Images in Cardiovascular Disease

A Huge Aneurysm of the Descending Thoracic Aorta

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Conflict of Interest

The authors have no financial conflicts of
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A 40-year-old African man was examined by a physician for a dorsal mass accompanied by pain. The pulsating thoracic mass was observed on the left side of the back close to his spine (**Figure 1**). A chest computed tomography scan showed a huge descending thoracic aorta aneurysm (about 10 cm in diameter) (**Figure 2**). The patient was transferred to a cardiovascular center for vascular surgery. The descending thoracic aorta aneurysm was totally removed with reimplantation of T8–T12 intercostal branches. The patient was discharged from the hospital 15 days later without major complications, e.g., paraplegia.

Figure 1. A huge back mass.

Figure 2. A huge aneurysm of the descending thoracic aorta on computed tomography (arrow).