Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections

Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections are the most common type of nontuberculous mycobacterial lung infection that causes pulmonary disease in the United States. Tuberculosis is a chronic infectious disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis, a species of mycobacteria.

In the United States, tuberculosis is primarily caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis, a species of mycobacteria. Nontuberculous mycobacterial infections are caused by various species of mycobacteria, including Mycobacterium avium complex, Mycobacterium kansasii, Mycobacterium abscessus, and Mycobacterium fortuitum.

Tuberculosis is a disease that affects the lungs and other parts of the body, while nontuberculous mycobacterial infections can affect the lungs, skin, and other parts of the body. Tuberculosis is caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis, which is transmitted through the air. Nontuberculous mycobacterial infections are caused by other species of mycobacteria, which can be transmitted through contaminated soil, water, or other sources.

Both tuberculosis and nontuberculous mycobacterial infections can be treated with antibiotics, but the treatment for each can be different. Tuberculosis is treated with a combination of antibiotics, typically for 6-12 months. Nontuberculous mycobacterial infections may require longer treatment, and the choice of antibiotics depends on the specific species of mycobacteria involved.

Environmental mycobacterial infections can be found in various environments around the world, and some of them have the ability to infect animals, birds, and humans and have evolved mechanisms by which they can evade and grow within host cells. The pathogenic environmental mycobacteria (PEM) is a subset of nontuberculous mycobacteria that can cause infections in the lung and other parts of the body.
only recently that the potential significance of PEM as a waterborne pathogen has been appreciated. This publication discusses current knowledge about the distribution of PEM in water and other parts of the environment, the routes of transmission that lead to human infection, the most significant disease symptoms that can follow infection, methods of analysis and detection, the control of PEM in drinking water and the assessment and management of risks.

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