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Title: Scarf pins inhalation: About 26 cases

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Body: Inhalation of foreign bodies is rare in adults. Inhalation of scarf pin is a phenomenon more frequent in the female population in Morocco. The aim of our study was to describe the characteristics of this particular foreign body and illustrate the circumstances and consequences of his inhalation. Twenty-six young patients all veiled, were hospitalized in the service of Respiratory Diseases University Hospital Ibn Rushd of Casablanca between January 2005 and July 2011 for inhaled scarf pin. The mean age was 16 years. Inhalation was accidental in all cases, whereas patients initiated to wear the veil. The penetration syndrome was found in all cases. Clinical examination was normal in all patients. The chest X-ray showed the foreign body as a linear opacity, located right in 18 cases and left in eight cases. Flexible bronchoscopy was able to extract the pin in 21 cases. The pin was released spontaneously in three cases and two patients were operated on. The scarf pin is a foreign body especially more common in women who wear the Islamic veil. Flexible bronchoscopy is an essential means of therapy, but the best preventive treatment is avoiding to put in the mouth sharp objects.