

Apical Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy with Giant Left Atrium

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A 69 year old female patient with apical hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and rheumatic mitral valve disease was scheduled for mitral valve replacement, and underwent a coronary angiography for preoperative evaluation of the coronary arteries. The left ventriculogram revealed a spade deformity (ace of spades) which is typical for apical hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (Fig. 1). No intraventricular

or subaortic pressure gradient was present. A giant left atrium due to severe mitral regurgitation was also observed. The mediolateral diameter of the left atrium was 12cm, according to the measurement taken during the transthoracic echocardiography. A giant left atrium is defined as an atrium greater than 8cm and is a typical finding in patients with rheumatic mitral valve disease and severe regurgitation¹.

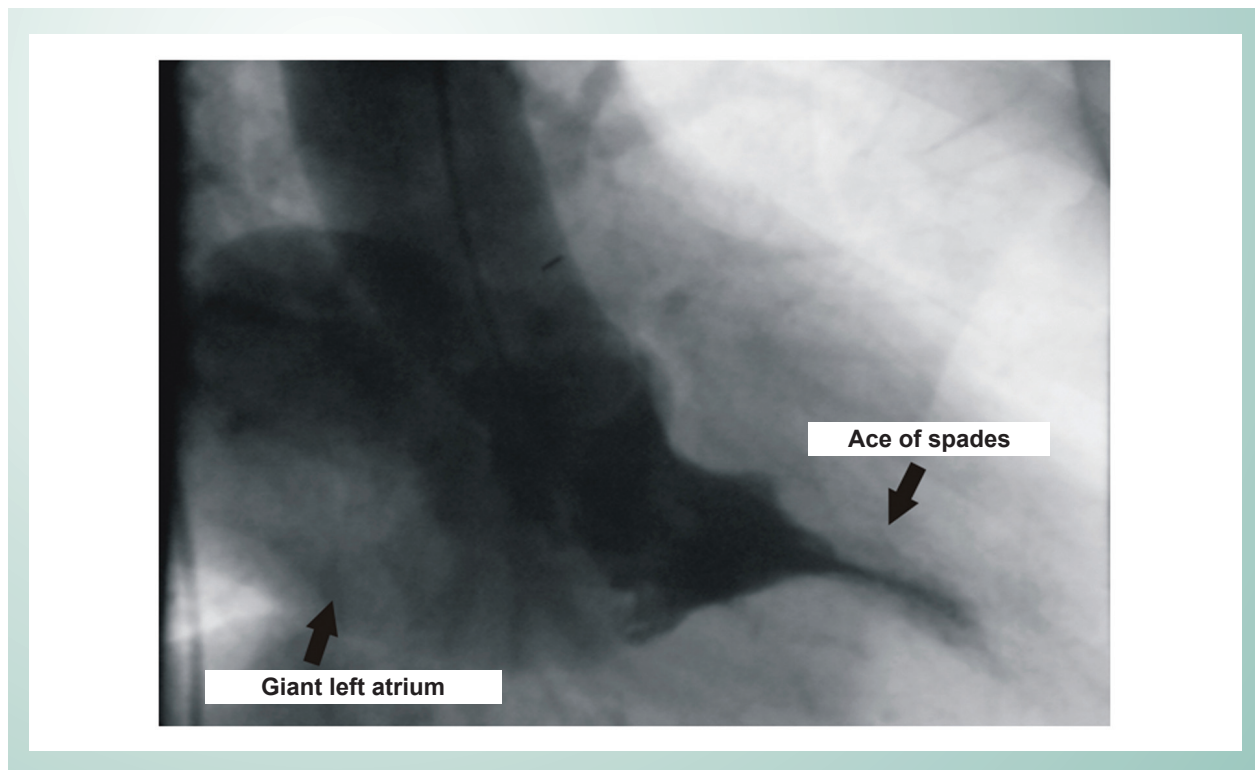


Fig. 1 - Left ventriculogram through a right anterior oblique projection showing the ace of spades configuration, typical of apical hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and a giant left atrium due to severe mitral regurgitation.

Key words

Cardiomyopathy, hypertrophic; heart atria; mitral insufficiency.

Reference

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