

Non-Invasive Diagnosis of Pulmonary Artery Aneurysm

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Pulmonary artery aneurysms are extremely rare entities, and the number of cases documented in the world literature is limited. It is a pathological dilatation of the pulmonary artery trunk and/or one or both main branches. Most of these aneurysms are asymptomatic, and they are diagnosed by chance, when a chest x-ray is performed for another reason.

We report the case of a patient who was admitted to our hospital with a diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction, whose chest x-ray (Figure 1) showed a dilatation of the pulmonary arch. A transesophageal echocardiography (Figure 2) showed a marked

dilatation of the pulmonary artery trunk of 58 mm, in the longitudinal section of the great vessels; concomitant cardiac pathology (shunt, pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary valve stenosis) was ruled out. Evaluation was completed with a chest computed tomography, which showed a marked dilatation of the pulmonary artery trunk of 50 mm, as well as of the left branch (Figure 3). Due to the clinical context of the patient and the fact that data did not evidence high risk of rupture, it was decided to follow a conservative treatment plan and a regular MRI follow-up.

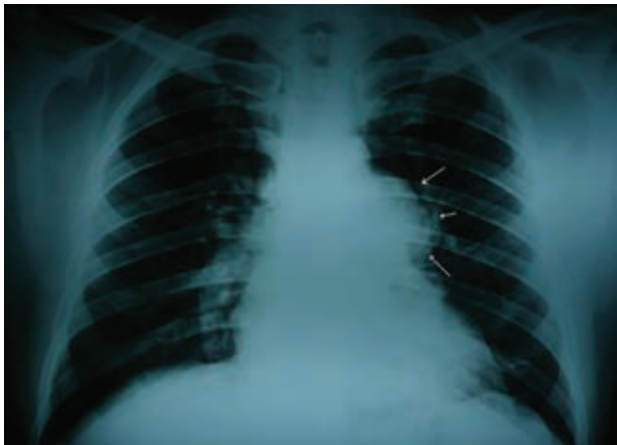


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

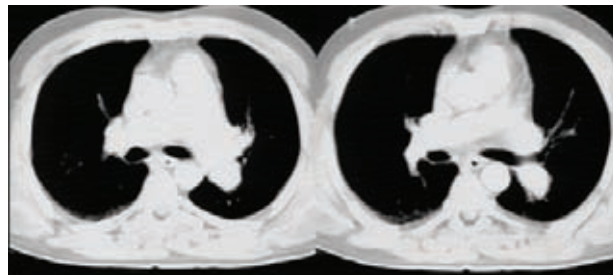


Fig. 3.

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