

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 617

Publication Number: P671

Abstract Group: 1.4. Interventional Pulmonology

Keyword 1: Bronchoscopy **Keyword 2:** Treatments **Keyword 3:** Airway management

Title: Bronchoscopic treatment of benign tumors of the tracheobronchial tree

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Body: Aim: To evaluate the efficacy of the bronchoscopic treatment approach and follow up results of the treatment of the benign tumors of the tracheobronchial tree. Method: In this retrospective cross sectional cohort study, 44 consecutive patient treated in between January 2006 to June 2011 in our Interventional Pulmonology Unit were evaluated. All patients undergone rigid bronchoscopy under general anesthesia. In all of the patients firstly mechanical debridement after coagulation was applied and cryotherapy to the base of the tumor for excluding residue were applied.

Recurrence and residue ratios, early and late complications were evaluated. Results: Most commonly treated benign tumor was hamartoma (38%, n=17). Other than this, procedures were applied to other rare tumors like as adenoma, amyloidosis, etc. In eight of the patients, tumor was located at the trachea. One to six sequence of procedure were applied to cases (mean two). No major complication was observed due to the procedures. Mortality was not observed. Surgical resection was needed in two of the cases. Conclusion: Interventional bronchoscopic approach is safe and effective in the treatment of benign tumors of the trachea. Complete cure can be obtained in all of the benign tumors in which the tumor base was seen and not advanced beyond cartilage layers.