Massive Myocardial Abscesses Caused by Methicillin-susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus*

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A 74-year-old woman was admitted to our hospital due to back pain and a low-grade fever lasting for several months. Two years previously, the patient had undergone replacement of a mechanical aortic valve for aortic stenosis. Two weeks later, she suffered from sudden right lower quadrant abdominal pain followed by consciousness disturbance and hypotension. Although a transthoracic echocardiogram showed only mitral valve calcification, blood samples were positive for methicillin-susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus*, suggesting septic shock, and the patient died two weeks later. Autopsy specimens revealed mitral valve vegetation (Picture A, arrow) with massive perimital valvular abscesses (Picture A, arrowheads) extending into the adjacent left ventricular myocardium configured as massive myocardial abscesses (Picture B, arrows); however, there was no evidence of infection around the mechanical aortic valve. The organisms most frequently associated with myocardial abscesses are *Candida* and *Staphylococcus aureus* (1), and the clinical symptoms may be obscure and not specific as observed in our case (2).

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**References**