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A different surgical approach to the treatment for early stage bronchopleural fistulas

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The bronchial fistula which was detected early after pneumonectomy was successfully repaired with intercostal muscle flap. We used an enduring pedicle that preserved the distal and proximal ends aimed to contribute unique circulation.

The circulation of 5th intercostal vascular structure of pedicle was controlled with angiography 1 month after the operation (arrow signs 5th intercostal artery). The vascular structure of pedicle was intact. The patient is still alive and healthy (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Circulation of the 5th intercostal arterial structure after 1 month from the operation.

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