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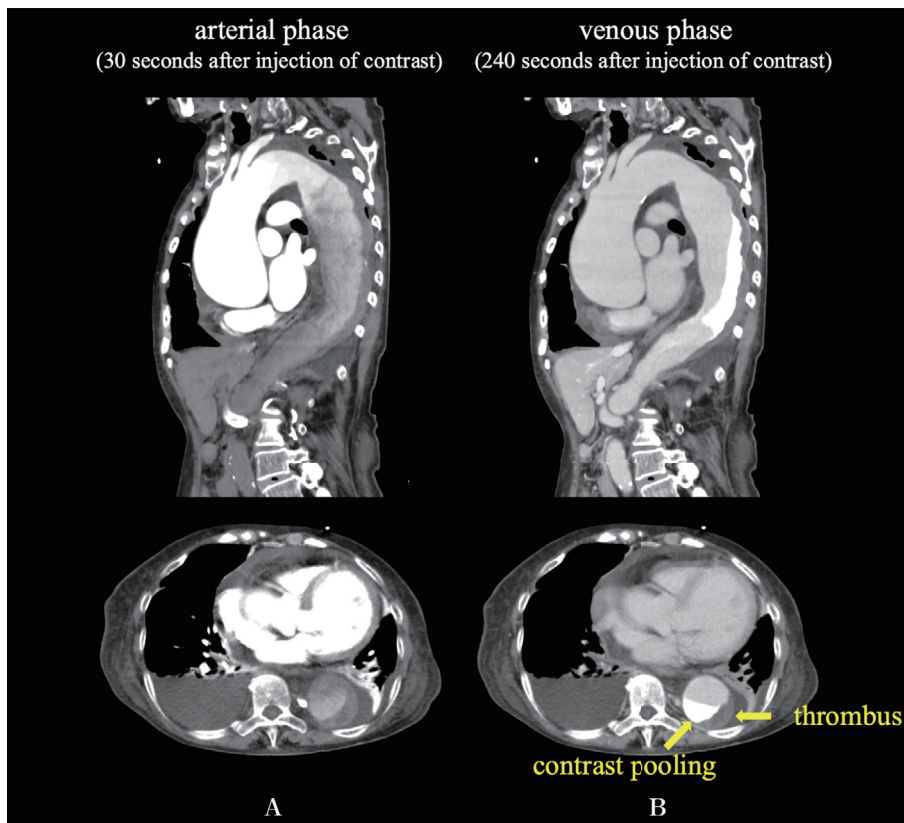
## Contrast Pooling in the Descending Aorta

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**Key words:** contrast pooling, thoracic aortic aneurysm, mural thrombus

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**Picture.**

An 88-year-old female who presented with dyspnea was diagnosed with acute decompensated heart failure. Transthoracic echocardiography revealed severe aortic regurgitation and left ventricular systolic dysfunction (ejection fraction 28%). Contrast-enhanced computed tomography showed thoracic aortic aneurysm without aortic dissection and a marked contrast delay in the descending aorta in arterial phase (Picture A). As shown in Picture B arrows, contrast pooling was observed on mural thrombus located on the dorsal side of the descending aorta in venous phase, which indicates an interesting three-layer structure. It is speculated that the con-

trast delay and pooling were caused by significant hypoperfusion due to severe aortic regurgitation, systolic dysfunction, aortic aneurysm and cardiac decompensation. Moreover, her severe hunchback and supine position may be primary factors for the stagnation of the contrast medium on the dorsal side. Although there have been several reports of contrast pooling in veins (1), few in arteries.

**The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).**

**Reference**

1. Chris R, Michael S, Naama B, et al. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* **186**: 1116-1169, 2006.

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