TONSILLAR TOXOPLASMOSIS

EL-Sayed Ahmed F. Allam MD
and
Amany F. EL-Fakhny MD

Departments of E. N. T. and Parasitology, * Benha Faculty of Medicine,
Zagazig University, Egypt

Abstract

One hundred cases were suffering from chronic tonsillitis, aged between 4-12 years of both sexes (60 males and 40 females), from outpatient clinic of E.N.T. unit at Benha Faculty of Medicine.

All cases were subjected to clinical examination, laboratory investigations (complete blood picture, bleeding time, clotting time, ESR, urin and stool analysis) as well as radiological examination of the chest.

The cases were examined serologically by indirect haemagglutination antibody technique (IHAT) for toxoplasmosis. After tonsillectomy, histopathological and electronmicroscopical studies were done. Ten percent of cases were serologically positive, among males (11.71%) and females (7.5%). The positive rate was higher among age group 10-12 years. Two cases showed histopathological and ultrastructural changes indicating toxoplasmosis.

Introduction

Lymphadenopathy is considered the most common finding in acquired toxoplasmosis (Rifat et al., 1977). The cervical, posterior auricular and occipital lymph nodes are usually affected and to less extent are the inguinal and axillary nodes (Jones et al., 1965). The tonsillar tissue, being a part of the lymphoid tissue, was postulated to be a site of Toxoplasma infection (Kouba et al., 1977) (Palick and Cihak, 1977). Rifat et al., (1977) did an important serological study of toxoplasmosis patients with chronic tonsillitis and recorded 42% positivity by dye test. Abdel-Magied et al. (1988) reported 10.8% positivity and