Clinical Image

An Unusual Case of Hydatid Cyst Presenting as Pyopneumothorax

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A 10-year-old male child presented to the Department of Respiratory Medicine in March 2017, with complaints of dyspnea (mMRC grade 1) for last 14 months which aggravated on right lateral position, left-sided chest pain for 1 year and mild fever for 3 months. There was no hemoptysis, wheeze, and expectoration. The patient gave a past history of straw-colored pleural fluid aspiration one year ago which was diagnosed as tubercular hydropneumothorax (Figure 1) in 2016 based on pleural fluid analysis. He was given antitubercular treatment for the effusion. He took ATT for 8 months but with no improvement.

Currently on examination, the patient was tachypneic, oxygen saturation was 98% at room air, had no peripheral lymphadenopathy, and respiratory movement was decreased on the left side with trachea and apex beat shifted to the right. On the left hemithorax percussion notes were dull and no breath sounds were appreciated. X-ray chest showed left-sided hydropneumothorax with an undulated margin (Figure 2). After informed consent from the patient's parent,



Figure 1: Chest X-ray postero anterior view dated 2016 showing left hydropneumothorax occupying the entire hemithorax.

More Information

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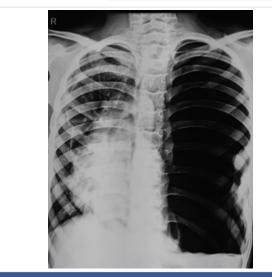


Figure 2: Chest X-ray postero anterior view at the time of presentation dated 2017 showing left hydropneumothorax occupying the entire hemithorax with an undulating margin.

the inter-costal tube was inserted which yielded about 800 ml of pus. Pus was sent for mycobacterial and pyogenic culture and Acid-Fast Bacilli (AFB) smear all of which were negative. A computed tomography chest (Figure 3) was done which showed a hydatid cyst with daughter solices. Hydatid serology came back positive.

A diagnosis of hydatid cyst in pleural space complicating into pyopneumothorax was made and the patient was referred to the Thoracic Surgery Department for surgical management. An intrapleural cavity is one of the unusual sites for



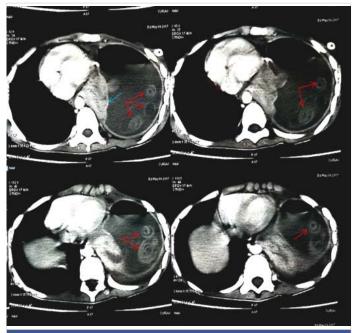


Figure 3: Computed tomography chest showing hydatid cyst with its membranes and daughter solices and collapsed lung.

extrapulmonary hydatid cysts and cysts at this site can rupture and lead to hydropneumothorax or pyopneumothorax.