

## SURGICAL TREATMENT OF GIANT PERICARDIAL CYST THROUGH THE LATERAL THORACOTOMY

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Pericardial cysts are uncommon benign tumors with the prevalence about 7% of all mediastinal tumors. Patients are mostly asymptomatic unless when cysts compress major anatomic structures in the chest cavity. We represented a patient with a pericardial cyst near to the apex of the heart. Magnetic resonance examination revealed 9 x 4 cm cystic formation. Surgical treatment was performed through left side lateral thoracotomy without cardiopulmonary bypass support. Tumorous formation was completely resected and sent for the pathohistological examination. Surgical or percutaneous treatment for pericardial cysts might be occasionally necessary, depending on the location of the cyst and its relationship with the adjacent structures. Morbidity and mortality are low. Surgery has been demonstrated as the only definitive curative treatment.

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