Clinical Image

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Abnormal origin of the left coronary artery

El Adioui Ghita*; Ettouhami Badr

Radiology Department, Chu Ibn Sina, Rabat, Morocco.

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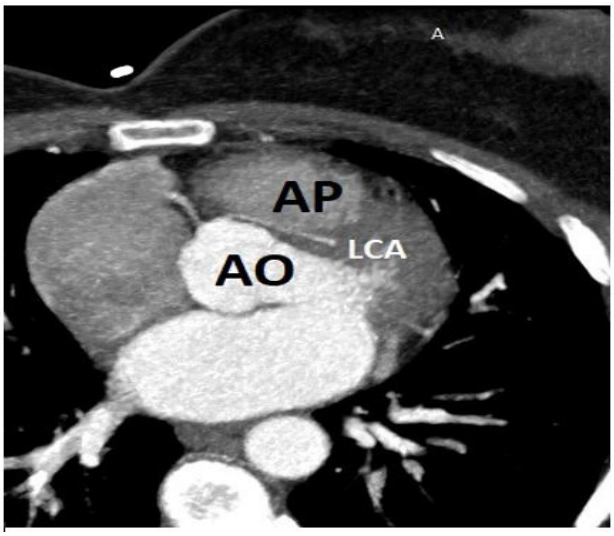
***Corresponding Author:** El Adioui Ghita, Radiology Department, Chu Ibn Sina, Rabat, Morocco.
Email: eladioui.ghita@gmail.com

Clinical Image

A 31-year-old female with a medical history of unexplained syncope presented with atypical chest pain. The patient has a healthy lifestyle and no risk factors. The EKG showed a sinusal rhythm with a flattened T wave in the anterior region, she then underwent a cardiovascular computed tomography and was found to have an abnormal origin of the left coronary artery from the right coronary sinus, with an inter-arterial course (figure 1). Coronary artery's anomalous origin and course are rare but can result in myocardial infarction, heart failure, arrhythmias, and sudden death [1]. The high risk of sudden cardiac arrest is due to the compression of the LCA between the great vessels, a slit ostium creating torsion or unfavorable geometry. Such anomalies constitute an important often incidental finding and have a variable prognosis, and surgical treatment for all patients is recommended [2].



Abnormal LCA origin and course

Figure 1: *Cardiac computed tomography showing the abnormal origin of the left coronary artery from the right coronary sinus as a separate vessel, with an inter-arterial course. (AP: pulmonary artery. AO: aorta, LCA: Left coronary artery).*

References

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