Cauliflower-like Mass Attached to the Left Atrial Roof

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Key words: anticoagulants, atrial fibrillation, cardiomyopathy, hypertrophic, thrombosis, thoracic surgery

(DOI: 10.2169/internalmedicine.50.5906)

A 75-year-old man was referred to our hospital for investigation of a suspected mass in the left atrium (LA) and asymmetric septal hypertrophy of the left ventricle without significant obstruction detected by screening transthoracic echocardiography of atrial fibrillation (AF). Transesophageal echocardiography revealed dynamic smoke-like echo filling in LA and a cauliflower-like, large (22×16 mm), and low-mobile mass mainly attached to LA roof (Picture 1). The mitral valve was intact. No abnormal structure in LA appendage was observed. The same lesion was depicted homogenously on multidetector CT images (Picture 2, arrow). Right coronary angiography showed a fistula through the...
mass draining into LA (Picture 3, arrow). The possibility of a tumor, in particular myxoma, could not be ruled out, but the clinical features strongly indicated that the unidentified mass had to be a thrombus. Anticoagulation therapy for 20 days did not reduce its size, and rendered it fragile. Then, surgical resection was performed. The histological examination confirmed an organized thrombus (Picture 4). Thrombus attached to LA roof is quite rare in non-rheumatic AF, because more than 90% of left atrial thrombi are located in the atrial appendage (1).

The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

Reference