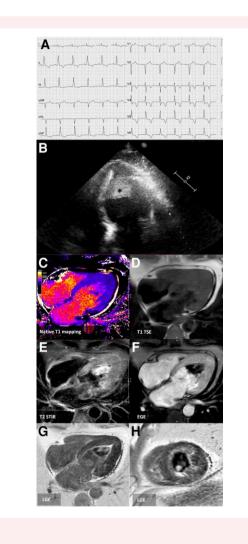


## Dual apical hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and endomyocardial fibrosis pathology

Chiara Martini<sup>1</sup>, Davide Scordo<sup>1</sup>, Lorenzo Molinari<sup>1</sup>, Sabina Gallina<sup>1</sup>, and Fabrizio Ricci ()<sup>1,2,3</sup>\*

<sup>1</sup>Department of Neuroscience, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, G.d'Annunzio University of Chieti-Pescara, Via Luigi Polacchi, 11, 66100 Chieti, Italy; <sup>2</sup>Department of Clinical Sciences, Lund University, Jan Waldenströms gata 35, 214 28 Malmö, Sweden; and <sup>3</sup>Fondazione Villaserena per la Ricerca, 65103 Città Sant'Angelo, Italy

Received 24 February 2023; first decision 22 March 2023; accepted 14 April 2023; online publish-ahead-of-print 17 April 2023



A 66-year-old man was referred to our cardiology unit with worsening shortness of breath on exertion. Electrocardiogram (ECG) showed sinus rhythm, QS complex in leads V1 and V2, and diffuse negative symmetric T-waves (panel A). Echocardiography revealed thickened apical segments with obliteration of the left ventricular cavity and a mobile intraventricular isoechoic mass of  $40 \times 35$  mm (panel B, asterisk). Low-molecular-weight-heparin and warfarin were immediately started. Blood tests documented absolute eosinophil count of 4500/µL. After a thorough workup ruled out causes for secondary eosinophilia, a diagnosis of hypereosinophilic syndrome was suspected. Cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging documented the presence of relative apical hypertrophy with abnormal basoapical tapering of left ventricular wall thickness, papillary muscle apical displacement, and elongated anterior mitral valve leaflet and revealed major diagnostic criteria of endomyocardial fibrosis with a layer of subendocardial late gadolinium enhancement lining the apical segments of both ventricles with superimposed intracavitary thrombosis (panels C to H, Supplementary material online, Videos S1 and S2). Endomyocardial biopsy obtained from the right ventricular septum confirmed the fibrous thickening of the endocardium and presence of faecal areas of myofibrillar disarray and replacement fibrosis. The patient was discharged on warfarin but declined steroid treatment and genetic testing. Six-month follow-up was uneventful with partial resolution of left ventricular thrombosis. We present a case of dual apical hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and endomyocardial fibrosis pathology in a patient with idiopathic hypereosinophilic syndrome, a rare disorder with frequent cardiac involvement featuring endocardial fibrous tissue proliferation. Treatment is mainly directed towards prevention and management of chronic heart failure, arrhythmia, pulmonary hypertension, and thromboembolic events.

## Supplementary material

Supplementary material is available at European Heart Journal – Case Reports online.

**Consent:** The patient has given his consent for the use of his medical data and images.

\* Corresponding author. Tel: (+39) 0871-355 6922, Email: fabrizio.ricci@unich.it Handling Editor: Matthew Williams

© The Author(s) 2023. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the European Society of Cardiology.

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/), which permits non-commercial re-use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited. For commercial re-use, please contact journals.permissions@oup.com

## **Conflict of interest:** None declared.

**Funding:** 2019 Search for Excellence Starting Grant, G.d'Annunzio University of Chieti-Pescara.

## Data availability

No new data were generated or analysed in support of this research.