

PP015 WEIL'S DISEASE: A CASE OF THE DEADLY RODENTYeo SK¹, B.Priya Lakshmy¹¹*Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia***INTRODUCTION**

Leptospirosis is an emerging zoonotic illness in recent years due to increased incidents of flooding and outdoor recreational activities. It is endemic in tropical and subtropical countries in South-East Asia. Leptospirosis has been reported in Malaysia from 1925. It is a water borne disease mainly spread by rodents. Weil's disease is a severe form of leptospirosis with a high mortality rate. We present a case of Weil's Disease referred to our centre.

CASE REPORT

A 39 years old gentleman was referred to our centre with a history of fever for five days followed by shortness of breath and jaundice. He had a history of trekking in the jungle two weeks prior to the illness and had bathed in the river with an open wound on his arm. He was a chronic smoker. He tested positive for *Leptospira* IgM and was started on appropriate intravenous antibiotics at the private centre where he presented. His respiratory distress however worsened and upon arrival to our emergency department, he was intubated and noted to have pulmonary haemorrhage. His blood investigations revealed deranged liver enzymes and renal function.

DISCUSSION

The majority of patients with leptospirosis manifest a mild, anicteric febrile illness, but a small number develops a severe form with multiorgan involvement, called Weil's disease which has a mortality rate of 5-10 %. Weil's disease is characterized by multisystem dysfunction and can present with significant jaundice, renal

failure, hepatic necrosis, pulmonary involvement, cardiovascular collapse, neurologic changes and haemorrhagic diathesis. Three variables were independently associated with mortality in these patients: hemodynamic instability, serum creatinine level > 265.2 $\mu\text{mol/L}$, and serum potassium level > 4.0 mmol/L. There has been an association of smoking with pulmonary manifestation.

CONCLUSION

The clinician treating leptospirosis should be aware of the signs and symptoms of severe leptospirosis in order to initiate aggressive treatment early.