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Title: Clinical profile and treatment outcomes in pyo-pneumothorax in a tertiary care hospital

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Body: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES The present study is undertaken to study the age-sex profile, symptomatology, microbiologic findings, etiology, management and treatment-outcome in new patients of pyopneumothorax. MATERIAL AND METHODS The prospective study on 55 new cases of pyopneumothorax was conducted in patients admitted at LRS Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi India. In all cases closed intercostal tube along with under water seal drainage was applied along with proper chemotherapy (antibiotics / anti-tubercular) and physiotherapy given according to need. Daily assessment of the progress in the cases was made and the cases who did not have satisfactory outcomes after 3 weeks, were evaluated for thoracic surgical intervention for further management. Surgery if required was done. Patient underwent surgical intervention followed up in the OPD to record the treatment outcomes. Results we found out majority of them were between 15 to 45 years. The male/female ratio was 5:1. Chest pain and cough were most common symptoms. Tubercular and pyogenic ratio was 3:1, more frequently on the right side (52.6 %) and in three fourth of the tubercular cases the contra-lateral lung also showed active lesions. Mean duration of intercostal tube drainage was higher in the tubercular group (54 days) as against the non-tubercular group (32 days). Overall average duration of hospital stay is 63 days ranging from 10 to 140 days. We found 60% success rate in the management of pyopneumothorax with intercostal tube drainage only. The outcome of treatment was poor in the tubercular pyopneumothorax.