Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Giant saphenous vein graft aneurysm resection during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting

Giuseppe Tavilla*

Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Leiden University Medical Center, Albinusdreef 2, 2333 ZA Leiden, The Netherlands

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A 56-year-old man was re-operated 13 years after a saphenous vein bypass to the left anterior descending artery. Angiography showed an aneurysm of the proximal venous graft (Fig. 1). The aneurysm was isolated and resected on the beating heart (Fig. 2). Two internal thoracic artery grafts were performed off-pump with good outcome.

Fig. 1. Angiography of a giant saphenous vein graft aneurysm. The graft is occluded distal to the aneurysm. SVG: saphenous vein graft.

Fig. 2. (A) Assistant view of the giant aneurysm: the dissection of the aneurysm was started with isolation of the proximal part of the saphenous vein graft for positioning of a clamp. The aneurysm was dissected from the aorta and adjacent structures and the distal part of the venous graft after the aneurysm was transected. (B) The aneurysm has been opened; inside thrombotic material and old blood. Its diameter was about 5 cm; SVG: saphenous vein graft; IV: innominate vein; PA: pulmonary artery.