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Lung Volume Reduction for Lung Emphysema

*Nizar Abbas

Abstract

The concept of lung volume reduction for emphysema was proposed by Brantigan in 1962 and reintroduced by Cooper in 1981.

This study presents our experience in lung volume reduction by surgery.

Patients and Methods : 100 patients underwent lung volume reduction during the period from 1995 - 2000, There were 70 men and 30 women ranging in age from 45 - 75 years.

Chronic obstructive diffuse emphysema was found in 60 patients, bullous emphysema in 40, of them 20 with unilateral involvement, high oxygen dependency 10 patients, steroid use 10, 50 patients were operated on using thoracoscopic surgery, 50 through unilateral thoracotomy and 50 through median sternotomy, Operation included excision of 20 - 30% of the volume of each lung with the use of linear stapling.

Results: There has been 2% perioperative mortality, and the most common complication was air leaking (10 patients).

Conclusion : Lung volume reduction may be of significant value for selected patients with lung emphysema especially younger patients with diffuse emphysema, bullous emphysema, unilateral disease and combined emphysema with surgical lung disease as hydatid cyst or tumors.

* Al-Assad Universty Hospital – Damascus –University.

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