Moderator Band Wrongly Interpreted as RV Mass

SR Mittal

Fig. 1: (a) Apical four chamber view showing moderator band (MB), (b) Sub costal four chamber view showing moderator band (MB), (c) Parasternal short axis view showing moderator band (MB)

Fig. 2: (a) Transgastric TEE imaging showing moderator band. Rest of the RV was clear, (b) Transesophageal short axis view further confirmed clear RV.

26 years old asymptomatic male was diagnosed to have a mass lesion in RV apex 2 days back. Clinical examination, ECG and skiagram chest were normal. Transthoracic echocardiography revealed a thick moderator band near RV apex (Figures 1a, b, c). Rest of the RV was normal. Transesophageal echocardiography confirmed a thick moderator band (Figures 2a, b) of the RV. Rest of RV cavity was clear. Moderator band is a normal structure and identifies a morphological RV. If not properly evaluated it may be confused with a mass near RV apex. As opposed to a mass lesion or thrombus moderator band is connected between RV lateral wall and apical part of IVS. It is not mobile. There is no underlying cardiac abnormality. Patients are asymptomatic without any symptoms or signs of intracardiac tumor. Multiple views including TEE can reasonably exclude a mass lesion.

References


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Received: 02.07.2010; Accepted: 20.07.2010