Brain Disorders/Neurological

Massive Systemic Air Embolism Treated with Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Following CT-guided Transthoracic Needle Biopsy of a Pulmonary Nodule

A rare complication of computed tomography (CT)-guided biopsies of pulmonary lesions is systemic air embolism, with hyperbaric oxygen therapy being considered the mainstay of therapy. The authors describe the case of a 47-year-old man with a left upper lobe mass invading the chest wall who underwent CT-guided needle biopsy of a right lung base nodule to evaluate for metastatic disease. This procedure was complicated by massive systemic air embolism confirmed by CT scan.

J Vasc Interv Radiol. 2006 Aug; 17(8): 1355-8

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