

Two Extinct Valves in One Patient Survived for 35 Years: A Case Report

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Abstract

Numerous reports stated the long durability of both caged-ball and tilting disc valves even years after surgery with or without a significant structural damage. We report a female patient with history of double valve replacement 35 years ago for rheumatic heart disease with a well-functioning both caged-ball valve aortic valve and tilting disc mitral valve prosthesis.

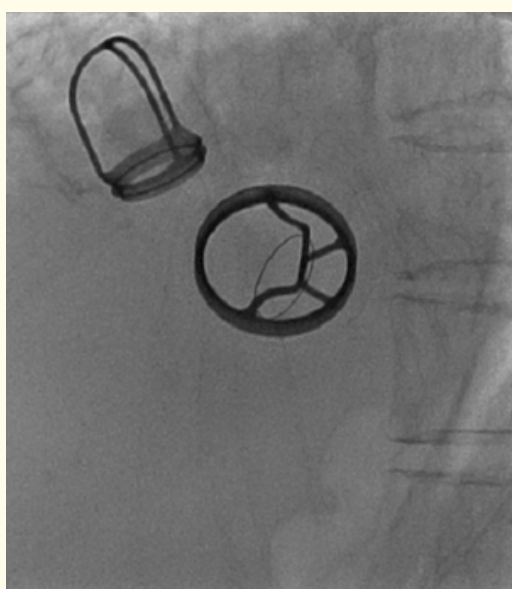
Keywords: Rheumatic Heart Disease; Caged-Ball Valve; Tilting Disc Valve

Introduction

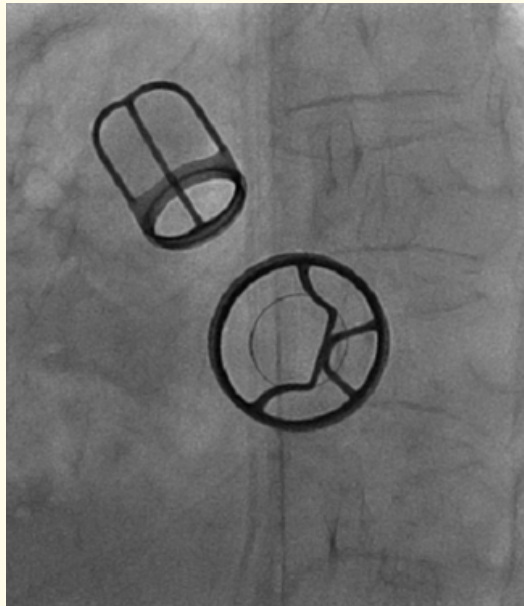
For patients with severe and symptomatic valvular heart disease, valve replacement surgeries improve morbidity and mortality outcomes [1]. Extended durability of mechanical heart valves has been documented for many years [2].

Case Report

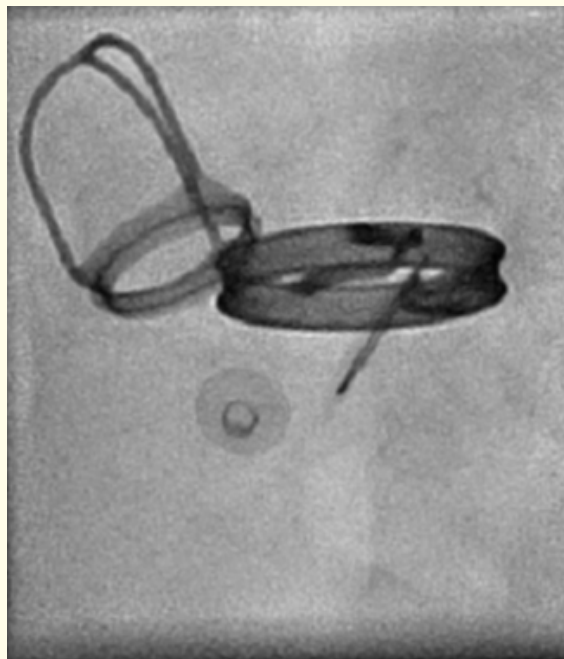
A-55-years old female patient with a history of double valve replacement 35 years ago for treatment of rheumatic heart disease. She wasn't compliant on medical treatment including anticoagulation with infrequent follow-up on the international normalized ratio (INR). She presented to our medical facility with atrial fibrillation with rapid ventricular response. She was admitted, rate control and anticoagulation were initiated. A transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) revealed a well-functioning stable tilting disc mitral valve prosthesis and a caged-ball aortic valve prosthesis with no stenosis, or regurgitation and no paravalvular leak and preserved left ventricular systolic function. Cine fluoroscopic images of the aortic valve showed normal ball movements toward the cage in diastole and closure in systole while cine fluoroscopic images of mitral valve revealed a normal motion of a tilting disc valve. The patient was discharged from the hospital after reaching target INR on proper rate control and warfarin.



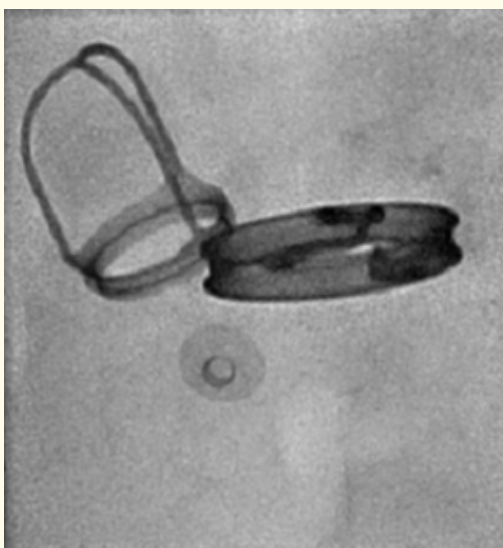
(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

Figure 1-4: Fluoroscopic views of well-functioning ball and cage prosthetic aortic valve and a tilting disc prosthetic mitral valve.

Discussion and Conclusion

Several case reports [3-5] reported the long durability of both caged-ball and tilting disc valves even years after surgery without any structural damage. Proper anticoagulation is mandatory to prevent valve thrombosis or hemorrhagic complications which are considered the main issue of prosthetic valves.

Disclosure

No conflict of interest.

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