CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF HUGE DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIAS INTO THE CHEST.

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Dyspnea, both – acute and chronic - initial manifestations of respiratory or cardiac system. Less often this symptom can be elicited from displacement of abdominal organs into the chest. Diaphragmatic hernias can cause some diagnostic difficulties because as well as clinical course and as radiological symptoms can suggest many different illnesses. In this case computed tomography was a conclusive study. The aim of this study was to evaluate clinical manifestations risk factors and prognostics that was obtained during treatment of patient with big/huge diaphragmatic hernias. We presented 8 cases which were diagnosed between 2010-2016 in Czerniakowski Hospital in Warsaw: 3 of those cases were posttraumatic causes. In 5 other cases, diaphragmatic hernias were diagnosed with elderly patients (age more than 81 y.o.) This advanced age and numerous chronic diseases, resulted in not qualifying for surgical treatment, despite of huge dimensions of hernias. Symptoms from upper part of digestive tract were noted only in half of patients. Hernias/ displacement of abdominal organs into the chest caused cardio-vascular and respiratory insufficiency. Fast establishment of diagnosis is a necessity for further treatment.