

Title:

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Authors:

Carolina Palma, Joana Silvério Simões, Mafalda Corrêa Figueira, Beatriz Navarro

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A giant cause of recurrent fever

Carolina Carrilho Palma, Joana Silvério Simões, Mafalda Corrêa Figueira, Beatriz Navarro

Internal Medicine Department. Centro Hospitalar de Setúbal. Setúbal, Portugal

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Correspondence: Carolina Carrilho Palma

e-mail: carolinacpalma@gmail.com

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CASE REPORT

A 73-year-old male patient presented to the Emergency Department with a history of weight loss, dysphagia and recurrent fever. The initial chest radiograph showed a mediastinal hypotransparency (Fig. 1). and the patient underwent a barium swallow test due to complaints of dysphagia that revealed a giant Zenker diverticulum (Fig. 2). Apart from mildly elevated inflammatory markers and despite the extensive investigation of recurrent fever, no other relevant features were found, either in blood analysis, microbiological cultures or computerized tomography. He underwent a surgical intervention, with no recurrence of fever. It was assumed that food debris and possible microaspirations were responsible for the recurrence of fever and elevation of inflammatory markers. The patient eventually died due to late complications of surgery.

DISCUSSION

Although recurrent fever is frequently linked to systemic disease, the presence of such a giant diverticulum that probably caused an inflammatory response is usually not seen in these conditions.

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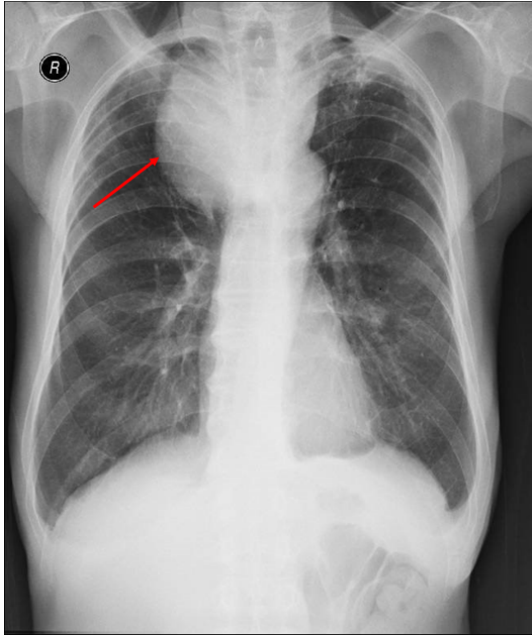


Fig. 1. Mediastinal hypotransparency on the chest radiograph.



Fig. 2. Barium swallow exam, showing a large Zenker diverticulum.