Delayed Presentation of Foreign Body Aspiration in an Adult

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Clinical Image

We report the case of a 63 year-old-man with previous history of COPD, hypertension, dyslipidemia and acute myocardial infarction. He was seen in the Pneumology outpatient Clinic complaining of weight loss during the past 9 months and vigorous cough episodes leading to syncope in the last 6 months associated to hemoptysis in the last 2 months. Chest CT revealed a lingular consolidation and bronchoscopy showed a white and necrotic plaque in the left upper division bronchi with signs of obstruction, bronchial lumen reduction and signs of mucosal edema and infiltration. In PET scan there were signs of metabolic activity in the lingular consolidation (SUV 8,4). Considering the insidious clinical evolution and the radiological findings in the sequential chest-CT the main differential diagnosis were malignant or infectious etiologies. A left upper lobectomy was performed. The histological result showed an inflammatory infiltrate surrounding a foreign body (chicken bone) (Figures 1 and 2).

Keywords: Foreign body; Aspiration; Bronchoscopy; Lobectomy

Figure 1: Endoscopic images of foreign body Granuloma.

Figure 2: Foreign body (chicken bone) removed during lobectomy.