Poster

Giant Ascending Aortic Aneurysm in a Young Patient: Case Report

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An aortic aneurysm is defined as an irreversible dilation exceeding 50% of the expected normal aortic diameter. Ascending aortic aneurysms are usually asymptomatic, with a silent course; however, complications such as rupture and dissection can be catastrophic. Aortic diseases carry high morbidity and mortality. We report the case of a 33-year-old Black male, normolipemic, with no known cardiovascular risk factors or personal medical history, and a family history of maternal death from unknown cardiovascular disease. He presented to the emergency department with insidious-onset chest pain on the right hemithorax, stabbing in nature, moderate intensity, worsened by physical exertion, radiating to the epigastrium, accompanied by occasional palpitations and easy fatigue. Investigations included electrocardiogram showing sinus rhythm (HR 85 bpm), early repolarization pattern, and left ventricular hypertrophy. Transthoracic echocardiography revealed significant dilation of the left heart chambers, left ventricular ejection fraction of 34%, dilation of the aortic root (75 mm), sinotubular junction (72 mm), ascending aorta (80 mm), and moderate-to-severe aortic regurgitation secondary to the aneurysm. CT angiography confirmed an ascending aortic aneurysm measuring 85 mm. The diagnosis of ascending aortic aneurysm with moderate aortic regurgitation was made. The patient underwent a Bentall de Bono procedure. Postoperatively, he developed right-sided hemiparesis and dysarthria, diagnosed as an acute stroke. He received physiotherapy with slight improvement of motor deficit and currently follows up in cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery outpatient clinics. Ascending aortic aneurysm in young individuals is rare but potentially life-threatening, often associated with genetic disorders, connective tissue malformations, or inflammatory conditions. Early diagnosis is critical, as the disease can remain silent until catastrophic complications such as dissection or rupture occur.

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