Esophageal Crohn’s Disease With Esophagopleural Fistula

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References

Fistulas to the bronchi or mediastinum in esophageal Crohn’s disease are rare. Only five such cases have been reported. Diagnosis is by barium swallow with water-soluble contrast. Endoscopic findings are as usual in Crohn’s disease, but endoscopic ultrasonography can demonstrate intramural and perimural echopen bands corresponding to fistulas.

We report here a 69-year-old woman with Crohn’s disease who developed an esophagopleural fistula in the lower third of the esophagus and secondary empyema. She was successfully treated with intercostal drainage, antimicrobials, and sulfasalazine.