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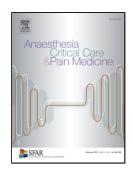
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Pulmonary embolism of cement after knee prosthesis replacement.

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An obese (1.57m, 107kg, BMI 44) 96-year-old woman with left total knee arthroplasty fell at home from her own height. Plane radiographs revealed a fracture of the distal portion of her left femur, just above the prosthesis. She underwent a surgical intervention for the replacement of her cemented prosthesis. Thirty minutes after the application of the cement, her transcutaneous oxygen saturation fell to 90% while being ventilated with 90% oxygen. She still needed six liters of oxygen after the intervention.

An angioscanner confirmed the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism. It showed an endovascular nodular hyperdensity at the extremity of the apical branch of the right superior lobe artery, matching with a cement embolus. Several other endovascular defects matched with thrombotic embolisms.

The patient was eventually weaned of oxygen after a treatment by curative-dose of low molecular weight heparin in surgical intensive-care unit.

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