Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Intracardiac foreign body: a sewing needle in right ventricle

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A 34-year-old woman was hospitalized with anterior chest pain. Plain radiography and computed tomography of the chest revealed a sewing needle in the right cardiac chamber (Fig. 1). She had no history of surgery, drug abuse or acupuncture. The needle (Fig. 2) was removed by cardiopulmonary bypass.

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Fig. 1. Angiographic film. A needle is located below the tip of the pig-tail catheter around tricuspid valve.

Fig. 2. Extracted sewing needle.