Pancreatico-Bronchial Fistula: Sequelae of Acute Pancreatitis

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ABSTRACT

Context Pancreatico-bronchial fistula is a rare complication of the severe pancreatitis. Various diagnostic methods have been described previously. Case report The presentation, diagnostic methods, management and 5-year follow up of a 40-year-old woman with severe gallstone induced pancreatitis complicated by a pancreatico-bronchial fistula were reviewed. Diagnosis was made on the endotracheal intubation when amylase rich-fluid was drained via the tube and confirmed by the CT scanning. Successful management was achieved by an open pancreatic necrosectomy, during which air bubbles were emerging from the pancreatic collection what supported the diagnosis of the fistula. Five-year follow-up did not revile any complications. Conclusions Pancreatico-bronchial fistulas have the potential to cause severe respiratory complications and mortality. Awareness of this condition is important in the treatment of complicated cases of pancreatitis.