Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Ascending-to-descending aortic extra-anatomic graft

Cristina Carro a,*, Pascal Chabrot b, Lionel Camilleri a, Charles de Riberolles a

a CHU Clermont-Ferrand, Chirurgie Cardio-Vasculaire, Université Clermont1, Faculté de Médecine, F-63001 Clermont-Ferrand, France
b Imagerie Viscérale et Vasculaire B, Hôpital Gabriel Montpied, F 63003 Clermont-Ferrand, France

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A 71-year-old woman with isthmic aortic coarctation underwent aortic valve replacement and coronary bypass. Before aortic clamping, end-to-side anastomosis to descending aorta was performed. After cardiac surgery, the graft was directed posterior to the inferior vena cava and anastomosed to the ascending aorta by using a side-biting clamp (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1. Three-dimensional computed tomographic image (18-month postoperatively) showing isthmic aortic coarctation and ascending-to-descending aortic bypass performed using an 18 mm Dacron graft. The postoperative outcome was uneventful and the patient continues to do well 25 months postoperatively.