Ruptured Aneurysm Associated with Bronchial Arteriovenous Malformation

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Picture 1.

Picture 2.

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A 66-year-old man presented with sudden-onset respiratory discomfort. A chest radiograph revealed a massive area of opacity in the right upper lung zone (Picture 1), and computed tomography demonstrated a large mediastinal hematoma and right bronchial artery aneurysm (BAA), which was suspected to have ruptured. Therefore, angiography was performed to treat the hemorrhage.

Bronchial artery angiography clearly showed an enlarged bronchial artery and several aneurysms (Picture 2A). An angiogram also disclosed vascular blush between the distal bronchial artery and pulmonary vein (Picture 2B), suspected to indicate bronchial arteriovenous malformation (AVM). Bronchial artery embolization was performed with microcoils and n-butyl-2-cyanoacrylate (Picture 3), and the patient was discharged one month after the procedure. One year after embolization, a chest radiograph revealed a clear reduction in the hematoma (Picture 4).

BAA associated with bronchial AVM is extremely rare (1, 2). The BAAs noted in this case likely resulted from vessel stress owing to overload caused by the arteriovenous shunt followed by rupture.

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References