**THEMES: INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

**PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS PATIENT PRESENTING WITH ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME**

Mohd Najib Bin Ahmad Helmi1 Syed Muhammad Syed Ali1

1 Hospital Canselor Tunku Mukhriz UKM

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Tuberculosis (TB) continues to be a significant burden to healthcare in Malaysia and a disease of public health importance due to its nature of delayed presentation and severe illness. Malaysia is classified as intermediate TB burden country with a notification rate of<100 cases per 100,00 population. TB can be presented with varying manifestation. Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) is a rare complication of the clinical course of TB but carries a high mortality rate of approaching 60%. Clinician should keep high suspicion index for TB in the setting of ARDS since early treatment of empiric anti-TB reduce mortality.

Clinical Presentation: We present a case of 62-year-old Chinese gentleman presented with severe respiratory infection progressing to ARDS secondary to pulmonary tuberculosis (PTB) and requiring prolonged mechanical ventilation.

Discussion: Patient with PTB can presented with varying manifestation and severe pneumonia with ARDS can be one of the presentation. In regions were TB is still common, physician should have high index of suspicion especially when patient had risk factors predisposing to mycobacterial infection.

Conclusion: The initiation of anti-TB early could potentially reduce mortality in patient with TB-ARDS. Further prospective studies and research are necessary to asses the different clinical characteristic in patient with TB complicated with ARDS as well as the best treatment can be given.

**Keywords:** spontaneous pneumothorax, myocardial infarct, myocardial ischemia