

Pulmonary Infectious Diseases



Al Heuer, PhD, MBA, RRT, RPFT, FAARC
Professor, Rutgers- School of Health Professions
Co-Owner A & T Lectures
Co-Editor—Egan's Fundamentals of Respiratory Care

Learning Objectives



- ***Describe*** the etiology and pathophysiology of pulmonary infectious diseases
 - Children
 - Adults
- ***Review*** the manifestations of such diseases.
- ***Discuss*** the treatment of such diseases
- ***Examine new discoveries related to Covid-19***
- ***Provide*** resources & how to find additional information

Brief History & Evolution of Infectious Disease

- Over 100 years ago, there were little to no knowledge of infectious disease.
- The prevailing belief was that disease was caused by “bad air” or “night air”; known as the **miasma theory** .
- *In 1676*, Antonie van Leeuwenhoek **discovered bacteria**, but he did not know it caused disease
- However, in 1928, Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin.

Key Terms in Pulmonary Infectious Disease

- Virus-RNA/DNA, Protein Coat and a Lipid Envelope
- Bacteria-Cells which can independently multiply
- Other microbes: Protozoa
- Pathogenic-Ability to cause disease
- Virulence-Ability to cause severe disease
- Transmission-Route of spreading
- Sterilization Vs. Disinfection



Diseases We'll Focus on Today

- Pediatric Respiratory Disease
 - Croup
 - Epiglottitis
 -
- Adult Diseases:
 - TB
 - Pneumonia Viral & Bacterial
 - SARS
 - Covid 19

Croup--Etiology

- Viral Infection:
 - Parainfluenza
 - Influenza
 - RSV
 - Adenovirus
- Gradual onset
- Affects children 6 months to 3 years-old

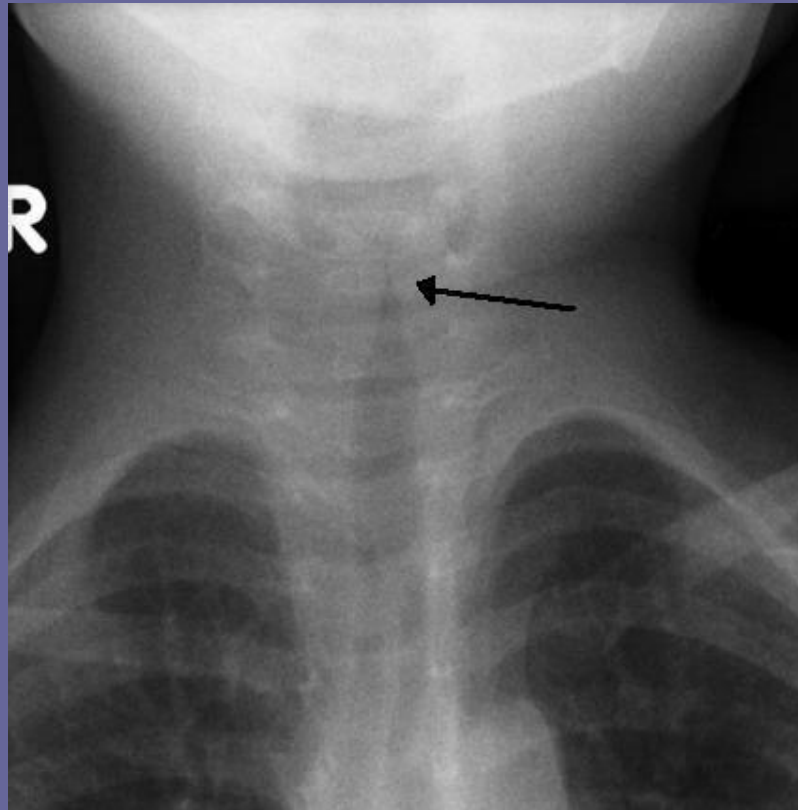
Croup--Pathophysiology

- Swelling and inflammation of subglottic structures.
 - Larynx
 - Trachea
 - Larger Bronchi
- Can affect mid-sized and smaller airways

Croup--Clinical Manifestations

- Slow onset, like a “cold”
- Brassy/barking cough
- Horseness & Audible stridor
- Neck X-Ray: Steeple Sign
- If Severe:
 - Tachycardia/tachypnea
 - Retractions
 - Decrease in SPO₂
 - ABG: Hypoxemia & Respiratory Acidosis

Steeple Sign-Often Found in Croup



Croup--Treatment

- Cool Mist w/oxygen via tent or face mask
- Reassurance--Parental presence
- Racemic Epinephrine via SVN or IPPB
 - 6 Y.O. or less: 0.25 mls of 2.25% w/NSS
 - More than 6 Y.O. 0.5mls w/NSS
- Systemic Steroids: Dexamethasone
 - 0.3 to 0.6 mg/KG
- Intubation: Mainly if respiratory failure present: e.g., muscle fatigue, change in sensorium, cyanosis, ABG results.

Epiglottitis--Etiology

- Bacterial infection
- Most common microorganisms:
 - Staphylococcus Aureus
 - Group A & B Streptococci
 - Strep Pneumoniae
- Other causes:
 - thermal injury
 - caustic ingestion
 - radiation exposure

Epiglottitis--Pathophysiology

- Supra-glottic swelling
- Epiglottis turns bright, cherry red & swollen
- Inflammation leads to a/w narrowing and dysphagia
- If severe, a/w can become completely obstructed

Epiglottitis--Clinical Manifestations

- Patient appears acutely ill
- Rapid Onset
- Affects mainly children 1 - 5 years old
- Drooling, sore throat, dysphagia
- Stridor & hoarseness w/diminished breath sounds in lung regions
- High fever
- Lateral neck x-ray: Balloon-shaped epiglottis/"thumb sign"

Lateral Neck X-Ray—Thumb Sign



Epiglottitis-Treatment

- Minimal patient stimulation-keep patient calm!
- Cool mist aerosol w/supp'l O2
- Antibiotics and fluids (steroids generally not effective)
- If severe obstruction, intubation shouldn't be attempted in ER
- Intubate patient in OR as trach may be necessary and patient may need to be paralyzed

Adult Infectious Pulmonary Diseases

TB

Pneumonia

Viral

Bacterial

SARS

Covid 19

Tuberculosis--Etiology

- Microorganism- Mycobacterium “family”
- Airborne transmission of droplet nuclei
- Droplet nuclei settle into the lungs and can start the infection
- Risk of infection is determined by many factors:
 - Length of exposure
 - Immune status

Tuberculosis-Pathophysiology

- Acid-fast bacilli are inhaled and begin to multiply
- Bacilli may migrate to kidneys, brain and bones
- 6-8 weeks after infection-immune system often localizes and contains infection.
- TB Infection Vs TB Disease
 - *TB Infection*: Bacilli become inactive but remain
 - *TB Disease*: Active bacilli are not stopped by immune system and continue to multiply.

TB-Clinical Manifestations

- Positive Mantoux Test (PPD)-
5mm,10mm,15mm
- CXR-Lesion in apical or posterior upper lobe. Affinity for higher oxygen environment
- Positive sputum culture.
- Laboratory data: Increased bands, elevated alkaline phosphate
- Signs/Symptoms--Productive Cough, chest pain, hemoptysis, weakness, weight loss, fever/chills, night sweats.

TB Lesion in Right Apex



TB-Treatment

- Antibiotics: Cure most cases
 - 6-month: Isoniazid, Rifampin and initially, pyrazinamide
 - 9-month: Isoniazid and Rifampin
 - Other ABX combinations for multiple drug resistant (MDR) strains.
- Supportive
 - Proper rest and nutrition
 - Avoid high risk activities

Pneumonia--Etiology

- Community Acquired vs nosocomial
- Pathogens
 - Bacterial
 - Viral
 - Other--fungal, rickettesia

Pneumonia--Pathophysiology

- Route - Often Inhalation of microbes or aspiration of stomach contents or other substances
- Microbes
 - Bacteria
 - Viral
 - Other-Fungus-coccidioides = “valley fever”

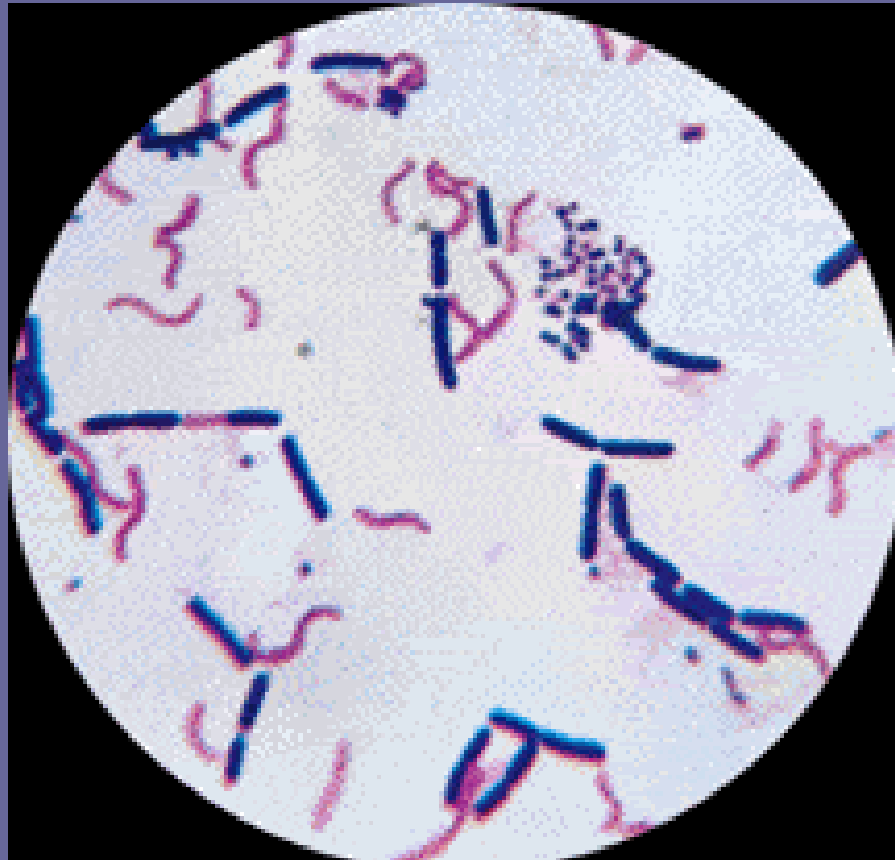
Pneumonia-Clinical Findings

- Acutely ill patient
- Hypoxemia & possible cyanosis
- CXR-Consolidation
- Unilateral Chest expansion
- Dull percussion note
- Decreased breath sounds &/or rhonchi
- Cough-Productive or non-productive
- Sputum- Green, yellow, brown, red

Types of Bacterial Pneumonia

- Gram positive - aerobic
- Gram negative - aerobic
- Anaerobic
- Mycobacteria

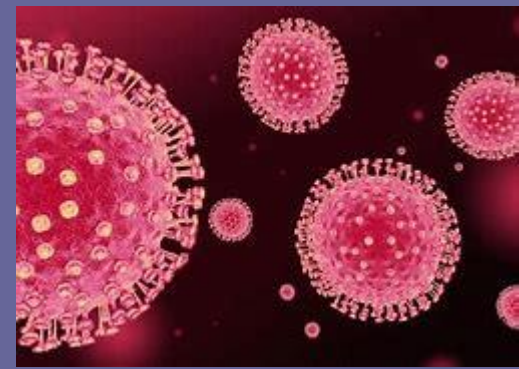
Gram stain will show
Bacilli (rods) or Cocci (round)
Positive (blue) or Negative (red)



Pneumonia--Treatment

- Supportive
 - Oxygen therapy
 - Rest
 - Proper hydration & nutrition
- Isolate the microbe - Sputum C&S
- Antibiotics/antimicrobials
- CPT
- Bronchodilators

Covid 19--Etiology



- Viral Infection
- Spread most via droplet infection
- May also be spread via airborne
- Indirect contact may also be possible
- Virus settles into the lungs and replicates
- Migrates to other body systems.

Covid 19 Risk Factors

- Age ≥ 65 years
- Male gender
- Smoking
- Presence of comorbidities (e.g., hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease, respiratory disease, obesity, malignancy)
- Dyspnea, higher respiratory rate
- Lymphopenia
- Leukocytosis
- Thrombocytopenia
- Liver or kidney impairment
- Blood Type A?

Covid 19--Pathophysiology

- During 2-10 day incubation period, virus settles into the lungs and upper airways and replicates geometrically.
- Most contagious 1-2 days before symptoms
- Severity ranges from asymptomatic to multiple system failure => septic shock => death.
- Immune system responds:
 - Helper T cells identify the virus and send WBCs
 - Antibodies are also produced
- Cytokine storm begins on day 5 and peaks at day 10-12, flooding inflammatory mediators.
 - ARDS
 - Renal Failure

Covid 19-Clinical Findings

- May be asymptomatic
- Symptoms include
 - Mild-Moderate:
 - Loss of smell
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle aches
- Approximately one-sixth of COVID-19 patients will have complications, including life-threatening ones.
- Severe:
 - Fever & Chills
 - Hypoxemic respiratory failure
 - Renal, Hepatic, Cardiac Failure
 - Coagulopathies
 - Neurologic Complications
 - Septic Shock
 - Death

Covid-19 Patient Chest X-Ray



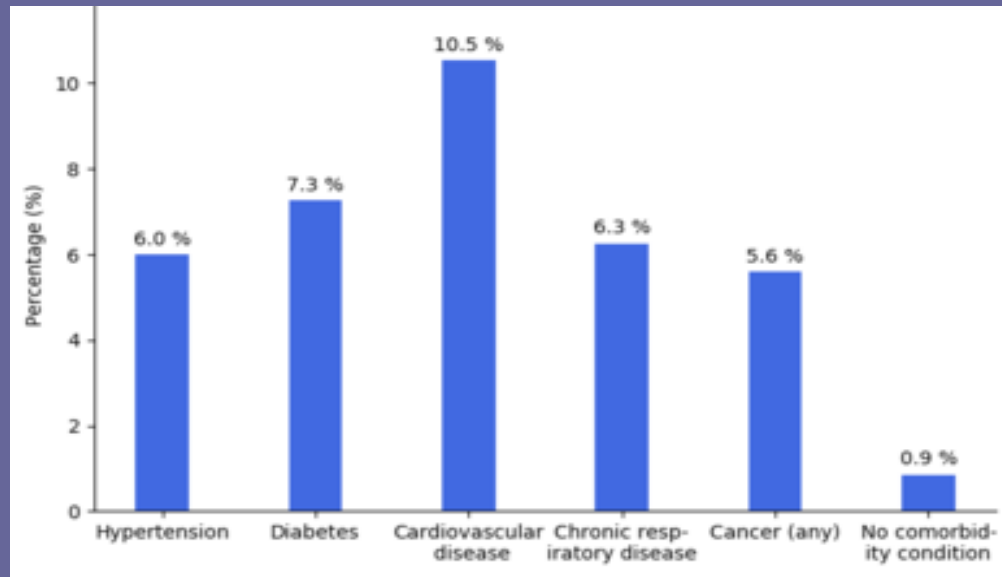
Covid 19-Treatment--

- Supportive Care: Hydration, antipyretics, bedrest
- Except for Remdesivir, Anti-virals are of limited value.
 - Remdesivir seems most effective with mild-moderate disease
- Steroids to be timed with Cytokine Storm (day 8/10?).
 - If started too early thought to potentially can contribute to ***steroid induced viral proliferation***
- Anticoagulation-For Coagulopathies
- Dialysis with Kidney Failure
- Respiratory:
 - Supp'l O₂: NRM. HFNC with flows not to exceed 30-35.
 - Early Intubation?
 - ARDsNet
 - Plateau's Pressure ≤ 30 : Driving press. < 15
 - Low VT 6 mls / Kg
 - Prone positioning
 - Inhaled Nitric Oxide

Covid 19-- Prognosis & Mortality

- Good prognosis (< 1% Mortality) for mild disease, not requiring hospitalization.
- 0.5 % mortality rate for those < 50 YO but is over 8% for those > 70 YO.
- 12% of cases require ICU admission.
- 20-30% Mortality if admitted to ICU.
- 40-70% mortality if intubated and placed on mechanical ventilation.

Mortality Rate By Comorbidity Condition



Take Home Messages

- Use proper *Infection Control Techniques, especially now, during Covid 19!*
- Maintain an index of suspicion.
- Identify and utilize practical resources.
- Participate in all appropriate training.
- Exercise common sense and good judgment.
- Don't let your ego get in the way.
- If you have questions...or need add'l info...**Ask!**

Selected References

- The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention --
<http://www.cdc.gov>
- <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/coronavirus>
- Egan's Fundamentals of Respiratory Care, ed 12 2021.
- Clinical Assessment in Respiratory Care, ed. 9 2022.
- AARC: www.aarc.org/education/aarc
- Pubmed
- Medline