

Pyogenic spondylodiscitis in diabetics

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BACKGROUND:

- Although **uncommon**, pyogenic spondylodiscitis (PS) entail major **morbidity**.
- May be associated with long-term **sequelae**. We aimed to study the particularities of PS in diabetics.

PATIENTS AND METHODS:

- A **retrospective** descriptive study.
- Including cases of **PS in diabetics**.
- In the department of infectious diseases.
- Between 2005 and 2020.

RESULTS:

- **Fifteen patients** : 10 men and 5 women.
- **The average age**: 62 years old.
- Non dependent diabetes: 7 patients.
- **Delay between symptoms onset and diagnosis** :2 months.

- Spinal pain was the **most common symptom** (80%) and fever (60%).
- **The imaging** showed:
 - Epidural extension (5 cases)
 - Paravertebral abscesses (9 cases) (Figure1)



Figure1: Peridural abscess (C2-C3)

- **The level of the spine involved** (Figure 2).

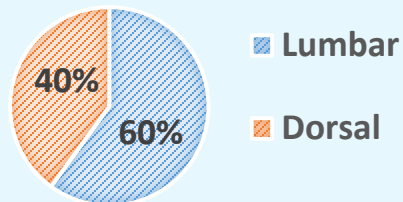


Figure2: Level of spine involved

- **Germs responsible of PS** (Figure3)

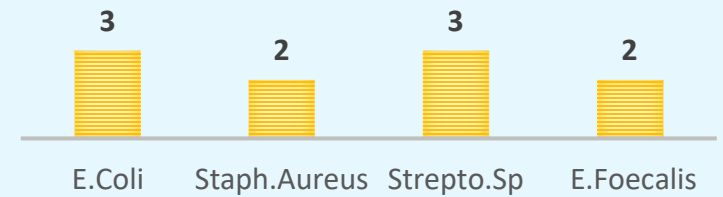


Figure 3: Germs responsible of PS

- **Empiric antibiotherapy:**
 - 3rd generation cephalosporins (33.4%).
 - Glycopeptids (26.8%).
- **The duration of antibiotics:** 4 months.
- **Surgical treatment** was not indicated for our patients.
- **Diabetes imbalance** : 4 patients.
- Apart from 2 cases of death, the long-term follow up was favorable.

CONCLUSION:

- PS in diabetics are **rare**. Diabetes can influence the prognosis.
- Thus, **early diagnosis and management** are necessary to prevent complications.