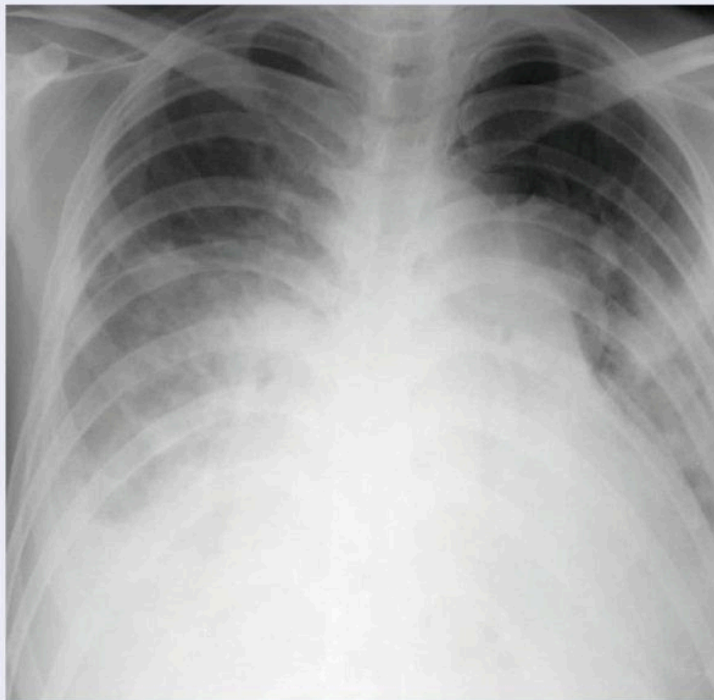


Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis:

It has sometimes been used as a **synonym** for the occupational disease known as **silicosis**, but it should not be as most silicosis is not related to mining of volcanic dusts. It is the longest word in the **English language** published in a popular dictionary, **Oxford Dictionaries**, which defines it as "an artificial long word said to mean a lung disease caused by inhaling very fine ash and sand dust".^[3]

Clinical and toxicological research conducted on volcanic crystalline silica has found little to no evidence of its ability to cause silicosis/pneumoconiosis-like diseases and geochemical analyses have shown that there are inherent factors in the crystalline structure which may render volcanic crystalline silica much less pathogenic than some other forms of crystalline silica.

Fig 3. Chest radiograph showing pulmonary oedema



- A: The trachea is central and no foreign body can be seen, the carina cannot be seen
- B: There are hazy opacifications in the middle to lower zones of both left and right lungs
- C: The heart appears enlarged, occupying more than 50% internal thoracic diameter
- D: The costophrenic angles are blunted indicating pleural effusions
- E: There are no visible fractures, soft tissue injuries or devices