Artery of Adamkiewicz on 256-slice Multislice CT

Shu Yoshihara¹, Masaki Kamiya², Masaaki Naito¹ and Masaki Matsunaga³

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Picture 1.

Picture 2.

Picture 3.

Picture 4.

A 73-year-old man with chronic Stanford type B aortic dissection with a maximum diameter of 58 mm and a completely patent false lumen was scheduled for surgical repair. We performed computed tomography angiography (CTA) as

¹Department of Diagnostic Radiology, Iwata City Hospital, Japan, ²Department of Radiological Technology, Iwata City Hospital, Japan and ³Department of Cardiology, Iwata City Hospital, Japan

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Correspondence to Dr. Shu Yoshihara, shuy@hospital.iwata.shizuoka.jp

a preoperative evaluation to visualize the artery of Adamkiewicz (AKA) using a 256-slice multislice CT scanner (Brilliance iCT, Philips Healthcare, Best, The Netherlands). A coronal multiplanar-reformatted image showed a hairpin curved AKA (arrow) joining the anterior spinal artery (arrowhead) (Picture 1, T: true lumen, F: false lumen, Th8: 8th thoracic vertebra). A curved multiplanar-reformatted image (Picture 2, T: true lumen, F: false lumen, Th8: 8th thoracic vertebra) and 3D volume-rendered images (Picture 3: anterior view, Picture 4: right posterosuperior view) clearly visu-

alized the continuity between the AKA and the true lumen of the aorta through the left 8th intercostal artery (black arrowhead). The patient underwent surgery without spinal cord complications. Depicting the AKA is important for surgical planning in cases of a thoracic descending aorta in order to prevent postoperative paraplegia. CTA is a useful method for evaluating the AKA.

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