

Epidemiological, clinical, and bacteriological profile of human brucellosis in the district of Tunis

Jihene Bettaieb¹, Ghassen Kharroubi¹, Rym Mallekh¹, Ines Cherif¹, Atawa Taoufik², Kaouther Harrabeche²

¹Department of Medical Epidemiology, Pasteur Institute of Tunis, Tunisia;

²Primary Health Care Directorate, Tunis, Tunisia.



Abstract

Brucellosis is a major worldwide zoonosis. It is a reportable condition in Tunisia where the disease remains endemic especially in rural areas. The aim of this study was to describe epidemiological, clinical and bacteriological profile of human brucellosis cases notified in the district of Tunis. It was a retrospective descriptive study of cases reported, in the district of Tunis through the national surveillance system between the 1st January and 31st December 2017. During the study period, 133 brucellosis confirmed cases were notified. The mean age was 37.5 ± 18.0 years and 54.9% of cases were males. More than four fifths (82.7%) of cases were reported in spring and summer with a peak in the month of May (36 cases). Fever and sweats were the most common symptoms, they occurred in 95% and 72% of cases respectively. Osteoarticular complications occurred in 10 cases, meningitis in one case and endocarditis in one other case. Wright agglutination test and Rose Bengale test were positive in 100% and 91% of cases respectively. While blood culture was positive in 9 cases and PCR in 2 cases. *Brucella Melitensis* was the only identified specie (9 cases). Almost all cases (99.2%) reported the habit of consuming raw dairy products. Only 5 cases had a suspect contact with animals among them 3 persons were livestock breeders. The transmission was essentially due to raw dairy products consumption. It is important to enhance preventive measures to control animal Brucellosis and to educate population regarding the risk factors of the disease

Biography:

Ghassen Kharroubi has received his medical degree from the

Faculty of Medicine of Tunis. He has a post graduate diploma in “Methodology, Statistics, Epidemiology and Clinical Research” from the Faculty of Medicine of Tunis, and “Regression methods in epidemiology” from the University of Bordeaux, France. He is currently assistant professor in preventive medicine at the Department of Medical Epidemiology of Pasteur Institute of Tunis. He was implicated in all the phases of the study “Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of high risk groups regarding influenza vaccine uptake in Tunisia 2018-2019”.

Speaker Publications:

1. Bettaieb J, Cherif I, kharroubi G and Mrabet A. Attitudes towards plagiarism among academics of the faculty of Medicine of Tunis. Accountability in Research. 2020.
2. Bettaieb J, Toumi A, Leffondre K, Chlif S and Salah AB. High temperature effect on daily all-cause mortality in Tunis 2005–2007. Revue d'epidemiologie et de sante publique. 2020;68(1):37-43.
3. Yazidi R, Aissi W, Bouguerra H, Nouira M, Kharroubi G, Maazaoui L, et al. Evaluation of the influenza-like illness surveillance system in Tunisia, 2012–2015. BMC public health. 2019;19(1):694.
4. Bouguerra H, Boutouria E, Zorruga M, Cherif A, Yazidi R, Abdeddaiem N, et al. Applying the moving epidemic method to determine influenza epidemic and intensity thresholds using influenza like illness surveillance data 2009, 2018 in Tunisia. Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses. 2020.

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