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Letter to Editor

Percutaneous aspiration of pulmonary hydatid cyst: a homemade device is not yet born!

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Sir

We read with great interest the article of Sindhvani et al¹ in which the authors report a case of a patient with mediastinal hydatid cyst successfully treated by percutaneous aspiration followed by Albendazole therapy. In the light of their experience, the authors conclude that percutaneous aspiration may be a safe option in managing of mediastinal and pulmonary hydatid cyst in agreement with our experience².

However, in our paper we clarify that surgical intervention is still the main modality for the treatment of hydatid disease especially in presence of giant cyst (> 10 cm)³. Thus, we present a novel technique that allows the aspiration of a cyst during surgical resection of hydatid cyst in order to reduce the risk of anaphylaxis and dissemination of disease due to enucleation or simple needle aspiration. This is a homemade double suction device designed to aspirate hydatid cysts by creating a low pressure, wide mouth cylinder which holds the cyst wall against the base of the cylinder. A large thoracentesis needle is inserted across the low pressure chamber into the cyst to aspirate the fluid within. The complete evacuation of the cyst makes surgical treatment easier and facilitates its successive removal.

Thus, the home device reported above is designed for surgical treatment of hydatid cyst via

thoracotomy, but a homemade device for percutaneous aspiration is not yet born!

However, we hope in the future to adapt such a device in order to validate its practice in percutaneous aspiration of hydatid cyst as supposed by Sindhvani et al¹. It might make percutaneous aspiration of hydatid cysts easier and safer permitting the complete evacuation of hydatid cysts without any spillage.

REFERENCES

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