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Title: Positivity of quantiferon-TB tests in sarcoidosis patients

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Body: AIM: Sarcoidosis is a multisystemic disease with noncaseifie granuloma in organs with unknown etiology. In this study, we investigated the positivity of Quantiferon-TB test in patients with sarcoidosis. METHOD: In this study we investigated 87 patients with newly diagnosed in January 2007-January 2012, retrospectively. Demographic data, stage, diagnosis methods, quantiferon-TB tests and tuberculin skin test (TST) were assesed. RESULTS: Mean age was 41.9 (SD11.2) and age range was between 25-71 years. Of the patients 61 (70.1%) were women, 26 (29.9%) were male. Diagnosis methods were transbronchial neddle aspiration (48 cases, 55.2%), EBUS-transbronchial neddle aspiration (18 cases, 20.7%), transbronchial biopsy (9 cases, 10.3%) and mediastinoscopy (9 cases, 10.3%). Majority of the patients were stage I (41, 47.1%) and stage II (40, 46%); 6 (6.9%) were stage III. Quantiferon-TB test positivity was determined in 55 (63.2%) patients and negativity was determined 28(%32.2) patients. Tuberculin skin test was determined in 52 (59.8%) patients as an ergic and TST induration diameter was greater than 10mm in 13 (17.2%) patients. In the admission of hospital 15 (17.2%) patients had eritema nodosum. During the study period, no active tuberculosis infection was detected. CONCLUSION: In this study, the positivity rate of Quantiferon-TB test was higher in patients with sarcoidosis. This result support that mycobacterium tuberculosis might be a factor in sarcoidosis etiology. Furthermore, there was no active tuberculosis infection in study group; latent tuberculosis should be considered in sarcoidosis in the populations which have higher prevalance of tubercuolsis. country.