Severe kinking of the aortic arch associated with thoracic aortic dissection

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A 50-year-old man was referred to our hospital with sudden onset of severe back pain. The patient underwent an abdominal and thoracic computed tomography (CT) scan and was diagnosed as having severe kinking of the aortic arch associated (Fig. 1) with extensive type B aortic dissection (Fig. 2).

Figure 1: Abdominal and thoracic CT. Three-dimensional CT reconstruction angiography revealing a distal aortic arch and coincidental aortic dissecting aneurysm with kinking of the aortic arch (B and C). The chest roentgenogram shows the widening of the upper mediastinum (A, white arrow).

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Figure 2: Chest multidetector CT. (A) Coronal maximum intensity projection (MIP) reconstruction showing kinking of the aortic arch and intimal tear (black arrow). (B) Axial plane (MIP) showing extensive type B aortic dissection with severe kinking of the aortic arch measuring 65 × 69 mm. The patient elected for conservative medical management and was subsequently lost to follow-up.