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# Four-dimensional flow cardiovascular magnetic resonance for the assessment of mitral stenosis

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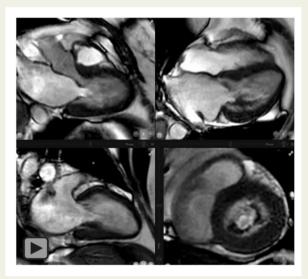
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A 52-year-old lady presented with breathlessness with no physical stigmata of heart failure. Transthoracic echocardiography demonstrated a rheumatic-looking mitral valve (MV) with a mean pressure gradient (PG) of 12 mmHg, a dilated left atrium (32 cm<sup>2</sup>), and moderate mitral regurgitation (MR) (Figure 1A-C) (Video 1). On transoesophageal echocardiography (TOE), the mean PG was 7 mmHg and the MR was severe with a PISA of 0.1-1.02 cm (Figure 1D-F). At this stage, the regional heart team suggested further assessment by invasive haemodynamic and cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR). For CMR, in addition to the standard assessment, four-dimensional (4D) flow was done (Figure 1G-L) (Video 1-2). CMR cines demonstrated similar restrictive MV leaflets. On short-axis cines, the MV opening area at the tips of the leaflets was 2.1 cm<sup>2</sup> and on 4D flow assessment the mean MV PG was 6 mmHg with only 13 mL of MR. Coronary angiography did not demonstrate any coronary disease and the invasive haemodynamic assessment was in keeping with the TOE with 6 mmHg mean PG (Figure 1M and N); the MV area was 2.1 cm<sup>2</sup> by the Gorlin method. To summarize, TOE, invasive assessment, and CMR confirmed she had



**Video I** This video demonstrates mitral regurgitation by colour Doppler echocardiography and three-dimensional reconstruction of the mitral valve.



**Video 2** This video demonstrates both long-axis and short-axis cines on CMR of the mitral valve to make a comprehensive assessment of the leaflet pathology.

at most mild to moderate mitral stenosis (MS). CMR elucidated the MR severity to be mild. This case highlights several points: echocardiography can overestimate the regurgitation jet in restrictive valvular opening, mainly due to exaggeration of turbulent backward-flow through a restrictive MV; MR quantification by CMR can help decision-making in cases where echocardiographic methods are inconsistent; and as this case highlights for the first-time, 4D flow can quantify mean PG across the MV for MS assessment.

**Consent:** The authors confirm that written consent for submission and publication of this case report including images and

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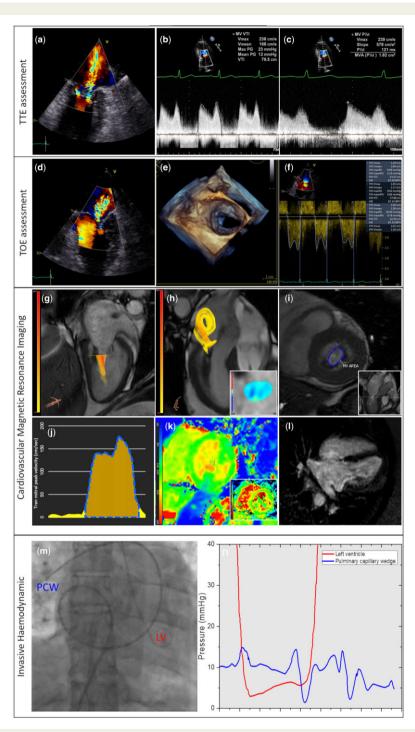
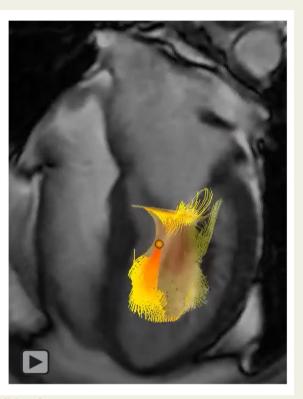


Figure I Multi-modality assessment of mixed mitral valve disease. Transthoracic echocardiography: Turbulent mitral regurgitation demonstrated in the apical two chamber with dilated left atrium (A). Velocity time integral-derived mean pressure gradient through the mitral valve (B) was 12 mmHg and the pressure half-time (C) estimated the mitral valve area to be 1.82 cm². On transoesophageal echocardiography, severe mitral regurgitation is seen in two-chamber (D) and on three-dimensional reconstruction of the mitral valve (E) the degree of mitral stenosis does not appear to be severe. On velocity time integral (F), the mean pressure gradient was 6 mmHg. On four-dimensional flow cardiovascular magnetic resonance, the peak mitral inflow velocity was traced throughout the diastole using plane with maximum velocity (G) and during systole (H), a reformatted plane was generated perpendicular to the mitral regurgitation jet in the left atrium (H). On short-axis cine, mitral valve area was 2.1 cm² at the tips of mitral valve (I). The mean pressure gradient for mitral inflow was 6 mmHg (I). T1-mapping (I) and extracellular mapping demonstrated normal myocardium. There was no evidence of left ventricular scar on late gadolinium enhancement (I). Invasive haemodynamic assessment was done using a multipurpose catheter placed for the capillary wedge pressure and a pigtail catheter within the left ventricle to allow recording of simultaneous pressures (I). The simultaneous pressure tracings of left ventricle and pulmonary capillary wedge are demonstrated (I).



**Video 3** The peak mitral inflow velocity was traced throughout the diastole using plane with maximum velocity and during systole, a reformatted plane was generated perpendicular to the mitral regurgitation jet in the left atrium.

associated text has been obtained from the patient in line with  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{COPE}}$  guidance.

**Conflict of interest:** P.G. is clinical advisor to Pie Medical Imaging and Medis Medical Imaging.

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