



Tularemia

Tularemi

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A 14-year-old male was brought because of a swelling on the right neck. The patient's complaint had begun one month ago and the swelling on her neck had gradually increased. The examination revealed a fluctuating mass approximately 6 cm in the right anterior cervical region. It was learned that the patient had been drinking spring water 5 months ago and then realized that there was a mouse that died in this water. The patient's abscess was surgically drained. Tularemia serology was positive at 1/1280 titer. She recovered without any problems with the treatment of gentamicin and ciprofloxacin.

Tularemia is a zoonosis caused by *Francisella tularensis*. In Turkey, oropharyngeal tularemia, which is the most common form of the disease, is transmitted by the consumption of contaminated water and undercooked infected meat. Patients often have exudative tonsillitis and associated unilateral or bilateral cervical lymphadenopathy. In the treatment of tularemia, aminoglycosides such as streptomycin or gentamicin, and other antibiotics including tetracycline, doxycycline, chloramphenicol and quinolones can be used. Although appropriate antibiotic treatment is given in appropriate time and dose, it may cause lymph nodes to become abscess formation and fistulization towards the skin in delayed cases.



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