

One of the Last Cases of Plombage

Um dos Últimos Casos de Plumbagem



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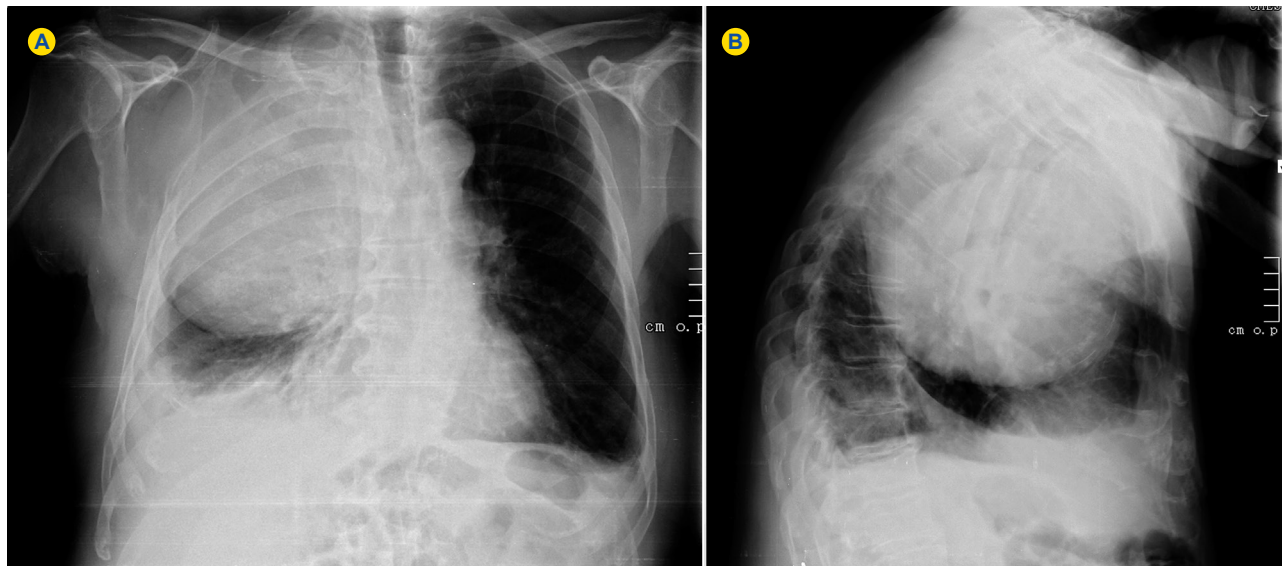


Figure 1 - Chest radiography: Plombage. Surgical method used in the treatment of lung tuberculosis. (A) anteroposterior incidence and (B) right profile incidence.

Before the development of the pharmacological therapy used for tuberculosis treatment, many surgical methods have been used.^{1,2}

Plombage was a technique used for the treatment of lung tuberculosis in the decades of 1940-1950.^{1,2} It consisted in the introduction of several synthetic materials within the cavitated lesion, causing its collapse. It was not free of immediate and long term complications.^{1,2}

We present the case of a 91-year-old male patient with medical history of lung tuberculosis treated 60 years

ago, admitted to the urgency service due to a respiratory infection. Chest radiography shows a homogeneous well-defined-edge hypotransparency, that occupied the upper third of the right lung (Fig.s 1A,1B).

After clinical history analysis and the observation of imaging tests previously performed, we concluded that we are towards one of the last living patients that have been submitted to plombage, without evidence of immediate or long-term complications.

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