

Case of the Week

HEMI-CLAMSHELL APPROACH FOR LARGE COMPLEX INTRATHORACIC TUMORS

58 year old lady presented to ER with acute onset breathlessness with stridor. Her chest X-ray showed large homogeneous density in right hemithorax. CECT chest revealed large well defined heterogeneous mass (14*13*11cms) having solid cystic components causing near complete obstruction (>90%) to trachea.

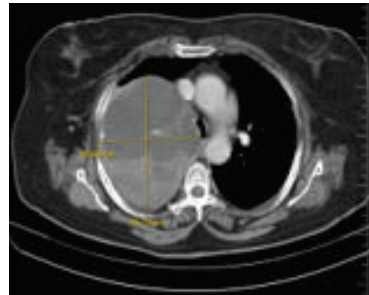
In view of the above findings, patient was advised surgery. A right hemi-clamshell thoracotomy was performed and intrathoracic mass was skeletonised and excised. Decortication of lung done. Post-operatively patient was extubated on table and shifted to ICU. There was no

stridor and patient was breathing comfortably. A repeat chest X-ray showed full expansion and fully opened trachea. ICD removed on POD-6 and patient was discharged. On follow up POD-14, all sutures were removed. Histopathological examination revealed as large intrathoracic schwannoma.

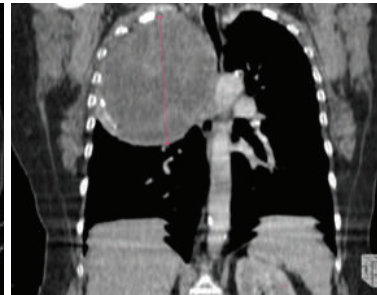
This is a unique case as a large Schwannoma was excised through right hemi clamshell approach; which is mid line sternotomy and right anterior thoracotomy incision. This is a rarely used approach and the first case involving hemiclamsell incision at Apollo Hospitals, Navi Mumbai.



Pre-op CXR



CT scan showing heterogenous mass



Specimen



Post-op follow-up after 3 weeks

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