

# MYCOBACTERIUM ABSCESSUS: A CASE TREATED BY LEVOFLOXACIN, RIFAMPICIN AND DOXYCYCLINE COMBINATION

SORA YASRI\*

## ABSTRACT

*Mycobacterium abscessus* (MAB) is an important emerging mycobacterial pathogen causing dangerous pulmonary infections. The management of this infection is usually difficult due to problem of antibiotic resistance. In this article, the authors reports a successful treatment of this infection using a combination of levofloxacin, rifampicin and doxycycline.

**KEYWORDS:** *Mycobacterium Abscessus*, Levofloxacin, Rifampicin And Doxycycline.

## INTRODUCTION

*Mycobacterium abscessus* (MAB) is an important emerging mycobacterial pathogen causing dangerous pulmonary infections. The management of this infection is usually difficult due to problem of antibiotic resistance. In this article, the authors reports a successful treatment of this infection using a combination of levofloxacin, rifampicin and doxycycline.

## CASE REPORT

The case is a 46 years old nurse in a hospital who have chronic respiratory tract infection. The sputum culture revealed MAB. This case was treated by standard anti-TB regimen, ciprofloxacin, clarithromycin for more than 1 year but the success is not achieved. The persist existence of MAB was observed. The case was consulted to the tropical medicine specialists and the new regimen using levofloxacin, rifampicin and doxycycline combination was started and the

success can be achieved within 1 month. The clearance of MAB was observed on sputum culture.

## DISCUSSION

The management of atypical mycobacterial infection is usually problematic [1]. The MAB is an emerging problematic mycobacterial infection [2]. Nagano et al. noted that “*surgical resection of localized disease or the main lesion or cavity may be significantly effective in preventing the progression of disease* [3].” The present case is a good example of a nurse getting infection and has difficulty in clinical treatment. The use of basic single antibiotic is not successful. Here, the authors report the success in use of levofloxacin, rifampicin and doxycycline combination for management of the case. The pathogen is disappeared and cleared within 1 month after start the treatment.

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\*KMT Primary Care Center, Bangkok, Thailand.

**Correspondence E-mail Id:** editor@eurekajournals.com

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None

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