

PNEUMOCOCCAL MENINGITIDES - CLINICAL, ANATOMOPATHOLOGIC AND LABORATORY STUDY

Rodica Pascu*, Carmen Chiriac*, Rodica Urcan*, Anca Georgescu*,
Viorica Lobonț*, M.Buruian**, Paula Bakos*, Brândușa Țilea*, Domnica
Țetcu*, I.Csaky*, Carmen Carașca***, Mona Togănel****

*Clinic of Infectious Diseases; **Clinic of Radiology, Department of Computed
Tomography, University of Medicine and Pharmacy

***Laboratory of Morphopathologic, Municipal Hospital Clinic

****ORL Service, Municipal Clinic, Târgu-Mureș

The study included 76 patients with pneumococcal meningitis (PM) admitted to the Clinic of Infectious Diseases of Târgu-Mureș between January 1979-April 1995. Age groups most affected were the teens with 18 (23,7%) followed by the fourties - 15 patients (19,1%) and above 50 - 15 patients (19,1%). The clinical picture was characterized by acute/superacute

start in 59 (77,6%) patients. Infections and meningeal syndrome was present in all cases. Encephalic affection was manifest through consciousness disorders (50%) different degrees of coma (28,4%), neurologic signs of focus and/or cranial nerves affection (26,3%), convulsions (18,4%), medullar affections (21%). Ear, nose and throat suppurative focuses appeared in 28 (36,8%) patients. Bronchopneumoniae co-occurred in 16 cases (21%); 8 of them (10,5%) presented discontinuities following cerebral traumas and in other 9 patients (11,8%) hardly any previous/simultaneous infections focus could be discerned. The infections shock was present in 9 cases (11,8%) with bronchopneumonia. CSF exam revealed typical bacterial meningitis modifications in 71 (93,4%) cases. Bacteriologic confirmation was done with CSF primary smear in 49 cases (64,5%) and through cultures in 27 (35,5%). Antibiograms of positive cultures showed no case of Penicillin G resistance. CT in the last 3 years revealed cerebral and cerebellum abscesses, hydrocephalum. Antibacterial treatment was administered: Penicillin G in 29 (38,2%), Penicillin G associated with Cloramphenicol in 28 (36,8%), Penicillin G + RMP in 10 (13,2%) and Cephtriaxone in 9 (11,8%). Penicillin G was administered discontinuously at 12 hours for 14-21 days in bigger doses than for meningococcal meningitides. Corticotherapy was associated with the antibacterial treatment (Dexametazone, HHS) for 6-8 days. Case evolution was as follows: 43 patients (56,6%) were cured, 14 survived with neurologic sequelae (18,4%) and 19 died (25%). Anatomopathologic examination of the 19 deaths revealed as major comploications: cerebral abscess 7 (9,2%), cerebellum abscess 4 (5,2%), hydrocephalus 7 (9,2%) and cerebral hernia 3 (3,9%).