

Surgical Management of Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis with Video- Assisted Thoracic Surgery (VATS)

Dawn E. Jaroszewski, MD, MBA, FACS

Associate Professor

Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Mayo Clinic Arizona

Objective

- A basic review of Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis and disease sequelae
- Discuss which patients may be considered for surgical resection
- Review personal current results of VATS for resection

Coccidioidomycosis

- Acute pulmonary infection may manifest as patchy unilateral or bilateral infiltrates
- 5-10% result in residual pulmonary sequelae such as persistent cavitary lesions or nodules
- Most are self limiting however chronic relapsing illness, complications and persistent symptoms may require surgical intervention

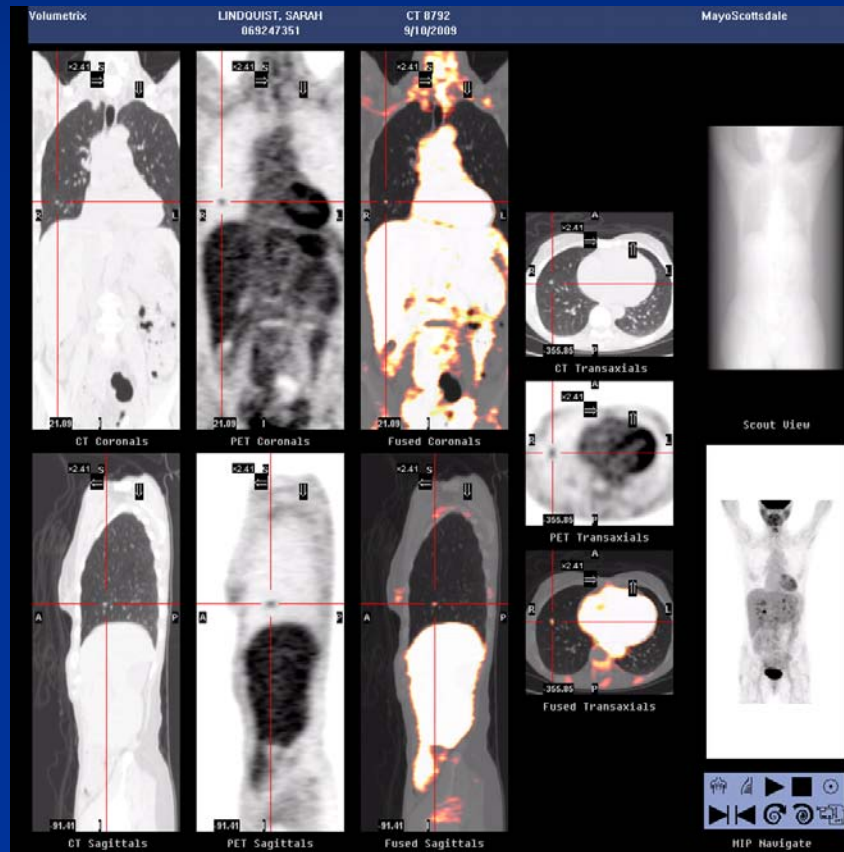
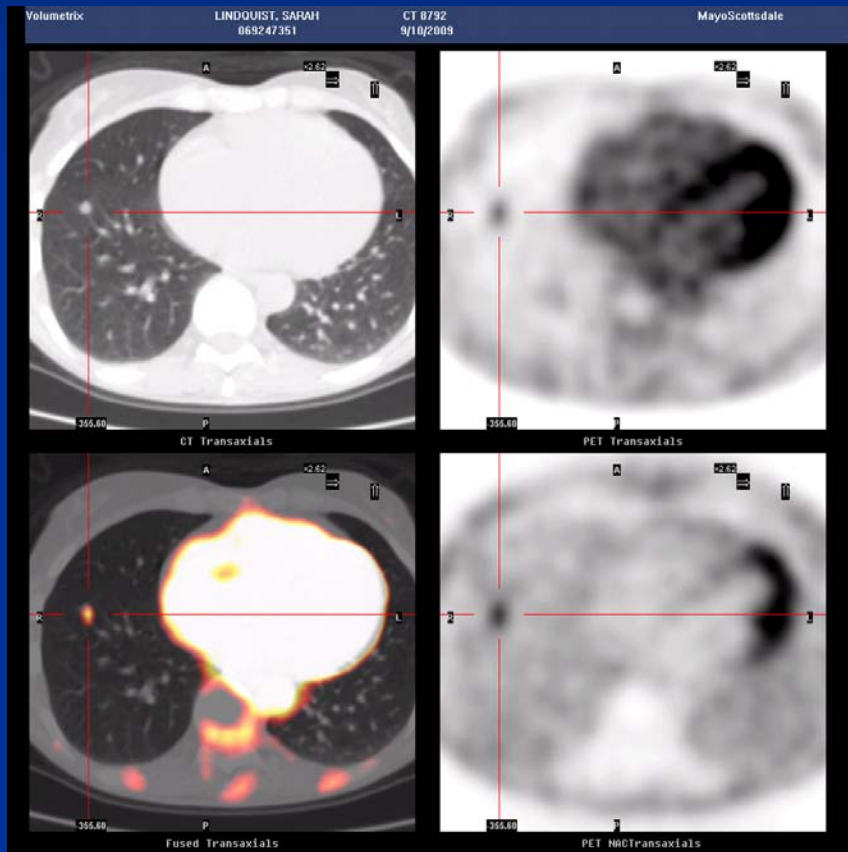
Patients for Surgical Consideration

- Diagnostic Dilemmas
- Symptomatic: chronic cough, pain, hemotysis, fatigue, dyspnea, night sweats
- Non-resolving chronic cavities
- Current or planned Immunosuppression
- Complications: i.e. Pneumothorax & empyema

Case # 1

- 45-year old woman with history of metastatic colon cancer
- Newly diagnoses PET + lesion RLL suspicious for lung carcinoma versus metastatic colon cancer
- Interventional core needle biopsy “non-diagnostic”
- Cocci serology +

Radiographs Case #1



Movie Clip Case#1



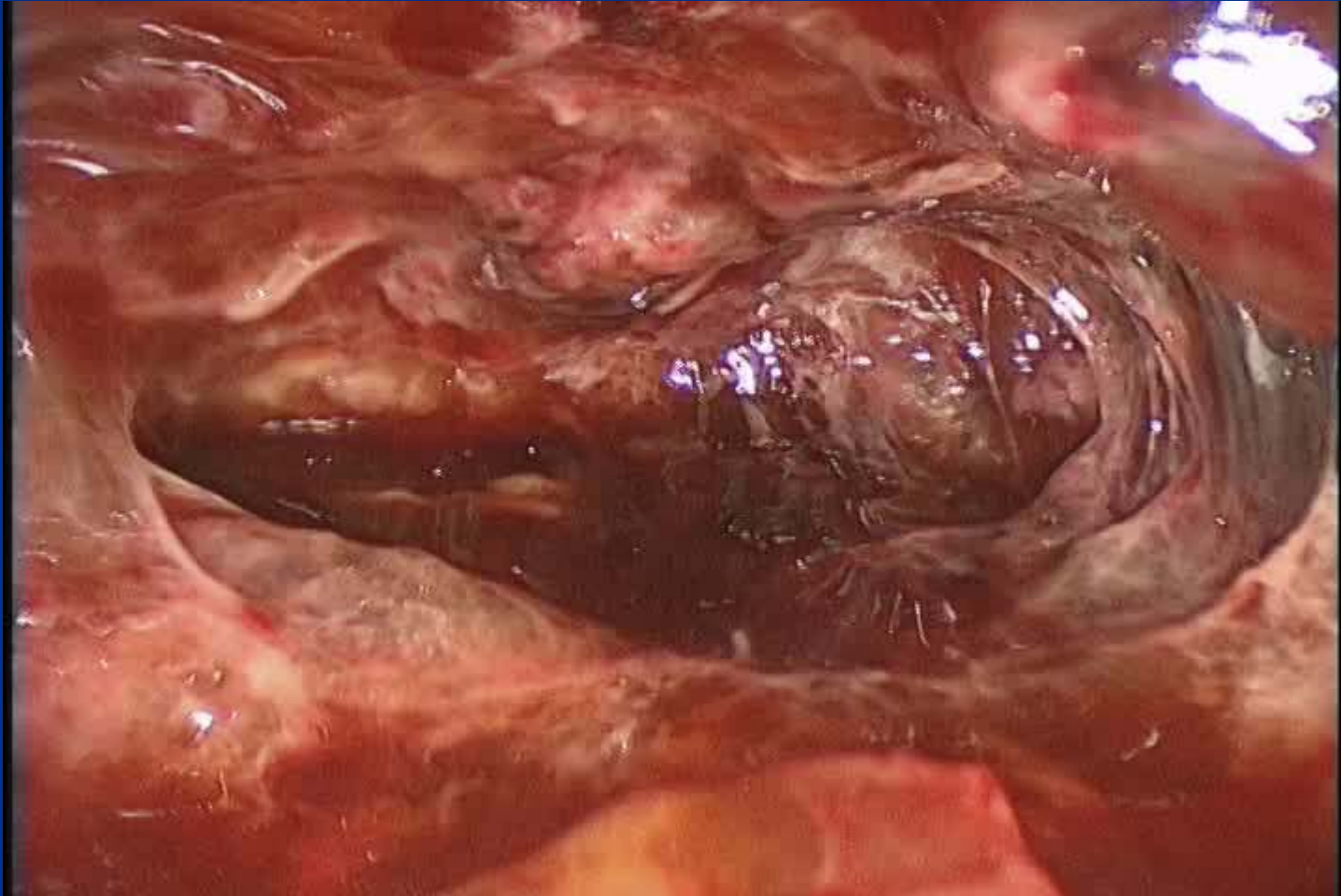
Case #2

- 44-year old male physician with know history of cocci infection on Fluconazole 400 mg daily for 18 months
- Presents to local emergency room with severe chest pain right.

Radiograph Case #2



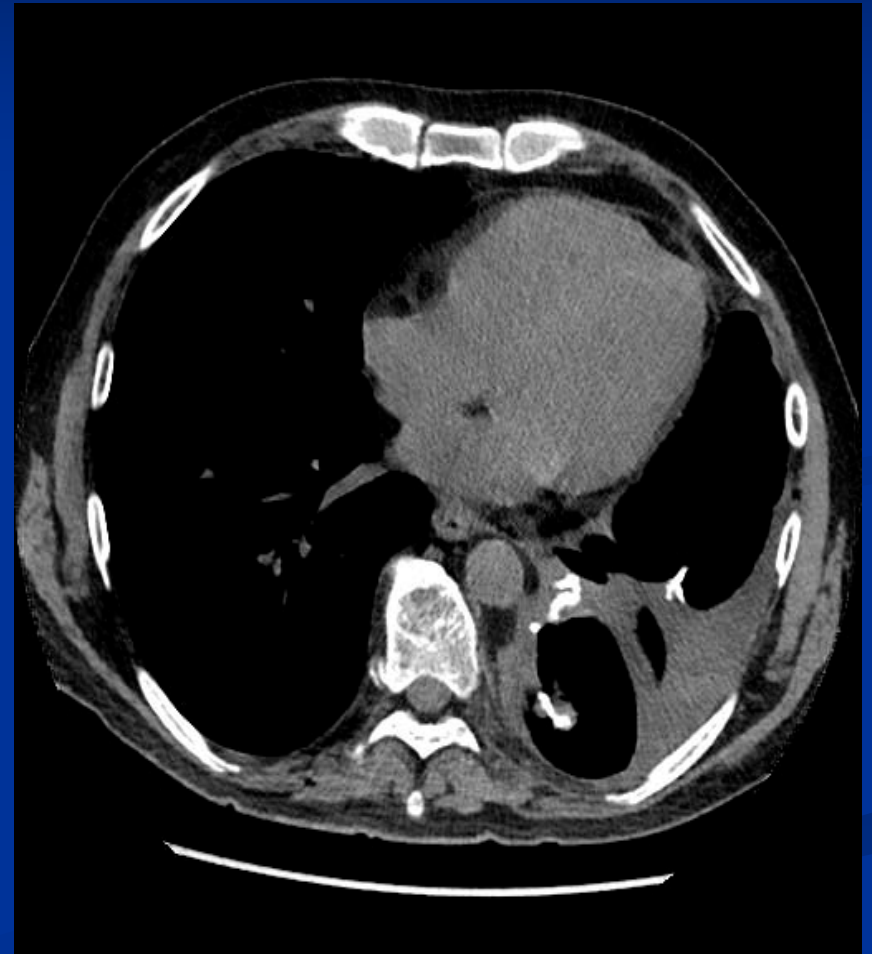
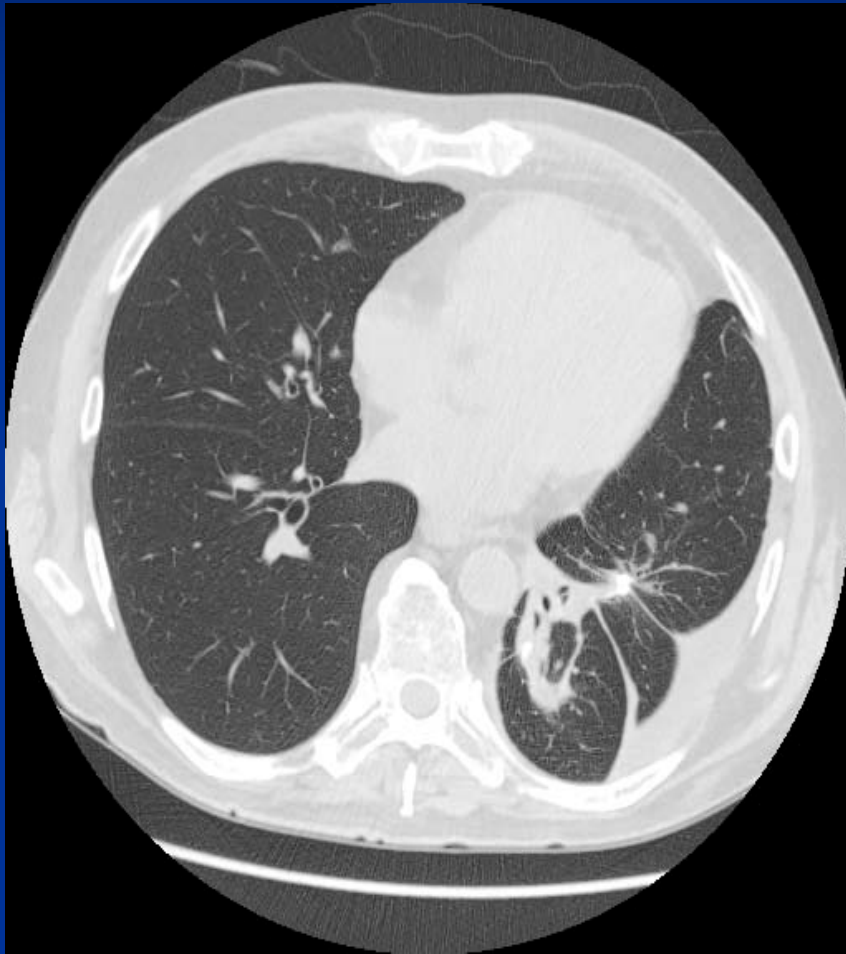
Movie clip Case #2



Case #3

- 52-year old male with history of renal failure on dialysis undergoing evaluation for transplantation
- Cavitory lesion in left lower lobe, treated now for 9 months with fluconazole (4 months) and voriconazole

Radiographic studies Case #3



Movie Clip Case #3



Surgical Interventions

■ From 1998-2008:

- 1498 patients evaluated with pulmonary cocci
- 86 (6%) surgical intervention (48:38 f/m; 58 yrs)
- 2/3 of these surgeries were done with open thoracotomy
 - 98-2004 22% VATS
 - 2004-08 45% VATS
- 21% post operative complications
- 2% mortality

Symptomatic Nodular and Cavitory Coccidioidomycosis Treatment Algorithm

Symptomatic Nodular Disease Known Coccidioidomycosis

Cavitory Coccidioidomycosis Disease

≥3 months anti-fungal treatment

With Pneumothorax, Rupture, Effusion

Uncomplicated

≥3 months anti-fungal treatment

Surgical Resection:
VATS when possible

Resolved

Continued

Symptomatic

Asymptomatic

Resolving

Progressing Symptomatic
No response

Reassessment:
Infectious Disease Specialist
Consider Surgical Resection

Whether or not anti-fungal treatment is continued is based on infectious disease specialist's recommendations

Reassessment:
Infectious Disease Specialist
Consider Surgical Resection

Most Recent Data

- From 2008 – Present:
 - 53 surgical interventions (27:26 f/m; mean 53 yrs)
 - 93 % were treated with VATS procedure
 - 7 % Post operative complications
 - no in hospital post operative mortalities
 - mean hospitalization 3.8 days

Conclusion

- Coccidioidomycosis is being diagnosed, treated and referred more promptly
- Patients with non-resolving pulmonary lesions are being referred for surgical intervention earlier
- The majority requiring surgical intervention can be treated with VATS resulting in few complications and short hospitalization with rapid recovery and return to function