

Short Communication

An Unusual Source of Pulmonary Tuberculosis: Eye Opener

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A 22-year-old unmarried young girl from well to do family attended medical OPD with complaints of fever (low grade) with chronic diarrhoea. Routine urine examination showed field full of pus cells, but sterile on culture. Subsequent investigations revealed disseminated pulmonary Koch's. This was further corroborated with contrast enhanced computed tomography of chest. It was difficult for the treating physician to fathom how come this girl from fairly rich family got tubercular infection? None in her family suffered from tuberculosis. After bit of questioning, she confided that she goes to *hookah* bar and smokes from a common pipe shared by so many other people. She might have got infection from the *hookah* pipe. This case amply illustrates that *hookah* bar culture has made its roots into urban youth.¹ The type of hygiene which we observe at these place,

people sharing one *hookah* is an open invitation for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* to share this infection to all potential users.² It is no over-statement that *hookah* smoking is equally or more dangerous compared to other modes of smoking, i.e. *bidi* and or cigarette smoking in causing deadly cardiovascular and several types of cancers in the body.^{2,3}

References

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