Images in intensive medicine

Pneumoceles in out-hospital methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus pneumonia

Neumatoceles en una neumonía extrahospitalaria por Staphylococcus aureus sensible a meticilina

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Figure 1

Forty-eight-year-old woman without a significant medical history admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) due to community-acquired pneumonia by methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus that required invasive mechanical ventilation. After 13 days one anteroposterior chest X-ray (Fig. 1A) shows one smooth, thin walled radiolucent lesion without hydroaerial level in the basal segment of the superior lobe of left lung and in inferior lobe of the same lung. The CT scan (Fig. 1B and C) confirms the presence of new-onset thin walled multiple round radiolucent lesions consistent with pneumatocele.

The management of pneumatocele is that of the underlying condition, which is why our patient was prescribed one cycle of 14 days on cloxacillin, 2 g every 6 h. In most cases, pneumatocele regresses spontaneously (Fig. 1D) and long-term pulmonary function is normal.

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