

Gastrointestinal Basidiobolomycosis in a Tertiary Care Center at Saudi Arabia, Makkah: Case Series

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Abstract : Background: Basidiobolus ranarum causes one of the rare fungal diseases that infects mainly immunocompetent individuals. Gastrointestinal Basidiobolomycosis (GIB) is a rare and uncommon form of this fungal infection. It's still ambiguous how this fungus is reaching the gastrointestinal tract leading to Gastrointestinal Basidiobolomycosis. Objective: To summarize the clinical features, imaging, and histopathological of patients diagnosed with GIB in our institution. Patients and methods: A series of five cases of patients who diagnosed by basidiobolomycosis in King Abdullah Medical City, Makkah, Saudi Arabia, which reviewed by latest literature related to diagnosis and treatment. Results: Most of the patients were externally evaluated and were initially misdiagnosed. Some of them were suspected of colonic malignancy, other presumed to have hepatic hemangioma and fistulizing crohn's disease. The definitive diagnosis is often based on histopathological examination and fungal culture of the surgically resected mass. An optimum standardized treatment of basidiobolomycosis has not yet been established. Conclusion: Deeper knowledge of clinical characteristics, diagnosis, and treatment of basidiobolomycosis will allow early initiating of treatment with a subsequent positive impact on the patients' outcome. More studies are needed to establish a definite treatment.

Keywords : gastrointestinal infection, crohn's mimics, malignancy mimics, fungal infection

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