Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Single-lead ischaemia?

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A 12-lead ECG was obtained from a 59-year-old man experiencing chest pain on his first postoperative day following a triple-vessel coronary artery bypass graft (CABG). Is this a single-lead ischaemia? (Fig. 1). The ST-segment elevation in V6 does not represent ischaemia. In fact, lead V6 was inadvertently connected to an epicardial pacing wire, recording a unipolar signal (Fig. 2).

Fig. 1. A 12-lead ECG of a 59-year-old man on first postoperative day following a triple-vessel CABG. ST-segment elevation is observed in lead V6 (black arrow).

Fig. 2. Panel A shows that all leads are properly connected. Panel B shows an epicardial dual-chamber pacing (note the pseudo-fusion in the ventricular lead).