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Image Fusion Guided Device Closure of Left Ventricle to Right Atrium Shunt

Elena K. Grant, MBChB^{1,2}, Anthony Z. Faranesh, PhD^{1,2}, Russell R. Cross, MD¹, Laura J. Olivieri, MD¹, Karin S. Hamann, RNC¹, Kendall J. O'Brien, BA¹, Michael S. Hansen, PhD^{1,2}, Mary T. Donofrio, MD¹, Robert J. Lederman, MD^{1,2}, Kanishka Ratnayaka, MD^{1,2}, and Michael C. Slack, MD¹

¹Department of Cardiology, Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC

²Division of Intramural Research, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Branch, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

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A 16 year old with double outlet right ventricle, D-malposed great vessels and a subpulmonary ventricular septal defect (VSD) status-post surgical VSD patch closure and arterial switch procedure at two months of age, reported progressive exercise intolerance. He was found to have moderate right atrial enlargement, mild dilation of right and left ventricles and a persistent residual left ventricle to right atrium (LV-RA) intracardiac shunt on echocardiographic assessment, Figure 1a and Movie 1, (similar physiology to a Gerbode type defect). Cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) delineated the LV-RA shunt, Figure 1b and Movie 1, (steady-state free precession cine) with estimated Qp:Qs of 1.4:1 (velocity-encoded MRI). Cardiac MRI derived left ventricular end diastolic volume was 132 ml/m² (z-score = +3.6) with normal ejection fraction (EF) of 55% and right ventricular end diastolic volume was 136 ml/m² (z-score = +2.2) with EF of 45%.¹ Given his symptoms and progressive right heart dilation he was referred for percutaneous device closure.

Invasive hemodynamic assessment yielded Qp:Qs of 1.5:1 (Fick) and normal pulmonary vascular resistance. A three-dimensional map of the cardiac chambers and LV-RA shunt was manually extracted from the cardiac MRI using previously described techniques.² Live X-ray, Figure 1c and Movie 1, was fused with this three-dimensional MRI map (XFM) (MR fusion and overlay, Siemens, Forchheim, Germany) with automatic correction for gantry and table position to guide closure of the LV-RA shunt with an Amplatzer Congenital Muscular VSD Occluder (St. Jude Medical, Minneapolis, MN, USA). XFM roadmaps optimized gantry angle and simplified wire crossing of the defect without requiring additional

Correspondence: Elena K. Grant, MBChB, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, Building 10, Room 2c713, MSC 1538, Bethesda, MD 20982, Phone: 202-476-2020, Fax: 202-476-5700, elena.grant@nih.gov.

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iodinated contrast, Figure 1d–f and Movie 1. One month afterwards, the patient was asymptomatic with greatly improved exercise ability. A transthoracic echo was performed one year post-procedure with the following results: no residual shunt, normal right atrial size (2D dimension = 3.9 cm versus 5.3 cm pre-procedure), mildly dilated right and left ventricles (M-MODE RVDD 2.1 cm, LVIDd 5.4 cm, LVIDs 3.6 cm versus pre-procedure M-MODE RVDD 2.3 cm, LVIDd 5.0 cm, LVIDs 3.1 cm) with normal biventricular systolic function.

XFM simplifies complex interventions by providing three-dimensional procedural guidance in the familiar X-ray working environment.^{2,3} It may also reduce radiation and contrast exposure.⁴

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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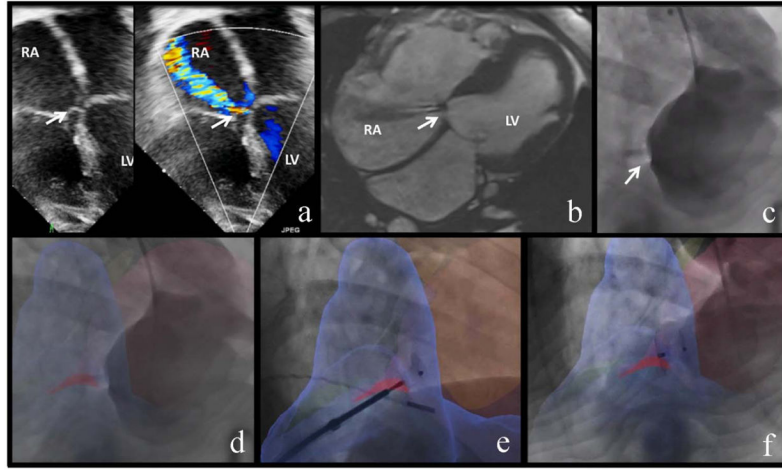


Figure 1.

Image Fusion Guided Device Closure of Left Ventricle to Right Atrium Shunt. **A.** Pre-intervention trans-thoracic echocardiogram, 4-chamber view in color compare mode showing left ventricle to right atrium (LV-RA) shunt (white arrow). **B.** Pre-intervention steady-state free precession cardiac MRI (Siemens 1.5 Tesla) with noncontrast angiographic sequences, assisted by respiratory compensation and EKG-based cardiac gating. The magnetic resonance image shows right heart enlargement and LV-RA shunt (white arrow). The defect diameter is 3 mm and velocity-encoded MRI Qp:Qs is 1.4:1. **C.** The baseline conventional left ventriculogram shows the LV-RA shunt (white arrow). **D.** XFM [x-ray fused with MRI] overlay baseline left ventriculogram (blue = right ventricle, light pink = left ventricle, dark pink = LV-RA shunt) highlights the intracardiac shunt. **E.** Following XFM guided wire crossing of the LV-RA defect, this panel shows XFM guided defect closure with a muscular VSD occluder. The device is deployed in the defect and still attached to the delivery cable. **F.** The post-intervention left ventriculogram with XFM overlay shows successful device closure of the LV-RA defect.