Contralateral Orbital and Subconjunctival Emphysema After Thoracotomy

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A 61-year-old female patient had a severe, thickened pleura. This pleura caused shortness of breath during exercise and prevented the expansion of her lungs. The patient underwent right thoracotomy and decortication. On the second postoperative day, unilateral orbital and subconjunctival emphysema were observed in her left eye (Figs 1, 2). There were no visual impairments. In subconjunctival emphysema, drainage puncture was performed and medical therapy was given. Orbital and subcutaneous emphysema were resolved. The patient had no symptoms after the 2 months postoperatively.

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