

Evidence Discussion (CH 28.1)

Superior Vena Cava (SVC) Syndrome

Superior vena cava syndrome results from obstruction of blood flow through the SVC. There are multiple etiologies for this including intrinsic obstruction (due to intraluminal devices) or external compression (usually due to malignancies). These intrinsic and extrinsic factors, can result in thrombosis of the vessel, which further exacerbates the condition. Typical symptoms include upper extremity and facial edema and pressure. For suspicion of SVC syndrome, imaging is with CT chest.

Reference:

Superior Vena Cava Syndrome. Abdul Hussain Azizi, Irfan Shafi, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol Interv. 2020 Dec, 13 (24) 2896–2910.