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IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

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Angiographic appearance of “tumour blush” produced by a large right atrial myxoma

A 76 year old woman presented to the hospital with shortness of breath. The initial evaluation included a computed tomographic scan to exclude pulmonary embolism. However, this instead demonstrated a large right atrial mass which was confirmed on echocardiography. The patient was referred for coronary angiography before the resection of this mass. Right atrial angiogram showed a large mobile filling defect measuring 6 cm in diameter in the right atrium going into the right ventricle with each diastole. Coronary angiography showed no significant coronary artery disease. The right coronary artery injection showed an atrial branch of the right coronary artery supplying this tumour producing a “tumour blush” (panel). The patient underwent surgical excision of the mass with patch reconstruction of the atrial septum. The final pathological diagnosis was atrial myxoma.

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Right coronary artery injection showing the mass being supplied by an atrial branch of the right coronary artery producing a “tumour blush” (arrows).