Aneurysm of the Intervalvular Mitroaortic Fibrosa after Aortic Valve Replacement Diagnosed by Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance Imaging

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A 58-year-old woman was referred to our department to rule out atrial mass. Four weeks before presentation she had undergone aortic valve replacement for aortic stenosis with a biological prosthesis. The blood cultures were negative and there was no sign of endocarditis. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) demonstrated localized protrusion of the intervalvular mitroaortic fibrosa with diastolic collapse and pulsing in systole (Figure 1).

Aneurysms of mitro-aortic intervalvular fibrosa (AMIF) are rare and usually complicate native and prosthetic aortic valve endocarditis. The incidence of AMIF after aortic replacement in the absence of endocarditis is unknown. Usually it results from partial detachment of the proximal suture line of the sewing ring. Early recognition of these aneurysms is imperative in order to prevent a potentially fatal outcome. MRI is the diagnostic technique of choice for prompt diagnosis and the timely institution of treatment, due to their relatively posterior location and complex anatomy.

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