

# Left superior pulmonary vein thrombosis in a patient with acute pancreatitis

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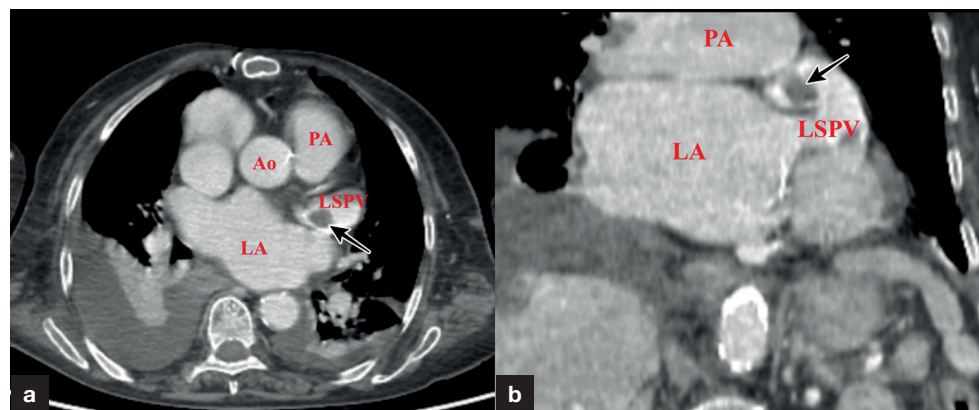
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An 83-year-old patient presented to the emergency department complaining of abdominal tenderness. Laboratory tests showed amylase levels of 2584 U/litre and lipase levels of 1372 U/litre. Contrast-enhanced abdominal computed tomography showed peripancreatic fluid accumulation and pancreatic enlargement, consistent with acute pancreatitis. A thrombus was also seen in the left superior pulmonary vein in the lower chest section of these images (Figure 1). Anticoagulant treatment was initiated following a diagnosis of acute pancreatitis with concomitant pulmonary vein thrombosis.



**Figure 1.** a. Axial view and (b) coronal reconstruction of contrast-enhanced computed tomography, showing thrombus in the left superior pulmonary vein (arrow). Ao=aorta; LA=left atrium, LSPV=left superior pulmonary vein; PA=pulmonary artery.

Pulmonary vein thrombosis is rare, and most commonly occurs as a complication of malignancies or after lung surgery. It is usually asymptomatic, but delay in treatment can lead to complications such as stroke and renal embolism (Chaaya and Vishnubhotla, 2017). Acute pancreatitis is known to predispose patients to venous thrombosis, but unlike pulmonary thromboembolism, its association with pulmonary vein thrombosis has not been reported. Pulmonary vein thrombosis should be considered in patients with acute pancreatitis, given its life-threatening complications.

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## Reference

Chaaya G, Vishnubhotla P. Pulmonary vein thrombosis: a recent systematic review. *Cureus*. 2017;9(1):e993. <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.993>

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