**Conclusion:** In conclusion, we want to emphasize two points. First, emphysematous osteomyelitis is a rare but fulminant disease. Second, infections in diabetic subjects will be more serious than in non-diabetic patients.

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## A novel therapeutic approach in tetanus: Botulinum toxin



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**Background:** Here, we presented a tetanus case treated with botulinum toxin, which is reported in a small number of cases in the literature.

**Methods & Materials:** A 73-year-old male patient had a puncture wound to the sole of his left foot caused by a wood splinter 10 days earlier. Patient received tetanus shot the same day but did not have wound care or immunoglobulin administration. On day 7 of the injury, the patient sought medical attention from a number of medical care facilities for trismus and presented to our Outpatient Clinic on day 10. Physical examination showed trismus, risus sardonicus and a wound with necrotic crust on the sole of the left foot measuring 1x1 cm. Laboratory findings were unremarkable besides elevated creatinin phosphokinase of 967 U/L (N: 30-200 U/L). The patient was admitted with tentative diagnosis of tetanus.

Results: Surgical drainage and debridement was carried out and tetanus toxoid and tetanus immunoglobulin was administered. Patient was placed on intravenous metronidazol 500 mg QID empirically. The patient was transferred to Anesthesiology and Reanimation Unit when contractions started 6 hours after being admitted. Sedation was achieved by Phentanyl and Dormicum. Upon development of severe contractions and signs of autonomic dysfunction, sedation was increased and the patient was placed on mechanical ventilator. Sedation was reduced intermittently but could not be discontinued due to ongoing contractions. Patient did not experience an alleviation in contractions even after a week of treatment and on day 8 of admittance, a total of 300 units of botulinum toxin was administered bilaterally into the masetter, trapezius, quadriceps and rectus abdominis muscles. By this, we aimed to prevent the complications of tetanus, especially respiratory failure. Following the administration, reduction in contractions were observed and the patient is currently under follow-up.

**Conclusion:** Tetanus is a serious infectious diseases characterized by complications secondary to contractions. Botulinum toxin is a new therapeutic modality tried in a limited number of cases to prevent many complications including respiratory failure.

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## Evaluation of urinary infections in elderly patients



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**Background:** The impairment in function of the cellular and humoral immune cells and deterioration in physiological defense mechanism in elderly makes them prone to infectious diseases. The urinary tract infections in elderly constitute 25% of the community-acquired bacterial infections.

**Methods & Materials:** The records of patients over 65 yearsold diagnosed as urinary tract infection (UTI) according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention criteria were retrospectively evaluated.

**Results:** Fifty-six patients diagnosed as UTI were included in the study. Of the 56 patients recruited, 27 were male (48.2%) and 29 were female (51.8%) and the mean age of the females was 75.5±7.1 years, and the mean age of males was 76.8±7.5. Of the total number of UTI, 75% were community-acquired and 25% were nosocomial. The urine cultures of the female patients yielded Extended Spectrum Beta Lactamase (ESBL) positive E. coli in 7 cases, ESBL negative E. coli in 9 cases, pseudomonas aeruginosa in 1 case and no pathogen in 12 cases. The urine cultures of the male patients yielded ESBL positive E. coli in 8 cases, ESBL negative E. coli in 4 cases, ESBL positive Klebsiella pneumonia in 3 cases, pseudomonas aeruginosa in 1 case, Enterococcus avium in 1 case, Meticilline resistant coagulase negative stafilococcus in 1 case and no pathogen 9 cases. Culture was negative in patients who has received antimicrobial treatment before. The UTI was treated in 51 patients.

**Conclusion:** Bacteriuria is frequent in geriatric population. The most encountered pathogen was E. Coli in this age group. There are many risk factors predisposing to infections in elderly patients: deterioration in immune functions, diabetes mellitus, prostatism and long hospitalization. The most significant predisposing factor was diabetes mellitus in elderly patients diagnosed as UTI.

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