Accidental discovery of the left ventricular diverticulum

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Congenital diverticulum of the left ventricle is a very rare cardiac anomaly due to local embryological developmental failure. We present a case of a 22-year old male patient. He is a former athlete who as a part of preoperative examination for the planned right knee surgery made an ECG which showed signs of left ventricular hypertrophy. Two-dimensional transthoracic echocardiography revealed rare congenital heart disorder in the form of large left ventricular apical diverticulum. Diverticulum measured 5.2x2.4 cm and occupied left ventricular apex with an entrance width of 2.3 cm. Diverticulum exhibited good wall contractility with three layer structure, accentuated trabeculations as well as aberrant cords imitating third AV valve at the diverticular entry. Overall, diverticulum appeared much alike small third ventricle. The patient had normal coronary angiography findings, negative family history of sudden cardiac death and normal 24-hour Holter ECG — sinus rhythm without arrhythmias. Taking into account these points, mainly the absence of associated other cardiac abnormalities and since the patient was asymptomatic we decided to follow up the patient without surgical treatment.

KEYWORDS: left ventricular diverticulum, echocardiography, congenital heart disease.

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Figure 1. The four chamber view presenting left ventricle apical diverticulum.

Literature