

A Case of the Week

Case 438

A sixty-three-year-old female suffered from persistent cough sometimes associated with sputum containing blood. The cultured sputum revealed no evidence of non-tuberculous mycobacterium (NTM). However, based on CT imaging that depicted alike NTM, she was given three medicines for NTM, inducing the relief of respiratory symptoms. After treatment for several years, the respiratory physician ceased to administer the medicines. After a while, she came to suffer from cough and hem sputum, again. She took chest CT for further investigation.

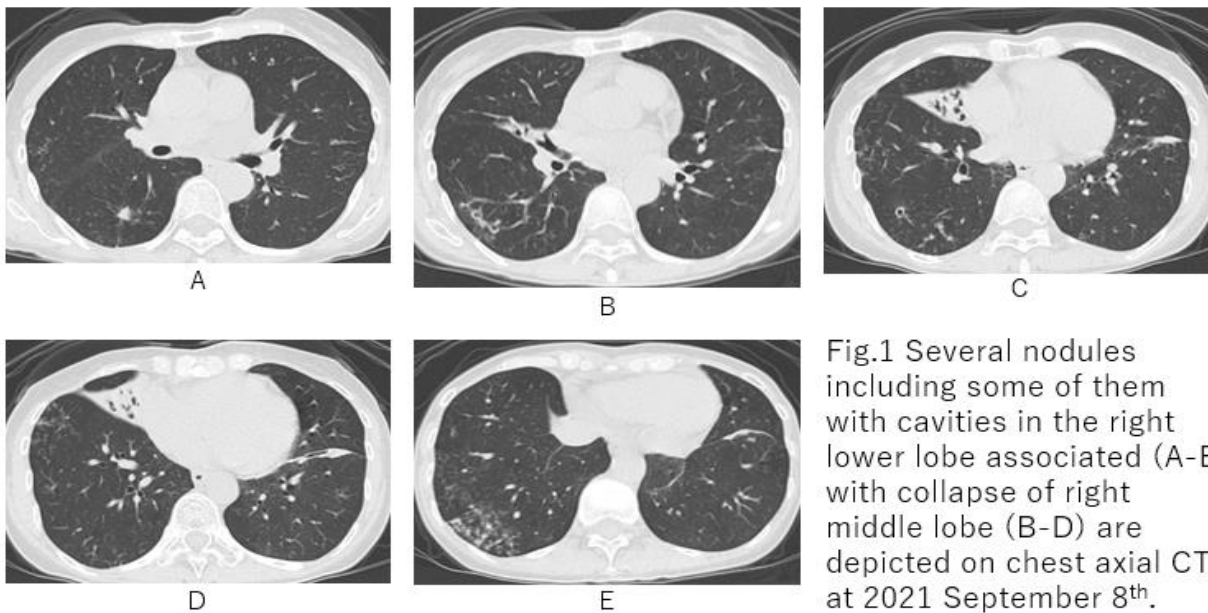


Fig.1 Several nodules including some of them with cavities in the right lower lobe associated (A-E) with collapse of right middle lobe (B-D) are depicted on chest axial CT at 2021 September 8th.

2021.9

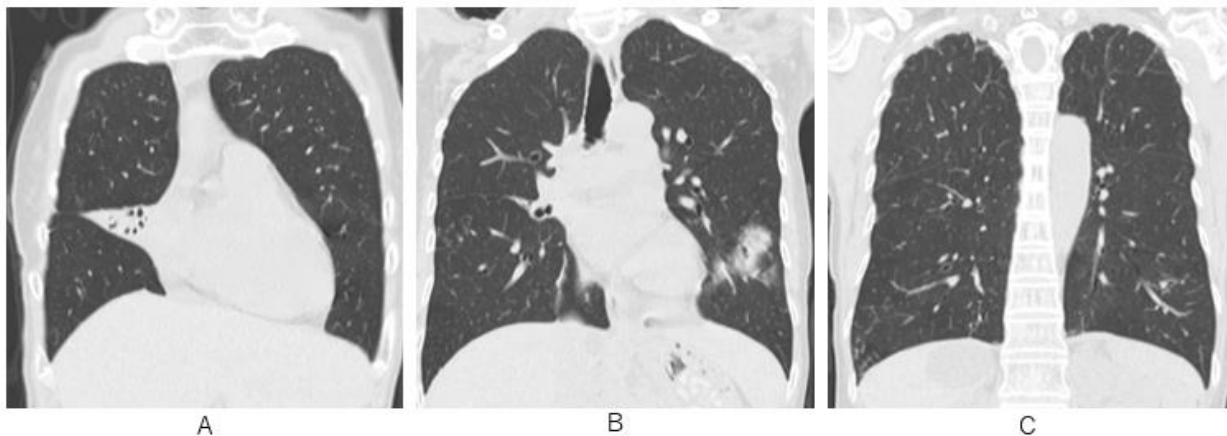


Fig.2 Collapses of right middle lobe and left lingula are depicted on coronal CT at 2021 September 8th.

2021.9

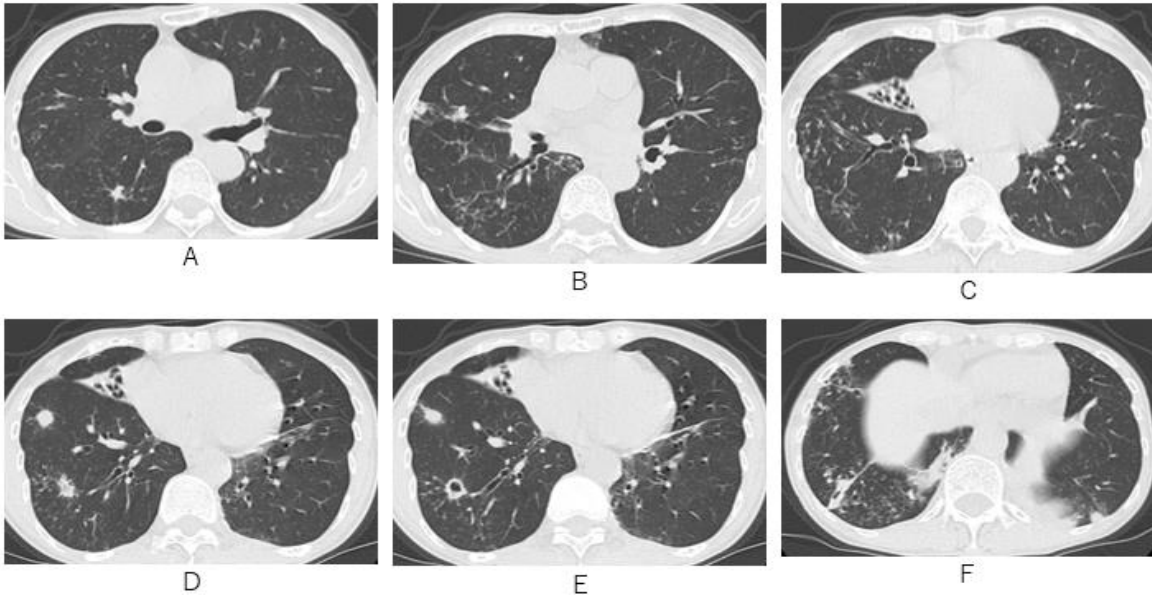


Fig.3 Several nodules including one of them with a cavity in the right lower lobe (A-E) associated with collapse of right middle lobe (B-D) are depicted on chest axial CT at 2025 December 17th.

2025. 12

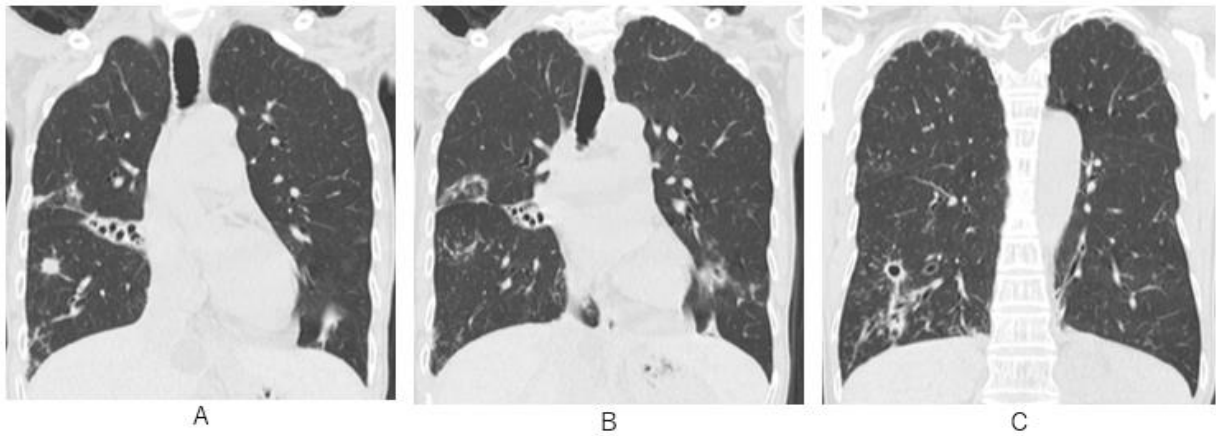


Fig. 4 Several nodules including one of them with a cavity in the right lower lobe (A-C) associated with collapse of right middle lobe (A, B) are depicted on chest coronal CT at 2025 December 17th.

2025. 12

What are symptoms or signs to re-start the medicines for NTM?

- A. Cavity formation
- B. Hem-sputum
- C. Increasing number of nodules
- D. Larging sizes of nodules

1 A, B 2. B, C 3.C, D 4. A, D

answer

2026.6.26