Mediastinal Vagus Nerve Schwannoma Successfully Treated by a Biportal VATS Approach\(^{\circledast}\)

**Schwannoma del nervio vago mediastínico tratado exitosamente con toracoscopia biportal videoasistida**

**Dear Editor,**

In March 2010, a 60-year-old male non-smoker was referred to our Thoracic Surgery Unit with a history of dyspepsia during the previous three months and two episodes of syncope.

Past medical history included left hemicolectomy resection for PT1pN0 adenocarcinoma of the sigma more than 10 years previously. Colonoscopy was performed 6 months before our observation during a routine follow-up appointment and proved negative. Electrocardiogram (EKG) revealed sinus bradycardia; transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) showed normal left ventricular function with no segmental kinetic changes, no valvular stenosis or insufficiency and normal ejection fraction. Tilt test was negative. Neurologic examination and computed tomography (CT) scan of the head were also negative for expansive or ischemic/hemorrhagic lesions.

Chest X-ray revealed mild prominence of the right heart border. Subsequent chest CT scan with iodine contrast medium showed a soft, well-defined, encapsulated paratracheal and retrocardiac lesion measuring 24 mm × 26 mm (Fig. 1A), located in the proximity of the azygos vein arch. An 18F-FDG PET scan (Fig. 1B) revealed an increased uptake value corresponding with the lesion [standard uptake value (SUV) = 5.91]. After the weekly discussion meeting, we decided to perform transbronchial needle aspiration (TBNA); biopsy revealed nerve cells, compatible with low-grade nerve tissue tumor.

The patient was scheduled for surgery and underwent successful enucleation of the mediastinal lesion using a biportal thoracoscopic approach. The patient was placed in left lateral decubitus. Single lung ventilation was achieved using a double-lumen endobronchial tube positioned under fiberoptic guidance. A 4-centimeter surgical access was made in the 4th intercostal space and a second thoracotomy for the camera was made under

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\(^{\circledast}\) Please cite this article as: Roncon A, Davoli F, Casadio C, Buetto G, Rena O, Turrello D. Schwannoma del nervio vago mediastínico tratado exitosamente con toracoscopia biportal videoasistida. Arch Bronconeumol. 2015;51:102–103.