

## 00448 A case of thoracic empyema caused by bronchial foreign body (fish bone)

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Area and Category(at submission):

[WCBIP] Dynamic Airway Collapse

Presentation Preference: Either

Case Report: YES

### ◆ Abstract

### ◆ Background

Obstructive pneumonia, atelectasis and bronchitis were often caused by a bronchial foreign body, but thoracic empyema is a rare complication and only a few reports were published, and thus we report a case of thoracic empyema caused by aspiration of a fish bone.

### ◆ Case

A 88-year-old man with dementia and glaucoma, visited our emergency room for dizziness and falling on the floor. No obvious traumas were observed, however, C-Reactive Protein (CRP: 16.3mg/dl) and White Blood Cell (WBC:14200/mm<sup>3</sup>) were elevated on his laboratory data, so we investigated minutely. Chest computed tomography(CT) showed a foreign body in the left main bronchus and left pleural effusion. Thoracocentesis produced cloudy yellow and suppurative fluid. We diagnosed this case as thoracic empyema caused by bronchial foreign body. The foreign body was removed using forceps through a flexible bronchoscope. The removed object was a fish bone fragment, 2×1cm in size. Thoracic drainage was performed, and we started irrigation with saline solution and general antibiotics. We could remove the drainage tube on the 26th day with no respiratory complication but patient died of acute cholangitis 54days after the procedure

### ◆ Conclusion

Symptoms of bronchial foreign body are cough, dyspnea, and chest pain , however, sometimes asymptomatic and clinical condition progress without knowing it.

In this case, foreign body aspiration was also occurred without symptoms and delayed in recognition and progress to empyema.

When we experienced recurrent pneumonia, atelectasis, and thoracic empyema, we have to keep it in mind to think about bronchial foreign body.

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