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## Ruptured Sinus of Valsalva with Bicuspid Aortic Valve

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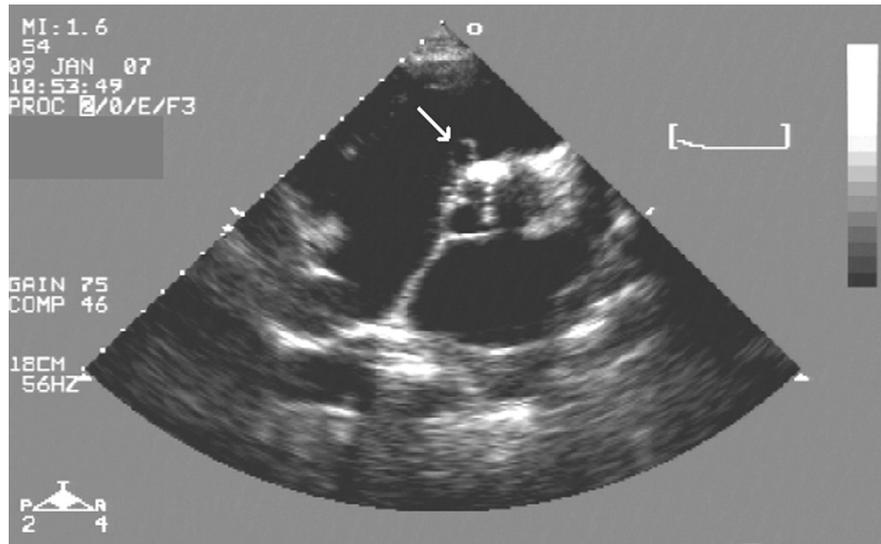


Figure 1. Parasternal short-axis view showing the “windsock” of a ruptured sinus of Valsalva (arrow) with a bicuspid aortic valve (closed). Note the calcification of the anterior portion of the valve.

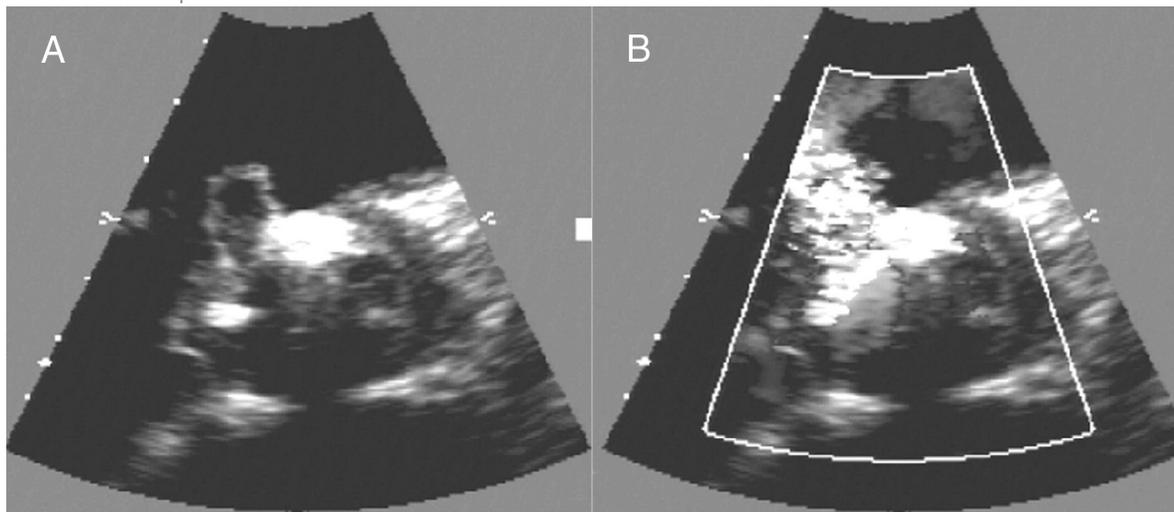


Figure 2. Close-up of the ruptured sinus of Valsalva (A), with colour Doppler confirming the rupture (B).

A 35-year-old farmer presented to our hospital with a recent-onset history of dyspnea on exertion. On auscultation he had a grade 5 continuous murmur.

An echocardiogram showed a classical “windsock” of a ruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm to the right ventricle, in association with a bicuspid aortic valve (Figs. 1 and

2). Angiography confirmed the findings and the patient was taken up for surgical repair of the lesion, which was successful.

Ruptured sinus of Valsalva is an uncommon condition, with aneurysms of the sinuses of Valsalva accounting for about 1% of congenital abnormalities.<sup>1</sup> An association with bicuspid aortic valve is known.

#### Reference

1. Perloff JK: Congenital aneurysms of the sinuses of valsalva. In *Clinical Recognition of Congenital Heart Disease* (5th ed.), p 457. Philadelphia, PA: Saunders: 2003.