

Thoracoscopic pleurodesis in the treatment of spontaneous pneumothorax. [German]

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Publication Date: 1983

Abstract:

Thoracoscopic pleurodesis using a fibrin adhesive was performed in 14 patients with recurrent spontaneous pneumothorax. The adhesive was sprayed on the pleural apex. Scanning with ¹³¹I-labelled fibrinogen showed homogenous distribution of the film on the pleura. Fibroblasts were seen to have invaded the film within 4 days. Four weeks later obliteration was complete. The procedure was successful in 4 of 5 patients who had pleural drainage for 2-48 hours and in 4 of 5 patients where drainage was continued for 4 days. In 4 further patients the procedure failed because of bronchopleural fistulae. The method is simple and well tolerated. Further studies will show whether the method can increase the success rate and reduce the incidence of recurrences.