

4<sup>th</sup> International Conference and Exhibition on  
**Pathology**

July 13-15, 2015 New Orleans, USA

**Significance of histopathology in leprosy**

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The aim of the study was to correlate clinical and histopathological features of different types of leprosy. Skin biopsies for the study were obtained from patients clinically diagnosed as leprosy. H and E stained sections were studied. Wade Fite staining for identifying the bacilli was done. After studying the histopathological features and noting the bacteriological status, the diagnosis of leprosy was confirmed and classified according to Ridley and Jopling classification. Clinicopathological correlation was done. 50 skin biopsies were studied over a period of 2 years. Borderline tuberculoid type was the commonest type of leprosy which constituted 38% biopsies followed by indeterminate leprosy (30%), borderline tuberculoid leprosy (10%), lepromatous leprosy (8%), tuberculoid tuberculoid (1.5%), histoid leprosy (6%) and borderline borderline type (2%). Most common clinical feature was loss of sensation followed by nerve thickening and hypopigmented skin lesions. Most of the biopsies were of pauci-bacillary type (72%) and the rest (28%) were of multi-bacillary type. Good concordance was observed in indeterminate leprosytype (100%) followed by borderline tuberculoid leprosy (69.2%). Least concordance was present in borderline lepromatous leprosy (55.5%). High Bacillary Index of 5+ to 6+ was noted in lepromatous and borderline lepromatous leprosy. Low bacillary index of 1+ was observed in borderline borderline type. Correlation of clinical and histopathological features along with bacteriological index appears more useful for accurate typing of leprosy than considering any of the single parameters alone. This helps the clinician for better care and management of the patients.

**Biography**

Abhinav Walia has completed his MBBS from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bengaluru, India. He is currently pursuing his residency in MD Pathology at MGM Medical College, Navi Mumbai, India. He has participated and presented posters and oral papers in various conferences and workshops across India. He is exploring the possibility of adding value to his knowledge and curriculum by participating in various ongoing conferences and workshops across the globe.

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