Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Systemic right ventricle supported by implantable axial-flow assist device

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In 30-year-old man with a history of Mustard correction of transposition of the great arteries (TGA), HeartMate II (Thoratec Corporation, Pleasanton, CA, USA) assist device was implanted into the failing systemic right ventricle. The shape and size of the device were designed for left ventricle insertion. This requires special attention to verify the correct position of the inflow cannula and pump (Figs. 1 and 2).

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Fig. 1. CT scan 3D reconstructions showing topical position of the assist device within the thorax.

Fig. 2. Detailed CT images focused on the position of the inflow cannula in the right “systemic” ventricle. Verified correct direction of the cannula in the long axis (red arrow) of the ventricle towards tricuspid valve orifice (red ellipse).