



Detailed Study of 25 Cases of Spontaneous Pneumothorax

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KEYWORDS :**INTRODUCTION:**

Pneumothorax may be defined as presence of air in pleural cavity. Pneumothorax may be spontaneous or traumatic. The spontaneous pneumothorax is usually the result of rupture of superficial emphysematous bulla and may occur in apparently healthy person or in association with chronic pulmonary disease.

Following were cardinal observations of our study :-

1. 25 cases of spontaneous pneumothorax were analyzed with regard to the age and sex, incidence, symptoms, etiology, predicting factors, type and location, complications, recurrence and the result of treatment.
2. The highest incidence of spontaneous pneumothorax was found in the age group of 21-30 years.
3. Incidence of spontaneous pneumothorax was highest in male as compared to the female.
4. Incidence of spontaneous pneumothorax on the left lung was 68%, while on right lung was 32%.
5. Dyspnea, chest pain and cough with expectoration were the commonest symptoms.
6. Tuberculosis accounted for 48% of cases, while chronic bronchitis with emphysema 44% of cases. 4% of cases each were due to sub pleural bleb and unknown etiology.
7. There were 64% cases of closed type, 32% cases of open type and 4 % cases of tension pneumothorax type as determined by intra-pleural pressure study.
8. 5(20%) cases with less than 20% collapse of the affected lung, treated conservatively had full reexpansion within 3 weeks. 10 (40%)cases with more than 20% but less than 30% of collapse of lung were treated with needle aspiration on one or more occasion, had full reexpansion of lung in 2 weeks. 10(40%) cases with more than 30% collapse of lung were treated with continuous indwelling polyethylene catheter had complete reexpansion of lung in 2-4 days in 8 (32%) cases. 2 (8%) cases of these 10 cases died before lung was completely re-expanded.
9. 2 (8%) cases developed empyema, 2 (8%) cases had hydropneumothorax as complication of pneumothorax. 20(80%) cases developed surgical emphysema following aspiration of air, which disappeared with in 4 to 6 days of aspiration.
10. 2(8%) cases of pneumothorax, where was more than 30% collapsed and open pneumothorax died of respiratory failure due to underlying chronic bronchitis and emphysema.