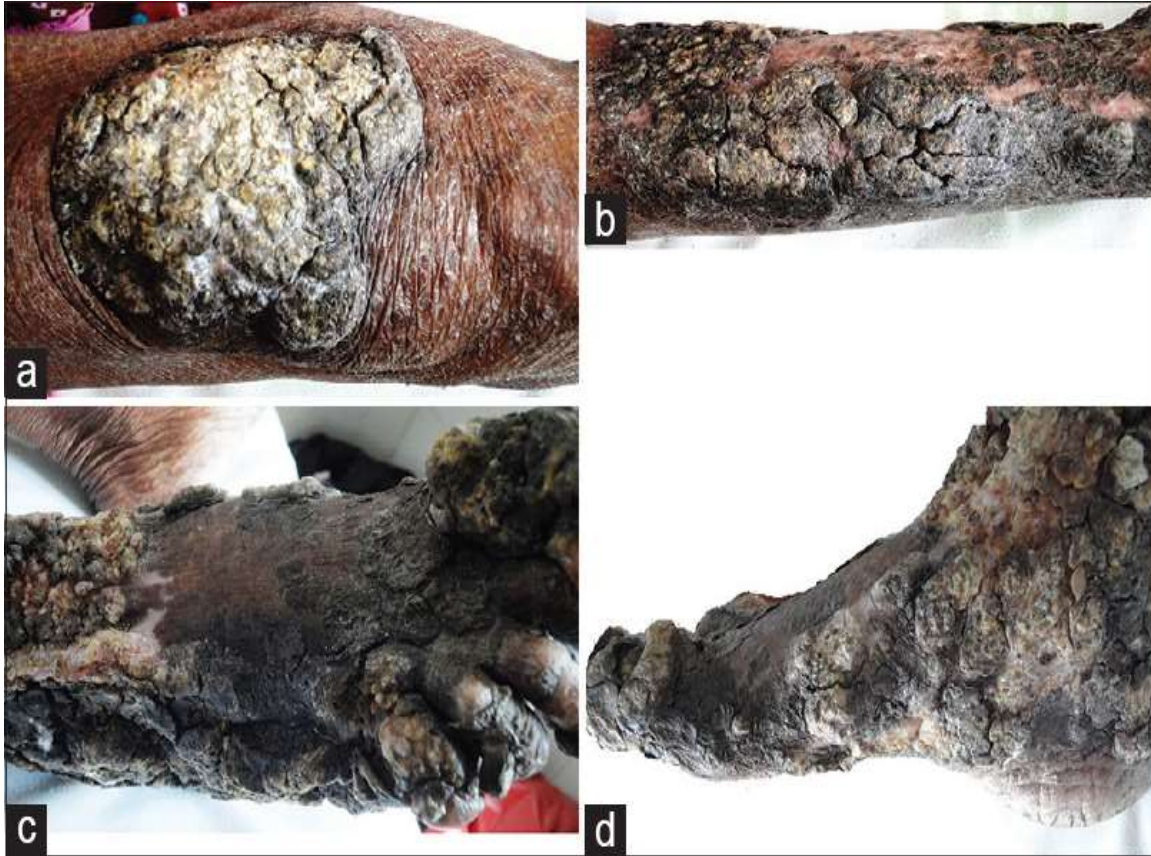


# Miliary TB

- It is rare variant, seen with pulmonary disseminated and infectious tuberculosis.
- Seen in young children mainly after measles, malnutrition.
- In adults with HIV infection.
- Histopath: Multiple small abscess with AFB as well as surrounding dermis

- Clinical features:
- Trunk and proximal extremities are involved.
- Bluish vesicles, papules, hemorrhagic lesions which become superficial ulcers.
- Prognosis is poor may respond to treatment.
  
- Investigation:
- Biopsy
- Culture
- PCR

# TBVC



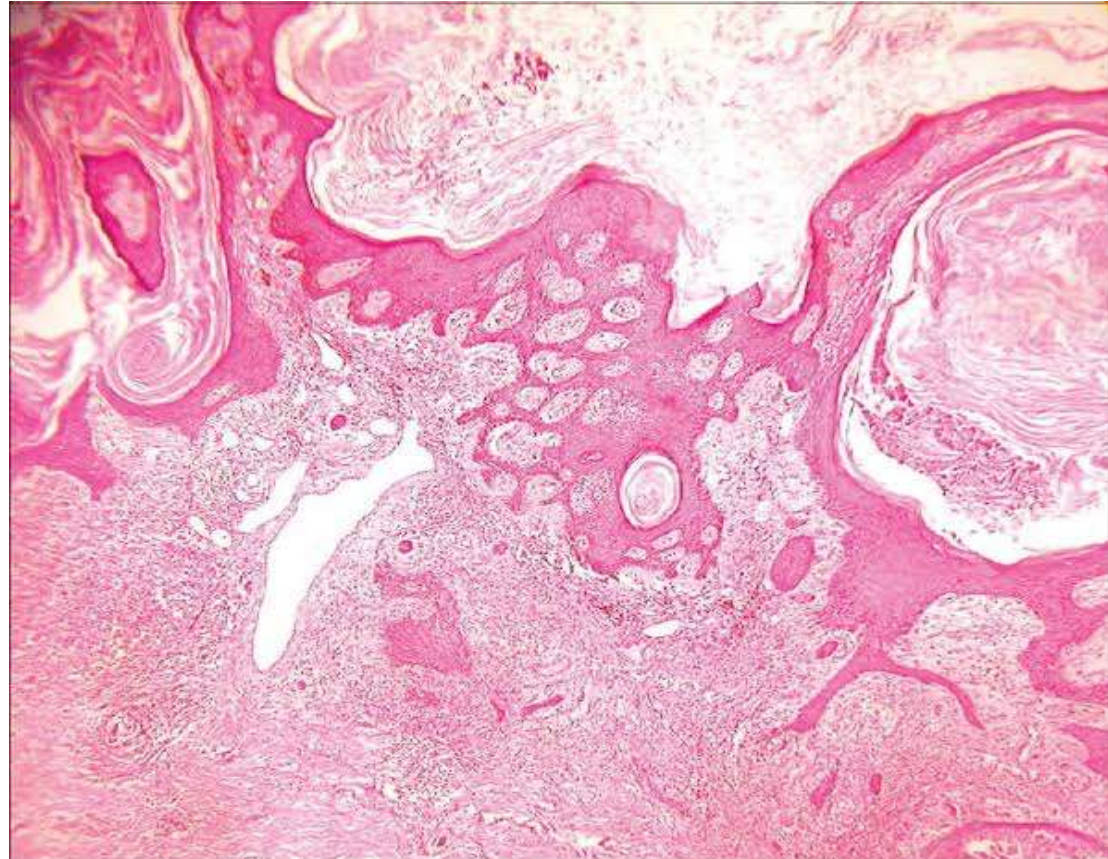
# TBVC

- Caused by exogenous inoculation of *M. Tuberculosis* in previously infected and sensitized patients.
- Common in healthcare workers and children in endemic area.
- Males more common than females.
- Young male who are previously sensitized are commonly affected.
- India and china



- Histopathology: Pseudoepitheliomatous hyperplasia, neutrophilic infiltrate in superficial dermis is seen and AFB is difficult to detect.
- Sites: Those exposed to trauma and infected sputum. Commonly seen over hands, knees, ankle, buttocks.

# Histopathology : TBVC



# Clinical features:

- Starts with small indurated warty papule with erythematous halo.
- Gradually forms serpiginous lesion with rough papillomatous surface, deep fissures to form granulomatous base.
- Occasionally may be keloidal or crusted lesion.
- Single or multiple lesions may be present.
- Responds well to AKT.

- Differential diagnosis:
- Warts
- Hypertrophic lichen planus
- Prurigo nodularis
- Blastomycosis
  
- Investigation:
- Biopsy
- Interferon gamma
- PCR

# Lupus Vulgaris



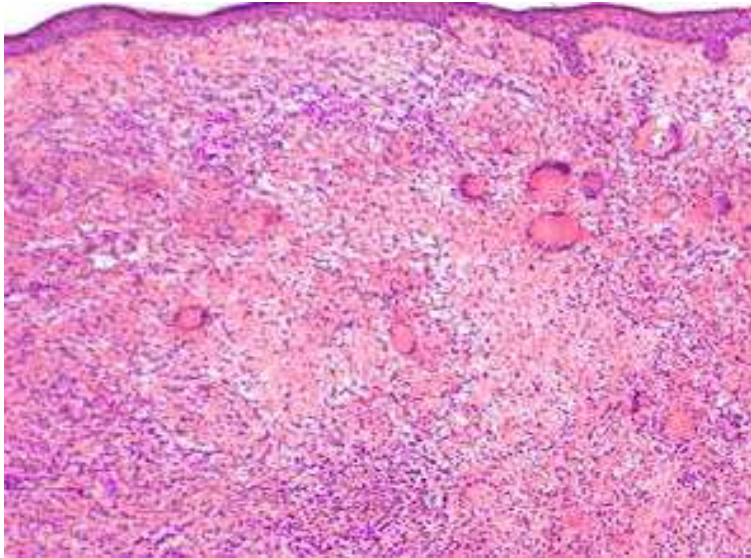
# Lupus Vulgaris

- This is chronic progressive paucibacillary form.
- Most prevalent form of cutaneous TB.
- More common in females than males.
- Source is endogenous, contiguity hematogenous spread, from underlying foci.
- Adult females are commonly affected.
- Rarely exogenous infection with BCG vaccination.

# Pathology:

- Characteristic tubercle without caseation.
- Epithelioid histocyte, multinucleated giant cell, and langerhans giant cell.
- Overlying epidermis is necrotic.
- Sites : face and neck are common in European population.
- In India multiple lesions over buttocks and trunk are common.

# Histopathology: Lupus Vulgaris





# Clinical features:

A) Plaque type: Initial lesion is small reddish brown papule extend to form plaques.

- Soft in consistency.
- Diascopy: apple jelly nodules are seen.
- Healing may occur at one end, extension at other end.

B) Hypertrophic form

C) Ulcerative: lesion breaks down to form ulcer, crusting, with deep tissue destruction.

D) Vegetative form

E) Multiple nodular form

# Differential diagnosis:

- Lupus Erythematosus
- Sarcoidosis
- Blastomycosis
- Lichen planus
- Leprosy
- Psoriasis
- Leishmaniasis
- Jessener lymphocytic infiltrate.

- Complication:
  - Scarring,
  - Destruction,
  - SCC.
- 
- Prognosis if untreated, lesions are progressive and destructive. Rapid response to treatment.

# Investigations:

---

- Biopsy
- Culture
- PCR
- Interferon gamma

# Treatment

- Common drugs used:
- Isoniazid (H) (5mg/kg)
- Rifampicin (R) (10mg/kg)
- Ethambutol (E)(10-15mg/kg)
- Pyrazinamide (Z)(15mg/kg)

# Treatment

- Regimen Cat1 is HRZE daily for 2 months along with HRE daily for 4months.
- In MDR, fluroquinolone group + amikacin/  
kanamycin+ clofazimine+ ethambutol+  
pyrazinamide for 12-18 months is given
- In XDR, add Bedaquiline to above regimen.

THANK YOU!

