



IMAGES IN INTENSIVE MEDICINE

Maxillary sinusitis diagnosed by ultrasound

Sinusitis maxilar diagnosticada por ecografía



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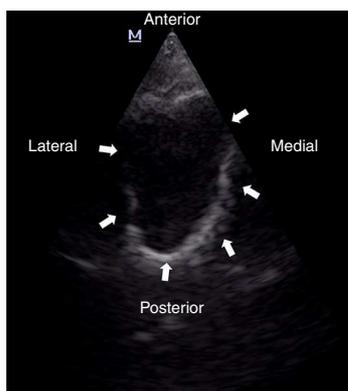


Fig. 1 Right maxillary sinus ultrasound, phased-array probe, demonstrating a well-defined hyperechoic walls of the right maxillary sinus (arrows). This sign is denominated “complete sinusogram”.

A 65-year-old male patient with history of alcohol dependence was admitted to the ICU twenty-five days before suffering from aspiration pneumonia and severe acute respiratory distress syndrome. He had an orotracheal tube in place and was nourished through an enteral feeding tube inserted through his left nostril. The patient presented new febrile episodes and an abundant postnasal purulent discharge. Due to the raising suspicion of sinusitis, an ultrasound of both maxillary sinuses was performed and revealed a well-defined hyperechoic walls of the right maxillary sinus

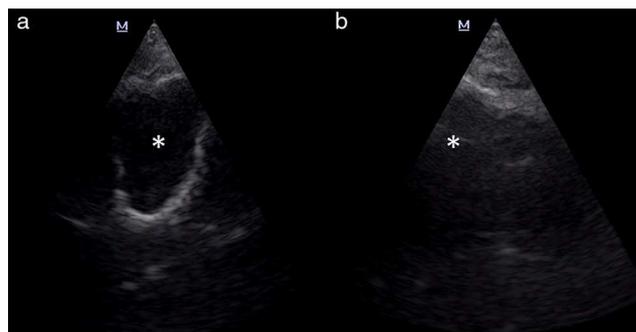


Fig. 2 Comparative maxillary sinuses ultrasound, phased-array probe, right (a) and left (b), demonstrating a complete sinusogram on the right in contrast with a normal air-artifact without visualization of the sinus walls on the left. Asterisks: maxillary sinuses.

(Fig. 1), compatible with sinusitis, and a normal air artifact on the left side (Fig. 2). Transcanine puncture of the right maxillary sinus obtained a hemopurulent exudate, with culture results positive for *Candida albicans* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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