

# Surgical correction of a saccular descending aortic aneurysm

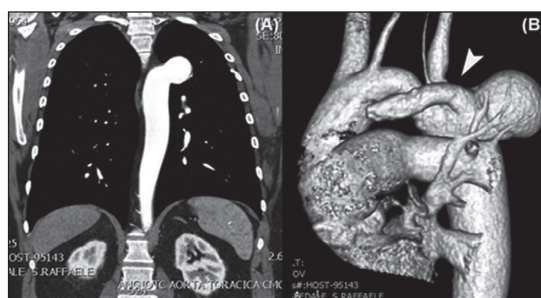
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A 46 year-old-man, treated in childhood for aortic coarctation and hypoplasia of the aortic arch with a prosthetic graft from the ascending to the descending aorta, presented with a saccular aneurysm at the thoracic aorta. The aneurysm involved the distal anastomosis of the previously constructed prosthetic graft (*Figure 1*).

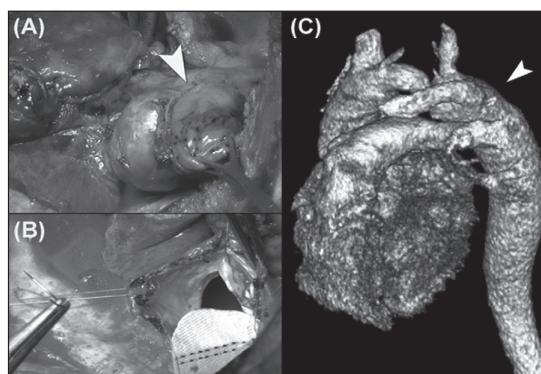
Because of the presence of widespread and lasting adhesions, the operation has been carried out in two days in a staged fashion: on day 1 reopening of the chest at the previous thoracotomy, lysis of the adhesions and exposure of the aneurysm; on day 2 resection of the part of the lung adherent to the aneurysm (*Figure 2A*) by surgical stapler (arrow), thus avoiding damage to the aneurysm during dissection; exclusion of the aneurysm with a Dacron® patch (*Figure 2B*) during a short period of circulatory arrest in deep hypothermia.

One-month CT confirmed excellent surgery result (*Figure 2C*).



**Figure 1**

Tomographic image of the 6x4cm aortic aneurysm (A) and the 3D reconstruction (B) displaying the aneurysm and the graft between ascending and descending aorta (arrow).



**Figure 2**

Intraoperative view (A) and (B). (C) tomographic 3D reconstruction of the aorta at 1 month after the surgical repair (arrow).

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