Two Adult Cases of Pulmonary Artery Sling

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Case 1

A 42-year-old man who complained of pharyngeal discomfort showed a right mediastinal mass shadow and a long-segment of tracheal narrowing on plain chest X-ray (Picture 1a).

Case 2

A 36-year-old woman was transferred due to symptoms of bloody sputum and wheezing.

Chest CT revealed an anomalous left pulmonary artery originating from the right pulmonary artery with a posterior course between the trachea (gray) and esophagus (light green). The blue arrow marks the abnormal origin from the left pulmonary artery (red) (Picture 1b). The blue arrow indicates the abnormal origin from the left pulmonary artery (Picture 2).

Asymptomatic pulmonary artery slings are typically diagnosed incidentally in adolescence and/or adulthood (1). Multidetector computed tomography (MDCT) is a novel imaging tool that provides anatomic details, including details of the esophagus and trachea, and is therefore useful for the diagnosis of pulmonary vascular anomalies in adult patients who exhibit tracheal compression on plain chest X-ray.

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Reference