A RARE REASON OF ABDOMINAL LYMPHADENOPATHY: TULAREMIA; REPORT OF TWO PEDIATRIC CASES

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Tularemia caused by F.tularensis occurs worldwide in the northern hemisphere with great variation in geographic and temporal occurrence. It generally presents as an acute febrile diseases with the major clinical presentations including the six classic forms of tularemia: ulceroglandular, glandular, oculoglandular, oropharyngeal, typhoidal and pneumonic. In contrast to European countries where ulceroglandular form is more prominent, the oropharyngeal form is the most common presentation in Turkey. We present rare cases of oropharyngeal tularemia in a 16 year-old boy and 9 year-old girl to the best of our knowledge, firstly described as abdominal lymphadenopathy from Turkey. The second case was admitted with erythema nodosum and during investigation abdominal lymphadenopathy was detected. Excisional lymph node biopsy revealed abdominal tularemia. It is necessary to consider tularemia in the differential diagnosis of abdominal lymphadenopathy in tularemia regions. We also conclude that oropharyngeal tularemia could cause lymphadenopathy in any part of the gastrointestinal tract.