

## 5.02 Intrapleural Streptokinase Comparison with Normal Saline in Complicated Parapneumonic Effusions and Empyema

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**Introduction:** Empyema thoracis is characterized by pus in the pleural space due to a bacterial infection. Treatment included observation, therapeutic pleural drainage, intercostal drain insertion, pleural fibrinolytics, medical pleuroscopy with adhesiolysis, and open drainage.

**Methods:** A one-year RCT at Shaikh Zayed Hospital's pulmonology ward in Lahore included 60 eligible patients, divided into two groups. Group A received ultrasonography-guided 10-28 Fr chest tube insertion and 50 ml normal saline every 12 hours for three days. Group B received 10-28 Fr chest tubes and six doses of 250,000 IU streptokinase in 50 ml normal saline at 12-hour intervals over three days.

**Results:** In Group A, 15 patients exhibited 25% resolution on chest radiographs, 5 patients showed 50% resolution, and 5 patients achieved 100% resolution. In Group B, 3 patients had a 25% resolution, 9 patients achieved a 75% resolution, and 15 patients achieved a 100% resolution. The overall success rate in group A was 33.3%, while that in Group B was 80%.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that intrapleural streptokinase effectively treated empyema and complicated parapneumonic effusions.

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