Aortic Pseudoaneurysm with Floating Thrombus Caused by Blunt Thoracic Aortic Injury

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Clinical Image

A 44-year-old man was brought to the emergency room. He had been thrown from his motorcycle after colliding with a car at high speed. On arrival, initial vital signs were stable. Chest Computed Tomography (CT) showed traumatic aortic rupture at the aortic isthmus, with pseudo-aneurysmal sac formation and a floating thrombus, just distal to the rupture site, and diffuse mediastinal hemorrhagic fluid infiltration of the mediastinum (Figure 1). Antihypertensive agents were started and repeated CT scan after hospital days 3, and 7 showed lesion stability. Unfortunately, CT scan on hospital day 7 showed pulmonary thromboembolism involving the right lower pulmonary arteries. On hospital days 9, he was transferred to the operating room for thoracic endovascular repair. The endovascular repair was uneventful. Aortography and follow-up CT (Figure 2) after the procedure confirmed complete exclusion of the pseudoaneurysm and floating thrombus. He was discharged to home with aspirin and new oral anticoagulant.

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