


Response to Article “Coinfection with Leprosy and Tuberculosis: A Case Series in Malagasy Patients” [Letter]

Nastiti Intan Permata Sari , Sarwo Handayani

Center for Biomedical Research, Research Organization for Health, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Cibinong Science Centre, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia

Correspondence: Nastiti Intan Permata Sari, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Cibinong Science Centre, Jl. Raya Jakarta - Bogor Km. 46, Cibinong, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia, Email nastitipermata@gmail.com; nast003@brin.go.id

Dear editor

We congratulate Rakotoarisaona et al for successfully conducting research in Madagascar studying the case series of coinfection with leprosy and tuberculosis which is important for understanding the oldest and most common mycobacterial infections. Findings from this study show good information of clinical cases in Malagasy patients, there were six cases of leprosy and tuberculosis coinfection.¹

However, after reviewing this research carefully, we suggest adding the serology data to confirm those infections. Serological testing are valid, cheap, and more sensitive diagnosis of leprosy so there is definitely data.² The serology test using PGL-1 which is a specific antigen of *Mycobacterium leprae* that infected leprosy patients.³

Other research shows the bacteriological data of tuberculosis also having culturing data, because culturing is a gold standard in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* diagnosis for tuberculosis infection,⁴ so this data needs to be added in the discussion.

We sincerely thank you for your concern and look forward to continued efforts in mycobacterial coinfection research one day.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to acknowledge all the researchers and Prof. Dr. Sunarno in the Center for Biomedical Research BRIN for their continuous support. The authors would also like to convey gratitude to the research team of Rakotoarisaona et al for their valuable research report.

Disclosure

The authors have disclosed that there are no conflicts of interest in this communication.

References

1. Rakotoarisaona MF, Razafimaharo TI, Sendrasoa FA, et al. Coinfection with leprosy and tuberculosis: a case series in Malagasy patients. *Infect Drug Resist.* 2024;17:1507–1513. doi:10.2147/IDR.S458888
2. Longoni SS, Beltrame A, Prato M, et al. ELISA test based on the phenolic glycolipid-I (PGL-I) of *Mycobacterium leprae*: a reality of a laboratory from a non-endemic country. *Pathogens.* 2022;11(8):894. doi:10.3390/pathogens11080894
3. Chen KH, Lin CY, Su SB, et al. Leprosy: a review of epidemiology, clinical diagnosis, and management. *J Trop Med.* 2022;13. doi:10.1155/2022/8652062
4. Susilawati TN, Larasati R. A recent update of the diagnostic methods for tuberculosis and their applicability in Indonesia: a narrative review. *Med J Indonesia.* 2019;28(3):284–291. doi:10.13181/mji.v28i3.2589

Dove Medical Press encourages responsible, free and frank academic debate. The content of the Infection and Drug Resistance 'letters to the editor' section does not necessarily represent the views of Dove Medical Press, its officers, agents, employees, related entities or the Infection and Drug Resistance editors. While all reasonable steps have been taken to confirm the content of each letter, Dove Medical Press accepts no liability in respect of the content of any letter, nor is it responsible for the content and accuracy of any letter to the editor.

Infection and Drug Resistance

Dovepress

Publish your work in this journal

Infection and Drug Resistance is an international, peer-reviewed open-access journal that focuses on the optimal treatment of infection (bacterial, fungal and viral) and the development and institution of preventive strategies to minimize the development and spread of resistance. The journal is specifically concerned with the epidemiology of antibiotic resistance and the mechanisms of resistance development and diffusion in both hospitals and the community. The manuscript management system is completely online and includes a very quick and fair peer-review system, which is all easy to use. Visit <http://www.dovepress.com/testimonials.php> to read real quotes from published authors.

Submit your manuscript here: <https://www.dovepress.com/infection-and-drug-resistance-journal>

<https://doi.org/10.2147/IDR.S474246>