PSEUDOMEMBRANOUS ASPERGILLUS FUMIGATUS TRACHEOBRONCHITIS

M. FLORENCIA COURTOIS, INDALECIO CARBONI BISSO, IGNACIO FERNÁNDEZ CEBALLOS, MARCOS LAS HERAS

Unidad de Cuidados Intensivos, Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

E-mail: florencia.courtois@hospitalitaliano.org.ar

A 51-year-old patient with a history of renal transplant was admitted for acute respiratory failure secondary to pneumonia, which progressed to septic shock with multiorgan failure. Upon admission, she required invasive mechanical ventilation. On the 10th day of hospitalization, she experienced a new episode of hemodynamic decompensation. A computed tomography scan revealed parenchymal consolidations with scattered air bronchogram in both lung fields. Suspecting ventilator-associated pneumonia, bronchoalveolar lavage was performed. During

bronchoscopy, examination of the distal trachea revealed a brown plaque-like membrane covered with raised whitish lesions (Fig. 1-A) resembling fungal involvement. The irregular surface showed more severe involvement in proximal regions (Fig. 1-B and 1-C), whereas distal segments appeared normal (Fig. 1-D and Video). A previous bronchoscopy upon admission had shown normal mucosa. Culture of the bronchoalveolar lavage confirmed the presence of Aspergillus fumigatus, leading to the diagnosis of pseudomembranous tracheobronchitis.

Figura 1

