Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Left anterior descending artery to pulmonary artery fistula: a rare cause of cardiac arrest

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A 61-year old female presented with cardiac arrest. The diagnostic process following successful cardiopulmonary resuscitation was consistent with a left anterior descending artery to pulmonary artery fistula (Figs. 1 and 2). The patient underwent surgical ligation of the fistula, under cardiopulmonary bypass without complications.

Fig. 1. Coronary angiogram showing fistulous vessel (arrow) from the left anterior descending artery draining into the pulmonary artery.

Fig. 2. Multi-detector computed tomographic scan with three-dimensional reconstruction showing the abnormal communication (LCPAF: left coronary-to-pulmonary artery fistula).