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A Troublemaker post Car Accident Imaging Features

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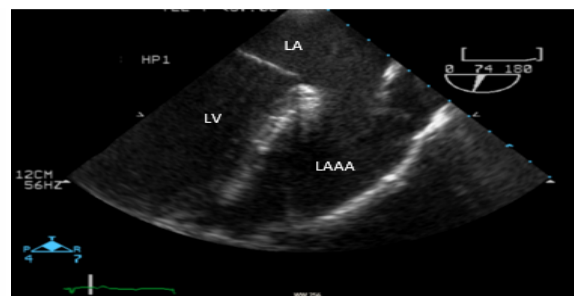
Background: Congenital left atrial appendage aneurysm (CLAA) is an exceedingly rare cardiac anomaly, frequently asymptomatic and often identified incidentally during imaging for unrelated concerns. We report the case of a 19-year-old male with no prior medical history, who sustained blunt chest trauma in a car accident. During the diagnostic evaluation, including transthoracic and transesophageal echocardiography, as well as ventriculography, a large left atrial pseudoaneurysm with a broad connection to the left atrium (measuring 2.7 cm in length) was suspected. Surgical exploration revealed a substantial congenital left atrial aneurysm, measuring 8 x 10 x 12 cm, connected to the left atrium via the left atrial appendage. The postoperative recovery was uneventful, and the patient was discharged in stable condition.

Discussion: Initial suspicion centered on a left atrial appendage pseudoaneurysm secondary to chest trauma, a plausible diagnosis given the patient's trauma history. However, surgical findings confirmed the aneurysm was congenital rather than trauma-induced.

Conclusion: A review of the literature highlights the scarcity of reports on CLAA, with most cases, as in this instance, being incidentally discovered. Management approaches remain variable across the few reported cases.



TEE ME view showing large left atrial appendage aneurysm, LA: left atrium, LV: left ventricle, LAAA: left atrial appendage aneurysm



TEE ME 2chamber view showing large left atrial appendage aneurysm resembling a 5th chamber, LA: left atrium, LV: left ventricle, LAAA: left atrial appendage aneurysm

