

Surgical Images

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SOFT-TISSUE IMAGES. PERSISTENT LEFT SUPERIOR VENA CAVA

An 83-year-old man had chronic renal failure secondary to diabetes mellitus and hypertension. A temporary venous hemodialysis catheter was inserted because of a poorly functioning arteriovenous fistula in the right

forearm. A left internal jugular venous line was introduced and good flow was observed. Post-placement antero-posterior and lateral chest radiographs (Figs. 1 and 2) revealed that the catheter was positioned in a persistent

left superior vena cava (arrows). This anomaly occurs in 0.3% of the general population and 3% to 4% of patients with congenital heart disease. This patient had no clinical evidence of congenital heart disease.

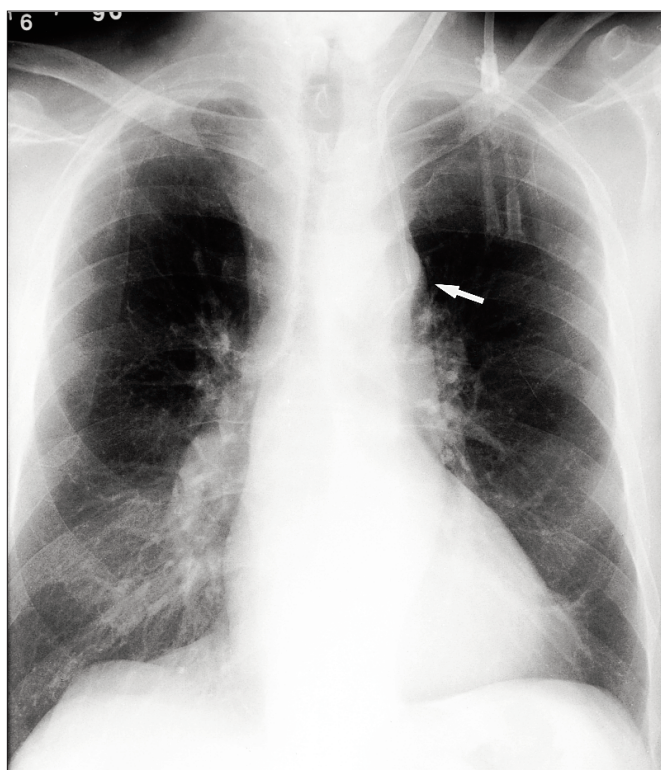


FIG. 1

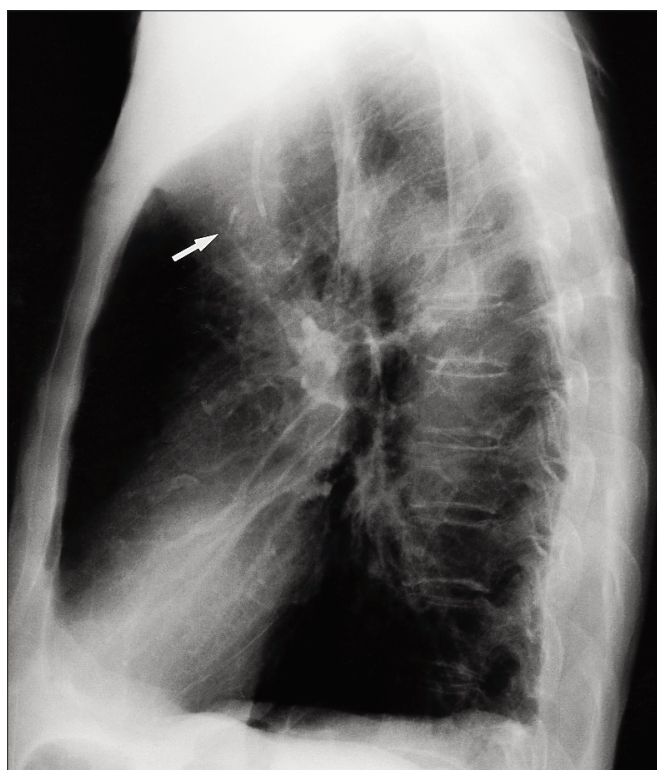


FIG. 2

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