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Clinical Image

Long-Segment Tracheobronchial Stenosis in a 44-Year-Old Woman

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Congenital tracheal stenosis is a rare disorder that is characterized by the presence of focal or diffuse complete cartilaginous rings. Long segment tracheal stenosis exists if more than 50% of the length of the trachea is affected. The symptomatology of congenital tracheal stenosis is variable, depending on the age of the child, the degree of stenosis and the potential for associated anomalies [1]. Congenital tracheal stenosis in adults is rarely reported [2]. Herein, we report the interest case of 44 year-old female with a long-segment tracheal stenosis combined with left main bronchial stenosis. She was a kindergarten teacher. Her body height was 153 cm and body weight was 78 Kg. She developed dyspnea and fatigue on minimal exertion and even at rest since 7 years ago. Chest computed tomography showed complete cartilaginous rings with thin wall of the thoracic trachea (Figure 1) and stenosis of left main bronchus. Three-dimensional reconstruction from computed tomography showed a long-segment tracheal stenosis and left main bronchial stenosis (Figure 2). She underwent slide tracheoplasty on August 5, 2015. Postoperative course was not favorable because of less tracheal tissue. A tracheal stent was required to keep tracheal patency. Management of long-segment tracheal stenosis is a continuing surgical challenge [3]. In the presenting case, long-segment tracheal stenosis with complete tracheal ring combined with left main bronchial stenosis is more difficult in surgical management.

Figure 1: Axial view of chest computed tomography showed fissure-shape tracheal stenosis with a thin tracheal wall.

Figure 2: Three-dimensional reconstruction from computed tomography showed severe deformity of the tracheobronchial tree.

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