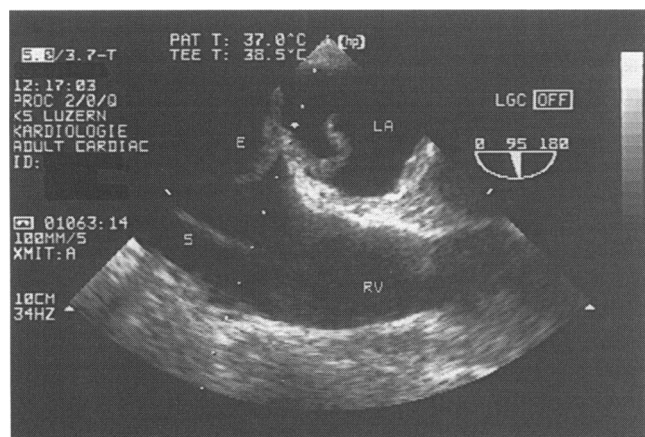


- 22 Shrout PE, Fleiss JL. Intraclass correlations: uses in assessing rates reliability. *Psychol Bull* 1979;86:420-8.
- 23 Bianchi A, Bontempi B, Cerutti S, Gianogho P, Comi G, Natali Sora MG. Spectral analysis of heart rate variability signal and respiration in diabetic subjects. *Med Biol Eng Comput* 1990;28:205-11.
- 24 Raczkokwska M, Eckberg DL, Ebert TJ. Muscarinic cholinergic receptors modulate vagal cardiac responses in man. *J Auton Nerv Syst* 1983;7:271.
- 25 Loffelholz K, Pappano AJ. The parasympathetic neuroeffector junction of the heart. *Pharm Rev* 1985;37:1-24.
- 26 Levy MN. Cardiac sympathetic *Fedn Proc* 1984;43:4598-2602.
- 27 Packer M, Carver JR, Rodcheffer R, Ivanhoe RJ, Dibianco R, *et al* for the PROMISE Study Research Group. Effect of oral milrinone on mortality in severe congestive heart failure. *N Eng J Med* 1991;325:1468-75.
- 28 Pedretti RFE, Colombo FE, Braga SS, Ballardini L, Caru B. Effects of oral pirenzepine on heart rate variability and baroreceptor reflex sensitivity after acute myocardial infarction. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1995;25:915-21.
- 29 Hull SS, Vanoli E, Adamson PB, DeFarrari GM, Foreman RD, Schwartz PJ. Do increases in markers of vagal activity imply protection from sudden death? The case of scopolamine. *Circulation* 1995;91:2516-9.

IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

Right to left thromboembolism through a patent foramen ovale



RV, right ventricle; S, Swan-Ganz catheter.

The possibility of right to left thromboembolism through a patent foramen ovale in patients with systemic embolism with no other cause continues to be discussed. We report a 63 year old man in whom we found an embolus (E) in the patent foramen ovale membrane, with one end in the right atrium and the other end in the left atrium (LA). The transoesophageal examination was done with a multiplane probe in the intensive care unit, because of a deterioration in respiratory variables in a ventilated patient after abdominal surgery.

MICHEL ZUBER
PAUL ERNE