

Management Of Spinal Tuberculosis

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Tuberculous spondylitis, also known as Pott disease, is one of the oldest demonstrated diseases known to man. It has been documented in spinal remains from the Iron Age in Europe, in ancient mummies from Egypt and in the Pacific coast of South America. Percivall Pott, in 1779, presented the classic description of spinal tuberculosis. It is the most common site of bone infection in TB. The lower thoracic and upper lumbar vertebrae are the areas of the spine most often affected. The presentation highlights the epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnostic approach and radiological findings of spinal TB. Approaches to management are discussed, emphasizing the role of medical therapy as well as the role and indications for the diverse surgical approaches currently utilized in the management of this disease.