# **Factors of chemoresistant pulmonary tuberculosis progression** in patients receiving palliative treatment

## O. M. Raznatovska, G. V. Khudiakov

Zaporizhzhia State Medical University, Ukraine

#### **Key words:**

drug-resistant tuberculosis. palliative care, quality of life, tumor necrosis factor. body mass index.

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## raxnatovskaya@ gmail.com

Objective - to define factors of chemoresistant pulmonary tuberculosis (CRPTB) progression in patients receiving palliative treatment by means of their QL, TNF- $\alpha$  levels and body mass index complex assessment.

Materials and methods. 81 CRPTB patients were examined and divided into two groups: the main group consisted of 52 patients receiving palliative treatment and the control group consisted of 29 patients receiving antimycobacterial therapy by category 4 according to drug resistance. The MOS SF-36 guestionnaire was used to evaluate the guality of life. Studies of serum TNF-α level were determined by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay using immunoenzymometric reader Sirio S and a set "Bender MedSystems GmbH" (Austria), (pg/ml). Body mass index was calculated with the help of calculator New BMI (New Body Mass Index), (kg/m²). Results of this study were processed using the modern methods of analysis with the help of a personal computer and the statistical package of the licensed software program Statistica® for Windows 6.0 (StatSoft Inc., № AXXR712 D833214FAN5).

Results. CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment have simultaneously a high activity of inflammatory specific process, predominant body mass deficit and low quality of life (both its physical and mental component). And along with this in patients receiving CRPTB treatment, activity of specific inflammatory process is 2.2 times lower, normal level of body weight predominate and quality of life is satisfactory (with satisfactory levels of both its components). Assessment of correlation relationships gave an opportunity to find out that in CRPTB patients, receiving palliative treatment, absence of the specific process antimycobacterial therapy leads to an increase in blood serum TNFa which in its turn promotes development of body mass deficit and as a consequence quality of life is decreased through decrease of all its components. In patients receiving etiotropic treatment activity of specific inflammatory process promotes decrease of body mass and quality of life but these changes are not so expressed as in case with patients receiving palliative treatment.

Conclusions. Factors of CRPTB progression in patients receiving palliative treatment include increase of TNFa level in the blood serum (≥180 pg/ml), deficit in body mass (≤18.1 kg/m²), decrease in quality of life index (≤50 relative units).

#### Ключові слова:

хіміорезистентний туберкульоз легень, паліативне лікування, якість життя, фактор некрозу пухлин, індекс маси тіла.

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## Фактори прогресування хіміорезистентного туберкульозу легень у хворих, які перебувають на паліативному лікуванні

О. М. Разнатовська, Г. В. Худяков

Мета роботи – визначення факторів прогресування хіміорезистентного туберкульозу (ХРТБ) легень у хворих, які перебувають на паліативному лікуванні, шляхом комплексного оцінювання якості життя, а також рівнів TNF-α та індексу маси тіла.

Матеріали та методи. Обстежили 81 хворого на ХРТБ легень. Пацієнтів поділили на 2 групи: основна – 52 особи, які перебувають на паліативному лікуванні, контрольна – 29 осіб, які отримують антимікобактеріальну терапію за категорією 4 відповідно до профілю медикаментозної резистентності. Для оцінювання якості життя використовували опитувальник MOS SF-36. Дослідження рівня TNF-α в сироватці крові виконали методом твердофазного імуноферментного аналізу на приладі імуноферментний рідер Sirio S із застосуванням набору «Bender MedSystems GmbH» (Austria), (пкг/мл). Для розрахунку індексу маси тіла використовували калькулятор New BMI (New Body Mass Index), (кг/м²). Результати дослідження опрацювали сучасними методами аналізу на персональному комп'ютері з використанням статистичного пакета ліцензійної програми Statistica® for Windows 6.0 (StatSoft Inc., № AXXR712 D833214FAN5).

Результати. У хворих на ХРТБ легень, які перебувають на паліативному лікуванні, визначили високу активність запального специфічного процесу, переважання дефіциту маси тіла та низьку якість життя (як фізичного, так і психічного компонента). Коли у хворих, які отримували лікування хіміорезистентного туберкульозу легень, активність запального специфічного процесу у 2,2 раза нижча, переважає нормальний рівень маси тіла та задовільна якість життя із задовільними рівнями обох її компонентів. Оцінювання кореляційних зв'язків показало: у хворих на ХРТБ, які перебувають на паліативному лікуванні, відсутність антимікобактеріальної терапії специфічного процесу призводить до зростання рівня ТNF в сироватці крові, спричиняючи розвиток дефіциту маси тіла, а отже і зниження якості життя внаслідок зниження всіх його компонентів. У пацієнтів, які отримують етіотропну терапію, активність запального специфічного процесу зумовлює зниження маси тіла та якості життя, але ці зміни не настільки виражені, як у хворих, котрі знаходяться на паліативному лікуванні.

Висновки. Факторами прогресування ХРТБ легень у хворих, які перебувають на паліативному лікуванні, є зростання рівня TNFα в сироватці крові (≥180 пкг/мл), дефіцит маси тіла (≤18,1 кг/м²), зниження показника якості життя (≤50 ум. од.).

## Факторы прогрессирования химиорезистентного туберкулеза легких у больных, которые находятся на паллиативном лечении

Е. Н. Разнатовская, Г. В. Худяков

Цель работы – определение факторов прогрессирования химиорезистентного туберкулеза (ХРТБ) легких у больных, которые находятся на паллиативном лечении, путем комплексной оценки качества жизни, уровня ТNF-а и индекса массы тела.

**Материалы и методы.** Обследовали 81 больного XPTБ легких. Пациентов поделили на 2 группы: основная – 52 больных, находящихся на паллиативном лечении, контрольная - 29 пациентов, получающих антимикобактериальную терапию по категории 4 в соответствии с профилем медикаментозной резистентности. Для оценки качества жизни использовали опросник MOS SF-36. Исследование уровня TNF-α в сыворотке крови проводили методом твердофазного иммуноферментного анализа на приборе иммуноферментный ридер Sirio S с применением набора «Bender MedSystems GmbH» (Austria), (пг/мл). Для расчета индекса массы тела использовали калькулятор New BMI (New Body Mass Index), (кг/м²). Результаты исследования обработаны современными методами анализа на персональном компьютере с использованием статистического пакета лицензионной программы Statistica® for Windows 6.0 (StatSoft Inc., № AXXR712 D833214FAN5).

Результаты. У больных с ХРТБ легких, которые находятся на паллиативном лечении, определена высокая активность воспалительного специфического процесса, преобладание дефицита массы тела и низкое качество жизни (как физического, так и психического компонента). Когда у больных, получающих лечение химиорезистентного туберкулеза легких, активность воспалительного специфического процесса в 2,2 раза ниже, преобладает нормальный уровень массы тела и удовлетворительное качество жизни с удовлетворительными уровнями обоих ее компонентов. Оценка корреляционных связей позволила установить, что у больных с ХРТБ легких, которые находятся на паллиативном лечении, отсутствие антимикобактериальной терапии специфического процесса приводит к повышению уровня TNFα в сыворотке крови, что обусловливает развитие дефицита массы тела, как следствие, снижается качество жизни за счет снижения всех ее компонентов. У пациентов, получающих этиотропную терапию, активность воспалительного специфического процесса способствует снижению массы тела и качества жизни, однако эти изменения не настолько выражены, как у больных, находящихся на паллиативном лечении.

Выводы. Факторами прогрессирования ХРТБ легких у больных, находящихся на паллиативном лечении, является повышение уровня TNFα в сыворотке крови (≥180 пг/мл), дефицит массы тела (≤18,1 кг/м²), снижение показателя качества жизни (≤50 усл. ед.).

Along with the problem of chemoresistant pulmonary tuberculosis (CRPTB) treatment efficacy improvement, currently there is another urgent issue in the world, including Ukraine. And this issue is the tactics of disease management in CRTB patients receiving palliative treatment [8]. It is often that in case with long standing tuberculosis patients develop resistance to many antimycobacterial drugs (AMBD) that complicates tuberculosis course and could lead to impossibility of antimycobacterial therapy (AMBT) and transition to palliative treatment of tuberculosis.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommended assessing status of patients receiving palliative treatment by means of quality of life questionnaires (QL) which are integral indicators of person's general wellbeing [1,2].

According to literature data application of the Russian version of questionnaire Medical Outcomes Study-Short Form (MOS) SF-36, developed by J. E. Ware in 1992 [9] and translated by researchers of the Multinational Center of Quality of Life Research (MCQLR, Saint Petersburg) in 1998 [3], can be used not only for QL population-based researches of healthy persons but also for researches in case of various diseases, including tuberculosis [4-6,10,11].

Cachexia-related cardiac failure is one of causes of patients' death in case of CRPTB. This cardiac failure is a frequent catabolic syndrome in case of a chronic specific process. That is why it is essential to improve QL of CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment. And this is of particular importance for patients with the end stage of disease when catabolic processes are progressive and significantly worsen their general condition.

Hong-Min F. A. N. et al. (2010) [12] have revealed a synergistic interaction between the genotype of Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF)-α-308 GG and Body Mass Index. In addition to that data an interaction between TNF-α-238 GG genotype and the risk of pulmonary tuberculosis development has been indicated by their researches: multiple correlation coefficients for TNF-α-238 GG and TNF-α-308 GA genotypes were 1,98 (95% confidence interval (CI) 1.06-3.71) concerning the risk of pulmonary tuberculosis development. A Moges B. et al. (2012) [13] have revealed correlation between the prevalence of tuberculosis among prisoners in Ethiopia and body mass deficit (BMD). After literature data analysis we defined that the urgent

matter consists in a complex study of catabolic processes and QL of CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment for the purpose of cachexia prevention.

## **Objective**

To define factors of chemoresistant pulmonary tuberculosis progression in patients receiving palliative treatment by means of their QL, TNF-α levels and body mass index (BMI) complex assessment.

## **Materials and methods**

81 CRPTB patients receiving treatment in the Municipal Institution "Zaporizhzhia Regional Hospital" and in specialized tuberculosis hospital of the State Institution "Sofia Correctional Facility No. 55" of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in Zaporizhzhia Region participated in the study. All patients (100%) were males. Their average age was 40.1 ± 12.1 years. The patients were divided into two groups: the main group consisted of 52 patients receiving palliative treatment and the control group consisted of 29 patients receiving AMBT by category 4 according to drug resistance in compliance with Unified Clinical Protocol of Medical Care "Tuberculosis" (Order by the Ministry of Health Care of Ukraine No. 620 of September 04, 2014) [7]. Comparison groups were comparable by age and gender.

QL assessment was performed by means of questionnaire MOS SF-36 (MCQLR, Saint Petersburg, 1998) using. According to questionnaire MOS SF-36 8 scales were assessed: Physical Functioning (PF) – physical functions; Role-Physical (RP) – influence of physical condition on role playing; Bodily Pain (BP) - intensity of pain and its influence on ability to perform daily activities; General Health (GH) - general health condition; Vitality (VT) - vital capacity; Social Functioning (SF) – performing social functions; Role-Emotional (RE) – influence of emotional condition on

#### Ключевые слова:

химиорезистентный туберкулез легких, паллиативное лечение, качество жизни, фактор некроза опухоли, индекс массы тела.

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Table 1. Indexes of TNFα, BMT and QL of CRPTB patients depending on the type of treatment, Me [Q<sub>2g</sub>; Q<sub>7g</sub>]

Index, units	Basic group (n = 52)	Comparison group (n = 29)	p
TNFα, pg/ml	180 (80; 620)	80 (60; 120)	0.007
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	18.1 (16.8; 21.2)	20.8 (18.9; 23.0)	0.001
MCS, relative units	52.1 (37.5; 57.75)	61.9 (53.5; 69.8)	0.0001
PCS, relative units	49.6 (39; 61)	68.5 (51.75; 77.25)	0.0001
GI QL, relative units	49.5 (39.98; 60.05)	66.9 (51.3; 72.1)	0.00002

Table 2. Correlation relationships between indexes of TNFα, BMI and QL in CRPTB patients depending on the type of treatment

Index	Basic group (n = 52)									Comparison group (n = 29)										
TNFα		BMI		MCS		PCS		GI QL		TNFα		BMI		MCS		PCS		GI QL		
	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р	r	р
TNFα	1.00	>0.05	-0.76	0.001	-0.51	0.001	-0.49	0.001	-0.55	0.001	1.00	>0.05	-0.49	0.01	-0.47	0.01	-0.40	0.03	-0.46	0.01
BMI	-0.76	0.001	1.00	>0.05	0.40	0.004	0.49	0.001	0.50	0.001	-0.49	0.01	1.00	>0.05	0.21	0.272	0.18	0.341	0.21	0.277
MCS	-0.51	0.001	0.40	0.004	1.00	>0.05	0.63	0.001	0.89	0.001	-0.47	0.01	0.21	0.272	1.00	>0.05	0.77	0.001	0.94	0.001
PCS	-0.49	0.001	0.49	0.001	0.63	0.001	1.00	>0.05	0.92	0.001	-0.40	0.03	0.18	0.341	0.77	0.001	1.00	>0.05	0.95	0.001
GI QL	-0.55	0.001	0.50	0.001	0.89	0.001	0.92	0.001	1.00	>0.05	-0.46	0.01	0.21	0.277	0.94	0.001	0.95	0.001	1.00	>0.05

role physical; Mental Health (MH) - self-assessment of mental health condition.

Three generalized indexes were taken in this work for QL assessment: Physical Component Summary (PCS) which includes scales 1-4 (PF, RP, BP, GH), Mental Component Summary (MCS) which includes scales 5-8 (VT, SF, RE, MH) and a Composite General Index of QL (GI QL) which includes all scales (1-8) of the questionnaire (relative units).

The blood serum TNF-α level was studied by means of enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay using immunoenzymometric reader Sirio S and a set "Bender MedSystems GmbH" (Austria), (pg/ml).

Body Mass Index (BMI) was calculated with a help of calculator New BMI (New Body Mass Index), (kg/m²).

All patients signed patient's informed written consent for participation in this study.

Results of this study were processed using the modern methods of analysis with a help of a personal computer and the statistical package of the licensed software program Statistica® for Windows 6.0 (StatSoft Inc., № AXXR712 D833214FAN5). Normality of quantitative indicators distribution was analyzed with a use of Shapiro-Wilks test. Descriptive statistics was presented in form of a median with interquartile range – Me  $[Q_{25}; Q_{75}]$ , as far as the matter was about the parameter which differed from the normal one. Significance of differences between the compared values was defined with a help of Mann-Whitney test. All tests were two-sided. Ap value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. Correlation analysis was performed with a use of Pearson correlation coefficient (r).

### Results and discussion

After assessment of indexes included in this study it was determined that CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment had reliable changes of all parameters as compared to the group of patients receiving AMBT (Table 1). So, the blood serum TNFα level was 2.2 times higher (180 (80; 620) pg/ml as compared to 80 (60; 120) pg/ml) and it indicated a high activity of inflammatory specific process in patients. Level of BMI was 14.9 % lower and its average

value was 18.1 (16.8; 21.2) kg/m<sup>2</sup>. And this meant that body mass deficit (BMD) prevailed in patients with tuberculosis which is an unfavorable factor for cachexia development. GI QL was 1.3 times lower ((49.48 (39.98; 60.05) relative units) as compared to 66.9 ((51.3; 72.1) relative units)) by reducing MCS (1.2 times) ((52.1 (37.5; 57.75) relative units) as compared to 61.9 ((53.5; 69.8) relative units)) as well as by reducing PCS (1.3 times) ((49.6 (39; 61) relative units) as compared to 68.5 ((51.75; 77.25) relative units)).

Following the assessment of the correlation relationships between indexes of TNFα, BMI and QL in CRPTB patients depending on the type of treatment the resulting data were determined (Table 2). CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment had significant correlation relationships between all these indexes. So, when the blood serum TNFa level increased there was a decrease in BMI (r = -0.76; P = 0.001) and GI QL (r = -0.51; P = 0.001) through the significant reduction of its both general indexes MCS (r = -0.51; P = 0.001) and PCS (r = -0.49; P = 0.001). Decrease in BMI had a direct correlation relationship with decrease in GI QL (r = 0.50; P = 0.001) through reduction of its both general indexes MCS (r = 0.40; P = 0.004) and PCS (r = 0.49; P = 0.001). Decrease in GI QL was directly dependent on decline of MCS (r=0.89; p=0.001), as well as on decline of PCS (r = 0.92; P = 0.001).

In case with patients receiving treatment of CRPTB it was also that increase in blood serum TNFα level come against the background of BMI (r = -0.49; P = 0.01) and GI QL (r = -0.46; P = 0.01) reduction through significant lowering of both indexes MCS (r=-0.47; P = 0.01) and PCS (r = -0.40; P = 0.03). Increase of GI QL was directly dependent on increase in MCS (r = 0.94; P = 0.001), as well as on decline of PCS (r = 0.95; P = 0.001). Correlation relationships between BMI and QL indexes were not revealed.

## Conclusions

1. CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment have simultaneously a high activity of inflammatory specific process, predominant body mass deficit and low quality of life (its physical as well as mental component). And at the same time in patients receiving treatment of CRPTB activity of inflammatory specific process is 2.2 times lower, normal body mass level is dominant and quality of life is satisfactory (with satisfactory levels of its both components).

- 2. Assessment of correlation relationships provided an opportunity to find out that in CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment absence of AMBT specific process leads to an increase in blood serum TNFa level which in its turn promotes development of body mass deficit and as a consequence quality of life is decreased (through decrease of its all components). In patients receiving conventional (etiotropic) treatment activity of inflammatory specific process promotes decrease in body mass and quality of life but these changes are not as expressed as in case with patients receiving palliative treatment.
- 3. Factors of CRPTB progression in patients receiving palliative treatment include increase in blood serum TNFα level (≥180 pg/ml), body mass deficit (≤18.1 kg/m²), decrease in quality of life index (≤50 relative units).

Prospects of further researches. To develop the disease management algorithm for CRPTB patients receiving palliative treatment (taking into account the obtained data) that would promote their quality of life improvement.

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#### Information about authors:

Raznatovska O. M., MD, PhD, DSci, Associate Professor, Professor, Department of Phthisiology and Pulmonology, Zaporizhzhia State Medical University, Ukraine.

Khudiakov G. V., MD, Postgraduate Student, Department of Phthisiology and Pulmonology, Zaporizhzhia State Medical University, Ukraine.

## Відомості про авторів:

Разнатовська О. М., д-р мед. наук, доцент, професор каф. фтизіатрії і пульмонології, Запорізький державний медичний університет, Україна. Худяков Г. В., аспірант каф. фтизіатрії і пульмонології, Запорізький державний медичний університет, Україна.

## Сведения об авторах:

Разнатовська Е. Н., д-р мед. наук, доцент, профессор каф. фтизиатрии и пульмонологии, Запорожский государственный медицинский университет, Украина. Худяков Г. В., аспирант каф. фтизиатрии и пульмонологии, Запорожский государственный медицинский университет. Украина.

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