Advances in the treatment of pulmonary embolism at University Hospital Centre Rijeka

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Introduction: The most common type of pulmonary embolism (PE) is a thrombus that typically originates from the venous system of the lower extremities. Once released into the venous circulation, clots often extend to both pulmonary lobes. Most thrombi collect in larger or medium-sized pulmonary arteries, while the rest may lodge in smaller arterial branches. Fat emboli, which can occur after fractures, represent rare causes of PE. These emboli typically affect pulmonary microcirculation, including arterioles and capillaries, and can lead to the development of acute respiratory distress syndrome in adults.

Case report: We present a case report of a 67-year-old male patient who presented to the University Hospital Centre Rijeka with breathing difficulties. The patient was confirmed to have intermediate-high-risk pulmonary thromboembolism through CT pulmonary angiography. The Indigo System Lightning 12 PE is the latest system used for clot removal from pulmonary arteries in the interventional cardiology unit. The placement of the Indigo System Lightning 12 PE is used as an emergency treatment for PE.

Conclusion: The Indigo System, in combination with its aspiration system, has shown excellent results in treating PTE.

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