



### TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2022 INTERESTING CASES 14:30 - 15:30

O-077

#### CASE REPORT AND MANAGEMENT OF BILATERAL PNEUMOTHORACES FOLLOWING SINGLE CRYOPROBE TRANSBRONCHIAL LUNG BIOPSY IN LUNG TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT

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#### OBJECTIVES

Herein we describe the first reported case of bilateral pneumothoraces following unilateral surveillance Cryoprobe transbronchial lung biopsy (Cryo-TBB) in a patient treated with bilateral lung transplantation via bilateral thoracotomy.

#### CASE DESCRIPTION

A 52-year-old man received, in March 2020, a bilateral sequential lung transplantation through bilateral anterolateral thoracotomy for cystic fibrosis-related end-stage lung disease. After six months he underwent fibre-optic bronchoscopy and Cryo-TBB following the surveillance protocol of our Center. The patient had moderate sedation. Bronchoalveolar lavage was done from the middle lobe while a single Cryo-TBB (sample diameter 0,5 cm) was taken from the right lower lobe. The procedure was well tolerated. During post-procedural monitoring, a decrease in patient blood oxygen saturation was detected (from 99% to 92%). Severe bilateral pneumothoraces were detected at the one-hour post-procedural chest X-ray. A 24Ch right chest tube was placed emergently in fifth intercostal space on the anterior axillary line with immediate air leak. At the subsequent chest X-ray, we could see a complete resolution of pneumothorax on both sides. The chest tube was removed the day after and the patient was discharged in the second post-operative day.

#### CONCLUSIONS

In this case report we can notice that lung transplantation can produce pleuropleural communication ("buffalo chest") even without a direct mediastinum involvement. Moreover, a unilateral procedure such as Cryo-TBB, usually considered safe, can lead to late and life-threatening complications. Besides we demonstrate that bilateral pneumothoraces can be treated safely with a monolateral procedure (chest tube positioning) exploiting that pleuropleural communication. With the increase in number of lung transplantation procedures worldwide, we think that it is important to understand what complications can occur in such patients and how to manage them.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** Lung Transplantation; Cryoprobe Transbronchial Lung Biopsy; Bilateral Pneumothoraces.



# 30th ESTS MEETING

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## ABSTRACTS

