

# Early Syringomyelia, A Rare Complication of Tubercular Meningitis: A Case Report

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## Abstract

Tubercular Meningitis (TBM), the most common form of central nervous system tuberculosis, has the potential to cause varied early and delayed neurologic complications including hydrocephalus, cranial nerve palsies, vasculitic infarction, arachnoiditis and tuberculoma at any part of brain or spinal cord. Early syrinx formation in TBM is very rare especially when a patient is on anti-tubercular drugs. Here we report a case of 30-years-old male patient with 2 months history of fever with headache and 2 weeks history of neurological abnormalities with a background history of ATT intake for 3 weeks without steroid. He was found to have TBM based on positive CSF-CBNAAT report. Diagnostic work up with neuroimaging (CEMRI brain with spinal cord) for new onset neurological symptoms showed tuberculoma with early formation of syrinx in the dorso-lumbar region of spinal cord. Patient responded well to conservative management with ATT and steroid. Unique nature of this case lies in the fact of development of such rare complication early in disease course and is proposed to be due to failure of early administration of steroid.

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Investigation	Date		
	Normal value	28/12/2019	1/1/2020
Hemoglobin (g/dl)	13-16	13.4	
TLC (/mm <sup>3</sup> )	4000-10000	12680	
Platelet (lakh/mm <sup>3</sup> )	1.5-4.5 lakh	3.5	
Bilirubin(T)(mg/dl)	0.3-1.20	1.3	
Bilirubin(D)(mg/dl)	<0.2	0.6	
SGPT(U/L)	0-45	44	
SGOT(U/L)	0-40	21	
ALP(U/L)	Up to 240	161	
GGT(U/L)	Aug-61	25	
S. Protein(gm/dl)	6.4-8.4	6.8	
S. Albumin(gm/dl)	3.5-5.0	3.8	
S. Globulin(gm/dl)	2.5-3.5	3	
Blood Urea(mg/dl)	13-43	13.5	19
S. Creatinine(mg/dl)	0.8-1.2	0.55	0.92
S. Na+(meq/L)	136-145	134	131
S. K+(meq/L)	3.5-5.3	4.2	3.6
S. uric acid(mg/dl)	3.5-7.20	5.7	4.6
S. Calcium(mg/dl)	8-10.8	8.1	8.2
CSF study	Protein- 592 mg/dl, sugar- 50mg/dl (corresponding blood sugar- 180), cells- 25(100% lymphocytes), Gram stain, Culture, ZN stain-all negative		

