

## **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Melioidosis, a bacterial infection caused by gram negative bacilli *Burkholderiapseudomalle* usually presents with multiple abscess formation involving multiple sites of the body. Thyroid gland involvement is rare and has not been reported from Sri Lanka to our knowledge.

**Case history:** A 60- year- old female with diabetes mellitus and chronic liver cell disease presented with recurrent abscess formation with fever. She had abscesses over anterior chest wall and involving thyroid gland this time. With clinical, microbiological and serological evidence the diagnosis melioidosis involving thyroid gland was made and treated successfully.

**Discussion:** *Burkholderiapseudomalle* is a soil saprophyte. Inhalation or inoculation of contaminated water or soil leads to disease transmission. Having underlying comorbidities leads to increased risk of unusual presentations. Diabetes mellitus is a commonest causative comorbidity.

**Conclusion:** In a patient with multiple abscesses melioidosis should consider as a differential diagnosis, especially with co morbidities. In cultures it can be mistakenly interpret as pseudomonas and if clinical picture is suggestive can be treated as melioidosis. Thyroid gland also involves in melioidosis.