

Diabetic foot osteitis: more than double trouble

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Introduction

- ✓ Bone infection in the diabetic foot is a complication of a preexisting infected foot wound.
- ✓ It can be suspected in two conditions: no healing despite appropriate care and off-leading or palpated bone.
- ✓ We aimed to present clinical, microbiological, radiological, and therapeutic particularities of diabetic foot osteitis.

Methods

- ✓ Nineteen cases were treated in the Infectious Diseases department in Sfax (Tunisia) from 2015 to 2019

Results

- Mean age : 58±12 years
- 13 males (68,4%) and 6 females (31,6%)
- **Type of diabetes:**- Type 1: 7 patients (36,8%)
 - Type 2: 12 patients (63,2%)

○ Degenerative complications:

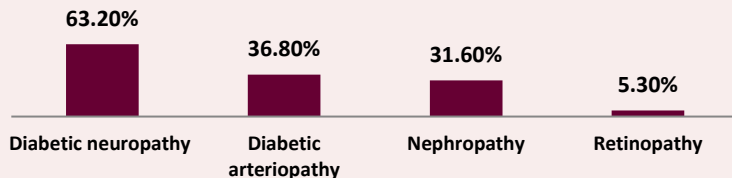


Figure 1: Repartition of degenerative complications of diabetes

○ Repetitive foot microtrauma: Seven patients (35%)

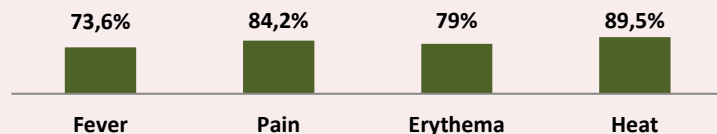


Figure : Different symptoms of diabetic foot osteitis

○ The most common lesions of diabetic foot:

Table I: The most common lesions of diabetic foot

Lesions of diabetic foot	Cases(%)
Infected ulcer	10 (52,6%)
Abscess	7 (36,8%)
Skin necrosis	6 (31,5%)

○ A microbiological sample : 84,2% of cases

- ✓ Superficial sample (52,6%)
- ✓ Fine-needle aspiration (42%)
- ✓ Bone biopsy (5,2%)

○ The germs:

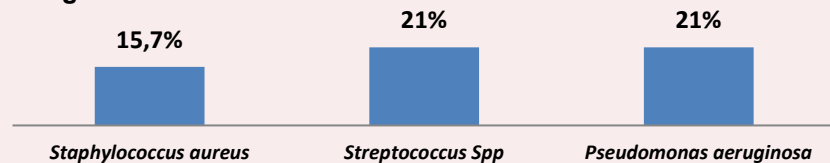


Figure 3: Repartition of isolated germs

○ The classic radiography:

- Bone demineralization (31,5%)
- Bone destruction (21%)

○ CT scan: 7 patients

- Periosteal reaction (42,8%)
- Abscess (42,8%)

○ Treatment

- Imipenem (42%) was the most used antibiotic.
- The mean duration of antibiotherapy: 68,8±57 days.
- Amputation: 31,6% of cases.

○ A favorable outcome was noted in 31,6% of cases.

○ Seven patients (36,8%) had chronic osteitis.

Conclusion

- ✓ Neuropathic ulceration and altered immune function place the diabetic patient at increased risk of polymicrobial skin infection and osteitis.
- ✓ A good balance of diabetes is essential to reduce the loss of the limb.