THE CONCEPT OF POST-TUBERCULOSIS LUNG DISEASE IN THE CONTEXT OF PATHOMORPHOLOGY CHANGES

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Abstract

Tuberculosis (TB) remains one of the most threatening infectious diseases worldwide, with a significant impact on public health and socio-economic development. Despite of significant progress in TB control efforts in most countries of the world, the disease remains a serious problem, especially in resource-limited settings. However, TB is curable and preventable. Although effective treatment usually leads to a microbiological cure and resolution of clinical symptoms, the signs of residual lung damage quite often remain after treatment completion. These sequelae are now termed as post-tuberculous lung disease (PTLD) and encompass a wide range of pathological changes in the lung tissue such as fibrosis, bronchiectasis and cavitation (residual cavities). PTLD can manifest months and years after the completion of TB treatment and, therefore, it represents a serious clinical problem due to the variability in the time of onset, the significant variety and non-specificity of symptoms and the often latent initial development.

The article presents the modern definition of post-tuberculosis lung disease, provides data on the known causes of its development and factors associated with the diversity of its clinical manifestations, the course, and the outcomes. The prospects for overcoming the negative outcomes for the human body as a result of the treatment of pulmonary TB are outlined.

Key words: post-tuberculosis lung disease, pathogenesis, clinical signs, outcomes.

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