Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Myxoma of the anterior leaflet of the mitral valve presenting with stroke in a young male

Ali Khoyneshad*, L. Michael Graver

Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Long Island Jewish Medical Center, The Long Island Campus for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New Hyde Park, 270-05 76th Avenue, New York, NY, USA

Received 12 July 2004; accepted 2 August 2004; Available online 11 September 2004

Keywords: Myxoma; Mitral valve; Valve repair; Stroke; Complications; Surgery

A healthy 29-year-old male presented with hemiplegia. The evaluation for this stroke was inconclusive, until an echocardiogram revealed a structure on the mitral valve (Fig. 1). This mass was resected and the leaflet was repaired (Fig. 2). The postoperative course was uncomplicated and his neurologic deficits improved over the next few months.

Fig. 1. The transthoracic echocardiogram revealed a structure on the anterior leaflet of the mitral valve. This lesion was approximately one-half square centimeter.

Fig. 2. This picture depicts the anterior leaflet of mitral valve that was approached through the groove of Sonderegard. The appearance of the tumor as well as the pathological examination was consistent with valvular myxoma. The myxoma was resected with a partial thickness excision of the anterior leaflet of the mitral valve and the valve was repaired preserved using an autologous pericardial patch.