

# GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS MYCOTIC ANEURYSM OF THE THORACIC AORTA: A CASE REPORT AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Darat Ruangkriengsin, Methee Chayakulkeeree and Pakpoom Phoompoung

Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

**Abstract.** Group B streptococci are an uncommon cause of mycotic aneurysm. We report here the case of a mycotic aneurysm caused by *Streptococcus agalactiae*. A 67-year-old male presented to our hospital with a 2-week history of progressive hoarseness, weight loss, odynophagia. He denied fever or dysphagia. On examination he was afebrile with a normal pulse rate and blood pressure. He had a white plaque in the mouth. He had left vocal cord paralysis. His heart and lung sounds were normal. His white blood cell count in the blood was 10,330 WBC/mm<sup>3</sup> with 82% neutrophils. Computed tomography of his chest showed a saccular thoracic aortic aneurysm 4.9 cm in diameter that extended from the distal aortic arch to the proximal part of the descending aorta. The patient was presumed to have a mycotic aortic aneurysm. He was started on ceftriaxone empirically. A total aortic arch replacement was performed 3 days after starting antimicrobial treatment. Amplification and sequencing of the bacterial 16SrRNA gene from the resected aortic wall revealed *S. agalactiae*. Blood cultures were negative and tissue biopsy of the aortic wall revealed no organisms on Gram stain or bacterial culture. After surgery the patient was continued on 6 weeks of intravenous antimicrobial therapy. The patient improved and he went home in good condition. *Streptococcus agalactiae* can cause mycotic aortic aneurysm.

**Keywords:** group B Streptococcus, *Streptococcus agalactiae*, mycotic aneurysm, infected aortic aneurysm

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Correspondence: Dr Pakpoom Phoompoung, Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, 2 Wanglang Road, Bangkok Noi, Bangkok 10700, Thailand.

Tel/Fax: +66 (0) 2419 7783

E-mail: benefat@hotmail.com