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### Comparison of Simple Manual Aspiration and Chest Tube Drainage in the First Occurrence of a Primary Spontaneous Pneumothorax

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**Purpose:** The aim of this prospective study was to determine the safety and the efficacy of simple manual aspiration, as an initial treatment for the first occurrence of a primary spontaneous pneumothorax, as opposed to chest tube drainage.

**Methods:** From January 2002 to December 2002, 98 patients were admitted for the first occurrence of a primary spontaneous pneumothorax. They were divided into 3 groups according to sizes of the pneumothoraces and the treatment modalities: (1) size<25% (n=21; rest and oxygen therapy), (2) 25<size<80% (n=57), (3) size>80% (n=20; chest tube drainage). Fifty-seven patients with pneumothorax size of 25 to 80% were randomly treated with simple manual aspiration (SMA; n=30) or with chest tube drainage (CTD; n=27).

**Results:** The therapy was successful in 24 out of 30 patients (80.0%) in the SMA group and in 22 out of 27 patients (81.5%) in the CTD group (p=0.89). The recurrence rates at 3 months for the two groups were similar (6.7% and 11.1%, respectively; p=0.55). The hospital stay was significantly shorter in the SMA group than in the CTD group (4.2 ± 3.27 and 7.5 ± 2.77 days, respectively; p<0.01). Most of the treatment failures in the SMA group involved pneumothorax sizes greater than 50% (5 out of 6).

**Conclusion:** This study indicates that simple manual aspiration seems to be as effective and safe as chest tube drainage. Especially, simple manual aspiration may be proposed as a first-line treatment in the first occurrence of a primary spontaneous pneumothorax with a size smaller than 50%.

**Key Words:** Pneumothorax, Treatment, Aspiration

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1-3)  
가 ,  
가 ,  
,  
10 20  
,  
가  
4)  
95% 99%  
가

30%

28 Fr.

three-bottle sys-

<sup>5,6)</sup>

tem  
가

(-20 cmH<sub>2</sub>O)

72

가

1.

<sup>6,8)</sup>

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가

가

1, 1, 3

25%

80%

가

가 25%

(nasal cannula)

3 L

, 80%

SPSS 11.0 for Windows

Student's t-test

: 30 / ;  
60 ~ 120 / ; 90 mmHg ;  
90%

<sup>2</sup>-test

Fisher's exact test

95%

p < 0.05

2.

Collins <sup>7)</sup>

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98

(%)=4.2+4.7 (

가 25%

, cm).

가 21

가 80%

가 20

25 ~ 80%

가

(semi-supine)

57

(Simple

2%

Manual Aspiration, SMA) 30

18 gauge (intra  
venous needle catheter)

(Chest Tube Drainage, CTD) 27

가

(Table 1). SMA CTD

( 20% (6/30), 18.5% (5/27)) 3

( 6.7% (2/30), 11.1% (3/27))

( p=0.89, p=0.55),

(three-way valve) 50 cc

4.2±3.27 7.5±2.77

(p<0.01) (Table 2). SMA

가

6

2

Table 1. Clinical characteristics of patients

	SMA (n=30)	CTD (n=27)	Significance
Age (yr)	22.7±6.57	23.1±4.29	NS
Sex ratio, M/F	24/6	25/2	NS
Rt./Lt. sided PTx.	12/18	11/16	NS
Size of PTx. (%)	43.9±12.65	44.9±12.42	NS

SMA : simple manual aspiration; CTD : chest tube drainage; PTx. : pneumothorax  
 NS : not significant

Table 2. Comparison of SMA & CTD

	SMA (n=30)	CTD (n=27)	Significance
Success rate	24/30 (80%)	22/27 (81.5%)	NS
Hospital stay, days	4.2±3.27	7.5±2.77	p<0.01
3-month recurrence rate	2/30 (6.7%)	3/27 (11.1%)	NS
Urgent readmission after discharge	0	0	

SMA : simple manual aspiration; CTD : chest tube drainage; NS : not significant

Table 3. Efficacy of SMA according to the size of pneumothorax

	50% (n=10)	< 50% (n=20)	Significance
Success rate,	5/10 (50%)	19/20 (95%)	p<0.01
Hospital stay, days	6.7±4.67	2.95±1.05	p<0.01

SMA : simple manual aspiration

5, 72, . CTD, 27, 5, 22, 3~4, 6~7, . SMA, CTD, 3, 16%, 52%, (Table 2). 가 30%, 1-3,9), 50%, 50% (5/10), 가 50%, 95% (19/20), (Table 3). 가 50%, 50%, 50%, 2.95±1.05, 50%, 6.7±4.67, (p<0.01). 가 25%, 21, 가 1, 4, 가 15%, 1, 2, 4), 가 80%, 20, 12, 5, 10-14), 1.25%, 가, 가, 8, 3, 3~5 가 가

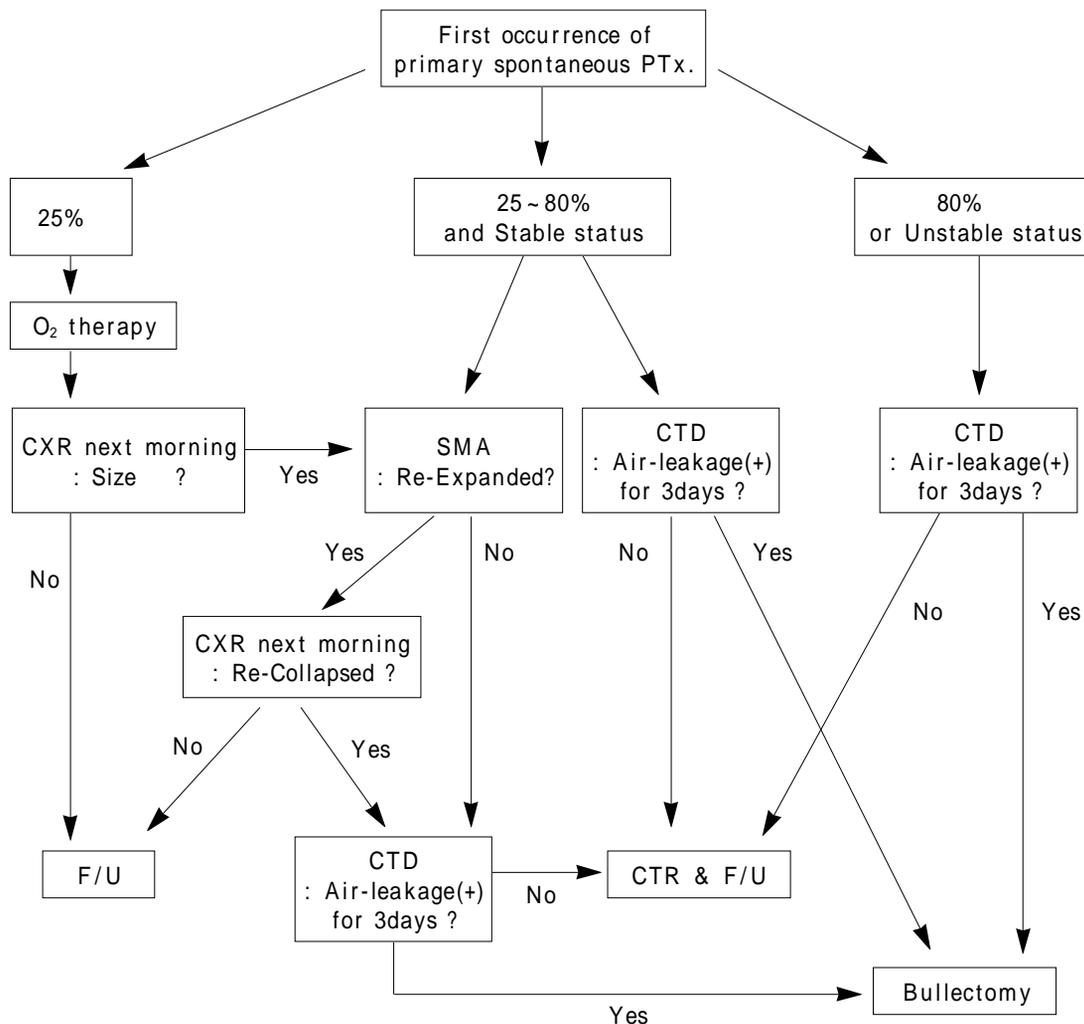


Fig. 1. Initial management in the first occurrence of a primary spontaneous pneumothorax  
 PTx. : pneumothorax; CXR : chest X-ray; SMA : simple manual aspiration;  
 CTD : chest tube drainage; F/U : follow-up ; CTR : chest tube removal

가 <sup>10-12)</sup>. ACCP (American College of Chest Physicians) guideline

. Andrivet <sup>8)</sup>

가 가 ( 67% (22/33) 93% (26/28);p=0.01),

3 ~ 6

3

Noppen <sup>3)</sup>

가 가 <sup>14)</sup>. 24

( 59.2% (16/27) 63.6% (21/33);

가 가 ,

p=0.90) 1 가 ,

<sup>14)</sup>. 가 25%

(52%)

가 .

(irritating effect)

Harvey Prescott<sup>5)</sup> 73

(chemical

pleurodesis)

66% (23/35)

23 ~ 52%

talc tetracycline (sclerosing agents)<sup>8,9)</sup>

80%

5)

8,17)

5,18)

4

3

가 Miller Harvey<sup>13)</sup> BTS (British Thoracic Society) guideline

2,500 ml

, Kiely<sup>16)</sup> 2,500 ml 가

60% (54/90)

2,500 ml 21% (6/29)

6

58,

62, 70, 45, 67, 52%

83.3% (5/6)

가 50%

가 50%

50%

가

(Table 3).

57

24 (SMA 2, CTD 22

) 5.5±1.64

3

가

가 50%

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