

er as more stringent criteria are employed. Specificity is quite high with the strictest criteria (0.96) but declines to 0.76 when criteria are made less stringent to gain improved sensitivity.

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## Images in Cardiology: Interventricular Septal Dissection

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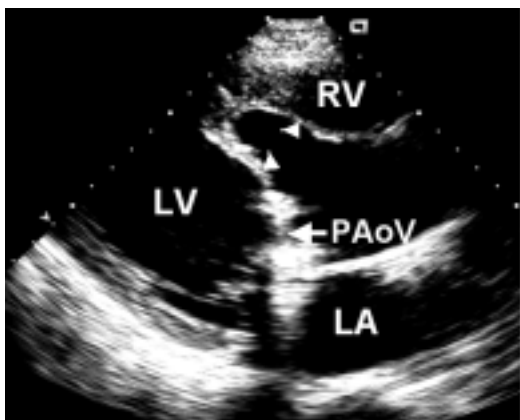


FIG. 1 Parasternal long-axis view during systole showing the dissected interventricular septum (arrowheads) and prosthetic aortic valve (PAoV, arrow). RV = right ventricle, LV = left ventricle, LA = left atrium.

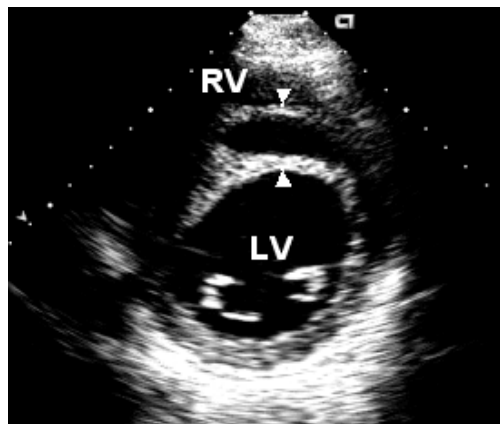


FIG. 2 Parasternal short-axis view during systole showing LV cavity with a dissected interventricular septum (arrowheads).

Dissection of the interventricular septal wall is a very rare condition, usually associated with sinus of Valsalva aneurysm.<sup>1</sup> A 45-year-old man, who had had aortic valve replacement surgery for severe aortic regurgitation two years prior to admission presented with increasing dyspnea (NYHA class II). Cardiac echocardiography showed an interventricular septal dissection from the prosthetic aortic valve to the papillary muscle level of the left ventricle. The patient had Behcet's disease, which only became apparent during the present admis-

sion. Homograft aortic valve replacement surgery was performed and an autopericardial patch was applied to the torn septum.

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