Large thrombosed saccular aneurysm of superior vena cava complicated by pulmonary embolism in a young woman

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Received 5 December 2011; accepted 10 January 2012

Keywords: Superior vena cava • Saccular aneurysm • Venous aneurysm • Pulmonary embolism

A 47-year old woman was hospitalized with severe dyspnoea. Multislice CT scan revealed a thrombosed saccular aneurysm of the superior vena cava (SVC, Fig. 1) and pulmonary embolism. She underwent surgery—resection of the SVC aneurysm with an auto-pericardial patch repair of the SVC (Fig. 2) and pulmonary thrombectomy.

Figure 1: Multi-slice CT scan images of the SVC saccular aneurysm. (A) Volume render image showing the relation between the aneurysm and the great vessels. (B) A cut-through view with dimensions of the aneurysm in millimetres (Ao: aorta; PA: pulmonary artery; SVC: superior vena cava).

Figure 2: Intra-operative view. (A) SVC aneurysm with thrombi inside (asterisk). (B) SVC after resection of the aneurysm and repair with a pericardial patch (asterisk).

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