

## IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

# Left Ventricular Cyst in a Young Female. What Could be the Cause?

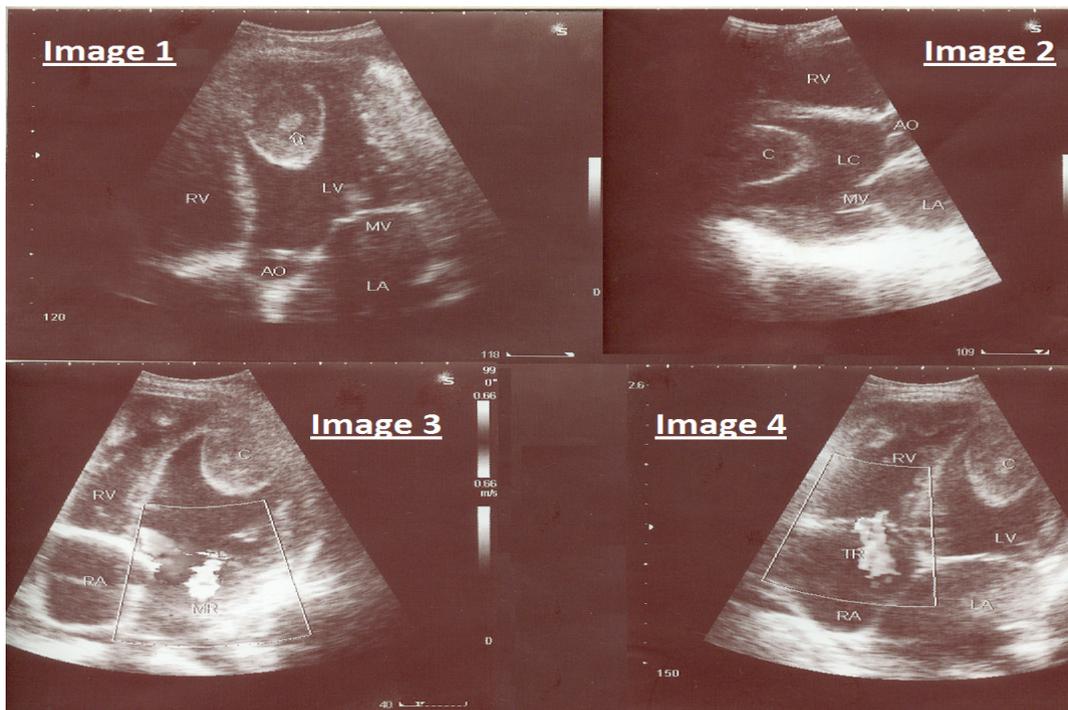
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A 20 years female was evaluated for atypical chest pain. Clinical examination, electrocardiogram and skiagram of chest were normal. Echocardiography revealed a cystic lesion in LV apex (Fig 1 – image 1 & 2). The cyst had intracavity echoes (arrow). Underlying myocardium was normal. There was mild mitral and tricuspid regurgitation (Fig. 1- image 3 & 4). There was no other lesion. Skiagram of chest and sonography of

abdomen were normal. Total eosinophil count was 1050/cu mm. Casoni skin test was negative. Patient could not afford further evaluation. She was empirically advised albendazole. She did not come for follow up.

### Discussion

Cystic lesions of heart are rare. Hydatid cyst is the



**Fig. 1. Image 1.** Apical four chamber view showing cystic lesion in apex of left ventricle. Arrow shows intracystic echoes. AO- Aorta, RV- right ventricle, LA- left atrium, LV- left ventricle, MV- mitral valve. **Image 2.** Parasternal long axis view showing cyst (C) in left ventricular apex. AO- Aorta, LA- left atrium, LC- left ventricular cavity, MV- Mitral Valve, RV- Right ventricle. **Image 3.** Color Doppler evaluation in apical four chamber view showing mild mitral regurgitation (MR). C- Cyst, RA- Right atrium, RV- Right ventricle. **Image 4.** Color Doppler imaging in apical four chamber view showing mild tricuspid regurgitation (TR). C-cyst, LA- Left atrium, LV- Left ventricle, RA- Right atrium, RV- Right ventricle.

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commonest. Mostly it is associated with extracardiac lesions. Isolated cardiac involvement is extremely rare. Heterogeneous echogenicity with dense contents support possibility of hydatid cyst. Intracystic echogenic shadows could be due to scolices of echinococcus. Eosinophilia is a supportive findings. Positive Casoni test supports diagnosis but a negative test does not exclude the possibility.

Cardiac hemangioma can present as left ventricular cyst (1). Typically these are pedunculated, freely mobile and hyperechoic on echocardiography. Due to high vascularity, these tumors show rapid homogeneous enhancement during gadolinium infusion and a vascular blush on coronary angiography. Bronchogenic cysts are typically intramyocardial with irregular border (2). There is no contrast enhancement. Histologically the cavity is characteristically lined by ciliated respiratory epithelium. Rarely left ventricular apical thrombus can have a cystic appearance (3). Underlying myocardium shows akinesia or dyskinesia. Electrocardiogram shows evidence of myocardial necrosis. Proper anticoagulation for one month usually reduces the size of a thrombus. Left ventricular myxoma can also undergo cystic degeneration. Myxomas are pedunculated. Freely

mobile with irregular surface. Blood cysts are usually small and attached to endocardium (most often valvular endocardium). However, there are case reports of large left ventricular blood cyst (4).

Echocardiography has high sensitivity and specificity in identifying a cyst. However, definite etiological diagnosis may be difficult in presence of atypical location, calcification and heterogeneous echogenicity due to dense contents. Cardiac CT is useful in such situations. In case of doubt, cardiac MRI provides conclusive information (5).

### References

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