

Figure 2 Perioperative transoesophageal echocardiogram of the tortuous coronary fistula. Colour flow Doppler demonstrates the presence of residual flow in the fistula despite initial distal surgical ligation.

because, although they are often asymptomatic, such fistulas may lead to significant late complications.<sup>2,3</sup> Initial surgical ligation of

coronary fistulas is preferentially performed at their distal, low pressure end because this reduces the risk of compromising flow in the feeding artery. However, coronary fistulas often terminate in more than one distal connection and successful distal ligation can prove difficult. This case supports the value of TOE for the perioperative evaluation of coronary fistulas<sup>4-6</sup> and illustrates how this technique may be used to identify cases that require proximal ligation.

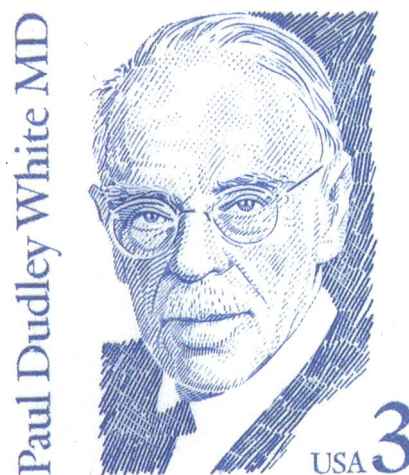
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## STAMPS IN CARDIOLOGY

### Paul Dudley White (1886-1973)

This 3 cent American stamp was issued on 15 September 1986 at a ceremony held during, and as part of, the Tenth World Congress of Cardiology held in Washington DC. It forms part of the Great Americans series.

Paul Dudley White was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, and graduated from Harvard Medical School. He went to London in 1913 to study the new science of electrocardiography under Dr (later Sir) Thomas Lewis, and was then appointed to the staff of the Massachusetts General Hospital where he founded the Heart Clinic. His 931 page *Heart Disease* written in 1931 became a classic textbook. He was founder member in 1922 of the American Heart Association and became its president in 1942. Together with colleagues from abroad he founded the International Society of Cardiology and the World Congresses of Cardiology. He was tireless in promoting the cause of international cooperation in cardiology and travelled the world to promote this aim, especially to China and the Soviet Union. In 1955 he became more widely known to the public when he was the chief consultant to President Dwight D Eisenhower who had a myocardial infarction. White had a life-long interest in the prevention of heart disease, especially coronary heart disease, and was a strong advocate of measures such as



diet, weight control, and exercise. A well-known photograph showed him and his wife riding their bicycles. His pioneer work in electrocardiography included the first published description of the features of pulmonary embolism, and he is remembered as co-author of the early definitive paper on the Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome.

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