



Unilateral Pulmonary Artery Hypoplasia Causing Recurrent Hemoptysis in the Adulthood

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Keywords

Pulmonary artery hypoplasia; Hemoptysis; Congenital malformation

Clinical Image

A 50-year-old woman reported dyspnea and recurrent small volume hemoptysis for 3 years. Bronchoscopy revealed left main bronchus stenosis, while contrast-enhanced chest tomography showed volumetric reduction of the left lung and hypoplasia of the left pulmonary artery. Diagnosis of this malformation can be quite difficult in adults, as it results in unspecific symptoms such as cough, hemoptysis and recurrent lower airway infections. Hemoptysis results from the rupture of dilated and hypertrophied collateral vessels, which originate from the intercostal arteries and penetrate the pulmonary parenchyma. Patients with recurrent hemoptysis, recurrent infections and bronchiectasis may undergo lobectomy or pneumonectomy for symptom control. This is the first Brazilian case of pulmonary artery hypoplasia described in adulthood, a rare condition that can cause recurrent hemoptysis and demands a high clinical suspicion for its diagnosis. Patient didn't require any interventional procedure for hemoptysis since diagnosis.

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Figure: