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Image 1:018

Giant Floating Right Atrial Thrombus Following Balloon Mitral Valvuloplasty

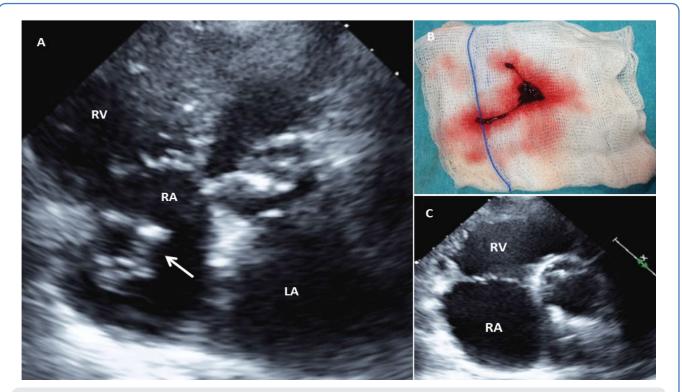


Figure 1: A) Transthoracic Echocardiography (TTE) showing the large mass/thrombus floating in the right atrium (arrow); (B) Fresh thrombus removed using transcatheter aspiration technique. (C) TTE showing no evidence of residual thrombus in the right atrium. RA: Right atrium, LA: left atrium, RV: right ventricle

Keywords

Thrombus, Balloon mitral valvuloplasty

Case Report

A 83 years-old woman underwent percutaneous balloon mitral valvuloplasty (PBMV) due to symptomatic rheumatic mitral stenosis. The transesophageal echocardiogram before PBMV revealed no atrial thrombus. PMBV was performed under fluoroscopic guidance. Following PBMV, an obstruction of the catheter lumen was detected. The transthoracic echocardiogram (TTE) showed a giant mass in the right atrium (Figure 1A), free mobile and eventually prolapsing into the right ventricle (Video). The large thrombus was completely removed percutaneously (Figure 1B), confirmed by TTE (Figure 1C). Despite the use of unfractionated heparin, thrombus formation during PBMV can occur. Echocardiographic imaging is crucial for the detection of thrombus, which cannot be identified by fluoroscopy.

Information

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