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IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

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Swing-like movement of pigtail catheter in a patient with ruptured chordae tendinae

A 77-year-old woman was admitted to our hospital with congestive heart failure. A pansystolic murmur was audible at the apex. Echocardiography revealed a flail anterior leaflet of the mitral valve with massive mitral regurgitation, indicating a diagnosis of mitral regurgitation caused by rupture of the chordae tendinae. The left atrial dimension was 53 mm, the left ventricular end diastolic dimension was 56 mm, and the left ventricular ejection fraction was 85%. Medical treatment was administered and then right- and left-sided cardiac catheterisation was performed. Pulmonary capillary wedge pressure was 25 mm Hg, and the cardiac index was 1.87 l/min/m². The panels show that a pigtail catheter inserted into the left ventricle swung between the left ventricle and the left atrium (to view video footage visit the *Heart* website—<http://www.heartjnl.com/supplemental>). Coronary arteriography revealed intact coronary arteries. The patient underwent mitral valve replacement without any complications. This unique finding that has not been previously reported is thought to be caused by flailed mitral valve with severe mitral regurgitation.

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To view video footage visit the *Heart* website—<http://www.heartjnl.com/supplemental>

Right (left panels) and left (right panels) anterior oblique projections show that the pigtail catheter swung between the left ventricle and left atrium during the cardiac cycle (upper panels = systolic phase, lower panels = diastolic phase).