

## **EVALUATION OF TREATMENT RESULTS OF PATIENTS WITH SMALL CLOSED PNEUMOTHORAX**

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The aim of this study was to analyze the methods and results of the treatment of patients with small closed pneumothorax. The results of treatment of 34 patients hospitalized for trauma in 2000-2010 due to small closed pneumothorax were assessed. There were 23 men and 11 women. The age of patients ranged from 20-84 years (av.48.5). 15 patients were concerned with trauma affecting the right side, the left side in 19. In 10 cases pneumothorax was associated with multiple trauma. In 24 cases the fracture of the ribs (av. 3.4) was revealed in radiological examination. In 10 patients radiographs did not show fracture of the ribs (5 of these patients, a clinical trial indicated a fracture of one rib, not visible on x-ray). The size of pneumothorax in chest radiographic projection anterior - posterior ranged from 0.5 - 2 cm (av. 1.2 cm). Conservative treatment was monitored through radiological examination. In 33 patients there was spontaneous pneumothorax resorption observed. In one patient it was necessary to apply the pleural drainage due to the enlargement of pneumothorax and the appearance of the symptoms of respiratory failure. In one case it was necessary to puncture the pleural cavity to remove the hematoma occurs with pneumothorax. Good results of treatment were achieved in all cases. In conclusion, the conservative treatment of small closed pneumothorax is effective in most cases.