Medicine beyond frontiers

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Childhood Tuberculosis: Radiologic Manifestations

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The radiographic findings of primary pulmonary tuberculosis are the reflective of the involvement of pulmonary parenchyma, hilar and mediastinal nodes, tracheobronchial structure and pleura. The findings include parenchymal lesions as air space consolidation, cavitation, and atelectasis, hilar or paratracheal nodes enlargement, tracheobroncheal narrowing with segmental atelectasis, pleural effusion, healed primary pulmonary complex, "Ranke complex" and calcified nodes. Tuberculosis in acquired hypersensitivity is varied. There is tendency to involve apical, posterior segment of the upper lobe in various patterns. The caseation is common and spread to bronchial tree. Hematogenous dissemination is common in post primary form of disease as miliary tuberculosis.