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IMAGES IN INTENSIVE MEDICINE

Ultrasound assessment of pulmonary abscess

Ultrasonido pulmonar para la evaluation del absceso pulmonar

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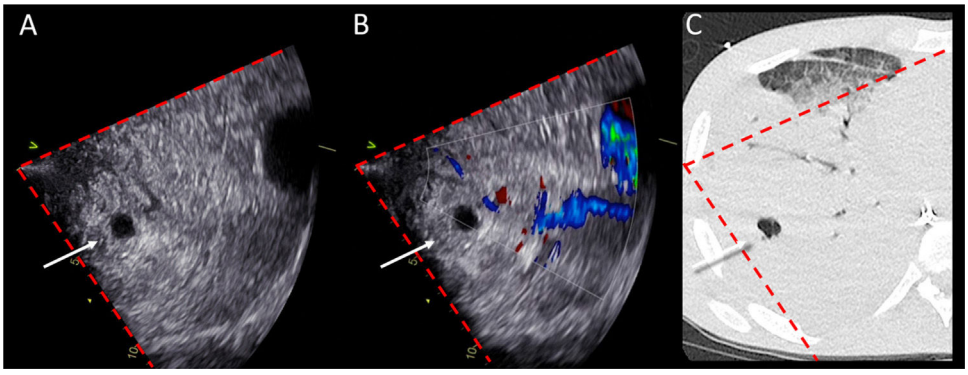

Figure 1

Lung ultrasound was used to monitor a patient admitted to ICU for acute respiratory distress syndrome secondary to Influenza A, requiring mechanical ventilation and veno-venous extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation for refractory hypoxemia. ICU stay was complicated by a Staphylococcus aureus ventilator-associated pneumonia. Figure 1: *Panel A* shows a small anechoic round image (white arrow) within a tissue-like pattern, compatible with both a pulmonary vessel in short axis and a lung abscess within a consolidated parenchyma (Video 1). A second larger anechoic round image is visualized in deeper fields. Color Doppler (*Panel B*) easily allows distinguishing abscess as non-pulsatile structures (Video 2). On the corresponding CT scan (*Panel C*), the red dotted lines delineate the ultrasound beam. Ultrasound well identifies lung abscesses within consolidations as round well-defined anechoic images with posterior enhancement and no pulsatility at colour Doppler; this simple bedside application avoids the need of traditional radiology and allows dynamic guidance to procedures, as needle aspiration.

Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.medine.2021.09.003.

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