To the Editor,

A 16-year-old woman was referred due to a left hyperlucent lung, which was incidentally observed on a chest radiograph (Figure 1A). The patient had a history of respiratory infection in her infancy. A three-dimensional (3-D) CT scan revealed hyperlucency and diminished vascularity in the left lung without any bullous lunglesions (Figure 1B). On the basis of these findings, the patient was diagnosed to have Swyer-James syndrome (1,2). When unilateral hyperlucent lung is discovered, a 3-D CT scan would provide important clinical information as observed in this case. Although extremely rare, Swyer-James syndrome should be included in the differential diagnosis of unilateral hyperlucent lungs if patients have a history of pulmonary infection in their early childhood.

3-D CT scan would provide critical information in distinguishing between “Swyer-James syndrome” and “other diseases exhibiting unilateral hyperlucent lung”. In addition, information obtained by 3-D CT scan would advance differential diagnosis without any other invasive examination, therefore, there would be benefits of low invasiveness and economic merit for patients.
REFERENCES


Figure 1. (A) Plain chest radiograph. (B) Three-dimensional (3-D) CT scan revealed hyperlucency and diminished vascularity in the left lung without any bullous lung lesions.