

SF Medical Case Reports and Clinical Images

Extensive Diffuse Tubular Sequestrum Involving Humerus- Can It Be a Novel “Bamboo Sequestrum”?

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Clinical Image

The radiological definition of a bony sequestrum refers to an image of calcification within a lucent lesion, completely separated from the surrounding bone and without referring to the histological nature and vascular status of the calcified tissue. Various types of sequestrum have been described in literature which include Tubular or diaphyseal sequestrum (acute pyogenic osteomyelitis), Ring sequestrum (amputation stump and at Steinmann pins or Denham pin insertion sites), Ivory sequestrum (syphilis), Fine sandy sequestrum (viral or fungal osteomyelitis), Coarse sandy sequestrum (TB), Flake or Feathery sequestrum (TB rib), Kissing sequestrum (peridiscal TB vertebra or knee TB), Button hole sequestrum (radiation), Coke sequestrum (cancellous bone), Bombay sequestrum (environmentally exposed sequestrum due to H2S & pollution) & Black sequestrum (actinomycosis). Here, we are highlighting the radiological images of 10 year old patient who came with the complaint of pain, thick yellowish pus discharging sinuses in the arm & shoulder stiffness since last 7 months with associated diffuse swelling of arm and mild fever and decreased appetite. On examination, there was bony tenderness with irregular bony thickening involving humerus with slightly raised local temperature. On radiological assessment, an astonishing picture of the sequestration of whole of the humerus was found. A diagnosis of extensive chronic pyogenic osteomyelitis was made (Figure1 and 2). Such an extensive tubular sequestration involving whole length of major limb bones, which we aptly called as “Bamboo sequestrum” is not found in search of literature. It presumably a disastrous situation and a treatment challenge for the clinician and may require extensive planning and multiple surgeries with guarded prognosis.

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Figure 1: Radiological image of Extensive diffuse tubular sequestrum involving humerus shaft- “Bamboo Sequestrum”.



Figure 2: Radiological image of Extensive diffuse tubular sequestrum involving humerus shaft- “Bamboo Sequestrum”.