

# Complications of MitraClip

**Jung-Sun Kim, MD, Ph D, FESC**

**Division of Cardiology, Severance Hospital  
Yonsei University College of Medicine**

**10 min**

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# Disclosure Information

## Jung-Sun Kim, MD, PhD

- Grants/Research Support: None
- Support/Consultant: None
- Speaker's Bureau: Abbott Vascular

## Procedure-related

## Device-related

### Access-site

**Vascular**  
Dissection  
Stenosis  
Arterial/venous  
thrombosis  
Perforation  
Rupture  
AV-Fistula  
Pseudoaneurysm  
Hematoma

**Cardiac**  
iASD  
Atrial/ventricle  
perforation  
Pericardial effusion  
Tamponade  
Pseudoaneurysm

### Bleeding

**Access-site**  
Gastrointestinal  
Urinary tract  
Pericardial effusion  
Central venous line  
Arterial line  
Obscure bleeding

### Ischemic

Myocardial Infarction  
Stroke  
Acute thrombus  
formation

### Functional

Mitral Regurgitation  
Mitral Stenosis

### Arrhythmia

New-onset atrial  
fibrillation

### Renal

Acute Kidney Injury

### Infectious

Endocarditis

### Structural

SLDA  
Leaflet Perforation  
Leaflet Tear  
Chordal Rupture  
Clip Embolization

Schnitzler K, et al. Curr Cardiol Rep 2021;23:131

## **Relatively Safe Procedure !!!**

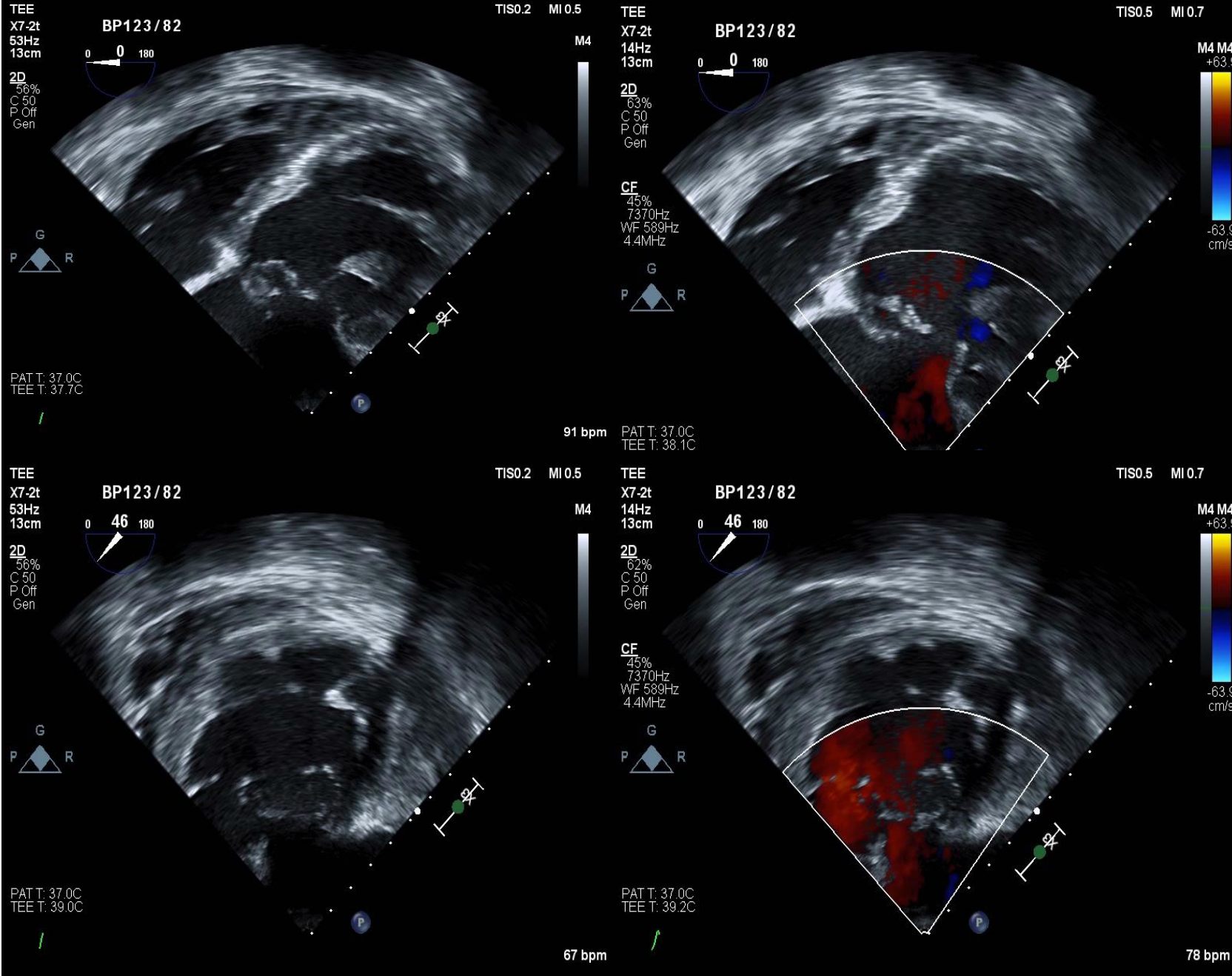
**Real-world data** show a very low intraprocedural (TRAMI registry 0.1%, Praz et al. 0%, Chakravarty et al. 0%) and in-hospital mortality (TRAMI 2.4%, TCVT 2.9%, German nationwide sample 3.6%, TVT 2.7%, NIS database 2.0%).

**The latest studies** with the XTR/NTR and “G4” reported an even lower in-hospital mortality (XTR/NTR 0.9%, G4 0%)

Schnitzler K, et al. Curr Cardiol Rep 2021;23:131

# Cardiac Tamponade

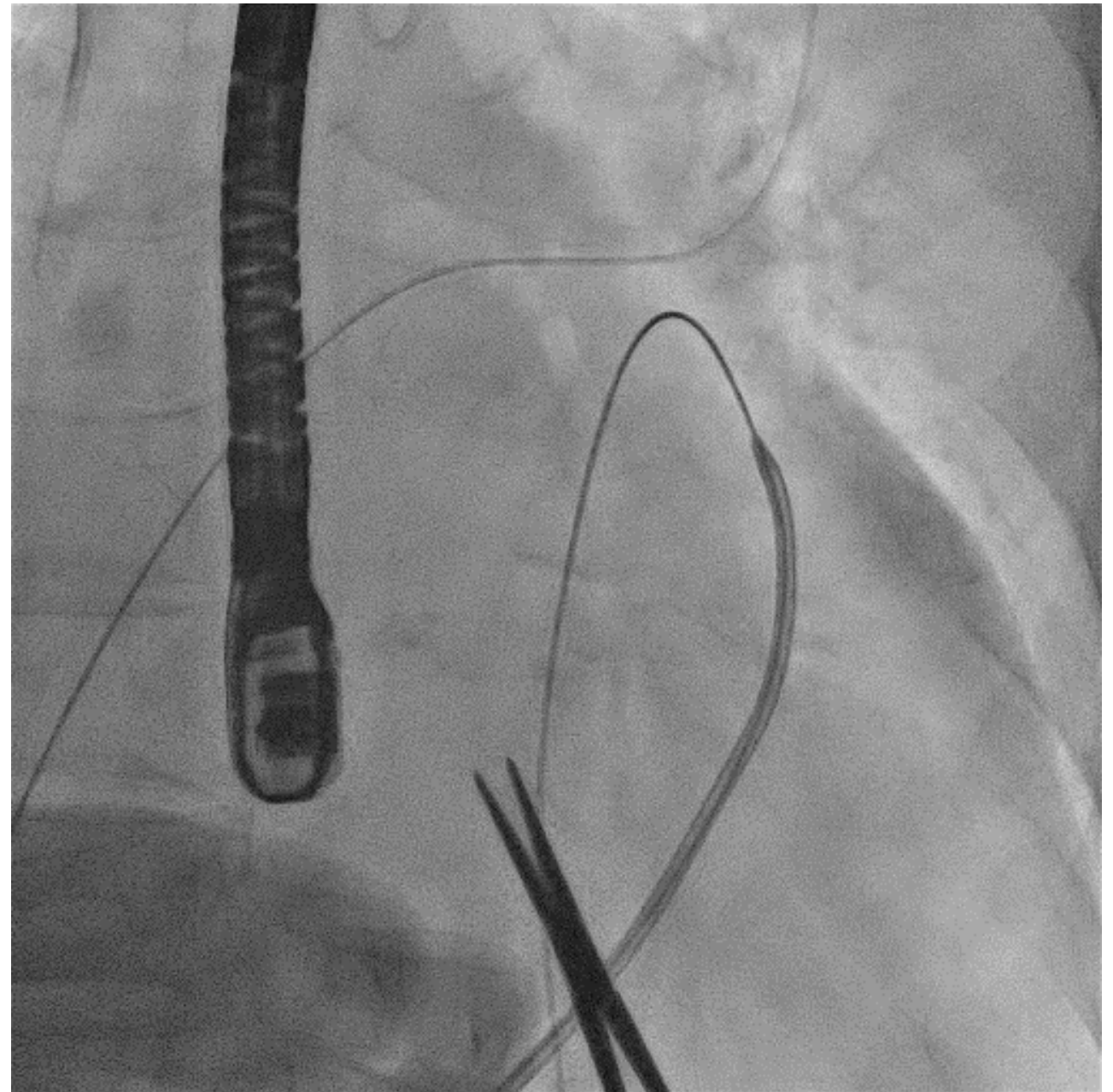
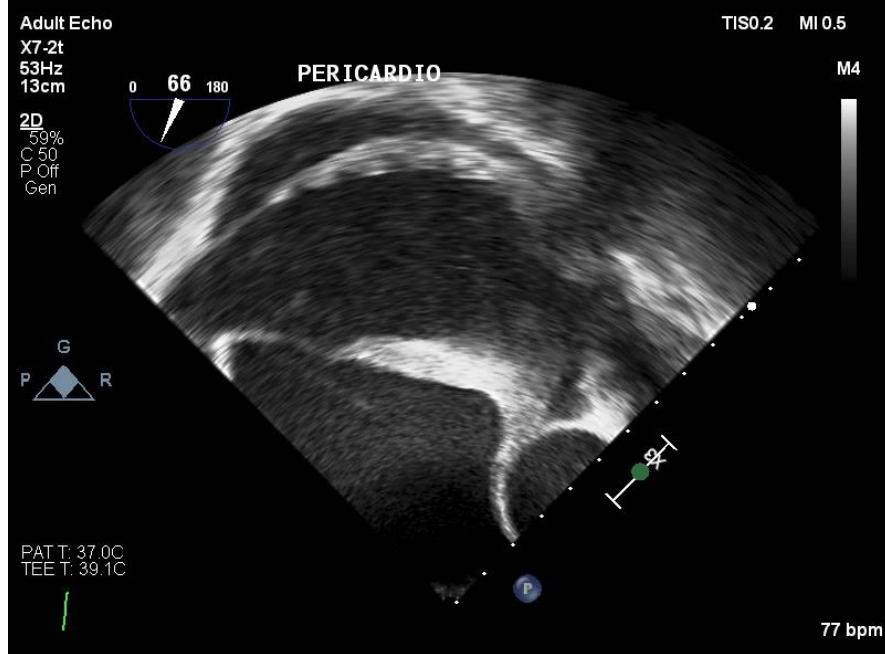
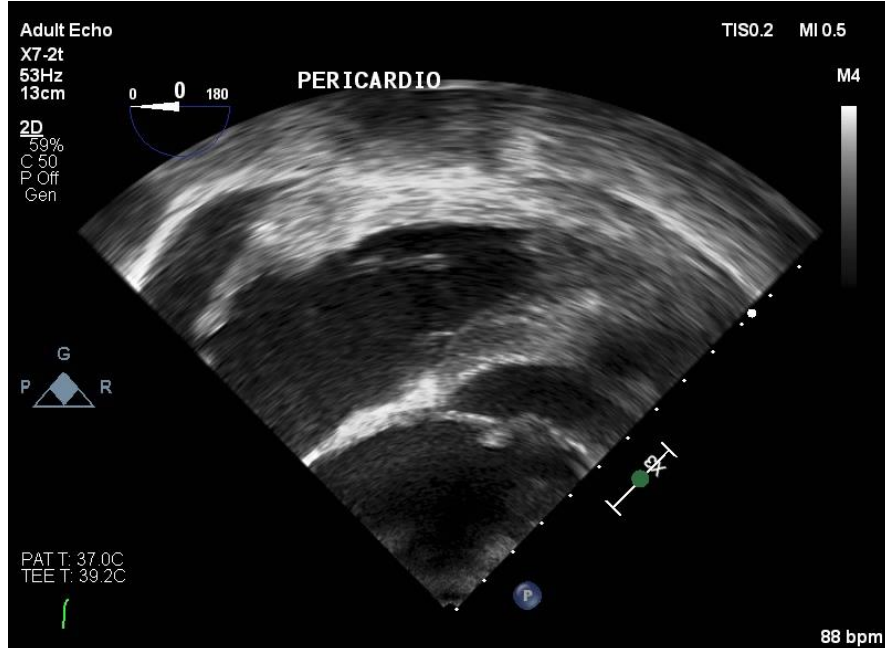
**Incidence : 0-0.5 %**

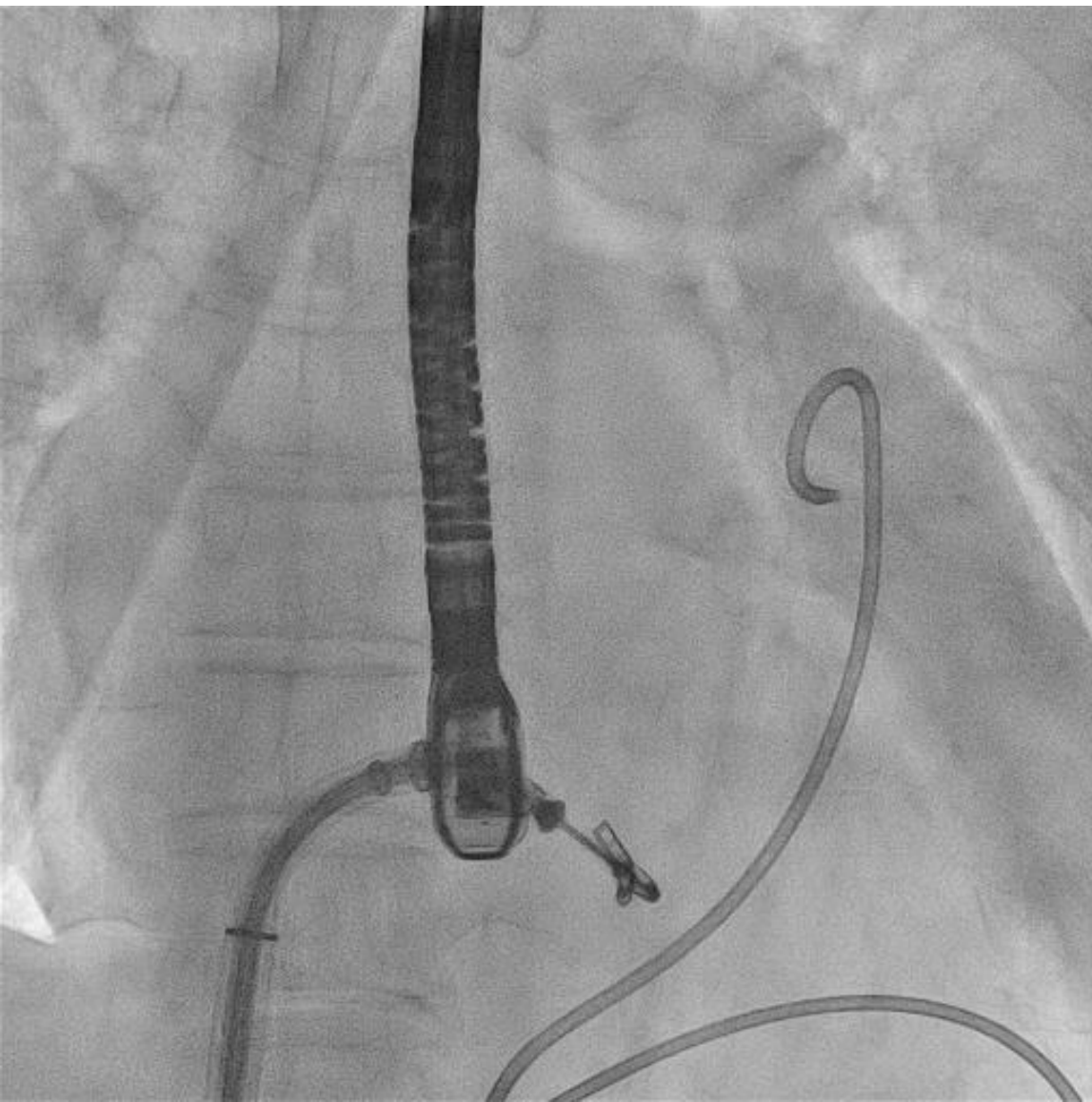


**F/82**

**Aggravated dyspnea with GDMT**  
**Atrial fibrillation**  
**Severe Pul. HTN**

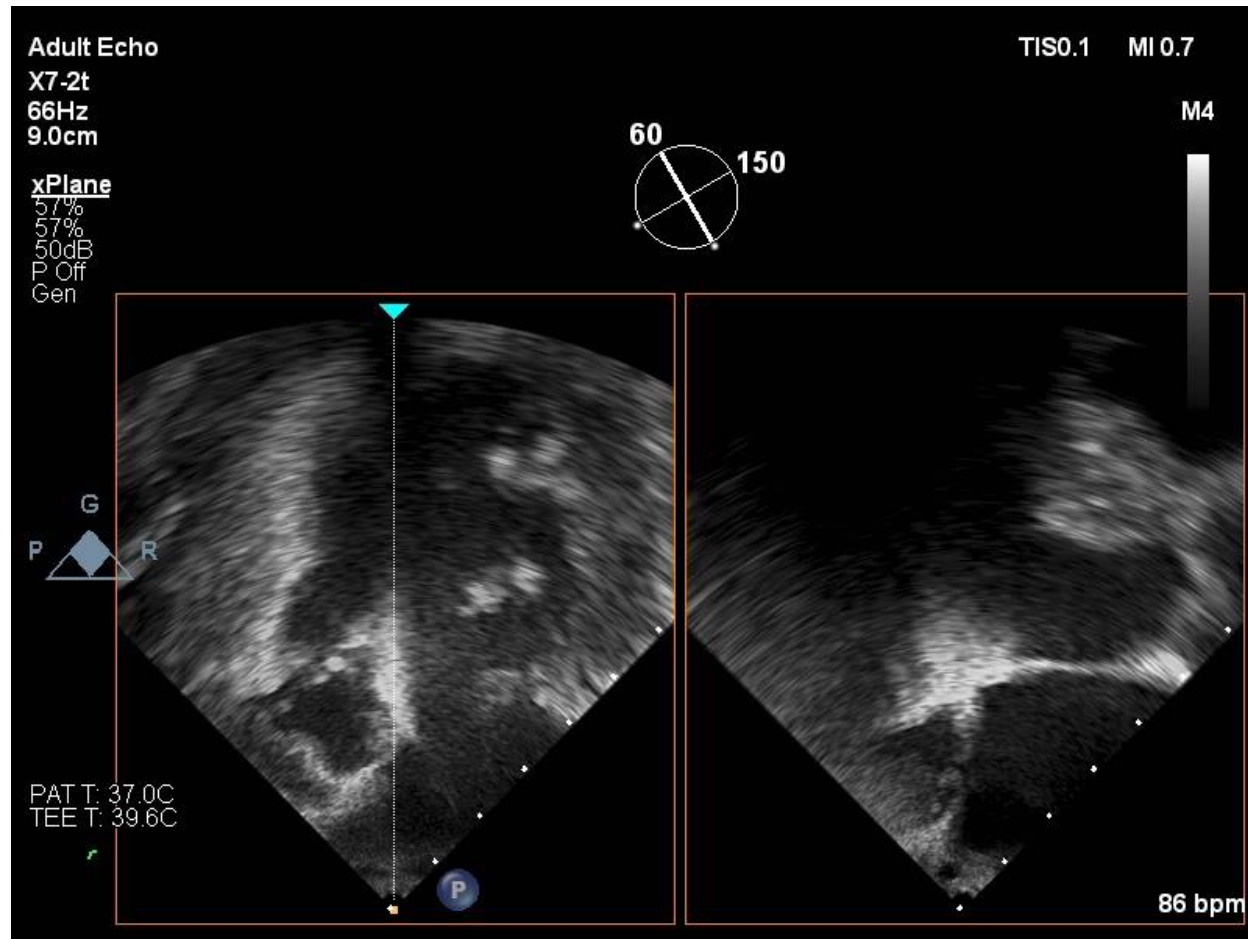
**Very severe MR due to flail AML (A3 and P3, commissural) due to ruptured chordae**





# Intercomissural

# LVOT



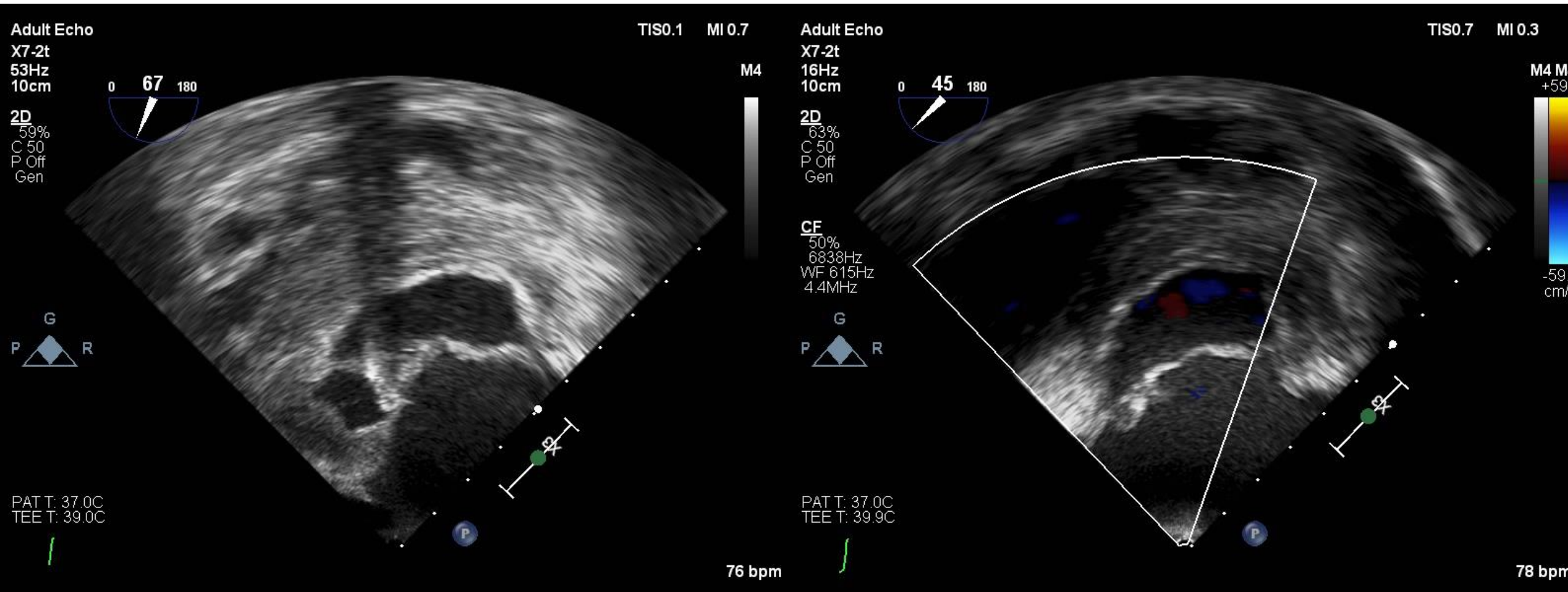
M

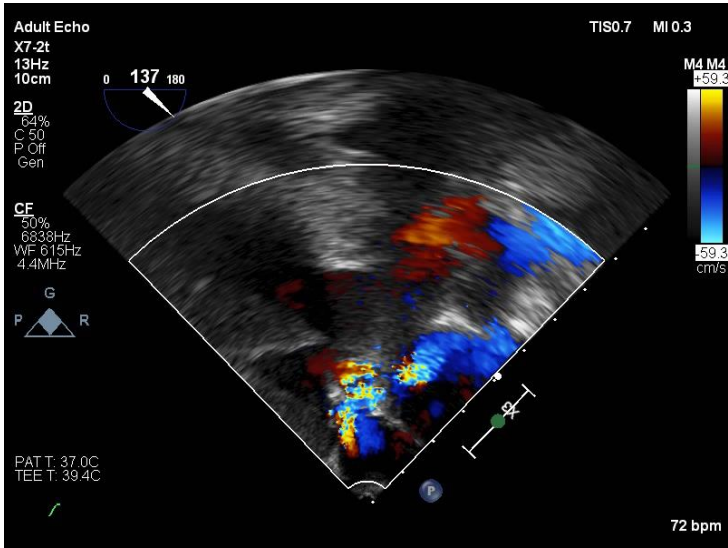
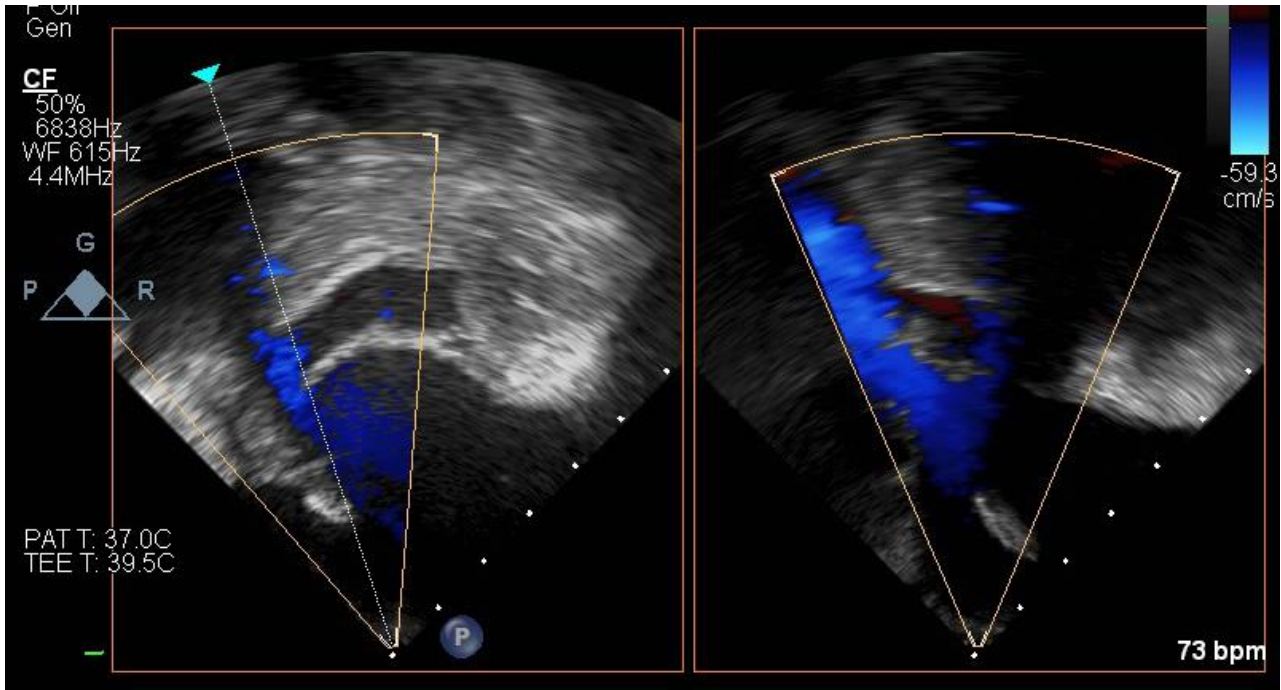
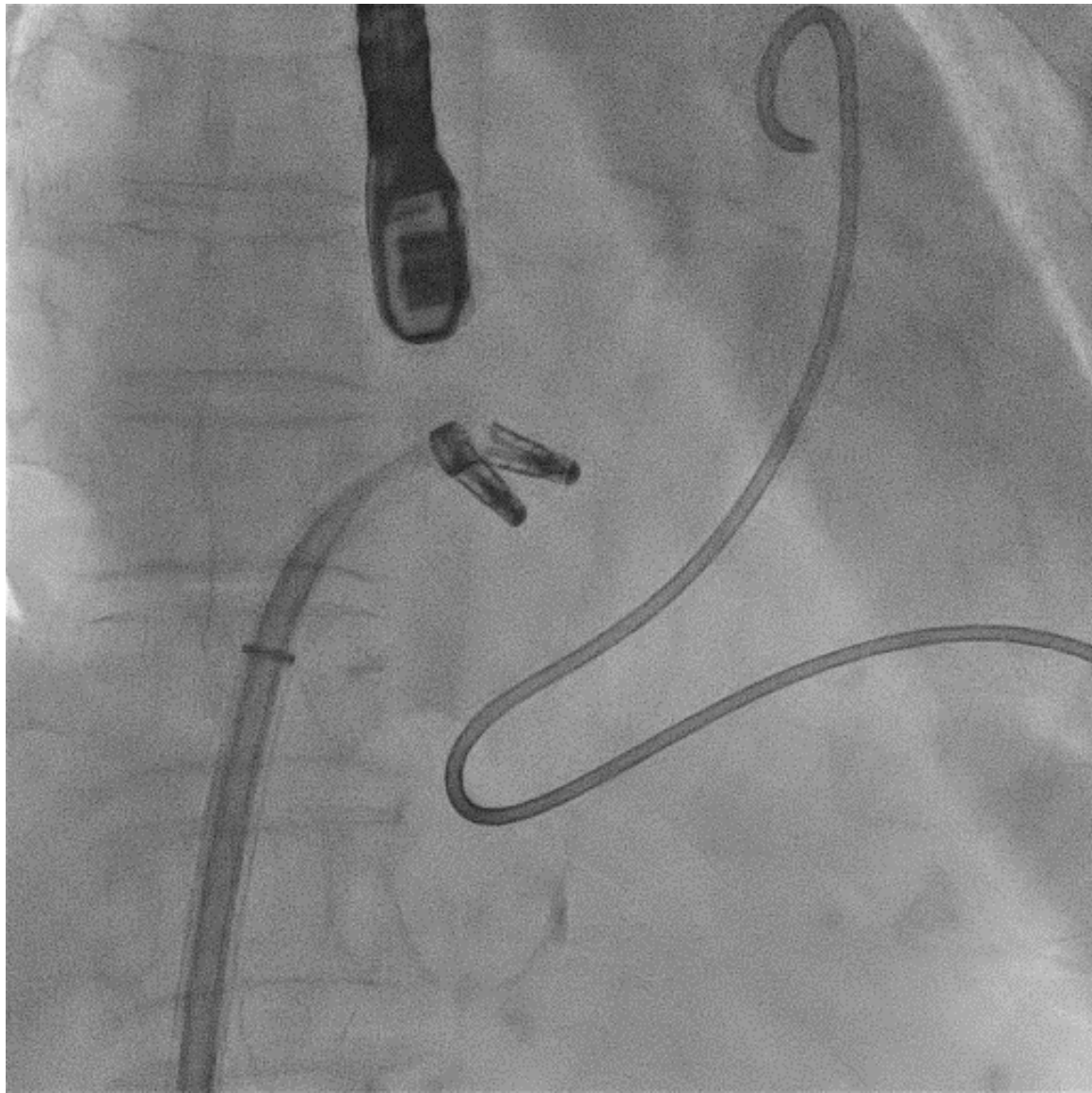
L

P

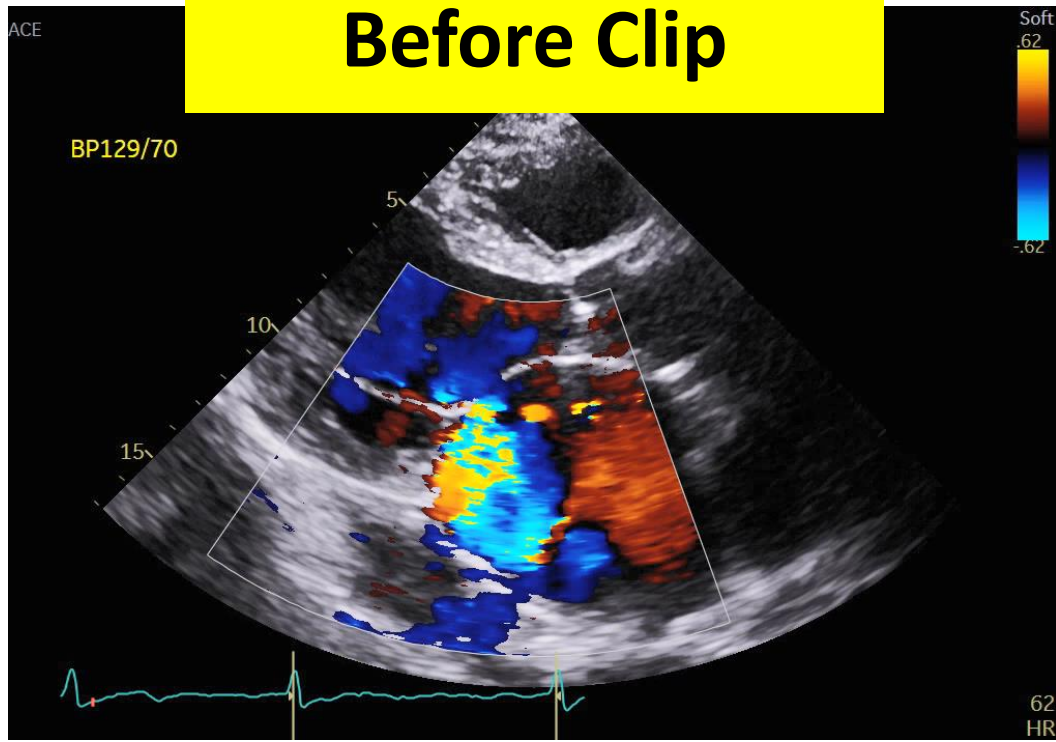
A



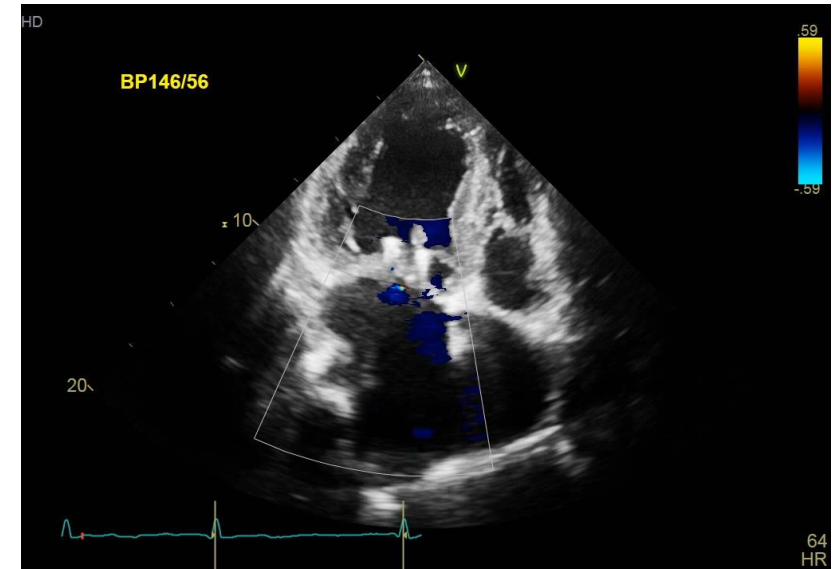
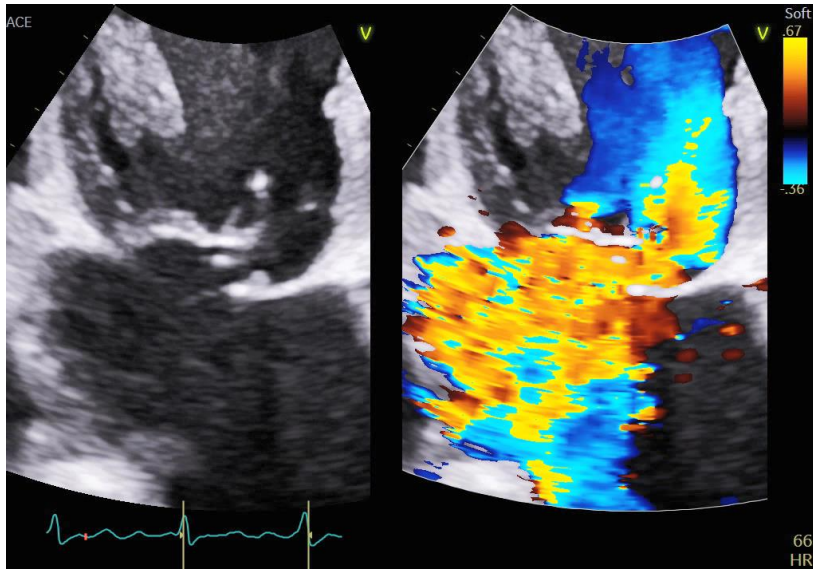
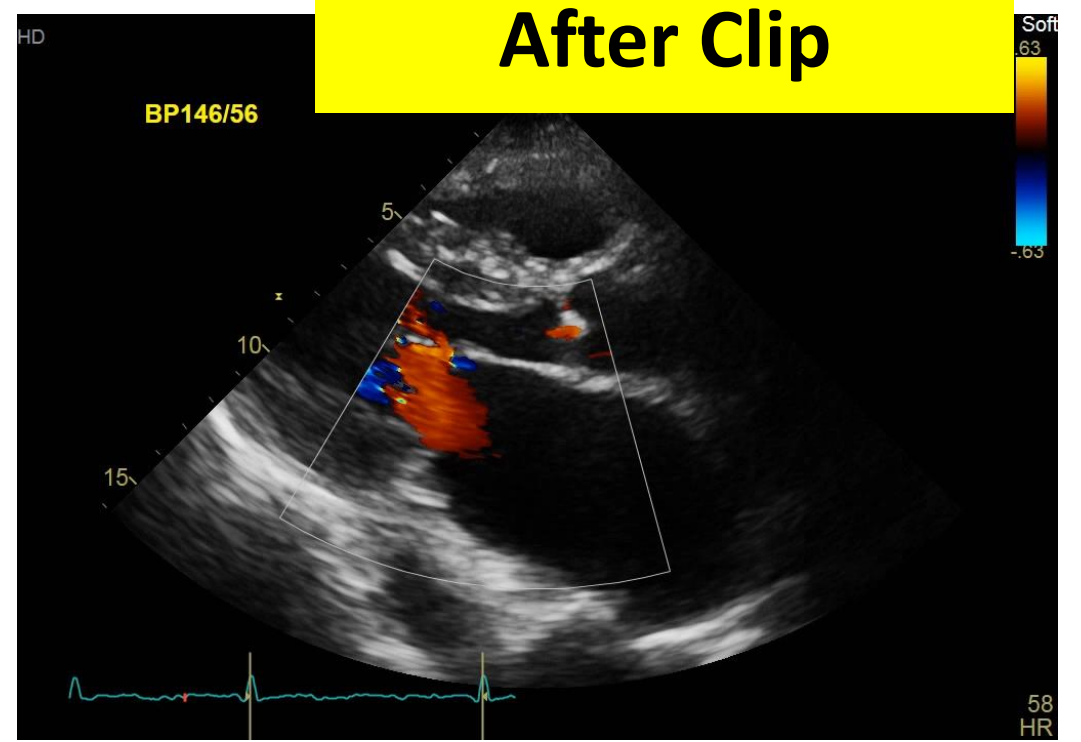




# Before Clip



# After Clip



# Management of Cardiac Tamponade

- Immediate emergency pericardiocentesis if necessary.
- In case with puncture with only needle, immediate reversal of therapeutic anticoagulation and removal of the needle may be adequate.
- If the guide catheter or other equipment has been advanced over the needle and out into the pericardial space, it is important to not immediately remove them once the problem is recognized. Consideration should be made for surgical removal of the larger bore catheters at this point and in select clinical and anatomic cases closure devices can be considered.

SCAI Textbook Transcatheter Edge-to-Edge Repair

# Air or Thrombotic Events

**Incidence : 3-7 % (cardiac and cerebrovascular events)**

## Management of **Air Embolism**

- Manifest as stroke, coronary ischemia (*esp, RCA territory*), and cardiac arrest.
- Extra care with aspiration and flushing of the transseptal equipment, the MitraClip guide and delivery system.
- Adequate oxygenation, hemodynamic support with intravenous fluids and pressors when necessary, mechanical aspiration.

## Management of **Acute thrombus formation**

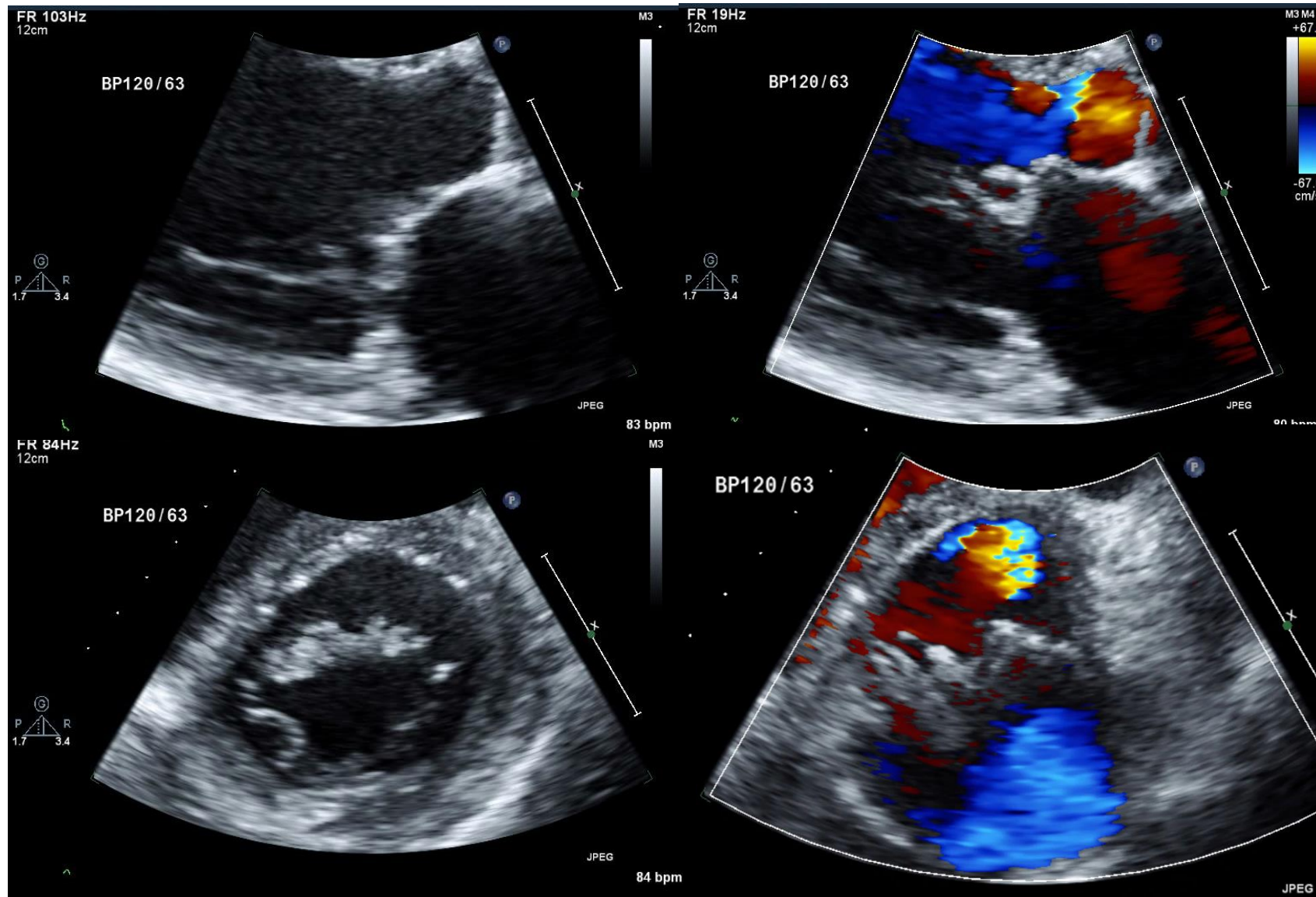
- “Wait and see” strategy with readministration of heparin, thrombus aspiration, or low-dose thrombolysis considering of bleeding risk.

SCAI Textbook Transcatheter Edge-to-Edge Repair  
Schnitzler K, et al. Curr Cardiol Rep 2021;23:131

# Leaflet Injury/Chordal Entanglement

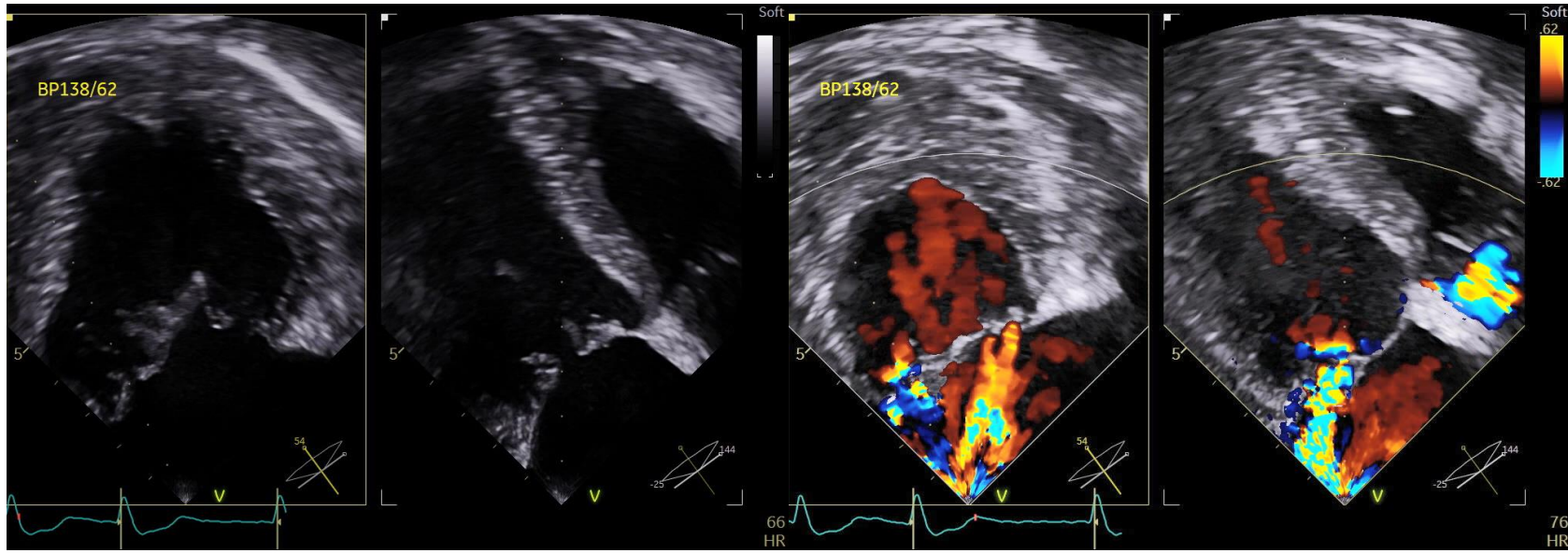
**Incidence : 0-2 %**

# M/82 AMI with stenting, PeAF



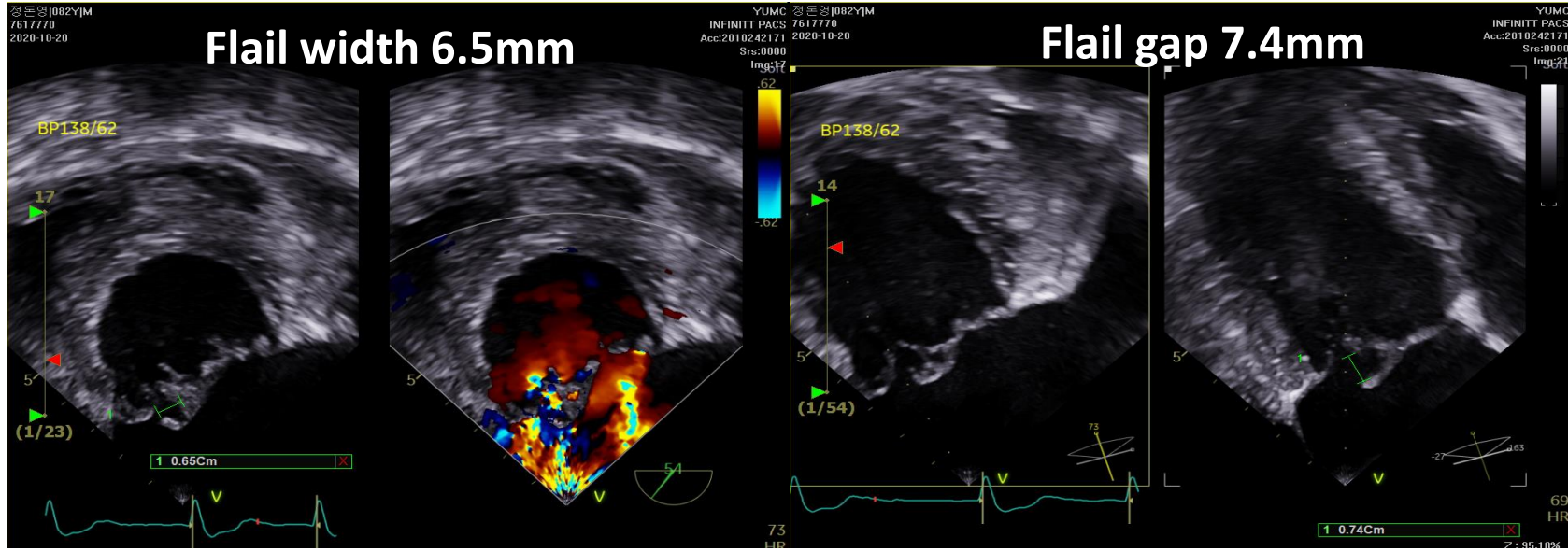
**LVEDD/ESD: 60/46mm, LAVI: 62ml/m<sup>2</sup>, EF: 51%, E/e':15, RVSP :41mmHg**



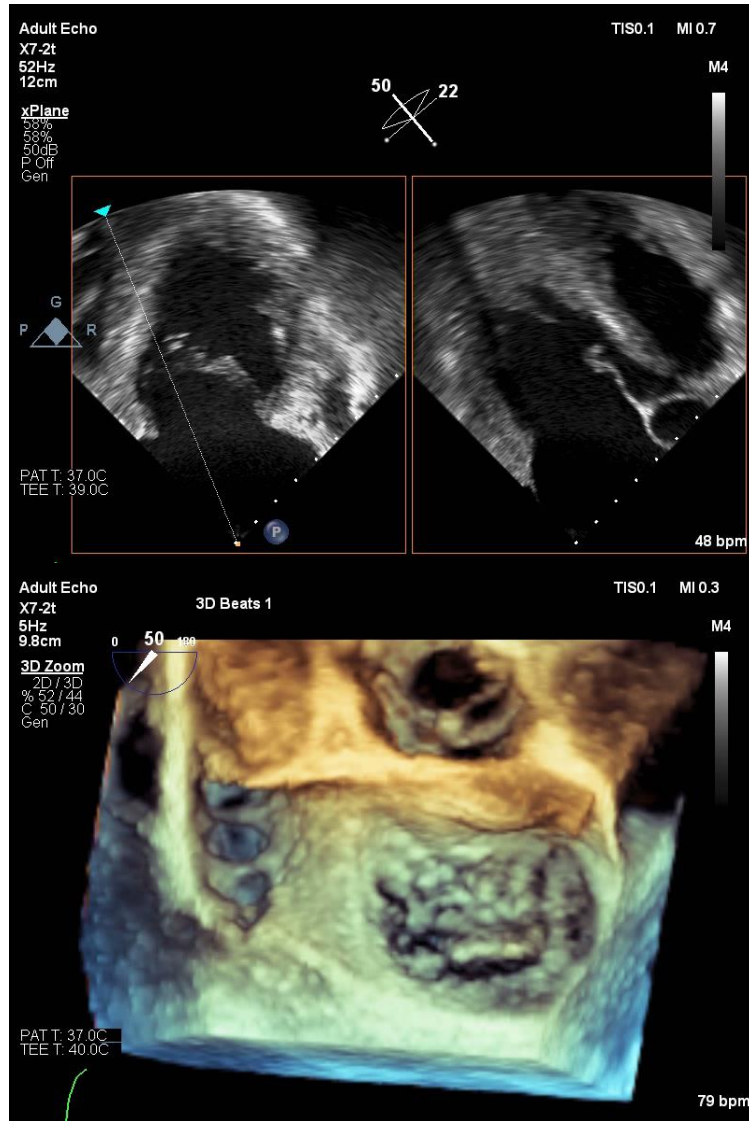


**Flail width 6.5mm**

**Flail gap 7.4mm**



# Intraprocedural TEE

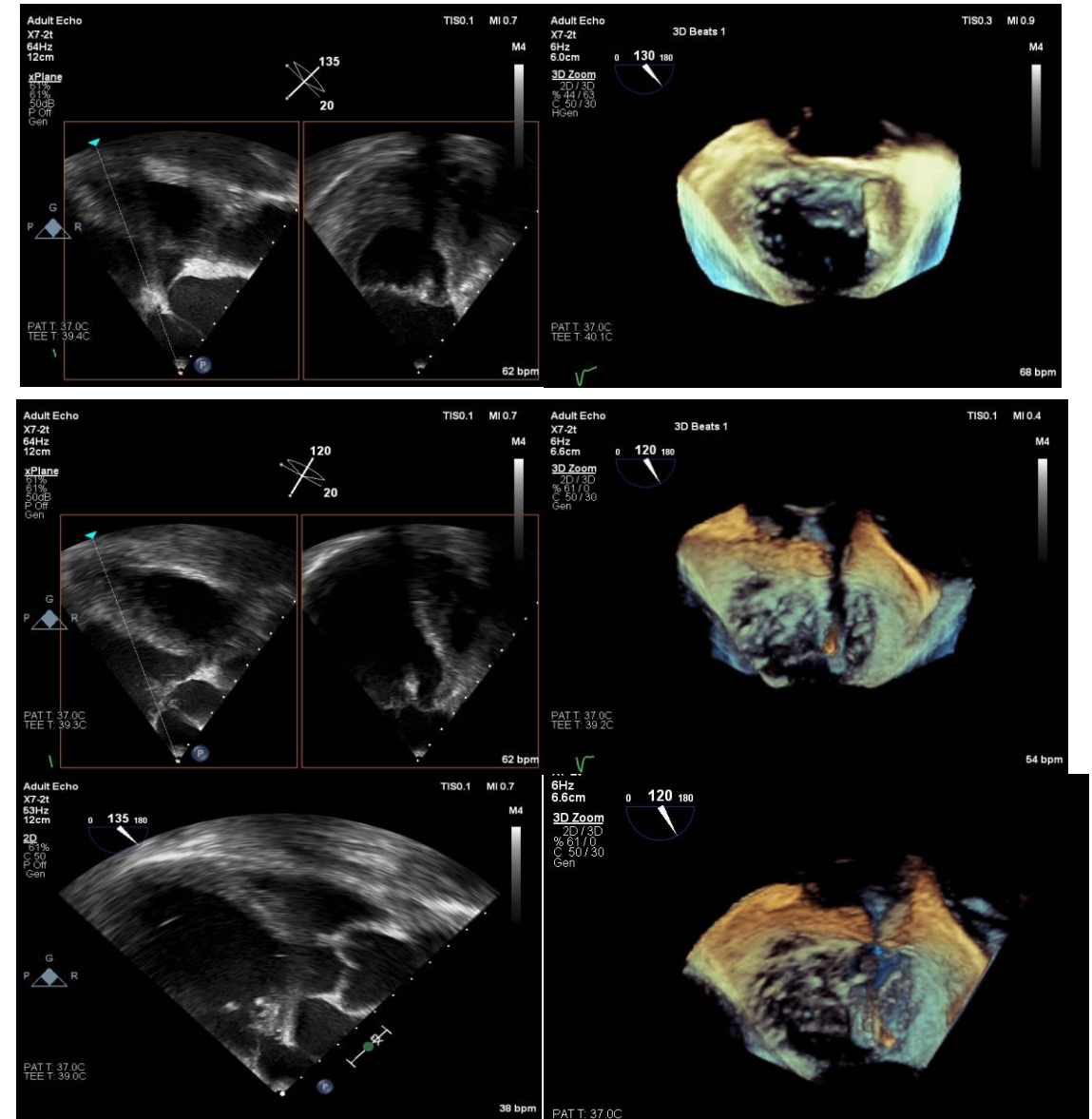


Pre Grasping

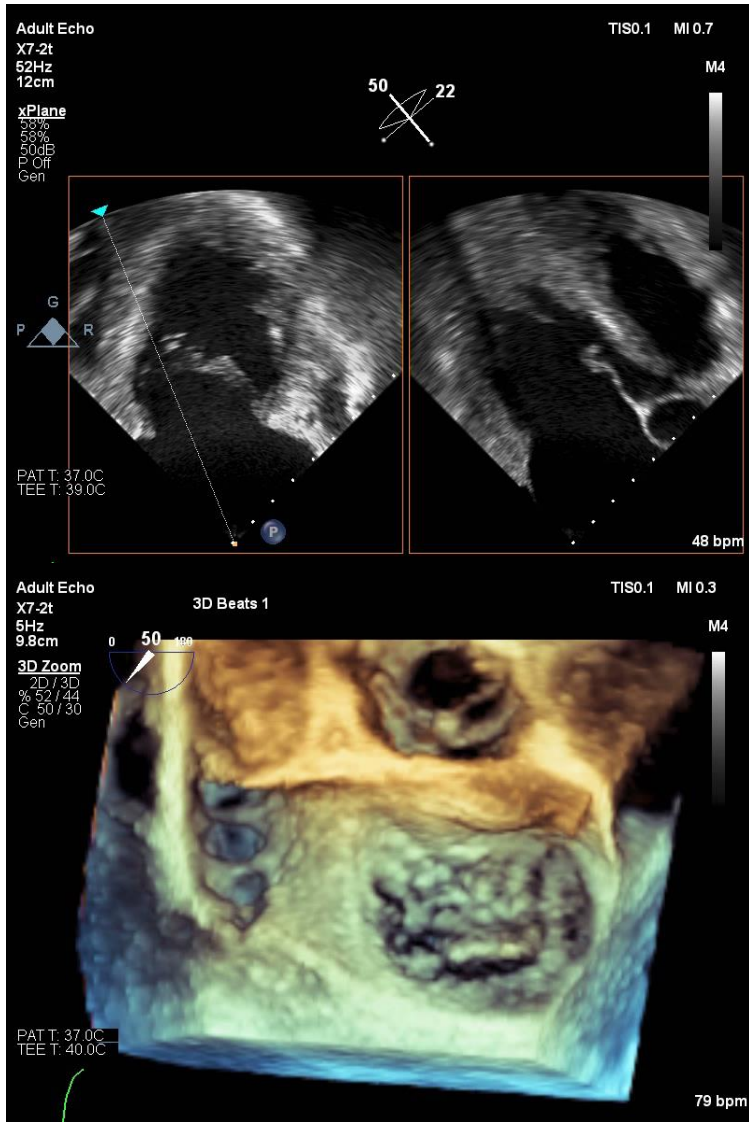
1<sup>st</sup> attempt  
– Too  
medial

2<sup>nd</sup> attempt  
– medial

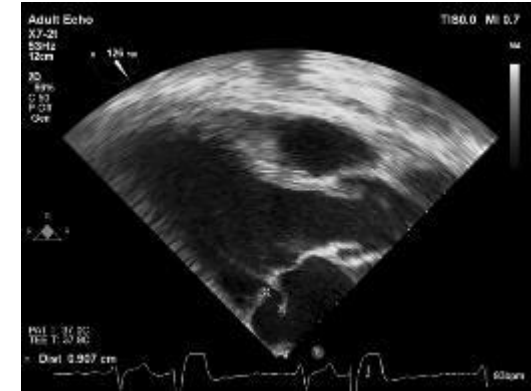
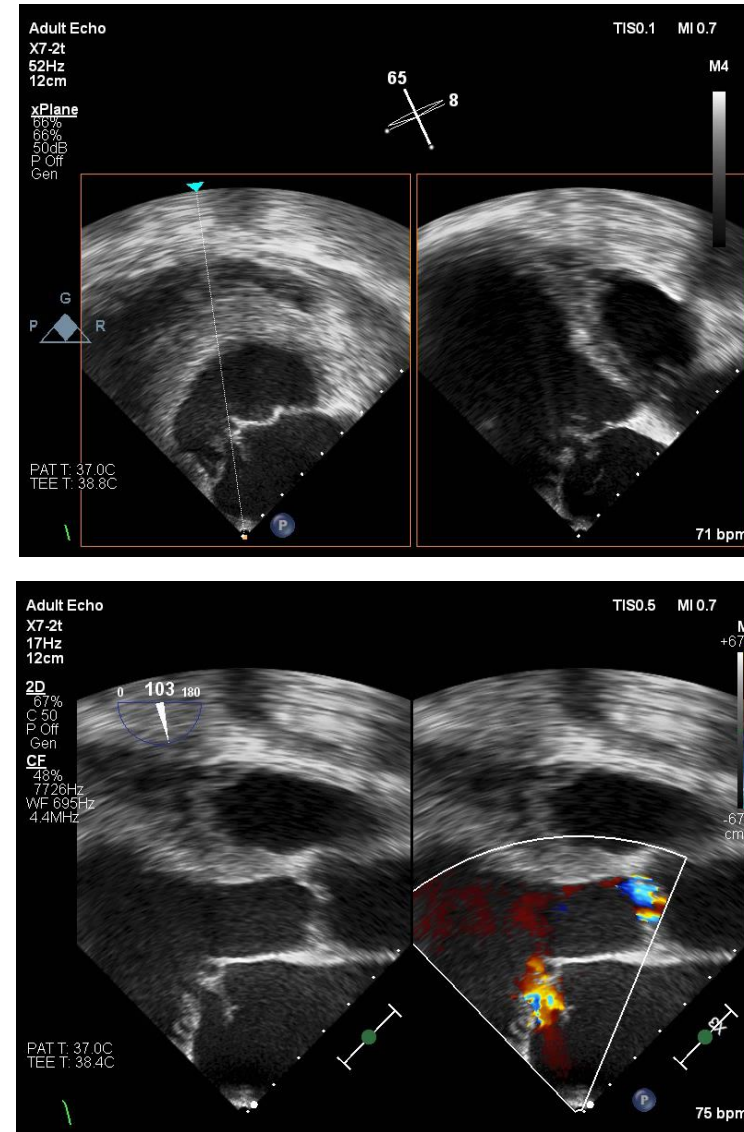
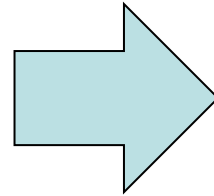
3<sup>rd</sup> attempt  
– central



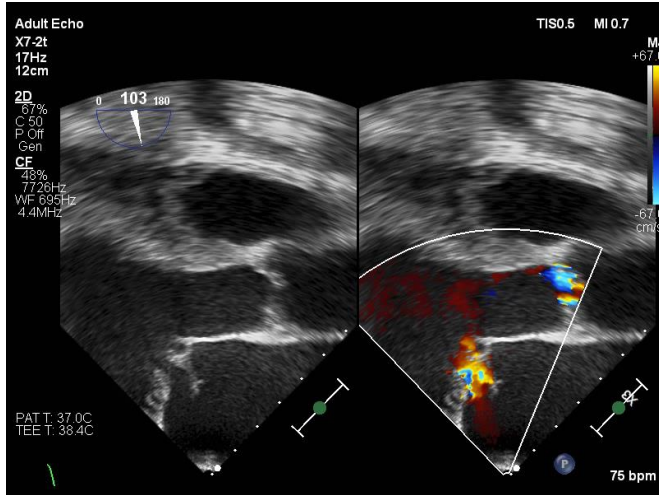
# Intraprocedural TEE



Pre Grasping



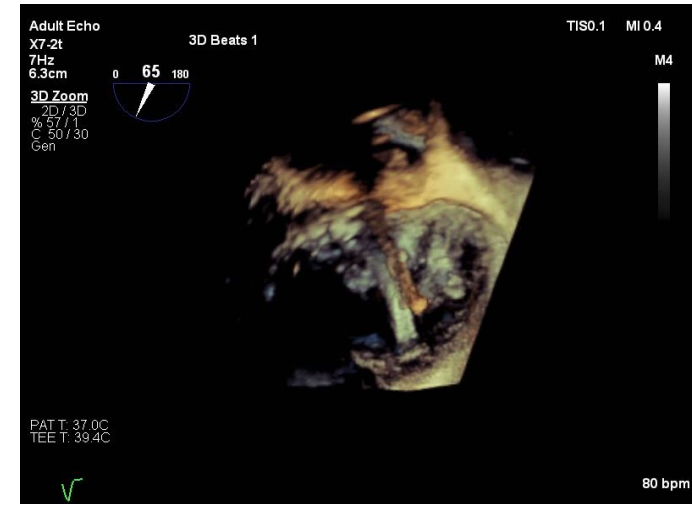
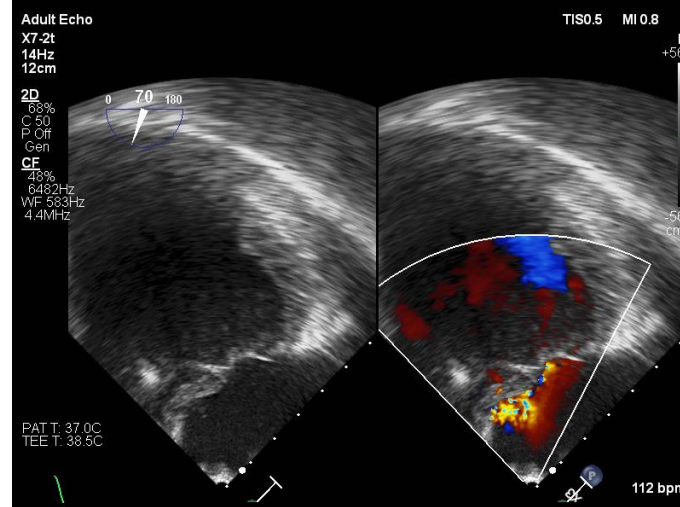
# Intraprocedural TEE



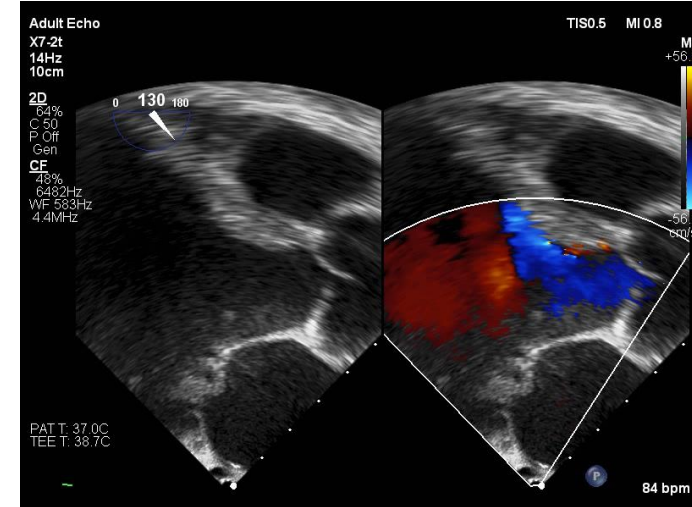
**Failed to grasp a central portion of MV (A2-P2 due to chordae rupture)**



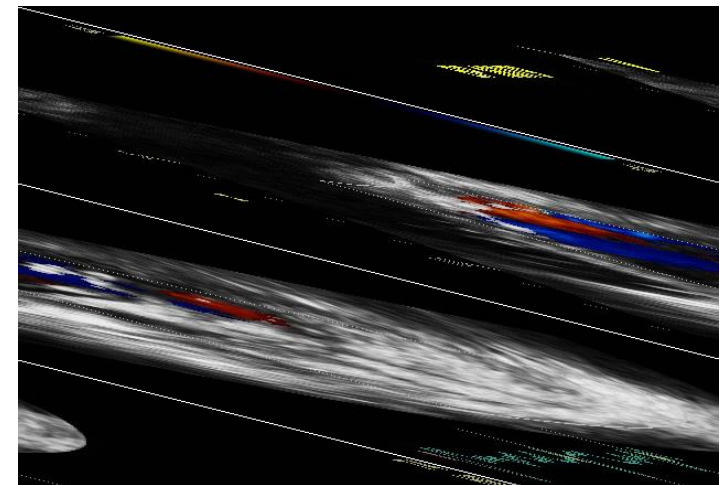
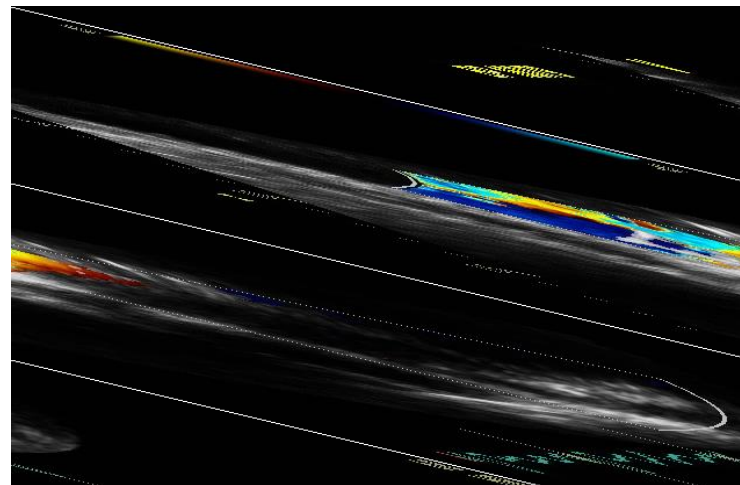
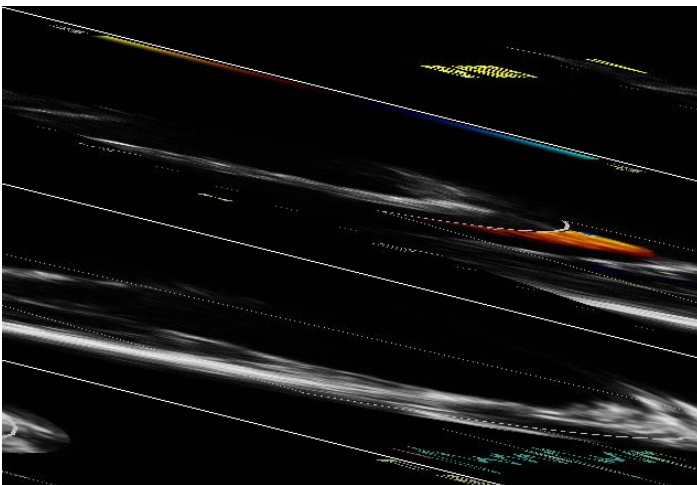
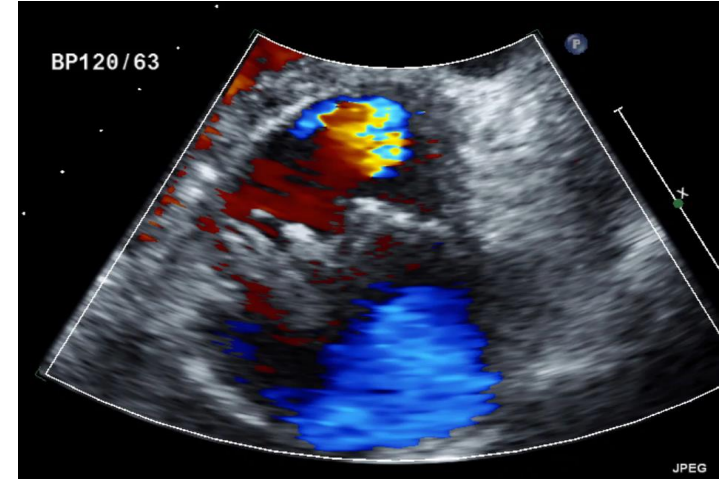
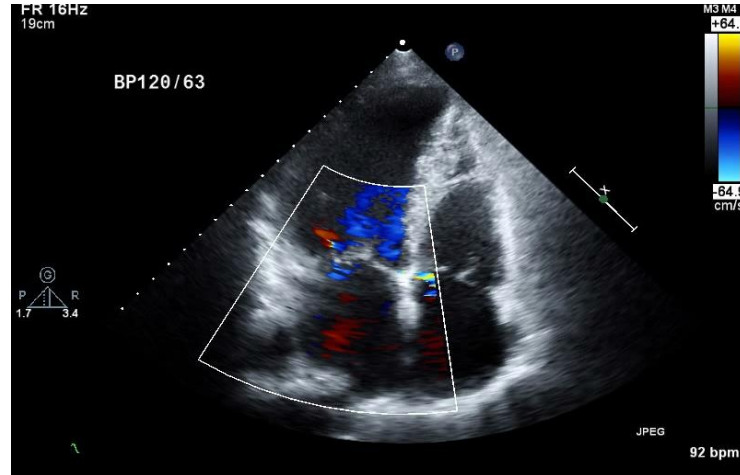
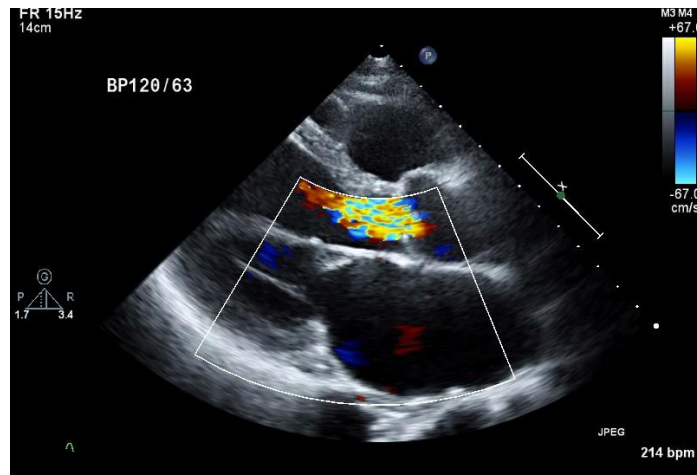
**Firstly, grasping medial part with 1<sup>st</sup> Clip**



**Then, grasping central part with 2<sup>nd</sup> Clip**



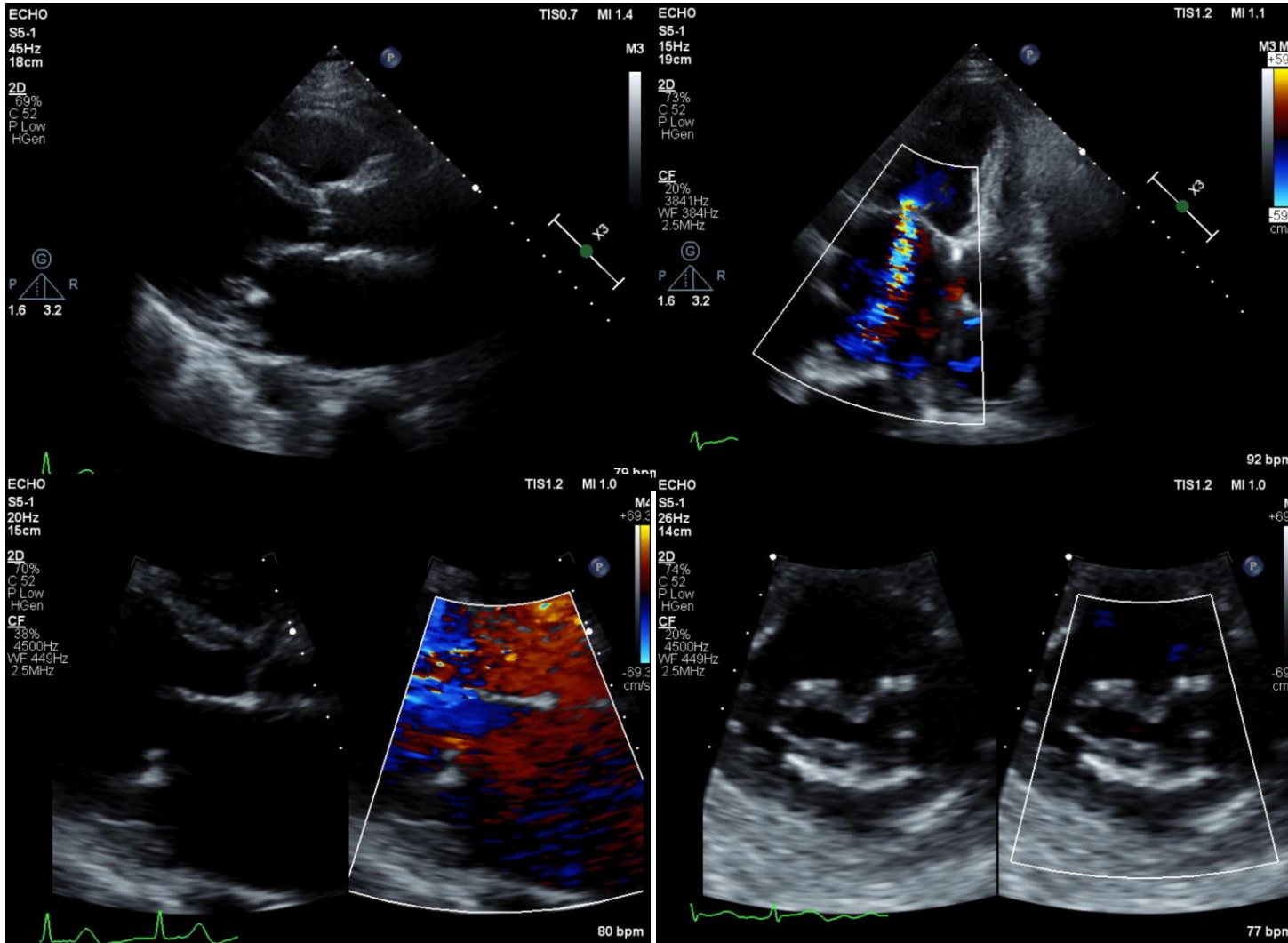
# Before and After MitraClip



# Management of Chordal Entanglement

1. **Assessing the device trajectory considering chordae structure and direction**
2. **Adjusting device orientation before valve crossing – Don't rotate >15 degree within the ventricle.**
3. **Avoiding excessive opening or premature deployment of device apparatus**
4. **Disentangle device – reverse the set of movements**
5. **Eversion with 270 degree angle and retraction into the atrium**

# TTE



## Severe MR

(GIV, ERO: 33 mm<sup>2</sup>, RV: 61 ml)

Poor leaflet coaptation with annular flattening

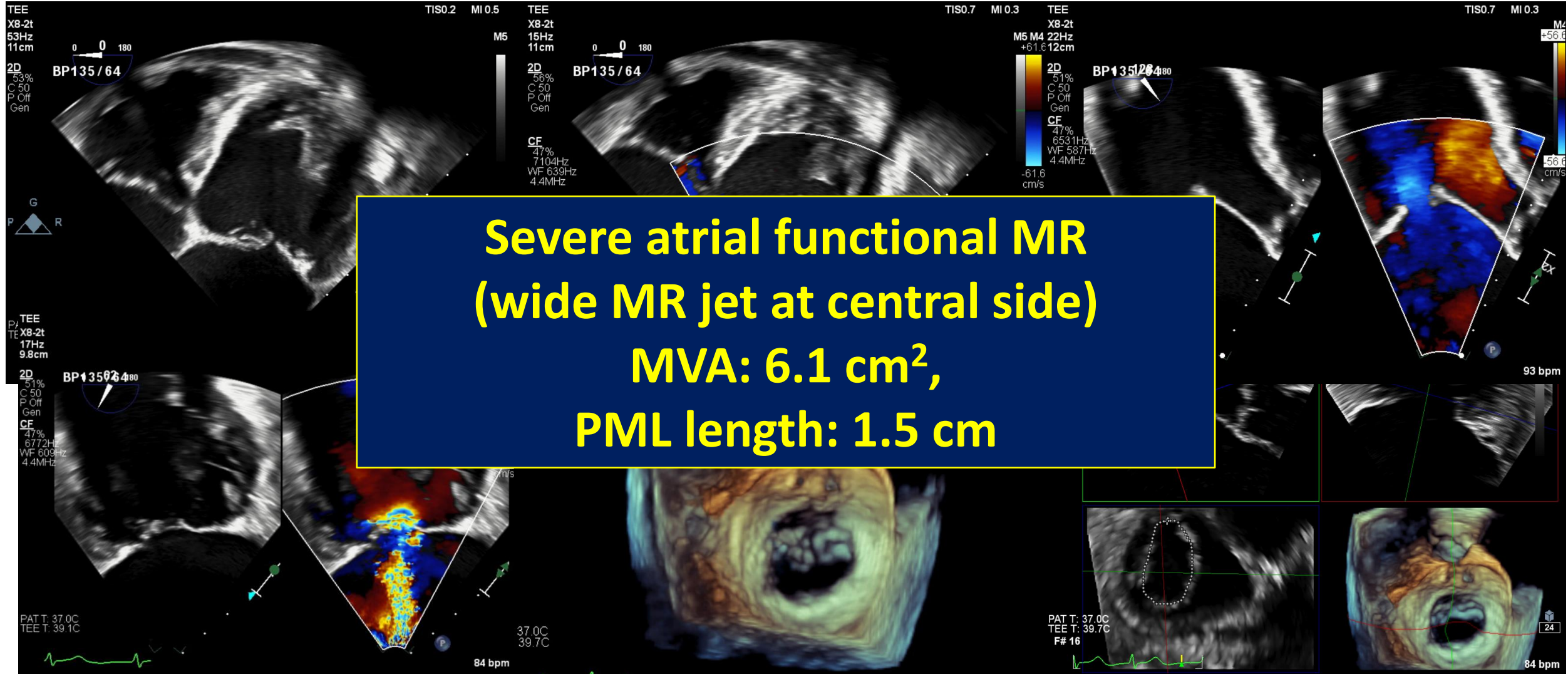
Moderate TR

EF: 63%, LVEDD/ESD: 56/40 mm,

LAVi: 86 ml/m<sup>2</sup>,

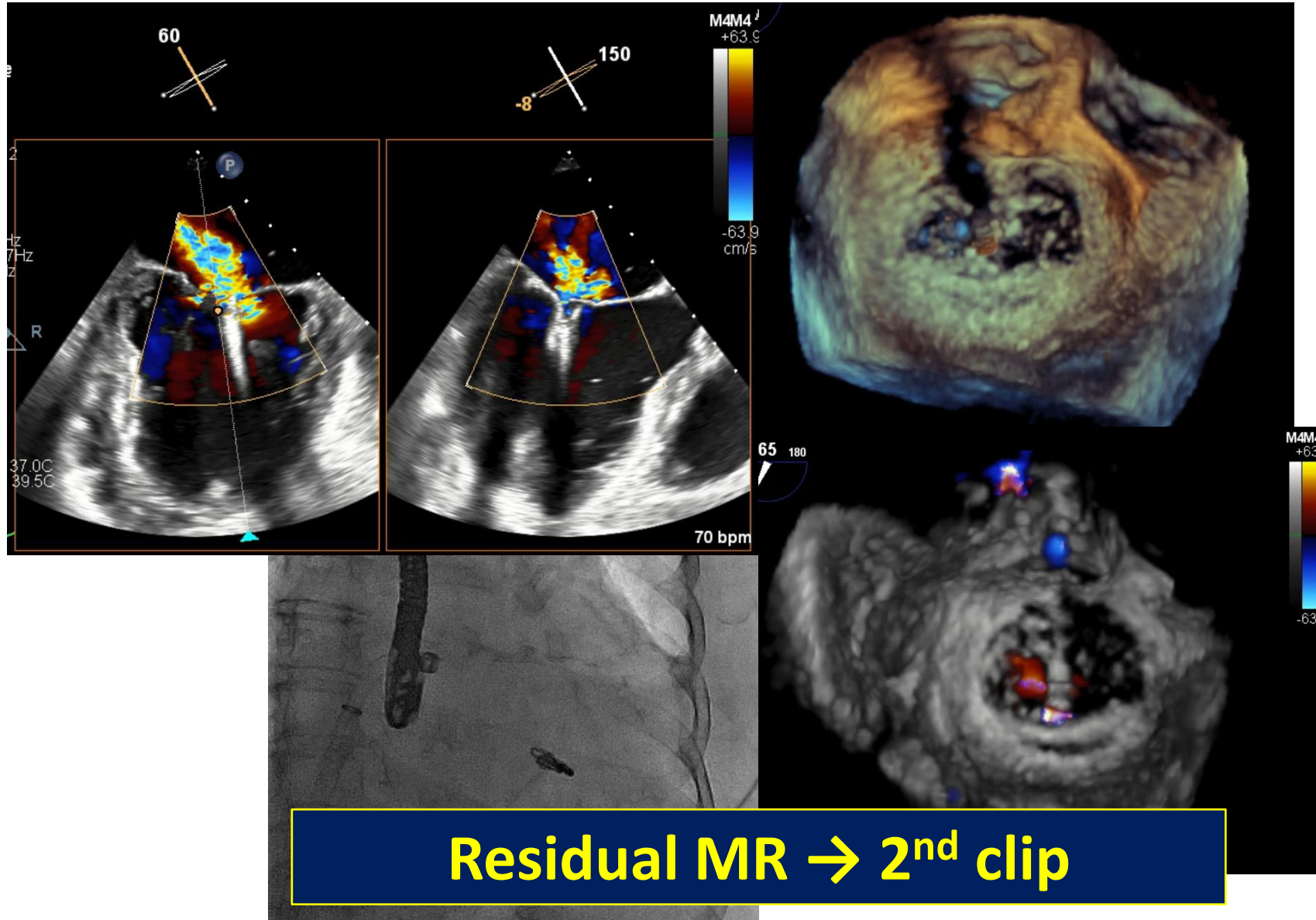
RVSP: 61 mmHg

# TEE



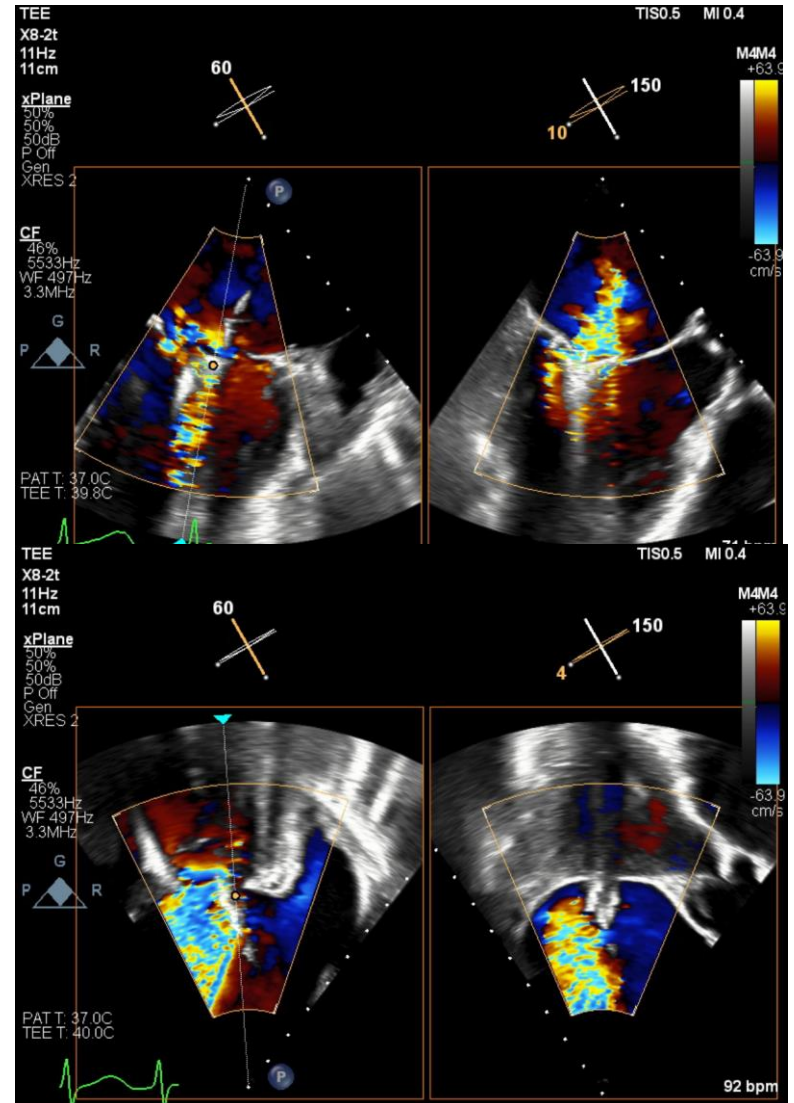
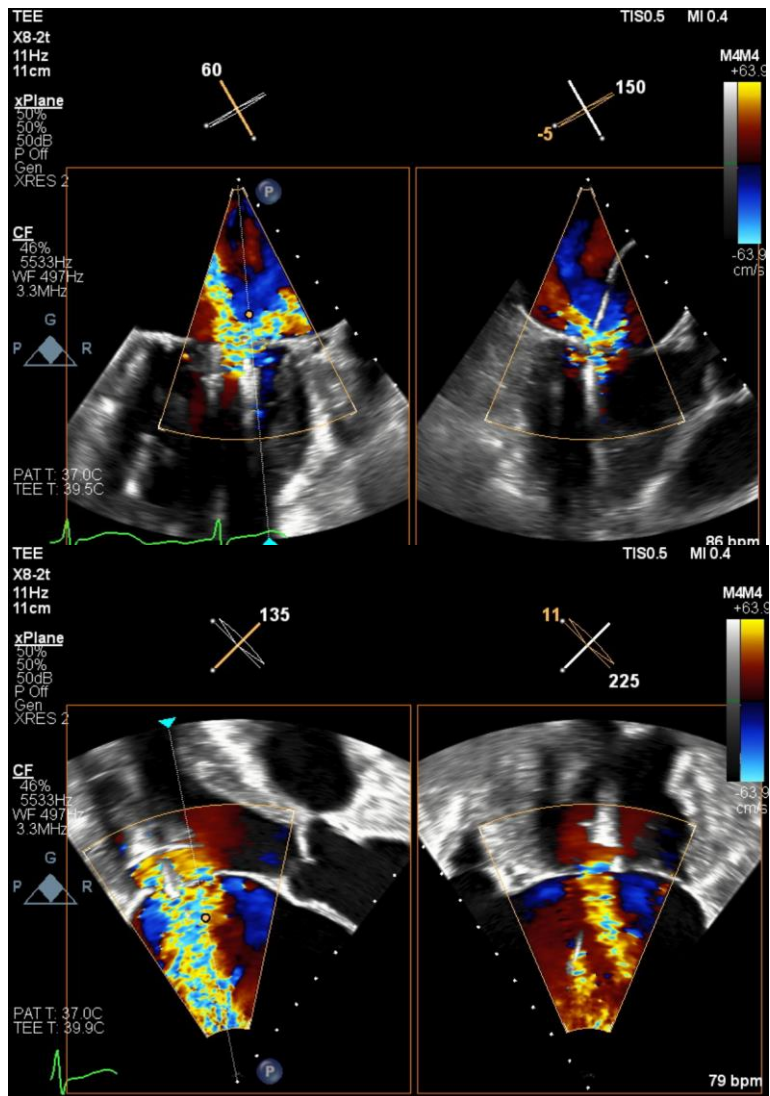
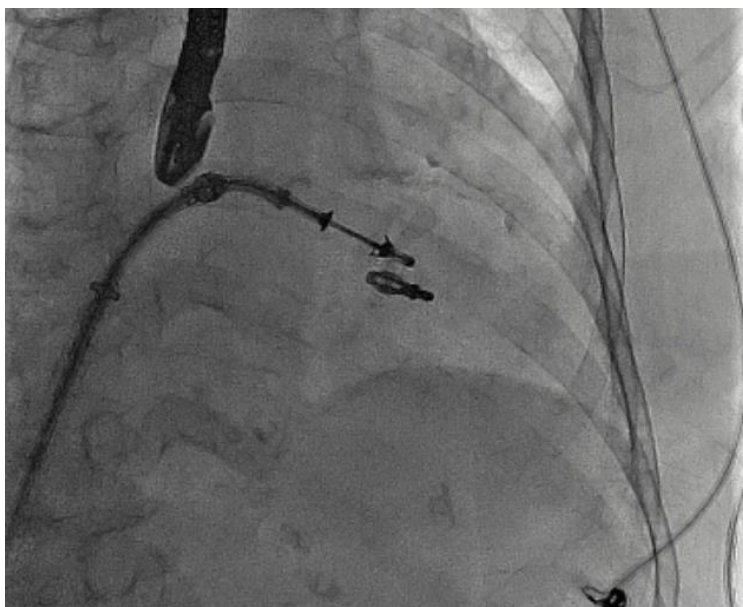


# TEER – After deployment of the 1<sup>st</sup> clip with several attempts

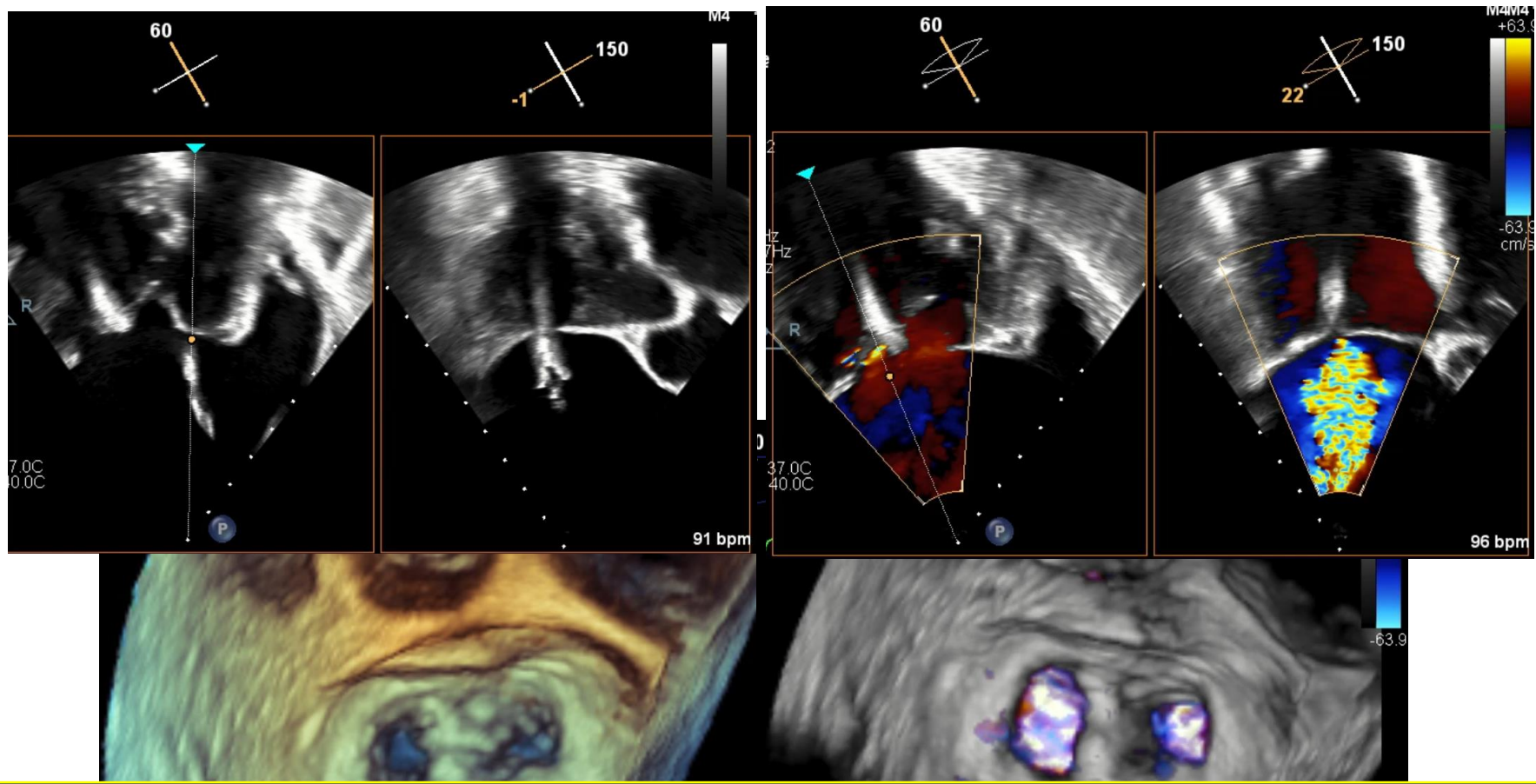


# TEER – Several attempts with 2<sup>nd</sup> clip

XT -> XTW



# TEER – Final TEE



**Increased MR d/t MV leaflet tear and unstable vital sign → Emergent MV replacement**

## Prevention of leaflet damage

- **Excessive tension should be avoided in case with long clip and annular calcification**
- **An important measure of caution is a slight advancement of the clip in ventricular direction during clip closure.**
- **The hypothesis of an increased risk for XTR to injure the leaflets due to the longer arms with a higher force on the leaflet per area.**
- **An effective bailout maneuver can be to grasp the injured leaflet further at the base either by a different device position or with a device with longer clip arms.**

Schnitzler K, et al. Curr Cardiol Rep 2021;23:131

# Mitral Stenosis

# How to reduce mitral gradient ?

- Reposition MitraClip with less tissue grasped -> reduce the tension on the leaflets.
  - > This should be done with caution and not at the expense of safe tissue grasped to avoid SLDA
- Reposition MitraClip with a more lateral placement to the jet
- Use NT instead of XT

Once the clip is released, gradients may potentially decrease by up to 20%.

If residual MR is significant, this may drive the transmitral gradient falsely higher due to increased flow across the valve.

Al-Azizi K, et al. Curr Cardiol Rep 2020;22:50

# SLDA and Embolization

# What is the cause of SLDA and Clip embolization ?

Continuous reduction in SLDA over years, which likely reflects the *implanter's learning curve* and *advances in the clip systems*: EVEREST I 11.0%, EVEREST II 5.1%, ACCESSEU 4.8%, TRAMI 2.0%, TVT 1.5%, Praz et al. 4.0%, Mitra EXPAND 1.9%, and "G4" 1.7%

Only two studies, the TCVT and TVT, describe clip embolization in 0.7% and 0.1% - Right axillar artery, renal artery and apex of the LV.

*Success rate of re-intervention with TEER: Around 25 -50 %*

Schnitzler K, et al. Curr Cardiol Rep 2021;23: 131



CAUSE FOR SLDA	SPECIFIC EXPLANATION
Inadequate leaflet capture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor echo imaging<sup>21</sup></li> <li>• Short leaflet (NTR &lt;6 mm, XTR &lt;9 mm)</li> <li>• Gripper below leaflet</li> </ul>
Poor tissue quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thin leaflet<sup>13</sup></li> <li>• Connective tissue disorder<sup>15</sup></li> <li>• Myxomatous leaflet</li> <li>• Steroid use<sup>23</sup></li> <li>• Calcified leaflet or annulus<sup>7</sup></li> </ul>
Excessive clip-leaflet tension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe mitral annular dilation<sup>12</sup></li> <li>• Use of individual grippers and aggressive anterior or posterior torque</li> <li>• Cardioversion<sup>23</sup></li> <li>• Device malrotation</li> </ul>
Chordal entanglement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gripper and clip arm attached to mitral valve chords</li> </ul>

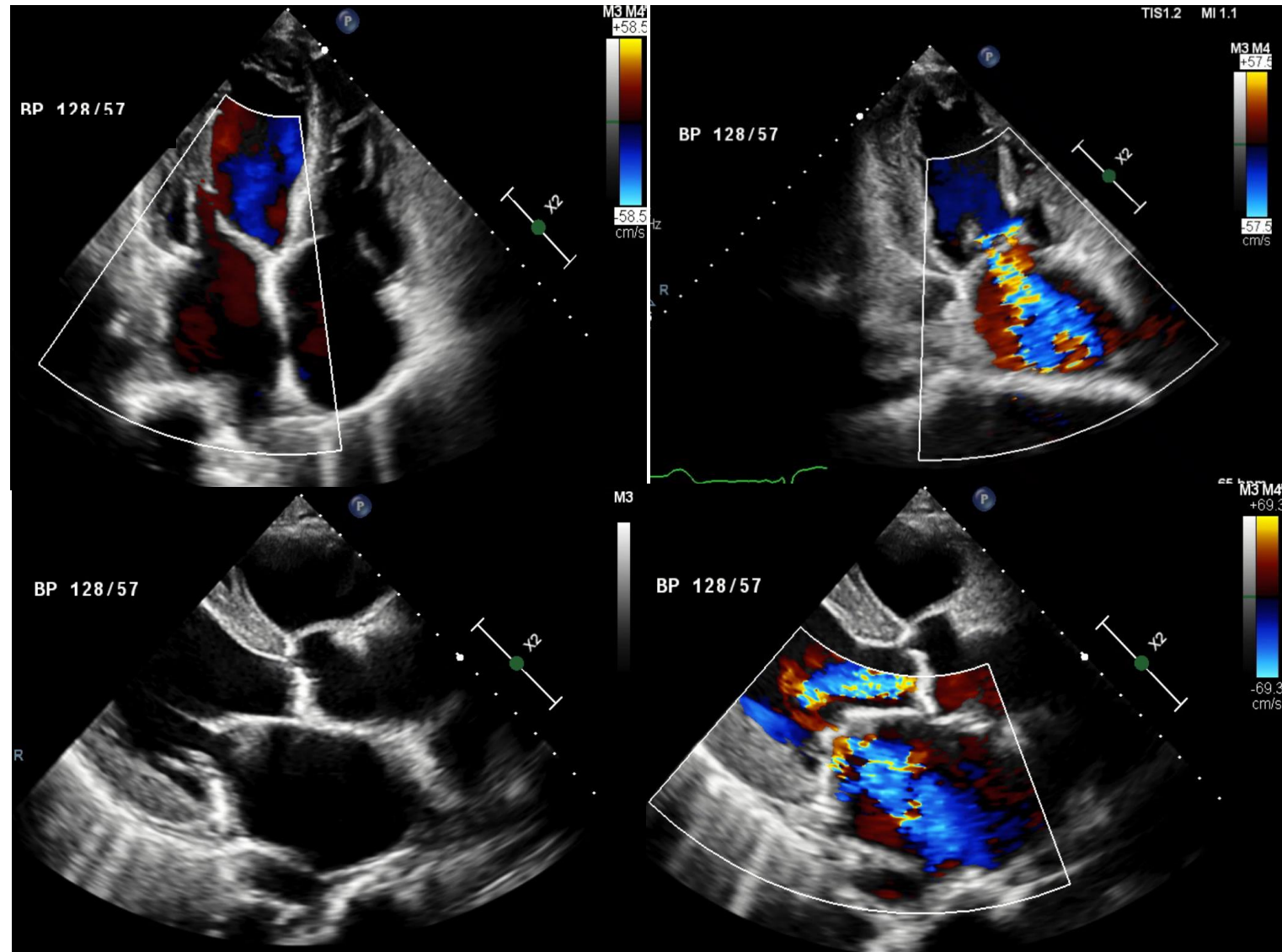
## SCAI Textbook Transcatheter Edge-to-Edge Repair

M/80 PeAF, ESRD on HD

## Pre-procedural TTE

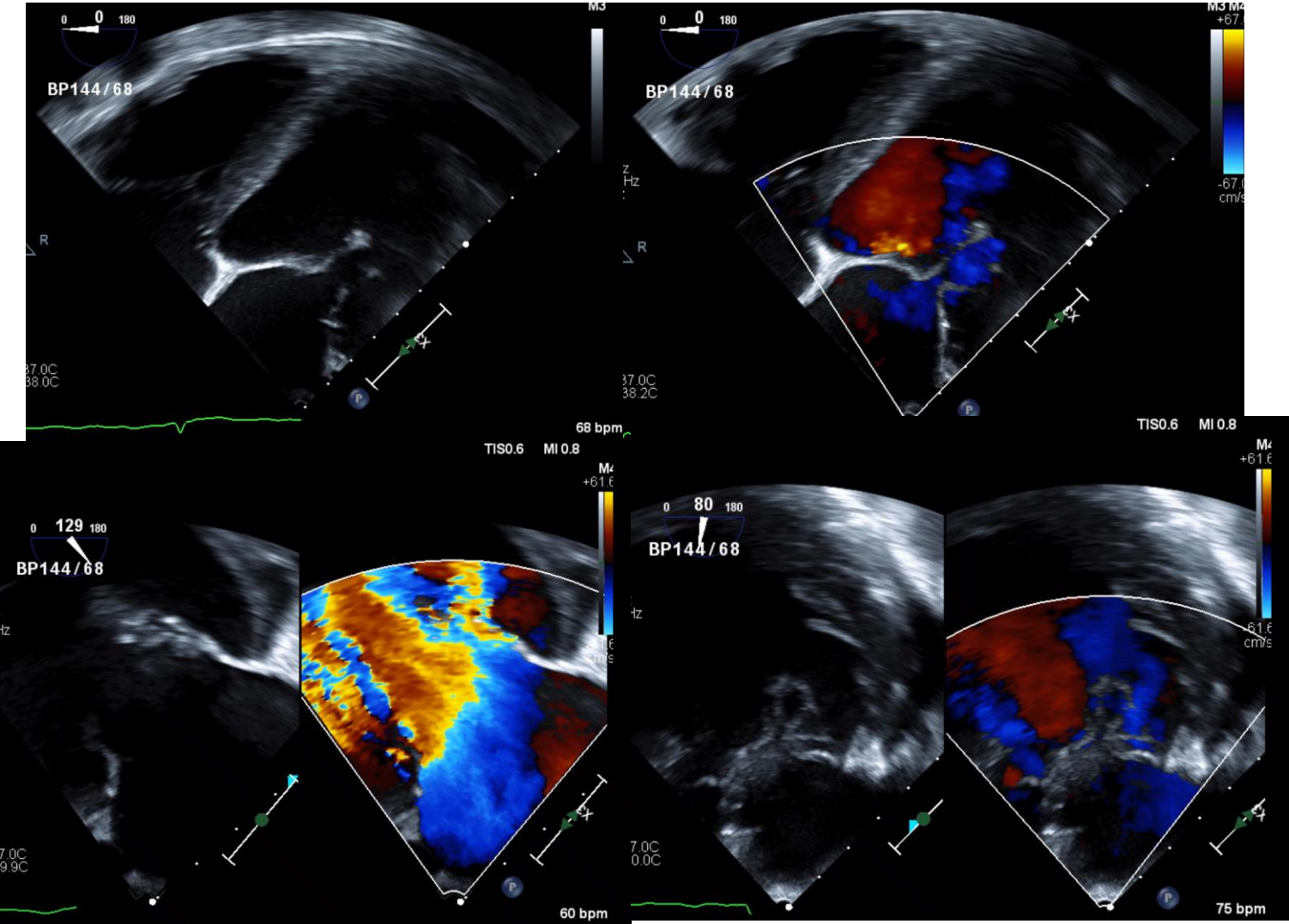
ERO : 38mm<sup>2</sup>  
RV : 73cc

LA AP : 54mm  
LVEDD : 63mm



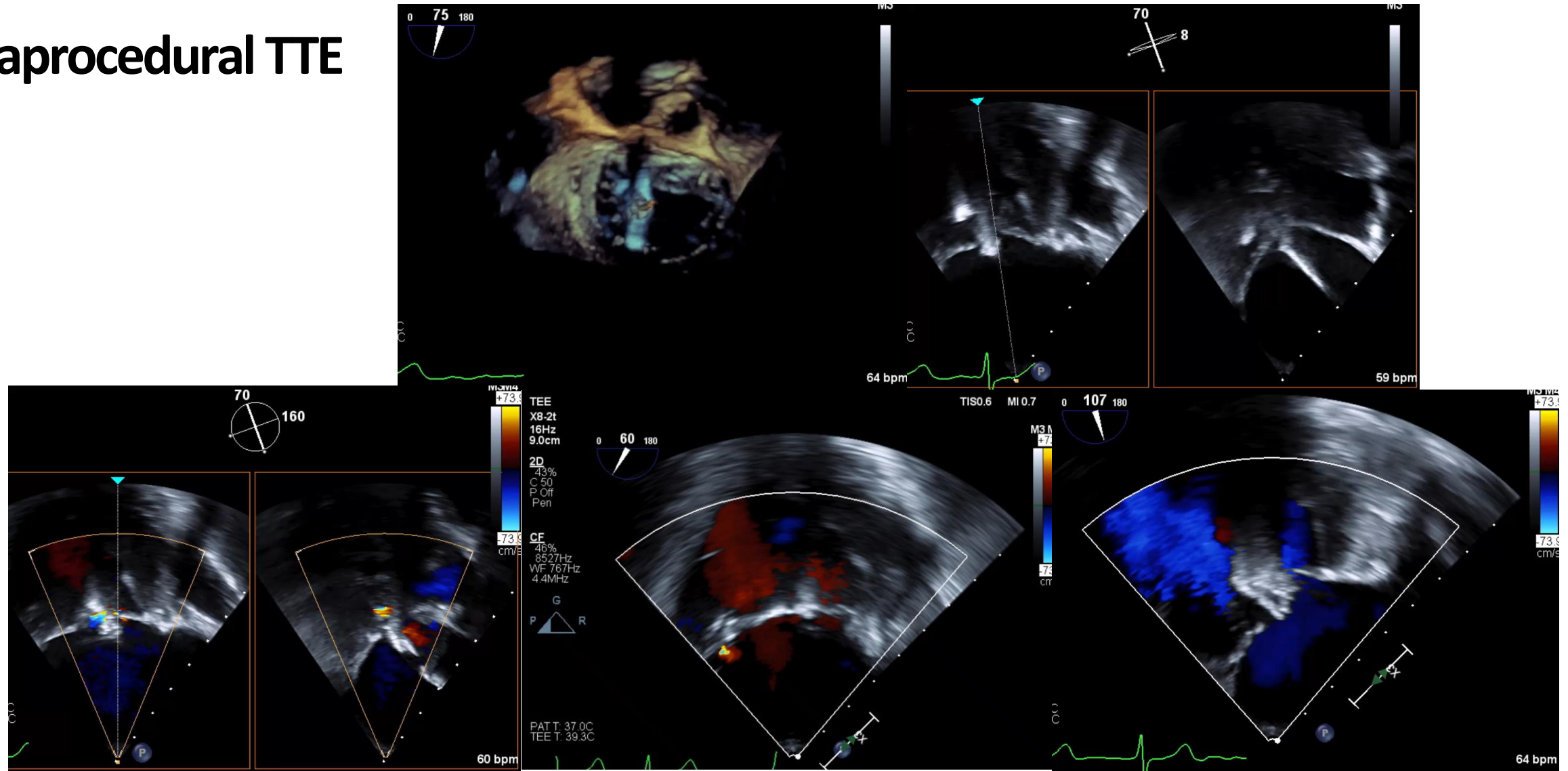
Severe MR and Reduced LV systolic function (EF 51%), considering the degree of MR

# Pre-procedural TEE

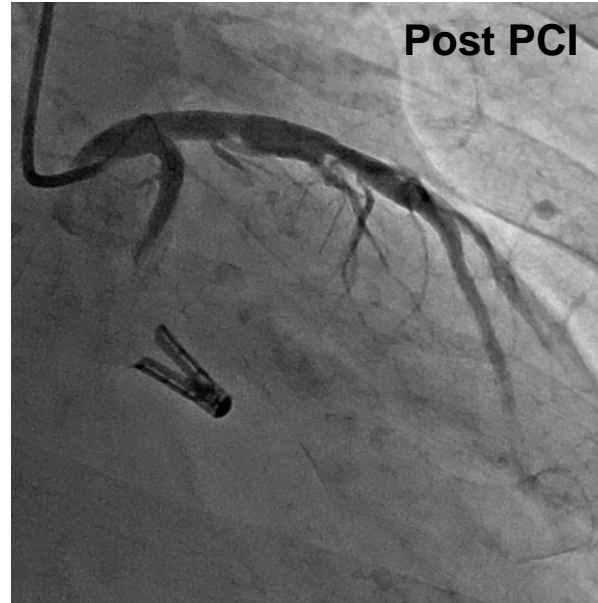
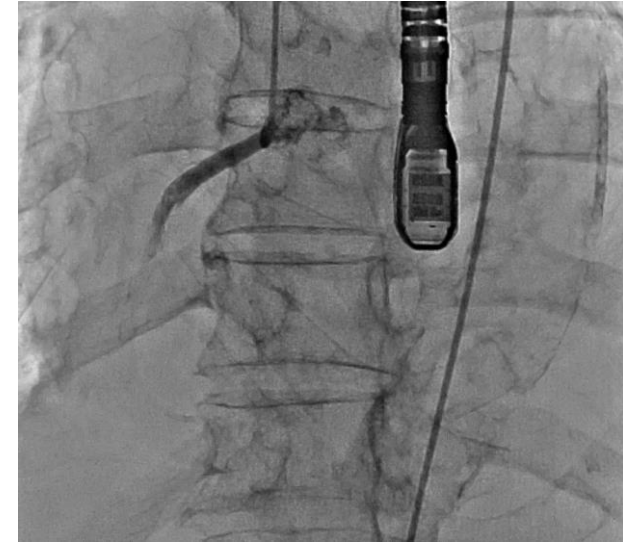
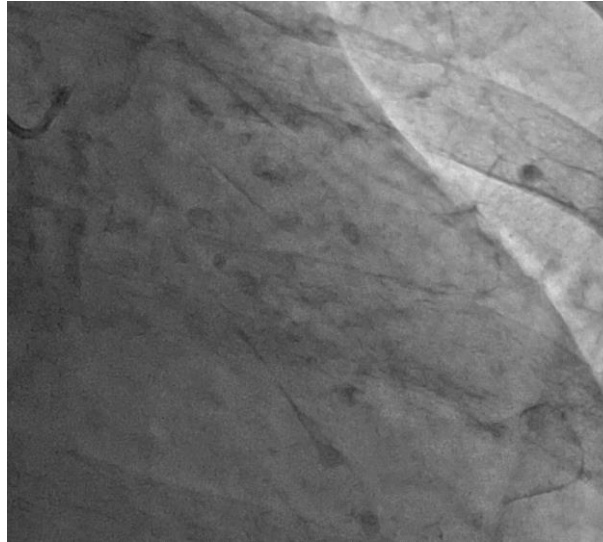


Severe MR, Thickened and Tethered MV

# Intraprocedural TTE

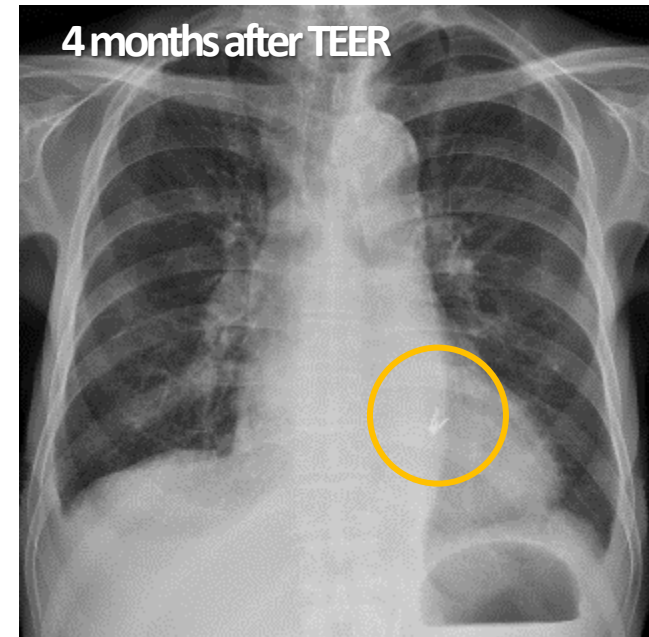
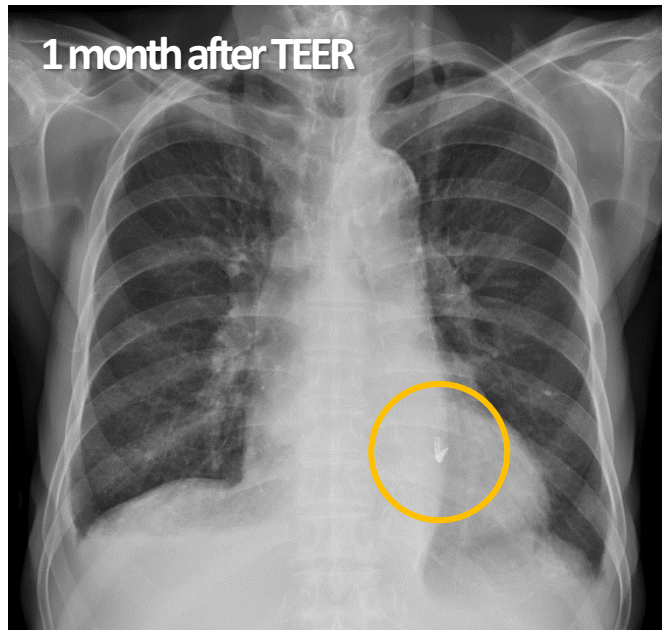
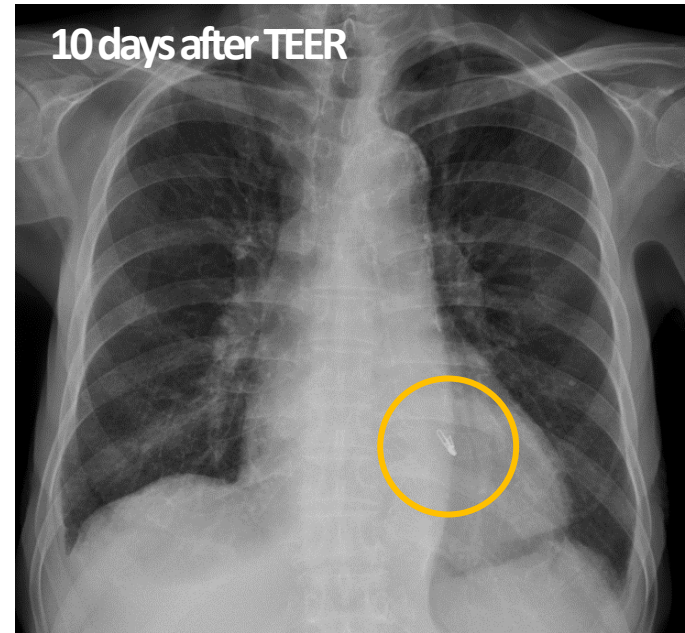
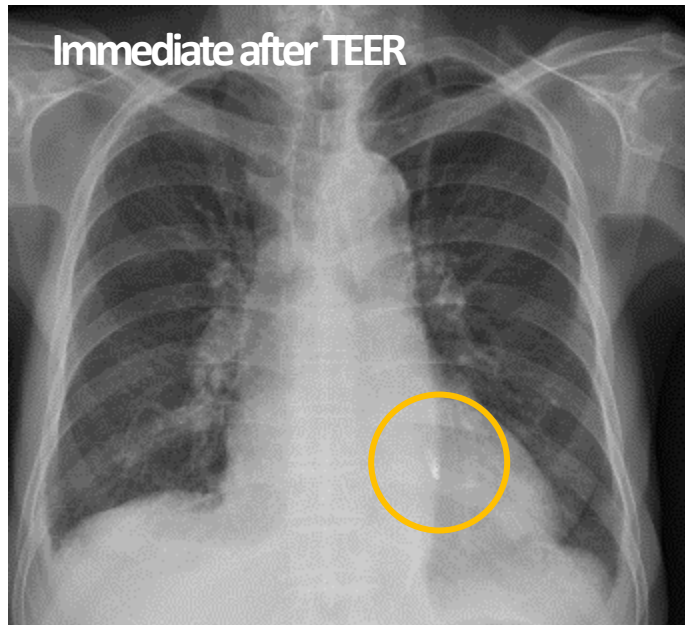


# Coronary angiography



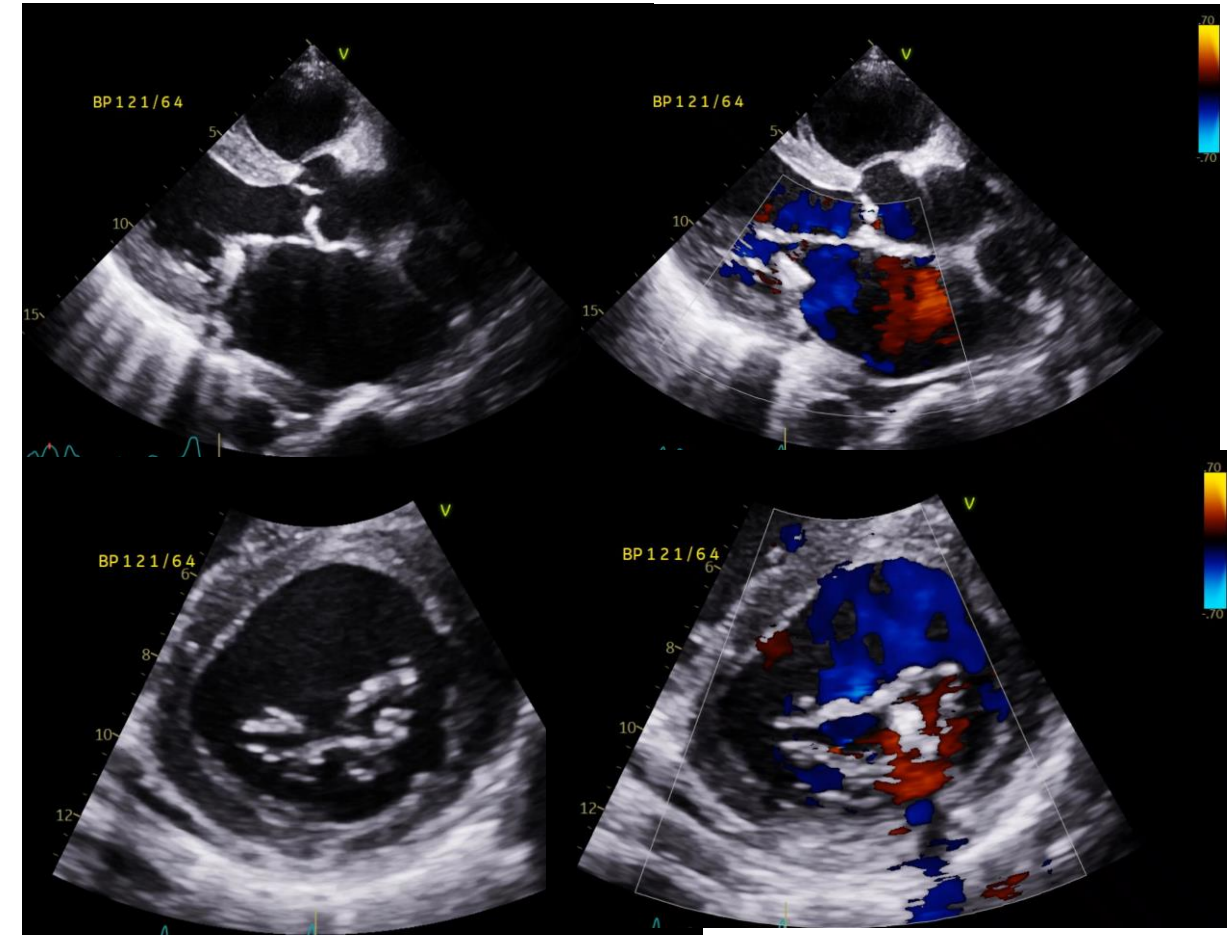
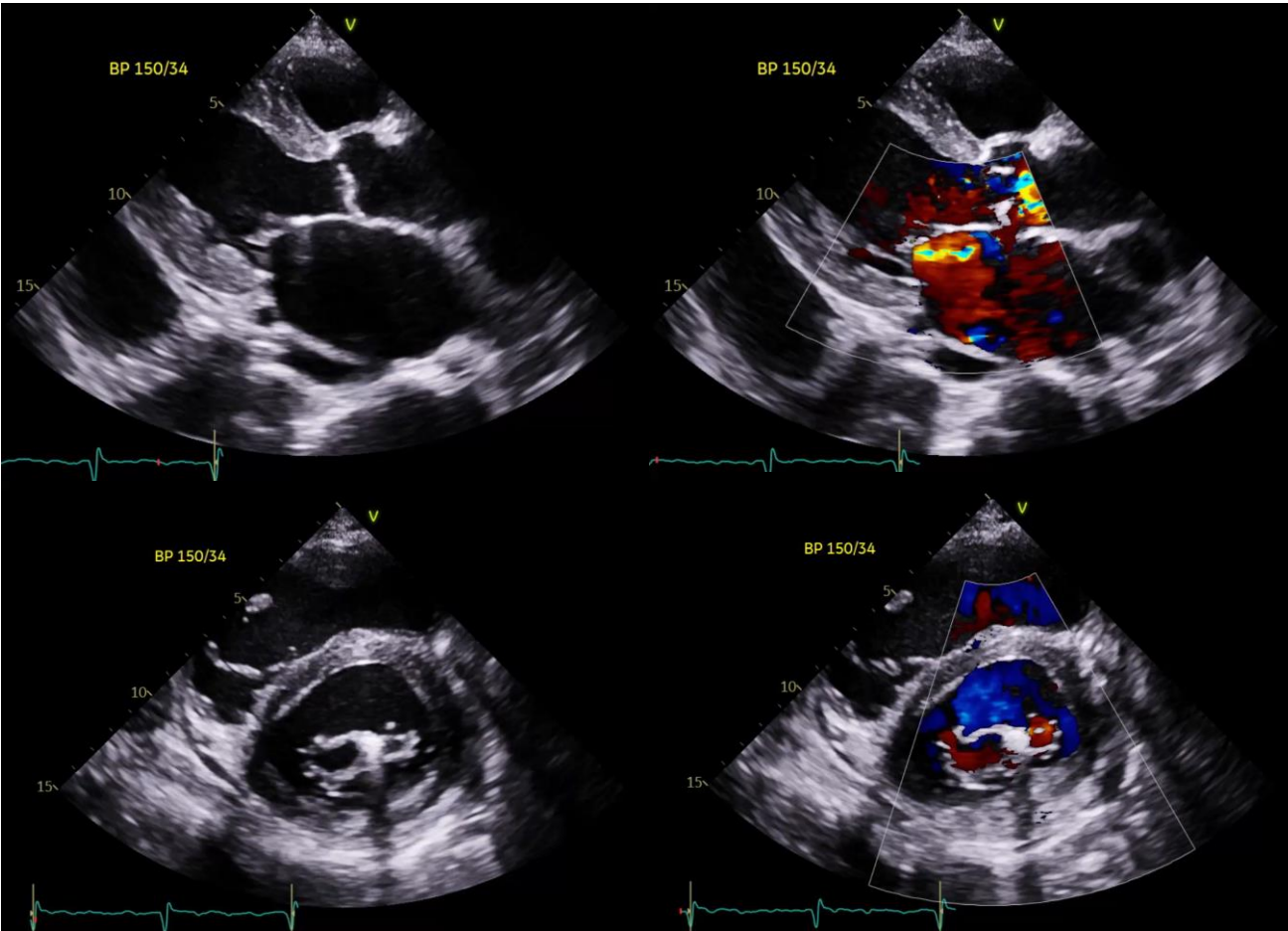
PCI was done at pLCx  
due to  
significant stenosis  
after Clipping

# Serial CXR



# Post-procedural TTE

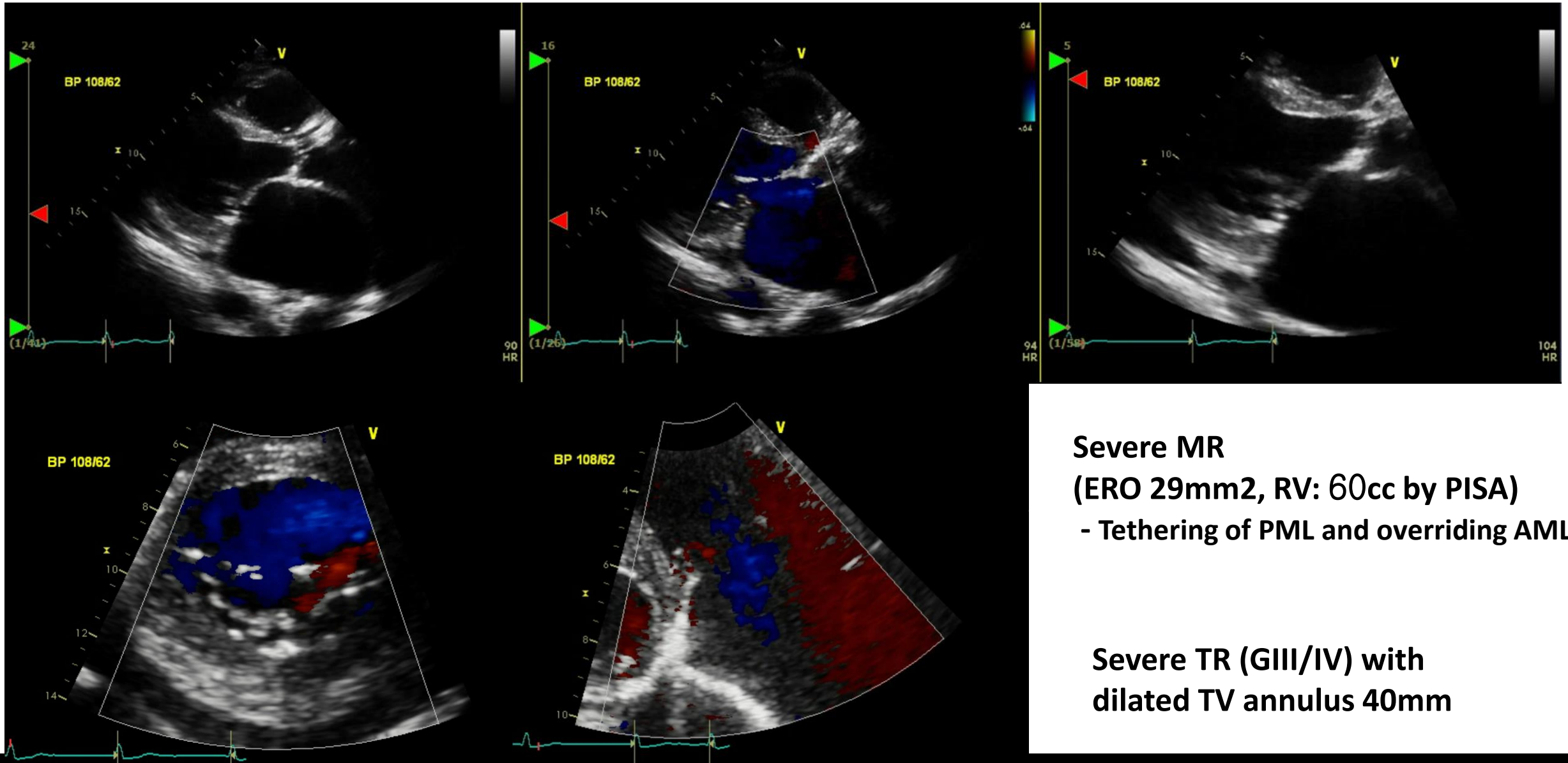
# TTE at 4 months after TEER



Mitral Clipping device was located at A&P 1-2 portion of MV  
Decreased MR

Single leaflet detachment at AML  
Increased to severe MR

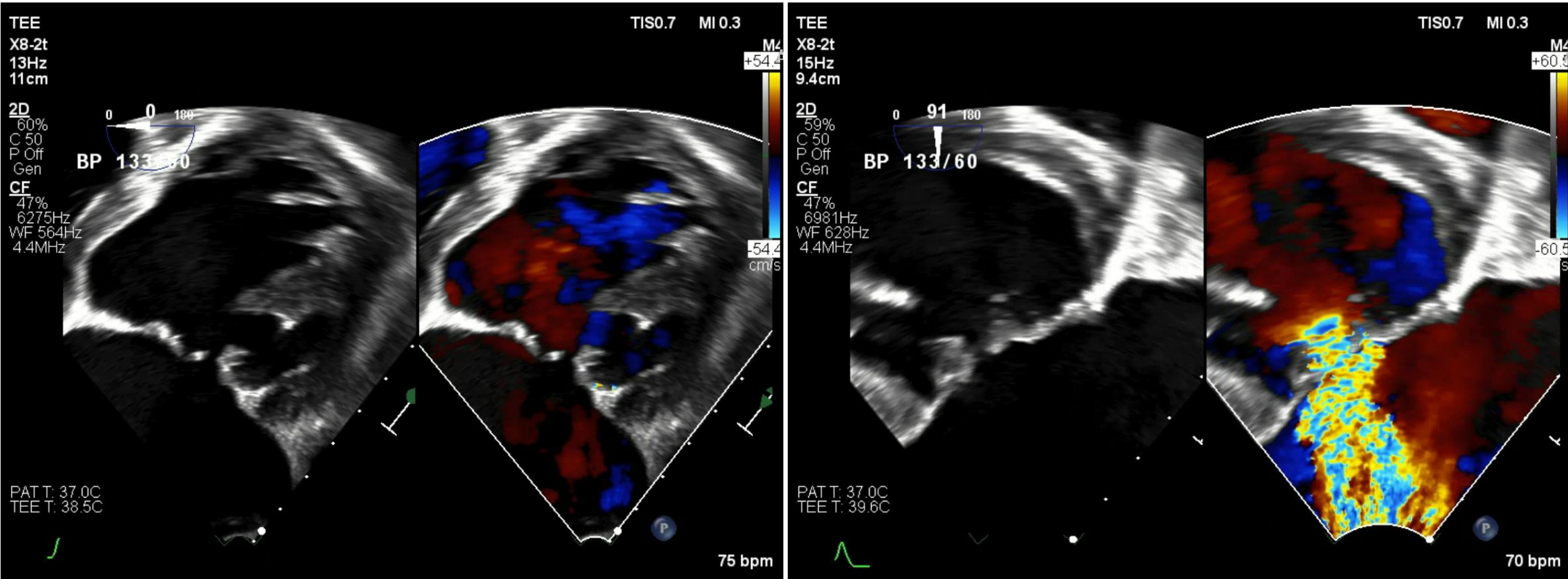
# F/84 PeAF, TTE



**Severe MR**  
**(ERO 29mm<sup>2</sup>, RV: 60cc by PISA)**  
**- Tethering of PML and overriding AML**

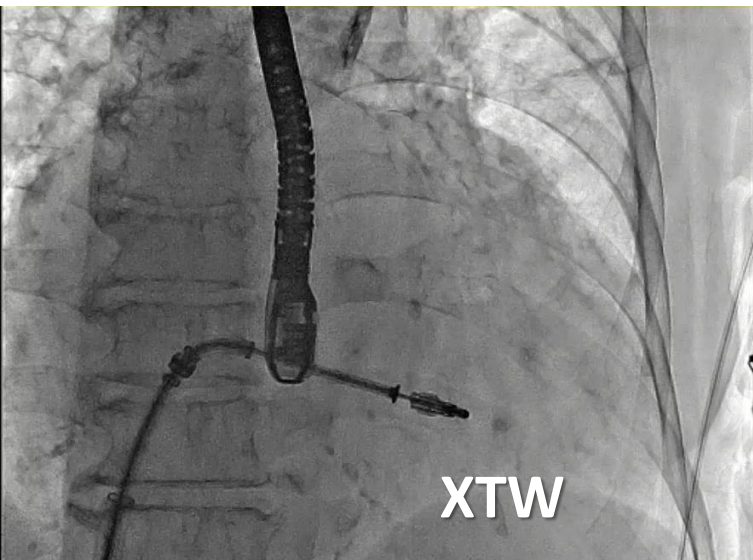
**Severe TR (GIII/IV) with**  
**dilated TV annulus 40mm**



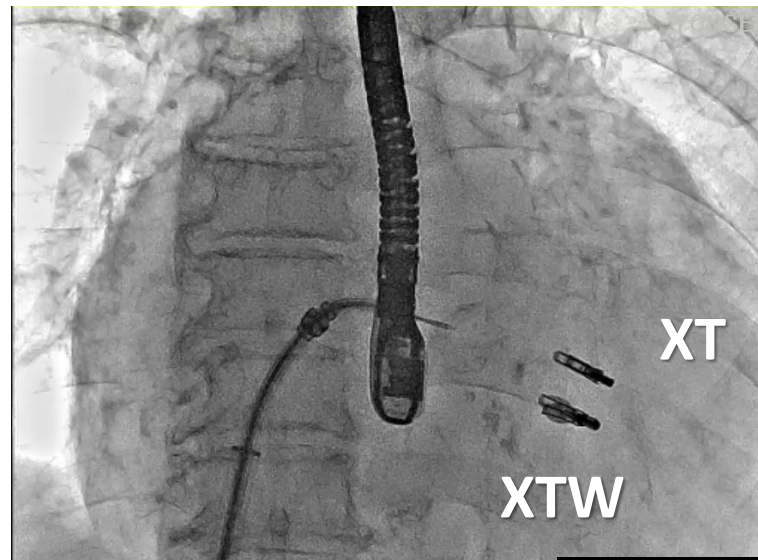
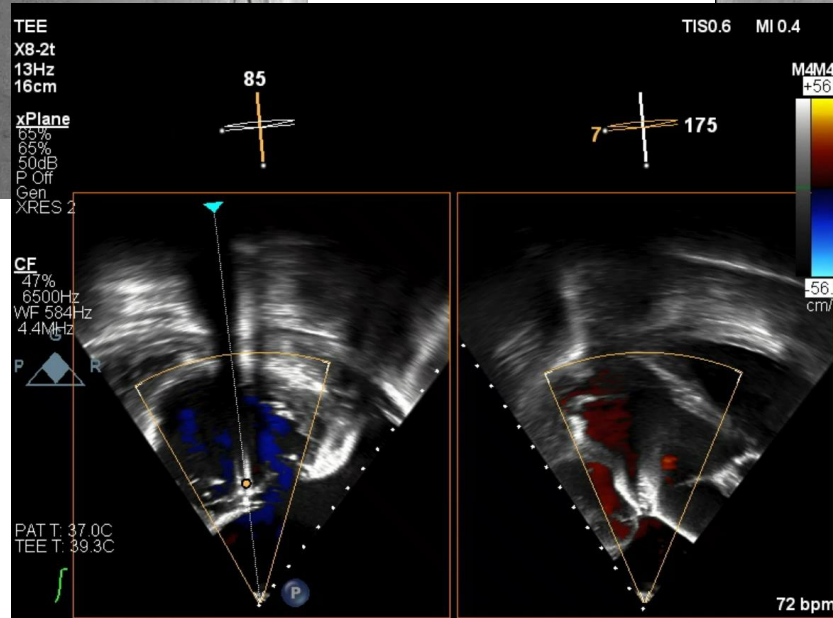


**Severe MR (GIV/IV) d/t annular dilatation (53.6mm) and overriding AML and tethering PML**

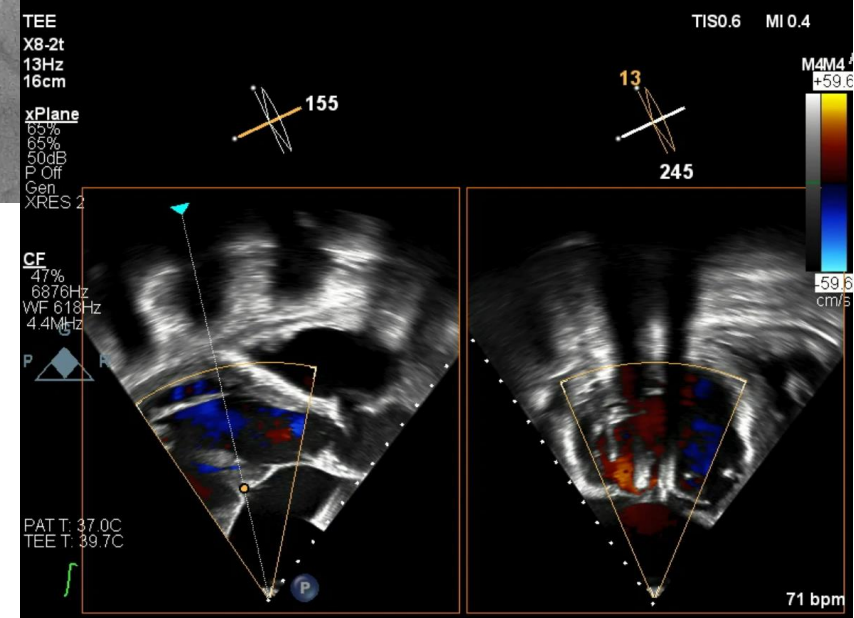
# MitraClip Procedure



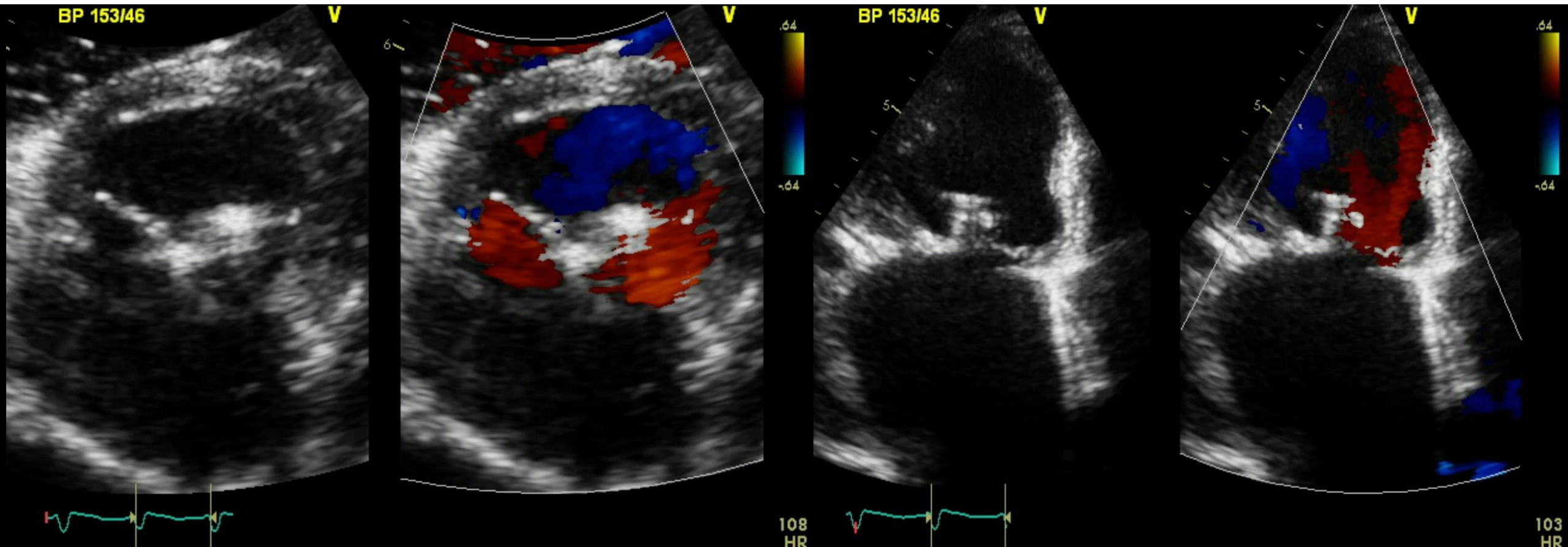
LAO 7, CRA 12



LAO 0, CRA 0

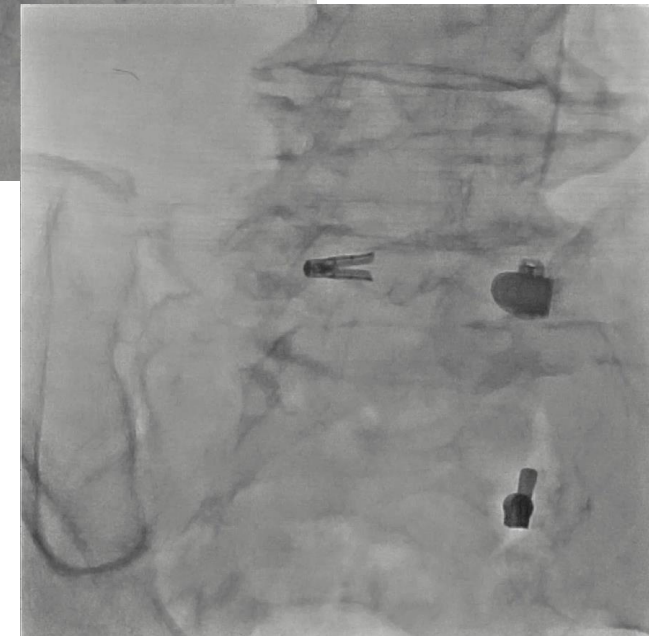
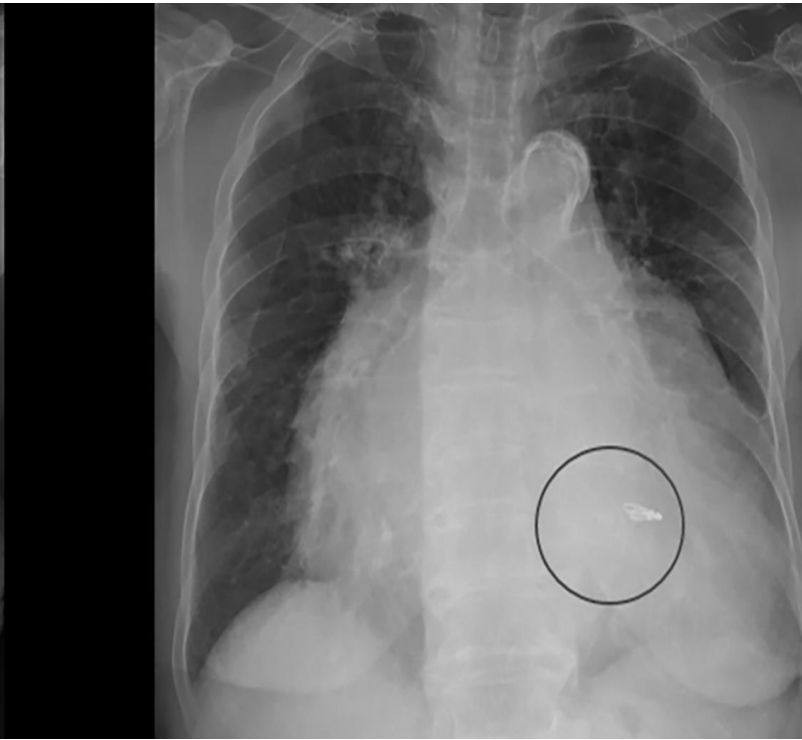
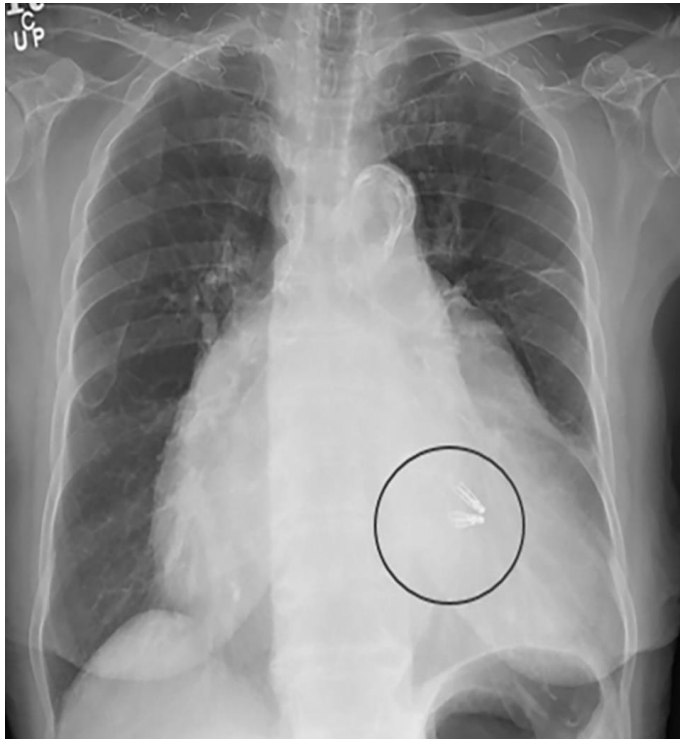


# TTE POD #1



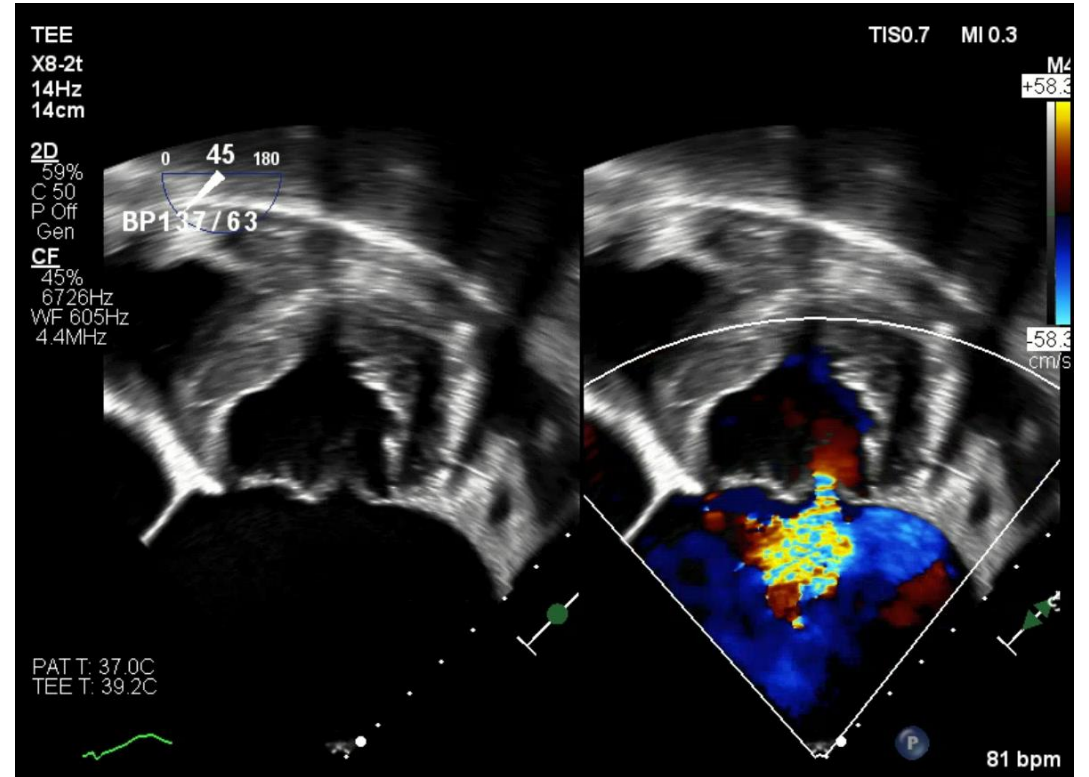
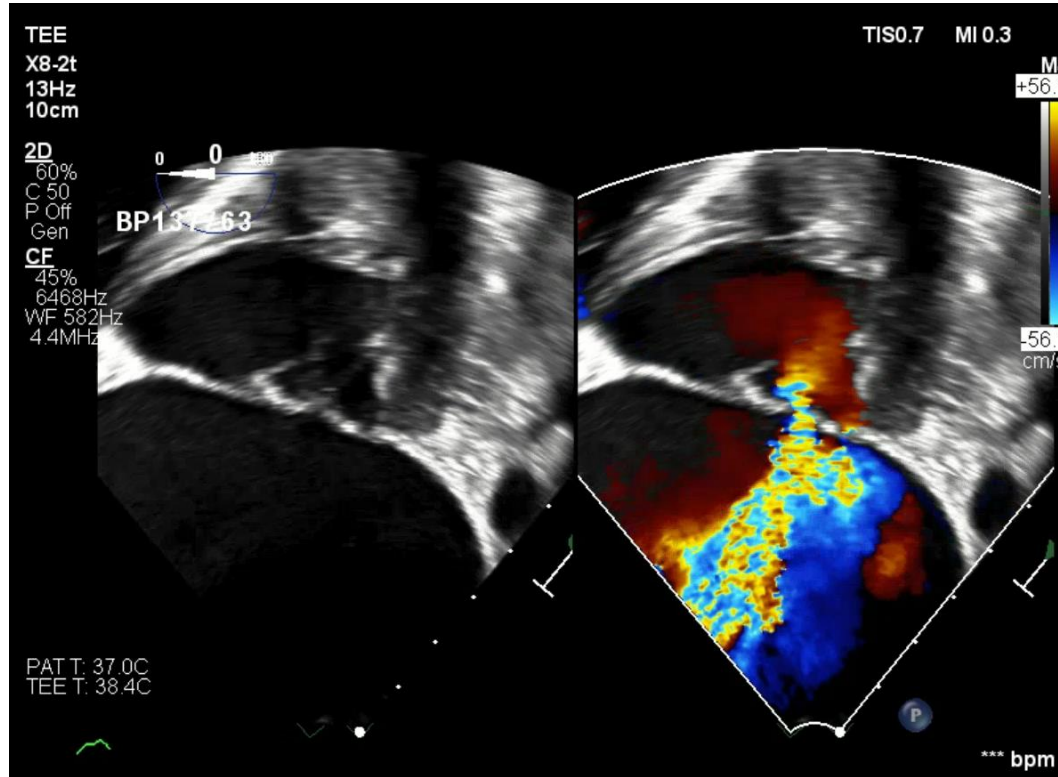
MDPG: 3.4mmHg  
Markedly decreased MR

# Fluoroscopy (POD #15)



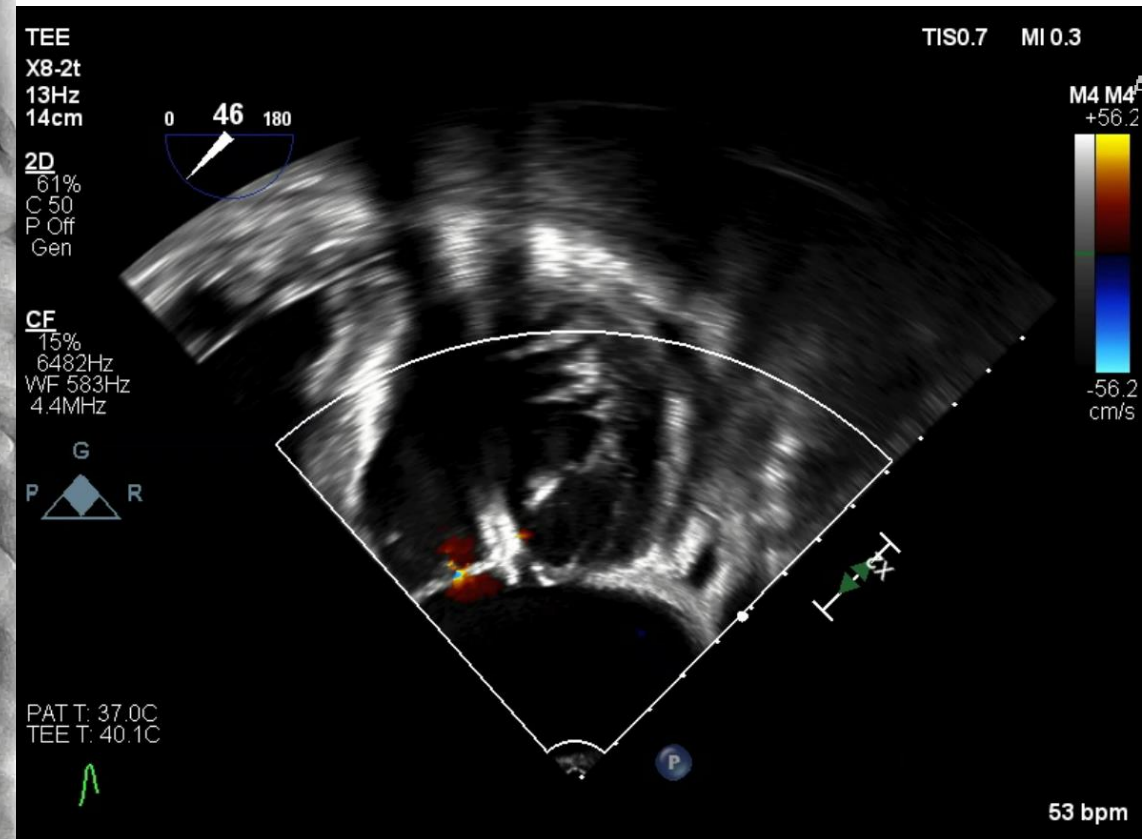
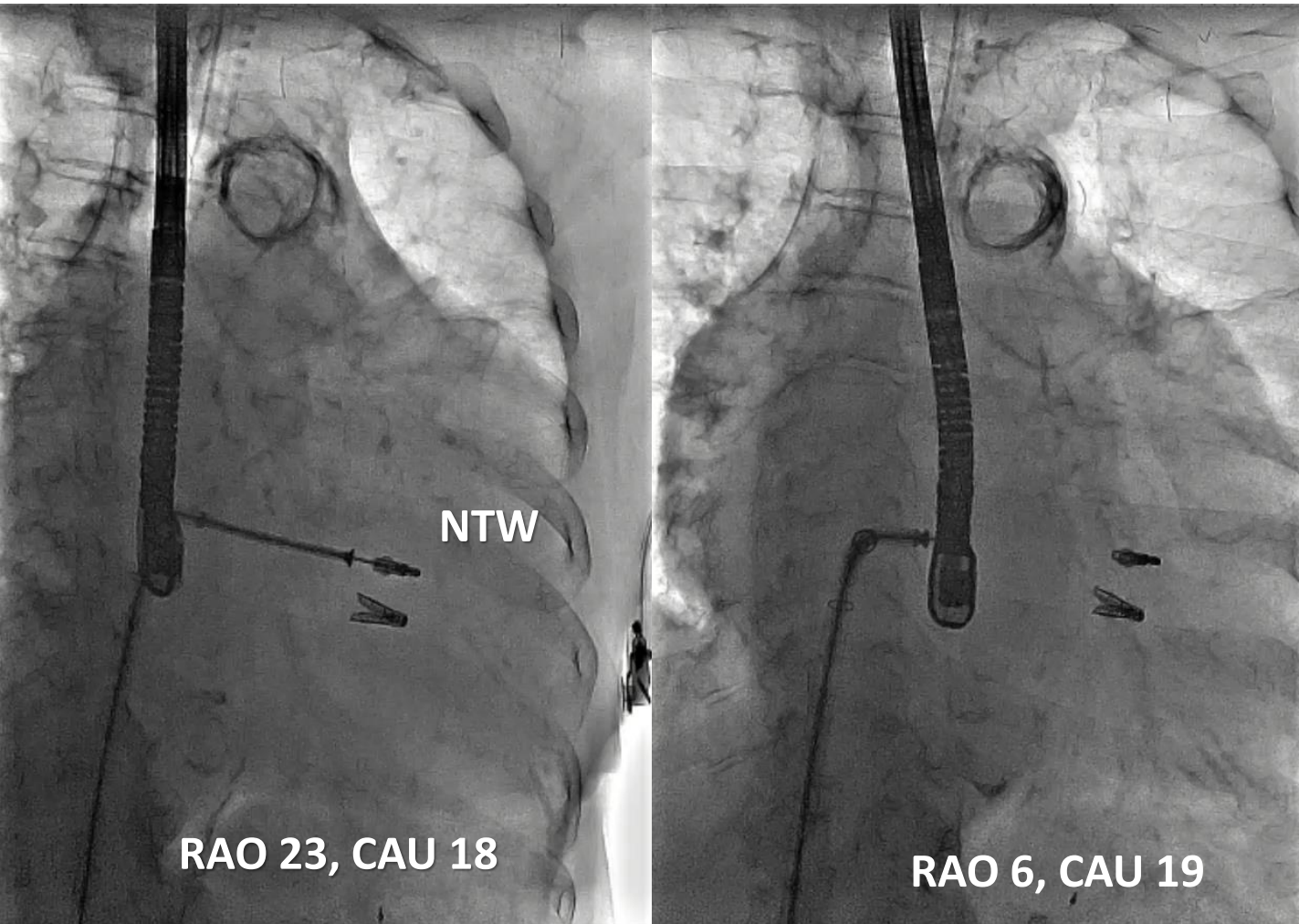
**Embolized MitraClip (XT) into Rt. Common iliac artery**

# TEE (POD #33)



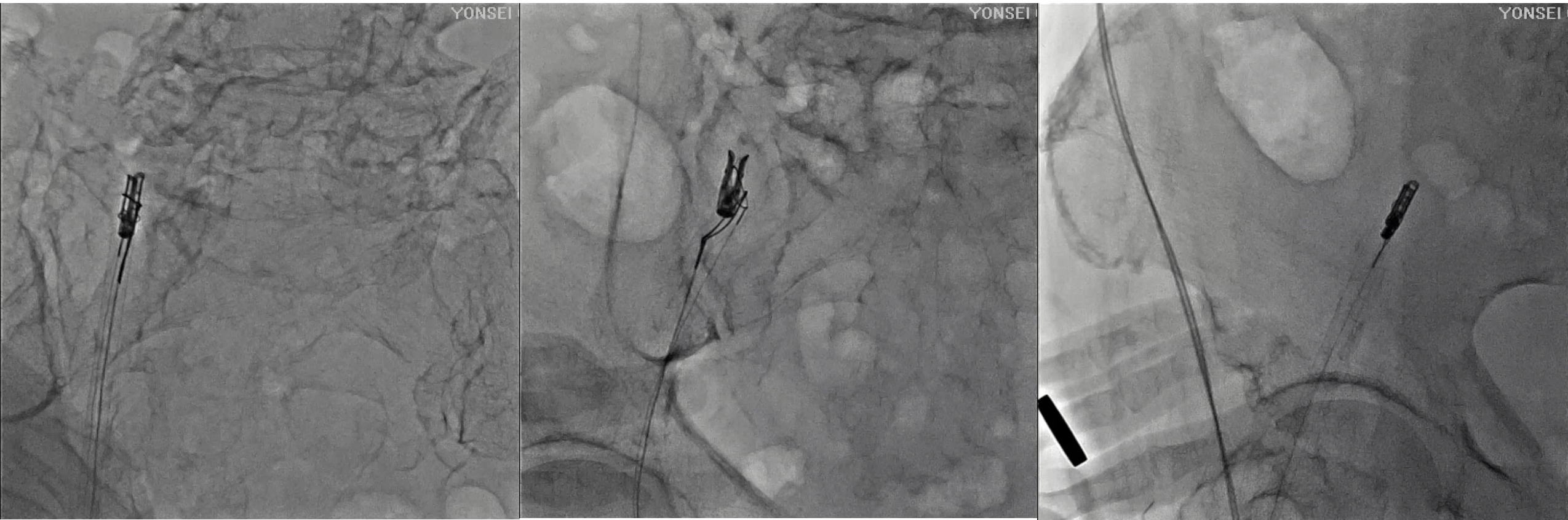
Increased MR (GIII-IV/IV)

# Re-do MitraClip & Retrieval of embolized clip (POD #34)



After re-do Mitraclip, markedly decreased MR was noted.

# Re-do MitraClip & Retrieval of embolized clip (POD #34)



**Successful retrieval of embolized mitraclip with 16 Fr sheath and double snaring method**

# Summary

- 1. Appropriate plans and target goals are needed for difficult cases.**
- 2. To reduce complications, operators have to be aware of these adverse events and their risk factors and be familiar with their prophylaxis and bailout options.**
- 3. Further improvement of devices and experience of operator should be warranted to reduce complications.**



# Severance

With the Love of God, Free Humankind from Disease and Suffering

