

Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Intussusception-like phenomenon in acute type A aortic dissection

Enrico Ferrari^{*}, Denis Berdajs, Lars Niclaus, Ludwig Karl von Segesser

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, University Hospital of Lausanne (CHUV), CH-1011, Lausanne, Switzerland

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A 66-year-old man was hospitalized with signs of type A dissection and unstable conditions. The computed-tomography scan confirmed the diagnosis and, in the operating theater, a transesophageal echocardiogram showed an

unexpected intussusception-like phenomenon: the intima of the ascending aorta prolapsed into the valve (see Fig. 1 and Videos 1 and 2). A Bentall procedure was performed successfully.

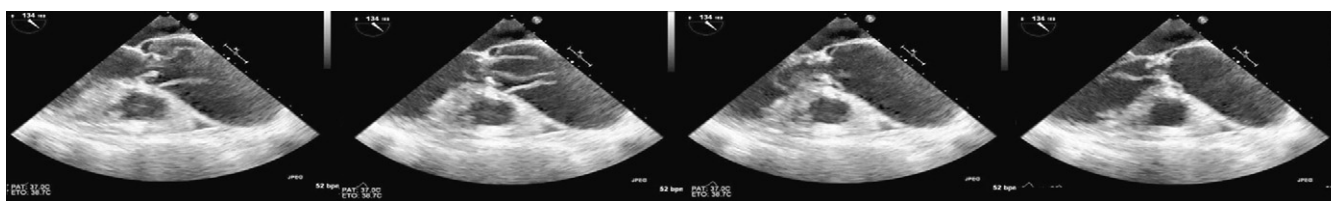


Fig. 1. The transesophageal echocardiogram performed intraoperatively shows a rare and unexpected phenomenon of intussusceptions of the intima layer of the aortic wall into the lumen of the valve. This rare event was confirmed in the surgical field: the type A dissection was circumferential and involved the entire ascending aorta. The sequence (from the left to right), represents one diastole.

Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article (Video 1 and Video 2) can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.ejcts.2010.11.052.

^{*} Corresponding author. Address: Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, Centre Hôpitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV), 46, rue du Bugnon, CH-1011 Lausanne, Switzerland. Tel.: +41 79 310 1386; fax: +41 21 314 2278.

E-mail addresses: enrico.ferrari@hospvd.ch, enricoferrari@bluewin.ch (E. Ferrari).