

## NON-SURGICAL PNEUMOPERITONEUM IN A PATIENT WITH COVID-19

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### Introduction

Pneumoperitoneum is defined as the presence of air in the abdominal cavity. One of the non-surgical causes of pneumoperitoneum is mechanical ventilation, with sporadic cases caused by the pandemic period and the management of COVID-19 patients.

### Keywords

Pneumoperitoneum, non-chirurgical, COVID-19

### Purpose

Management of spontaneous pneumoperitoneum in COVID-19 patient.

### Material and methods

Woman, 64 years old, hospitalized in serious condition in ATI, COVID-19 confirmed, 4 days after the onset. Progressive worsening tachypnea - 26-30 breaths per minute, 84% SPO<sub>2</sub>-, NIV intolerance. Difficult intubation. Postintubation - sudden increase in volume of the abdomen, disappearance of liver dullness, diffuse eardrum. BP 75 / 47mmHg, HR 134bpm, SPO<sub>2</sub> 45%, cardiotonics were administered .

### Results

The absence of the ulcer anamnesis and the favorable circumstances establish the suspicion of non-surgical pneumoperitoneum. Infraumbilical laparocentesis: pressurized air was evacuated. BP 102/65 mmHg, HR at 74beats per minute, SO<sub>2</sub> 89-91%. No peritoneal signs were detected. Drain extraction on the 3rd day. Death on the 39th day after admission.

### Conclusions

The diagnosis of non-surgical pneumoperitoneum should be considered in COVID-19 patients on oxygen support, being a rare nosology, but with major repercussions in case of poor management.



*Fig. 1* Chest X-ray realized after laparocentesis demonstrating presence of pneumoperitoneum, in absence of mechanical pulmonary complications.