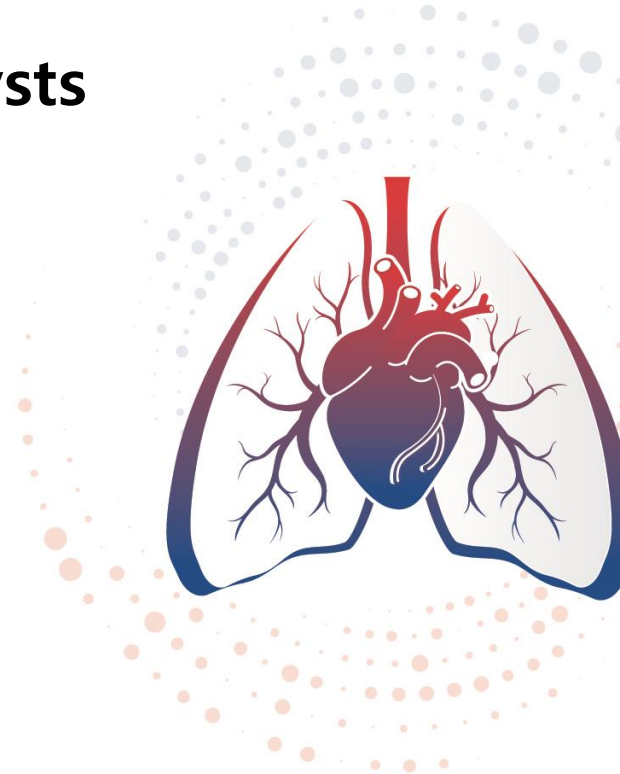


2023 대한심장혈관흉부외과학회

제55차 추계학술대회 & APELSO 2023

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**Long term follows up results of the thymic cysts
diagnosed by chest MRI**



- In recent years, as the frequency of chest computed tomography (CT) for the purpose of screening or follow-up for other organ carcinomas has rapidly increased, incidental anterior mediastinum tumors have been frequently discovered, requiring differentiation from thymomas and thymic cysts.
- There is a difference of opinion about the indications for surgery for thymic cysts, and there is a lack of studies on the natural course of thymic cysts, so this study was conducted.

- From 2017 to 2022 May, a total of 229 patients were suspected of having thymic cyst. Among them, 197 patients underwent magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and 159 cases were reasonable for cyst based on MRI interpretation.
- Patients with prominent pericardial cyst were or ambiguous MRI interpretations were also excluded. One patient who underwent surgery initially due to its large size (85 mm) with patient's desire were also excluded.
- A total of 123 patients underwent follow-up CT, and these patients were investigated for size change and pattern change on follow-up CT. The size increase criterion was defined as a case where the size of the long axis increased by more than 10% in the transaxial view on the CT.

- The average follow-up period was 23.7 months. The average size of cysts in 123 patients was 23 ± 14.7 mm (max: 123 mm, min: 6 mm).
- There were 103 patients (83.1%) in the group without size change, and their average size was 24.4 ± 14 mm.
- There was a total of 9 patients (7.3%) in the group with size increase, and the average size ranged from 27.5 ± 17.0 to 38.0 ± 23.4 mm. one of them (size change: 55 mm to 65 mm) underwent surgery due to patient's anxiety.
- There were 7 patients (5.6%) in the size reduction group and the mean size ranged from 29.2 ± 17.8 to 27.1 ± 17.9 mm.
- In 4 patients, the lesion completely disappeared on follow-up CT, and the size of the cyst at their first visit was 14, 16, 60, and 9 mm, respectively.
- In 114 of the 123 patients (92.7%) who were followed up, there was no size increasement or newly developed solid portion requiring surgery.

- Based on this observational study, it is considered sufficient to perform follow-up CT to track size changes and patterns for thymic cysts diagnosed by MRI.
- Long-term follow-up of a large population will be needed.