

Kolonizacja migdałków podniebiennych bakteriami *Actinomyces spp.* w przebiegu ich przewlekłego zapalenia

Palatine tonsils colonization with *Actinomyces species* during chronic tonsillitis

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Summary

The *Actinomyces spp.* are common saprophytic microorganisms which are found in the oral cavity, pharynx and palatine tonsils. The actinomycotic infections can be responsible for recurrent chronic tonsillitis. Data about presence of actinomycotic granules in tonsillar tissue and their influence on clinical course are controversial in the available literature sources. The present study assesses the appearance of actinomycetes and the character of their invasiveness in the tonsillar tissue affected with chronic tonsillitis after tonsillectomy which were performed in Department of Otolaryngology Medical University of Łódź in 2005. The clinical manifestations and histopathological findings were retrospectively reviewed. Actinomycotic granules were presented in 21 cases. Most frequently in positive cases the granules were in crypts accompanied by accumulation of inflammatory mononuclear cells and bacteriae migration through the epithelium into the tonsillar tissue. There was no correlation between the clinical diagnosis and course and the presence of *Actinomyces*. Our results indicate that actinomycetes may play an active role in the etiology of chronic inflammatory of tonsillar tissue and the causative factor.