

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 642

Publication Number: P2419

Abstract Group: 8.1. Thoracic Surgery

Keyword 1: Surgery **Keyword 2:** No keyword **Keyword 3:** No keyword

Title: Spontaneous rib fractures

Dr. Yucel 5660 Akkas yakkaste@mynet.com MD ¹, Dr. Ozgul 5661 Katrançioğlu ozgkatran@mynet.com MD ¹, Dr. Sulhattin 5662 Arslan sulhattinaslan@mynet.com MD ² and Dr. Ekber 5663 Sahin eeksahber@mynet.com MD ³. ¹ Chest Surgery, State Hospital, Sivas, Turkey ; ² Chest Diseases, Medical Faculty, Cumhuriyet University, Sivas, Turkey and ³ Chest Surgery, Medical Faculty, Cumhuriyet University, Sivas, Turkey .

Body: INTRODUCTION: Other than trauma, rib fracture can occur in patients spontaneously due to a severe cough or sneeze. In this study, patients with spontaneous rib fracture were analyzed according to age, sex, underlying pathology, treatment and complications. MATERIALS AND METHODS: 12 patients who presented between February 2009 and February 2011 with spontaneous rib fracture were analyzed retrospectively. The patients were evaluated according to anamnesis, physical examination and chest X-rays. RESULTS: 7 patients (58.4%) were male. The age of the patients ranged from 34 to 77 years (mean \pm SD, 55.91 \pm 12.20). All patients had severe cough and chest pain. Multiple rib fractures were detected in five patients (41.7%). The fracture were detected most frequently between 4th and 9th ribs. 8 (66.66%) patients had COPD, 2 (16.66%) patients had bronchial asthma and 2(16.66%) patients had osteoporosis as well. The patients with COPD and bronchial asthma were treated with high dose steroids for over a year. Bone densitometry revealed high risk of bone fracture in all patients. CONCLUSION: Spontaneous rib fracture due to severe cough may occur in patients with osteoporosis or with COPD and bronchial asthma receiving long-term steroid therapy. If these patients have severe chest pain, chest radiography should be evaluated for bone lesions particularly.