

EMPHYEMA LUNG ABSCESS (SURGICAL LUNG INFECTIONS)

Dr. MAHMOUD ABU-ABEELEH

The University of JORDAN.

School of Medicine.

29-12-2021

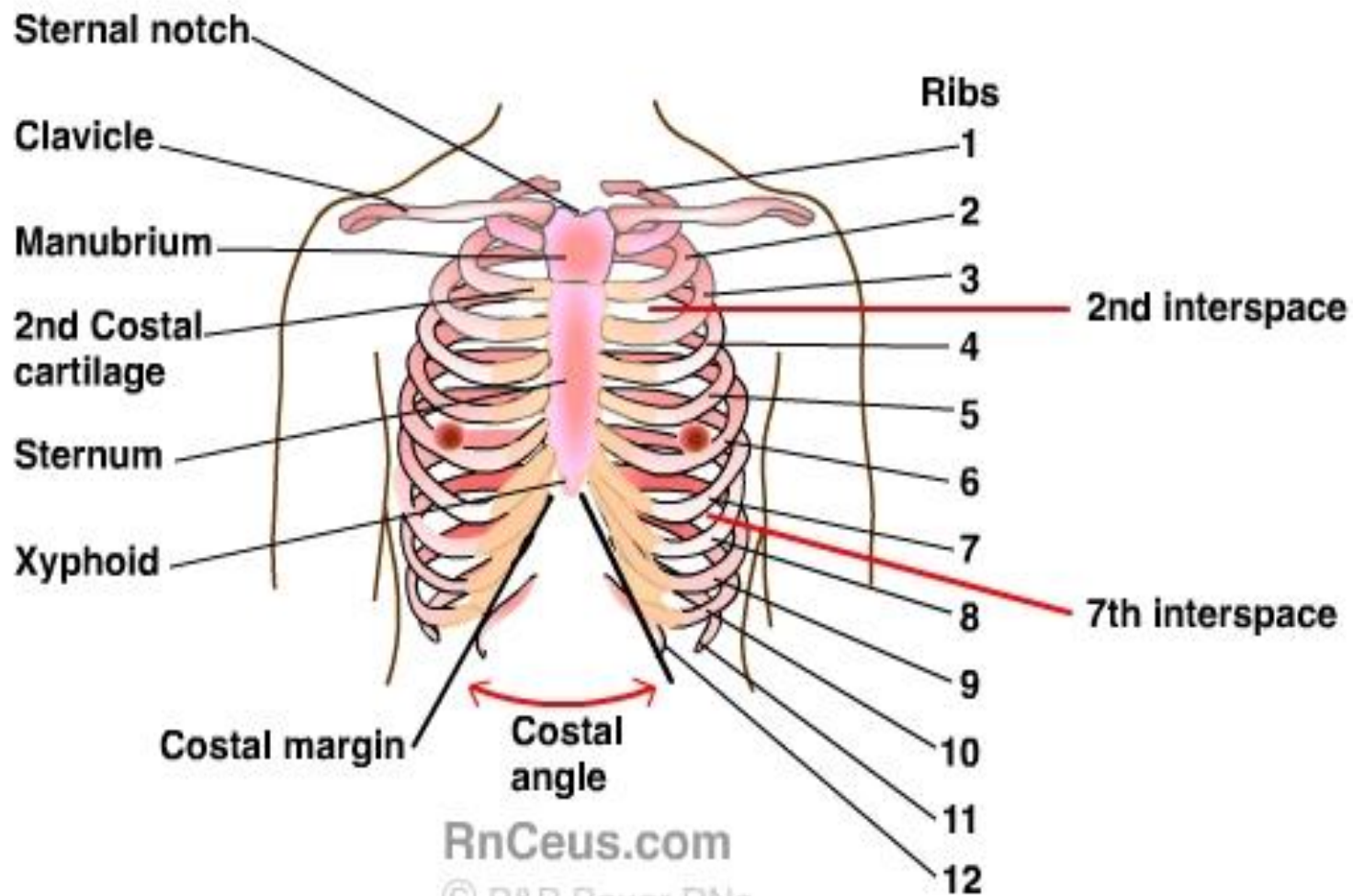
Edited by :Haya khader



- ANATOMY.

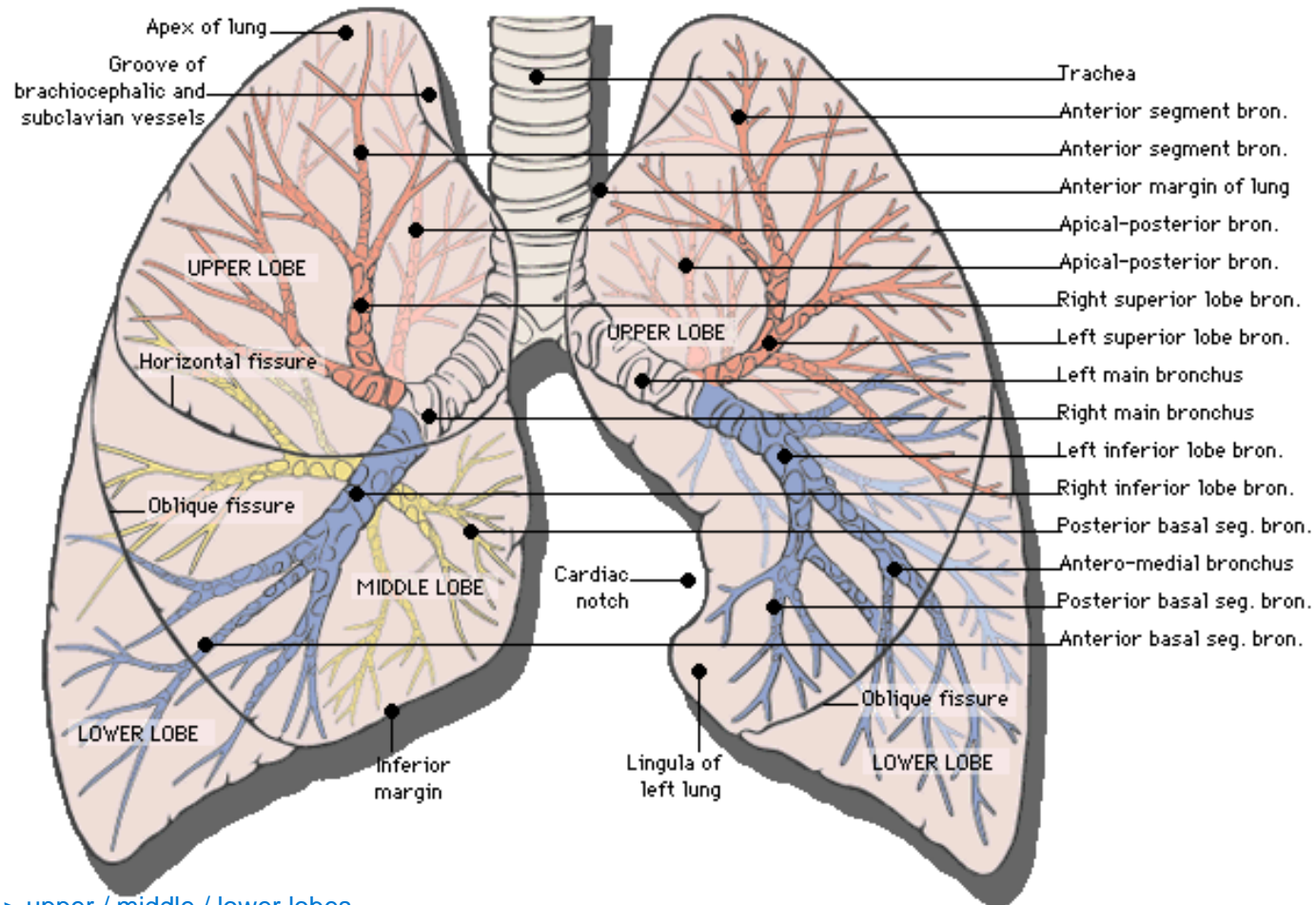
- **Empyema** Definition classification causes diagnosis
management indications for surgery

- **Lung abscesses** definition causes
clinical presentations diagnosis management



RnCeus.com

© P&B Bauer RNs



right lobe --> upper / middle / lower lobes

left lobe --> upper (lingula part of the upper lobe) / lower lobe

EMPYEMA THORACIS

- **Definition:** Invading of the pleural space with bacteria which result in accumulation of pus .
- **Classification :** (American Thoracic Society)
staging the empyema (timing staging depended on the onset of the disease)
- **Stage 1 : Exudative** , with swelling of the pleural membranes as a result of ↑ permeability of swollen membranes (Uncomplicated Acute stage)
between 1 week to max 10 days
due to inflammation
high rich in protein / LDH / acidic PH / low sugar / many WBCs and neutrophils and lymphocytes / +gram stain and culture
- **Stage 2: Fibropurulent (Transitional)** with heavy fibrin deposits.
from 10 days to one week up to max 4 weeks
- **Stage 3: Organizing or Chronic phase.** With ingrowth of fibroblast and deposition of collagen
after 4 weeks

□ **ETIOLOGY:** the causes of bacterial invasion in our thoracic cavity (pleural space) :

- **PARAPNEUMONIC**(secodary to a pneumonia)the most common
- Post trauma.
- Post surgery(esophageal or pulmonary)
- Subphrenic Abscess subdiaphragmatic abscess (infection below the diaphragm)

Etiology	No. of patients	% of Patients	Perioperative Mortality
Simple parapneumonic	112	65.0%	0025.4%
Complicated Parapneumonic			
Transplant patients	11	6%	9%
Postresection	11	6%	18%
Traumatic	8	5%	0.0%
Post-cardiac surgery	5	3%	18%
Malignant empyema	5	3%	0.0%
Local cause of empyema			
Esophageal	12	7%	8%
Subphrenic causes	6	2%	0.0%

□ Bacteriology

- :Before ABO 10% of Pts survived pneumonia developed EMPYEMA (Streptococci & Pneumococci are the most frequent)
- ▣ After ABO the incidence as well as the mortality ↓. Staph become more prevalent, 90% of empyema in children.

Incidence of Empyema according to Bacteria causing pneumonia

<i>Aerobic</i>	<i>EFFUSION</i>	<i>EMPYEMA</i>
<i>G +VE</i> low chance <5% <i>Strep pneumonia</i> <i>CAP</i> community acquired pneumonia	50%	<5%
<i>Stap Aureus</i> staph aureus more common in children then adults <i>CHILDREN</i> the children chance of effusion is higher than in adults (parapneumonic effusion)	70%	80%
<i>ADULT</i>	40%	20%
<i>G -VE</i> <i>HAP VAP</i> high chance 90% hospital acquired pneumonia	50%	90%
<i>Anaerobes</i>	35%	90%

□ Clinical presentation

- Pleuritic chest pain ,fever, S.O.B ,Tachycardia AS
Pneumonia.If prolonged symptoms SUSPECT
EMPYEMA. / productive cough
if these symptoms persist more than 10 days (prolongation of symptoms) you need to suspect that the patient is complicated (complication of pneumonia by empyema)
if the patient start to have chest pain with fever , tachcardia , SOB --> more complicated patients
- Anaerobic :indolent if the patient take course antibiotic for 10 days with persistent symptoms you have to suspect complication of pneumonia (mostly empyema)
- P/E:Toxic anxious
pt,tachycardia,tacypnea,restricted chest
wall excursion,↓ air entry,dullness on
percussion.
- Chronic pt Clubbing,Anaemia,wt loss. not in acute patient

□ DIAGNOSIS:

- CBC: ↑ WBC with shift to left, ↑ CRP ESR.
- CXR: Effusion, ↑ thickness of the pleura, Air fluid level.
- THORACOCENTESIS: to confirm the diagnosis we take a empyema fluid (the pH must be acidic
 - Empyema fluid
 - PH < 7.2 acidic
 - Glucose < 40 mg/dL
 - LDH > 1000 IU/dL
 - Positive Gram stain
 - Positive culture (50%)
 - Specific gravity > 1.018
 - WBC > 500 cells/mm³
 - Protein > 2.5 g/dL

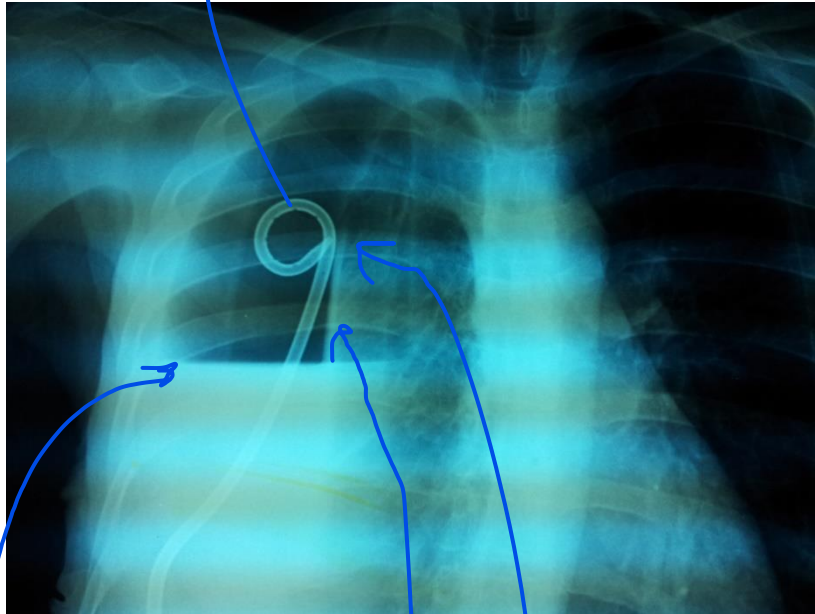
PPE

parapneumonic effusion classification :

- Clinically, are classified as
- simple PPE, $\text{pH} > 7.20$
- complicated PPE, and frank empyema. complicated PPE are exudates with glucose level $< 2.2 \text{ mmol/l}$ and $\text{pH} < 7.20$.
low glucose

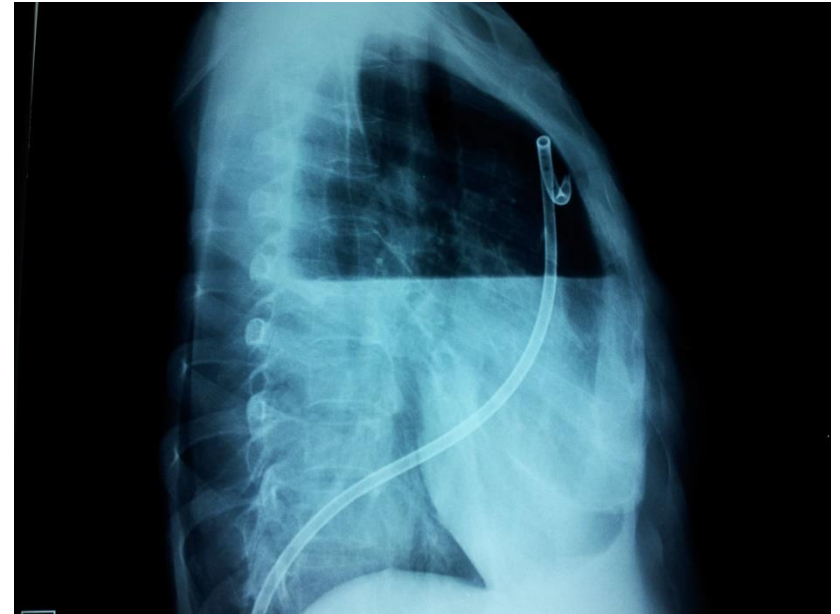
drain

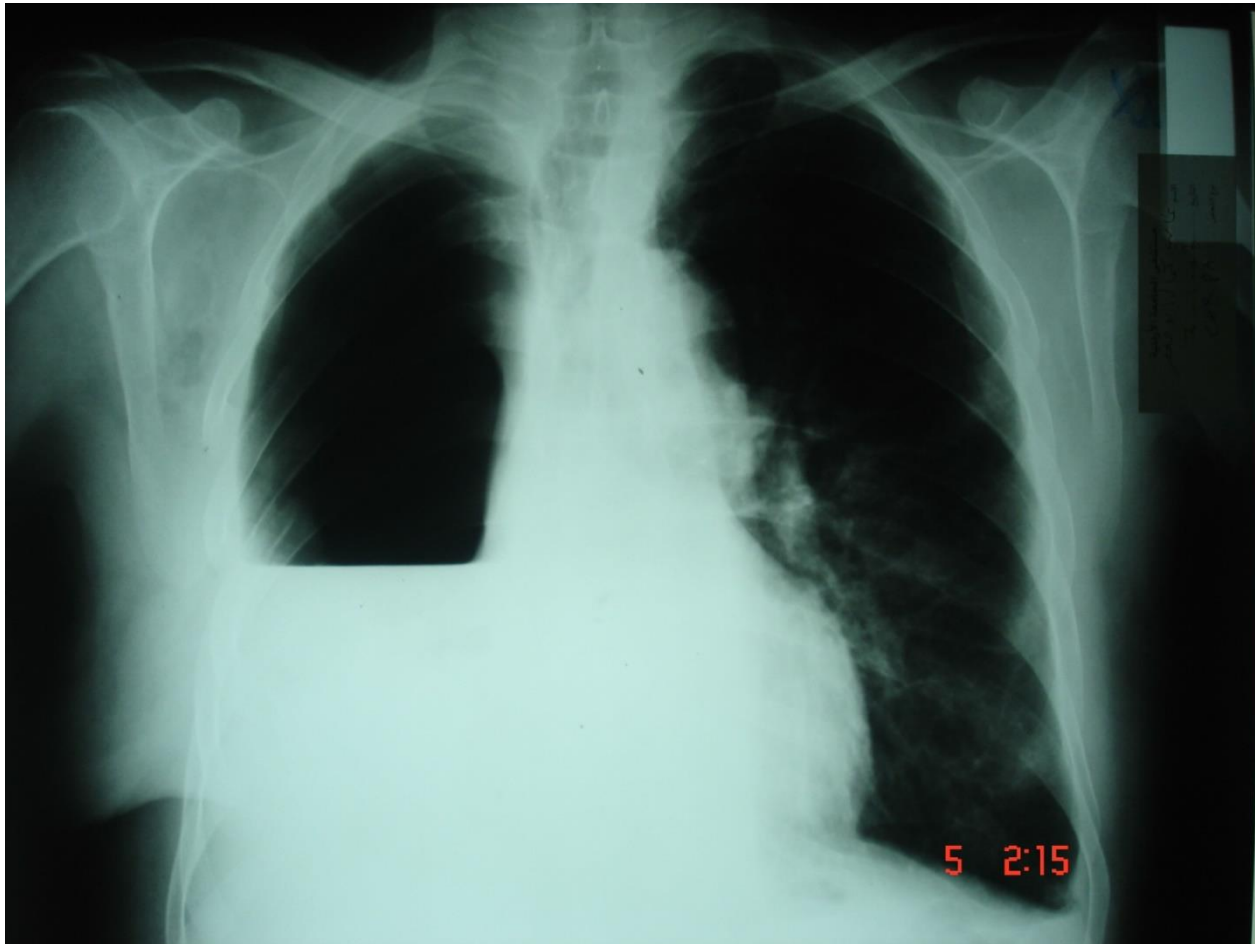
empyema until proven otherwise



air-fluid level

thickened visceral pleura
collapsed lung



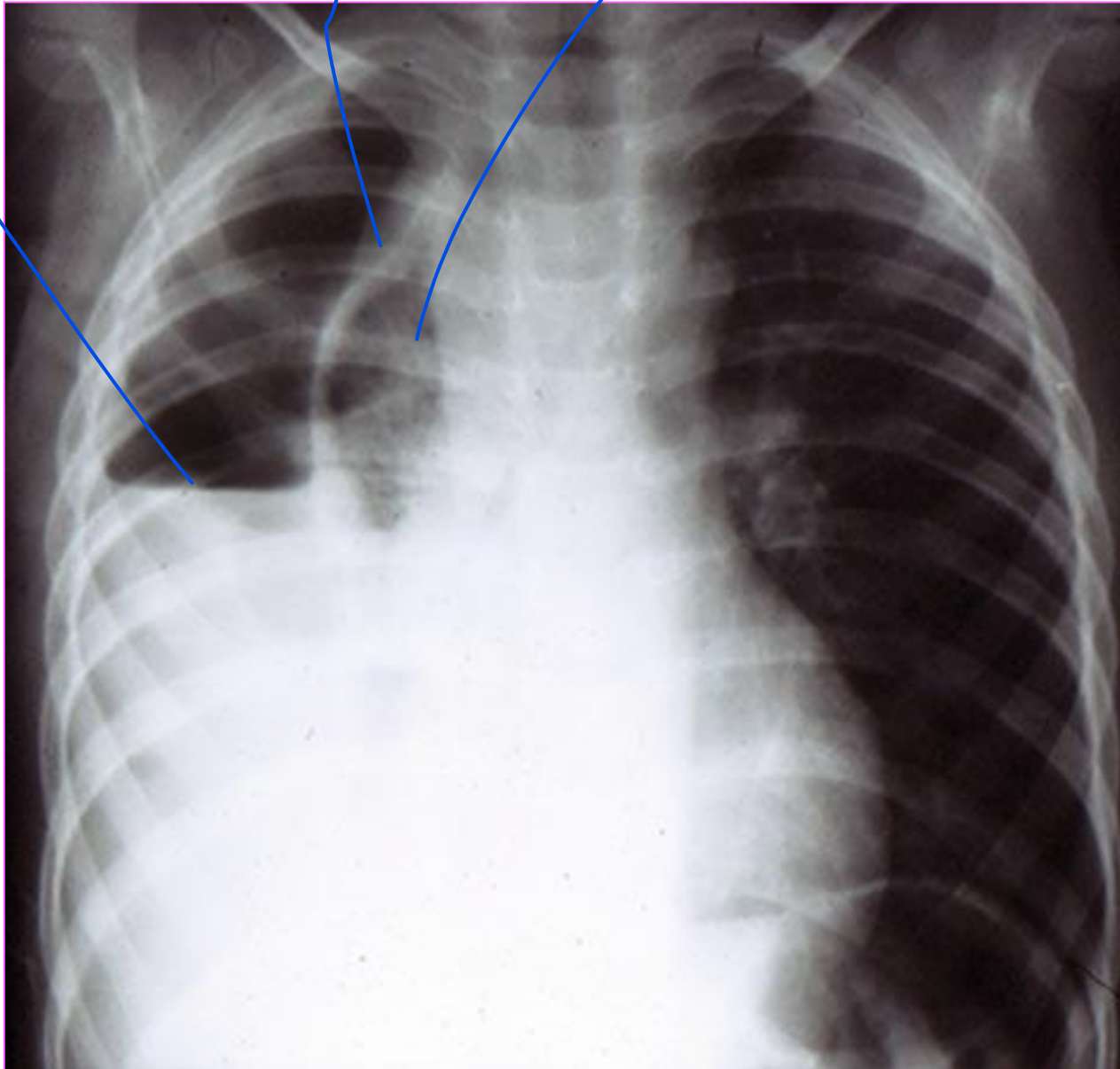


air-fluid level
complete lung collapsed

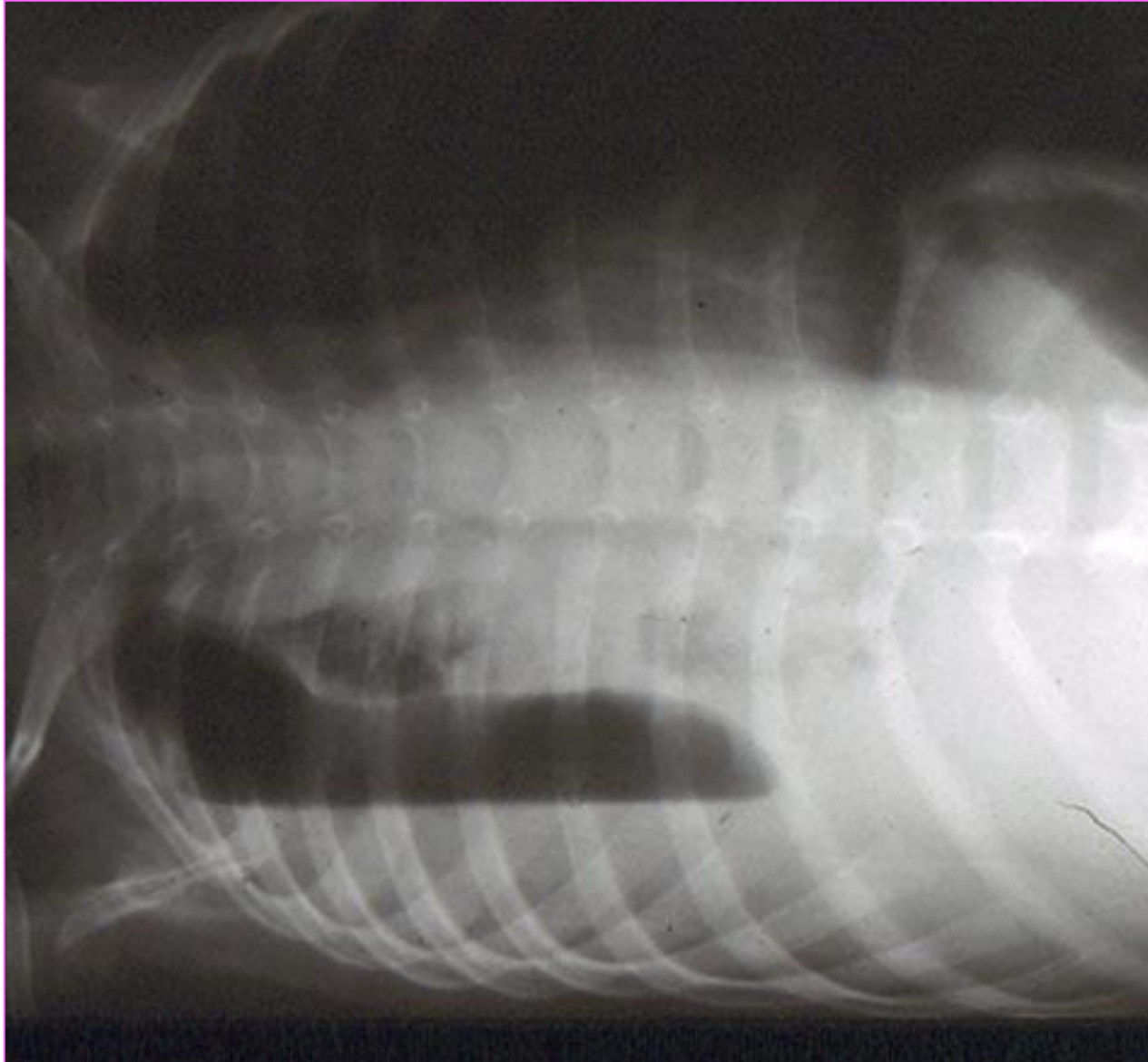
air-fluid level
(any air-fluid
level is
empyema until
proven in
other wise

thick membrane

collapsed lung



when we do
incubitus film the
fluid change its
position (confirm
the empyema
thoracis diagnosis
)



CT scan is mandatory (due to its importance in show the amount of fluids or pus in the pleural space and show the collapsed lung and the adhesions around the lung / show if it is multinucleated

empyema



ir-fluid level



thickened pleura

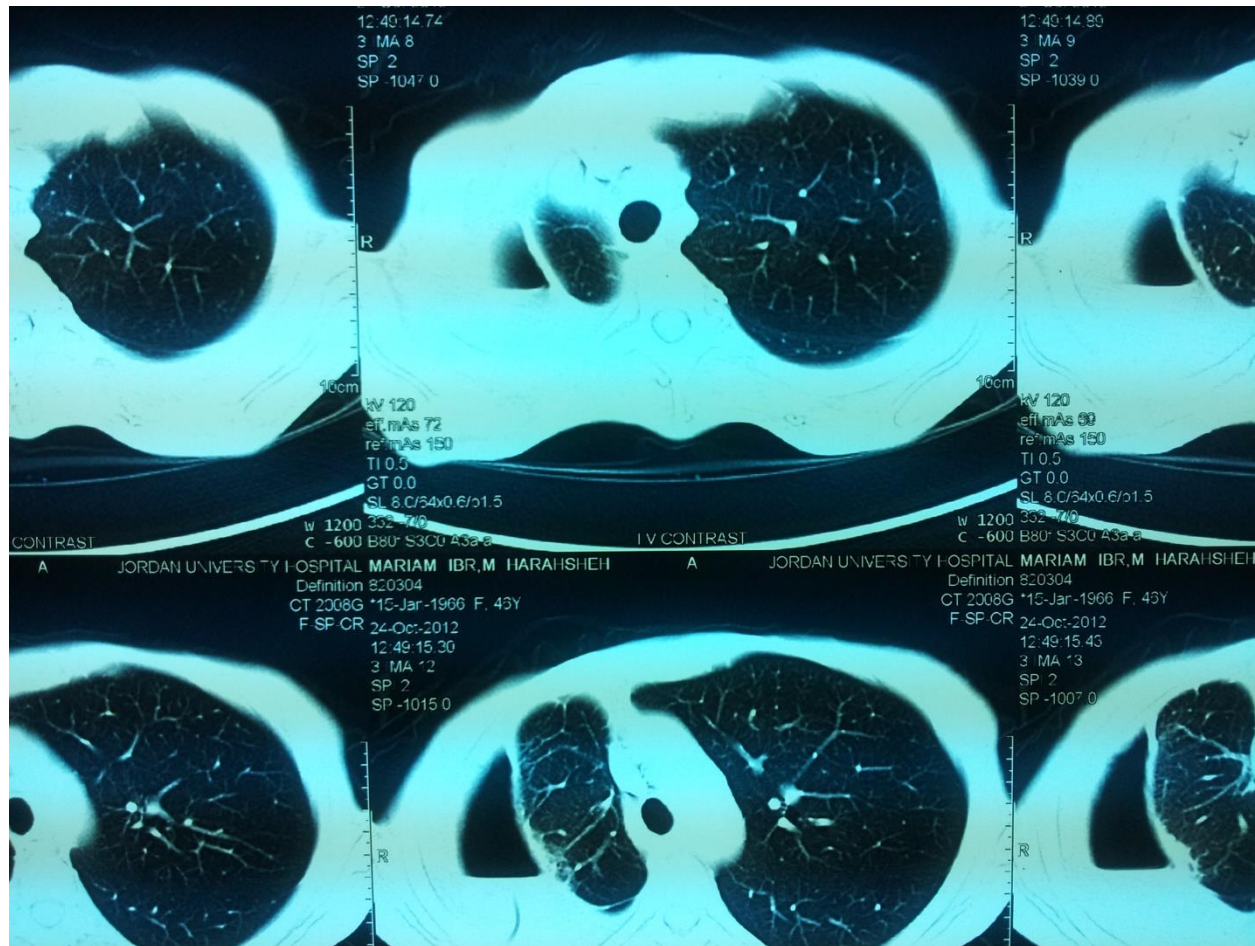


colaapsed lung



A-P diameter is more in the left side

same as previous



□ CT Scan:

- ✓ Localize collection.
- ✓ Identify the underlying parenchymal disease,.
- ✓ Distinguish it from lung abscess.
- ✓ Fluid density, loculations. housefield number ?
- ✓ Therapeutic: CT-guided aspiration. to go in the right way (help in drainage of pleura space)

□ Management dependeing if its is hospital or community acquired pneumonia

1. Antibiotics. 3rd generation cephalosporine, clindamycin till the result of G stain, C&S. broad-spectrum antibiotic to cover both gram +/-
2. Evacuation of pus from the pleural space. In stage 1 thoracocentesis, other wise Chest tube and stage 2 insertion most important
3. Obliteration of the empyema cavity.

Chest Tube Insertion

- Procedure
- local anaesthesia
- Scrubbing & draping
- An incision is made along the upper border of the rib
- By a curved clamp the track is developed by blunt dissection splitting the fibres. A track developed with the operator's finger
- The clamp is angled over the rib & dissection continued until pleura is entered



Chest Tube Insertion

- Procedure
- A large-bore (32 or 36F) chest tube is passed into the pleural cavity.
- The tube is connected to an underwater seal and sutured / secured in place. a U-stitch
- A chest X-ray is taken to confirm placement & position.



the color depend on the type of bacteria and the underlying cause

foul-smell / thick fluid





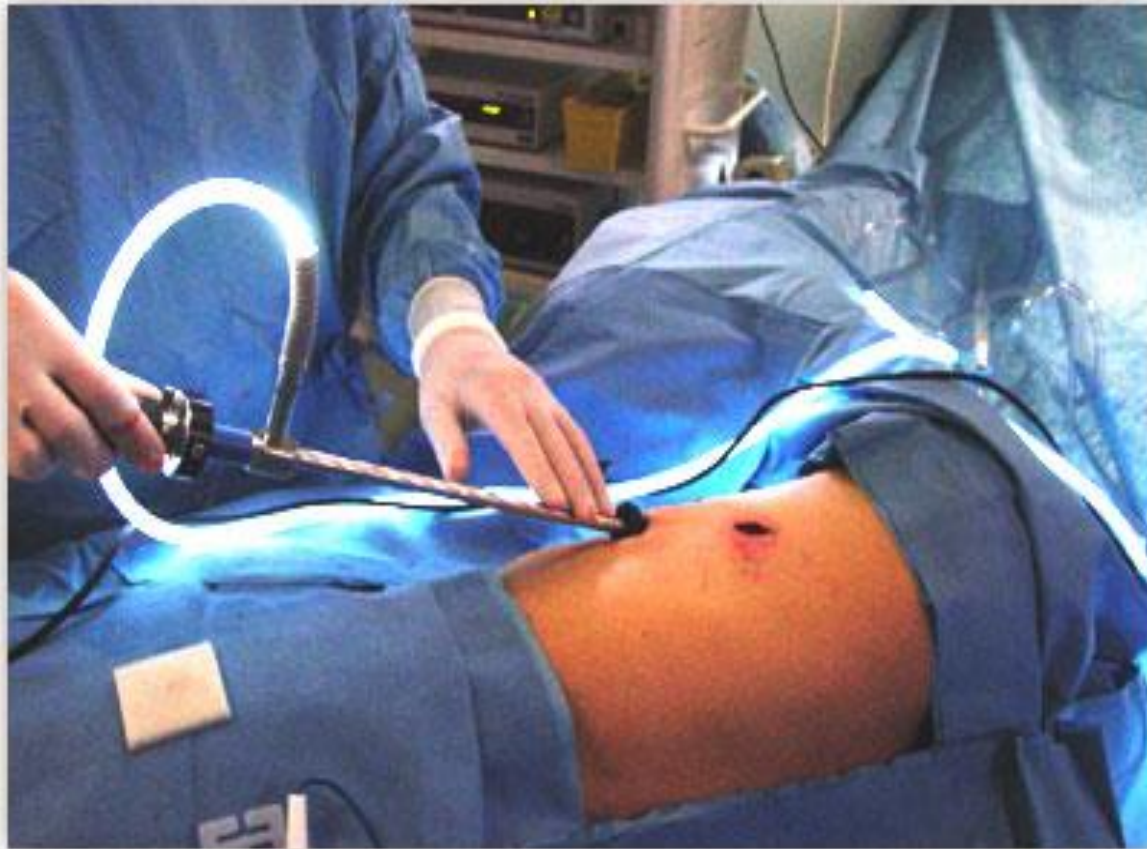
- Clinical improvement within 48 hrs.
- $\geq 80\%$ of stage 1 ^{and stage 2} managed conservatively. ^{antibiotic for 4 weeks and chest insertion}
- Stage 3 80% require thoracotomy. ^{we put chest tube / antibiotic (but 80% need surgery)}
- Intrapleural Fibrinolytic therapy; ^{streptokinase} STK or Urokinase
OR ^{tissue plasminogen activator} tPA to break loculations produced by membranes composed of fibrin.
- **Intrapleural DNase**
 - reduce pus viscosity and break down loculations
 - combination with thrombolytic therapy to enhance pus drainage

Surgical management of empyema

if chest tube / antibiotics / intrapleural fibrinolysis / intrapleural DNase were not curative we might put a scope in the pleural space to break down the loculations and do decortication (thoracotomy) and do peeling of parietal and visceral pleura to free the lung from the surrounding adhesions

- V.A.T .S. we do it through holes and insert a camera to break down the loculations
- THORACOTOMY: decortication.





- ^{bad disease in the ICU patient} **Emphyema thoracis** is associated with high mortality ranging between 6% to 24%.

lung abscess --> in the lung parenchyma
empyema --> in the pleural space

□ LUNG ABSCESS

□ **Definition:** Sub acute pulmonary infection in which the chest X ray shows cavity within the lung parenchyma.

- ✓ Before ABO era ,high mortality,,
<6 weeks >6 weeks
- ✓ ACUTE & CHRONIC: if duration < 6 weeks.
- ✓ PRIMARY & SECONDARY primary --> due to aspiration pneumonia (during eating / alcoholic / elderly) or post pneumonia

■ PRIMARY:

1. Aspiration: The most frequent .
2. Post-Pneumonic



Secondary:

1. Obstructing carcinoma.
 2. COPD
 3. Metastatic from extrathoracic source
septicaemia.
 4. F.B aspiration.
 5. Pulmonary infarctions.
- The individuals with high risk: ALCOHOL ABUSE, hx of Aspiration, Old TB, Epilepsy, drug abuse, COPD.
 - In endemic areas TB: 20% of lung abscesses have TB.

□ BACTERIOLOGY:

■ ANAEROBES: 75-80%

- Bacteroid fragilis.
- Fusibacterium bacilli.
- Peptostreptococci.
- Provetella.

in empyema --> depending on the type of bacteria
in lung abscess (aspiration pneumonia) -->
ANAEROBES (the most common cause)

• AEROBIC:

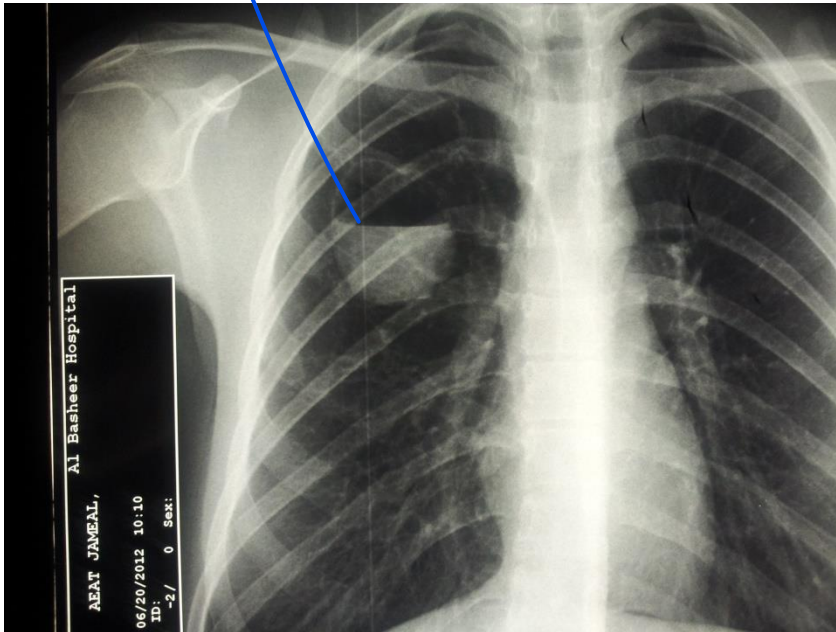
- Kleibsiella & Pseudomonas: IN obstructive infections & Nasocomial.
- Staph. Auereus.
- S. pneumonia
- H.influenza.

productive cough --> large amount of pus (half cup or small cup) --> foul smelling and poring pus --> highly suspicion of lung abscess

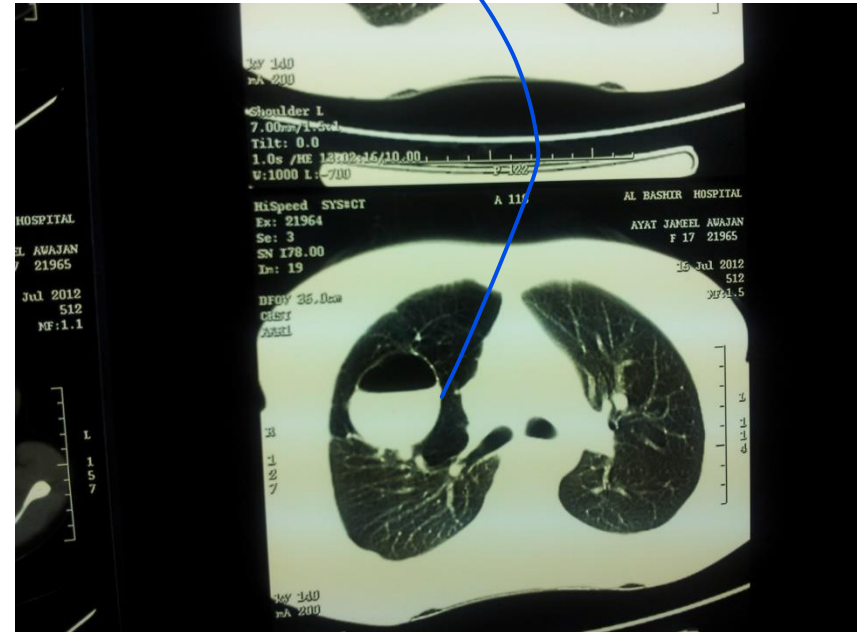
□ DIAGNOSIS:

- A. **Symptoms:** Fever intermittent & night sweats
chills. Purulent Foul-smelling sputum is highly suggestive.
- B. Hx of Aspiration, Sepsis → Respiratory failure.
- C. **Signs:** Tachypnea, consolidation, local chest wall tenderness.
- D. **CXR:**
 - Pneumonitis pattern early → Air-fluid level.

air-fluid level within the lung parenchyma
in empyema it was in the pleural space



X-RAY

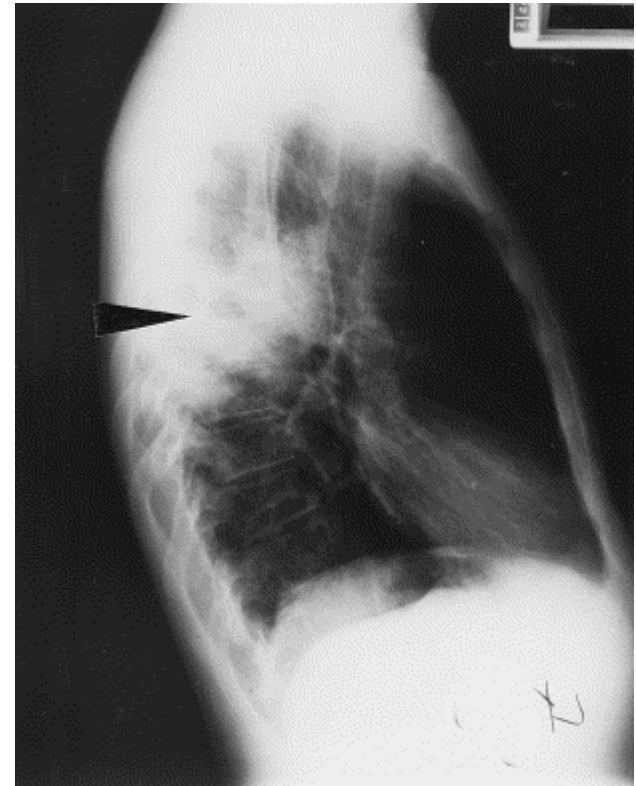


CT scan

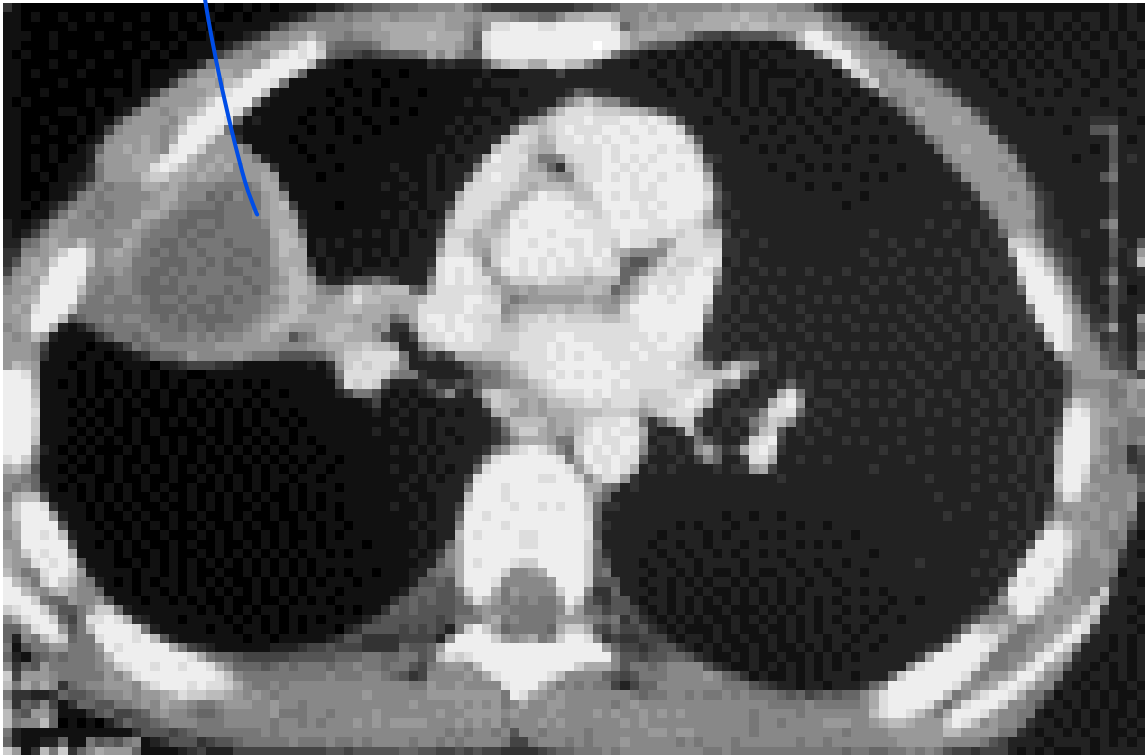
- show the size of the pus
- the amount of fluid
- the distance between the fluid and the chest wall

cavitary lung lesion
when we see it we think about 4 things :
1- pyogenic lung abscess
2- TB or fungal abscess
3- cavitary carcinoma
4- empyema with bronchopleural fistula

same as previous in the left lung



lung abscess in the right side attached to the chest wall (as adhesion with chest wall) but it still within the lung parenchyma



- SPUTUM analysis&culture
Aerobic, anaerobic, fungal & TB.
- CT-scan.
- Fibrooptic Bronchoscopy: is mandatory
 - Take samples for culture.
 - ^{to rule out} R/O endobronchial tumour or obstruction.
 - To assess if can be drained internally.

□ SITES:

- Superior segment of Rt lower lobe. most of aspiration pneumonia go here
- Lat. Part of Post. Segment of R.U.L.
- Superior segment of L.L.L.

• D.Dx of cavitory lung lesion:

1. Cavitory carcinoma.
2. T.B or fungal abscess.
3. Pyogenic lung abscess.
4. Empyema with bronchopleural fistula.

Management: Principles of therapy:

- Identify the organism → proper ABO therapy for 6-8 wks.

- Drainage:

- Chest physiotherapy.
- Bronchoscopy = internal drainage or indwelling transbronchial catheter drainage.
- Percutaneous cath. Drainage. under CT guide

- SURGERY.

- 80-90% of Lung abscess respond to medical tt. Flagyl or Clindamycin for anaerobes.

- Gentamicin or 3rd generation cephalosporines for aerobes.



External drainage:

- I. If remain septic.
- II. Failure to wean from mechanical ventilation.
- III. Soiling of the contralateral lung.
- IV. Abscess cavity >4 cm & under tension on CXR.
- V. \uparrow size while on ABO.

- 1) Chest tube thoracostomy.
- 2) CT-guided catheter.
- 3) Open pneumonostomy = MONALDI procedure.

▣ 30% of Pt will need definitive surgery.

▣ Clinical improvement within 48 hrs.

□ INDICATIONS FOR SURGERY:

1. Acute : for complications

- Bronchopleural fistula.
- Empyema.
- Hemoptysis.(Massive)

2. Chronic =Definitive.

- Persistant syptoms despite long term ABO therapy.
- Suspecius of carcinoma.
- Complications:Empyema,bronchopleural fistula.
- Persistant cavity >6 cm after ABO therapy.

- Lobectomy is the standard procedure.

□ Mortality:

- 2.5% after community acquired pneumonia.
- 66% with Nosocomial infections.
- Underlying diseases.
- Size of the abscess >6 cm.
- Organism: Pseudomonas & G -ve the highest.



QUESTIONS

SUMMARY