

# Endovascular Repair of Left Ventricular Assist Device Outflow Tract Kink

Rohit Vyas, MD (PGY-2, UT Internal Medicine)

Mubbasher A. Syed, MD (PGY-5, UT Cardiology)

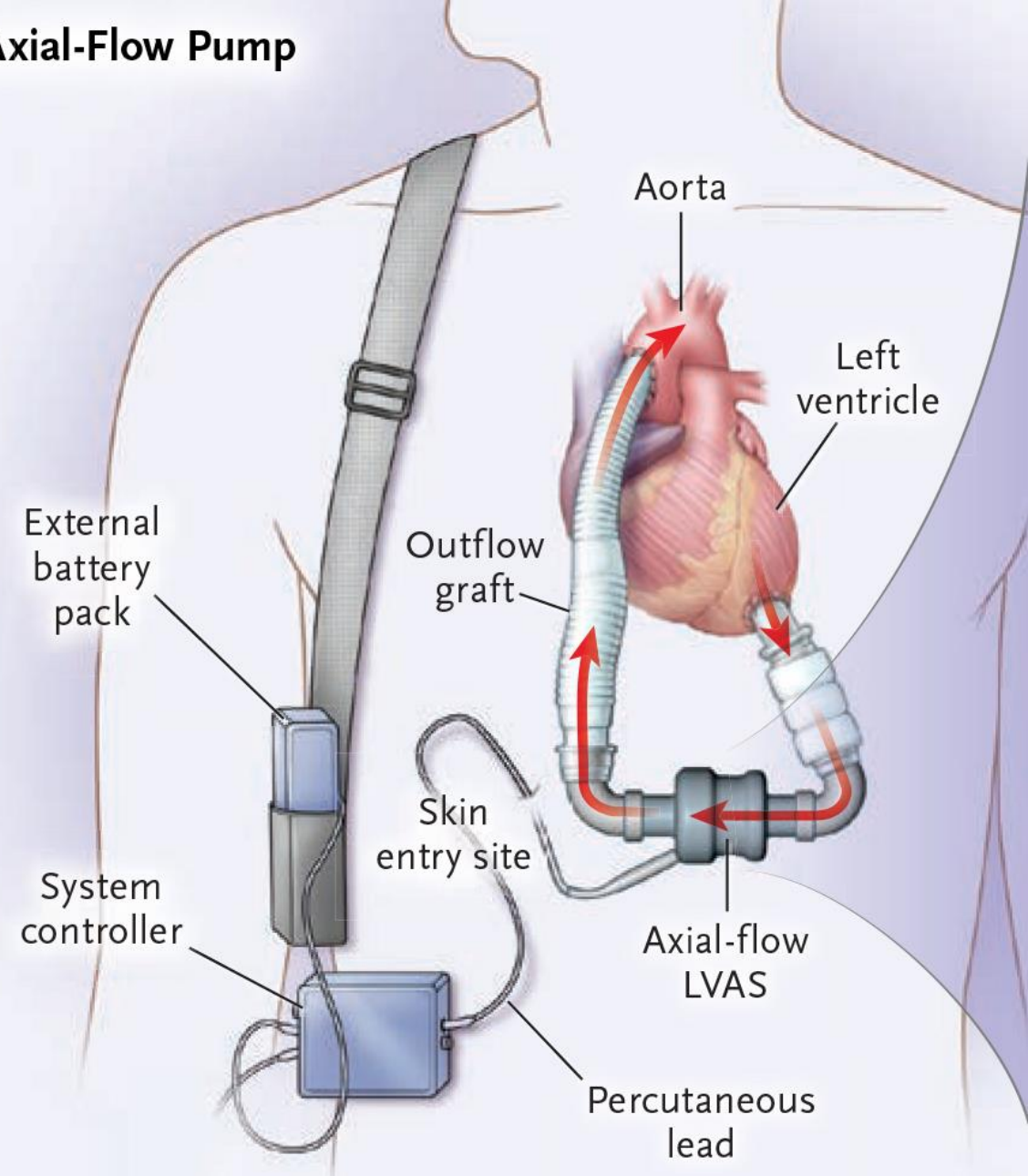
George Moukarbel, MD (Asst. Professor, UT Cardiology)  
University of Toledo Medical Center

# Disclosure Statement of Financial Interest

I, Rohit Vyas, DO NOT have a financial interest, arrangement, or affiliation with one or more organizations that could be perceived as a real or apparent conflict of interest in the context of the subject of this presentation.

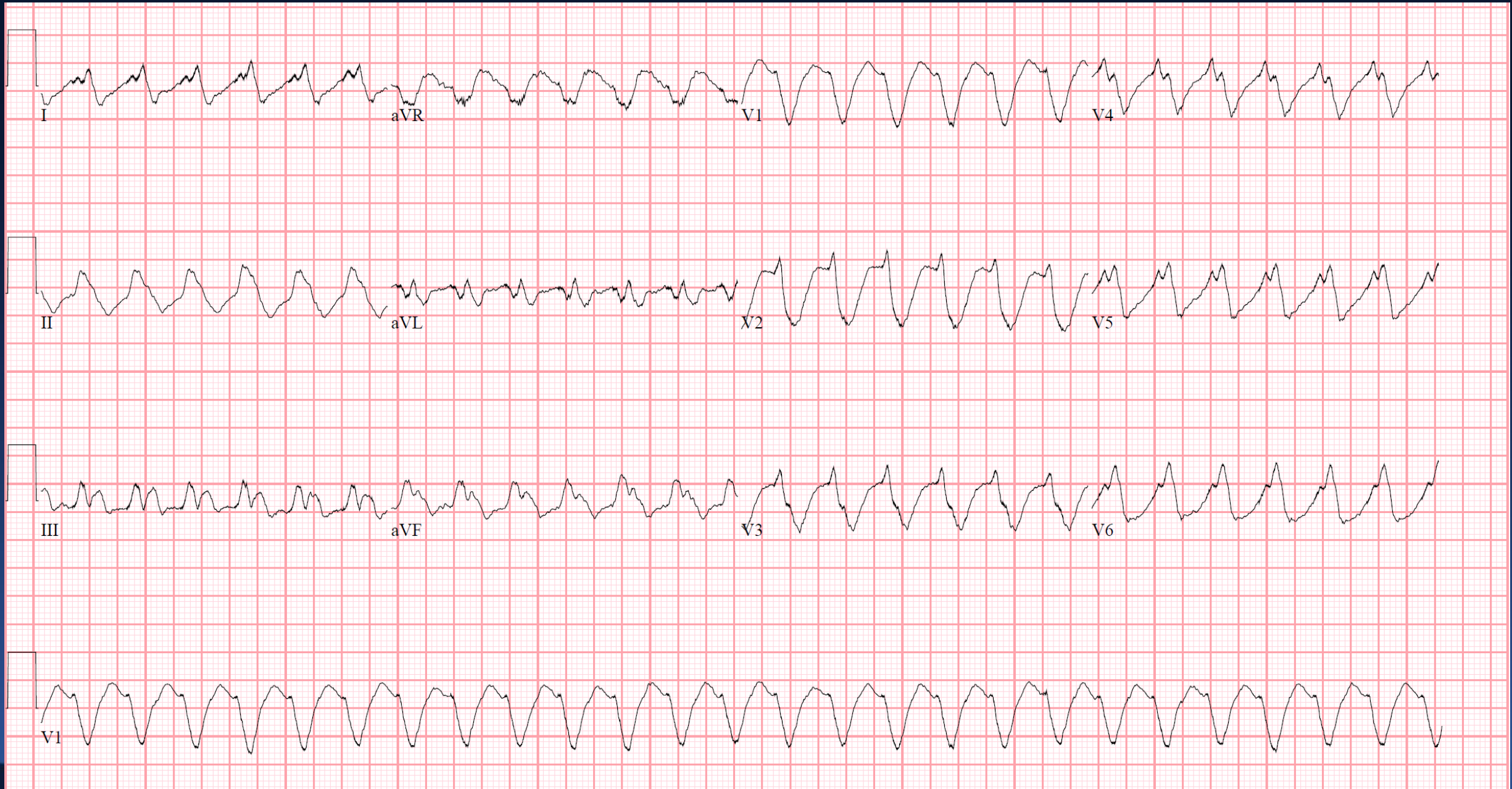
- LVADs continue to gain acceptance as **destination therapy**
- However they can be accompanied by a wide range of complications
  - Bleed events
  - Pump thrombosis
  - Infection
  - Mechanical complications can be classified as pre-, intra- **and post-pump**
- Of interest is the management of post-pump complications

## A Axial-Flow Pump



# Case history

- 65 year old male
- **HeartMate II** implantation in 2012
- Post-operatively developed aortic insufficiency, underwent surgical repair
- **Presented to ED having received multiple shocks via AICD, worsening HF symptoms**



# Case history (cont'd)

- Underwent TTE: EF 5-10%, right and left atrial enlargement
- Doppler flow through the inflow cannula 0.8 m/sec; flow through outflow cannula elevated at 2.6 m/sec
- Noted moderate aortic insufficiency



## Chest CTA

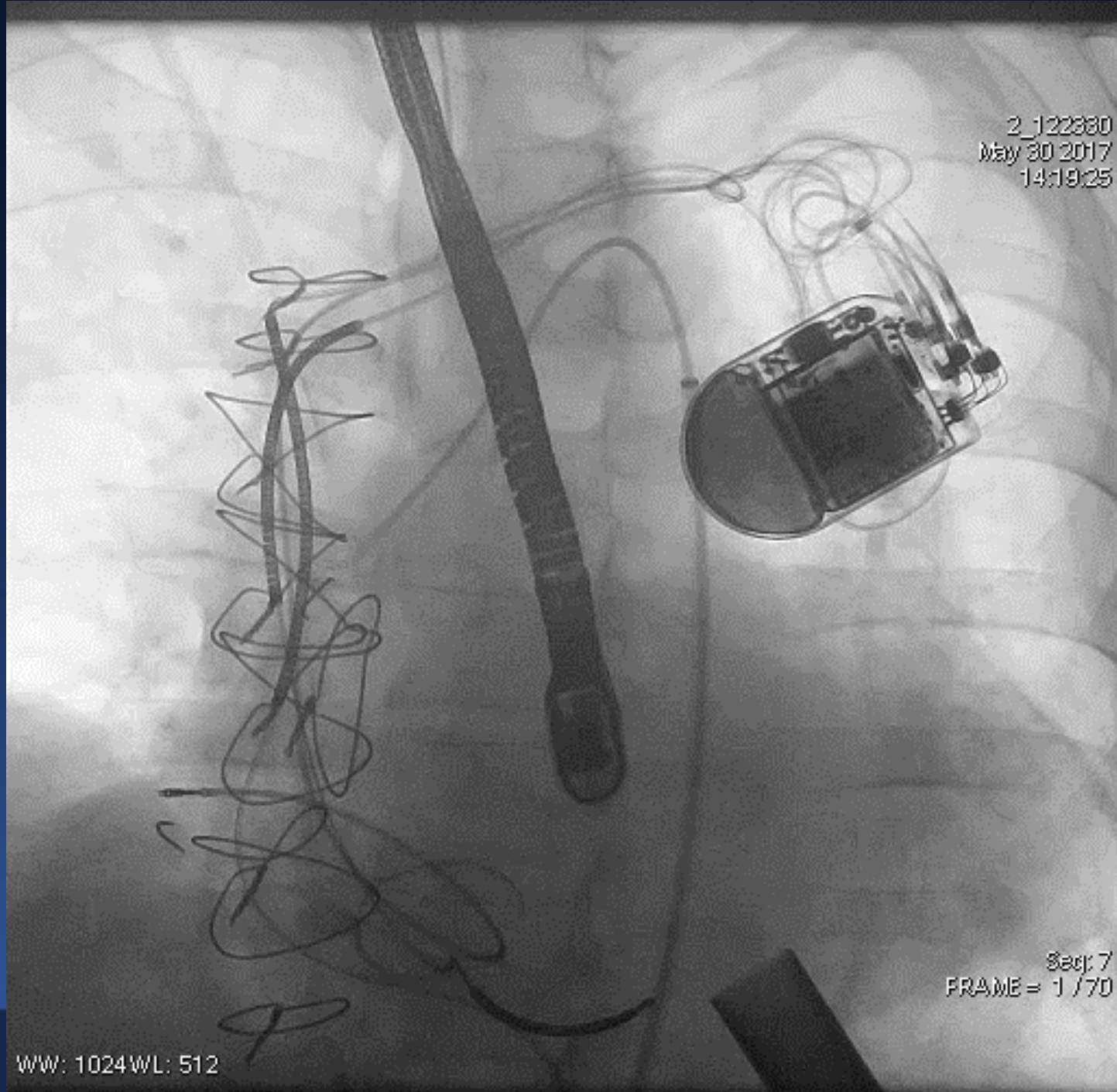
- Kink at **distal aspect** of LVAD outflow tract
- Noted smooth intimal hyperplasia at kink



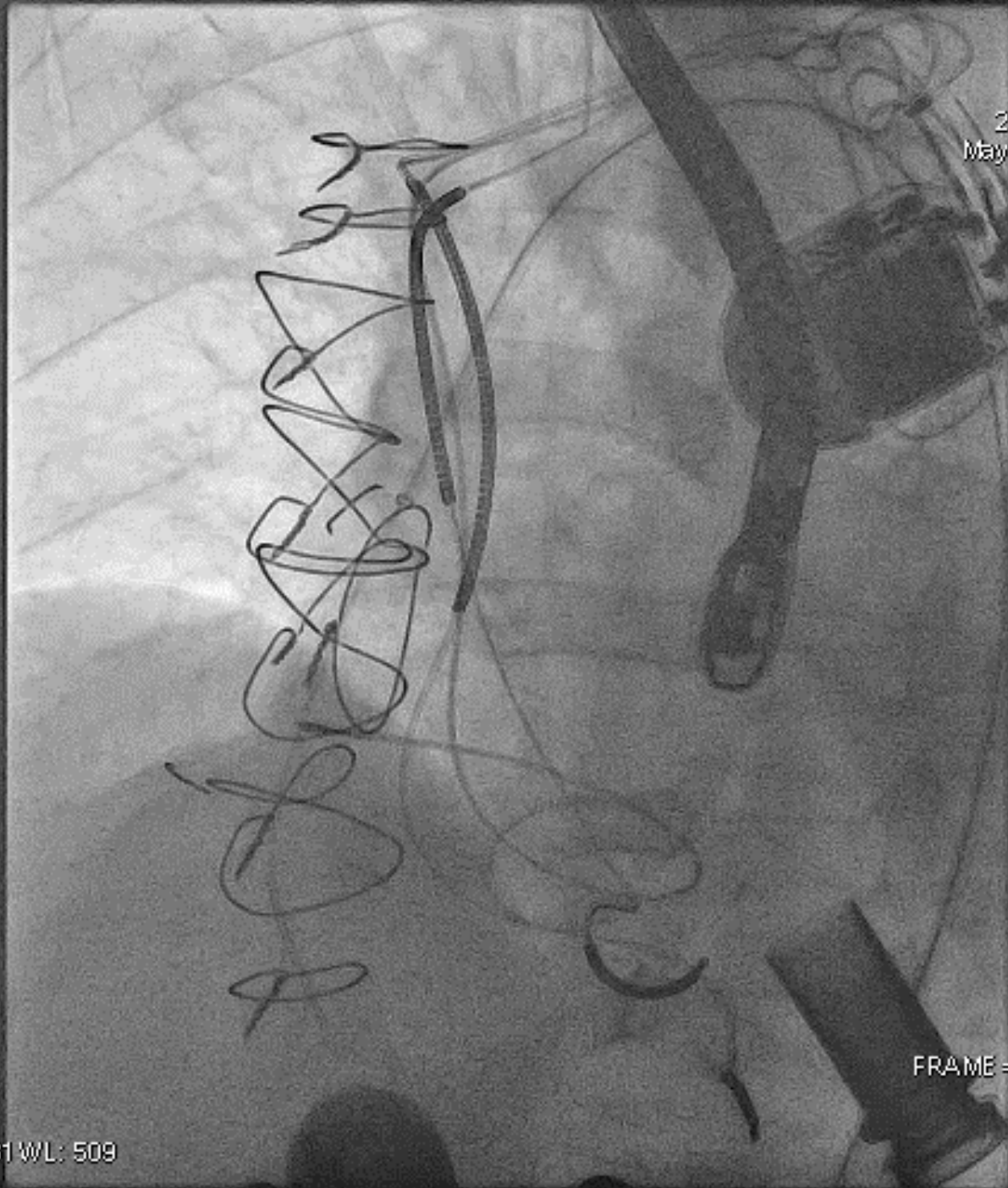
- Patient was a poor candidate for operative repair of outflow tract kink
- Underwent selective angiography of outflow tract via right femoral access



- Access to outflow tract



- Stent placement at kink site



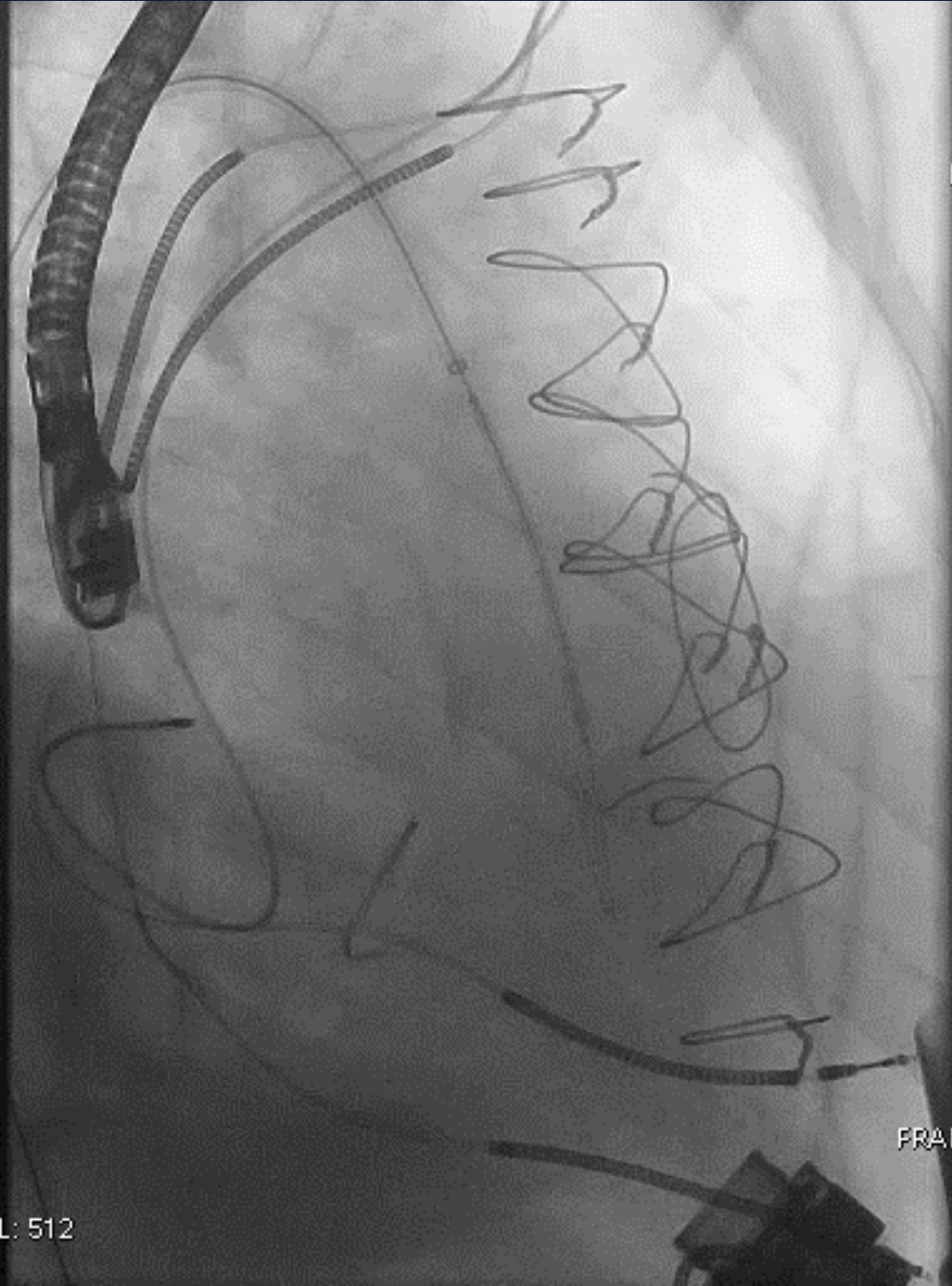
2\_122330  
May 30 2017  
14:36:47

Seq: 13  
FRAME = 1 / 150

WW: 731 WL: 509



- Stenting of the outflow graft
- Device deployed: iCAST Atrium 9 x 59 mm covered stent

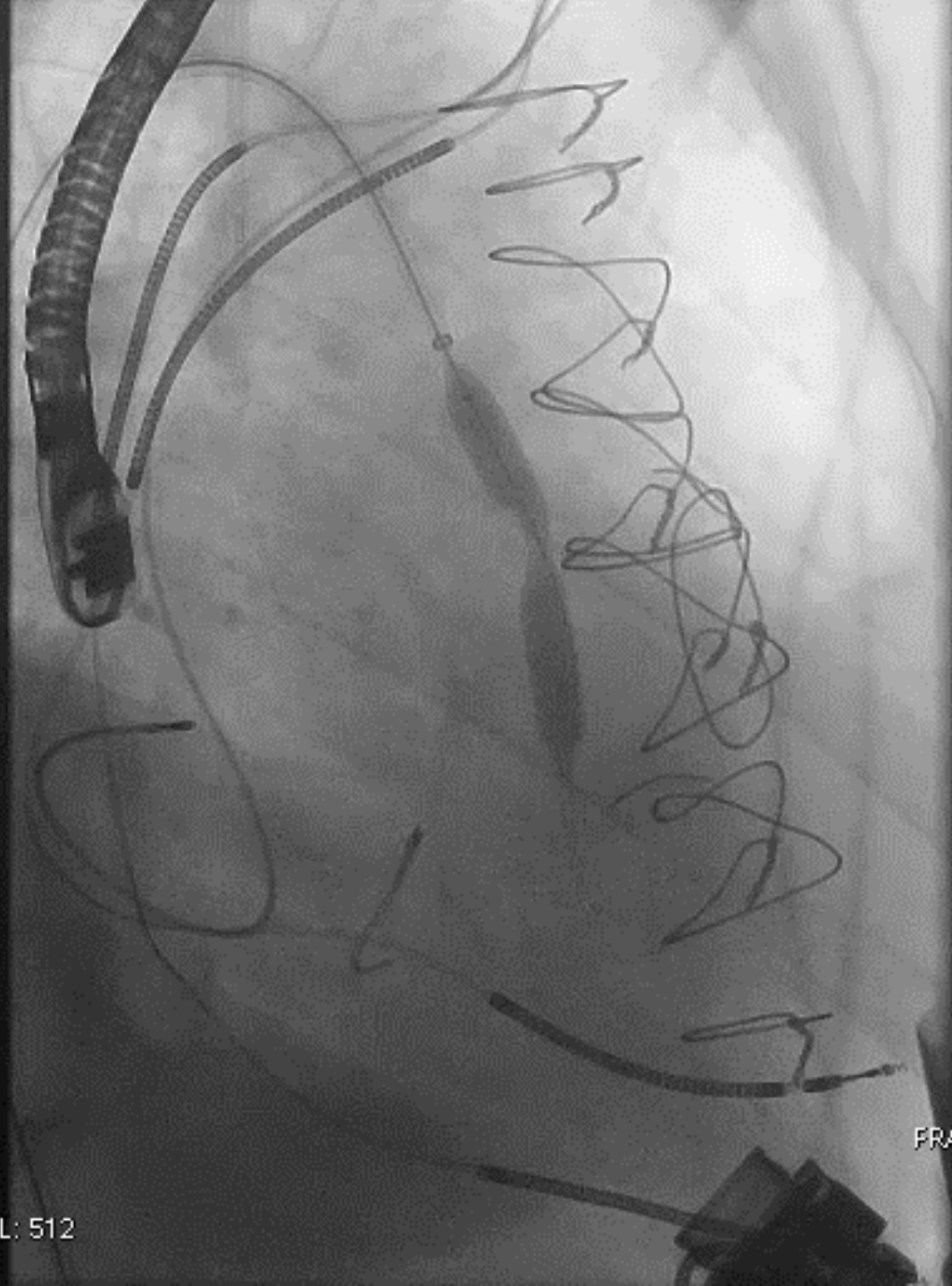


2\_122330  
May 30 2017  
14:55:45

Seq: 20  
FRAME = 1 / 120

WWW: 1024WL: 512

- Stent dilation



2\_122330  
May 30 2017  
14:55:56

Seq: 21  
FRAME = 1 / 92

WW: 1024 WL: 512

- Covered stent post-dilated to 12 atm

2\_122330  
May 30 2017  
15:06:16

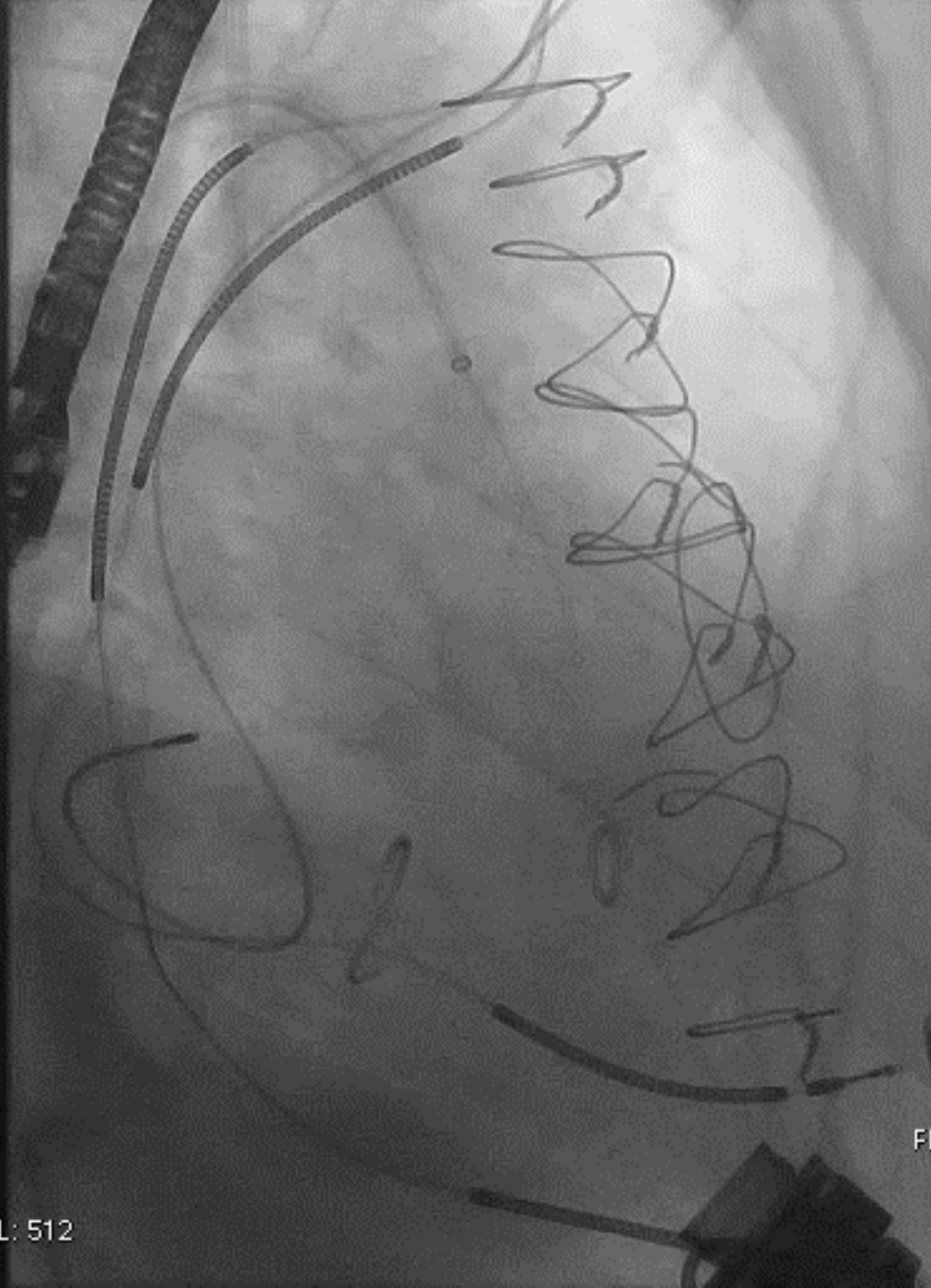
Seq: 26  
FRAME = 1 / 7

WW: 1024 WL: 512



- Follow up TTE:  
doppler flows  
through  
outflow  
cannula  
decreased to  
1.3 m/sec

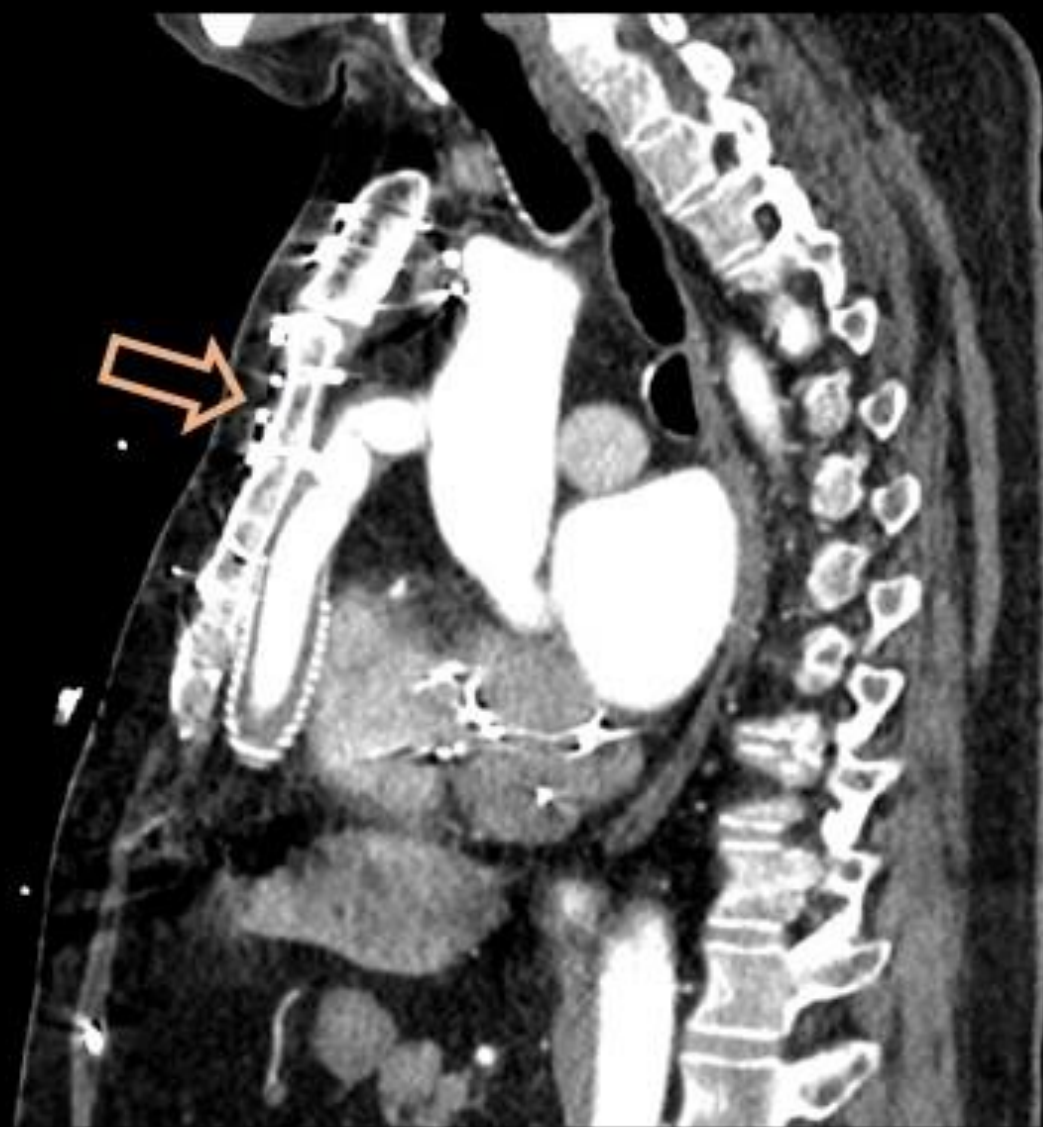
2\_122330  
May 30 2017  
15:14:55



Seq: 30  
FRAME = 1 / 59

WW: 1024 WL: 512





Pre-procedure | May 2017



Post-procedure | Jan 2018

- iCAST atrium covered stent:
  - Typically used for peripheral interventions
  - Also FDA approved for treatment of tracheobronchial strictures
- Discharged in stable condition on 6 months of DAPT



**Atrium iCAST™ balloon-mounted covered stent.**

Courtesy of Atrium.

- Our case highlights the importance of a thorough, imaging-based diagnostic approach in the evaluation of LVAD patients presenting with worsening HF symptoms
- This includes echocardiography, computed tomography and angiography

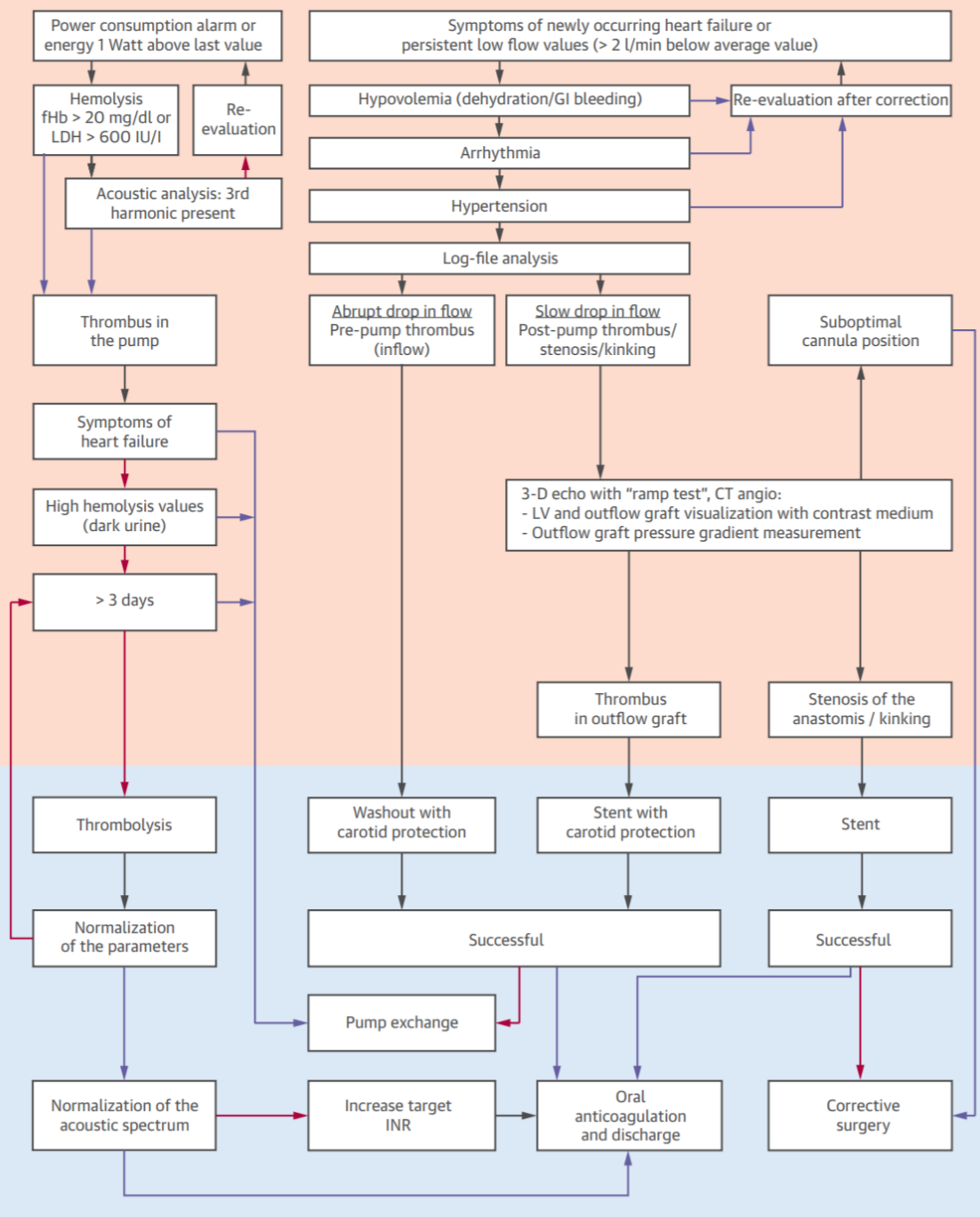
- Workup begins with analysis of hemolysis parameters (LDH, haptoglobin)
- TTE and TEE have been the traditional modalities used in assessment of LVADs in terms of structural and hemodynamic parameters
- Further verification of tract abnormalities/stenosis is warranted using CT
- Angiography can further confirm the diagnosis

- Increasing frequency LVADs are used for destination therapy in high-risk surgical patients
- Endovascular approach may be a safer alternative
- More long-term data will be needed to compare the safety and efficacy of surgical versus percutaneous approaches

Intervention	Study
Atrium iCAST stent	Retzer et al 2015
14mm x 4cm Opta-Pro balloon angioplasty balloon	Cheng et al 2014
9x59mm Atrium stent + second overlapping stent deployed and post-dilated	Abraham et al 2014
20 x 55 mm WallStent self-expanding stent + post-dilation w/a Z-Med balloon.	Sabbagh et al 2016
Thrombus dilation w/2 mm balloon Armada 14 XT; Abbot); Gore Excluder contralateral leg endoprosthesis 16 x 11.5 mm; subsequent 14x40 mm PTA balloon angioplasty	Hubbert et al 2017
10 x 37mm balloon expandable stent	Pham et al 2015
Off-label use of Gore-Excluder iliac limb stent graft	Ganapathi et al 2013
10 mm stent was placed into the stenotic segment	Gultkein et al 2017
Dilatation and stenting using a bare metal stent (Omnalink, 10 x 39 mm)	Pieri et al 2017
Balloon-expandable stent (36x12 mm Covident Intrastent LD stent)	Carr et al 2017
10 x 38 mm covered stent successfully deployed and post-dilated	Ahmad et al 2016
Aortic stent (Atrium, Advanta V12 12 x 61 mm covered stent)	Hanke et al 2017



- Treatment algorithm proposed by Scandroglio et al in 2016
- “Diagnosis and Treatment Algorithm for Blood Flow Obstructions in Patients with Left Ventricular Assist Device”



Legend: → yes → no → result/next (orange) detection of flow obstruction (blue) treatment

# References

1. Rose, E.A., et al., *Long-term use of a left ventricular assist device for end-stage heart failure*. N Engl J Med, 2001. 345(20): p. 1435-43.
2. Kalathiya, R.J., et al., *Percutaneous Transcatheter Therapies for the Management of Left Ventricular Assist Device Complications*. J Invasive Cardiol, 2017. 29(5): p. 151-162.
3. Scandroglio, A.M., et al., *Diagnosis and Treatment Algorithm for Blood Flow Obstructions in Patients With Left Ventricular Assist Device*. J Am Coll Cardiol, 2016. 67(23): p. 2758-2768.
4. Retzer, E.M., et al., *Successful percutaneous trans-catheter treatment of left ventricular assist device outflow graft stenosis with a covered stent*. ESC Heart Fail, 2015. 2(2): p. 100-102.
5. Cheng, R.K., J. Aboulhosn, and A. Nsair, *Percutaneous angioplasty of stenotic outflow graft anastomosis of HeartMate II*. JACC Cardiovasc Interv, 2014. 7(6): p. 700-3.
6. Abraham, J., et al., *Left ventricular assist device outflow cannula obstruction treated with percutaneous endovascular stenting*. Circ Heart Fail, 2015. 8(1): p. 229-30.
7. El Sabbagh, A., et al., *Percutaneous Stenting of a Left Ventricular Assist Device Outflow Kink*. JACC Cardiovasc Interv, 2016. 9(24): p. e229-e231.
8. Hubbert, L.F., C; Ahn, H, *Endovascular Stenting of a LVAD Outflow Graft Thrombosis*. American Society for Artificial Internal Organs, 2016. 63: p. e3-e5.
9. Pham, D.T., et al., *Stenting of an outflow graft obstruction after implantation of a continuous-flow, axial-flow left ventricular assist device*. J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg, 2015. 150(1): p. e11-2.
10. Ganapathi, A.A., ND; Hughes, GC, *Endovascular Stent Grafting of a Left Ventricular Assist Device Outflow Graft Pseudoaneurysm*. Circulation: Heart Failure 2017. 6: p. e16-e18.
11. Gultkein, B.H., A; Aslamaci, A, *Unusual Treatment of Unusual Complications: Stenting of Left Ventricular Assist Device Outflow Graft Stenosis*. Exp Clin Transplant, 2017.
12. Carr, S.M., D.F. Lubbe, and P.R. Huber, *Percutaneous transcatheter balloon dilatation and stenting to the inflow cannula stenosis of a left ventricular assist device*. Catheter Cardiovasc Interv, 2017. 89(7): p. 1219-1223.
13. Ahmad, F.S., A.J. Sauer, and M.J. Ricciardi, *Endovascular repair of ventricular assist device outflow cannula stenosis*. Catheter Cardiovasc Interv, 2016.
14. Hanke, J.S., et al., *Aortic Outflow Graft Stenting in Patient With Left Ventricular Assist Device Outflow Graft Thrombosis*. Artif Organs, 2016. 40(4): p. 414-6.