Medical Image of the Week: Infective Endocarditis in an IV Drug User

Figure 1. Transthoracic echocardiogram showing a large, irregular, mobile mass attached to the mitral valve annulus (arrows).

A 30 year old man presented with a one week history of fever, chills, body aches, and fatigue, as well as lower extremity and right wrist edema and pain. The patient also had a history of intravenous drug use. On exam, a previously undocumented 3/6 blowing crescendo murmur was heard at the fifth intercostal space in the midclavicular line. Transthoracic echocardiogram demonstrated a large, irregular, mobile mass, measuring 2.0 x 2.5 cm, attached to the posterior mitral annulus (Figure 1). Cardiothoracic surgery performed a primary repair of the mitral valve.

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