risk factors. As a remarkable fact, her son had died that day. On admission, physical examination revealed no pathological findings. Electrocardiogram (ECG) showed 1 mm ST elevation in leads I and aVL. There was not ST elevation in precordial leads (Fig. 1A). Transthoracic echocardiography (TTE), revealed apical akinesia, midventricular hypokinesia and basal hyperkinesia of the left ventricle with ejection fraction of 35%. Coronary angiography revealed normal coronary arteries. However, ventriculography (Video 1. See corresponding video/movie images at www.anakarder.com) showed apical and midventricular ballooning with basal hyperkinesia. Chest pain disappeared spontaneously. Cardiac enzyme and troponin levels were elevated and reached to maximal degrees on the 2nd day. Although there was no abnormality in pecordial leads on the 1st day, electrocardiogram showed inverted T waves in precordial leads, I and aVL on the 8th day (Fig.1B). Transthoracic echocardiography, performed on the 7th day, revealed normal left ventricular systolic functions. With these findings, we diagnosed the Takotsubo cardiomyopathy (TC) and discharged her from hospital in excellent condition. Takotsubo cardiomyopathy is characterized by the finding of transient left ventricular wall motion abnormalities accompanied by chest pain, dynamic reversible ST-T segment abnormalities, and mild elevation of cardiac enzymes usually present with a recent history of emotional or physical stress. Although ST elevation or T wave inversion in the anterior leads have been the most commonly recorded electrocardiographic findings ECG can be normal or can show nonspecific changes.

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Pulmonary stenosis due to metastatic malignant melanoma

Metastatik malin melanomun neden olduğu pulmoner darlık

A 60-year-old male with a history of resected malignant melanoma of neck region and three courses of chemotherapy was presented with exertional dyspnea and near syncope. On cardiovascular examination his heart rate was 90/min and the blood pressure was 90/60 mmHg. Cardiac auscultation revealed a grade 2/6 systolic ejection murmur along the left sternal border. Two-dimensional (2-D) echocardiography showed a 7x3 cm mobile mass in the right ventricle extending into right ventricular outflow tract (Video 1. See video/movie images at www.anakarder.com). Right ventricle was dilated and the mass was found in a narrow pulmonary outflow tract (Fig. 1). A 50 mmHg peak systolic gradient was demonstrated with continuous wave Doppler. At surgery, 7x4 cm mass filling the right ventricular outflow tract was found and removed (Fig. 2). Histopathologic examination of the mass confirmed the diagnosis of malignant melanoma. He was transferred to oncology department with planning of systemic immuno-chemotherapy. However, two months after the surgery, he was hospitalized again due to deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. Repeated 2-D echocardiography demonstrated complete resolution of right ventricle mass.

Although malign melanoma generally metastasizes to lungs, brain, liver, on post-mortem examination cardiac structures are involved in about half of cases. Despite frequent involvement of the heart, however, less than 5% are diagnosed with such ante mortem due to nonspecific symptoms and clinical signs. Therefore, patients with known malignant melanoma who have cardiac symptoms should always be evaluated with cardiac imaging techniques such as echocardiography to demonstrate the possible cardiac metastasis.

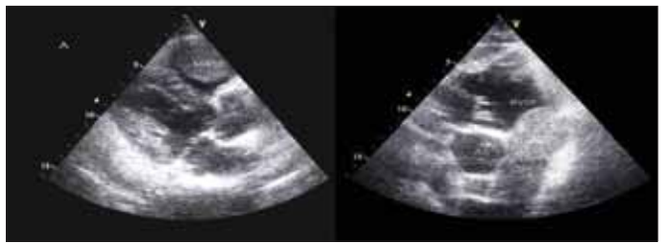

Figure 1. Two-dimensional echocardiogram, parasternal long-axis view showing the mass in the right ventricular outflow tract (panel A) and parasternal short-axis view showing the right ventricular mass, obstructing the outflow tract and impinging onto the pulmonary valve (panel B)
Ao - aorta, RVOT - right ventricular outflow tract

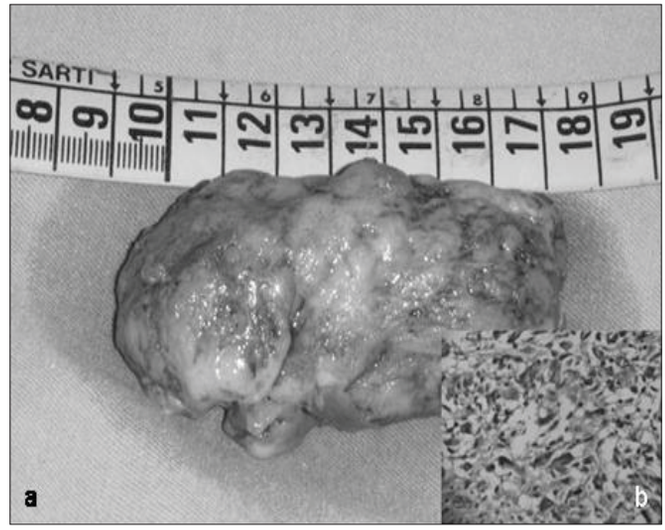

Figure 2. A) Gross appearance of removed mass. B) The histopathologic examination of the tumor revealed melanoma cells with spindle cytoplasms. Nuclei are large and hyperchromatic, rare binuclear forms are noted (Hematoxylin-eosin, original x10)

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Serbest duvarda büyük hareketli vejetasyon ile kendisini belli eden infektif endokardit olgusu

A case of infective endocarditis presented with a giant free wall vegetation

Kırk altı yaşındaki erkek hasta şiddetli nefes darlığı, halsizlik ve ateş yüksekliği şikayetiyle hastanemizin acil servisine başvurdu. Son 4 aydır halsizlik ve aralıklı ateş yükselmelerinin olduğu, 15 gün öncesinde başvurduğu bir merkezde ampirik antibiyotik tedavisi başlandığı öğrenildi. Muayenede genel durumu kötü ve bilinci bulanıktı. Fizik muayenesinde; kan basıncı 80/50 mmHg, nabız 110 atım/dak, ateş 38.2°C olarak ölçüldü. Dinlemekle aort odağı ve apekste 2/6 sistolik üfürüm, her iki akciğerde yaygın ekspiratuvar ronküs mevcuttu. Transtorasik ekokardiyografide nonkoroner aort kapakçıkta ve septum bazalinde olmak üzere 0.9X0.8 cm ile 1.0X1.1 cm ebatlarında iki adet hareketli kitle (Şekil 1) (Video 1-3. Video/hareketli görüntüler www.anakarder.com'da izlenebilir), ileri mitral yetersizlik, orta mitral stenozu, orta aort yetersizliği ve hafif aort darlığı olduğu görüldü. Kan tetkiklerinde lökosit 27500/mm^3, CRP: 11.4 mg/dl, hemoglobin: 7.5 g/dl, platelet: 324.000/mm^3 , sedimentasyon: 104 mm/saat , kreatinin: 2.41mg/dl, BUN:56 mg/l olarak saptandı. Arter kan gazı ölçümünde pH:7.15, pCO2: 37 mmHg, pO_2:62 mmHg, BE:-15 olarak ölçüldü. Hasta entübe edildi ve dahiliye yoğun bakım ünitesine yatırıldı. İnfektif endokardit ön tanısıyla ampirik sefazolin 1 g IV ve gentamisin 40 mg IV 3x1 tedavisine başlanan hastada erken operasyon planlandı. Kan kültürlerinde muhtemelen önceden antibiyotik alması nedeniyle üreme olmadı. Kliniğimizde kalp damar cerrahi anabilim dalının olmaması nedeniyle komşu merkezlerle yapılan görüşmelerde hastanın stabilizasyonundan sonra sevki kararlaştırıldı. Takibinde hipotermik seyreden, lökositoz ve trombositopeni gelişen hasta yatışının 12. gününde exitus oldu. Olgu vejetasyon yerleşimi açısından ilginç ve tanının ya da cerrahi girişimin gecikmesi durumunda yüksek mortaliteye yol açtığını göstermesi bakımından öğreticidir.

Şekil 1. Parasternal uzun aks kesitte aort kapak komşuluğunda dev vejetasyon görüntüsü

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