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Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Ascending aortic thrombus causing stroke

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A 49-year-old man was admitted to our hospital due to a hemiparesis. Transesophageal echocardiography and threedimensional computed tomography showed a mobile mass attached to the anterior wall of the ascending aorta (Fig. 1). At surgery a pedunculated thrombus, originating from a small atherosclerotic lesion, was found 1.5 cm superior to the left coronary sinus (Fig. 2).

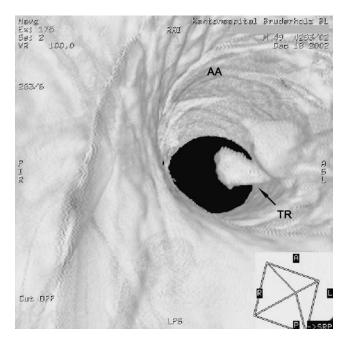
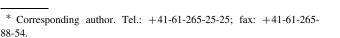


Fig. 1. Three-dimensional reconstructive computed tomography of the ascending aortic lumina. TR indicates thrombus; AA, anterior wall of the ascending aorta.



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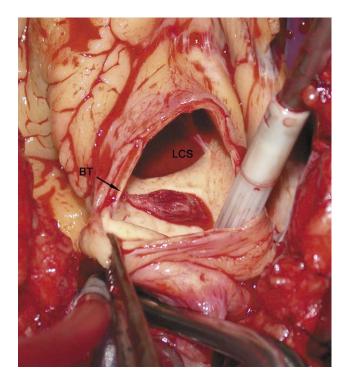


Fig. 2. Intraoperative view through the aortotomy from cranial to the aortic valve. BT indicates base of thrombus; LCS, left coronary sinus.