DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE OF GASTROINTESTINAL TUBERCULOSIS: A REPORT OF 34 CASES AND AN OVERVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Muhammad Radzi¹, Nik Rihan², Natesan Vijayalakshmi³ and Subhada Prasad Pani³

¹Clinical Research Center, ²Department of Pathology, Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah, Alor Setar, Kedah Darul Aman; ³School of Medicine, AIMST University, Bedong, Kedah Darul Aman, Malaysia

Abstract. We report 34 cases of gastrointestinal TB from Malaysia and present an overview of the diagnostic challenges. A concerted effort is necessary to improve the existing diagnostic methods, and develop and evaluate newer diagnostic tools through well designed multi-center studies.

Correspondence: Dr SP Pani, School of Medicine, AIMST University, Bedong, Post Code 08100,

Kedah Darul Aman, Malaysia.

Tel: +60 016 4306450; Fax: +60 04 4598083

E-mail: pani.sp@gmail.com