

## Radiographic Features of a Case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome with Fatal Outcome

D Y L Tan,\**MBBS, FRCR*, G J L Kaw,\**MBBS, M Med (Diag Radiol), FRCR*, I Y Y Tsou,\**MBBS, FRCR*,  
G K-L Wansaicheong,\**MBBS, M Med (Diag Radiol), FRCR*, J A Green,\*\**BM BCh, MRCP (UK)*,  
D Y H Tai,\*\*\**FAMS, FRCP (Edin), EDIC*, T S G Chee,\*\*\*\**FAMS, MBBS, FRCR*

### Abstract

**Introduction:** Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) is a new form of atypical pneumonia caused by a coronavirus. We present the clinical course and chest radiographic findings of a case of SARS with fatal outcome. **Clinical Picture:** A 39-year-old Chinese male presented with fever, sore throat and non-productive cough. During his illness, serial chest radiographs showed increasingly severe air-space shadowing in both lungs. **Treatment and Outcome:** The patient was treated with supplemental oxygen, levofloxacin, oseltamivir, ribavirin and methylprednisolone. As his condition worsened, he required ventilatory and inotropic support. He later developed a myocardial infarct and coagulopathy, and succumbed to his illness. **Conclusion:** The reported case mortality of SARS is about 9% worldwide. In Singapore, the mortality is 15.5%. Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) is believed to be a contributory factor to our patient's demise. We report this case to show the radiographic changes of ARDS in a patient with SARS.

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**Key words:** Acute respiratory distress syndrome, Air-space shadowing, Atypical pneumonia, Coronavirus, Thoracic radiography

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\* Associate Consultant

\*\*\*\* Head and Senior Consultant

Department of Diagnostic Radiology

\*\* Registrar

Department of Infectious Diseases

\*\*\* Director of Medical Intensive Care Unit and Senior Consultant

Department of General Medicine

Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Address for Reprints: Dr Diana Y L Tan, Department of Diagnostic Radiology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, 11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng, Singapore 308433.

Email: [diana\\_tan@ttsh.com.sg](mailto:diana_tan@ttsh.com.sg)