

Tooth aspiration during tracheal intubation

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A male aged 66 years with a history of diabetes mellitus was hospitalized in the cardiology department because of severe weakness. Myocardial infarction was diagnosed and thrombolysis was performed. Fourteen hours after thrombolysis the patient developed mental confusion. Computed tomography (CT) of the brain showed intracranial haemorrhage. The patient was intubated and transferred to the intensive care unit (ICU) under mechanical ventilation. Chest X-ray (Figure 1) on admission showed an opacity of bone density close to the right border of the heart. During flexible bronchoscopy a piece of tooth was found at the entrance of the right lower lobar bronchus and was successfully removed with a biopsy forceps (Figures 2, 3). There were no complications during bronchoscopy. The chest X-ray after removal of the tooth was clear (Figure 4).



FIGURE 1.



FIGURE 2.



FIGURE 3.



FIGURE 4.

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