

Pneumothorax Induced by Pulmonary Paragonimiasis: Two Cases Report

Beuy Joob, M.D., Viroj Wiwanitkit, M.D.

To the dear Editor,

We would like to discuss the recent publication entitled “Pneumothorax induced by pulmonary paragonimiasis” [1]. The author, Kim [1], reported two interesting cases and noted that “When pneumothorax develops in patients who have ingested raw fresh-water crab or stream water, paragonimiasis should always be considered in the differential diagnosis.” In fact, Im et al. [2] noted that ‘pneumothorax or hydropneumothorax’ is the early clinical evidence of pulmonary paragonimiasis. This can include asymptomatic findings from a radiological imaging assessment [2]. However, it should be noted that the findings in other countries are different from those in Korea. Kanpittaya et al. [3] noted that “radiographic findings of pulmonary paragonimiasis may vary among countries.” Based on our findings from Thailand, pneumothorax is not commonly associated with pulmonary paragonimiasis, and it is rarely observed in the clinical and radiographic findings of the patients with this condition [4]. The explanation for the more common appearance of pneumothorax associated with pulmonary paragonimiasis in the Korean population relative to cases in other countries requires further study.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

REFERENCES

1. Kim HJ. *Pneumothorax induced by pulmonary paragonimiasis: two cases report*. Korean J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2014;47:310-2.
2. Im JG, Kong Y, Shin YM, et al. *Pulmonary paragonimiasis: clinical and experimental studies*. Radiographics 1993;13: 575-86.
3. Kanpittaya J, Sawanyawisuth K, Vannavong A, et al. *Different chest radiographic findings of pulmonary paragonimiasis in two endemic countries*. Am J Trop Med Hyg 2010;83:924-6.
4. Wiwanitkit V. *A summary on respiratory symptoms in Thai cases with pulmonary paragonimiasis*. Internet J Infect Dis 2004;4:1.

Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Thailand

Received: October 2, 2014, Revised: October 11, 2014, Accepted: October 14, 2014, Published online: December 5, 2014

Corresponding author: Beuy Joob, Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Bangkok 10160, Thailand

(Tel) 66-24658262 (Fax) 66-24658292 (E-mail) beuyjoob@hotmail.com

© The Korean Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. 2014. All right reserved.

© This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0>) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.