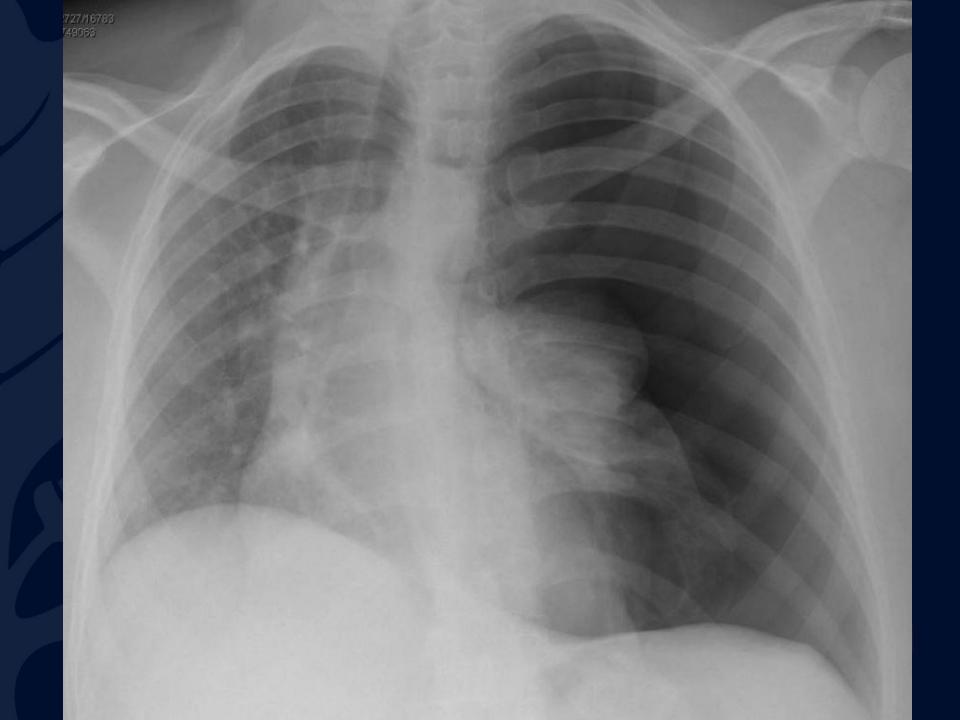
## 40F with epigastric pain

Jeffrey Guzelian, MD









## **Tension Pneumothorax**



- Large left pneumothorax
- Contralateral shift of mediastinum
- Depression of left hemidiaphragm



## Tension Pneumothorax

- Progressive accumulation of air in pleural space secondary to unidirectional ventilation
- Usually due to trauma, can be spontaneous eg bleb rupture
- Increased risk with positive pressure ventilation
- Buildup of pressure within pleural space compresses mediastinal structures
- Can result in circulatory instability, cardiac arrest 2/2 venous obstruction
- Tx: needle thoracotomy for chest decompression, chest tube for lung re-expansion

