

Letter to the Editor-Editöre mektup

12 year old left ventricular apical spherical thrombus without thromboembolic complication

Tromboembolik komplikasyonlara neden olmayan 12 yıllık sol ventriküler apikal sferik trombüs

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Abstract

Transthoracic echocardiography was performed in a 44 year-old male patient with the complaint of dyspnea on exertion. On echocardiography, besides wall motion abnormality spherical shaped image most probably indicating to a thrombus is visualized at the left ventricular apex. Patient's medical history showed us an acute myocardial infarction experienced 12 years ago and thrombus at left ventricular apex detected at that time. Thrombus has persisted through follow up period for 12 years. Image of 12 year- old thrombus without any thromboembolic complication is very unusual and surprising.

Key words: Thrombus, thromboembolic complication.

Özet

44 yaşındaki erkek hastaya efor dispnesi yakınması nedeniyle transtorasik ekokardiyografi yapıldı. Ekokardiyografide sol ventrikül apeksinde, duvar hareket bozukluğu ile birlikte yuvarlak şekilli trombüs görüldü. Hastanın öyküsünde 12 yıl önce akut miyokard enfarktüsü geçirdiği ve o dönemde sol ventrikül apeksinde trombüs saptandığı öğrenildi. 12 yıllık takipte trombüsün devam ettiği görüldü. Herhangi bir tromboembolik komplikasyona yol açmayan 12 yıllık trombüs çok alışılmamış ve şaşırtıcıdır.

Anahtar sözcükler: Trombus, tromboembolik komplikasyon.

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A 44 year-old male was evaluated for dyspnea on exertion. His echocardiogram showed a left ventricular apical thrombus with regional wall motion abnormalities. History of the patient revealed that an apical thrombus and dyskinesia on transthoracic echocardiography were first detected 12 years ago during his admission for acute myocardial infarction. He had received anticoagulant therapy for 3 months at that time and the therapy was stopped afterwards. Periodic echocardiographic follow-up (on admission and following 2nd, 5th and 8th years) revealed persistence of apical thrombus. On transthoracic echocardiography a protruding thrombus with a diameter of 2.5 cm was visualized as a non-enhanced, spherical structure at the left ventricular apex (Figure 1).

Incidence of left ventricular thrombosis is high in patients with acute myocardial infarction [1, 2]. Echocardiography can show the location, size, shape, mobility and point of attachment of masses [3].

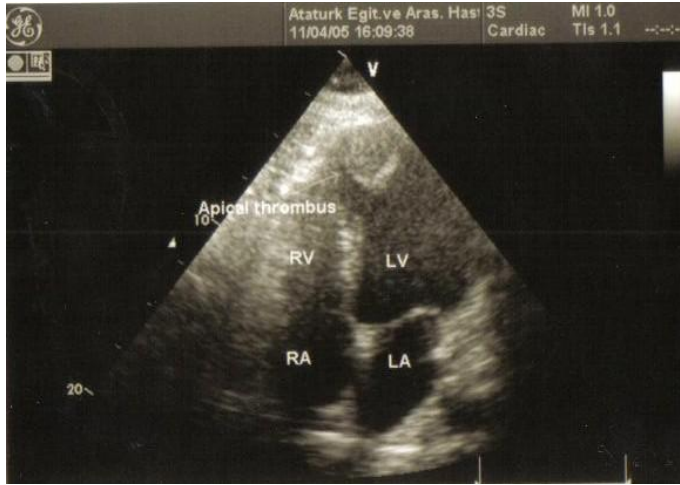


Figure 1 Thrombus image at left ventricular apex, apical 4 chamber view.

This 12 year-old thrombus had no significant calcification in contrast with our expectation. No thromboembolic complications were observed during this 12 years period.

The present case is peculiar with persistent spherical thrombus, for a duration of 12 years, without any embolic complications.

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