A rare case of an unruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm with multiple cardiac abnormalities

Xin Wei 6 1*†, Yan Zheng1†, and Jing Tan2

¹Department of Ultrasound, Deyang People's Hospital, No.173 Taishan North Road, Deyang 618000, China; and ²Department of Cardiology, Guizhou Provincial People's Hospital, No.83 Zhongshan East Road, Nanming District, Guiyang 550002, China

Received 29 July 2024; revised 3 September 2024; accepted 17 September 2024; online publish-ahead-of-print 20 September 2024

A 51-year-old female was admitted to the hospital for a cough 3 months ago. On admission, her vital signs were stable, and a continuous Grade III–IV murmur was detected at the second intercostal space along the left sternal border. The rest of the physical examination, along with chest radiography, electrocardiography, and laboratory tests, were all unremarkable. Echocardiography revealed a dilated aneurysm (28 mm × 24 mm) from the right coronary Sinus of Valsalva, causing right ventricular outflow tract (RVOT) and pulmonary valve (PV) obstruction.

with a peak gradient of 27 mm Hg (Figure 1A–C; Supplementary material online, Videos S1 and S2). Colour Doppler showed severe aortic regurgitation (AR) and a patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) with a continuous left-to-right shunt (Figure 1E–G; Supplementary material online, Videos S3 and S4). There was no evidence of aneurysmal rupture or fistulous communication with adjacent cardiac chambers. Cardiac computed tomography angiography (CTA) further confirmed the unruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm (SVA), along with the associated

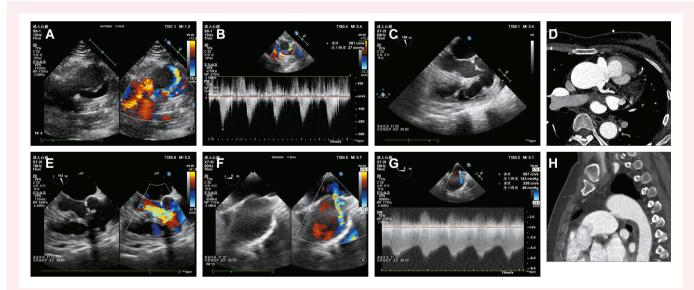


Figure 1 Transthoracic echocardiography imaging of (A) an unruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm and (B) associated right ventricular outflow tract and pulmonary valve obstruction. (C) Transoesophageal echocardiography and (D) computed tomography angiography imaging of the unruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm. (E) Transesophageal echocardiography for severe aortic regurgitation. (F, G) Transesophageal electrocardiograph imaging of the patent ductus arteriosus and (H) its corresponding computed tomography angiography image.

Handling Editor: Massimo Mapelli

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/), which permits non-commercial re-use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited. For commercial re-use, please contact reprints@oup.com for reprints and translation rights for reprints. All other permissions can be obtained through our RightsLink service via the Permissions link on the article page on our site—for further information please contact journals.permissions@oup.com.

^{*} Corresponding author. Tel: +86 15008324753, Email: xincaoxin@163.com

[†] These authors contributed equally to the study.

[©] The Author(s) 2024. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the European Society of Cardiology.

X. Wei et al.

RVOT and PV obstruction and the presence of a PDA (*Figure 1D* and *H*). The patient underwent SVA resection, pulmonary valvuloplasty, ductus arteriosus suture, and mechanical aortic valve replacement. Intraoperative findings confirmed the preoperative diagnoses. The patient demonstrated a favourable post-operative recovery.

This case is particularly notable for the incidental discovery of an unruptured SVA, most of which presented with minor symptoms and isolated RVOT obstruction. ^{1,2} The SVA in this patient was accompanied by significant cardiac anomalies. The diagnosis was facilitated by continuous murmur detection and multimodal imaging, emphasizing the critical role of comprehensive imaging in complex cases.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material is available at European Heart Journal — Case Reports online.

Consent: The authors confirm that written consent for submission and publication of this case has been obtained from the patient in line with the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Guidelines.

Conflict of interest: There is no conflict of interest to declare.

Funding: This research was supported by Deyang People's Hospital Incubation Project (grant number FHG202001) to X.W. and the Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine 'Xinglin Scholar' Program for Discipline Talent Research Enhancement - Hospital Specific Grant (grant number X|2023007002) to X.W.

Data availability

The data underlying this article will be shared on reasonable request to the corresponding author.

References

- Chung E, Baek JY, Chung HH, Park SI, Jang JH, Yu HA, et al. A case of unruptured aneurysm of the right sinus of valsalva with right ventricular outflow obstruction. Korean Circ J 2014:44:774–777
- Le DD, Orrego CM, Maragiannis D, Chang SM. An unusual case of right-sided heart failure caused by giant sinus of Valsalva aneurysm obstructing right ventricular outflow tract. Eur Heart J 2014;35:2721.