Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Pleuro-pericardiocentheses: an unusual procedure

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By echocardiography performed from the left posterior thoracic wall, we visualized a large posterior pericardial effusion and a left pleural effusion (Figs. 1 and 2). We inserted a catheter from the left posterior axillary line into the pleural (Fig. 1) and pericardial cavity (Fig. 2). A
A volume of 800 ml of serous-haemorrhagic fluid was drained from the pericardial and 400 ml from the pleural cavity after catheter withdrawal with consequent hemodynamic improvement.