

IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

**OCCLUSION OF THE LEFT MAIN CORONARY ARTERY**

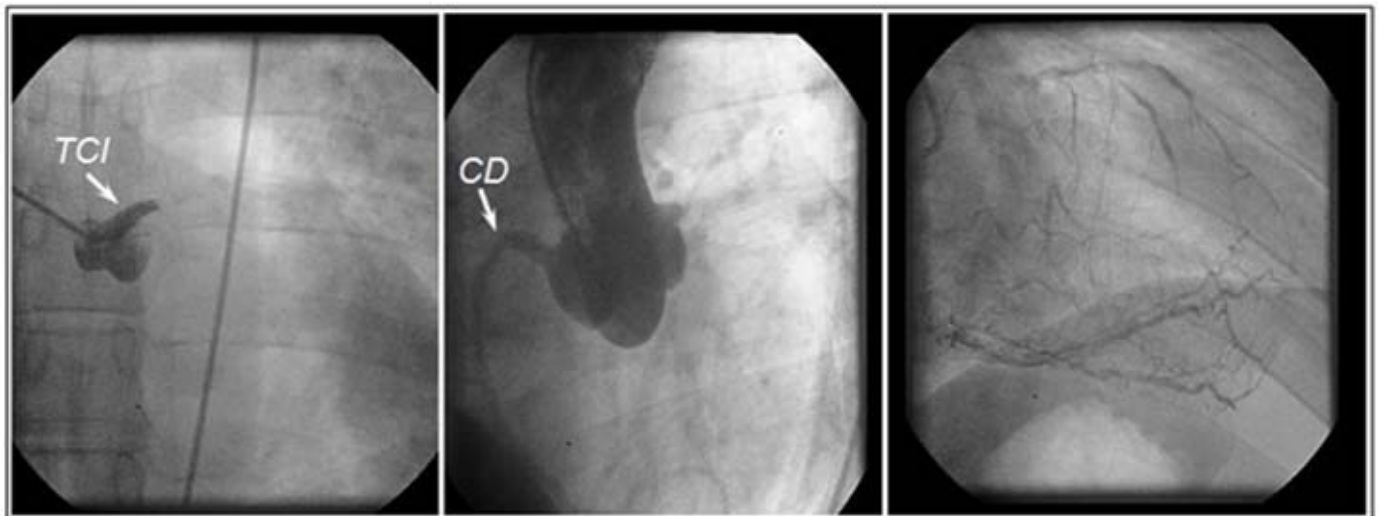
**OCLUSIÓN DEL TRONCO DE LA ARTERIA CORONARIA IZQUIERDA**


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**Palabras clave:** Infarto de miocardio, puente de arteria coronaria, angiograf a coronaria, oclusi n coronaria



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This the case of a 43 year-old-male patient, with a history of hypertension and of smoking over 10 cigarettes a day. He says that after intense physical exertion he felt chest pain for more than 30 minutes, with sponta-

neous relief and accompanied by autonomic symptoms. Therefore, he does not request medical attention until after 72 hours, when he went to the hospital in his province of residence, where an electrocardiographic tracing was performed to him, and an anterior extensive necrosis was found. He was sent to the Hemodynamics Service of our hospital for coronary angiography, which showed the occlusion of the left main coronary artery with collateral circulation from the right coronary artery, that allows to visualize the left coronary artery up to the site of the occlusion. In ventriculography, a preserved left ventricular systolic function was verified. It was concluded as a multivessel disease

that affects the three main coronary vessels, for which surgical treatment was proposed and successfully practiced, leaving the patient revascularized with four bypass grafts and with a satisfactory evolution.

It is interesting that in this case, after the total occlusion of the left main coronary artery, an effective circulation was restored through the right coronary artery, which in turn conditioned a lesser systolic function impairment than expected, taking into account the area of myocardium at risk. This allowed the patient to survive an acute myocardial infarction without immediate medical attention and of course, without any revascularization therapy during the acute event.