

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 82460

**Title:** Formation of a rare curve-shaped thoracolith documented on serial chest computed tomography images: a case report

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03515222

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Chief Physician, Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-12-26

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-12-28 08:55

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-12-28 13:13

**Review time:** 4 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This case report describes a rare case of thoracolithiasis, and provides a detailed history of present illness, imaging data, and treatment process. However, except for the fact that the shape of the case is different from the conventional case and the volume is large, the patient's symptoms are not special compared with the conventional cases. In my opinion, if the following revisions can be made successfully, it would be appropriate to publish this article. 1. Why wasn't the tubercle of the chest removed when the patient performed video-assisted thoracic surgery with pneumolysis.? 2. Postoperatively, he developed empyema, , and the culture test shows methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, rather than the fungal infection suggested during biopsy, can the cause of empyema or the relationship between empyema and the progression of thoracolithiasis be further discussed? 3. According to the description of this manuscript, except for the fact that the shape of the case is different from the conventional case and the volume is large, the patient's symptoms are not special compared with the conventional cases, what value does the author think this case has for clinical work? 4. The above questions are personally suggested to be further explained in the discussion section. 5. Are the surgical scars mentioned in the physical examination derived from the surgery in OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP? If not, it is recommended to mention information about the procedure. 6. It is recommended to provide pathological examination results or pictures.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05347124

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-12-26

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-12-30 16:11

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-12-30 16:43

**Review time:** 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a good case report, which has important clinical significance and is recommended for publication.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03271173

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Chief Physician, Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-12-26

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-12-26 11:41

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-01-03 12:50

**Review time:** 8 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. Please clarify whether "No history of trauma was mentioned." should appear in the History of present illness? The authors reported "An old surgical scar was found over the right 5th intercostal rib." in the physical examination, why is this history of surgery not reported in the History of past illness? 2. The authors reported "The histopathological examination of the biopsy specimen revealed a fungal infection.", please provide relevant clinical evidence and interpretation. 3. The authors reported the use of antifungal drugs in their treatment, what is the name, dose, and duration of this drug? Additionally, in the "OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP", the authors reported another surgical treatment, why is it not reported in the "TREATMENT" section? 4. In the discussion section, the authors did not clarify the secondary relationship between fungal infection and thoracolithiasis, but simply reported a rare phenomenon that lacks clinical significance.