

<i>University of Baghdad</i>			
<i>College Name</i>	<i>MEADICIAL</i>		
<i>Department</i>	<i>respiratory medicine</i>		
<i>Full name as written in passport</i>	<i>Saja Ali Hussein</i>		
e-mail			
Career	<input type="radio"/> Assistant Lecturer	<input type="radio"/> Lecturer	<input type="radio"/> Assistant Professor <input type="radio"/> Professor
	<input type="radio"/> Master	PhD <input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> diploma
Thesis Title	The Diagnostic Yield of Open Lung Biopsy in Patients with Suspected Interstitial Lung Disease		
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Abstract

Background: The diagnosis of interstitial lung disease (ILD) is frequently delayed, because clinical clues are neglected and respiratory symptoms are ascribed to more common pulmonary diagnosis such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in the primary care setting.

Objective: The present study was aimed to evaluate the yield of open lung biopsy in patients with suspected ILD.

Subjects and methods: Thirty five patients were admitted with suspected interstitial lung disease (ILD), and scheduled for open lung biopsy (OLB) in Ghazi AL-Hariri hospital for surgical specialty, were the cohort of this study. Data collected from the patients files (who subjected to open lung biopsies which had been histopathologically studied) in the period from 1st of January 2013 through 31st of May 2015 and were studied retrospectively.

Results: There were 11 (31.4%) males and 24(68.6%) females, the mean age was 46 ± 14 years , dyspnea was the common presenting symptoms in patients 24(68.6%) , dry cough was the presenting symptoms in 10 (28.6%) patients , bilateral diffuse crepitations were heard in 20 (57.2%) patients, bilateral fine basal crepitation were heard in 11 (31.4%) , clubbing with bilateral fine basal crepitations heard in 4 (11.4%) , chestx-rays findings were: lower zone infiltration in 11 (31.4%), reticulonodular infiltration in 10 (28.6), nodular infiltration in 8 (22.9%) and opacities in 6 (17.1%). CT findings were : basal infiltration in 11 (31.4%), reticulonodular infiltration in 10 (28.6%), nodular infiltration in 8 (22.9%) and ground glass appearance s in 6 (17.1%).

Histopathological examination (obtained from Open lung biopsy) results were : had usual interstitial pneumonia (idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis) 21(60%) , 7 (20%) metastasis, 5 (14.3%) pulmonary TB and 2(5.7%) broncho-alveolar cell carcinoma.

Conclusion: Open lung biopsy can safely be performed in patients with suspected interstitial lung disease. It gave a high diagnostic yield and alters the diagnosis and management in a significant number of patients.

