[PICTURES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE]

Transmitral Doppler Flow Pattern in Left Atrial Myxoma

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Picture 1.

Picture 2.

A 36-year-old woman presented to our hospital with chest discomfort. The electrocardiography findings were within normal limits. Echocardiography indicated a giant mass due to myxoma (M) in the left atrium (LA) (Picture 1). The myxoma plopped into the mitral orifice early in the diastolic phase (Picture 1-A), and remained almost immobile, even

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Picture 3.

during late diastole (Picture 1-B). A transmitral Doppler flow examination showed a unique pattern (Picture 2). After mitral valve opening (MVO), we observed an inflow of blood from the LA into the left ventricle (LV)(E1-wave). However, the inflow of blood ceased immediately thereafter. After a pause of approximately 100-120 ms (shown by a red arrow), the inflow resumed (E2).

The myxoma (52×43 mm) was removed, and the echocardiographic abnormalities returned to normal (Picture 3). We

conclude that the large-size of the myxoma might have been the reason for the unique transmitral Doppler flow pattern.

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

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