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EPIDEMIC PLEURODYNIA - POSSIBLE IMITATOR OF A CORONARY DISEASE

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ABSTRACT

Epidemic pleurodynia is an enteroviral disease, manifested by high fever and pain in the region of the ribcage or of the upper abdomen. Therefore, it is frequently mistaken for an ischaemic heart disease or an acute abdomen. This work describes a 26-year-old patient, who had been admitted to the Clinic of Infectiuos Disease Clinical, Center of Kragujevac, due to high fever, headache and pain in the upper region of the ribcage. Laboratory analysis indicated a case of inflammatory syndrome (SE 60mm/h, Le 12.0x10^9/l fibrinogen 4.8g/l), as well as an increased enzyme activity in the serum (CK, ALT, LDH). Several times repeated electrocardiographic analysis came out regular, the same being the case with the radiographic lung examination results. Serologic analysis of two serum samples (at 14-day interval) ascrtained a diagnostically significant increase of the titer of neutralizing antibodies to the Coxsackie B virus type 5 (1/120; 1/512). The patient was treated with the symptomatic therapy. The course and the outcome of disease were favorable. On the basis of the overall clinical and diagnostic procedure, the conclusion that the patient in question suffered from epidemic pleurodynia caused by Coxsackie B virus type 5 had been reached.

Bearing in mind that epidemic pleurodynia is often manifested, along with general symptoms of infection, by pain in the ribcage, it is vital to exclude a coronary disease during the diagnostic evaluation.

Key words: *epidemic pleurodynia, coronary disease, coxsackie B virus.*

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