

# Indonesian Journal of Tropical and Infectious Disease

Vol. 9 No. 1 January–April 2021

## Original Article

### Validity of Method for MTBC and NTM Detection in FNAB Specimens from Tuberculous Lymphadenitis Using Microscopy, XPERT MTB / RIF and Culture Method

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Received: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019; Revised: 23<sup>th</sup> July 2020; Accepted: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

#### ABSTRACT

*Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *Nontuberculous Mycobacteria* usually cause infection in tuberculous lymphadenitis. To improve accuracy of the detection MTB and NTM bacteria it is necessary to select valid methods. This study aims to compare validity of diagnostic methods from FNAB specimens for determining tuberculous lymphadenitis patients. a descriptive observational laboratory study involved 35 samples were obtained from tuberculous lymphadenitis patients in Dr. Soetomo Hospital Surabaya East Java. All specimens examined Ziehl-Neelsen staining microscopy, Xpert MTB/RIF, culture method Middlebrook7H10 solid media and MGIT as Gold standard. Identification of MTB dan NTM with SD Biline TB Ag MPT64 and niacin paper strip BD. Used diagnostic test 2x2 to analyze sensitivity, specificity, negative predictive value and positive predictive value. Ziehl-Neelsen staining microscopy Sensitivity 83,33 % and Specificity 95,65% of, PPV 90,91% and NPV 91,67%, Diagnostic Accuracy 91,43 %. Xpert MTB/RIF Sensitivity 75% and Specificity 95,65%, PPV 90 % and NPV 88 %, Diagnostic Accuracy 88,57 % with 95% CI (Confidence Interval). Characteristics female dominated 23/35 (65.7%) while Male numbered 12/35 (34.3%), age range distribution of TB lymphadenitis patients is highest in young adults 17 years to 25 years as many as 15/35 (42.9%) the second highest is the age group of 36 years to 45 years by 8/35 (22.9%), Clinical presentation are mostly lymph node enlargement in cervical 37% patients other locations supraclavicular, mammae. Clinical symptoms mostly lymphadenopathy 31,5% and other lymphadenopathy with fever. Microscopy method still have the good validity should be conjunction with the molecular rapid tests and culture as gold standard in determining the diagnosis of TB lymphadenitis.

**Keywords:** *Candida albicans*; fluconazole; gastric perforation; histopathological; NSAIDs; peritonitis

#### ABSTRAK

*Mycobacterium tuberculosis* dan *Non Tuberculous Mycobacteria* merupakan penyebab infeksi pada limfadenitis tuberkulosis. Untuk meningkatkan akurasi isolasi bakteri MTB dan NTM diperlukan pemilihan metode yang valid. Penelitian ini bertujuan membandingkan validitas metode diagnostik deteksi MTB dan NTM serta karakteristik pasien limfadenitis TB dari spesimen FNAB. Penelitian dilakukan di Rumah sakit Dr. Soetomo Surabaya Jawa timur bersifat deskriptif observasional diperoleh sebanyak 35 sampel FNAB pasien limfadenitis TB. pemeriksaan yang dilakukan adalah Pemeriksaan mikroskopis menggunakan pewarnaan Ziehl-Neelsen, tes cepat molekuler Xpert MTB/RIF, kultur media padat Middlebrook7H10. Standar emas pada penelitian ini menggunakan metode kultur media cair MGIT. Identifikasi MTB dan NTM dilakukan dengan SD Biline TB Ag MPT64 dan niasin paper strip BD. Analisis sensitivitas, spesifisitas, nilai duga negatif dan nilai duga positif menggunakan uji diagnostik tabel 2x2. Pemeriksaan mikroskopis pewarnaan Ziehl-Neelsen dengan CI (Confidence Interval) memiliki 95% memiliki nilai sensitivitas 83,33 % dan spesifisitas 95,65%, nilai duga positif 90,91%, nilai duga negatif 91,67%, diagnostik akurasi 91,43 %.

Metode diagnostik tes cepat molekuler Xpert MTB/RIF sensitivitas 75 %, spesifisitas 95,65 %, nilai duga positif 90 %, nilai duga negatif (88 %, dan diagnostik akurasi 88,57 %. Karakteristik perempuan mendonina-

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si sebanyak 23/35 (65.7%) laki-laki berjumlah 12/35 (34.3%), 17 tahun sampai 25 tahun sebanyak 15 orang 15/35 (42.9%) terbanyak kedua adalah kelompok usia 36 tahun sampai 45 tahun sebanyak 8/35 (22.9%). Pasien dengan gejala benjolan pada leher sebanyak 37%, lokasi lain supraklavikula, mammae. gejala klinis paling banyak mengalami gejala klinis pembesaran kelenjar getah bening saja sebanyak 31,5%, dan gejala klinis lainnya berupa pembesaran kelenjar getah bening dan demam. Pemeriksaan metode mikroskopik masih memiliki validitas yang baik, pemeriksaan yang dilakukan dengan dukungan tes cepat molekular dan kultur sebagai gold standar dapat membantu menegaskan diagnosis limfadenitis TB.

**Kata kunci:** *Candida albicans*; fluconazole; gastric perforasi; histopatological; NSAIDs, peritonitis

**How to Cite:** Junus, HN., Mertaniasih, NM., Soedarsono. Validity of Method for MTBC and NTM Detection in FNAB Specimens from Tuberculous Lymphadenitis Using Microscopy, XPERT MTB / RIF and Culture Method. Indonesian Journal of Tropical and Infectious Disease, 9(1), 33–38.

## INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis is an infectious disease that is still a health problem in the world because of the high burden of mortality and morbidity. World Health Organization (WHO) reported in 2017 number of TB cases are currently 254 per 100,000 or 25.40 per 1 million population.<sup>1</sup> Indonesia has the number of new cases 420,994 cases in 2017,<sup>2</sup> in 2018 Estimated 10.0 million range (9.0 – 11.1 million) people ill with TB. Incidence of extra pulmonary TB cases in the world estimated increase 14% from total of 6.4 million TB cases in 2017. Detection of Tuberculous lymphadenitis is quite difficult because the symptoms are often not typical, course of infection depends on patient risk factors and definitive diagnostics can be established based on the discovery of microbes causing infection.<sup>3</sup>

This study aims to compare validity of diagnostic methods specimens examined Ziehl-Neelsen staining microscopy, Xpert MTB/RIF, culture method Middlebrook 7H10 solid media and MGIT as Gold standard from FNAB specimens for determining tuberculous lymphadenitis patients.

Microscopic examination with Ziehl-Neelsen staining method is first examination to identify acid fast bacilli (AFB) using a binocular microscope but rarely positive results because of paucibacillary nature of MTB bacteria in tissues.<sup>5</sup> Ziehl-Neelsen staining microscopy Sensitivity range 78,3%- 83,33 % 20. Molecular test Xpert MTB/RIF Assay (Cepheid, USA) is a diagnostic tool recommended by WHO and available in

various health care facilities in Indonesia, detect DNA MTB as well as mutations in the *rpoB* gene that cause resistance to rifampicin.<sup>6</sup> The relevant literature.

Culture method from specimen is still a gold standard in growing bacilli with sensitivity range 70% to 80%. Advantage culture examination to avoid risk of false negative results and obtain MTB isolates for identification. Positive results do not always indicate the presence of living or viable microorganisms. A quick and accurate diagnosis is very important so that there is no over diagnose or under diagnose. Moreover patient can get TB treatment immediately and provide other benefits, such as reducing disability and death rates and preventing TB transmission to others.<sup>7</sup>

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This research is a descriptive observational laboratory testing the validity. FNAB specimens were taken from April 2019 until June 2019 at the anatomical pathology laboratory.

**Material** culture method using Microbiology Systems-.BD BACTEC™ MGIT 960 System. Identification of MTB dan NTM with SD Bioline TB Ag MPT64 and niacin paper strip from Becton Dickson company.

**Method** Ziehl-Neelsen staining microscopy procedure using fuchsin staining 3 minutes, alcohol acid solution staining for 30 seconds and methylene blue staining for 30 seconds, Xpert MTB /Rif using aspirate

samples according manufacture 's protocol sample reagent was added in a 2:1 ratio to unprocessed falcon tube, incubation 15 minute at room temperature. And add 2 ml material to cartridge and loaded to Genexpert machine. Culture was put up after decontamination samples on media slopes following the standard protocol Microbiology Systems-.BD BACTEC™ MGIT 960 System. Used diagnostic test 2x2 to analyze sensitivity, specificity, negative predictive value and positive predictive value.

**Ethical Clearance** This study received approval from the health research ethics committee of Dr. Soetomo Hospital Surabaya with the statement of ethical clearance of 1232 / KEPK / V / 2019.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

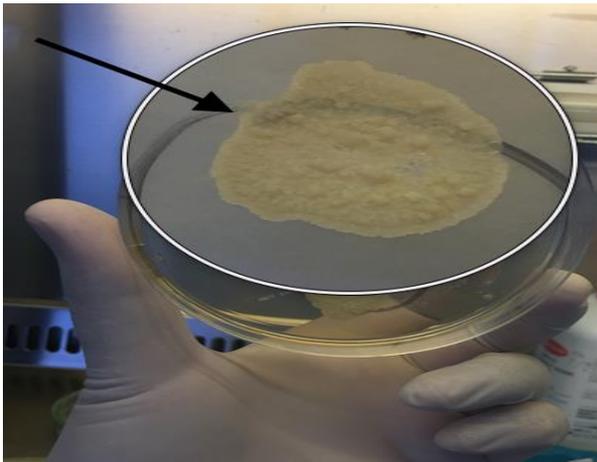
Demographic data obtained from medical records April to June 2019 most lymphadenitis patients came from Surabaya with 21/35 (60%) and 14/35 outside Surabaya (40%). No data available incidence of tuberculous lymphadenitis disease at the hospital Dr. Soetomo therefore needs further epidemiological research. Characteristics of gender female dominated as many as 23/35 (65.7%) while Male numbered 12/35 (34.3%) in line with other studies women dominated as many as 120 people (58.8%).<sup>8,9, 10</sup>

Female factors are more dominant because of several factors such as differences in biological, hormonal, social, environmental and different behavior from men. Male and female immune systems can be indicative of underlying causes for various patterns of disease in women. Socially in developing countries, women are more vulnerable because they have low economic status, which makes it late for someone to come to a health care center.<sup>10</sup> The age range distribution of TB lymphadenitis patients is highest in young adults 17 years to 25 years as many as 15/35 (42.9%) the second highest is the age group of 36 years to 45 years by 8/35 (22.9%). Based on the background of the work status there were most 16 /35 employees (46%), the second highest was the non working group.

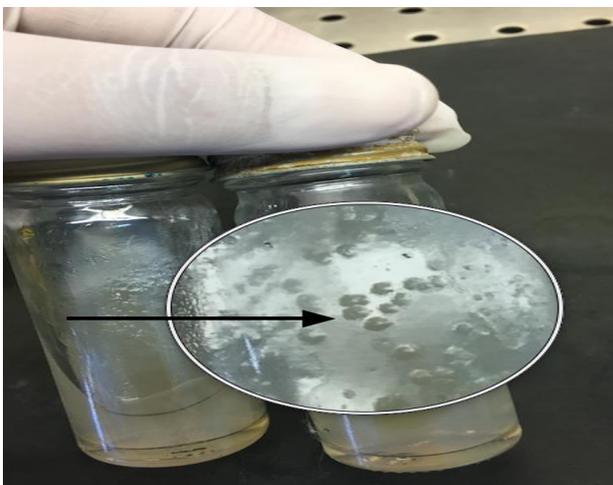
Because some people have been exposed to people who are suspected of having tuberculosis. Other studies also get the same distribution in the age range of 22 years to 44 years due to the productive age affects the high risk of TB.<sup>11</sup> TB lymphadenitis cases can occur 60 to 80% in people with HIV because TB is an opportunistic infection in people with HIV-AIDS and this disease is found so that in patients with suspected TB lymphadenitis should be screened for HIV co-screening.

Clinical presentation lymph node enlargement mostly in cervical 37% patients other locations supraclavicular mamae. Clinical symptoms mostly lymphadenopathy 31,5% and other lymphadenopathy with fever. Clinical symptoms are one of the conditions for establishing a diagnosis of TB lymphadenitis, but in other studies it was found that clinical syndromes cannot be used as a single basis in determining the diagnosis of TB lymphadenitis because there are many variations in results because it is difficult to determine when the patient first experiences a complaint, subjectivity patients various.<sup>12</sup> Mostly lymph node enlargement sites in collie area, Other studies also have the same data which is located in the cervical area.<sup>13</sup>

Totally 35 specimens were examined 11/35 (31.4%) showed positive smear acid fast bacilli (AFB) and 24/35 (68.6%) negative similar to the results of other studies a total of 120 patients affected by TB lymphadenitis as many as 26 samples (21.7%) found positive smear and 94 samples (78.3%) did not find smear,<sup>14</sup> MTB bacilli were rare found in lymph node tissue because of its Paucibacillary nature, low positivity depends on the average number of aspirate aspirates FNAB 1000 to 10,000 / ml sample, Liquid Culture method MGIT and solid culture method showed positive results 12/35 (34,3 %) and negative 23/35 (65,7%) (Figure 1) (Figure 2), to confirm presence of mycobacteria from positive culture using rapid identification tests SD Bioline TB Ag MPT64 (Figure 3) and niacin paper test showed positive MTBC species 10 /12 (84%) and 2/12 (16%) reported as NTM species.



**Figure 1.** MTB colonies on Middlebrook7H10 medium



**Figure 2.** MOTT colonies on Middlebrook7H10 medium

The culture method is a Gold standard examination aimed at isolating MTB bacteria from samples of patients suspected of having TB lymphadenitis. The sensitivity value is quite high because the number of bacteria from 10 to 100 bacilli / ml from concentrated specimens can be detected.<sup>15</sup> Examination of culture methods at the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory Dr. Soetomo uses the Microbiology Systems -BD BACTEC™ MGIT 960 System diagnostic tool. Process of decontamination can potentially cause the death of MTB bacilli, too acidic and too alkali conditions can also cause MTB bacilli death and failure to thrive.<sup>16</sup> Other studies comparing the Loweinsten Jensen and Middlebrook 7H10 solid growth media found differences in the growth period of

Middlebrook faster than the growth in Loweinsten Jensen media.<sup>17</sup> The sensitivity of the MPT 64 TBAg test kit in differentiating MTB and MOTT 100%.<sup>18</sup>

The results of the examination Molecular test Xpert MTB / RIF Assay (Cepheid, USA) 35 patients with suspected TB lymphadenitis showed that 10/35 (28,69%) patients were positively detected by the M. tuberculosis bacterial gene and negative results in 25/35 (71,4%) . Results of the reading of the detected MTB GeneXpert can be known quantitatively the level of MTB detection using Xpert MTB/RIF tool and categorized as follows: MTB detected low rif resistance not detected 8 samples (80%) and 2 sampels (20%) MTB detected very low rif resistance not detected.

The validity test results in this study used the analysis of the sensitivity and specificity of the FNAB specimens by using the Wilson diagnostic analysis table with 95% confidence interval microscopic method of Ziehl-Neelsen staining (ZN), comparison with the gold standard Culture method MGIT obtained a sensitivity value of 83.33% the ability of Ziehl-Neelsen microscopic staining methods to identify with smear positive results in TB lymphadenitis patients is quite high. Specificity Value of 95.65% with 95% CI means that the ability to find out negative and true results of no AFB in Tuberculous lymphadenitis patients is 95.65%. A positive predictive value of 90.91% means that the probability of AFB being present on microscopic examination if the results of a positive diagnostic test is 90.91%. A negative estimate value of 91.67% means that the probability of not having AFB if the diagnostic test is negative is 91.67%. Diagnostic accuracy of 91.43%. In line with other studies namely sensitivity of 83% and specificity of 98%.<sup>19</sup>

		Culture MGIT	
		Positive	Negative
microscopic	Positive	10	1
	Negative	2	22

**Table 1.** The result of diagnostic test

Sensitivity value: 83,33%  
 Specificity Value: 95,65% with 95% CI  
 positive predictive value of 90.91%: 90,91%  
 negative estimate value of 91.67%: 91,67%  
 Diagnostic accuracy of 91.43%.: 91,43 %

The validity test results in this study use the Wilson Wilson diagnostic analysis Table 1 with 95% CI method of molecular Xpert MTB / RIF rapid test comparison with the MGIT culture method as the gold standard. The results of this study obtained a sensitivity value of 75% which means that the ability of the examination of the rapid molecular Xpert MTB / RIF method in identifying MTB bacterial DNA in TB lymphadenitis patients is 75%. Specificity Value of 95.65% with 95% CI means that the ability to find negative and true results of absence of MTB bacterial DNA in TB lymphadenitis patients is 95.65%, positive predictive value of 90% means that the probability of MTB bacterial DNA if positive diagnostic test results is 90%. An estimated negative value of 88% means that the probability of the absence of MTB bacterial DNA if the diagnostic test is negative is equal to 91.67%. Diagnostic accuracy of 88.57%. Specificity (95.65%) in this study is in line with other studies where the specificity of Xpert MTB / RIF is 91%.<sup>20,21,22</sup> Regarding the negative results of the molecular nuclei acid amplification test need procedure of specimen collection . Although the sensitivity value of this study is lower than the specificity value, a high enough specificity value of 95.65% can help in establishing the diagnosis that the patient did not have TB lymphadenitis.

## CONCLUSION

TB lymphadenitis diagnostic examination can penot be done only rely on one method in establishing the diagnosis of TB lymphadenitis The distribution of MTB and NTM is very helpful in providing therapy based on the causative agent for TB lymphadenitis infection.

## CONFLICT INTEREST

There is no conflict interest of this paper.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Author would like to thank the chief of Dr. Soetomo Hospital, Surabaya, Indonesia. Head of Clinical Microbiology Study Program, Faculty of medicine Airlangga University. This report would not have been possible without contribution and collaboration Dr. Willy Sandhika, dr. M.Si, Sp.PA (K) Head of Clinical research from department of anatomical pathology, Faculty of Medicine Universitas Airlangga, Chairman of Institute of Tropical Disease, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia and Dean of Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga. And also for contribution from Agnes Dwi Sis Perwitasari, S.Si, a staff of Tuberculosis Laboratory, Institute of Tropical Diseases Universitas Airlangga and Sugeng Harijono, A.Md.A.K, medical staff of Department of Clinical Microbiology Dr. Soetomo Academic Hospital.

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