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IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

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Common origin of all three major coronary vessels from the aorta through a single ostium

A 42-year-old man with a history of heavy smoking (3–4 packs/day) for more than 20 years and a strong family history of premature coronary artery disease underwent coronary angiography after initial management for non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction. A coronary angiogram disclosed an anomalous coronary anatomy with common origin of the left anterior descending (LAD), circumflex and right coronary arteries (RCA) with critical three vessel disease. The RCA showed an 80% lesion in the proximal third, the circumflex had a 90% lesion in the middle third, and the LAD was totally occluded just after the origin of a large diagonal one branch (panel A). He underwent bypass grafting and did remarkably well. An anteroposterior view clearly demonstrated the common origin of the LAD, RCA and circumflex arteries (panel B). As far as we

know, this is the first reported case of all three coronaries originating from a single ostium from the aorta.

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