European Journal of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery 45 (2014) 580–581
doi:10.1093/ejcts/ezt348 Advance Access publication 27 June 2013

Aorta-right atrial tunnel in an adult

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Received 16 April 2013; received in revised form 23 May 2013; accepted 28 May 2013

Keywords: Adult • Aorta/aortic • Atrium • CHD • Great vessel anomalies

Aorta-right atrial tunnel was diagnosed in a non-symptomatic 31-year old female patient. The Q_P/Q_S ratio was 2.5. Computed tomography and intraoperative views showed a posterior vascular tunnel with left aortic sinus and right atrium openings (Figs 1 and 2). The tunnel had no myocardial branches. We successfully closed both the openings.

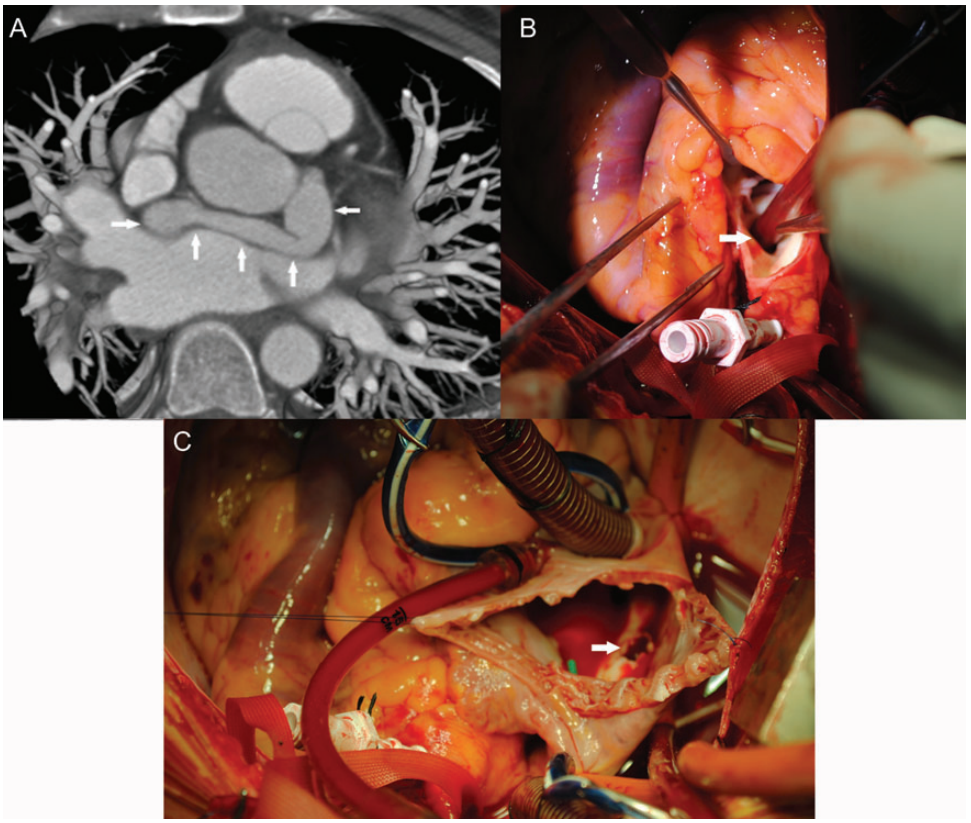


Figure 1: (**A**) A reconstructed computed tomographic view of the aorta-right atrial tunnel, which passed along the posterior aspect of the aorta (arrows indicate the tunnel). (**B**) The aortic origin of the aorta-right atrial tunnel (arrow indicates the origin of the tunnel where a surgical aspirator is situated). (**C**) The right atrial opening of the tunnel (arrow indicates the opening of the tunnel).

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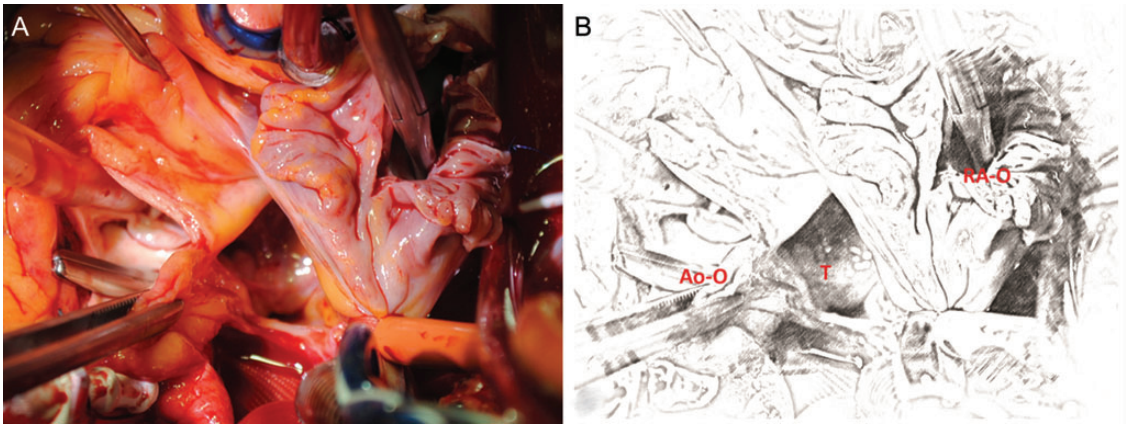


Figure 2: A surgical dissector passed through the aorta-right atrial tunnel (the vascular tunnel was 2 cm in diameter and 12 cm in length). (**A**) Intraoperative view and (**B**) schematic view. Ao-O: aortic origin of the tunnel; T: tunnel; RA-O: right atrial opening.

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