

A CASE OF PNEUMOMEDIASTINUM AFTER HITTING A BALL WITH THE CHEST

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ABSTRACT

Among all the trauma cases, thoracic trauma is the third most common after head-neck and extremity trauma. Pneumomediastinum is defined as the presence of air in the mediastinum and it can occur spontaneously, iatrogenic or due to trauma. A case of pneumothorax with accompanying pneumomediastinum developed after blunt thorax trauma who had the complaint of chest pain is being presented in this case report.

A 27-year-old male was admitted to the Emergency Room with complaints of chest pain and shortness of breath. Decreased lung sounds were heard on the left hemithorax with auscultation. The patient's learned from the anamnesis of the patient that a ball hit his chest during a football match one week before the admission and that he had chest pain and respiratory distress that gradually increased since then. Computed Tomography image of the thorax had an appearance compatible with pneumothorax in the left lung as well as diffuse images of air at the anterior mediastinum. Tube thoracostomy was applied under emergency conditions and was admitted to Thoracic Surgery for follow-up and treatment.

Traumatic pneumothorax and pneumomediastinum should be kept in mind in patients admitted to the emergency department with the complaint of chest pain who also has a history of minor chest trauma.

Keywords; Traumatic pneumothorax, traumatic pneumomediastinum, chest pain, football match