Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Dyspnea due to giant goiter

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A 53-year-old man was admitted with limitation of cervical movements, progressive dyspnea, and a slow-growing and painful mass originating from both lobes of the thyroid gland (Fig. 1). On physical examination, the dimensions of the mass were 20 × 25 × 30 cm. The goiter appeared as a cervical mass with a deviation of the trachea (Fig. 2). Via a cervical incision subtotal thyroidectomy was performed and a tissue weighing 1700 g was removed. After the removal of the huge mass, cutaneous deformation was corrected with resection. The histopathologic examination revealed adenomatous multinodular goiter. The postoperative course was uneventful and the patient was discharged home 8 days after surgery. He is doing well at the 6-month follow-up visit.

Fig. 1. Chest radiograph demonstrating a huge mass.

Fig. 2. Lateral chest X-ray with cervical mass.