

Participant names:

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Brief clinical history: 50 year male. Mediastinal cyst – excision done.

Images: Please find the attachment with the mail – 3 images

Diagnosis: Benign thymic cyst

Thymic cyst is an epithelial lined cyst involving the thymus gland. It presents as incidental mass in the anterosuperior mediastinum. Other symptoms are retrosternal pain, cough. It can occur at all ages and is often classified as congenital and acquired. Congenital cyst are unilocular, thin walled and acquired cyst is multilocular with wall thickened by inflammatory infiltrate. Uncommonly, multilocular cyst can harbor parathyroid or salivary gland tissue (as they all originate from the third and fourth branchial pouch). Thymic cyst is lined by squamous or columnar or ciliated epithelium. Thymic tissue must be present at least focally in the cyst wall. Cholesterol clefts and granuloma can be seen. Uncommonly thymoma, basaloid thymic carcinoma, lymphoma and germ cell tumor.

References:

1. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/medicine-and-dentistry/thymus-cyst>
2. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5756969/#:~:text=A%20thymic%20cyst%20is%20a,to%20be%20congenital%20in%20origin.>
3. <https://surpathcriteria.stanford.edu/thymus/thymic-cyst/>