

STREPTOCOCCUS SUIIS INFECTION: A PROSPECTIVE STUDY IN NORTHERN THAILAND

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Abstract. A prospective study of all cases of *Streptococcus suis* blood or CSF culture positive admitted to Lamphun Provincial Hospital in northern Thailand was carried out. Fifty-three cases of *S. suis* were identified, which comprised 70% of all viridans streptococci cases. The majority of cases (88.6%) were contracted orally and 83.0% had an underlying disease present. Five clinical syndromes were identified: acute meningitis (37.2%), septicemia (27.9%), toxic shock syndrome (TSS) (23.3%), subacute bacterial endocarditis (SBE) (9.3%) and spondylitis (2.3%). The patients with TSS had a lower mean age than those without TSS. *S. suis* IgG and IgM antibody levels in the TSS group were lower than those without TSS which is important when considering the clinical syndrome and severity of the infection.

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