

A detailed 3D anatomical model of the human heart and aorta. The aorta is shown in a reddish-brown color, and a stent graft is visible, which is a mesh-like structure used to repair or replace a section of the aorta. The heart is shown in a reddish-pink color, and the surrounding vessels are shown in various colors, including blue and purple. The model is set against a dark background.

# Aorta : Emergency to Surgery

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No disclosures.

## **Thoracic Aortic Dissection and Aneurysms:**

How can we save lives...  
first it must be on our differential diagnosis....  
and if you see something say something.

## Thoracic Aortic Dissection

- Thoracic Aortic Dissection is **highly lethal** - mortality rates of 27% even under optimal conditions
- Initial treatment in ED can be sub-optimal - **delay** in diagnosis or definitive treatment as patients have to undergo testing and often transfer to another facility
- **Low incidence** of disease - 3.5/100,000 population but expected to increase with our aging population
- **Difficult to diagnose** - classic presentations are not as common as we would like
- The work-up most often does not find a dissection when it is suspected - only 2.7% of CT scans are positive

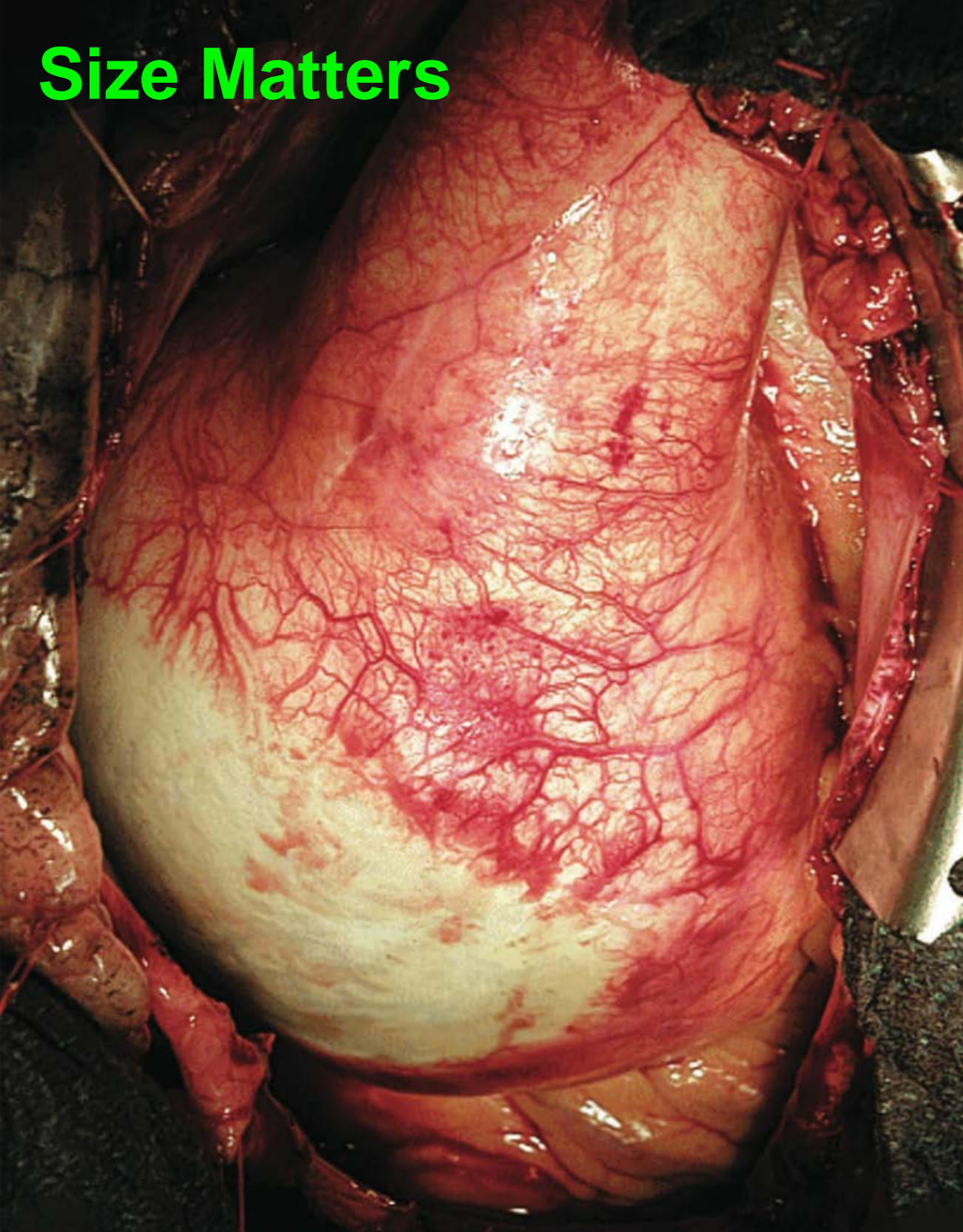
## **Thoracic Aortic Dissection - Natural History**

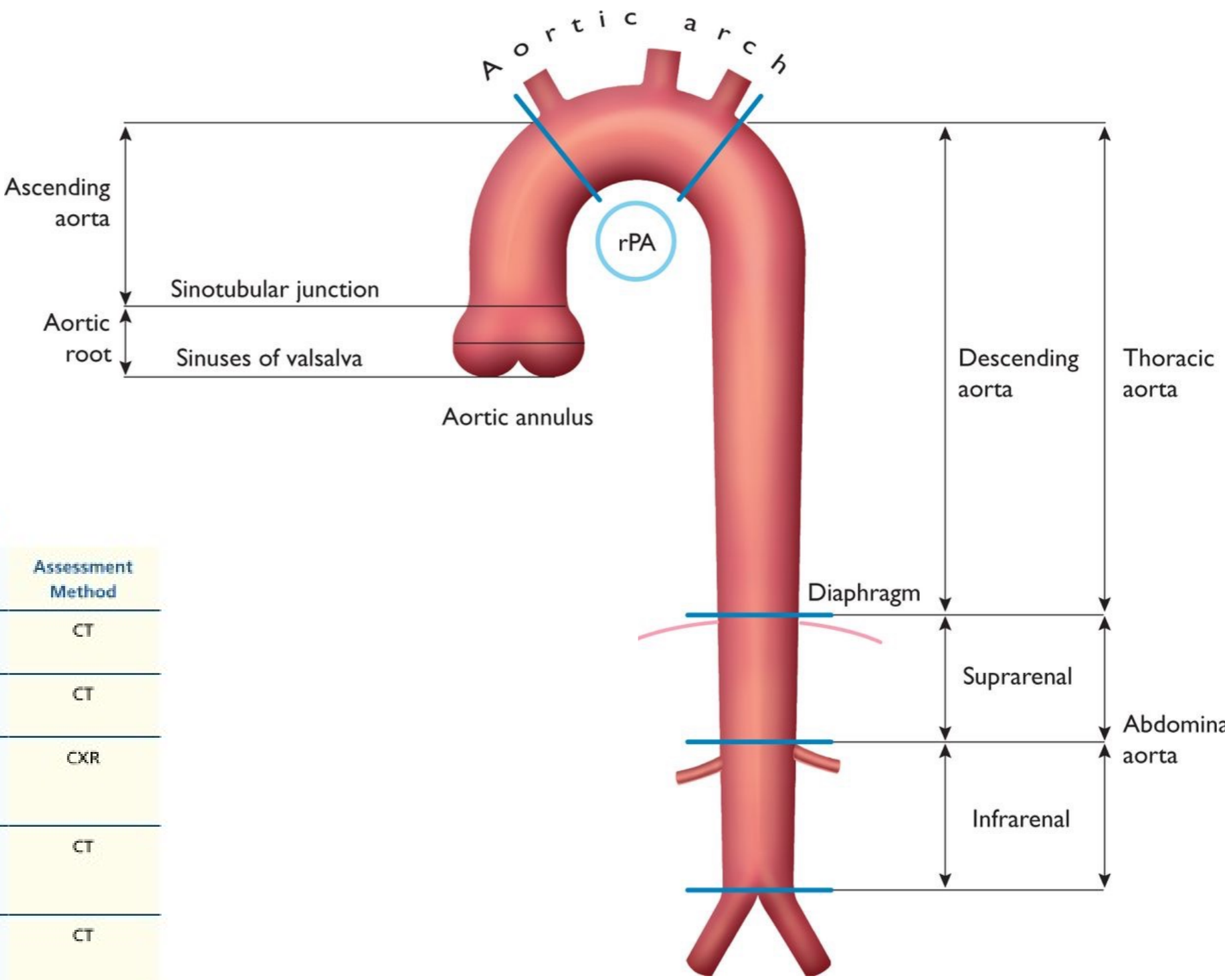
- 40% die immediately (~50% within 48 hours), mainly from rupture
- 2% per hour mortality (1-3% die in hour before surgery)
- End-organ malperfusion occurs in 16-30%, dramatically reduces survival
- Short term in-hospital and 30 day mortality: 3.4 - 25%

## **Thoracic Aortic Dissection - Acute Complications**

- Acute complications:
  - (contained) rupture, leakage, tamponade
  - Acute severe aortic regurgitation
  - Coronary disruption - MI
  - Cerebral malperfusion - CVA
  - Spinal infarct/paraplegia
  - Aortic rupture
  - Mesenteric/Renal/Limb ischemia
  - Pseudoaneurysm

# Thoracic Aortic Dissection



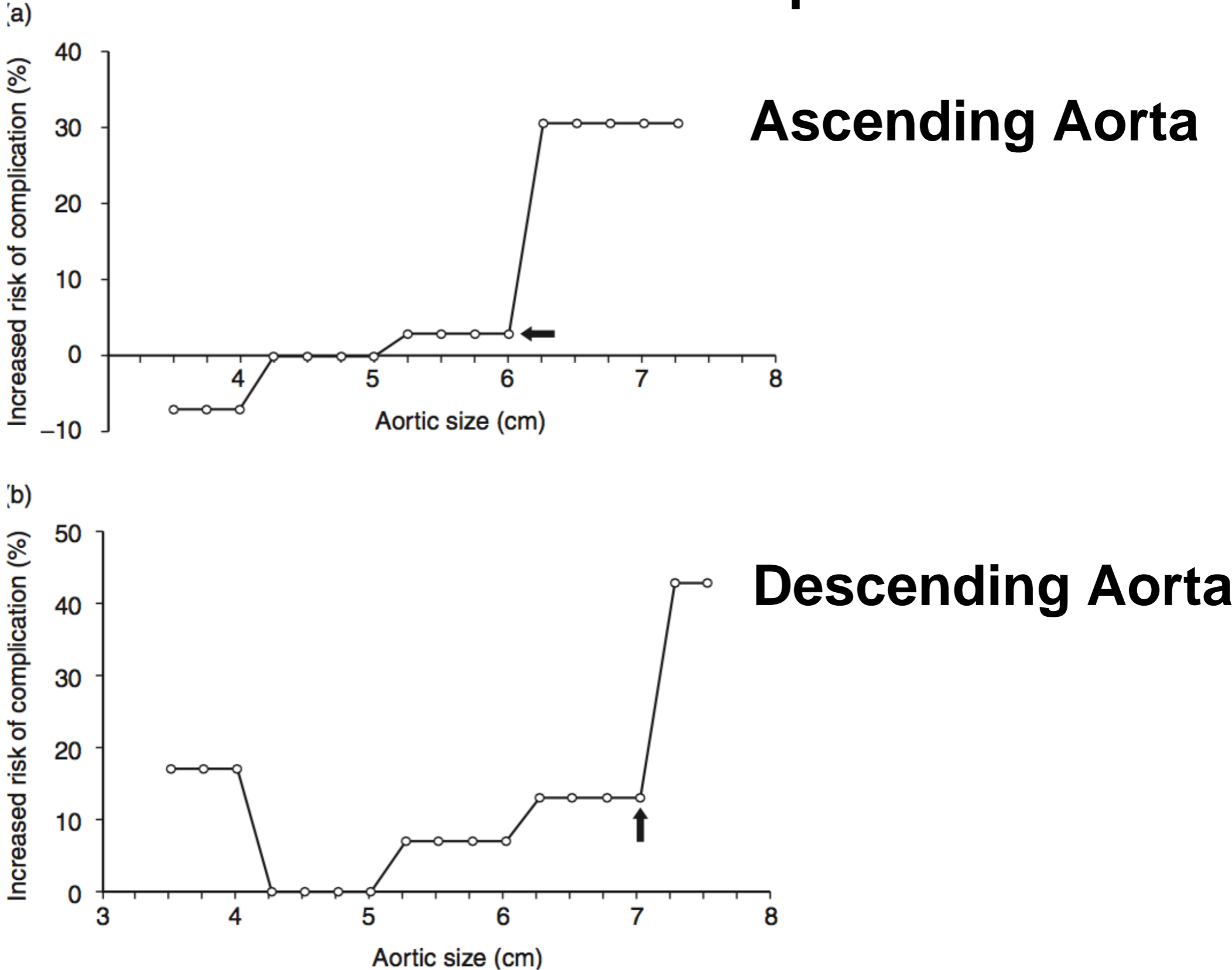


**Table 3. Normal Adult Thoracic Aortic Diameters**

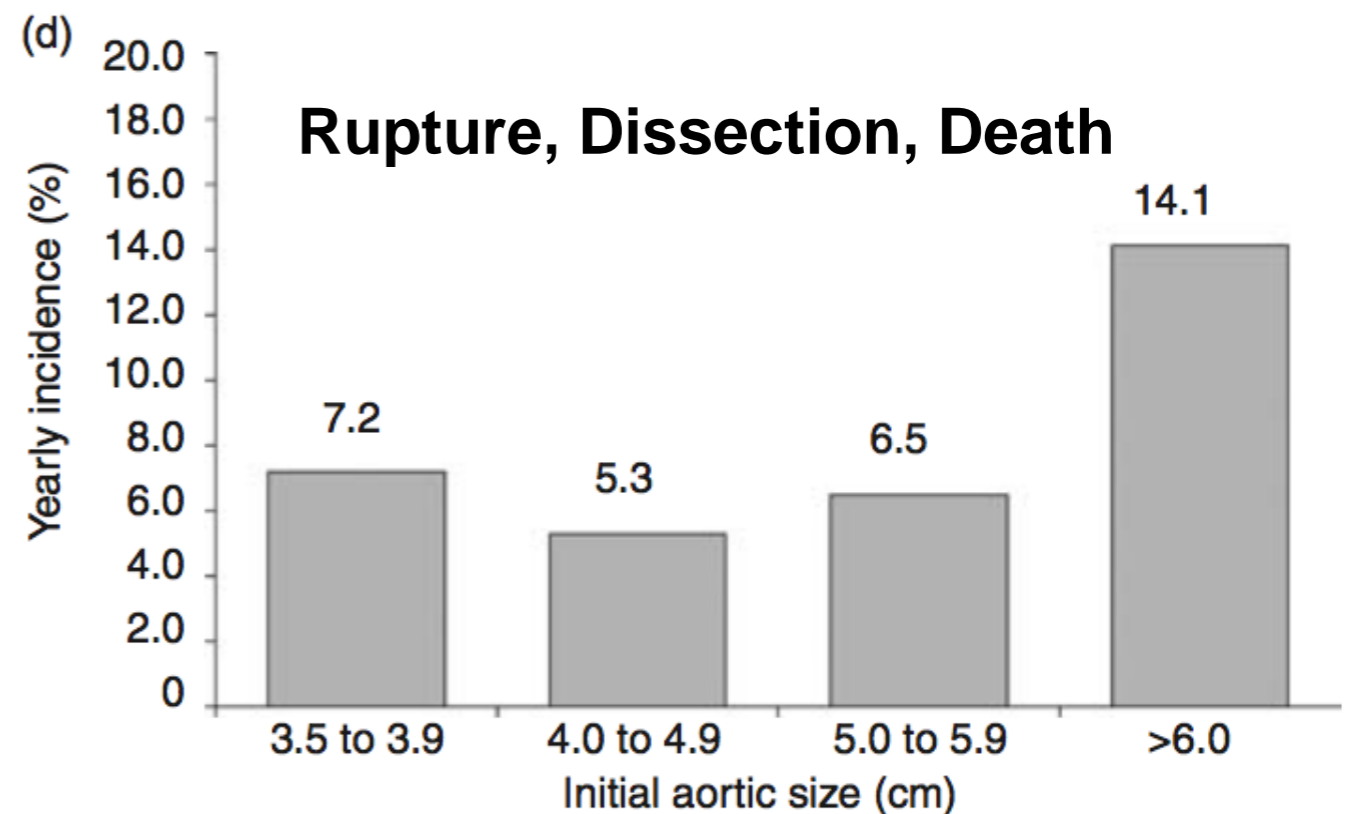
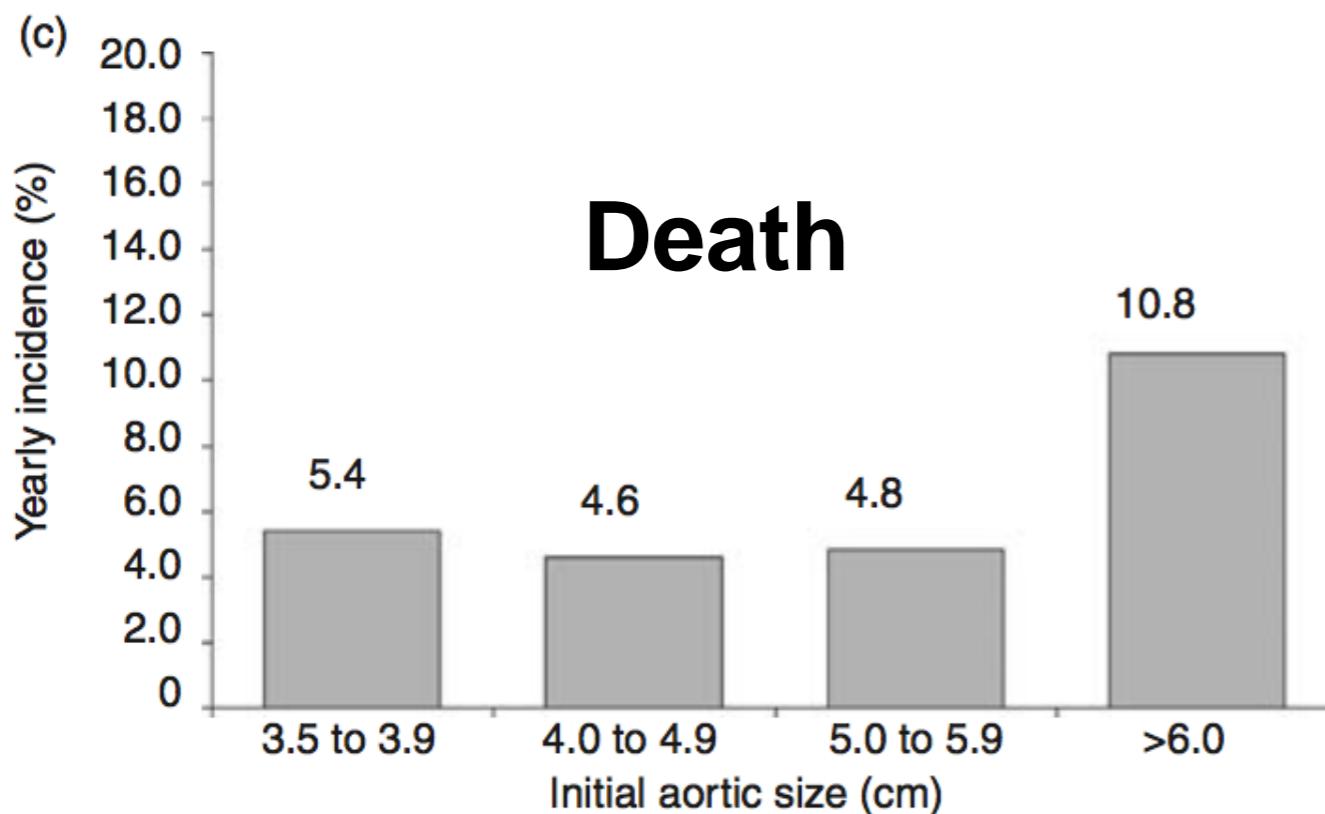
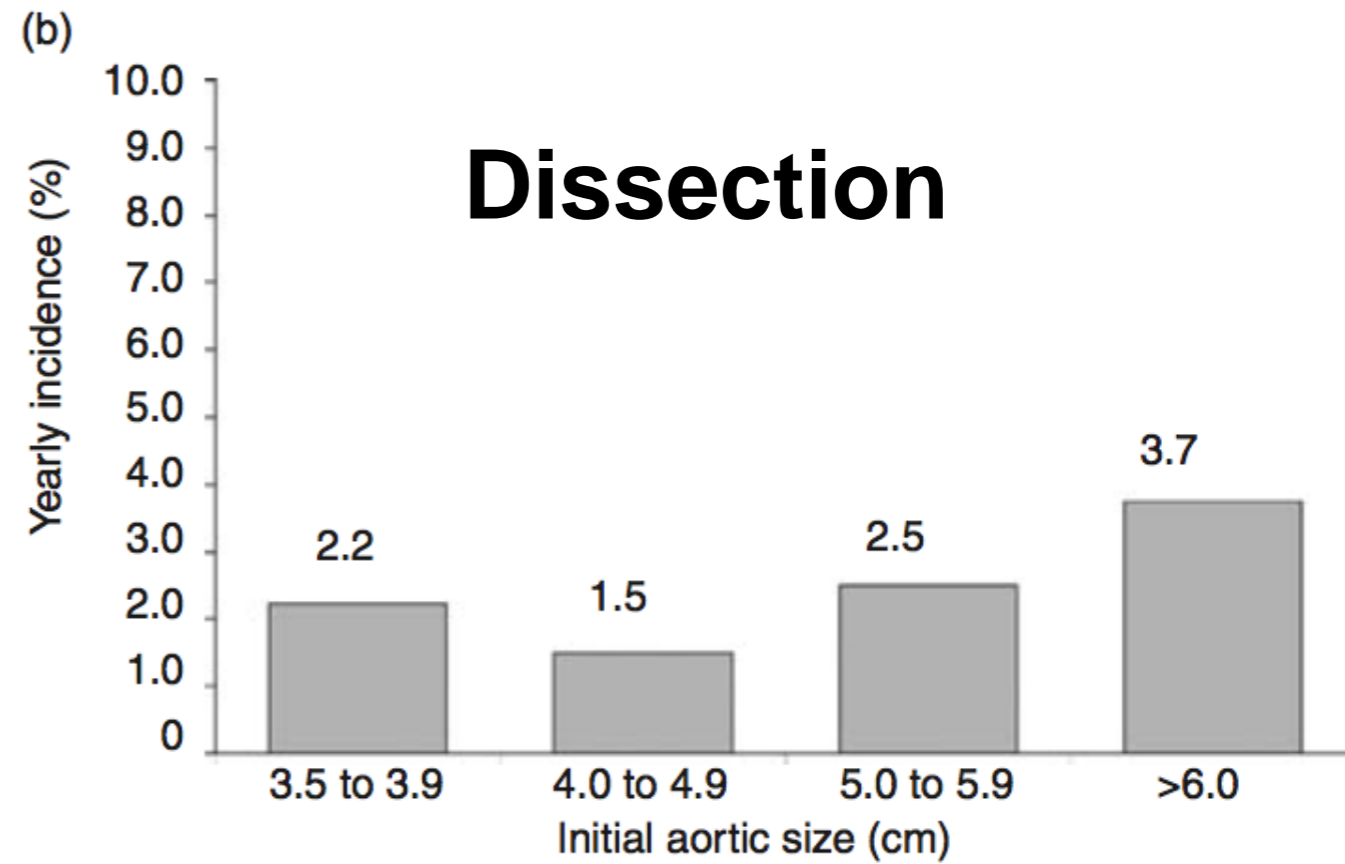
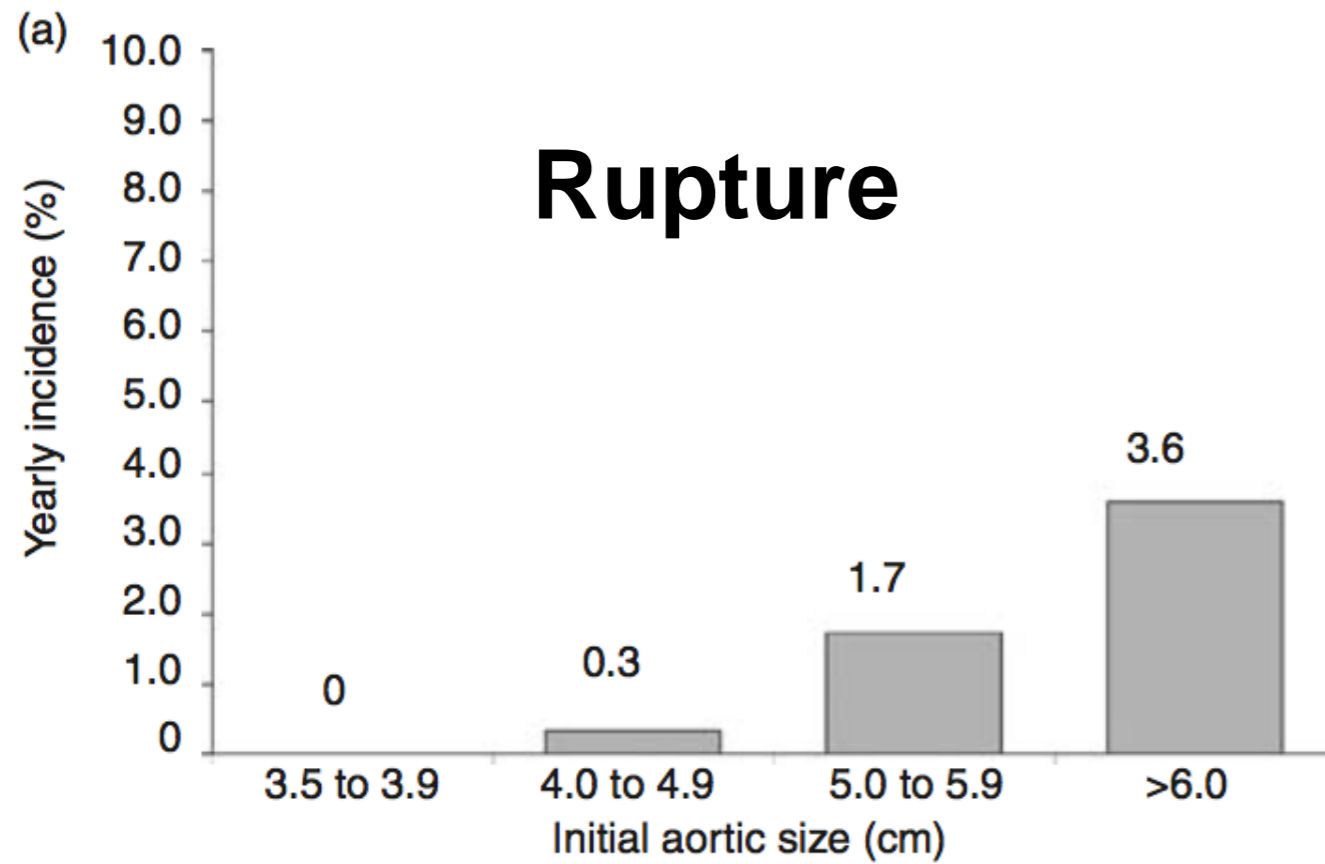
Thoracic Aorta	Range of Reported Mean (cm)	Reported SD (cm)	Assessment Method
Root (female)	3.50 to 3.72	0.38	CT
Root (male)	3.63 to 3.91	0.38	CT
Ascending (female, male)	2.86	NA	CXR
Mid-descending (female)	2.45 to 2.64	0.31	CT
Mid-descending (male)	2.39 to 2.98	0.31	CT
Diaphragmatic (female)	2.40 to 2.44	0.32	CT
Diaphragmatic (male)	2.43 to 2.69	0.27 to 0.40	CT, arteriography



# Lifetime Likelihood of Complications

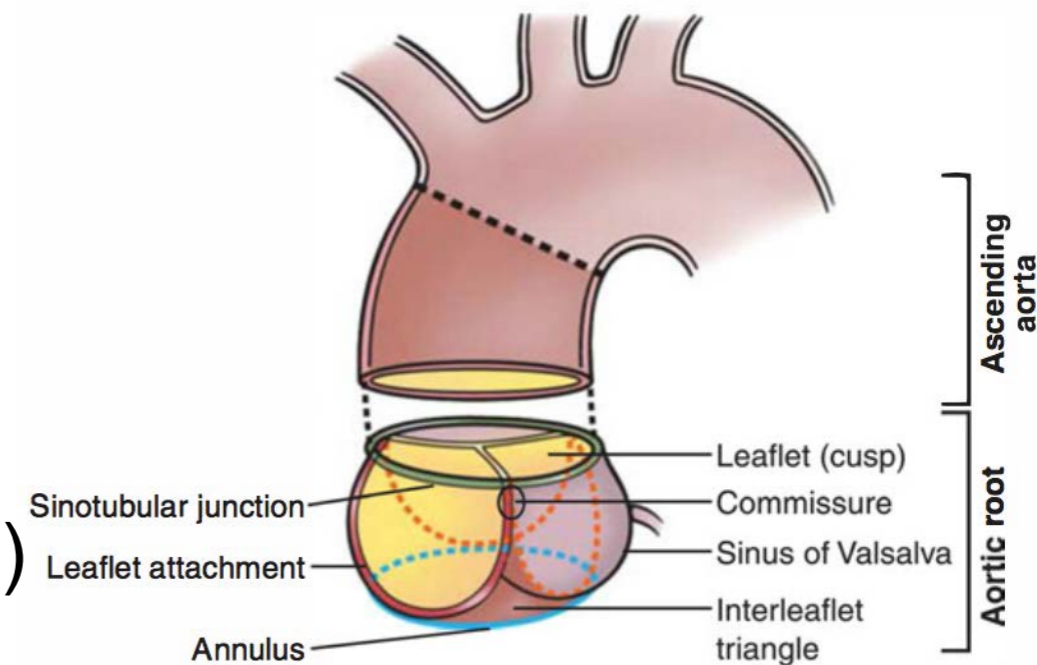
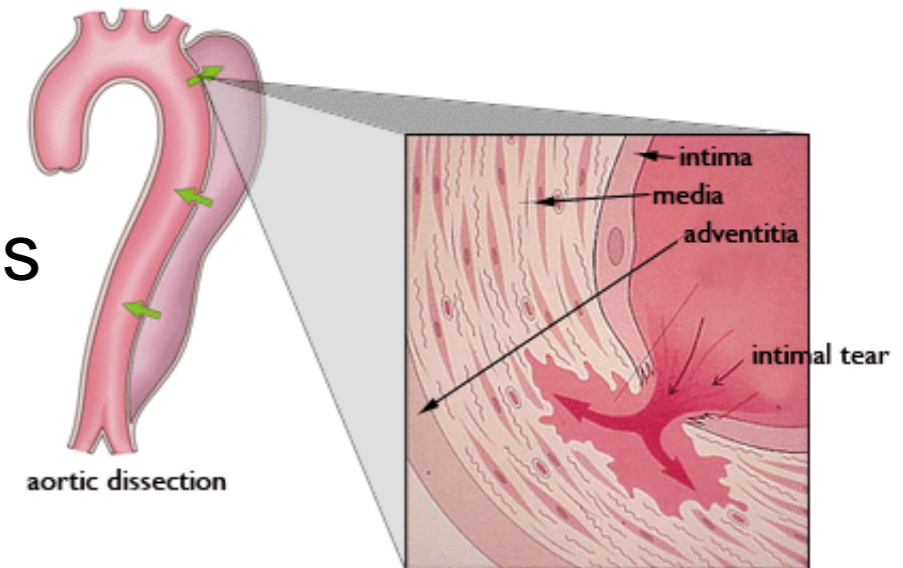


# Yearly Event Rates at Different Diameters



# Etiology of Ascending Aorta and Aortic Arch Aneurysm

- Degenerative changes in the elastic media
- Loss of elastic fibers and smooth muscle loss causes aneurysmal changes
- Annulo-aortic ectasia
  - Marfan's Syndrome (85% have aortic root dilatation)
  - Ehlers-Danlos syndrome - disorder in collagen synthesis
  - Loeys-Dietz syndrome
- Atherosclerosis
- Aortic valve malformation
  - Congenital Bicuspid or Unicuspid
- Infection - mycotic aneurysm (ie. syphilis)
- Arteritis - Takayasu arteritis, Kawasaki disease



# Risk Factors for Development of Thoracic Aortic Dissection

## Conditions Associated With Increased Aortic Wall Stress

Hypertension, particularly if uncontrolled

Pheochromocytoma

Cocaine or other stimulant use

Weight lifting or other Valsalva maneuver

Trauma

Deceleration or torsional injury (eg, motor vehicle crash, fall)

Coarctation of the aorta

## Conditions Associated With Aortic Media Abnormalities

### Genetic

Marfan syndrome

Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, vascular form

Bicuspid aortic valve (including prior aortic valve replacement)

Turner syndrome

Loeys-Dietz syndrome

Familial thoracic aortic aneurysm and dissection syndrome

### Inflammatory vasculitides

Takayasu arteritis

Giant cell arteritis

Behçet arteritis

### Other

Pregnancy

Polycystic kidney disease

Chronic corticosteroid or immunosuppression agent administration

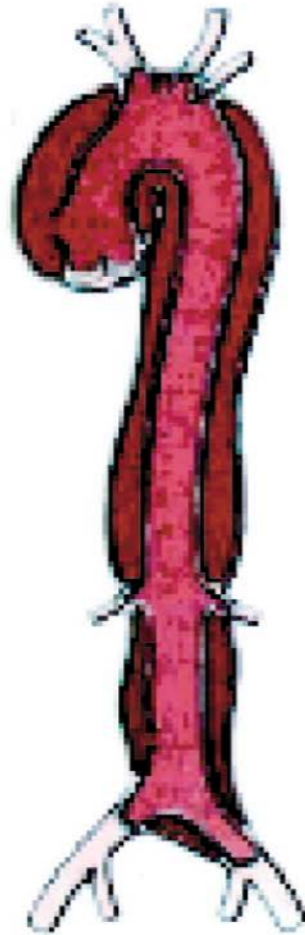
Infections involving the aortic wall either from bacteremia or extension of adjacent infection

## **Classification of Thoracic Aortic Dissection**

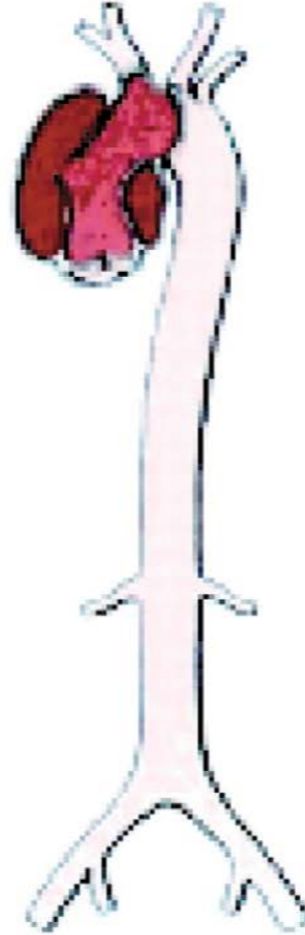
- Time course: Acute vs. Chronic
- Anatomical: Ascending, descending or both
- Stanford:
  - Type A: Involving the ascending aorta (with or without descending aortic involvement)
  - Type B: Involving only the descending aorta
- De Bakey:
  - I: Ascending and Descending aorta
  - II: Ascending Aorta only
  - III: Descending Aorta only

# Classification of Thoracic Aortic Dissection

DeBakey Type I



Type II



Type III



Stanford

Type A

Type B

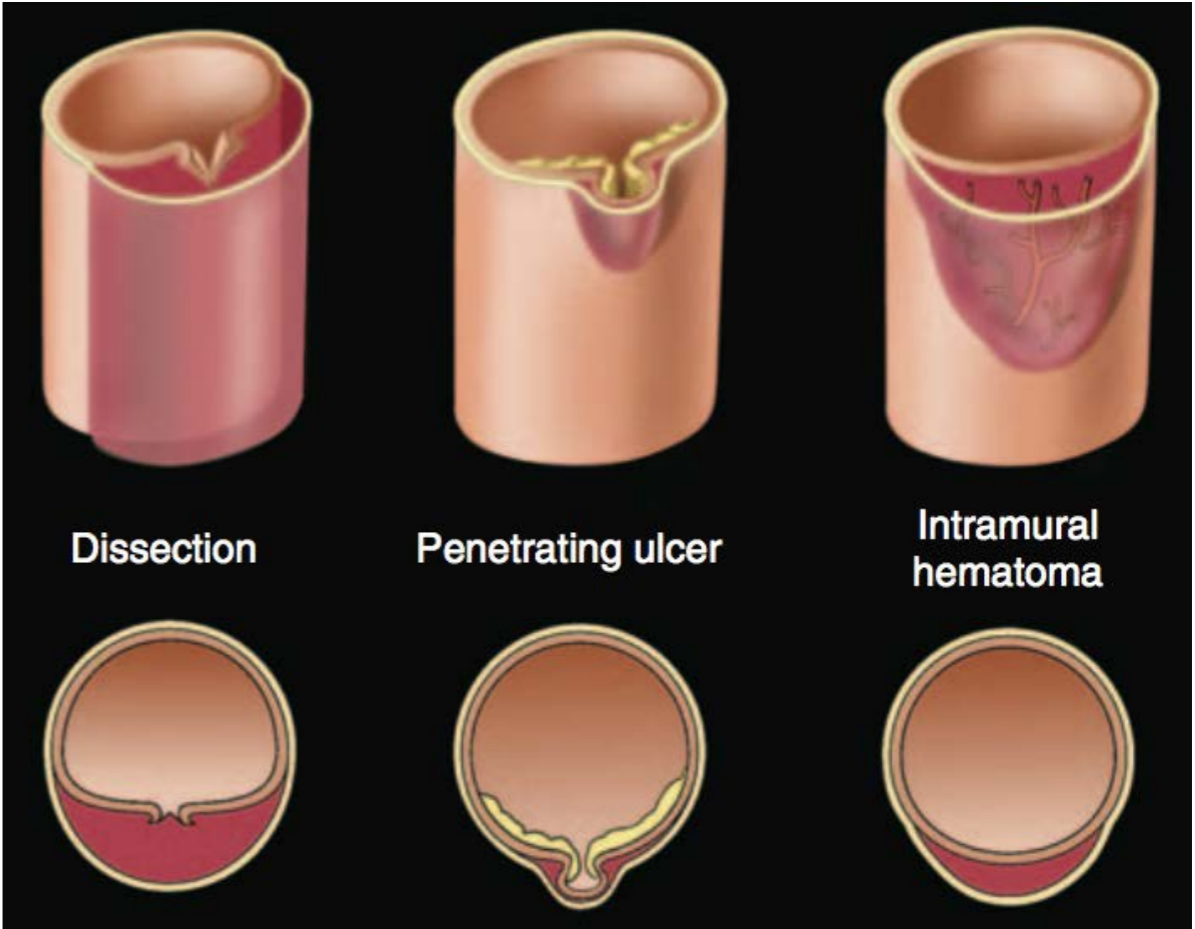
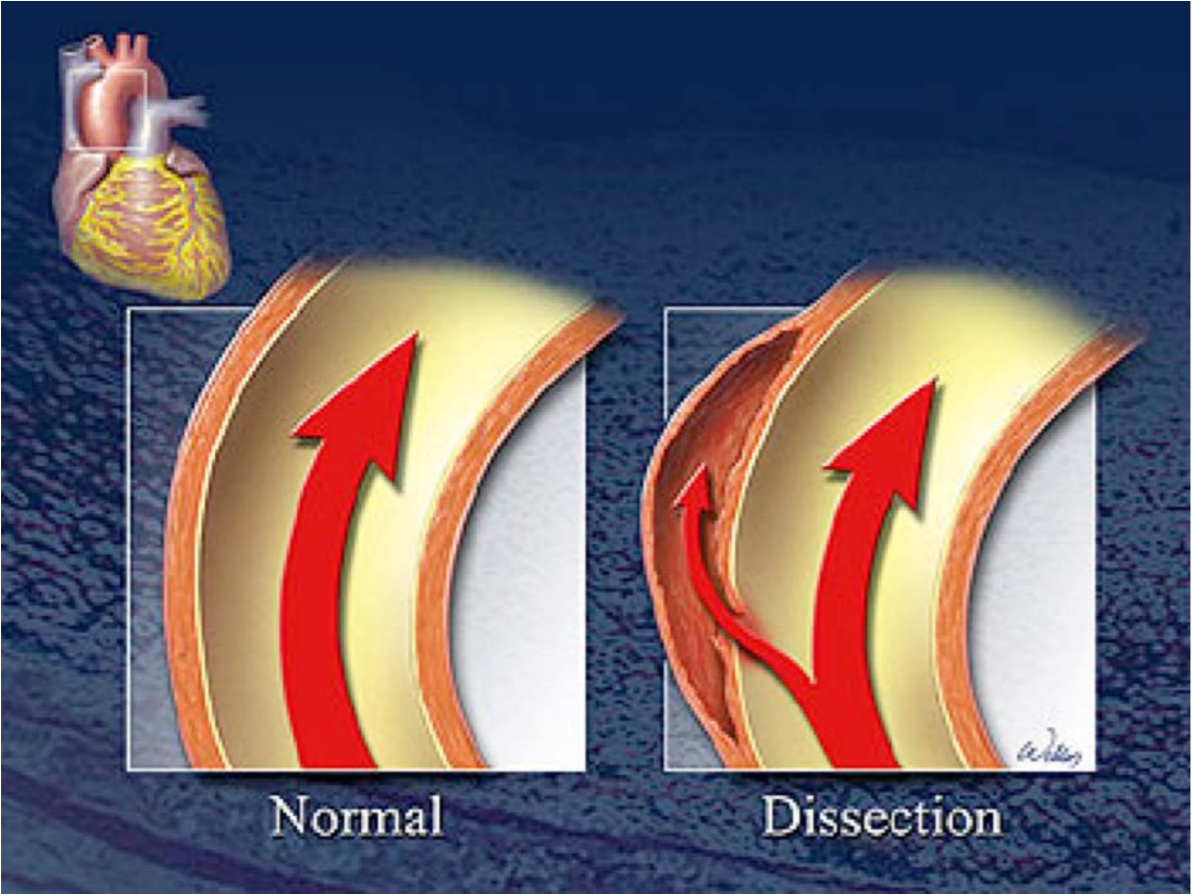
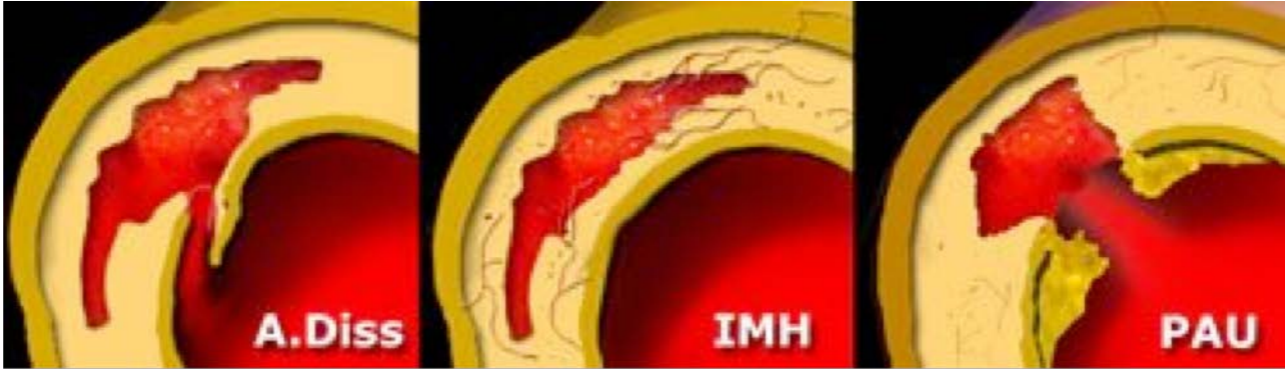
## DeBakey

- Type I Originates in the ascending aorta, propagates at least to the aortic arch and often beyond it distally
- Type II Originates in and is confined to the ascending aorta
- Type III Originates in the descending aorta and extends distally down the aorta or rarely retrograde into the aortic arch and ascending aorta

## Stanford

- Type A All dissections involving the ascending aorta, regardless of the site of origin
- Type B All dissections not involving the ascending aorta

# Pathophysiology





## **Classic Presentation (International Registry of Acute Aortic Dissection)**

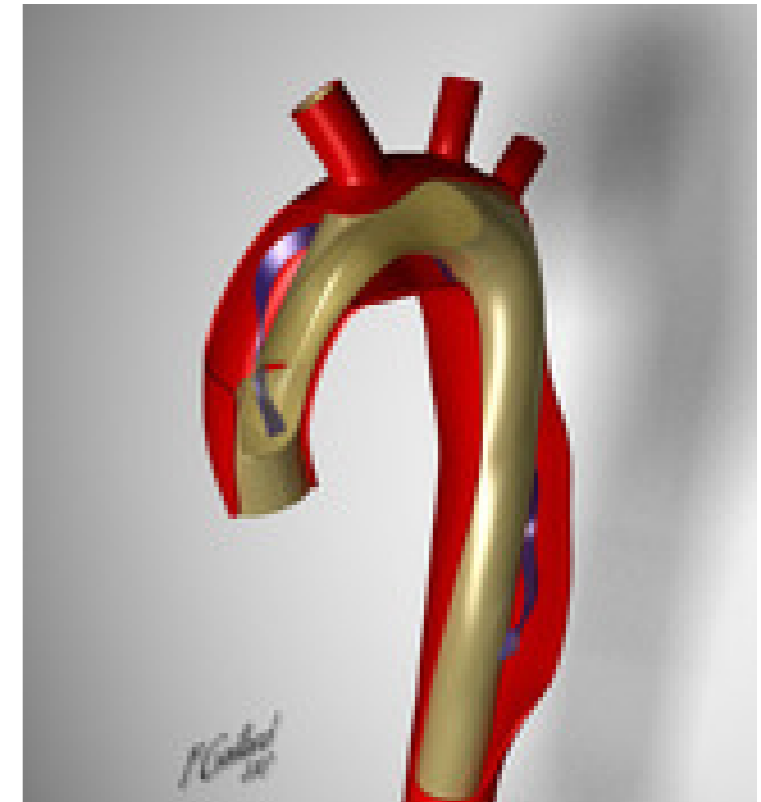
- **Sudden onset** - 84% describe a sudden onset of pain
- **Severe** chest pain often described as a “tearing” sensation
- Radiation of the pain to the **back**
- Syncope is not uncommon but a highly non-specific symptom unless accompanied by some of the above symptoms

## Acute Aortic Dissection Risk Score

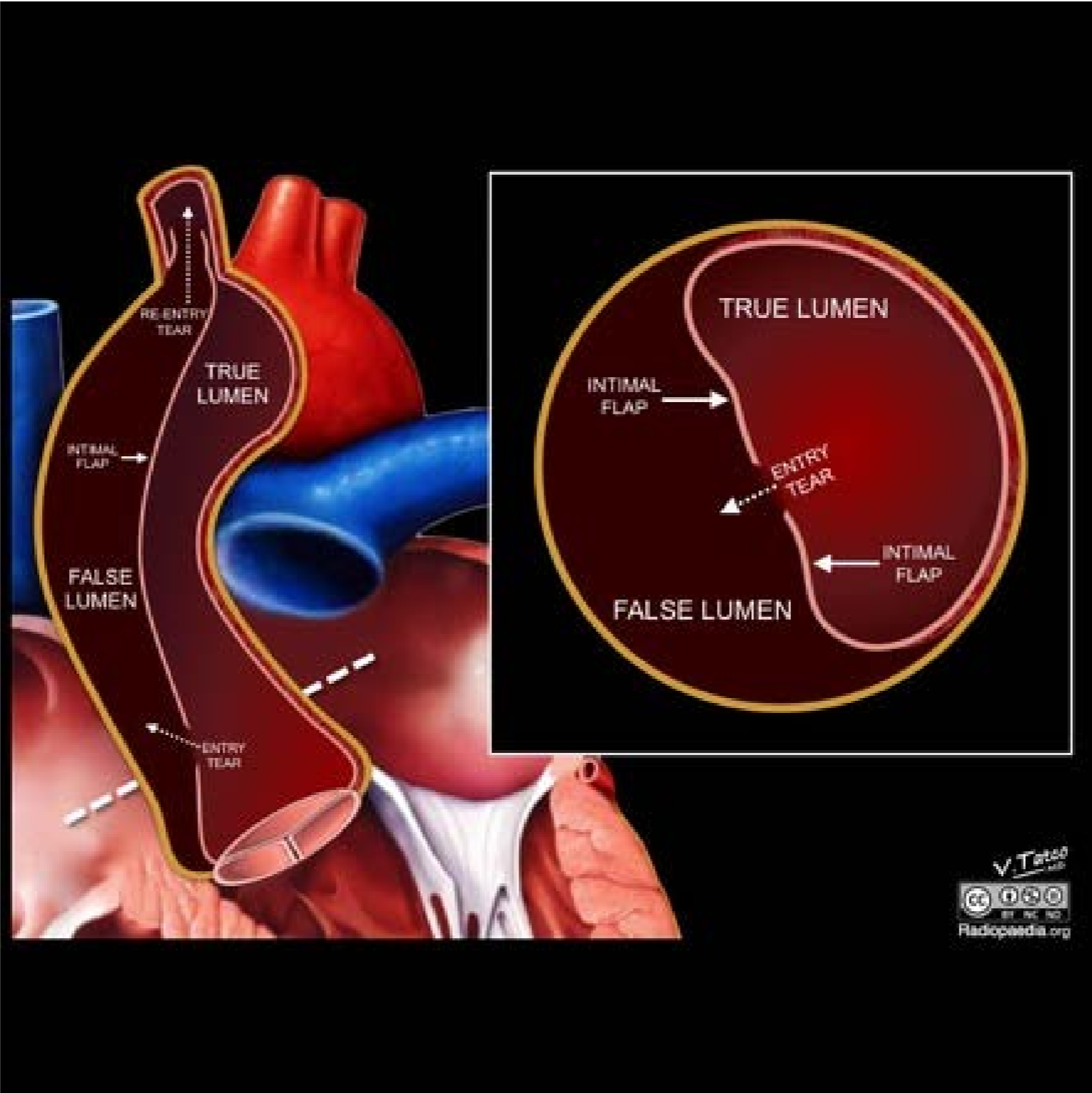
- **High risk condition:** Marfans, FH of aortic dissection, known AV disease, recent AV manipulation
- **High risk pain features:** chest, back, abdominal pain of abrupt onset, severe, ripping or tearing quality
- **High risk exam features:** evidence of perfusion deficits (pulse deficit, SBP difference, focal neurologic deficit along with the pain), new aortic insufficiency murmur, hypotension or shock

## Work-Up for Thoracic Aortic Dissection

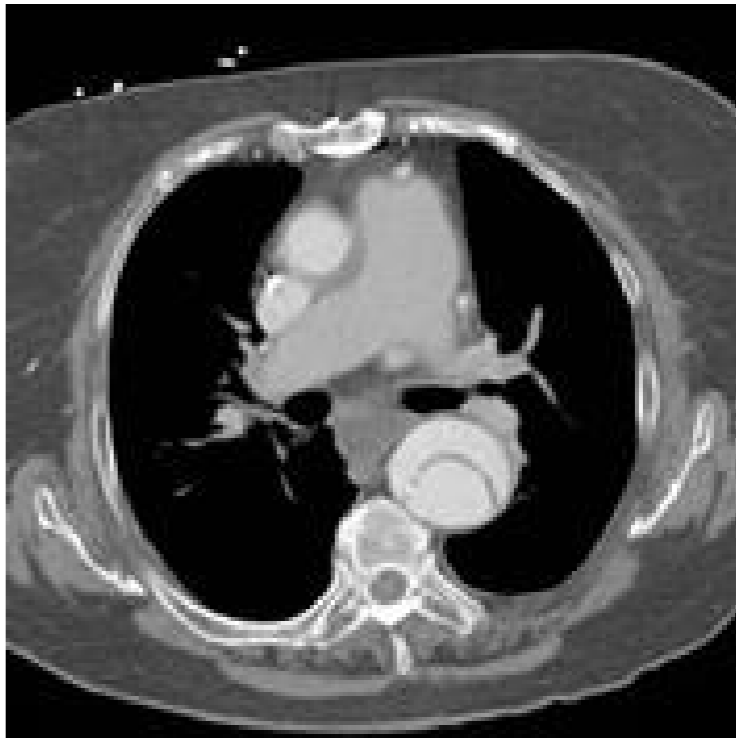
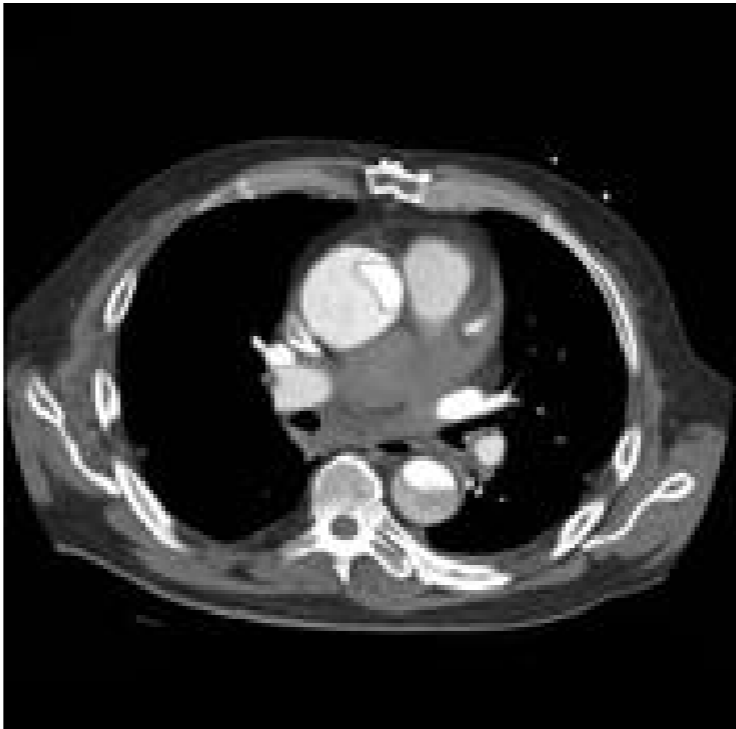
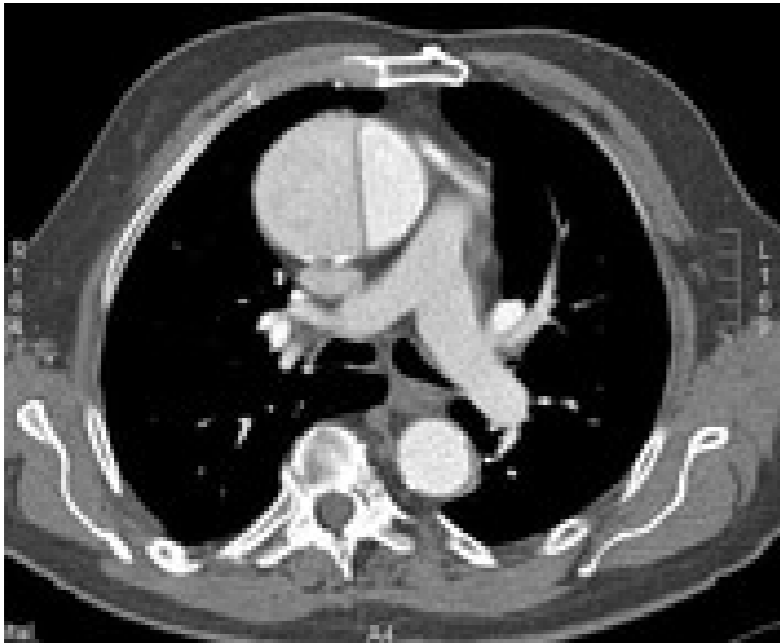
- Imaging is key element to diagnosis
- The options are **CTA, TEE or MRA**
- Class 1 meta-analysis the sensitivity/specificity:
  - CTA 100%/98%
  - TEE 98%/95%
  - MRA 98%/98%
- Angiography and IVUS can also detect dissections



# True Lumen - False Lumen



# Imaging the Thoracic Aorta



# Imaging the Thoracic Aorta



## Initial Treatment in ED

- Reduce shearing force of blood flow by - blood pressure and heart rate control
- **Esmolol** - beta blocker, rapid onset, short duration of action
- **Nitroprusside** - lower the blood pressure, arterial and venous vasodilator
- Nitroprusside reduces the pressure while esmolol blocks the reflex increase in heart rate, blood velocity is reduced with a concomitant reduction in shear force

## **Next Step**

- Type A dissection - rapid notification of CT Surgery or transfer to hospital capable of providing surgery
- Type B dissections - medical management with aggressive treatment of BP is the mainstay of treatment

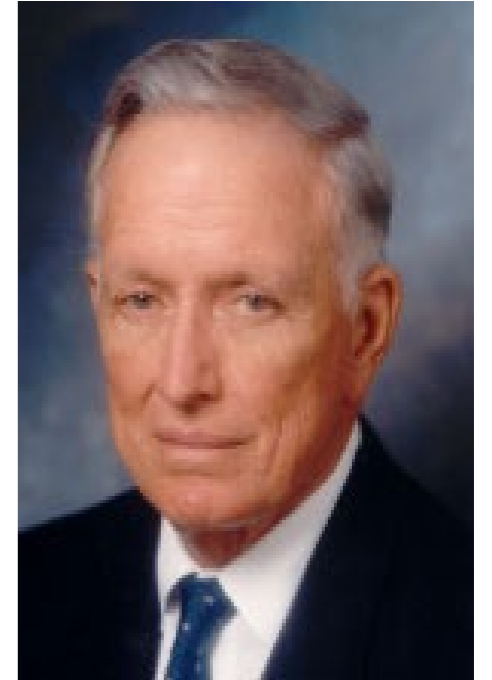


# **Surgery for Ascending Aortic Aneurysms and Type A Thoracic Aortic Dissections**

# First Resection of Thoracic Aorta Aneurysm

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Cooley DA, DeBakey ME: Resection of entire ascending aorta in fusiform aneurysm using cardiopulmonary bypass. JAMA 1956;162:1158-1159



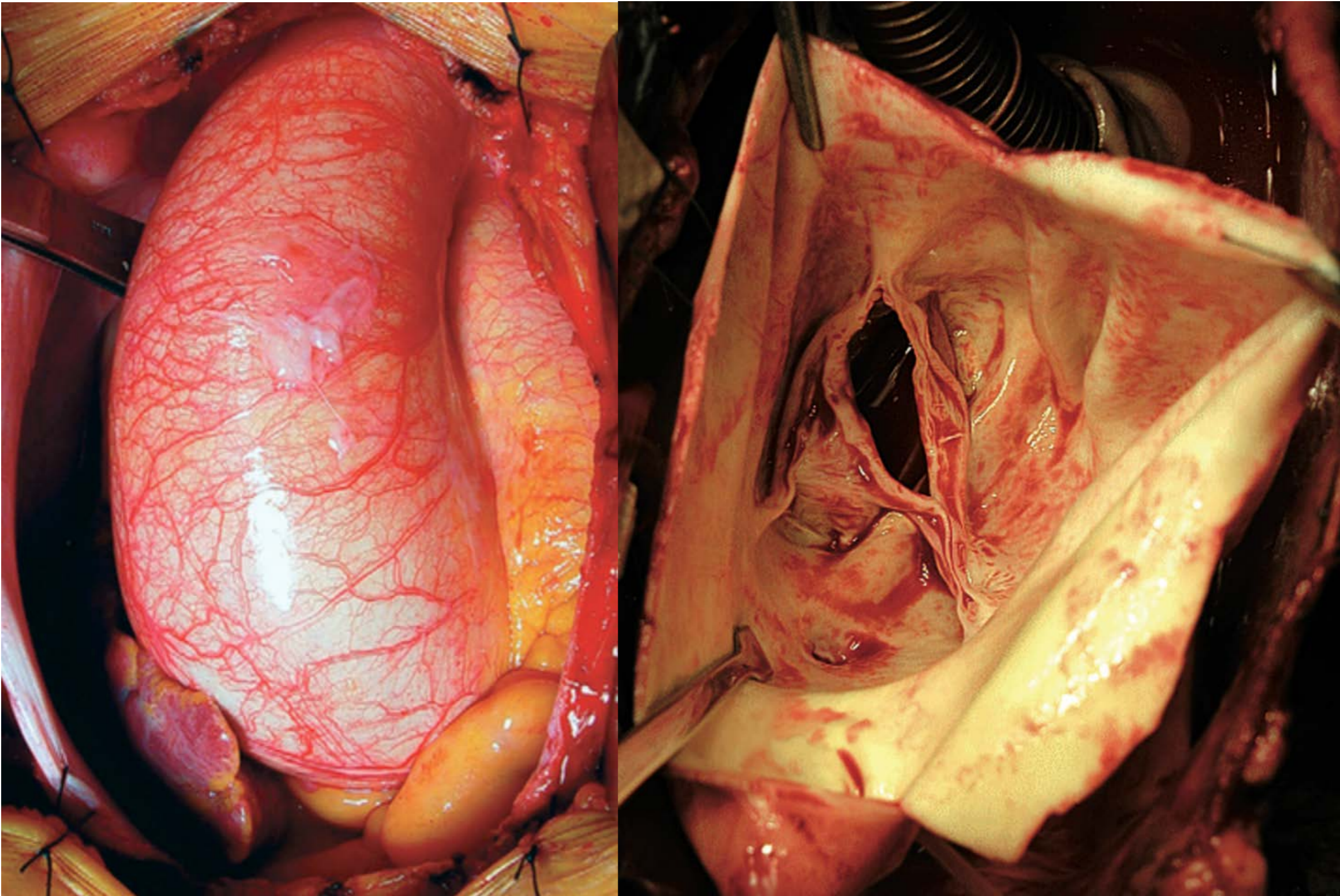
DeBakey ME, Crawford ES, Cooley DA, Morris GC:  
Successful resection of fusiform aneurysm of aortic arch with replacement by homograft.  
Surg Gynaecol Obstet 1957;105:657-664

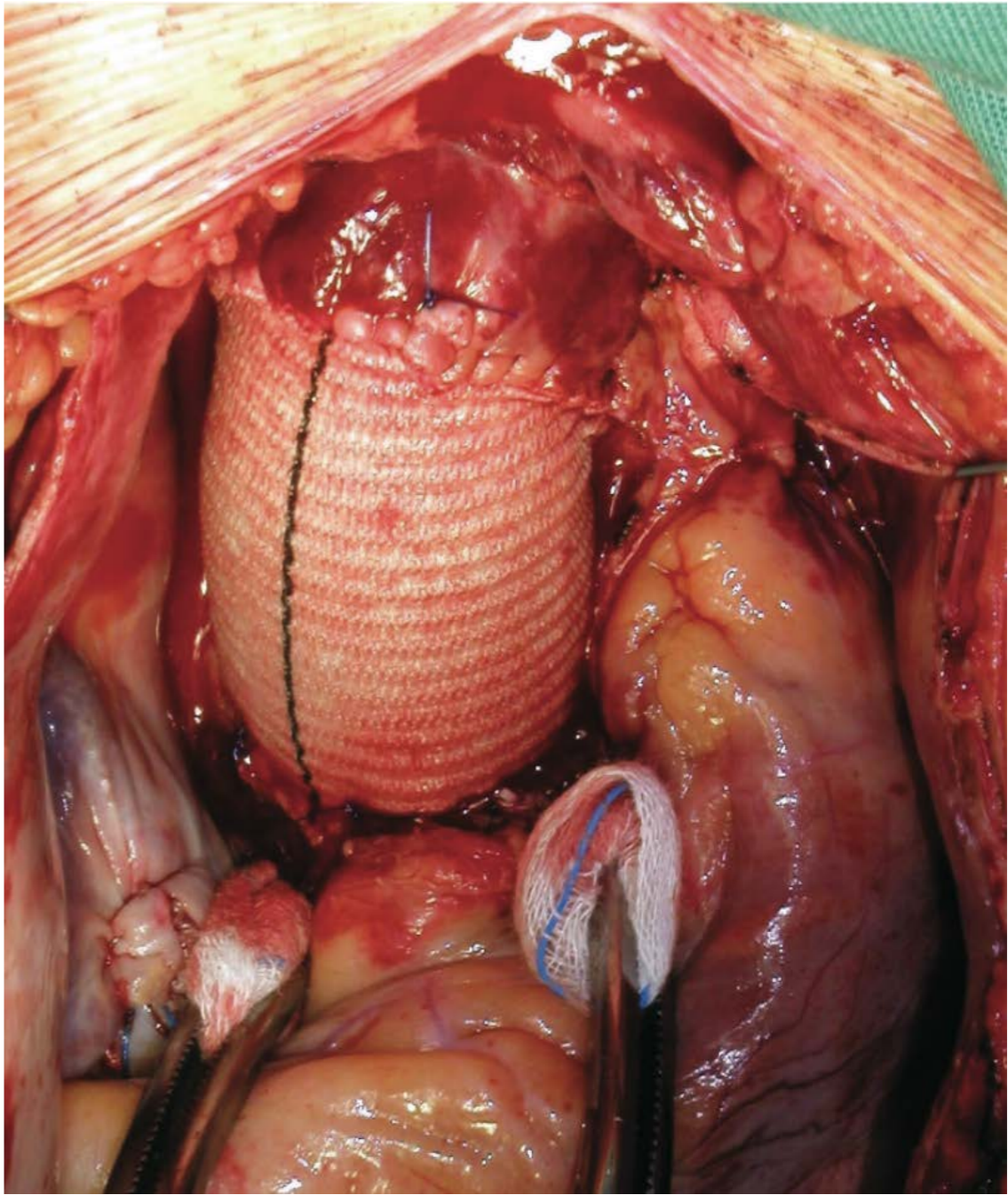
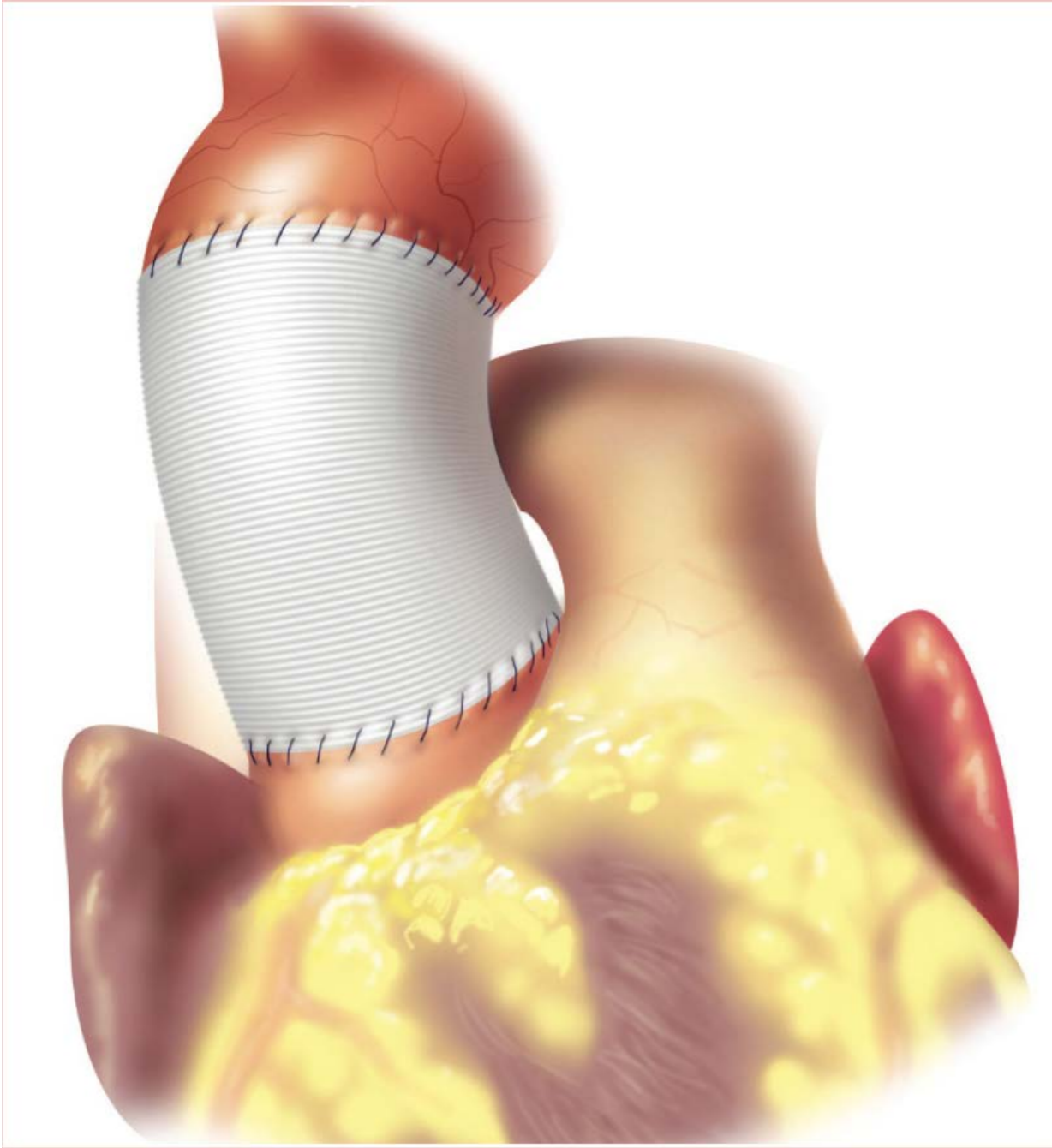


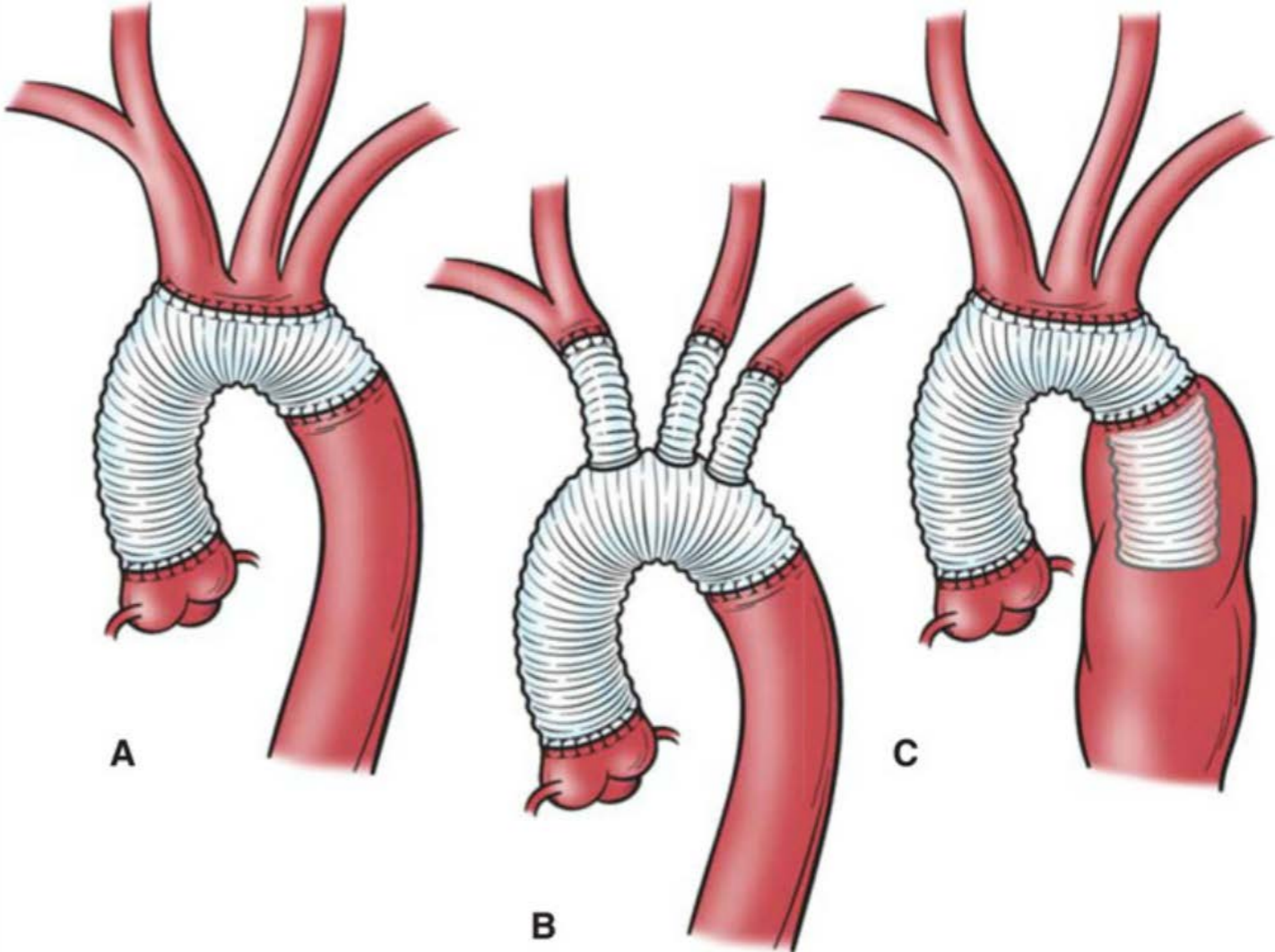
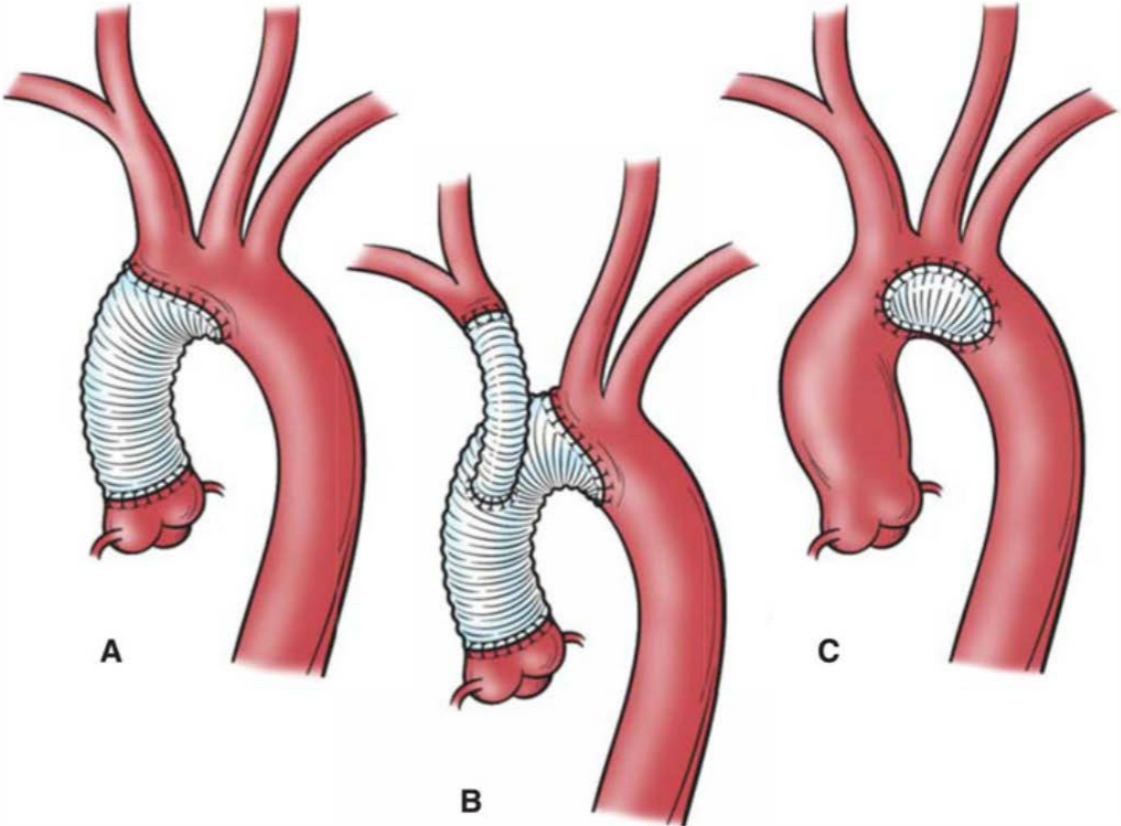
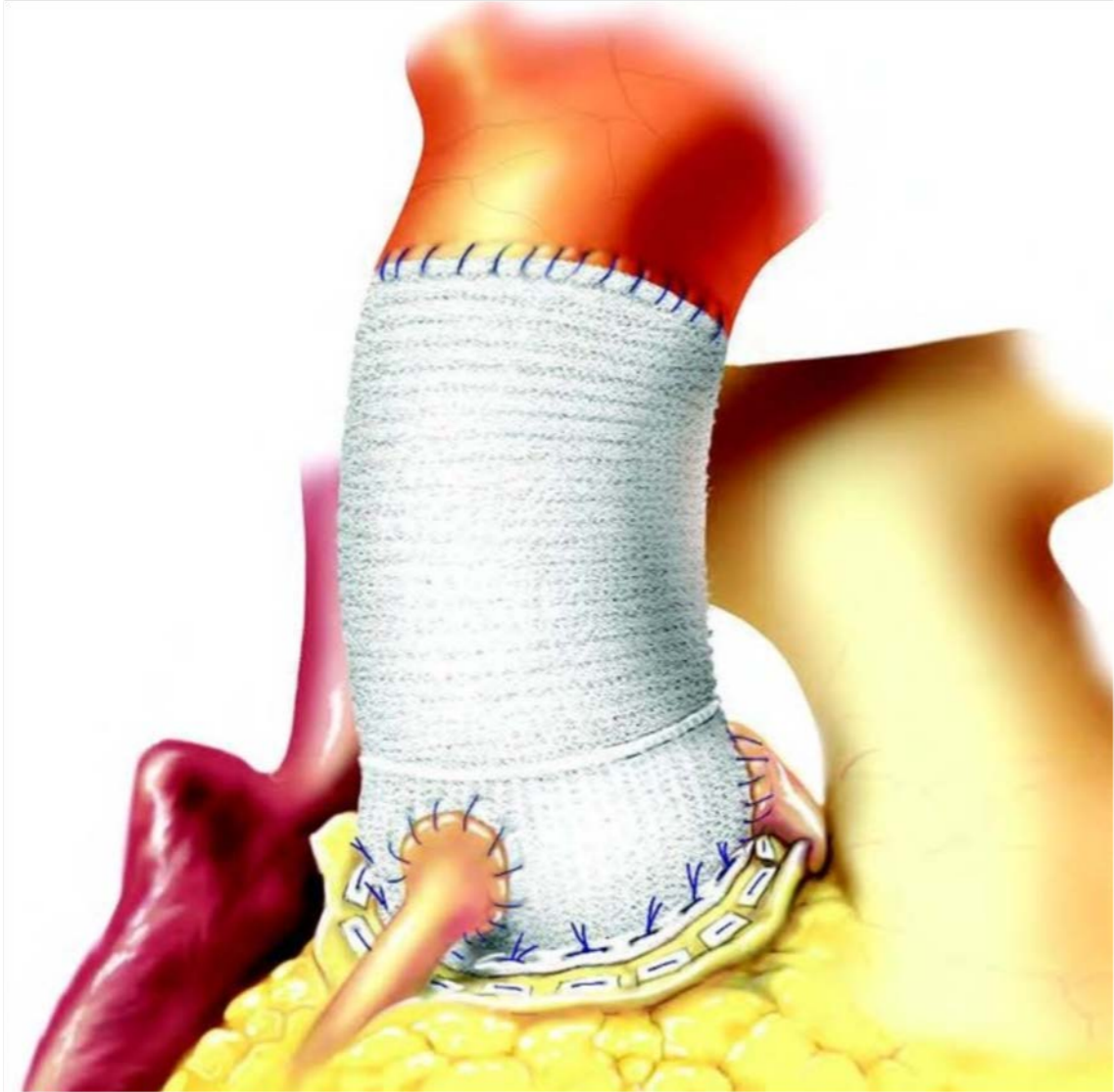
## **Criteria for Surgical Intervention of the Ascending Aorta**

- **Emergency:**
  - Acute dissection or rupture
- **Elective:**
  - Aortic Diameter  $>5.5$  cm in diameter
  - Aneurysm growth rate  $>0.5$  cm/year
  - Aortic diameter  $>4.5$  cm in patients undergoing aortic valve surgery
  - Ratio of aortic area to body height  $>10$  cm<sup>2</sup>/m
  - Aortic aneurysm  $>4.5 - 5.0$  cm with genetically associated aortic diseases

# Congenital Bicuspid Aortic Valve with Dilation of the Ascending Aorta





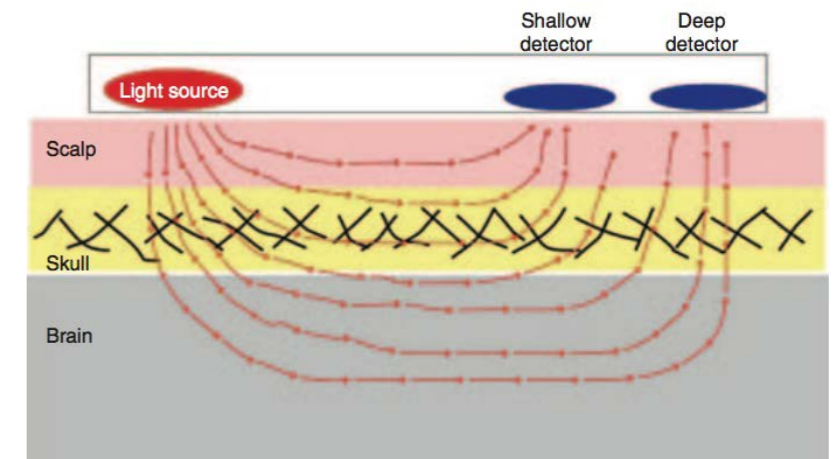
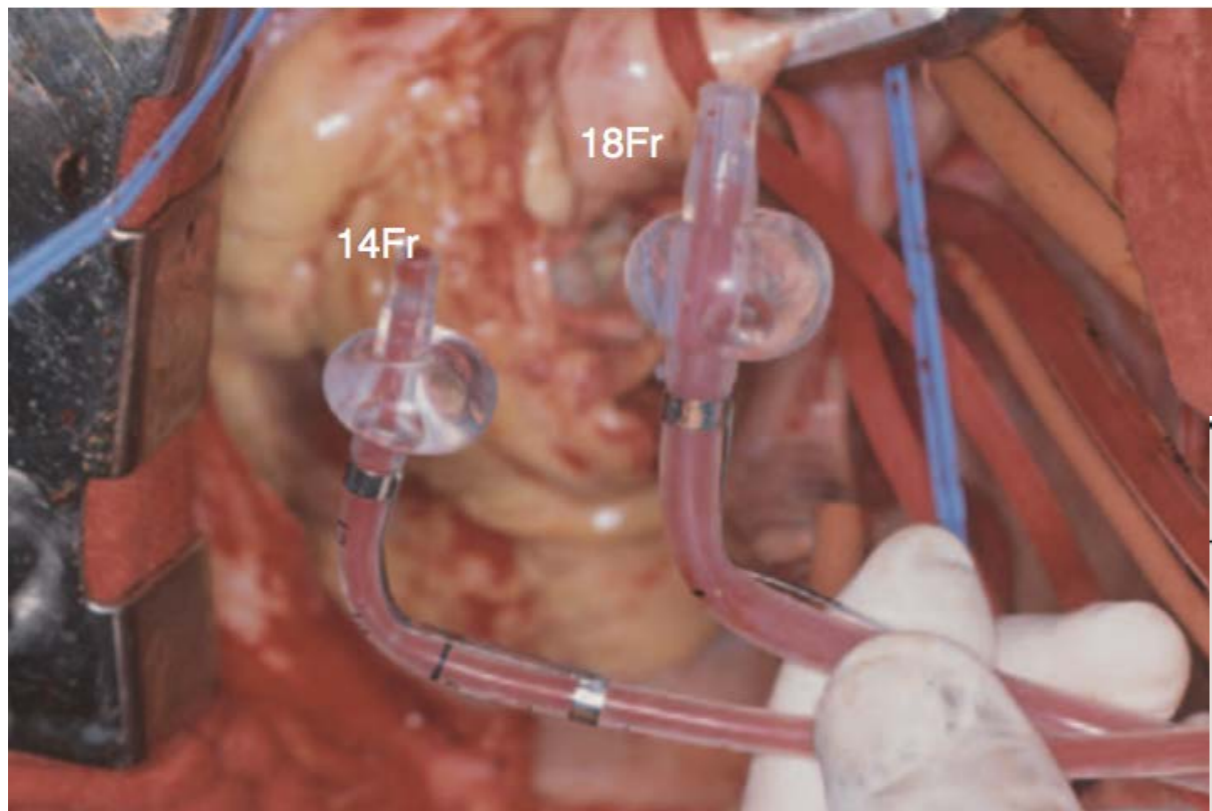


# New Techniques for Cerebral Protection

Transcranial Cerebral Oximetry

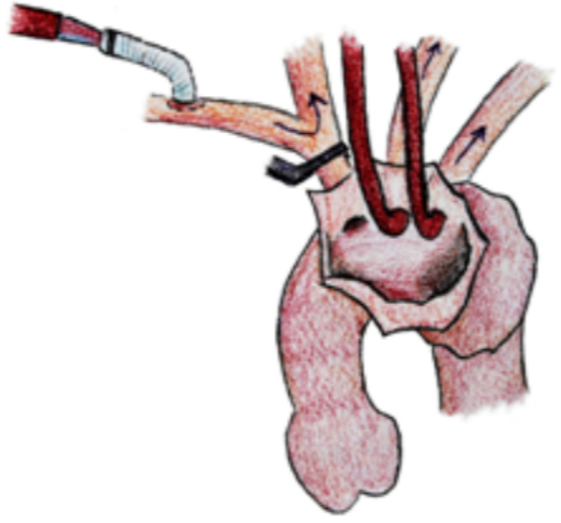
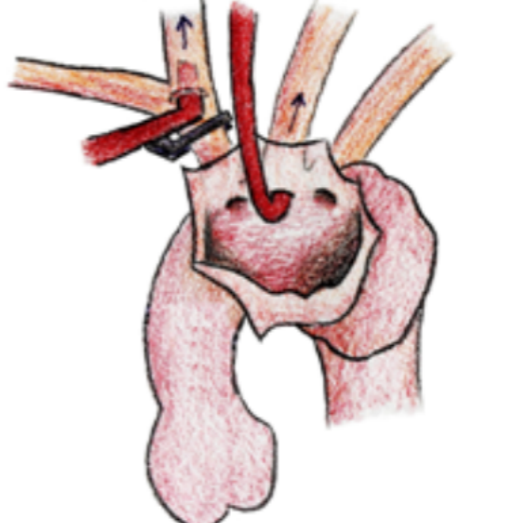
Moderate Hypothermia (28 °C)

Antegrade Cerebral Perfusion

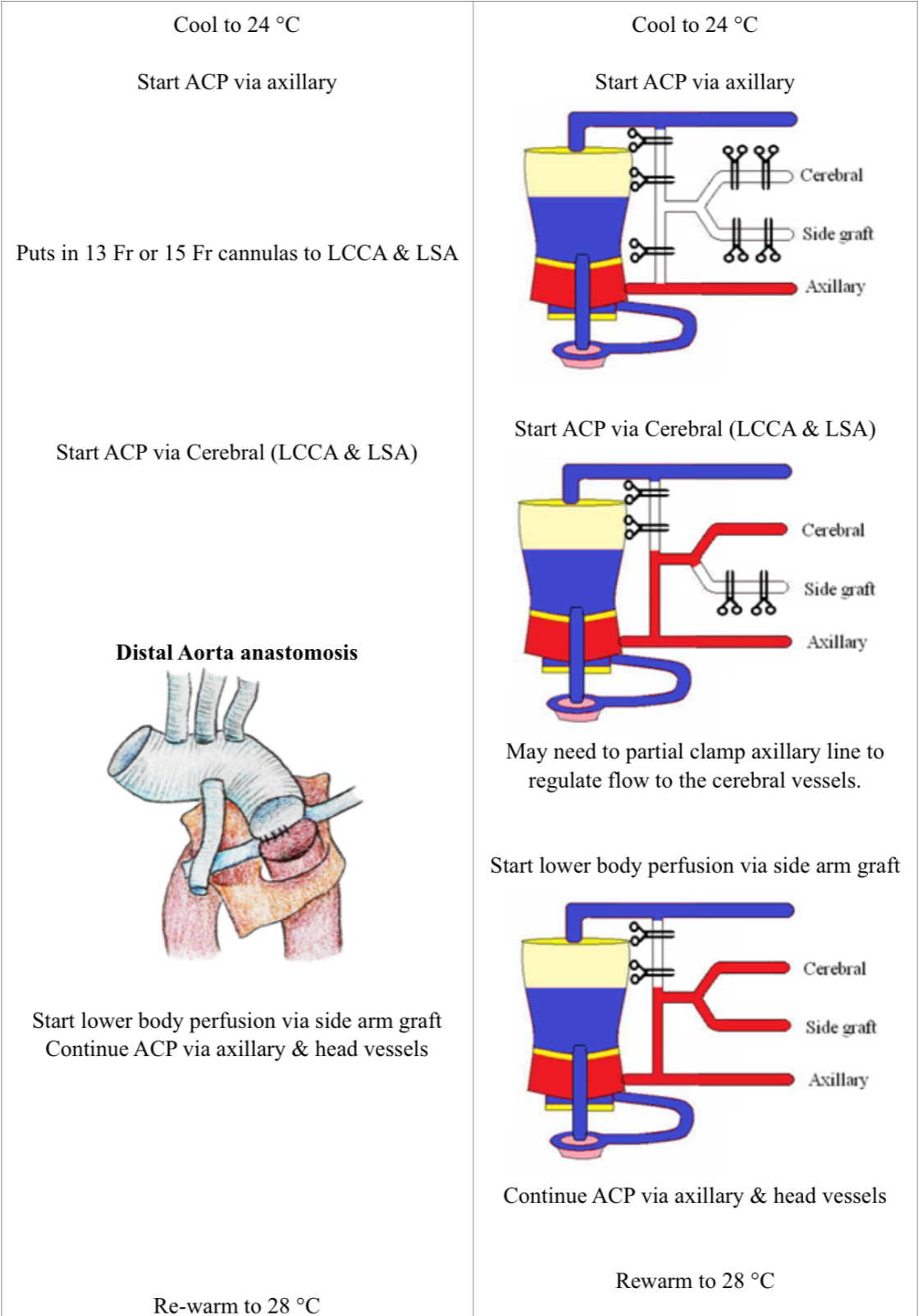


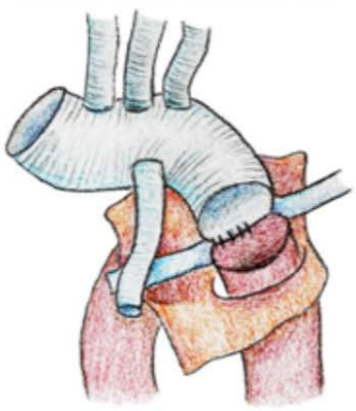
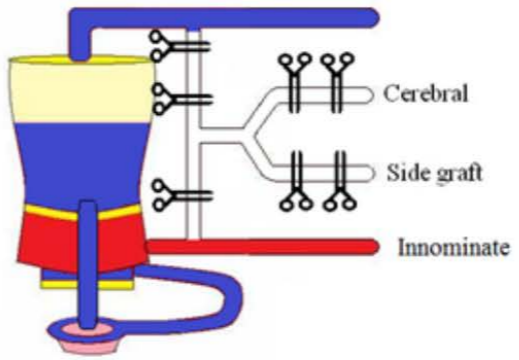
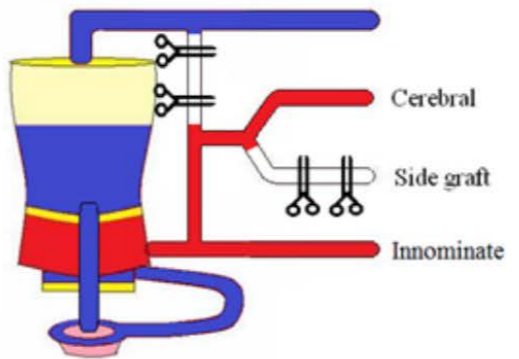
Circulatory arrest time	Stroke incidence (%)
7–29 minutes	4
30–44 minutes	7.5
45–59 minutes	10.7
60–120 minutes	14.6

**Total Arch Replacement**


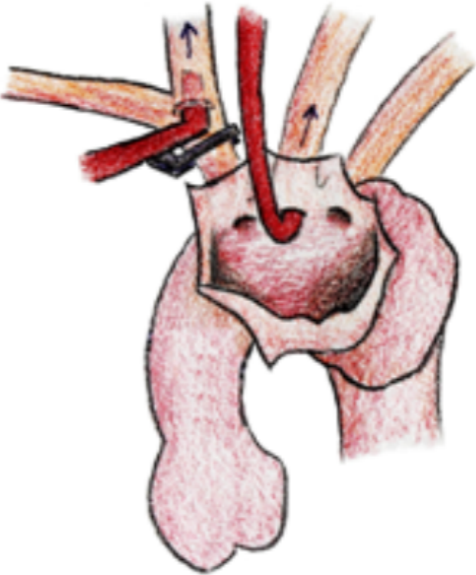
<p><b>Venous Cannulation</b></p> <p><b>Arterial Cannulation</b></p> <p><b>Cerebral Cannulation</b></p>	<p>Dual Stage</p> <p>Axillary (graft)</p> <p>LCCA &amp; LSA</p> 	<p>Dual Stage</p> <p>Innominate (direct)</p> <p>LCCA</p> 
<p><b>Aorta side arm graft</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Sometimes</p>
<p><b>Cardioplegia Delivery</b></p>	<p>Bentley, Polystans, Retro</p>	<p>Polystans (5 right angled &amp; 6 Straight)</p>
<p><b>Pressure Monitoring</b></p>	<p>R. Radial Femoral</p>	<p>R. Radial Femoral</p>
<p><b>Anastomosis Order</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distal Aorta</li> <li>2. Proximal Aorta</li> <li>3. Head Vessels             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. LSA</li> <li>b. LCCA</li> <li>c. Innominate</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distal Aorta</li> <li>2. Head Vessels             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. LSA</li> <li>b. LCCA</li> <li>c. Innominate</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Proximal Aorta</li> </ol>





<p>Cool to 24 °C</p> <p>Start ACP via innominate</p> <p>Puts in 13 Fr or 15 Fr cannula into LCCA</p> <p>Start ACP via cerebral line (LCCA)</p> <p><b>Distal Aorta anastomosis</b></p> 	<p>Cool to 24 °C</p> <p>Start ACP via innominate</p>  <p>Start ACP via cerebral line (LCCA)</p>  <p>May need to partial clamp innominate line to regulate flow to the LCCA.</p>
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**Hemi Arch Replacement**

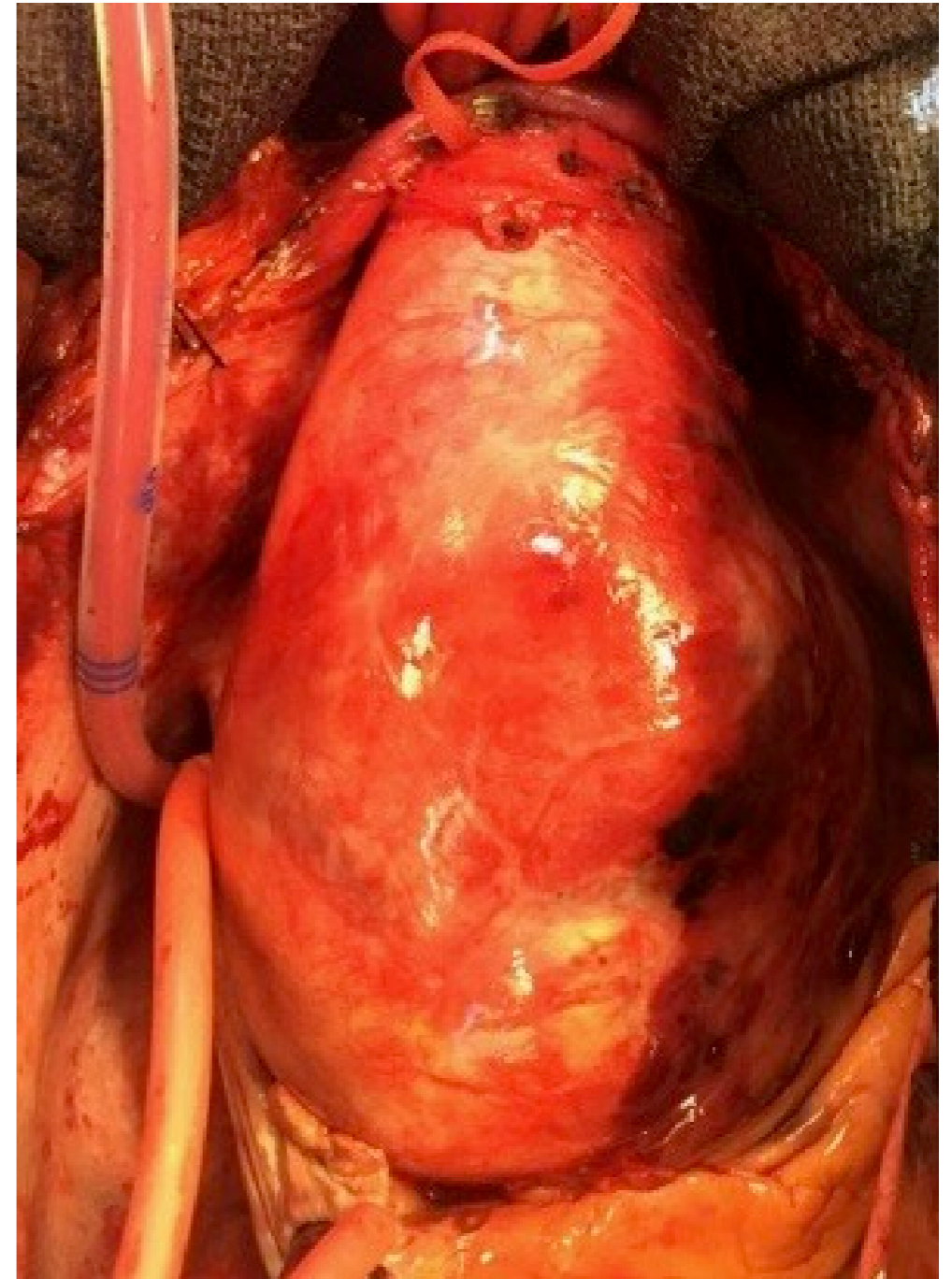
<b>Venous Cannulation</b>	Bi-caval	Dual Stage
<b>Arterial Cannulation</b>	Central (Aorta)	Innominate (direct)
<b>Cerebral Cannulation</b>	Innominate & LCCA ± LSA	LCCA
		
<b>Aorta side arm graft</b>	Yes	Sometimes
<b>Cardioplegia Delivery</b>	Bentley, Polystans, Retro	Polystans (5 right angle & 6 Straight)
<b>Pressure Monitoring</b>	R. Radial Femoral	R. Radial Femoral
<b>Anastomosis Order</b>	1. Distal Aorta 2. Proximal Aorta	1. Distal Aorta 2. Proximal Aorta

## Conclusions

- Aortic surgery is well established and indicated for aortic dissection and aneurysmal disease
- Novel techniques for cerebral perfusion continue to improve outcomes
- Complex ascending aorta and aortic arch aneurysm surgery require several monitoring / therapeutic measures in order to minimize neurologic complications

**Case: BL 64 yo M, Acute Type A Aortic Dissection,  
Tx from OSH, Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch**

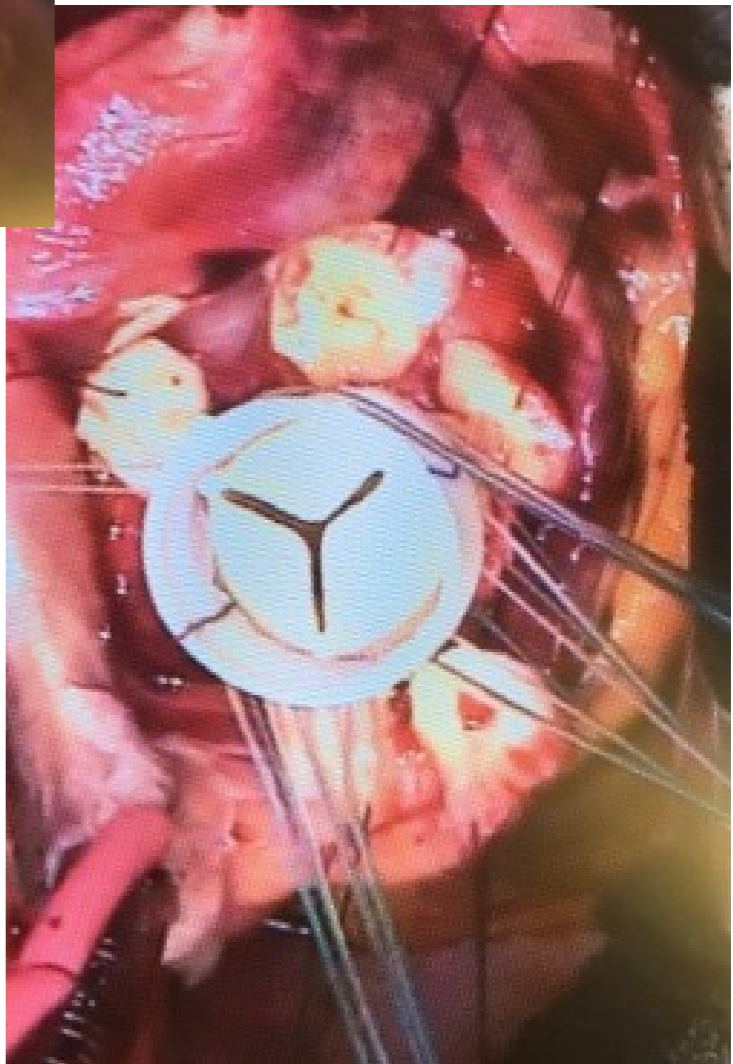
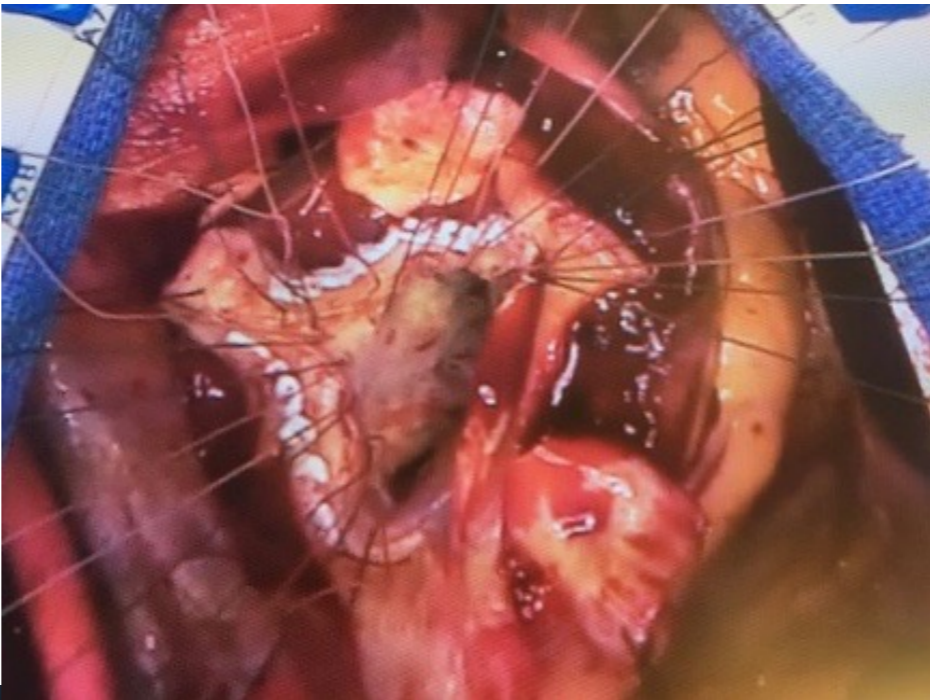
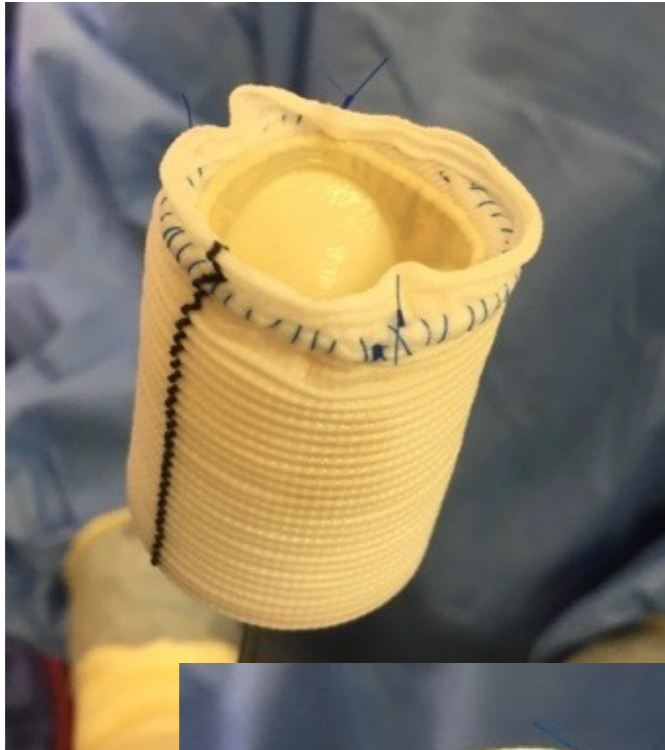
- Initial presented with N/V, given GI cocktail, Sent home
- Re-presented with diaphoresis, tachycardia, back pain, elevated Cr



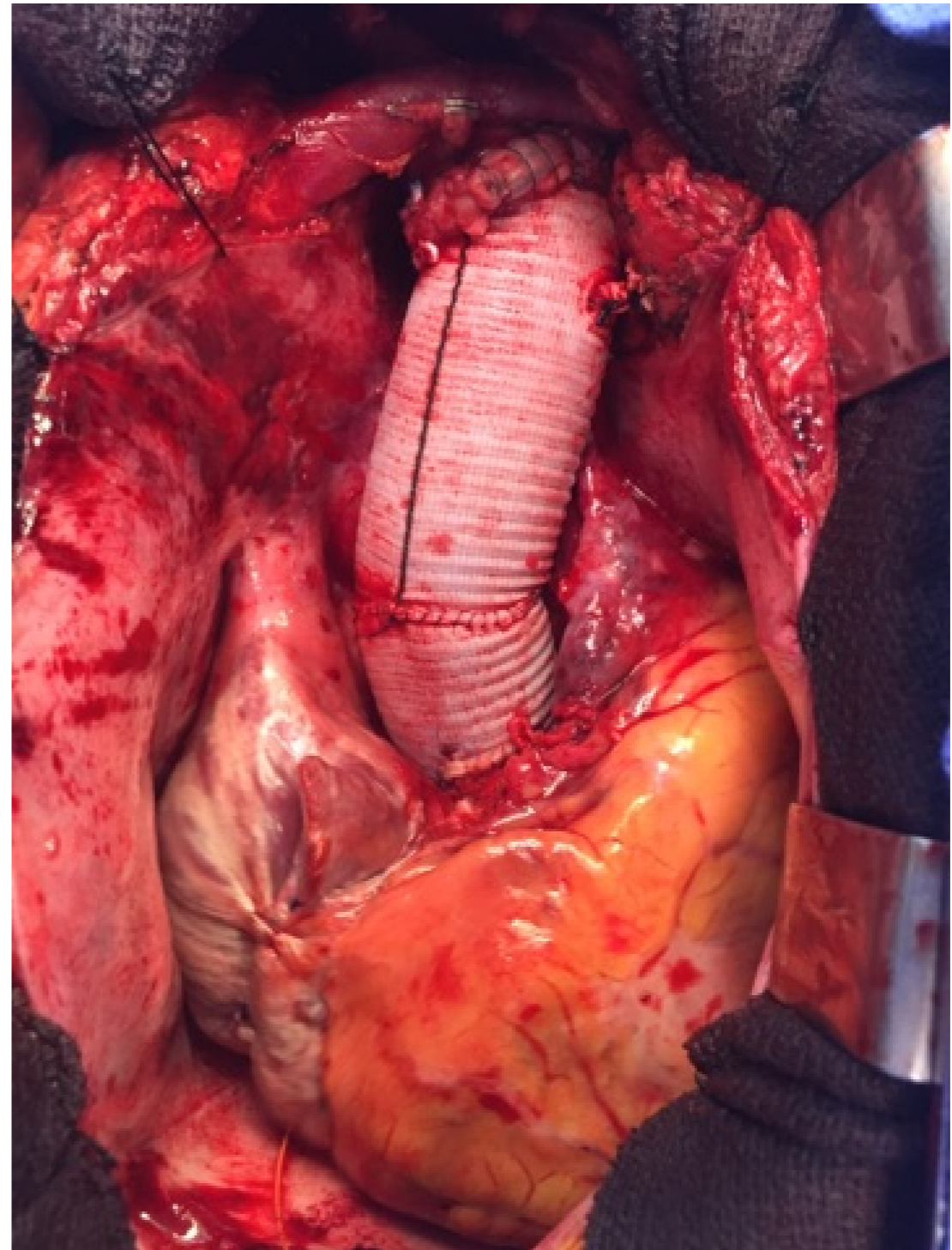
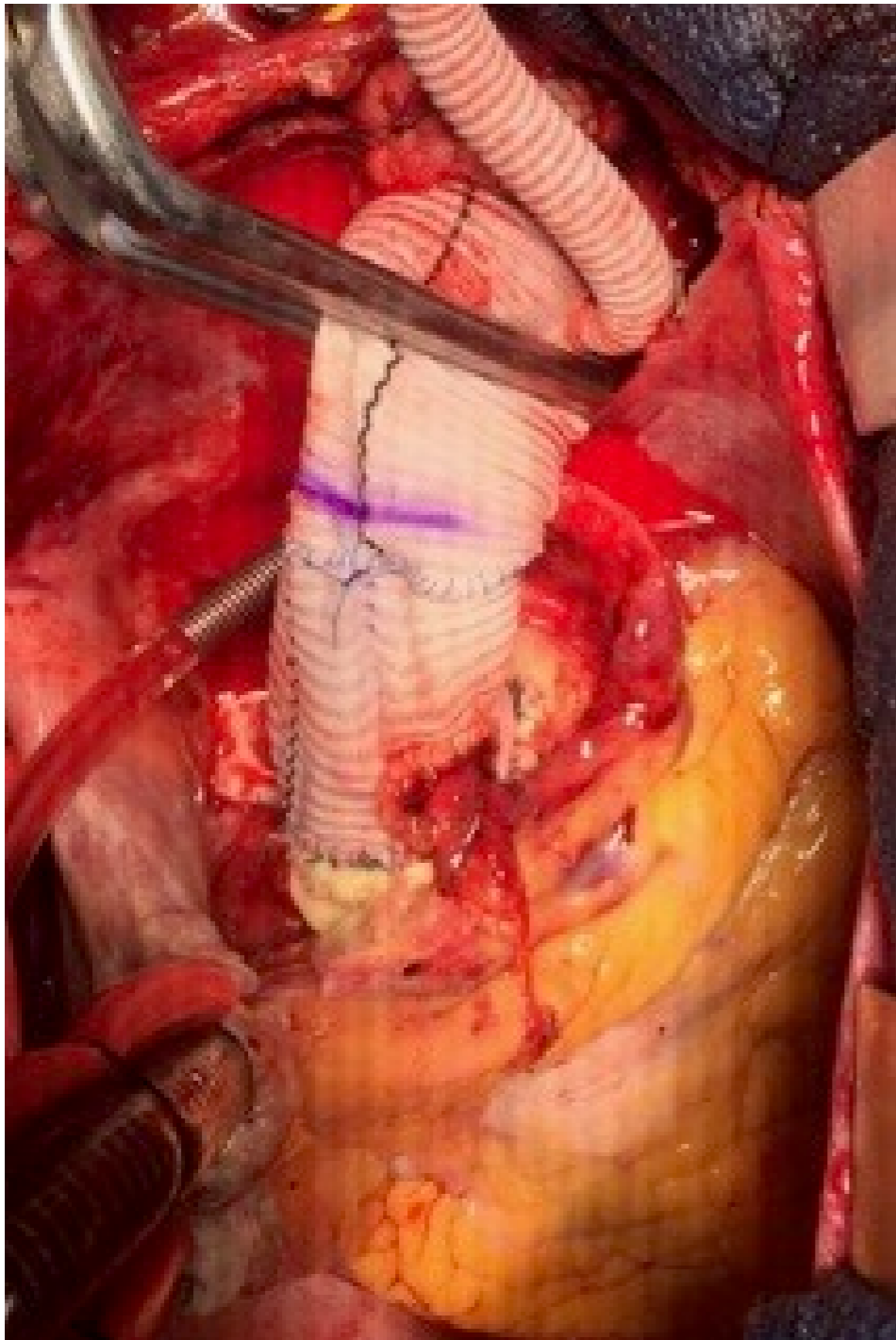
## Case: Aortic Dissection Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch



# Case: Aortic Dissection Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch



**Case: Aortic Dissection  
Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch,  
Discharged home POD #5**

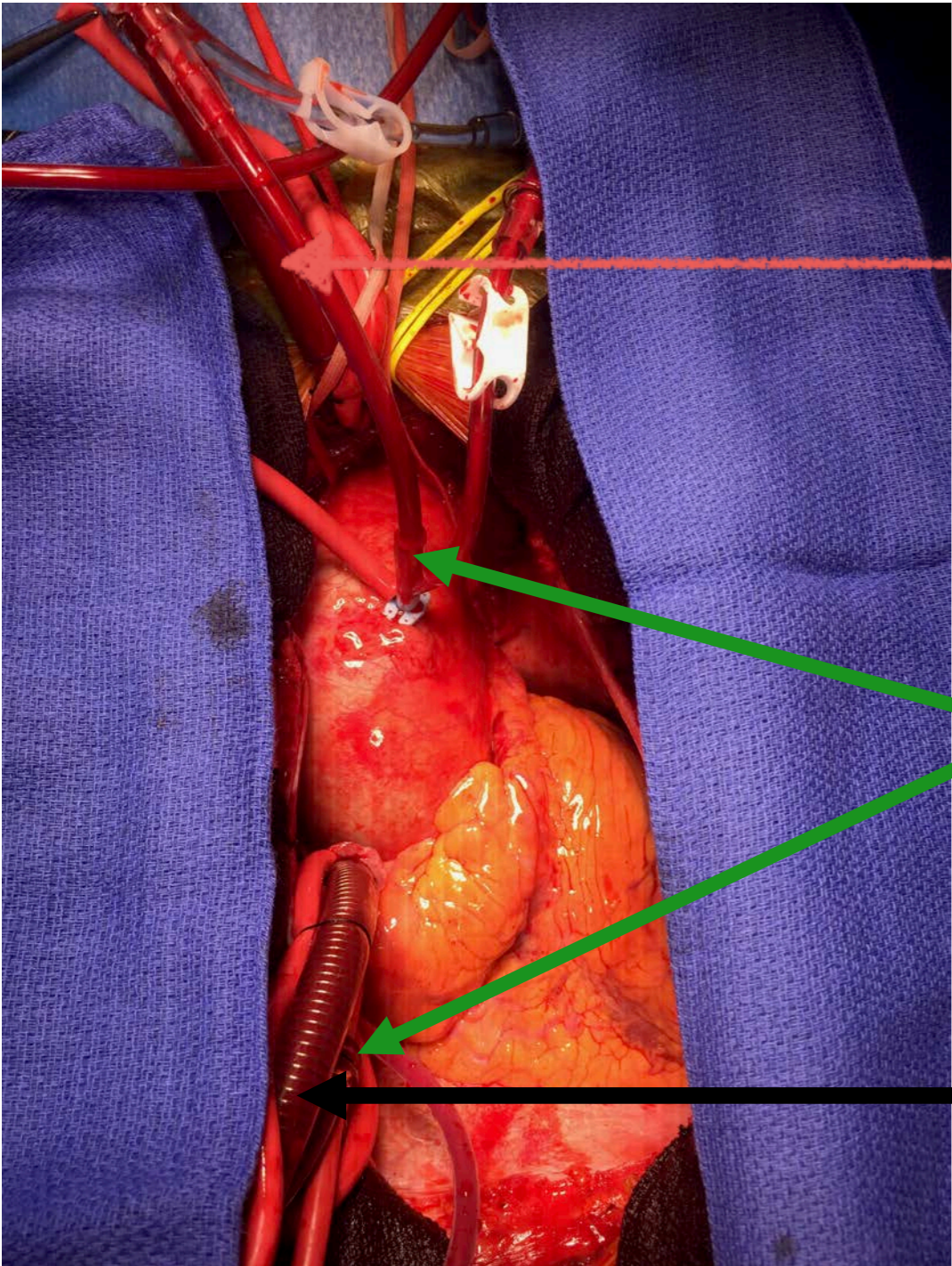




**Case: MB 76 yo M, Sev AI,  
Asc Ao Aneurysm 6.1cm  
Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch**



**Case: Asc Ao Aneurysm 6.8cm  
Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch**

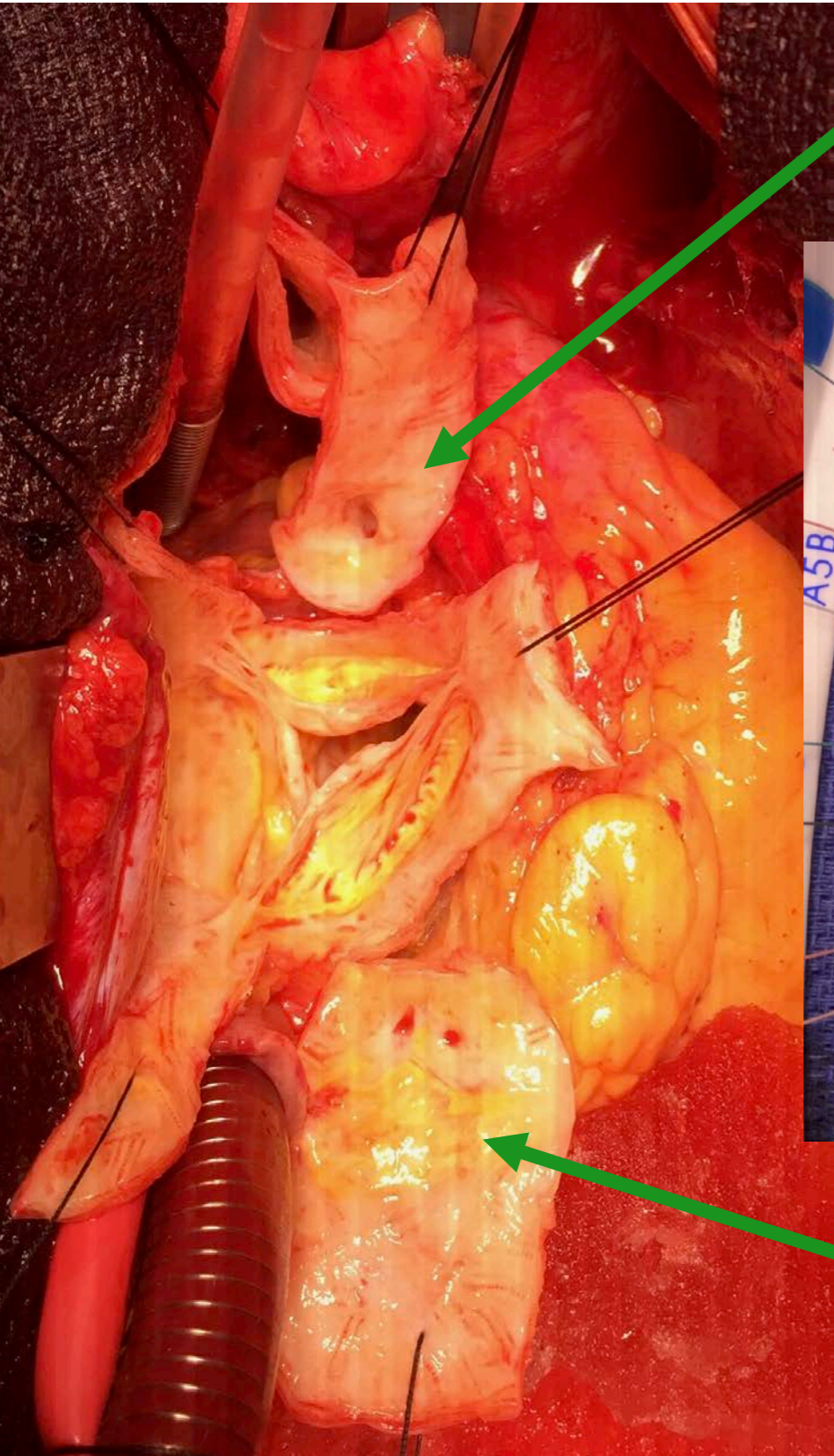


**Innominate Artery  
Cannula**

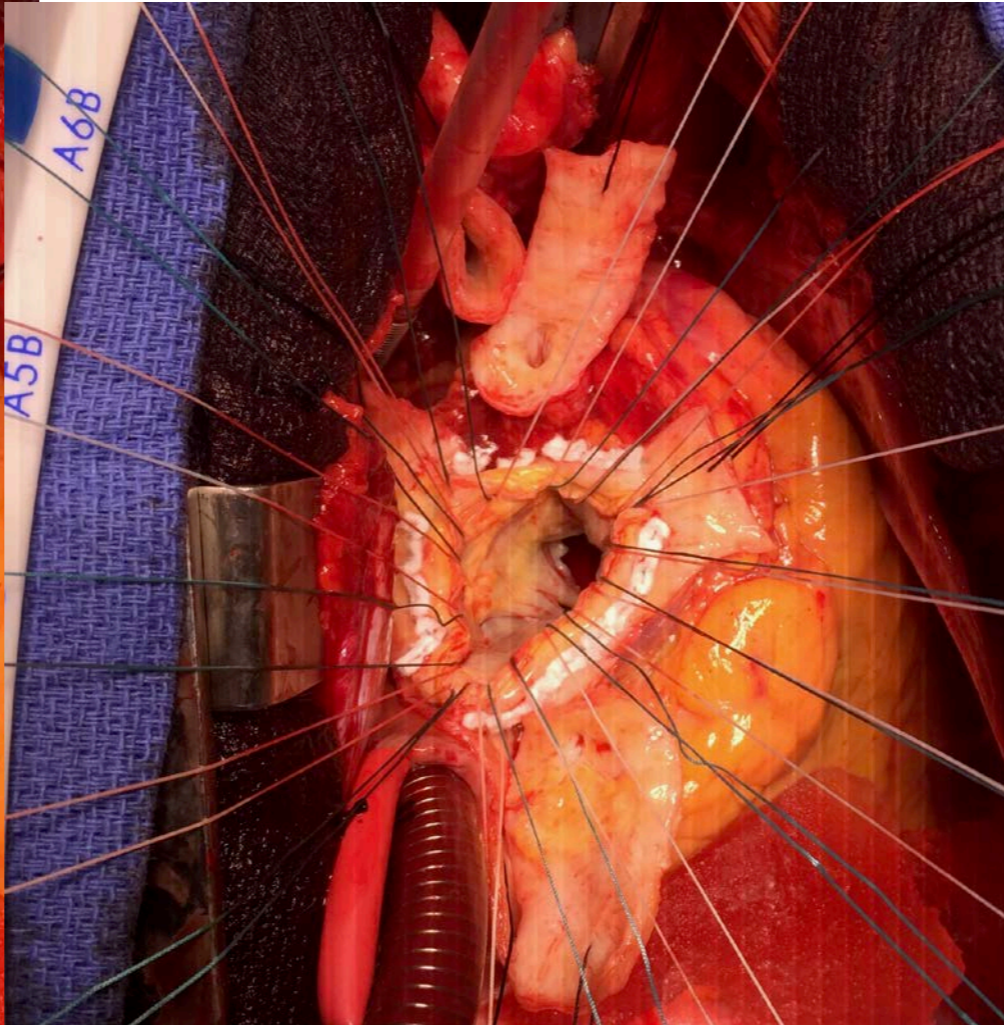
**Cardioplegia**

**Venous Cannula**

**Case: Asc Ao Aneurysm 6.8cm  
Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch**



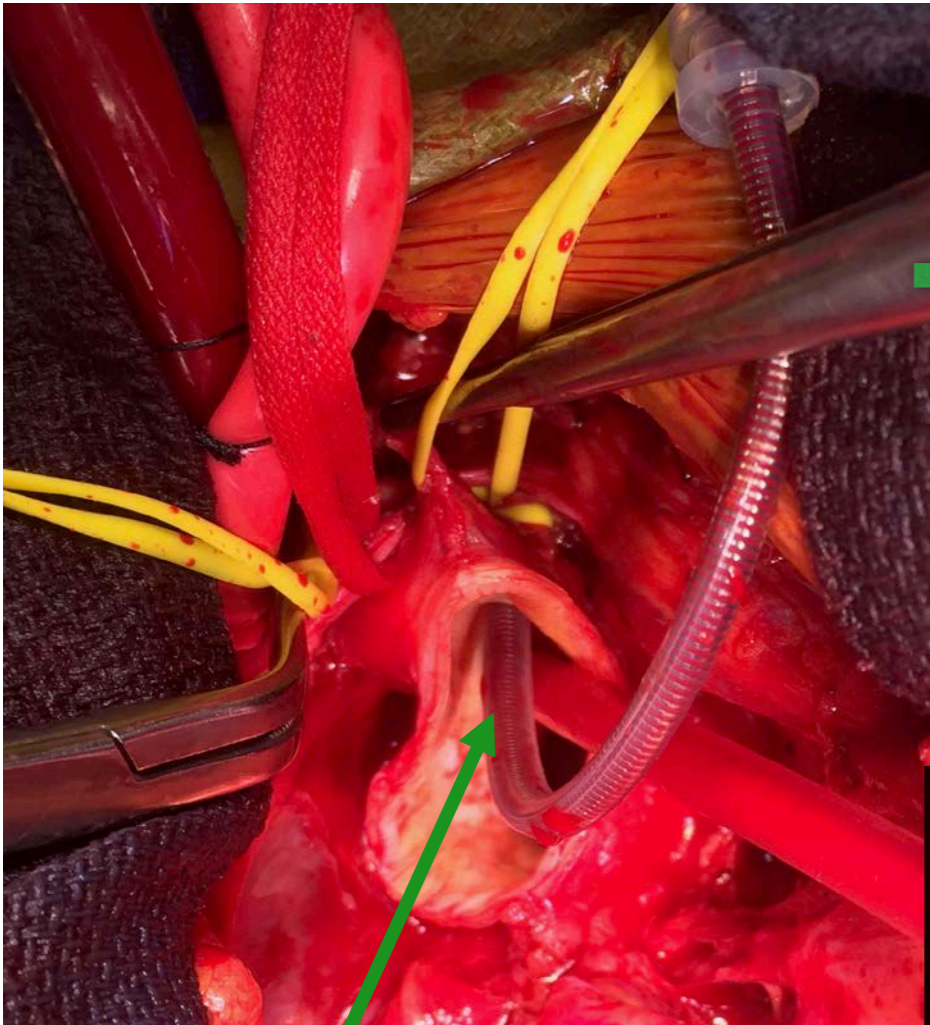
**LCA**



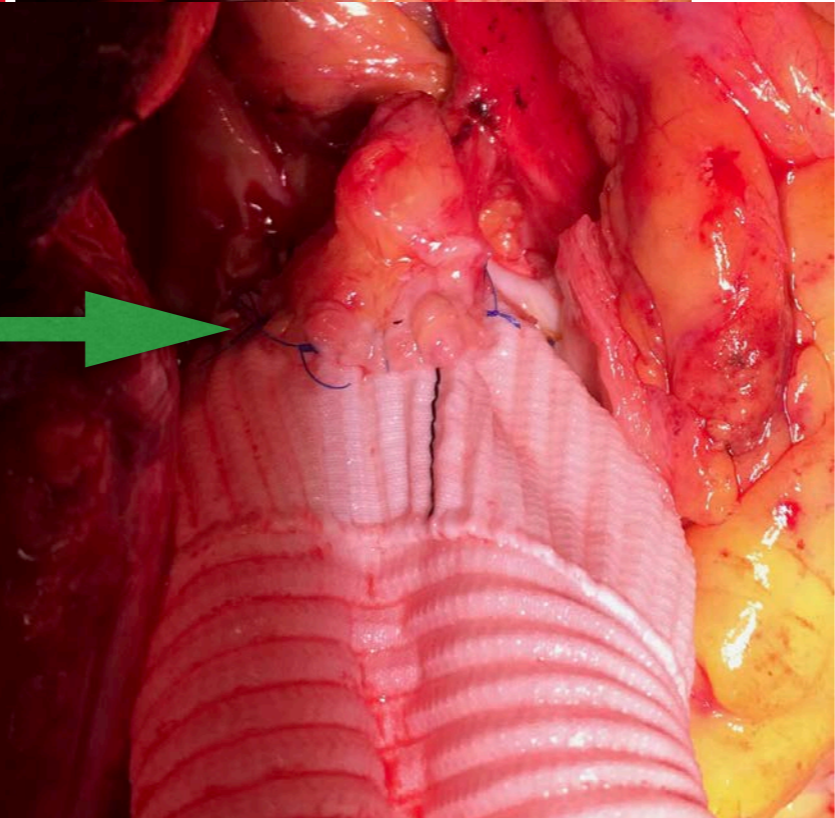
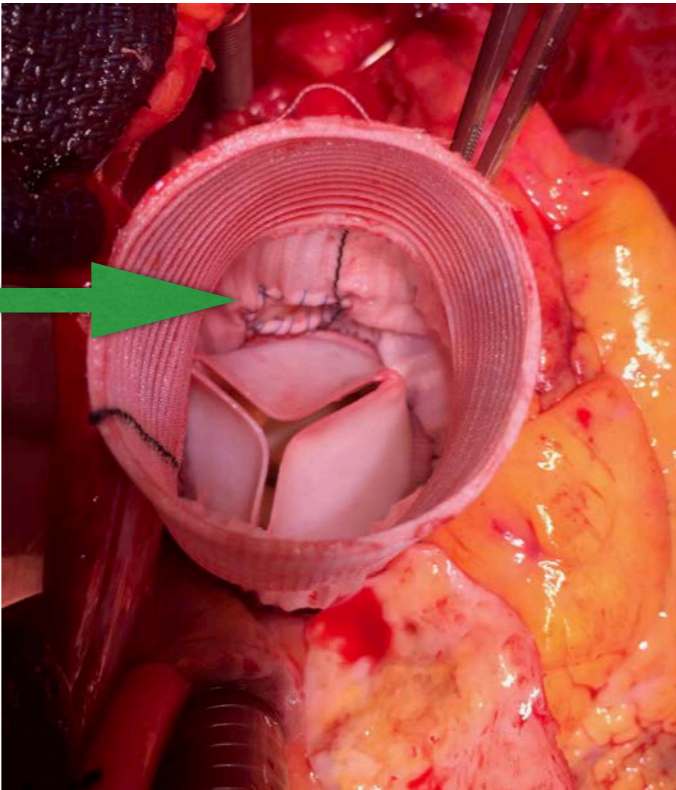
**RCA**



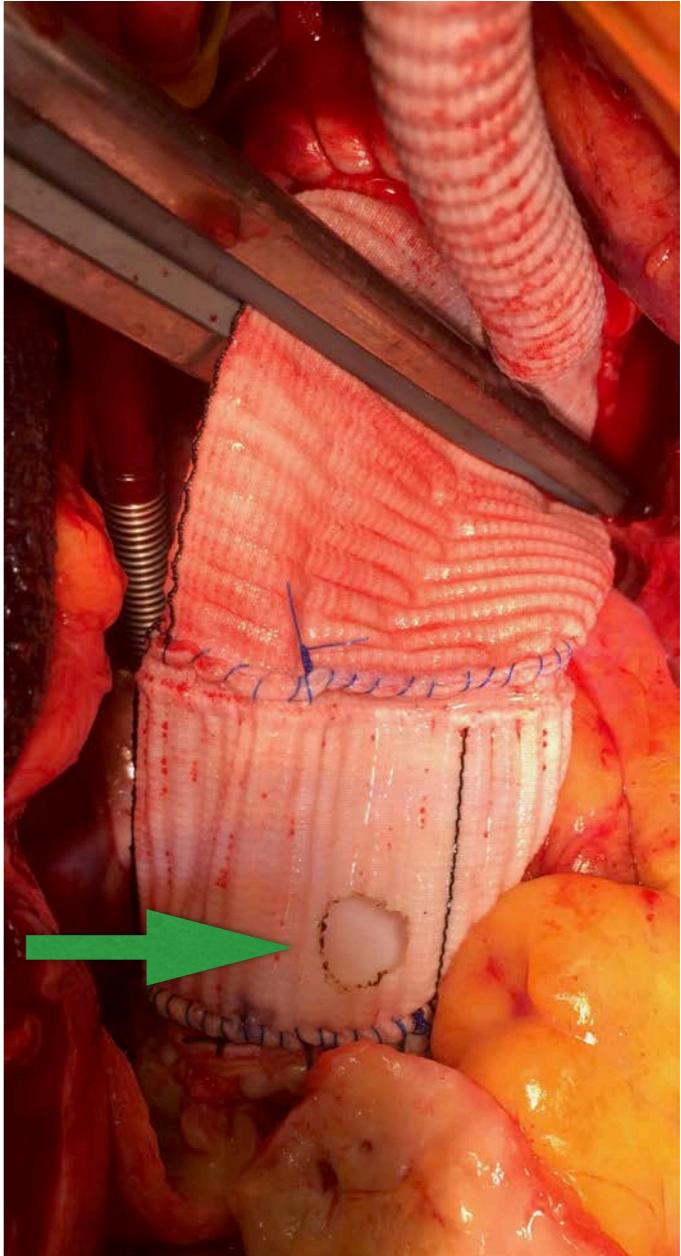
**Case: Asc Ao Aneurysm 6.8cm  
Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch**



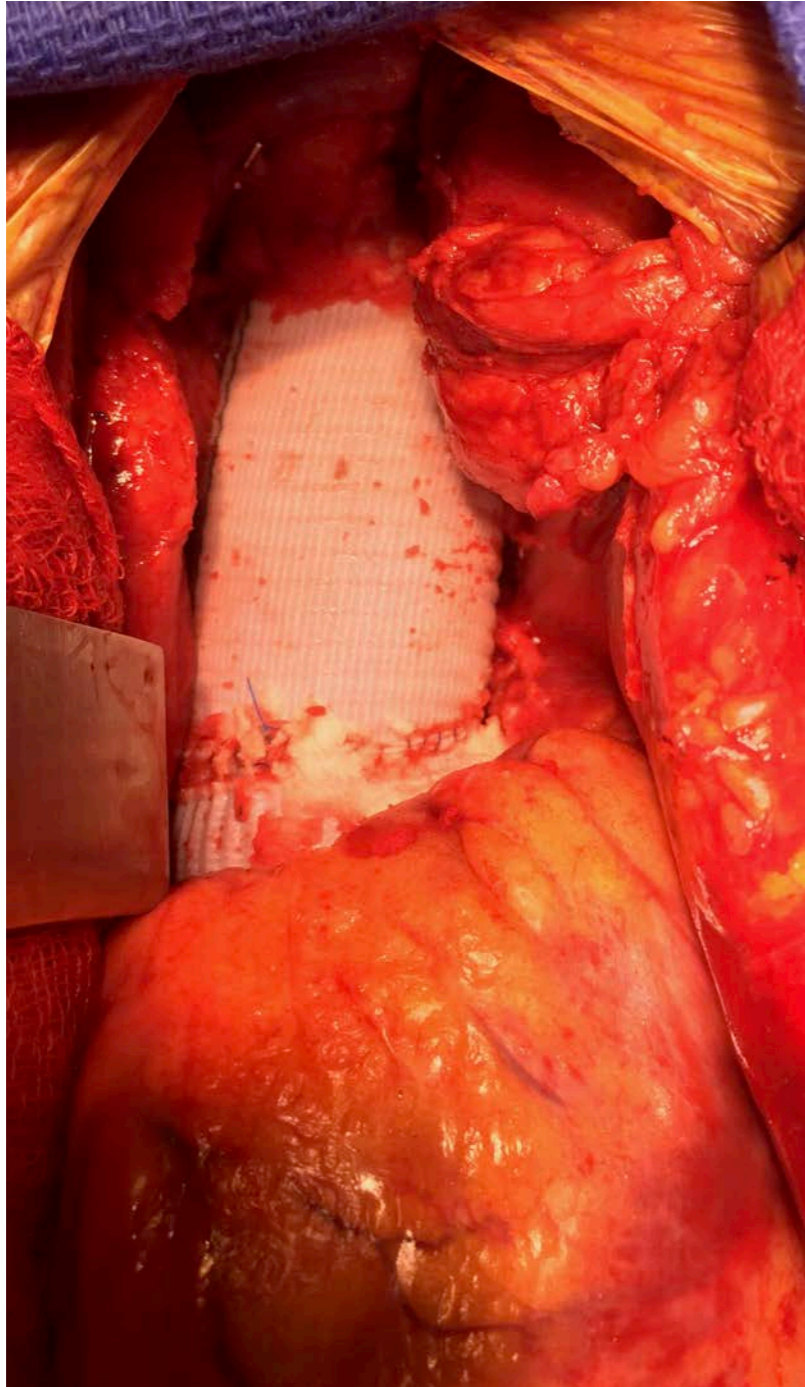
**Selective Antegrade  
Cerebral Perfusion**



**Coronary  
Reimplantation**



**Case: Asc Ao Aneurysm 6.8cm  
Aortic Root Replacement / Hemiarch  
Discharged home POD #7**

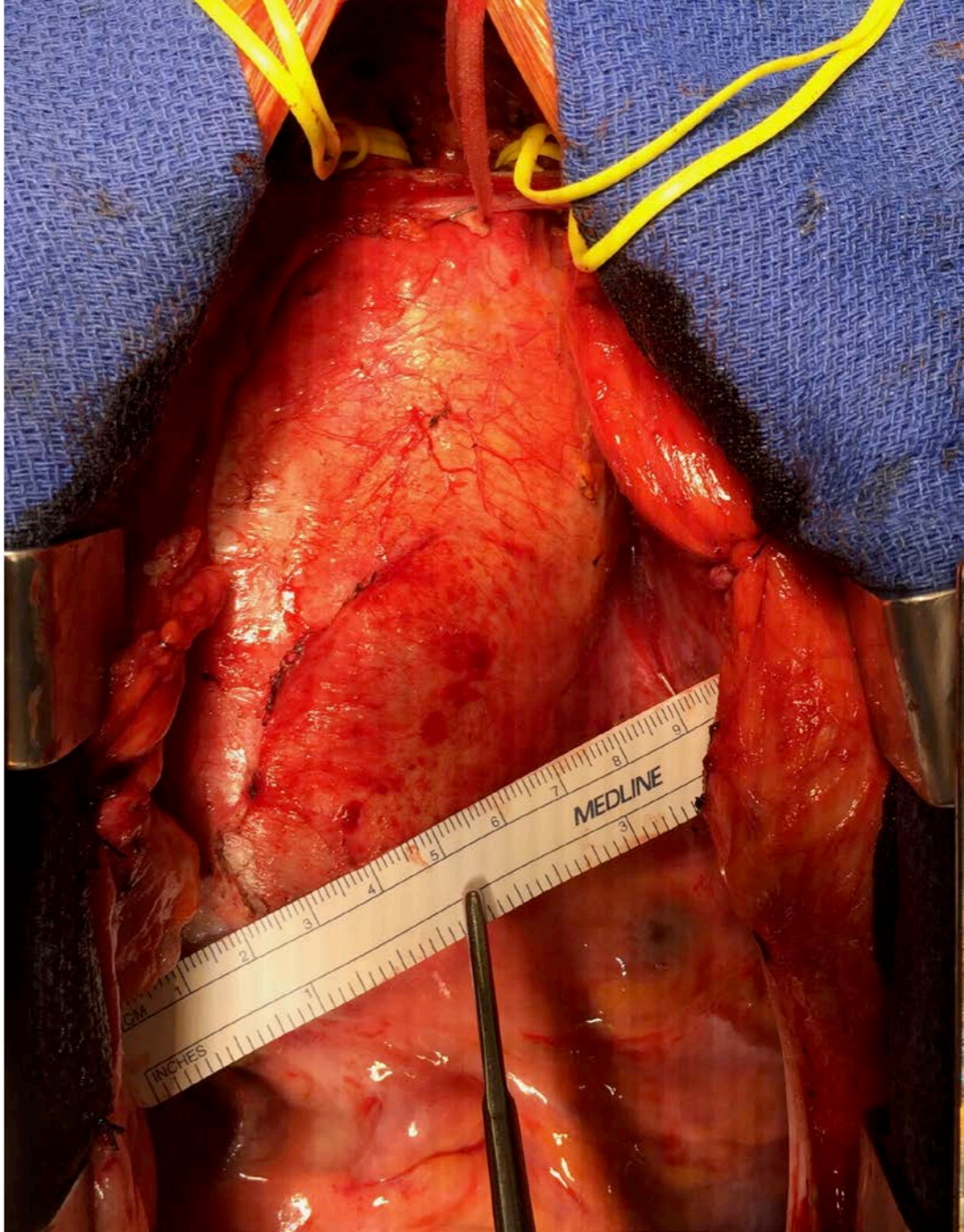


**Case: AF 84 yo M, Type A dissection,  
recent EVAR with preop LHC**

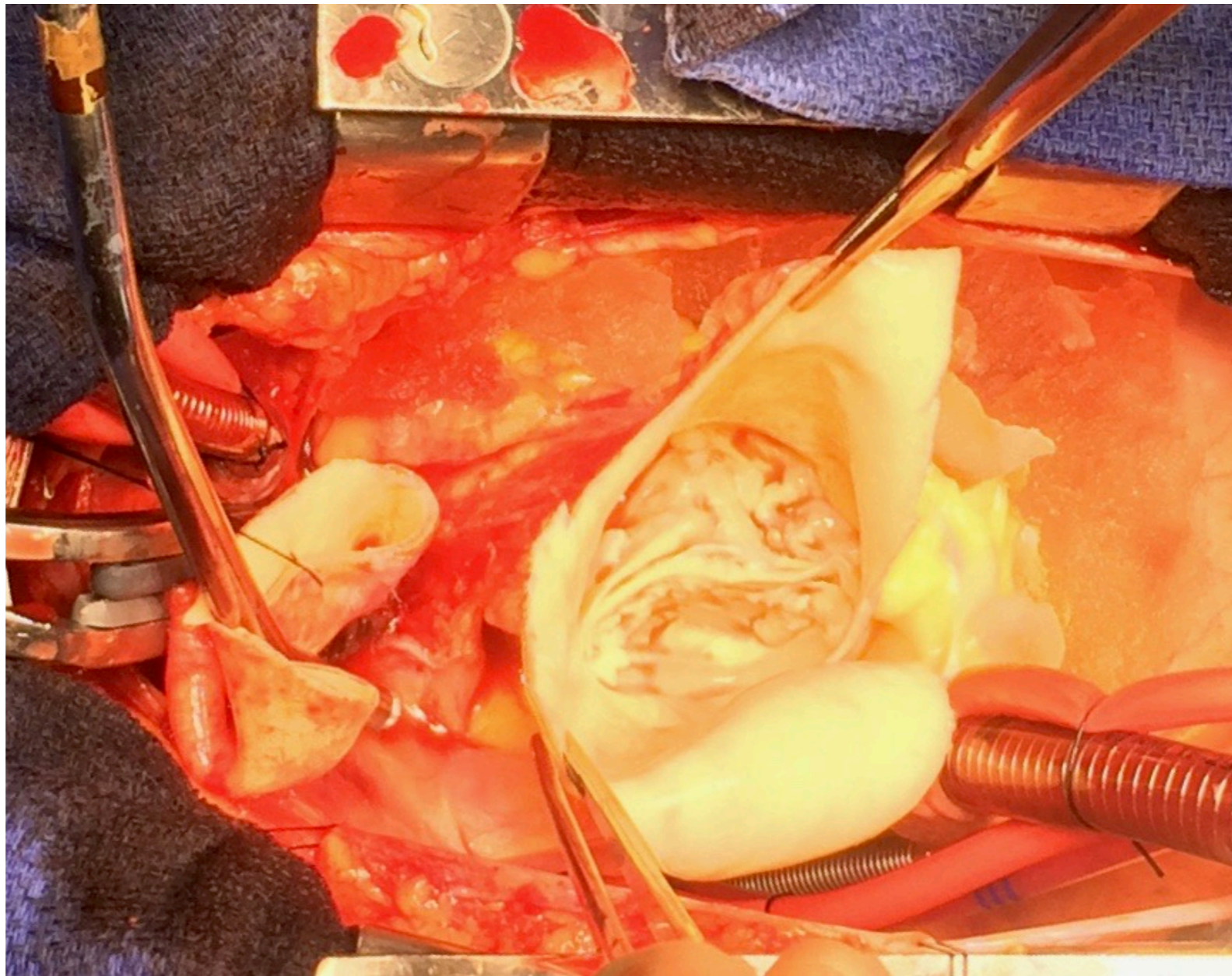
LEFT VENTRICULOGRAPHY:

Ejection fraction estimated at 55%. No mitral regurgitation was seen. The aortic root was severely dilated.

**Case: AF 84 yo M, Type A dissection 9.6cm,  
recent EVAR with preop LHC**

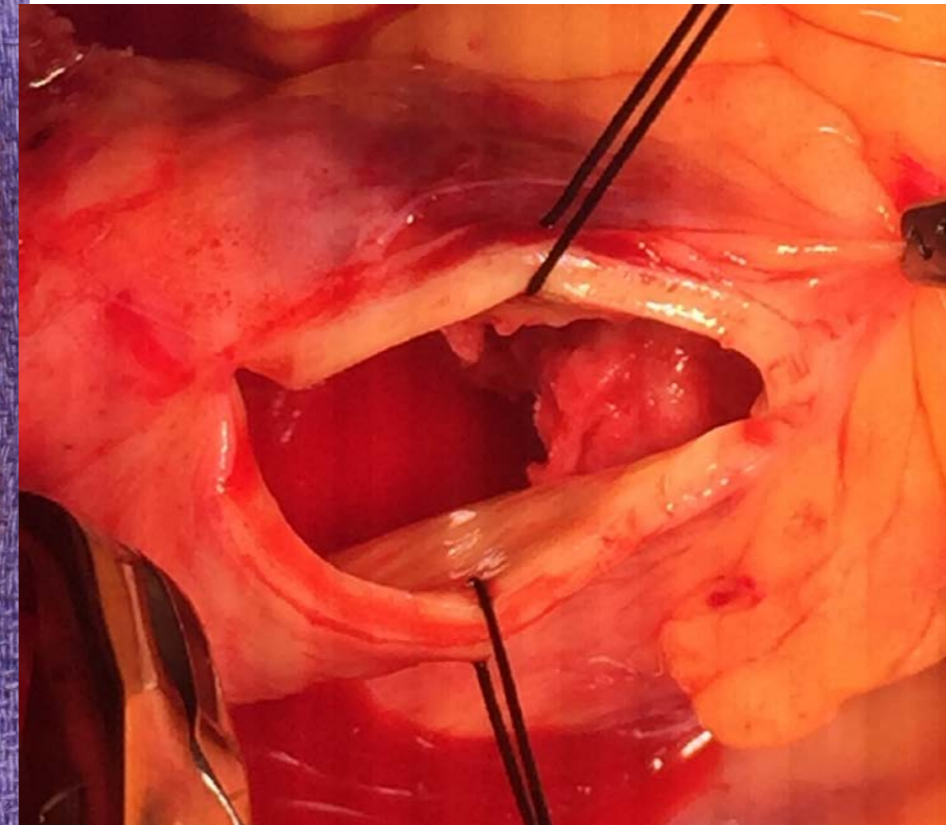
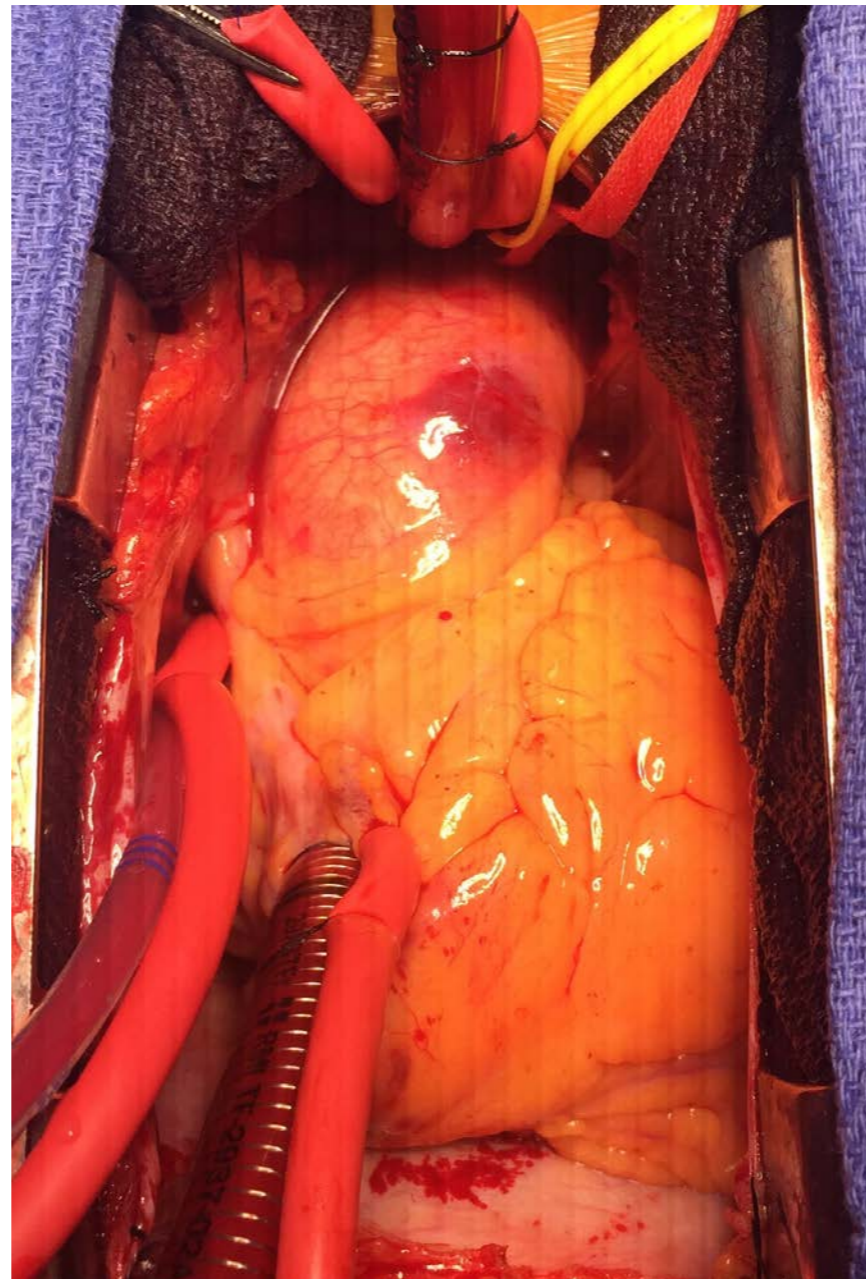


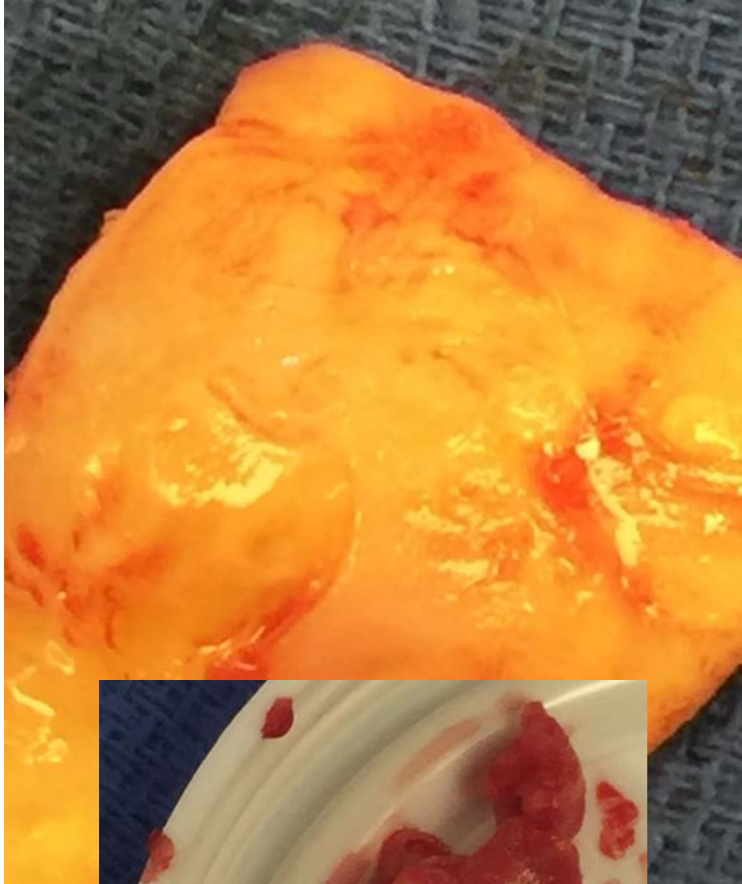
**Case: 75 yo M, Bicuspid, Asc Aneurysm  
Aortic Root Replacement**

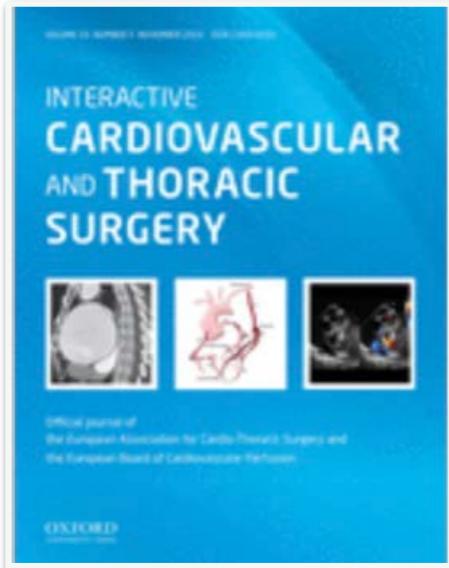




**Case: AL 66 yo F acute abdominal pain, SMA embolus,  
Asc Ao giant thrombus**





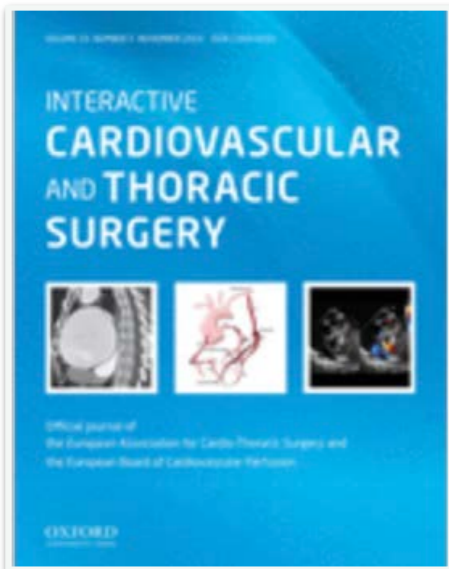


Interactive CardioVascular and Thoracic Surgery 12 (2011) 1048-1050

[www.icvts.org](http://www.icvts.org)

Case report - Aortic and aneurysmal  
**Giant thrombus in the ascending aorta that caused systemic embolism**

Takahiro Sawada\*, Tomoki Shimokawa



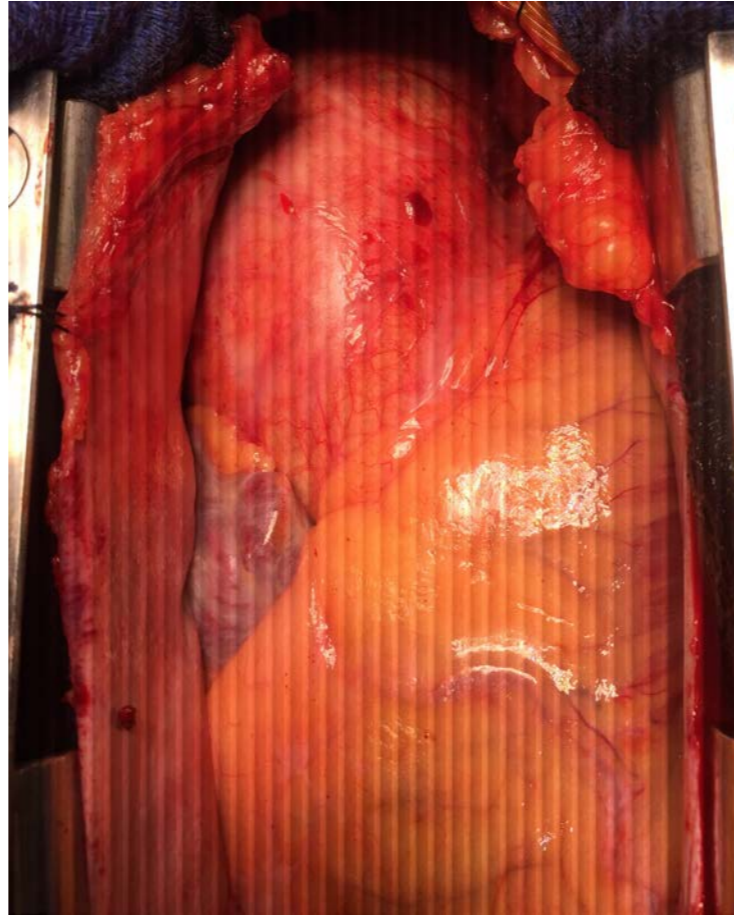
Interactive CardioVascular and Thoracic Surgery 9 (2009) 532-534

[www.icvts.org](http://www.icvts.org)

Case report - Cardiac general  
**Floating intra-aortic thrombus presenting as distal arterial embolism**

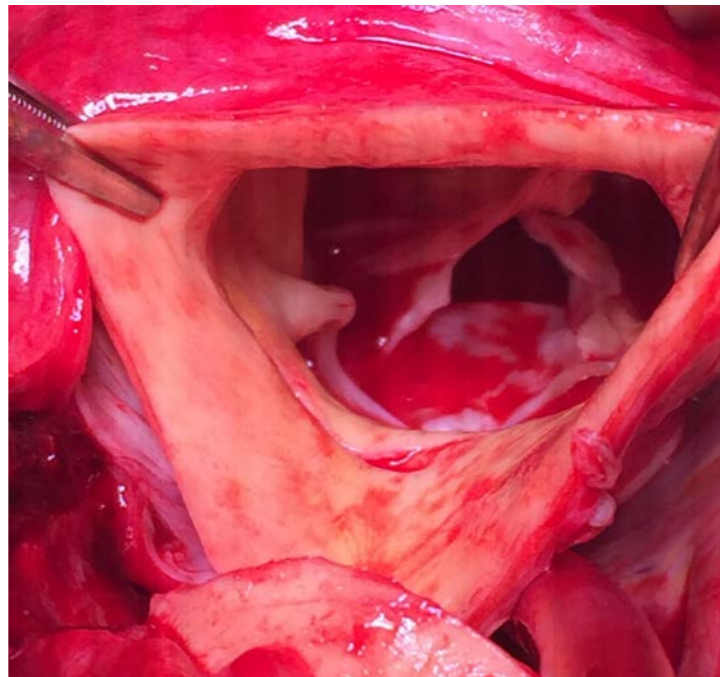
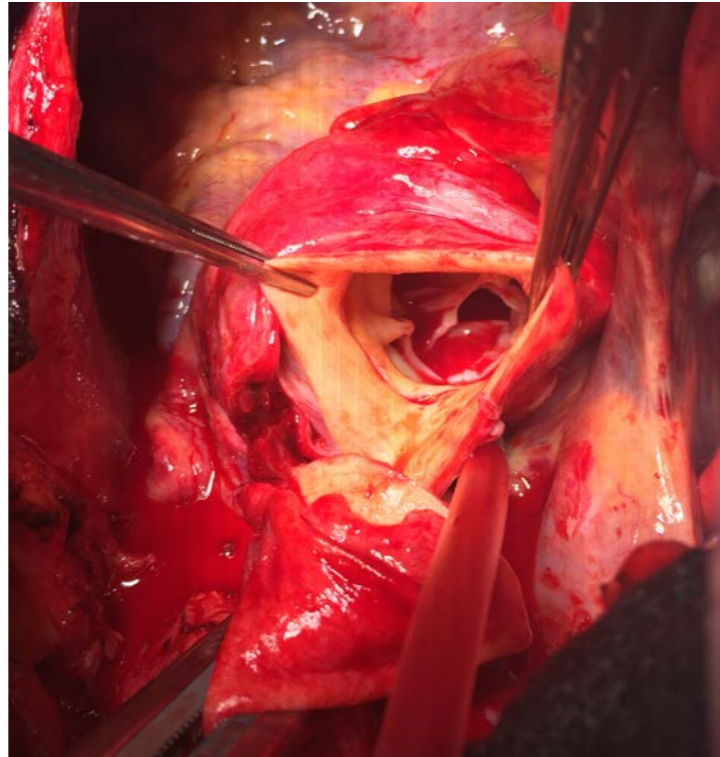
Dimitrios Pousios\*, Theodoros Velissaris, Simon Duggan, Geoff Tsang

**Case: DC 69 yo M, Asc aneurysm 4.7cm followed as outpt,  
Type A dissection, Aortic Root / Hemiarch**



**Case : PG 62 yo M, Acute R MCA Stroke,  
Type A dissection**

## Case: Acute R MCA Stroke, Type A dissection



**Thank you.**

