

ACUTE SUPPURATIVE THYROIDITIS CAUSED BY BURKHOLDERIA CEPACIA



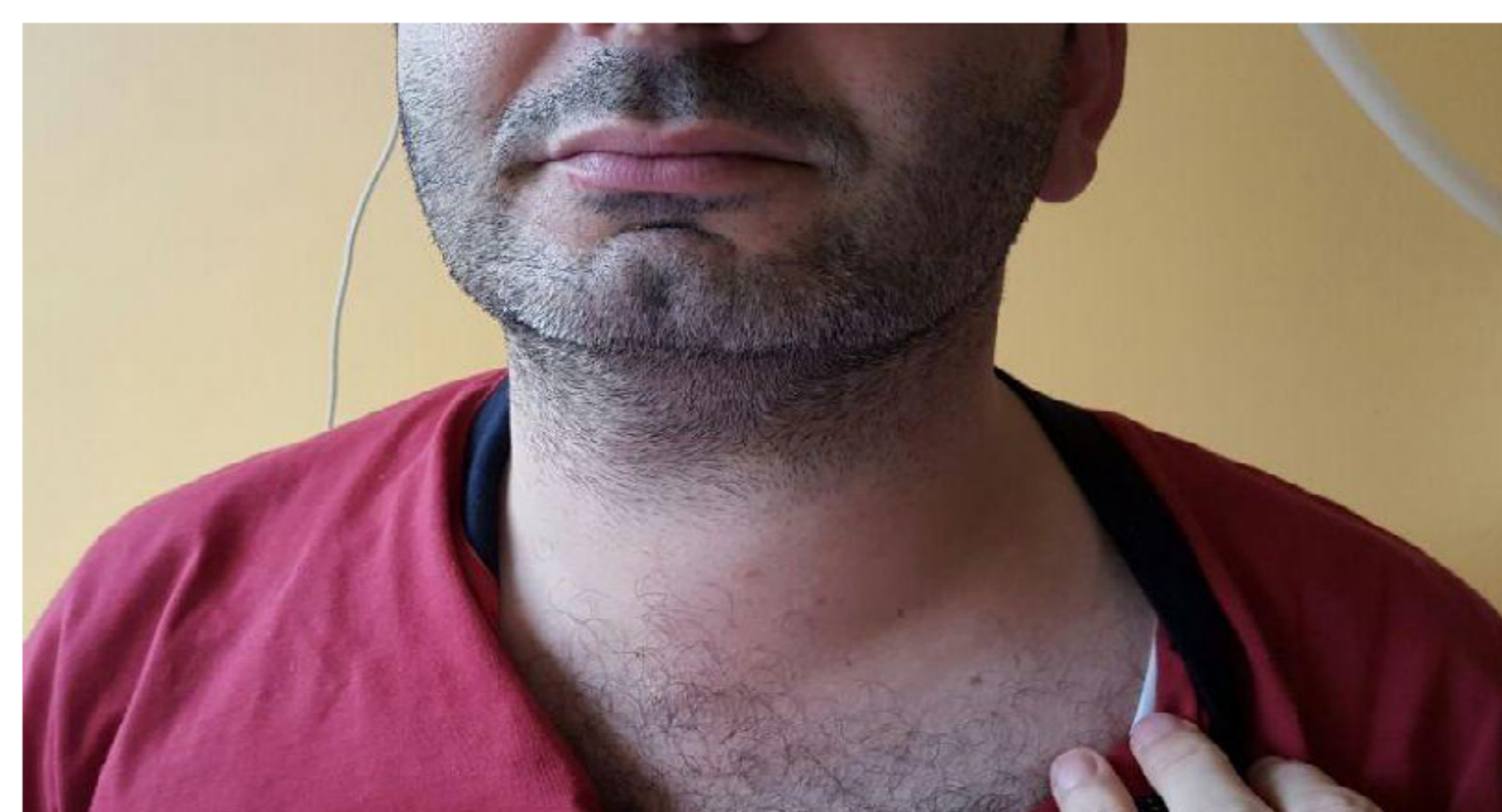
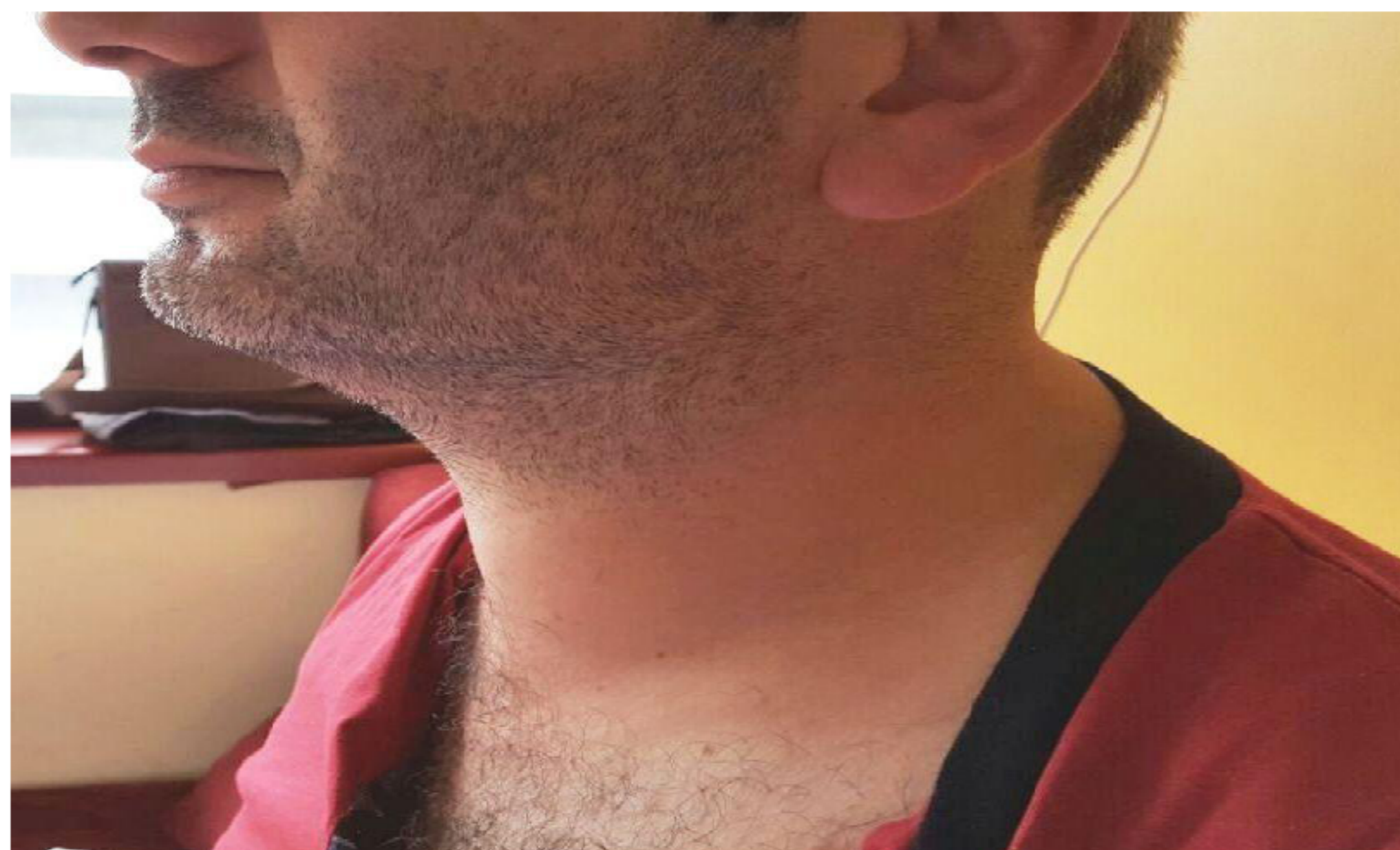
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OBJECTIVES

The thyroid is generally resistant to infections due to its encapsulated location, high iodine concentration, hydrogen peroxide production, and high levels of blood and lymphoid circulation therefore acute suppurative thyroiditis is rarely seen. The most common agents are Staphylococcus and Streptococcus. In this case we present acute suppurative thyroiditis caused by Burkholderia cepacia, that is a rare infectious agent in adults.



CASE

34 year-old-male, admitted to our clinic with sudden onset left-sided neck swelling with pain and redness. There was no history of chronic disease, recently upper respiratory tract infection or trauma. A painful nodule was palpated on the left lobe of his thyroid gland. There were monocytosis $1.011 \times 10^3/\mu\text{l}$ ($0.00-0.900 \times 10^3$), increased sedimentation rate; 52 mm/h ($<20\text{mm/h}$) and C-reactive protein (CRP) level; 14.2 mg/dl ($0-0.5$). Thyroid hormones were in normal limits. Neck ultrasonography revealed 6x5 mm high density cystic complex nodule, increased vascularity of left lobe and reactive lymph nodes localized at left jugular area. Based on the clinical and laboratory findings, acute suppurative thyroiditis was decided. Fine needle aspiration from the cystic nodule and blood culture was performed for the microbiological identification. Amoxicillin-clavulonic acid treatment was started. Ciprofloxacin and amikacin sensitive Burkholderia cepacia identified on the cystic nodule aspiration at the seventh day of the treatment. Antibiotic treatment switched to the ciprofloxacin. All the symptoms of the disease were regressed, sedimentation and CRP rates normalized at the twentieth day of the ciprofloxacin treatment. There was not any recurrence

CONCLUSIONS

Acute suppurative thyroiditis is a rare infection disease. When the clinician encountered with acute suppurative thyroiditis, abscess aspiration culture and the blood culture for the microbiological identification and antibiogram should be performed. Because rare microorganism would be causative agent of existing acute suppurative thyroiditis.