A huge aortic arch aneurysm in a non-Marfan elderly patient

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An 83-year-old woman was admitted with dyspnoea and dysphagia. Chest radiography and computed tomography showed an extremely large aortic arch aneurysm (Figs 1 and 2A and B). She had no family history of connective tissue diseases nor any signs of Marfan syndrome. Graft replacement was successful (Fig. 2C).

Figure 1: Chest X-ray showing conspicuous widening of the mediastinum (A) and computed tomography showing a huge aortic arch aneurysm measuring 12.4 × 11.5 × 10.0 cm in diameter (B and C).

Figure 2: (A) A preoperative volume-rendered image of the aorta and (B) a mural thrombus rendered as transparent light blue. Total arch replacement was performed with central cannulation and antegrade selective cerebral perfusion (C). The patient’s symptoms improved after the operation and her recovery was uneventful.