

3rd International Conference on

HEPATOBIILIARY & PANCREATIC DISORDERS

September 17-18, 2018 | Philadelphia, USA

Management of pancreaticopleural fistula through minimally invasive approach: A case report

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The pancreaticopleural fistula is a rare complication of chronic pancreatitis. Patients usually present with respiratory discomfort symptoms. Therefore, diagnosis requires a high index of clinical suspicion in patients with chronic pancreatitis and present with recurrent pleural effusion. Analysis of pleural fluid for raised amylase will confirm the diagnosis and investigations like Computerised Tomography(CT), Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) or magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) may establish the fistulous communication between the pancreas and pleural cavity. The optimal treatment strategy has traditionally been medical management with exocrine suppression with octreotide and ERCP stenting of the fistulous pancreatic duct. Operative therapy considered in the event patient fails to respond to conservative management.

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