Oesophago-tracheal fistula due to oesophageal cancer and achalasic megaesophagus

Marco Anile, Daniele Diso, Miriam Patella and Federico Venuta*

Department of Thoracic Surgery, University of Rome Sapienza, Policlinico Umberto I, Fondazione Eleonora Lorillard Spencer Cenci, Rome, Italy

* Corresponding author. Cattedra di Chirurgia Toracica, Università di Roma Sapienza, Policlinico Umberto I, Fondazione Eleonora Lorillard Spencer Cenci, V.le del Policlinico, Rome, Italy. Fax: +39-06-49970735; e-mail: federico.venuta@uniroma1.it (F. Venuta).

Received 22 October 2012; received in revised form 24 November 2012; accepted 4 December 2012

Keywords: Tracheo-oesophageal fistula • Oesophageal cancer • Megaesophagus • Achalasia

A patient with chest pain and dysphagia presented with a history of achalasic megaesophagus and oesophageal cancer treated with chemoradiotherapy. Computed tomography showed the presence of megaesophagus (Fig. 1), mediastinal involvement and an oesophagotracheal fistula (Fig. 2). A feeding jejunostomy was placed, and the patient was referred for supportive care.

Figure 1: Computed tomography showing megaesophagus.

Figure 2: Oesophagotracheal fistula connecting the lumen of the tracheal and the megaesophagus. Neoplastic mediastinal involvement is also visible.