

## *Surgical Case*

# ***Isolated Axillary Tuberculous Lymphadenitis***

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*A 42-year-old woman presented to me with recent-onset lymph node enlargement in her right axilla. Approximately two months ago, her symptoms began with mild pain and swelling in the right axillary region. The pain was accompanied by fatigue and night sweats. Otherwise, the woman appeared to be in good health.*

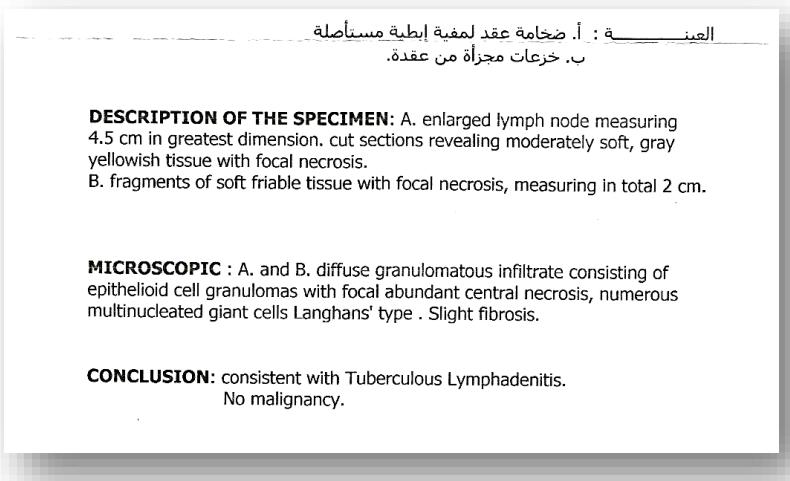
*Upon careful clinical and radiological examination, both breasts appeared normal. Similarly, the neck and the corresponding upper limb appeared clinically and radiologically unaffected. The results of routine blood tests were normal, which further perplexed us.*

*To resolve the issue definitively, we resorted to an excisional biopsy of one of the axillary lymph nodes. Subsequently, and after gaining clearer insight, we addressed the investigative gap by conducting a radiological study of the chest, which appeared normal.*

*During surgical exploration, the axillary lymph nodes appeared enlarged with a maximum diameter of 4.5 cm. They were multiple (5 nodes), non-adherent to surrounding structures. Their surface was smooth, with a relatively soft, rubbery yet friable consistency. One node was excised completely, while a second fragmented during removal and was extracted in pieces. The remaining nodes were left in situ. The excised specimen was sent for histopathological examination.*

### ***Pathological Diagnosis:***

*The pathologist promptly identified the disease pathology as **tuberculous lymphadenitis of the axillary lymph nodes** (see figure below). Subsequently, the patient's file was completed, and she was referred to a Tuberculosis Control Center for treatment.*



### The Pathology Report

## **Case Discussion**

*Extra-pulmonary tuberculosis (EPTB) is not uncommon. Nearly 30% of tuberculous infections manifest as extra-pulmonary disease. Tuberculous lymphadenitis accounts for approximately 43% of extra-pulmonary TB cases. Cervical lymph nodes are the most frequently involved site, followed by axillary lymph nodes (representing 8-20% of all tuberculous lymph node involvements).*

*In clinical practice when encountering women with isolated axillary lymph node enlargement, most clinicians initially suspect an underlying malignancy in the ipsilateral breast. This diagnostic bias remains justified – indeed, almost an imperative – given the high incidence rates of breast cancer.*

*Globally, 13% of women develop breast cancer. Conversely, in TB-endemic regions or areas witnessing its resurgence, reported cases of axillary tuberculous lymphadenitis increase significantly. The latter may present either as an isolated axillary lymph node infection or within the spectrum of systemic tuberculous manifestations (pulmonary, osseous, ipsilateral breast involvement, etc.).*

*Beyond this, tuberculous involvement of these lymph nodes rises to second place in the differential diagnosis of isolated axillary lymphadenopathy in women, and first place in men.*

*Breast cancer or axillary tuberculous lymphadenitis? The definitive judgment, the definitive judgment, lies with the pathologist. Moreover, both pathologies may coexist within a single axillary lymph node. Is this possible? Yes – such painful particulars have been documented in the medical literature among a rare few unfortunate patients.*

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-  - [The Clonus, 1<sup>st</sup> Hypothesis of Pathophysiology](#)
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-  - [The Nerve Transmission through Neural Fiber \(1\), The Action Pressure Waves](#)
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 - [The Wallerian Degeneration](#)

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 - [The Wallerian Degeneration Attacks Motor Axons, While Avoids Sensory Axons](#)



DOI The Sensory Receptors



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- The Philosophy of Pain, Pain Comes First! (Innovated)



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- Posterior Interosseous Nerve Syndrome



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- Cauda Equina Injury, New Surgical Approach



- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Complicated by Complete Rupture of Median Nerve



- Biceps Femoris' Long Head Syndrome (BFLHS)



DOI Barr Body, The Whole Story (Innovated)



- Adam's Rib and Adam's Apple, Two Faces of one Sin



- Adam's Rib, could be the Original Sin?



- Barr Body, the Second Look



DOI Who Decides the Sex of Coming Baby?



- Boy or Girl, Mother Decides!



- Oocytogenesis



- Spermatogenesis



- This Woman Can Only Give Birth to Female Children



- This Woman Can Only Give Birth to Male Children



- This Woman Can Give Birth to Female Children More Than to Male Children



- This Woman Can Give Birth to Male Children More Than to Female Children



- This Woman Can Equally Give Birth to Male Children & to Female Children



- Eve Saved Human Identity; Adam Ensured Human Adaptation



- Coronavirus (Covid-19): After Humiliation, Is Targeting Our Genes



- Coronavirus (Covid-19): After Humiliation, Is Targeting Our Genes

DOI Fibromyalgia



- The Black Hole is a (the) Falling Star?



- Mitosis in Animal Cell



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