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## Pigtail drained pleural effusion among Omani patients:A preliminary report.

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**Background:** Pleural effusion drainage via a small-bore pigtail catheter is a less invasive method for draining pleural effusions in comparison with chest tube thoracostomy. Therefore, this study aims to evaluate the efficiency, complications and success rate of pleural effusion drainage using pigtail catheter under ultrasound guidance. Methods: Retrospectively, we evaluated 141 cases of pleural effusion that underwent ultrasound guided pigtail catheter (8.5–14 French) insertion. Demographic background, clinical background and peridrainage events were reviewed. SPSS was used for data analysis.

**Results:** The average pleural fluid draining duration was 4-5 days. Complications included pain (51 cases), catheter blockage (one patient), and pneumothorax (4 cases). Overall success rate was 90.1% .Conclusion: Pigtail catheter insertion is an efficient and safe method of draining pleural fluid especially under ultrasound guidance.

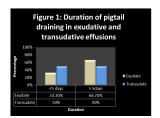


Figure 1: Duration of pigtail drainage in patients with both exudative and transudative effusion.



Biographigure 2: Success rate of pigtail drainage in cases of pleural effusion of various etiologies.

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