

[ PICTURES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE ]

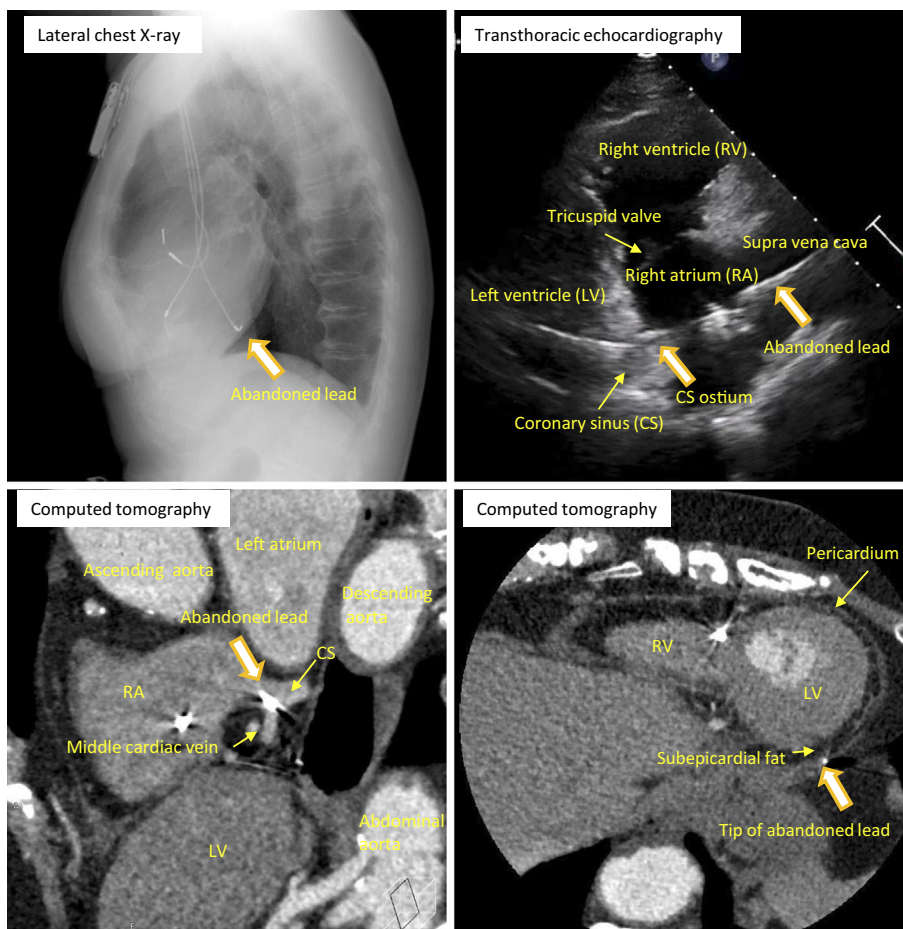
## Asymptomatic Long-term Cardiac Perforation by a Pacemaker Lead

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**Key words:** complication, pacer, coronary sinus musculature

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**Picture.**

A 92-year-old woman underwent DDD pacemaker implantation at 66 years of age, and a ventricular lead was added because of an increase in the ventricular lead pacing threshold 10 years later (2 V/0.5 ms at implantation and 3.9 V/0.4 ms after 10 years). Lateral chest X-ray revealed the

abnormal position of an abandoned lead. Transthoracic echocardiography and computed tomography showed that the lead pierced the coronary sinus (CS) ostium, with its tip located in the subepicardial fat around the left ventricle (Picture). Cardiac perforation by pacemaker leads is usually de-

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tected on the appearance of symptoms and requires surgical repair (1); however, in the only similar previous case we found, the patient reported no symptoms even after atrial perforation (2). Notably, the common denominator in the present and previous cases was a CS ostium covered by CS musculature at the lead's perforated site. In cases of pacemaker lead perforation at this location, issues might be masked for an extended period of time.

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

## References

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