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### **Glass foreign body in the lung: an unusual etiology of back pain**

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A 28-year-old woman presented with back pain. Personal history: the patient had an otherwise negative medical history and was taking no medications. Anamnesis: 28-year-old woman presented to the Primary Health Care Center with complaints of pain in the left dorsal region during the previous 3 weeks that increased with walking and daily activities. Physical examination: cardiorespiratory exploration within normality. Thoracic spine exploration without pathological findings of significance. Complementary tests: - Normal blood test. - Thoracic spine X-ray showed no acute bone injuries. - Chest X-ray showed suggestive image of strange body in the left lower lobe (LLL). - Chest computed tomographic (CT) scan confirmed the presence, in the back of the LLL, of a foreign and sharpened body with triangular morphology of 33mm. Upon more detailed questioning, she recalled that she had an accident 19 years ago in which she broke a mirror on her back requiring surgical removal of the fragments. Knowing this detail, it was concluded that the image objectified in the tests was a piece of glass. Surgical treatment for extraction was indicated. Treatment: a conventional posterolateral thoracotomy was performed to remove the foreign body without incidents.

Conclusions: the foreign bodies that are missed on initial exploration may cause severe complications or even mortality, years after the traumatic event. In the event of a back pain with a torpid evolution, it would be essential to broaden the study directed with complementary tests.

Keywords (MeSH): back pain, foreign body, thoracotomy.