**ACTINOMYCOSIS IN CHILDREN - When common symptoms lead to an uncommon disease**

Joana Branco¹, Guilherme Lourenço¹, Oliveira Santos², João Neves¹, Flora Candeias¹, Catarina Gouveia¹, Maria João Brito¹

¹Infectious Diseases Unit, ²Pneumology Unit. Head of Department Goncalo Cordeiro Ferreira. Hospital Dona Estefânia. CHLC-EPE Lisbon. PORTUGAL

**Introduction**

Actinomyces organisms are part of the endogenous oral flora in humans and rarely cause disease in children. Lung involvement is uncommon and may mimic tuberculosis or neoplastic disorders. Pulmonary actinomycosis should be considered in the differential diagnosis of persistent lung infiltration.

---

**5 years old**

PMH: Microcytic anemia, not investigated

**Productive cough + Nonmassive HEMOPTYSIS**

X-Ray: **Heterogeneous hypotransparency of the RU lobe**

Pneumonia? → Azithromycin 5 days

**HEMOPTYSIS + DIGITAL CLUBBING**

Dental cavities. No fever

Hb 9.8g/dL, VGM 63.9fL, HGM 19.7pg

Leuk 11600/uL, Sed Rate 54mm/h

CRP 82.5mg/L, Negative blood culture

**Sulfur granules**

---

**Discussion**

Even in the presence of extensive disease medical treatment with antibiotics can be effective, thus avoiding a highly complex surgery and retaining lung capacity. Hemothysis is a rare symptom, and digital clubbing has not been described before. As is common in children, no risk factors were identified.

---

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- David W. Kimberlin, MD, FAAP; Michael T. Brady, MD, FAAP. Section 3: Summaries of Infectious Diseases. "Actinomycosis; Red Book® 2015 - Committee on Infectious Diseases; American Academy of Pediatrics.

joanarsbranco@hotmail.com