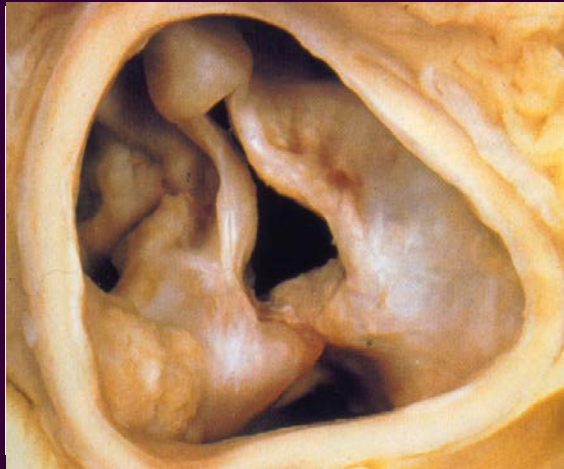


**Ο ρόλος του Περιεγχειρητικού Echo  
κατά τη χειρουργική αντιμετώπιση  
των παθήσεων της αορτικής βαλβίδας**



Effie Rouska, MD  
Cardiologist  
University Hospital of Larissa

Effie  
ROUSKA, MD



*All the cases presented in this lecture are patients cases from  
Glenfield Hospital, Leicester, UK*

# Acknowledgements



Effie  
ROUSKA, MD

*I am indebted  
to **Dr Justiaan Swanevelder** and to **Dr Derek Chin**  
for their constant support throughout my training  
at Glenfield Hospital  
and during the whole accreditation procedure*

# The revolution !

*Past ..... Present*



**Transoesophageal  
stethoscope**



**Transoesophageal  
Echo probe**

Effie

ROUSKA, MD

# Which is the role of ITEE ?

---

- All pts with heart valve disease are accepted for surgery on the basis of TTE and/or TEE
- **ITEE**
  - Diagnostic function
    - Refine the diagnosis
    - Change the operative plan
    - Complications
  - Monitoring function
  - Assess the result

Etie ROUSKA, MD

# Definition

- Before cardiac surgery
- During cardiac surgery
- After cardiac surgery
- In intensive care unit

*“When expertly used.....”*

*“Performing a complete examination”*



Cahalan MK, et al. American Society of Echocardiography and Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists task force guidelines for training in perioperative echocardiography. *Anesth Analg* 2002;94:1384-8  
Shanewise JS. Performing a complete transesophageal echocardiographic examination. *Anesthesiol Clin North America* 2001;19(4):727-67



# Objectives

---

- Assists the surgeon with the planning of the operation
- Allows intraoperative monitoring
- Guides surgical manipulations
- Confirms the results of the operation

Y. Katsnelson, J. Roman, et al. Current state of intraoperative echocardiography. Echocardiography 2003; Vol. 20, NY. o 8.

# Pre-op application

---

- Confirmation of the already existing diagnosis
- New findings – impact on surgery!
- Precise measurements upon the type of the operation

Effie  
ROUSKA, MD



# *Principles of Assessment*

---

- Severity of lesion
- Symptoms
- Left ventricular function
- Associated lesions
- Individual risk-benefit ratio

Effie ROUSKA, MD

## Most frequent pre-bypass TOE findings likely to affect the surgical plan

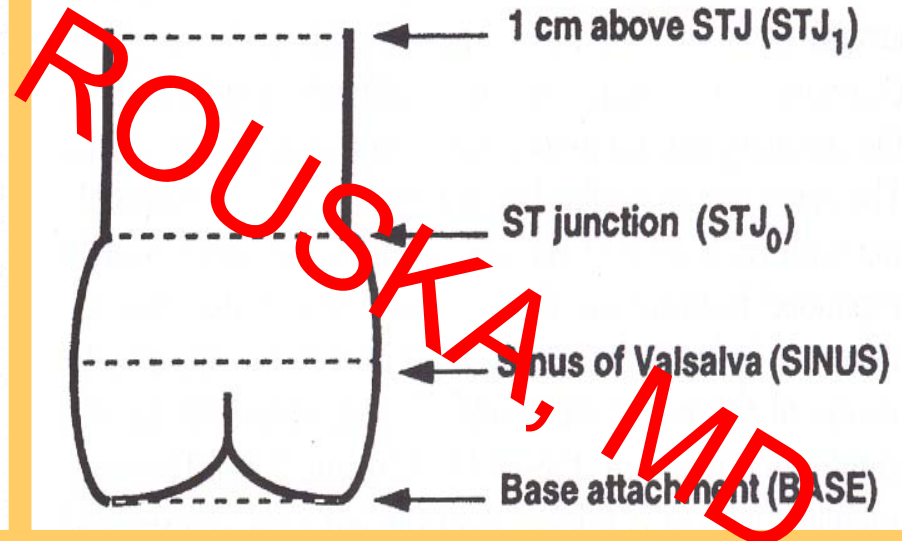
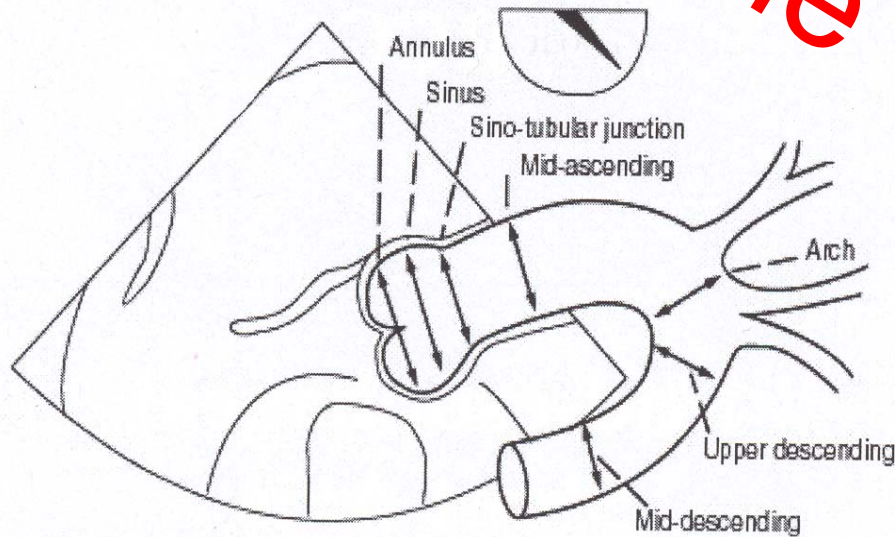
---

- ASD, patent foramen ovale
  - Valvular disease: new or absent or of different severity, annulus sizing
  - Global and regional LV and RV function not corresponding to preoperative findings
  - Intracardiac thrombi
  - Tumors
  - Left superior vena cava
  - Aortic atheromatosis
- 

Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Use of TEE in Aortic Valve Surgery

Effie



- Precise measurements
- Decision upon the type of prostheses

# Intra-op application

---

- Intraoperative monitoring
  - TEE vs PAC or LVEDD vs PCWP/CVP
- Guide to positioning of cannulae / surgical manipulations
- Inadequate venous drainage
- Distribution of cardioplegia (*contrast echo*)
- Minimization of the risk of air embolization
- Assistance in weaning from CPB

Etjie ROUSKA, MD

# Post-op application

---

- Direct assessment of the surgical result
- New findings/complications
- Post op monitoring
- Guide to post op management

Effie  
ROUSKA, MD

# Aortic Valve diseases

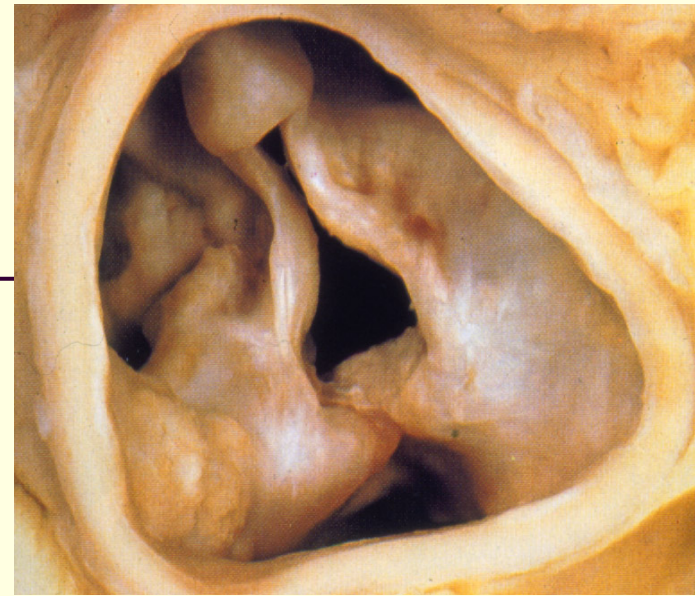
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## ■ Pathology

- Aortic regurgitation (AR)
- Aortic stenosis (AS)

## ■ Surgery

- Repair
- Replacement
  - *Mechanical prostheses*
  - *Stented Bioprostheses*
  - *Stentless Xenograft*
  - *Homograft*
  - *Ross procedure*



Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Mechanical prostheses



Bileaflet Valve



Disk Valve



# Valvular Bioprostheses

- Stented



- Stentless



Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Preoperative Predictors of Surgical Outcome in AV Disease

---

Effie ROUSKA, MD

---

Severity of preoperative symptoms or reduced exercise tolerance  
Severity of depression of left ventricular ejection fraction  
Duration of preoperative left ventricular systolic dysfunction

---

ACC/AHA Practice Guidelines  
Circulation 2006; 114:84-231

# Surgical Risks

## *Immediate Outcome of AVR*

- **Parsonnet score  $\geq 20$**   $\rightarrow$  **31% mortality**
  - Age 70-74 = 7
  - Aortic valve surgery = 5
  - AS gradient  $> 120$  mmHg = 7
  - CABG at valve surgery = 2
  - LVEF 30-49% = 2
- **Euroscore  $\geq 6$**   $\rightarrow$  **11% mortality**
  - Age 70-74 = 3
  - Other than isolated CABG = 2
  - Active Endocarditis = 3
  - Thoracic Aorta Surgery = 3
  - LVEF 30-50% = 1

Effie ROUSKA, MD

# In Conclusion before Surgery

- Predict individual patient risk
- Avoid irreversible cardiomyopathy
- Consider concomitant dx
- Assess local surgical outcomes



Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Indications for AV Replacement or Repair? Timing for Surgery ...



Effie ROUSKA, MD

ACC/AHA Practice Guidelines  
Circulation 2006;114:84-231



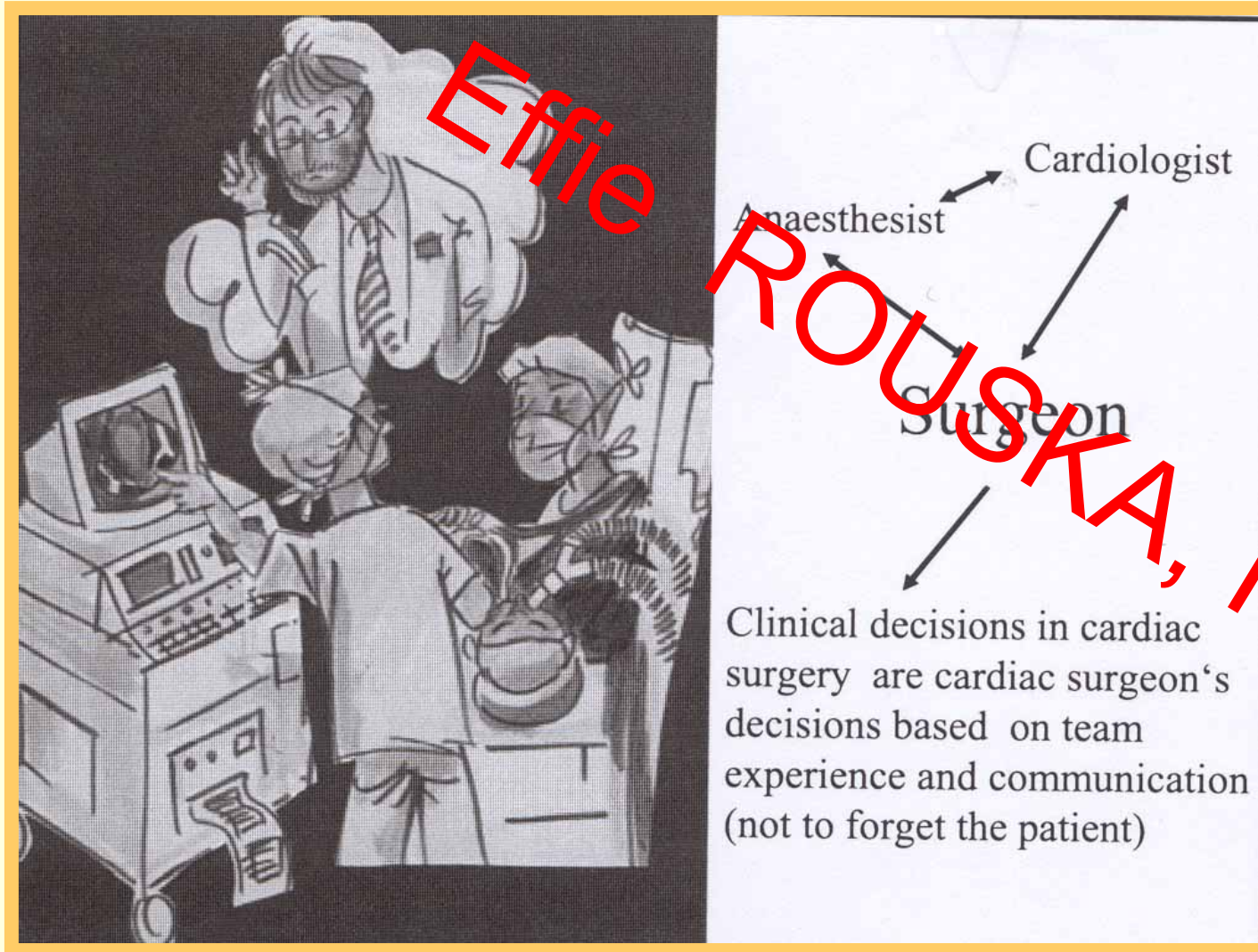
# Planning the operation

Discussion between a Cardiac Surgeon and a Cardiologist



# Defined roles

## Team's communication





# Pre-op ITEE evaluation of AR

AR

- Define the AV structure
- Number of leaflets
- Movements of cusps (normal - restricted - excessive)
- Aortic root morphology
- Origin and direction of regurgitant jet
- Mechanism of AR

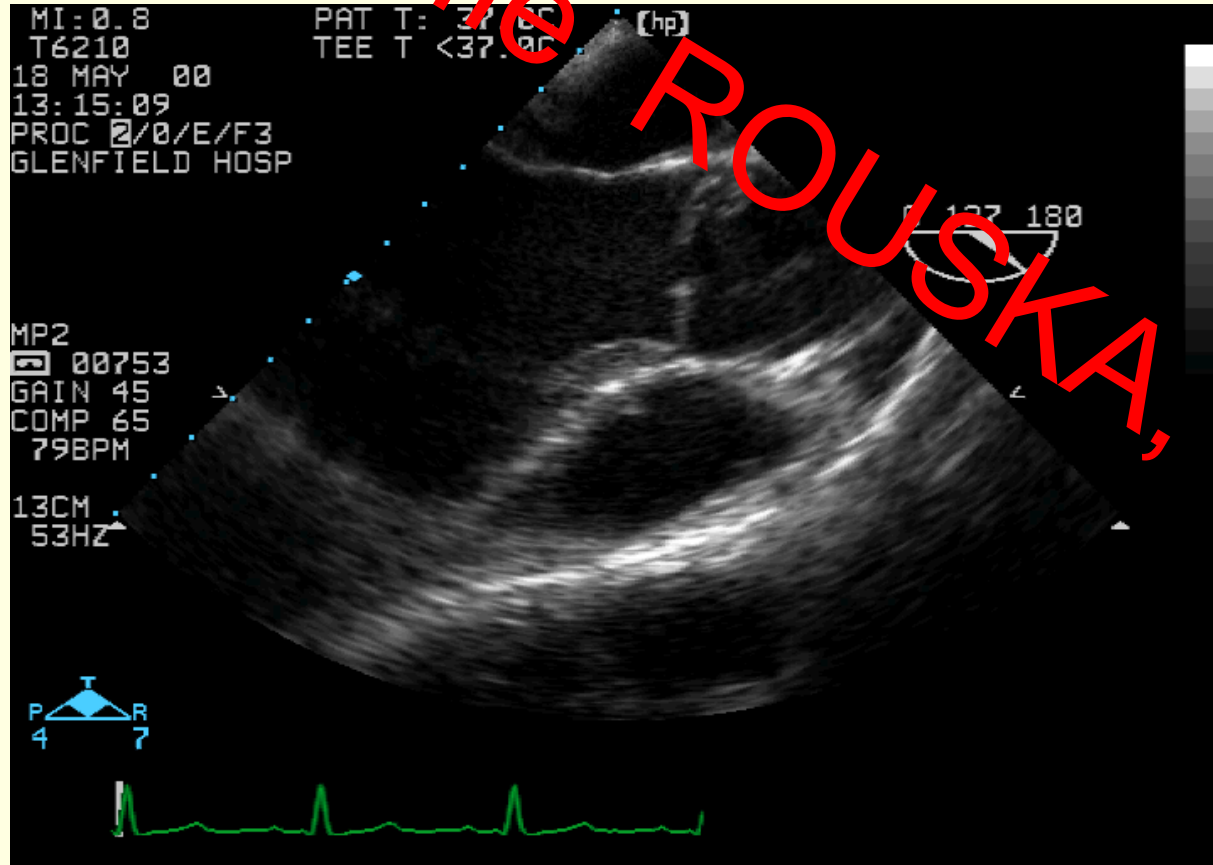
Coen GI, et al. J. Am. Soc Echo 1996;9:508

# Aortic regurgitation - 2D

chamber enlargement/remodelling

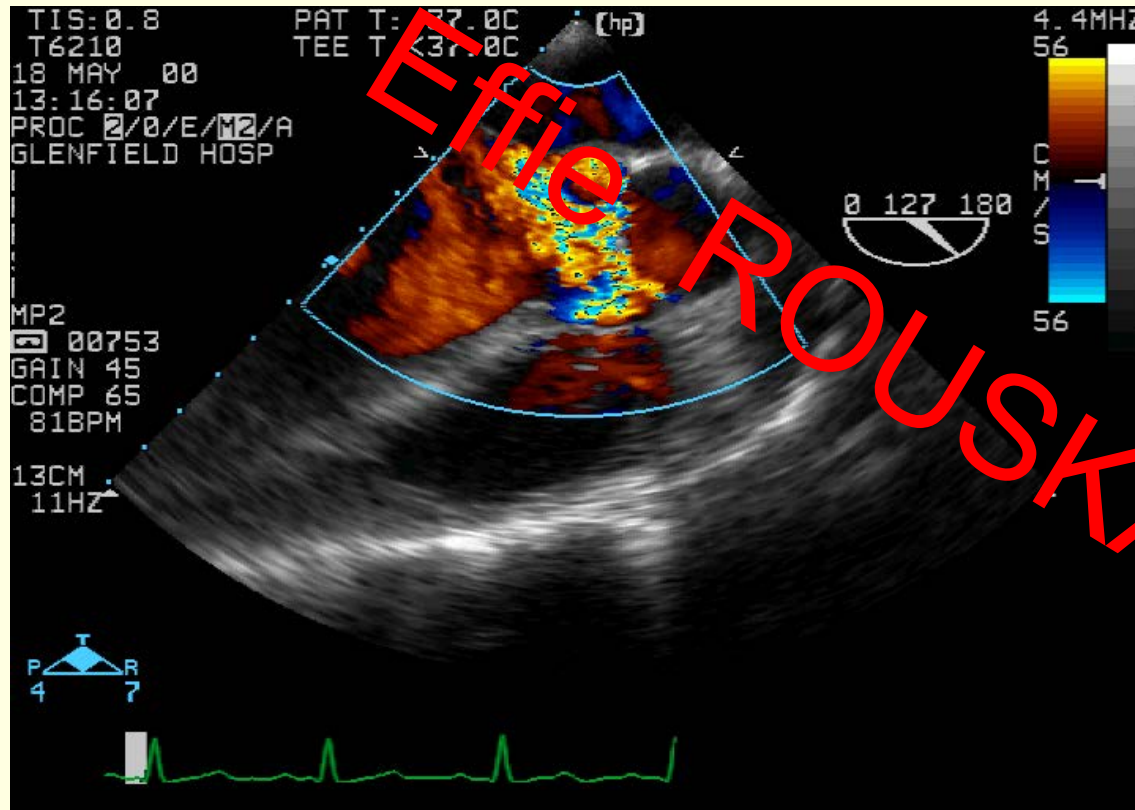
interpret within clinical context at time of examination

?intra-op, BP medication?



# Aortic regurgitation - 2D + CFD

- Flow convergence
- Vena contracta
- Jet direction and size



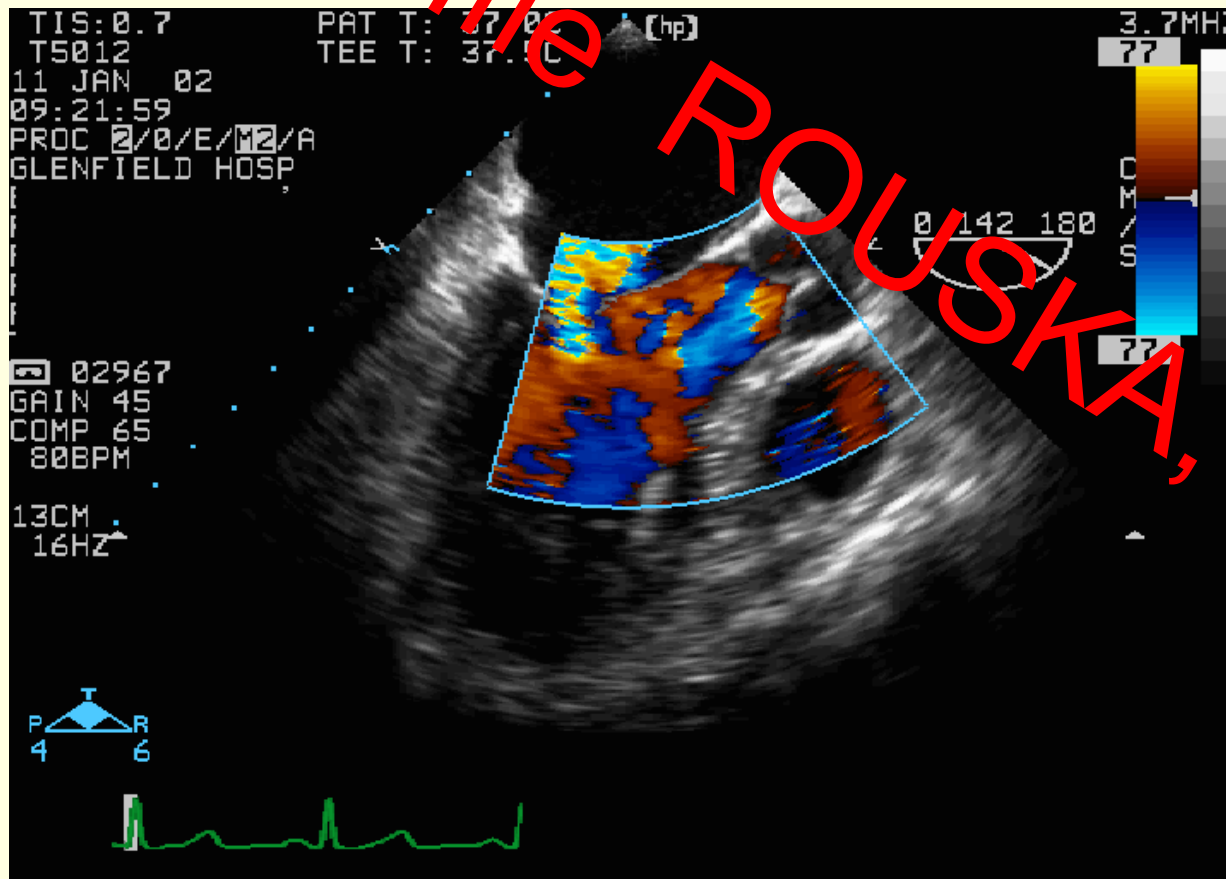
Use with  
caution!

Zoghbi WA, et al. Recommendations for evaluation of the severity of native valvular regurgitation with two-dimensional and Doppler echocardiography: a report from the ASE nomenclature and standards committee and task force on valvular regurgitation. J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2003;16:777-802

# Aortic regurgitation - Perry Index

Perry GJ, et al. Evaluation of aortic insufficiency by Doppler color flow mapping. J Am Coll Cardiol 1987:952-959

|                                |           |          |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Jet height / LVOT height ratio | Grade I   | < 25%    |
|                                | Grade II  | 25 - 46% |
|                                | Grade III | 46 - 65% |
|                                | Grade IV  | > 65%    |



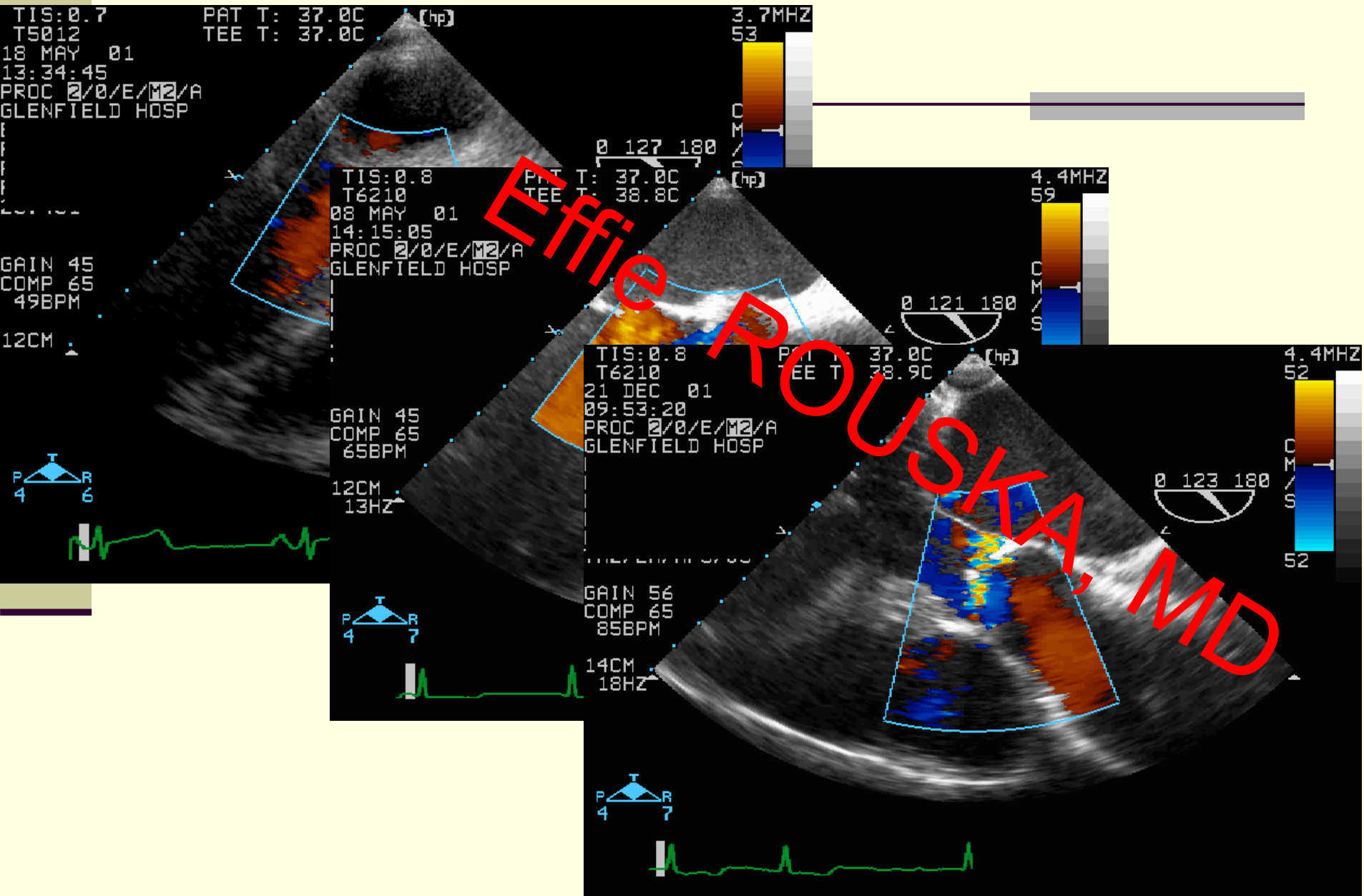
# Grading Aortic Regurgitation

## Grading Aortic Insufficiency

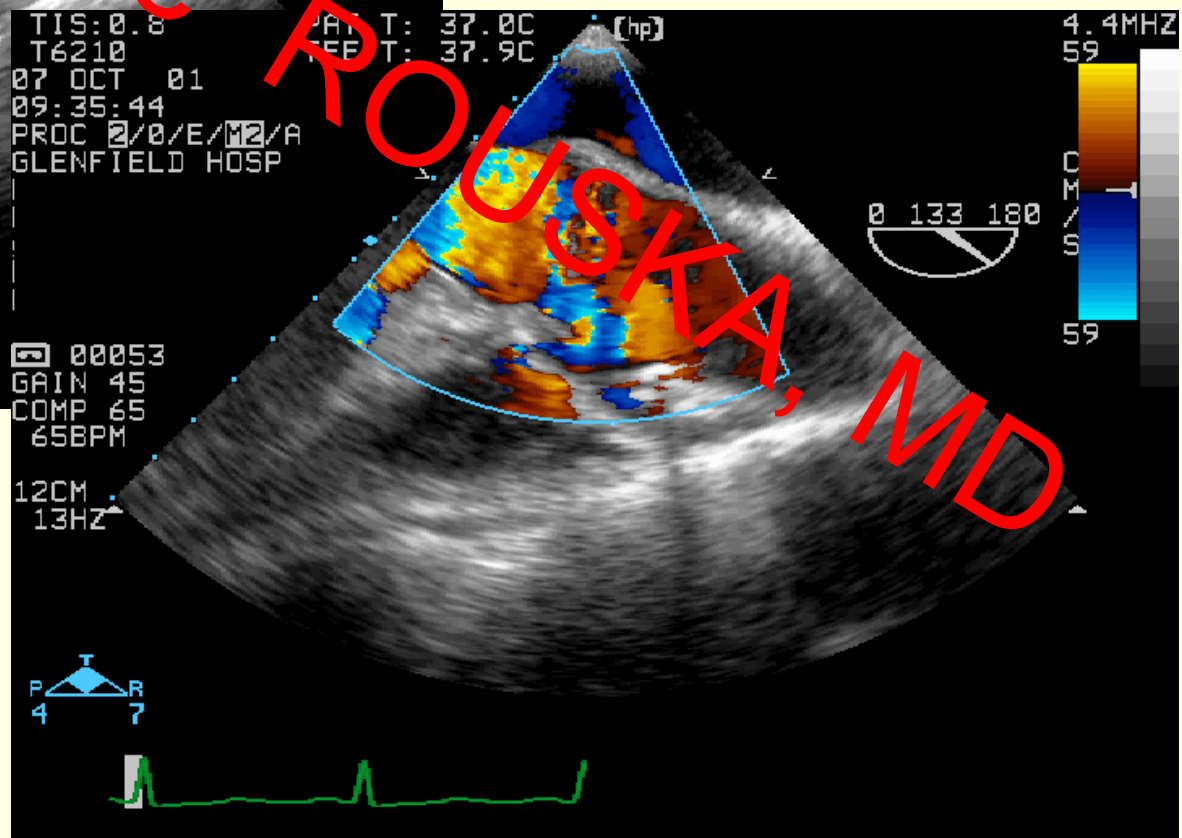
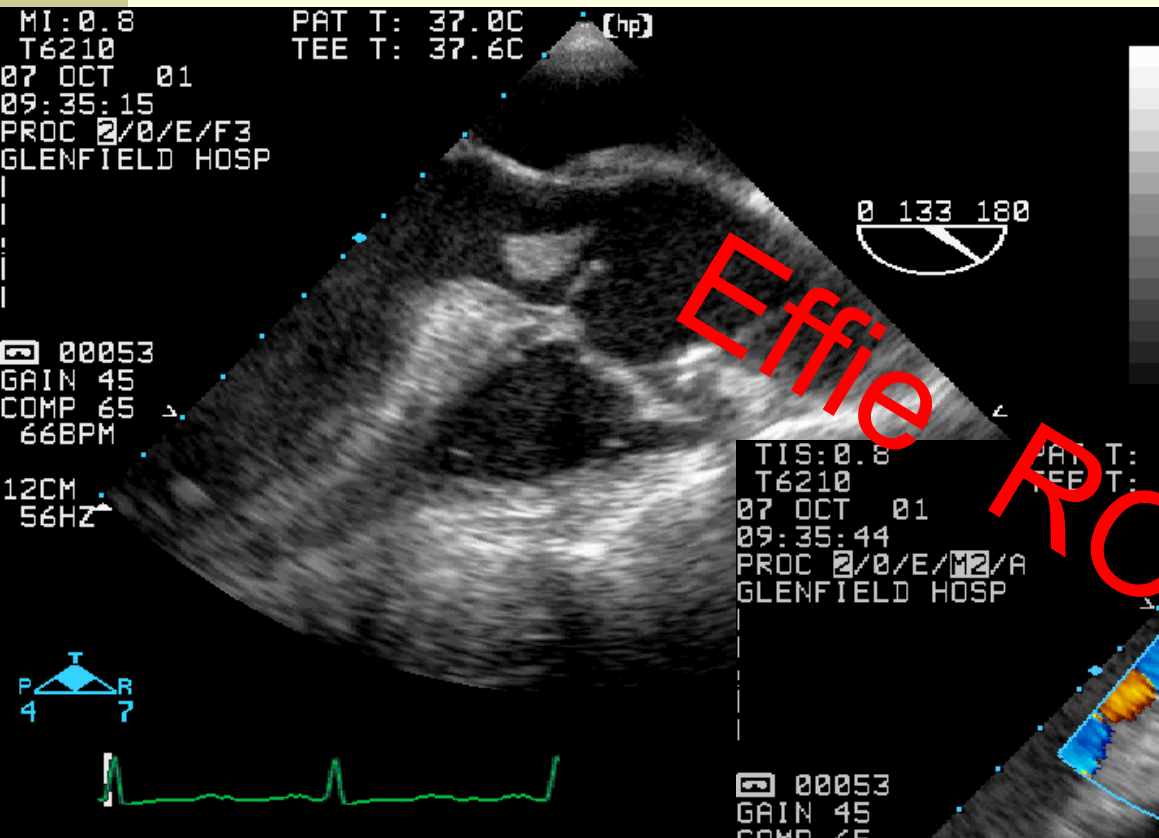
| <i>Severity of Aortic Insufficiency</i> | <i>Jet Width/LVOT Width Ratio (15)</i> | <i>Average Regurgitant Fraction (24)</i> |
|---|--|--|
| 1+                                      | < 0.25                                 | 28%                                      |
| 2+                                      | 0.25 to 0.46                           | 33%                                      |
| 3+                                      | 0.47 to 0.64                           | 53%                                      |
| 4+                                      | > 0.64                                 | 62%                                      |

Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Vena Contracta - direction



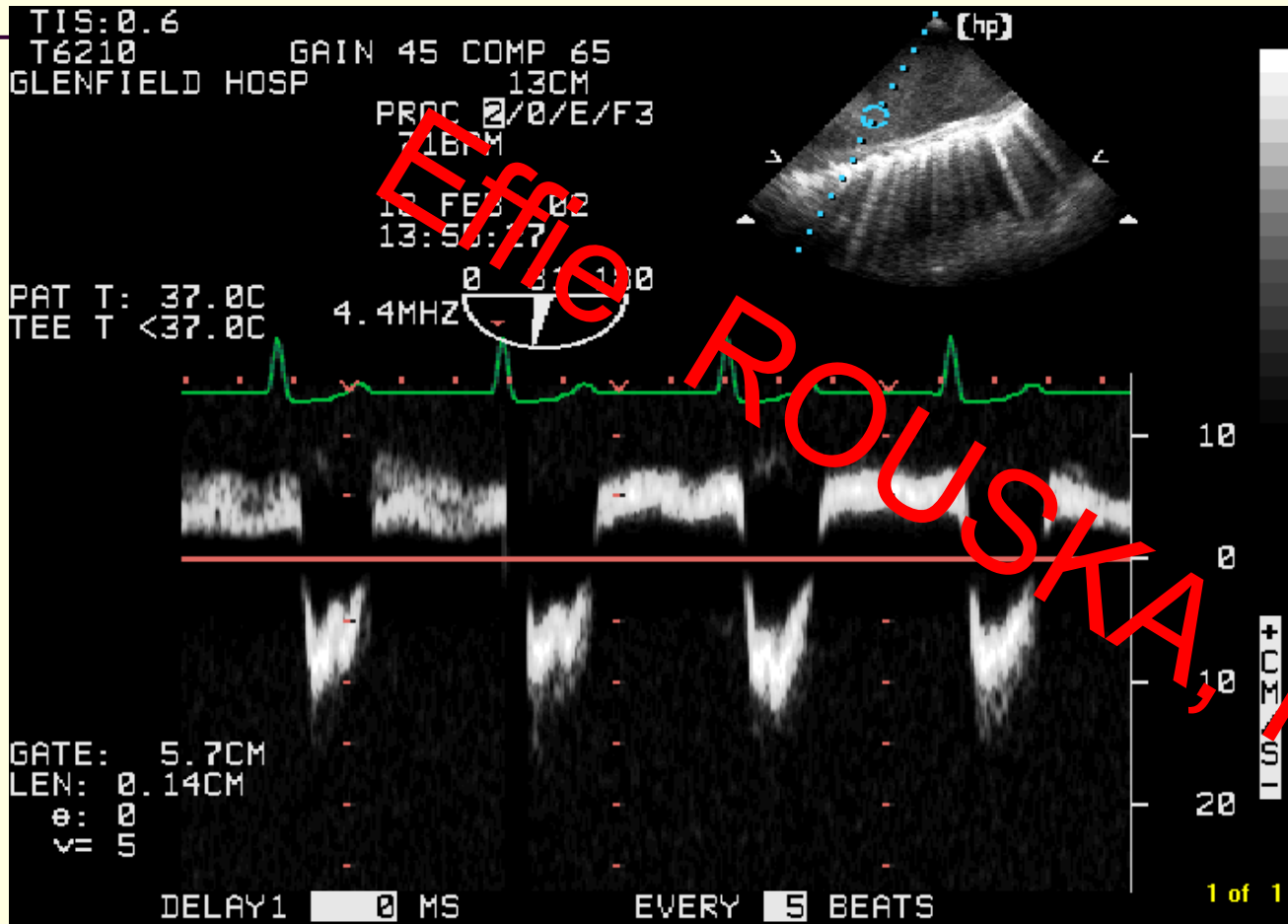
# Vena Contracta – leaflet prolapse



Effie ROUSKA, MD



# AR - holodiastolic flow reversal in descending aorta



Takenaka K, et al. Pulsed Doppler echocardiographic detection of regurgitant blood flow in the ascending, descending and abdominal aorta of patients with aortic regurgitation. J Cardiol 1987;17:301-309

# Main objectives in theatres

---

- Clarification of the mechanism  
Plan of the operation

- Discussion with the surgeon

Effie  
ROUSKA, MD

# Functional classification for AR

El Khoury, Rubay, Noirhomme, d'Udekem, et al  
University Hospital of Louvain, Brussels, Belgium

- Type I      normal cusp motion (central jet)
  - Type I a      STJ dilatation
  - Type I b      STJ + sinuses of Valsalva dilatation  
                    ?aneurysm, ?Marfan
  - Type I c      annular dilatation  
                    poor coaptation and apposition, ?aortic dissection
  - Type I d      leaflet defect / perforation  
                    ?endocarditis
  
- Type II      cusp prolapse (eccentric jet)

                    excessive cusp tissue, commissural disruption +  
                    malpositioning, poor coaptation and apposition  
                    ?endocarditis
  
- Type III      restricted cusp motion (central jet)

                    ?quadricuspid valve , ?unicuspid valve  
                    ?bicuspid valve, ?calcification

# 1. Normal leaflet structure and motion

## ■ Echo findings

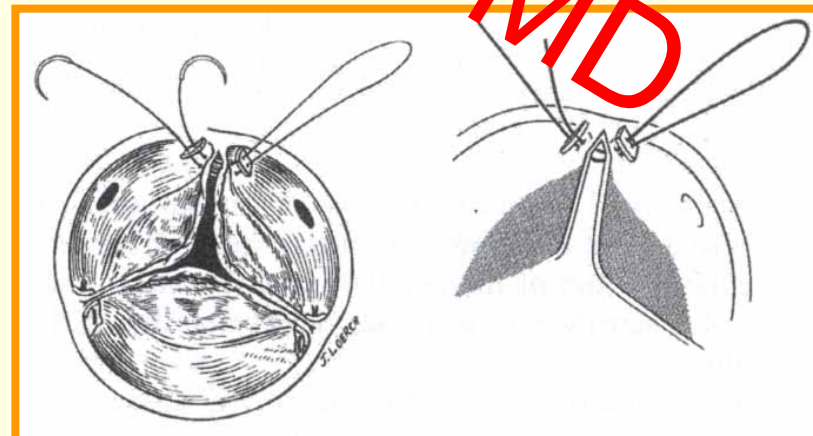
- Normal leaflets (motion and structure)
- Severe AR
- Central regurgitant jet

## ■ Pathology

- Dilation of Ao Root
- Dilation of sinotubular junction (STJ)

## ■ Surgery

- commisuroplasty



■ Echo findings

- Normal AV
- Severe AR
- AoR should be checked

■ Pathology

- Ao dissection should be considered

■ Surgery

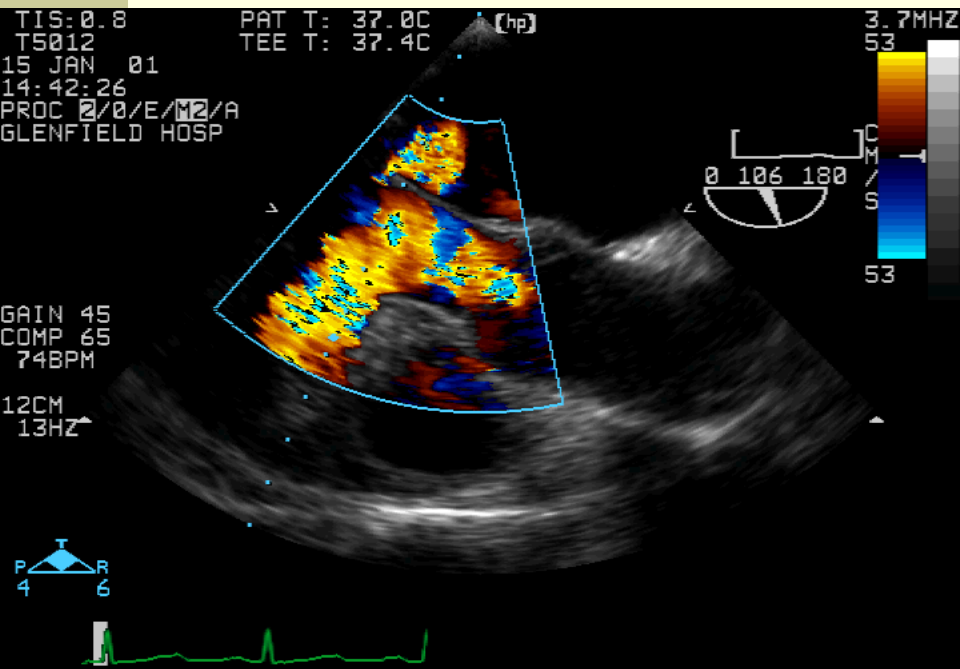
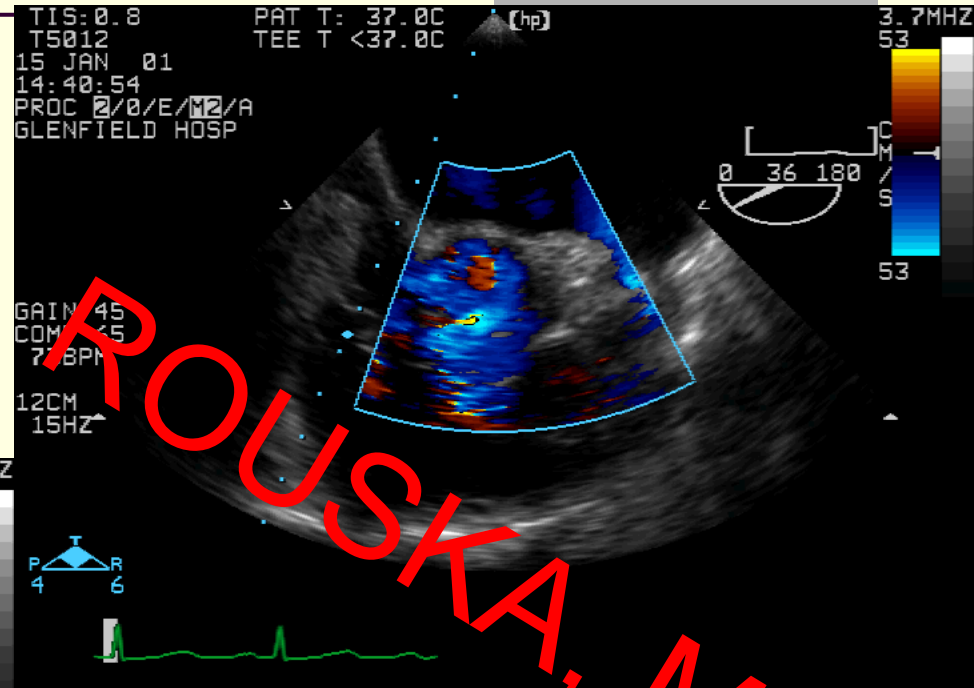
- Resuspension of aortic valve
- Valve sparing Aortic root replacement

Normal AoR

1. Symmetric sinuses
2. Valvular annulus 19-23 mm
3. STJ diameter 2-3 mm > valvular annulus

# AR - Type I : normal cusp motion

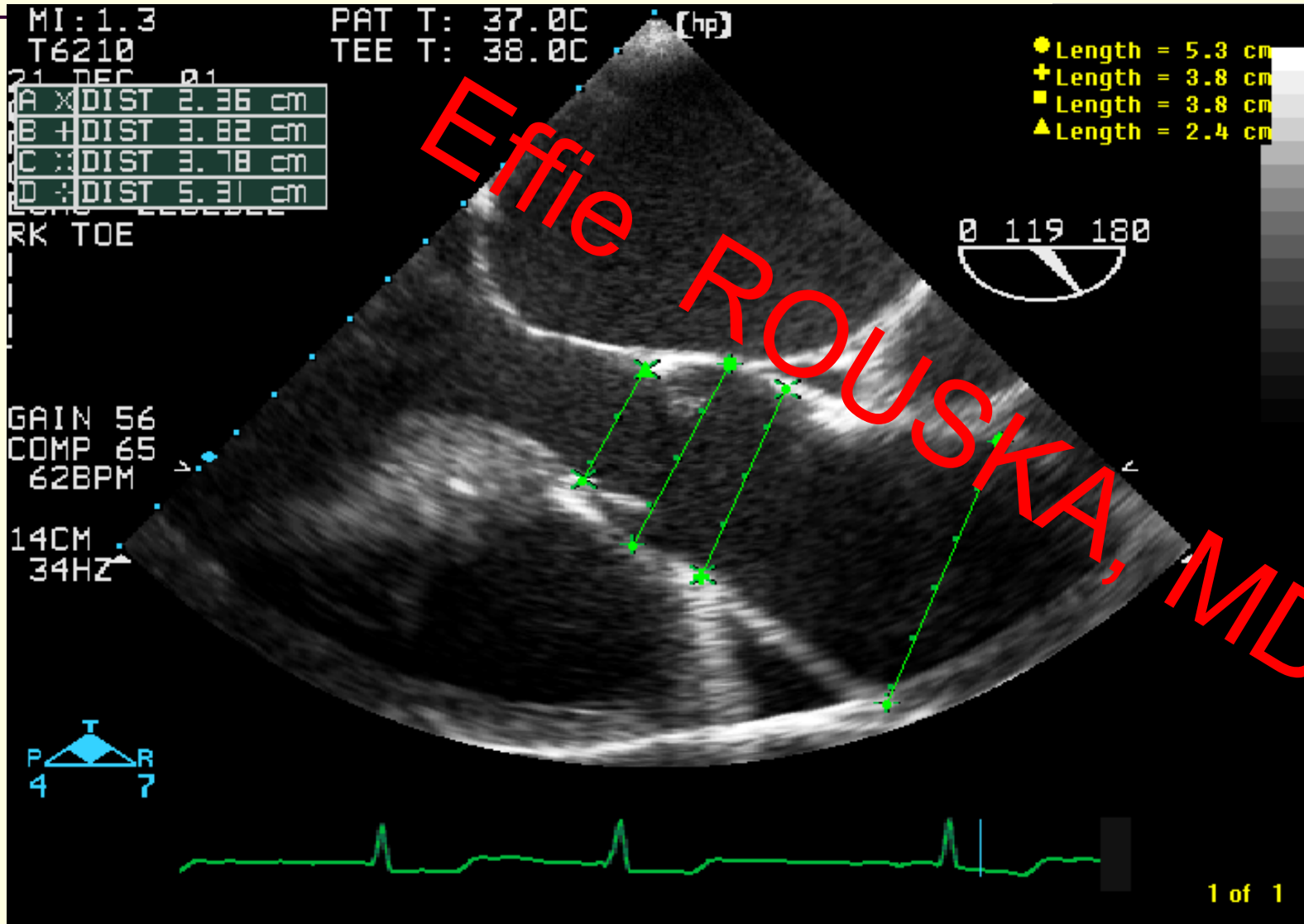
Effie



ROUSKA, MD

# AR - Type I : normal cusp motion

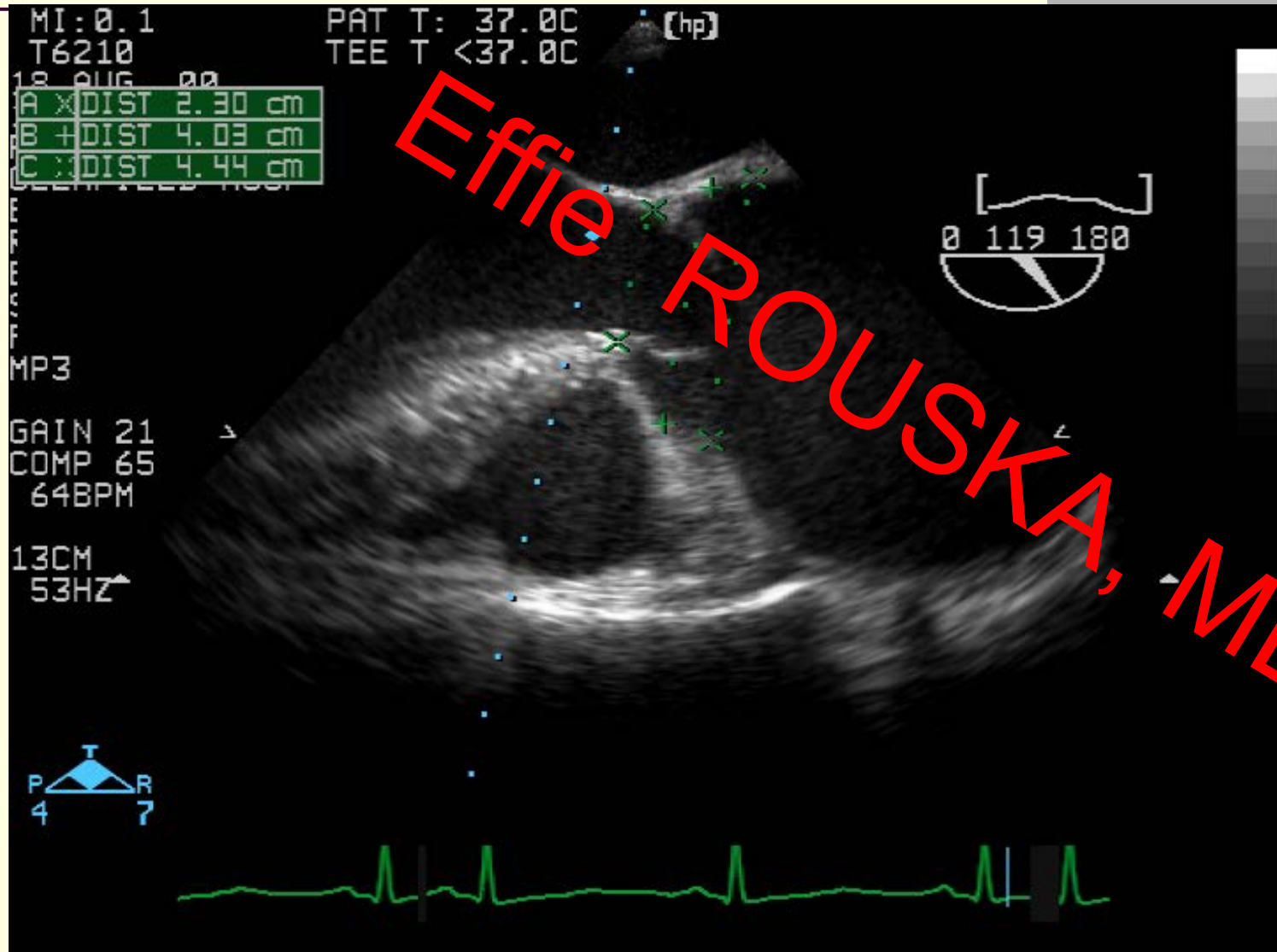
I a : STJ dilated





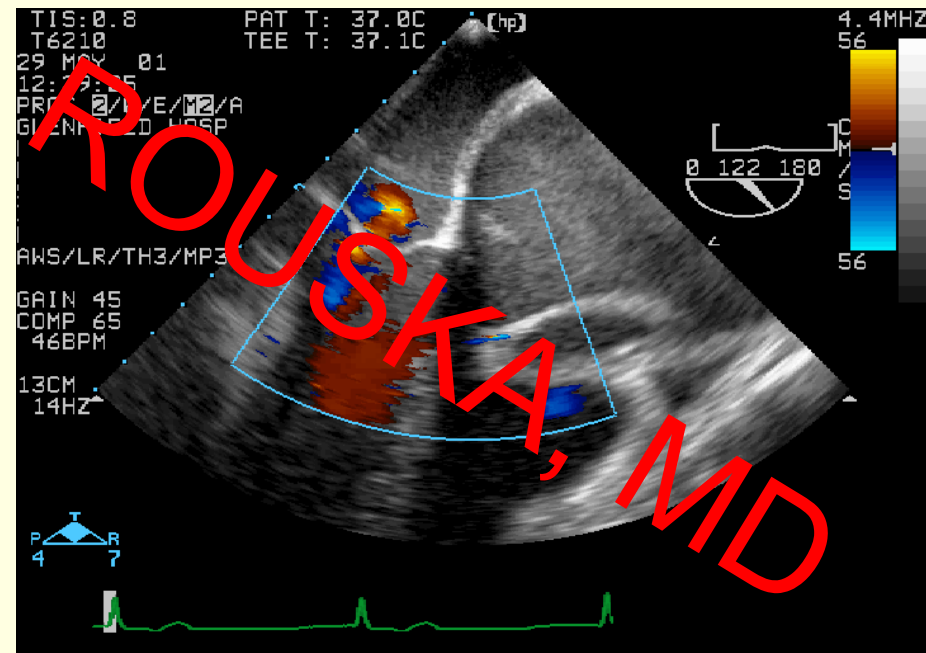
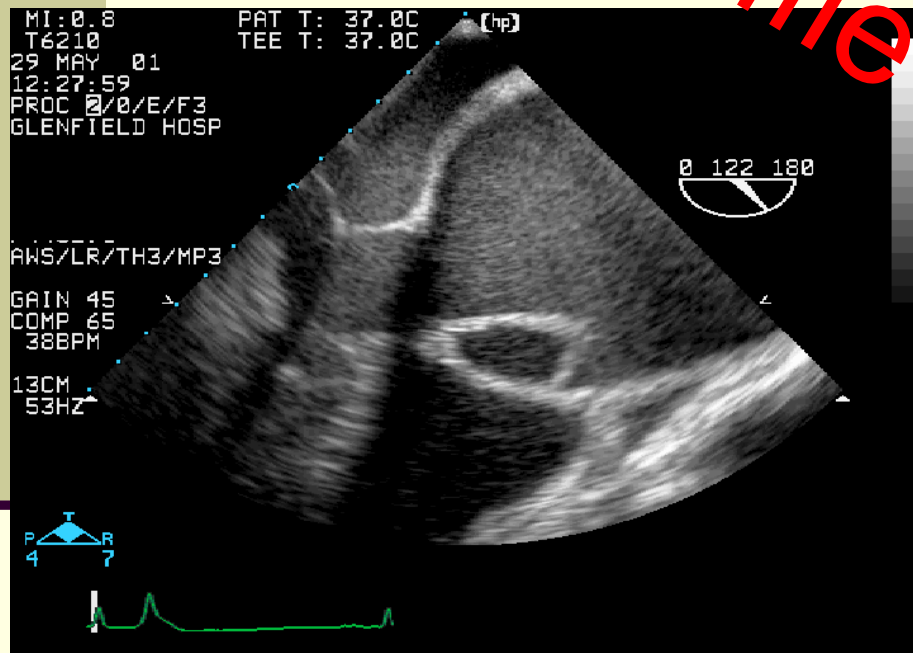
# AR - Type I : normal cusp motion

I b : STJ and sinuses of Valsalva dilated



# AR - ? Type I : normal cusp motion

I c : annular dilatation - dissection



Effie ROUSKA, MD

MI: 0.8  
T6210  
19 JULY 00  
18:30:51  
PROC 2/0/E/F3  
GLENFIELD HOSP  
E  
F  
F  
E  
F

PAT T: 37.0C [hp]  
TEE T <37.0C

0 121 180

08161  
GAIN 45  
COMP 65  
48BPM

12CM  
56HZ



Effie ROUSKA, MD

## 2. Excessive leaflet motion

- Echo findings

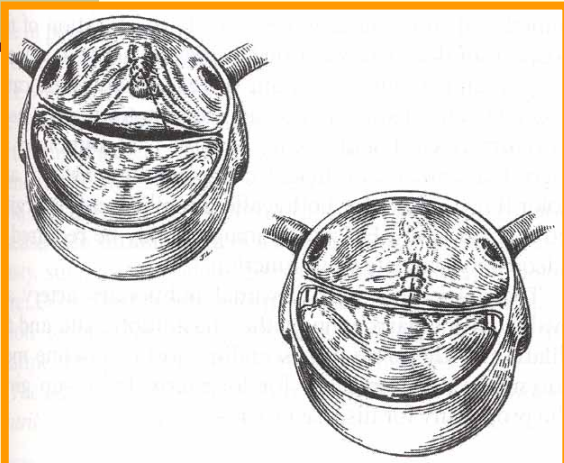
- Excessive leaflet motion

- Pathology

- Bicuspid AoV with redundancy & prolapse of fused cusp

- Surgery

- Triangular resection & commissuroplasty



Fraser C, et al. Ann Thorac Surg 1994;58:386

■ Echo findings

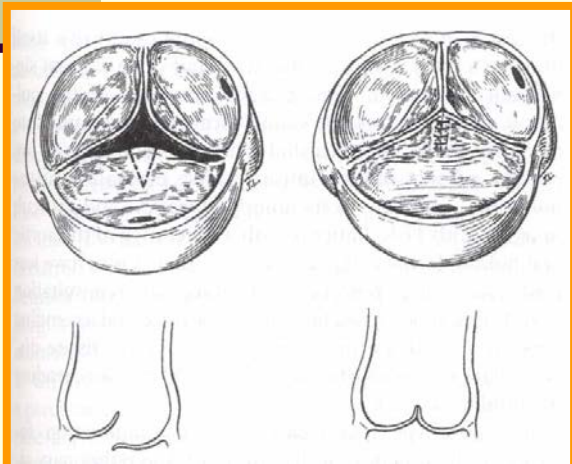
- Excessive leaflet motion

■ Pathology

- Tricuspid AoV with prolapse (commonly to RCC) due to leaflet fenestration

■ Surgery

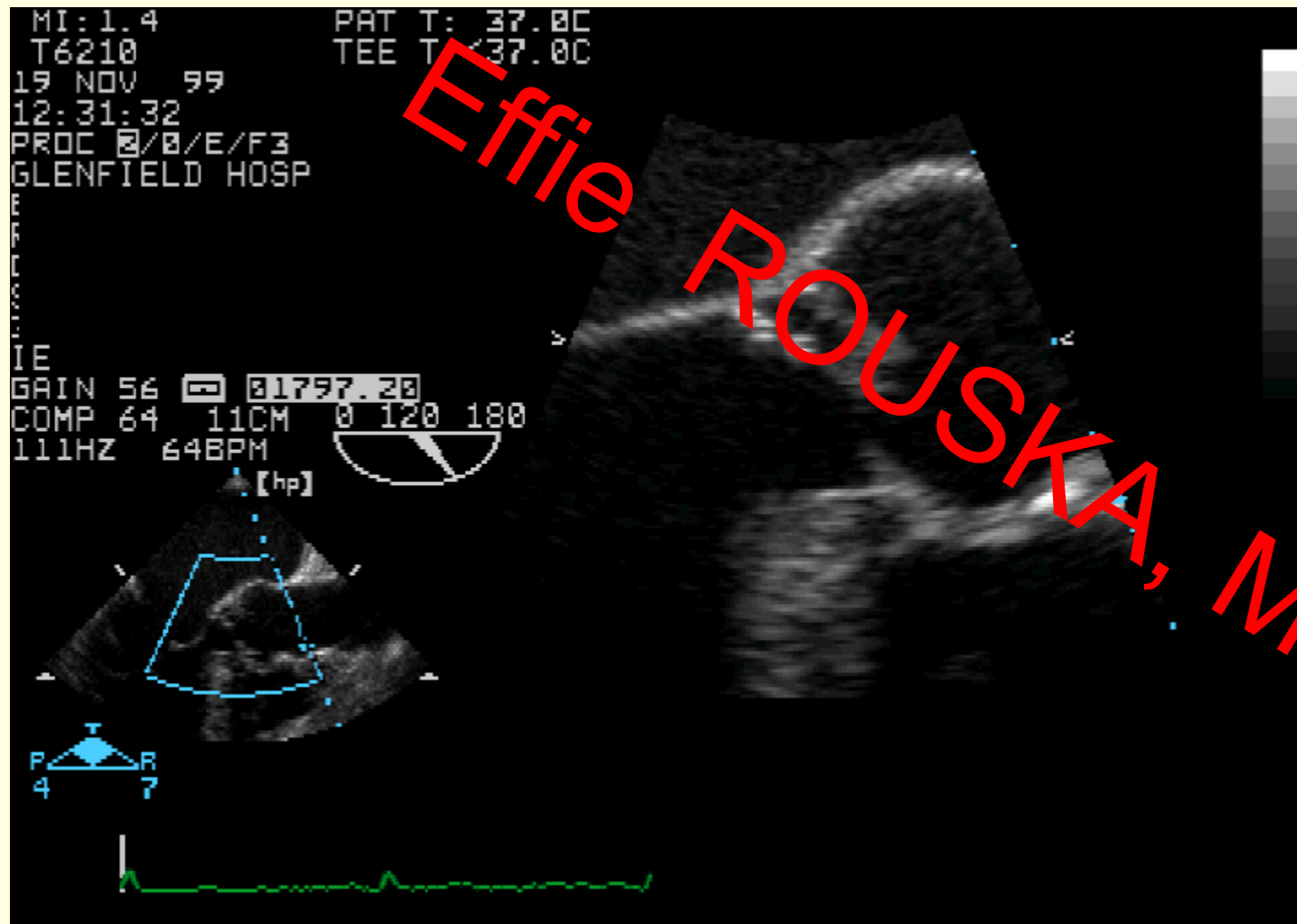
- Triangular resection & commissuroplasty



Tatsuno K, et al. Circulation 1973;48:1028

# AR - Type II : cusp prolapse

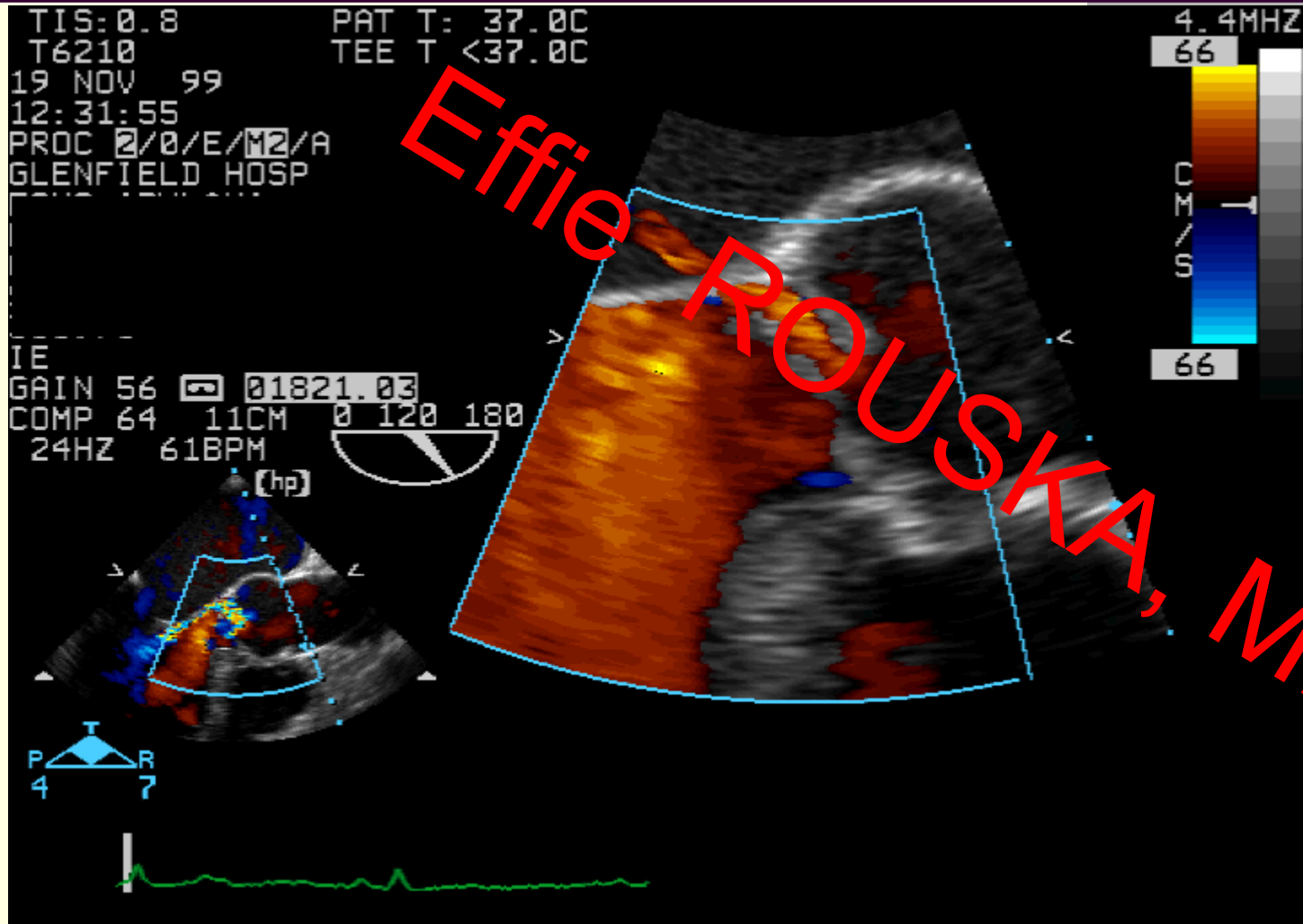
? endocarditis





# AR - Type II : cusp prolapse

? endocarditis



Effie ROUSKA, MD

### 3. Restricted leaflet motion

---

#### ■ Echo findings

- Restricted leaflet motion
- Normal size AoR
- Central regurgitation
- Leaflet coaptation distant to the plane of the annulus

#### ■ Pathology

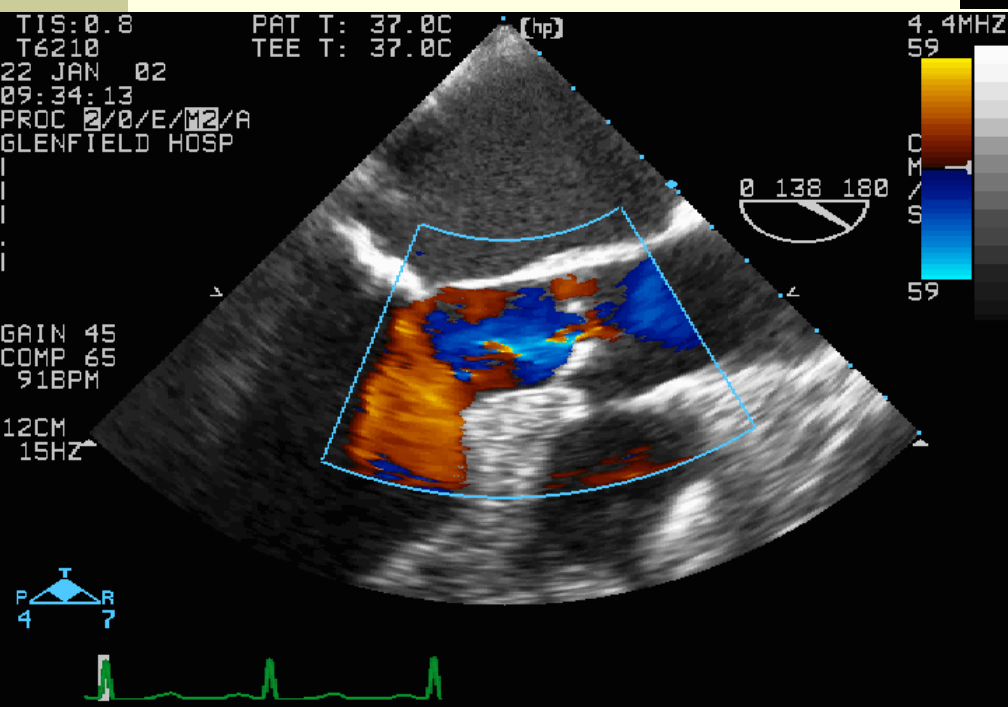
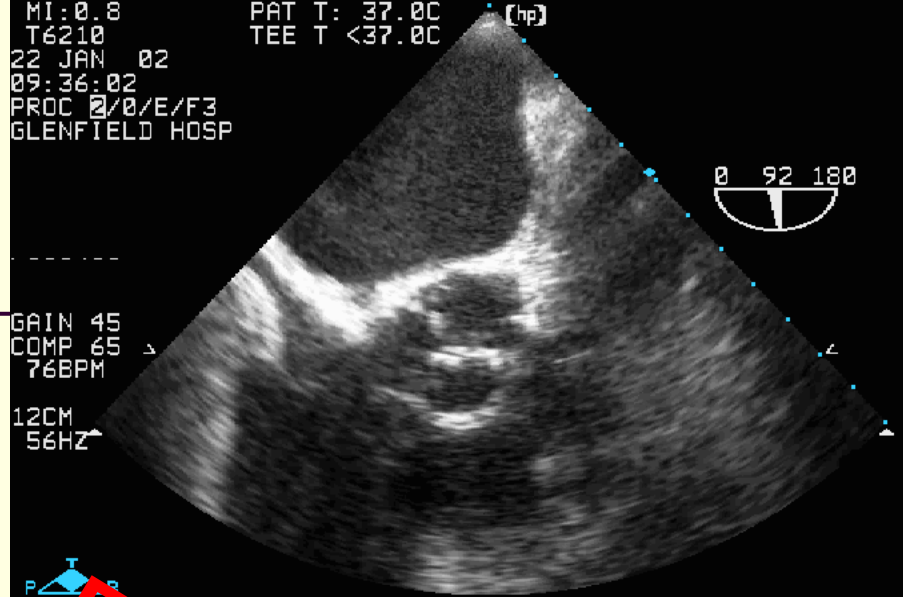
- Degenerative – rheumatic – fibrocalcific A/V
- Unicuspid/Bicuspid/Quadricuspid Aov

#### ■ Surgery

- AVR, very rare AV repair

AR - Type III : restricted cusp  
motion

Effie



ROUSKA, MD

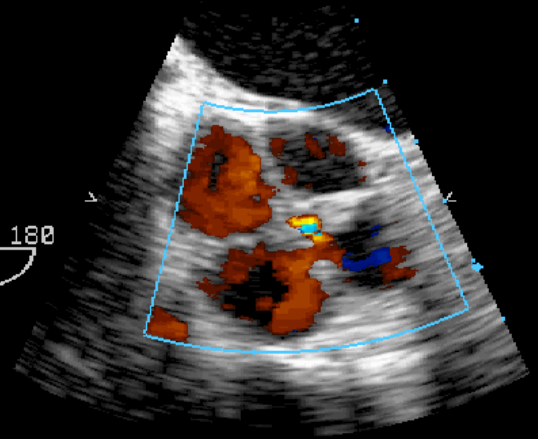
AR - Type III : restricted cusp motion

quadricuspid

Effie

TIS:0.8 PAT T: 37.0C  
5.0/3.7-T TEE T: 38.9C  
19 JUNE 98  
11:11:09  
PROC 2/0/E/B/A  
Glenfield Hosp.

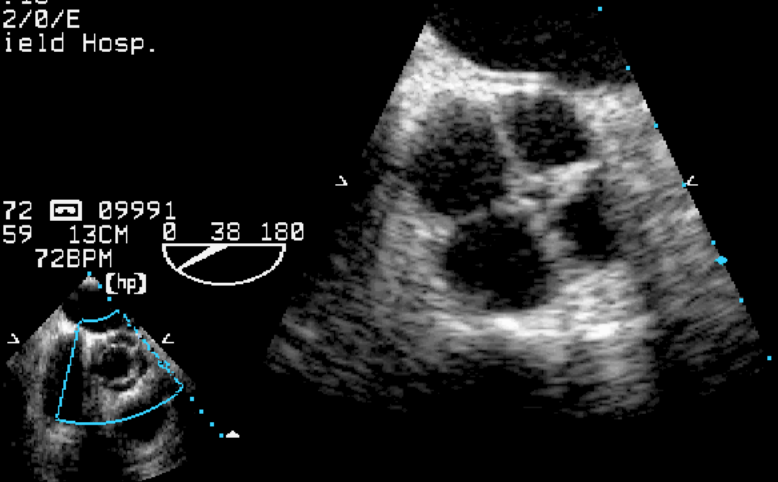
GAIN 72 09991  
COMP 59 13CM 0 35 180  
17HZ 70BPM



ROUSKA, MD

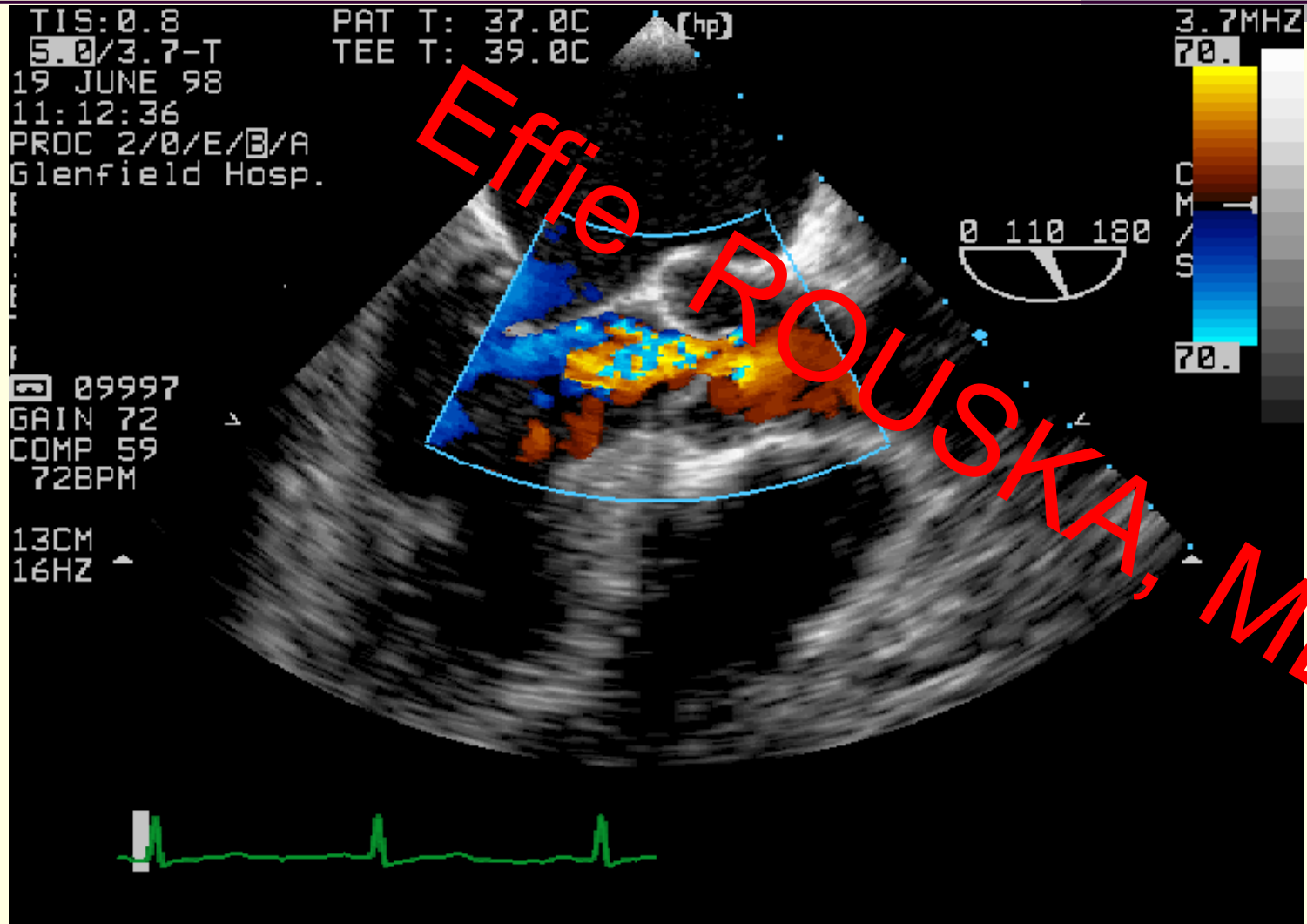
MI:0.5 PAT T: 37.0C  
5.0/3.7-T TEE T: 38.5C  
19 JUNE 98  
11:09:13  
PROC 2/0/E  
Glenfield Hosp.

GAIN 72 09991  
COMP 59 13CM 0 38 180  
50HZ 72BPM

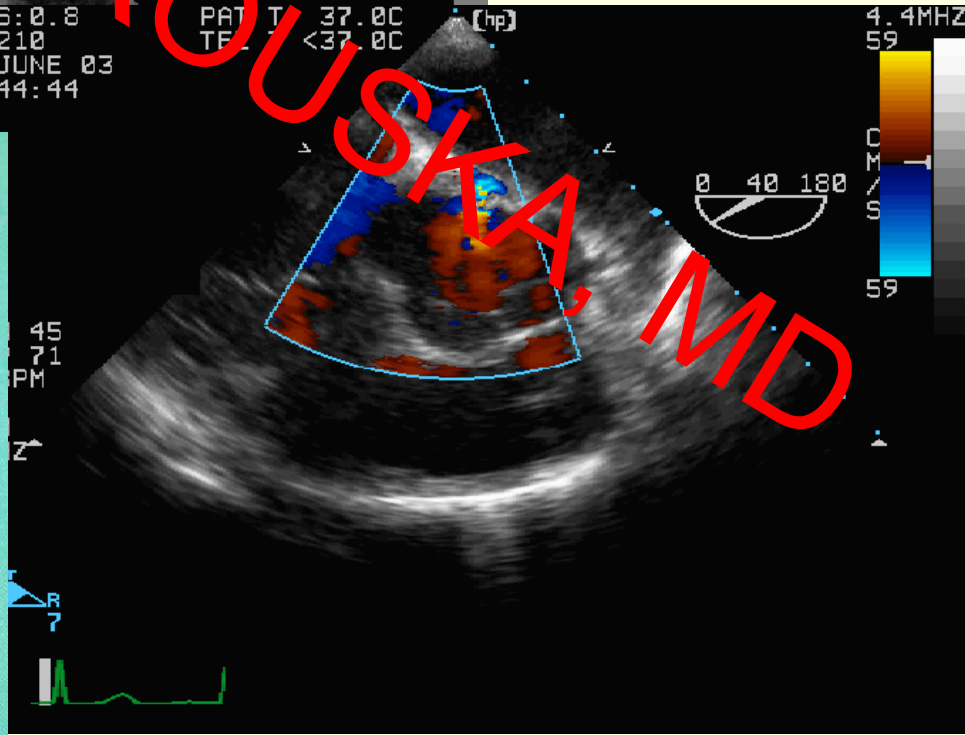
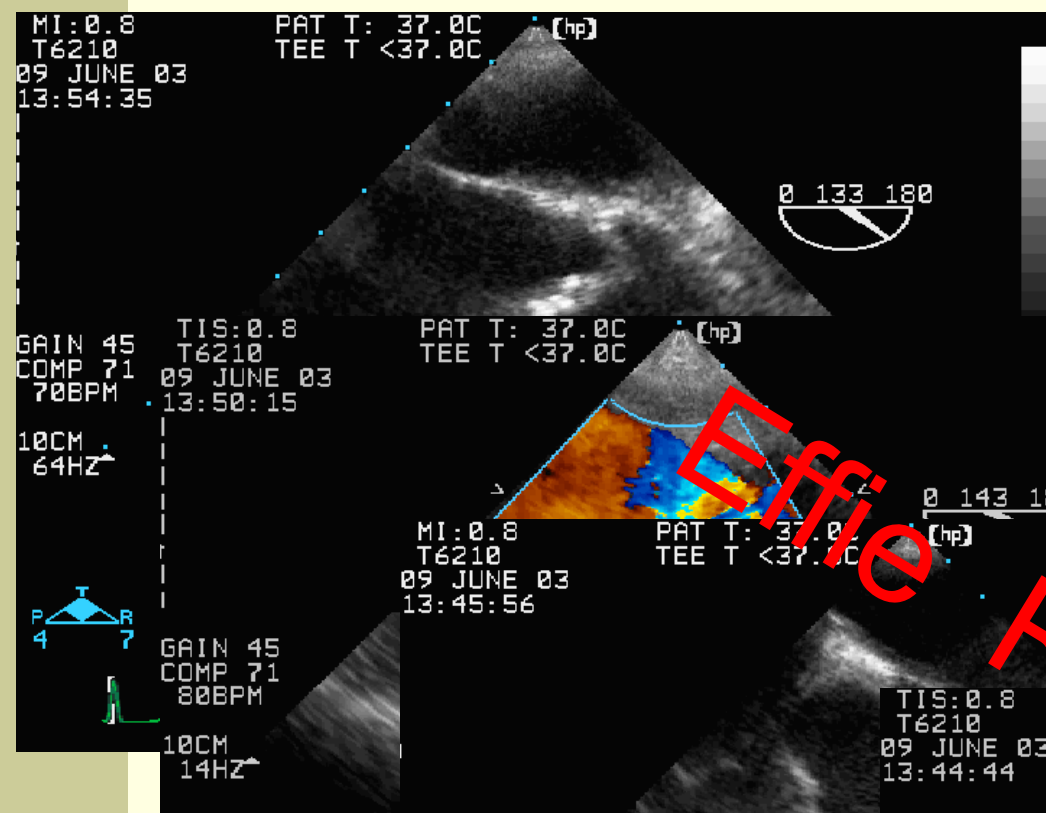


Rare – 0.008%  
Cusp malcoaptation

# AR - Type III : restricted cusp motion quadricuspid



# AR - Type III : restricted cusp motion unicuspid



Effie ROUSKA, MD

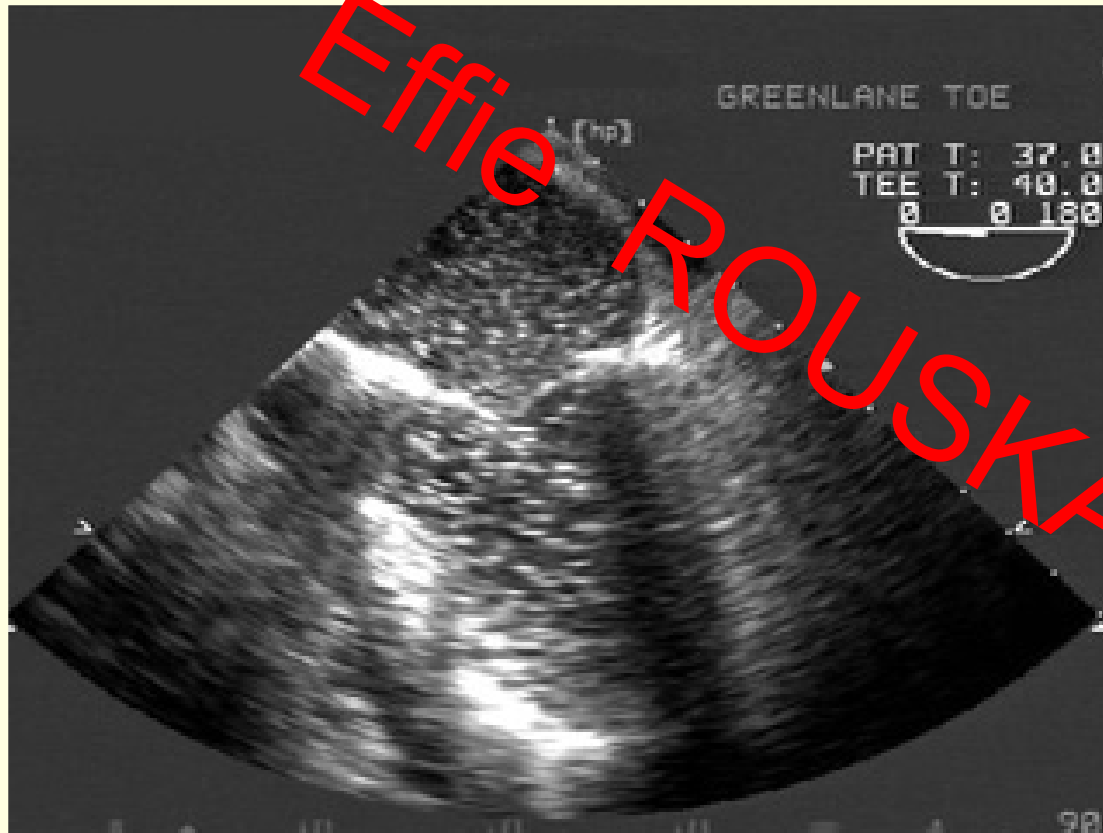




Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Air in the heart

---



# TOE and evaluation of AV prosthesis

---

Post CPB

---

- Leaflet motion
  - Prosthesis specific regurgitation
  - Paravalvular leak?
  - Transvalvular pressure gradient (CW-Doppler)
  - LV outflow tract obstruction?
  - LV wall motion
- 

Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of

## AV repair

- Valve morphology
  - Appears abnormal
    - Thickened leaflets
    - Bicuspid
    - Mildly stenotic
- Residual Aortic Regurgitation
  - Degree & Mechanism

*If AR > grade 1 found is not accepted*

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Stentless xenograft*

---

- Residual Aortic Regurgitation

- Should not be if prosthesis is placed in subcoronary position

- Degree
- Leak (valvular or paravalvular)

Valvular : *minor AR is acceptable ,  
due to distortion/compression during insertion  
>mild AR is unacceptable*

Paravalvular : *technical fault  
should be corrected*

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Stentless xenograft*

---

- Residual Regurgitant Jet (central or eccentric)

Central : - small bioprosthesis  
- disproportion STJ / annulus \*

Eccentric : - commissural pillars not aligned correctly

\* Should be corrected

- Plication of AAO wall
- Wedge excision of non coronary sinus



# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Stentless xenograft*

---

- Transvalvular residual gradient

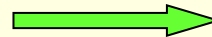
- Should not exceed 20 mm Hg
- After 6 months is getting lower
- Pledged sutures can lead to obstruction
- Differentiated from LVOT obstruction

Emilia ROUSKA, MD

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Aortic Homograft – subcoronary implantation*

---

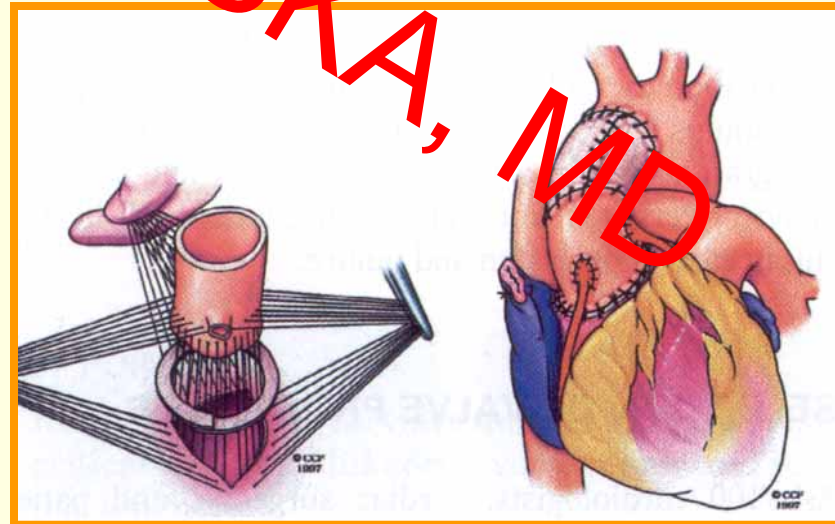
- Less easily inserted
  - Lack of stiffness
  - Commissures' orientation depends on surgeon
- Residual Aortic Regurgitation
  - Mild AR is seen in up to 20%
  - More than mild not accepted
- Residual Gradient
  - > 20% is uncommon
    - small aortic root → enlargement



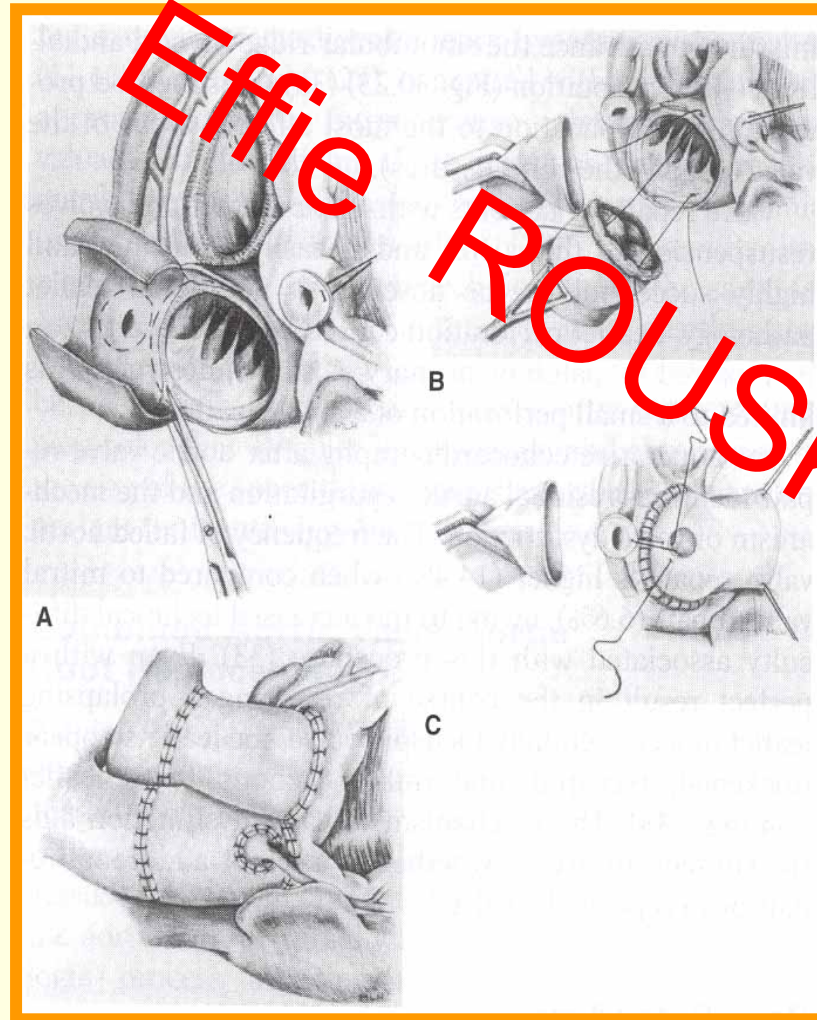
Effie ROUSKA, MD

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Aortic Homograft – Root replacement*

- Residual Aortic Regurgitation
  - Only trivial is accepted
- Coronary implantation
  - Special care not to be distorted or kinked



# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Ross procedure*



Effie  
ROUSKA, MD

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Ross procedure*

---

- Aortic annulus dilatation
  - Reduction aortic annuloplasty
  - Echo finding: thickened Aorta root
- Coronary implantation
  - Pulmonary wall elastic
    - Coronary ostia displaced cephalad
    - Prone to distortion
- Residual Gradient
  - Lower than any other prosthesis
  - 5-10mmHg at the surgery, 2-3mmHg after six months
- Assessment of pulmonic homograft
  - Pulmonary insufficiency
  - Pulmonary leaflets very thin

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of AVR with *Homograft - Stentless xenograft – Ross procedure*

---

## ■ Complications

- Loose suture line

flow in the echo free space between  
graft and native aorta

- Suture dehiscence / haematoma

bulging of the graft

Petrou M, et al. Circulation 1994;90:11-198

Van Roosmalen R, et al. Int J Cardiac Imaging 1999;15:209

# Post-op ITEE evaluation of LV function

---

- New LV wall motion abnormalities

## Coronary artery malperfusion

1. Obstruction of coronary ostia by prostheses  
(*AVR with mechanical or stented prostheses*)
2. Technical failure of button anastomosis  
(*Bentall procedure*)
3. Kinking of coronary after implantation on graft  
(*Bentall procedure*)

- Pitfalls

- Assessment of proximal flow of RCA & LCA



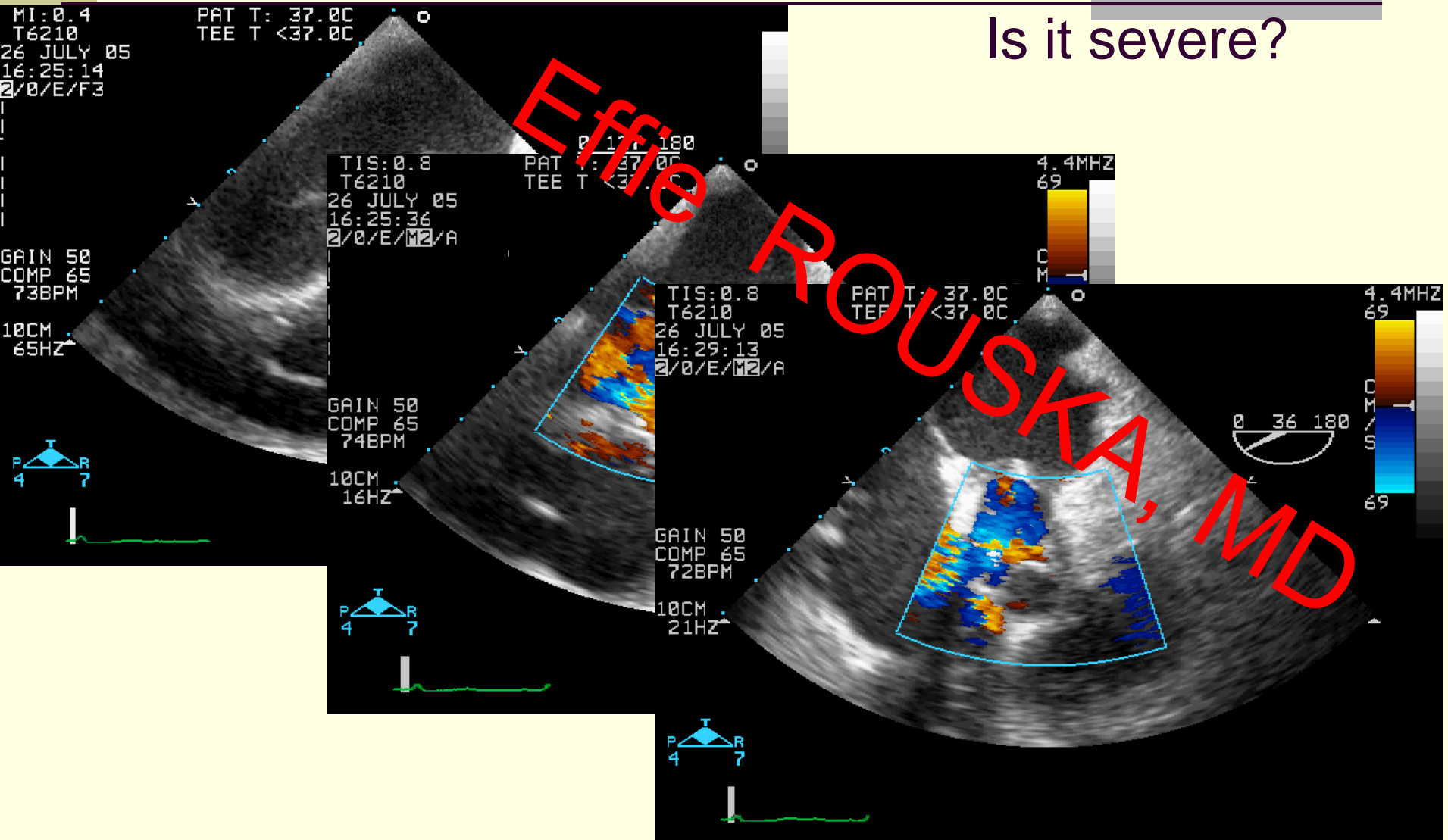
Let's go in theatres now...



Effie  
ROUSKA, MD

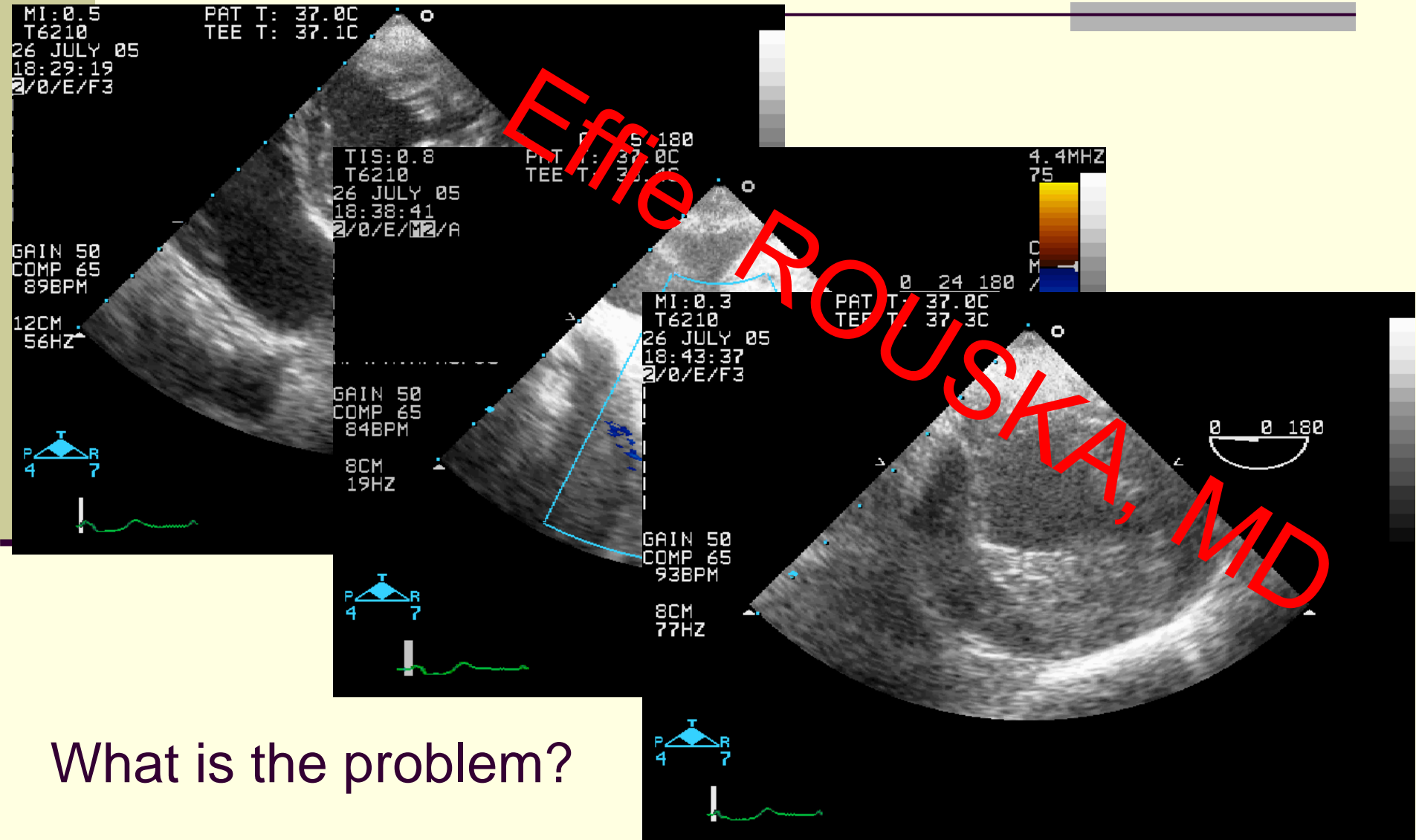
60 yr old female  
AVR - why?

Is it severe?



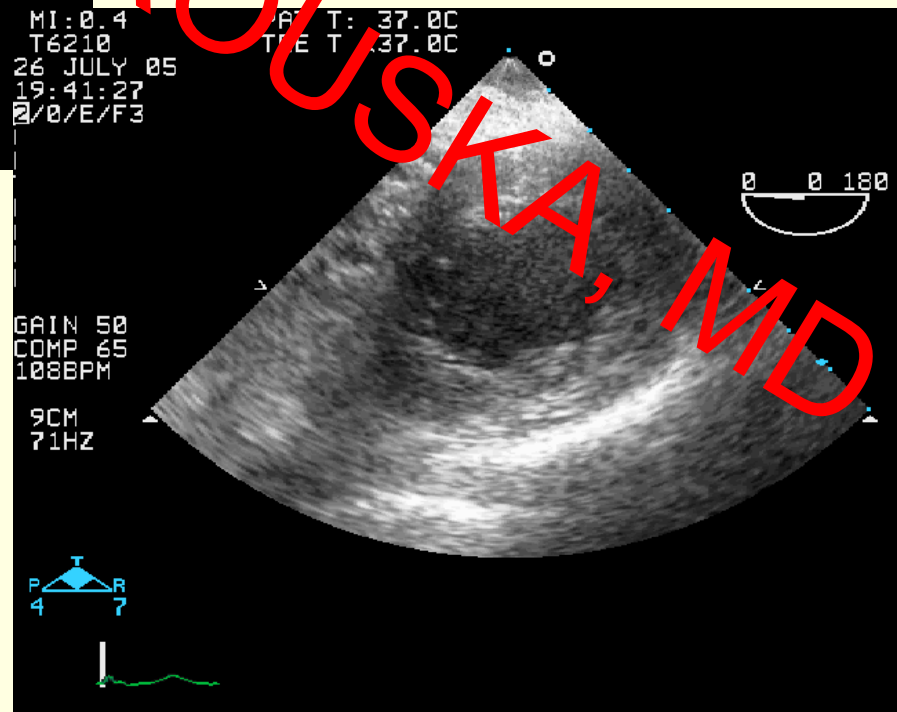
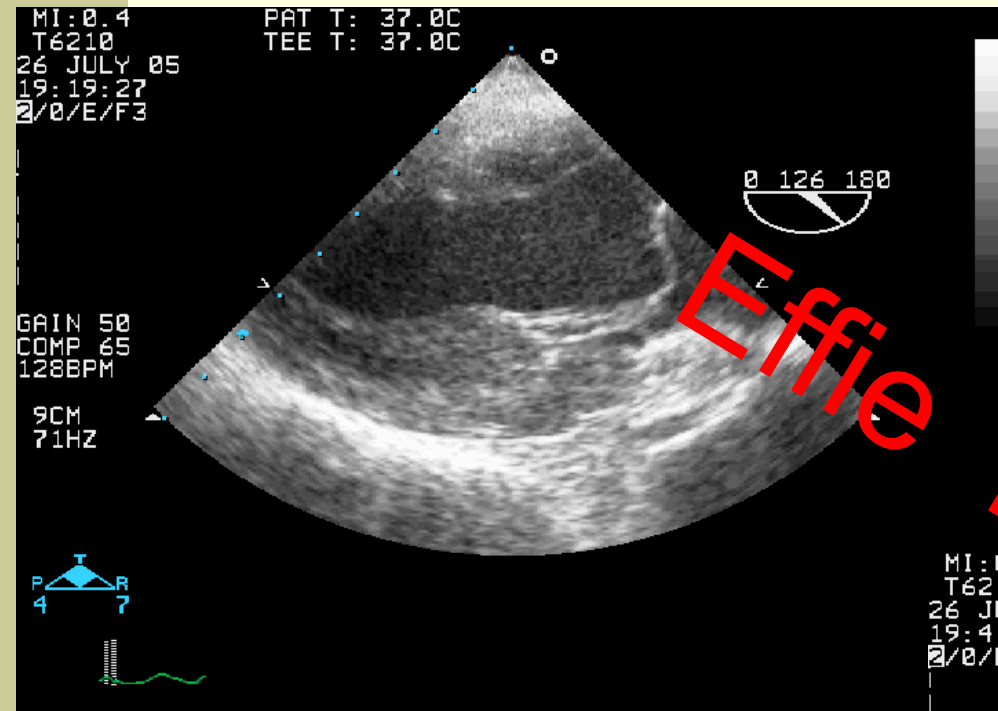
# Stentless tissue valve

## On separation from CPB

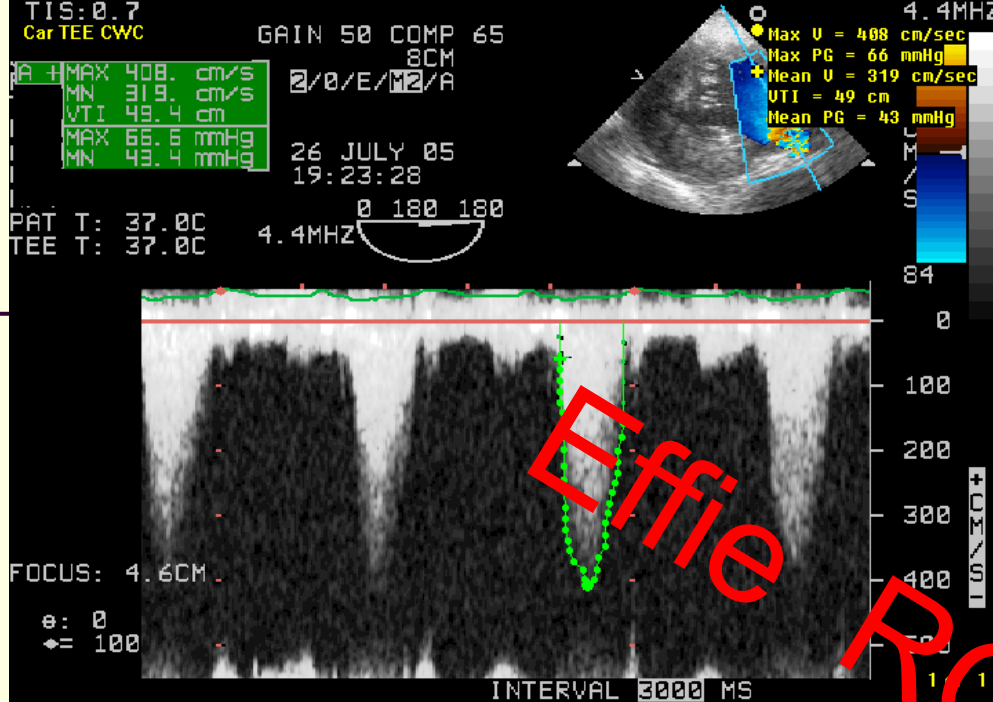


What is the problem?

# What can we do? What have we done?

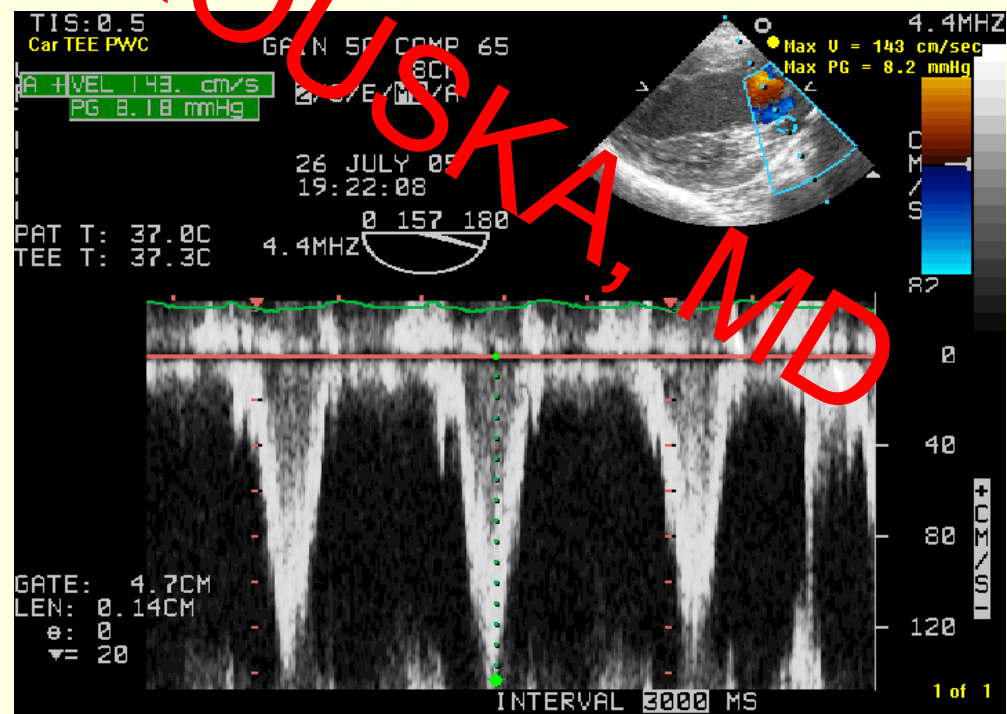


**Vein graft to RCA!**



What about the gradient?

Pressure recovery?

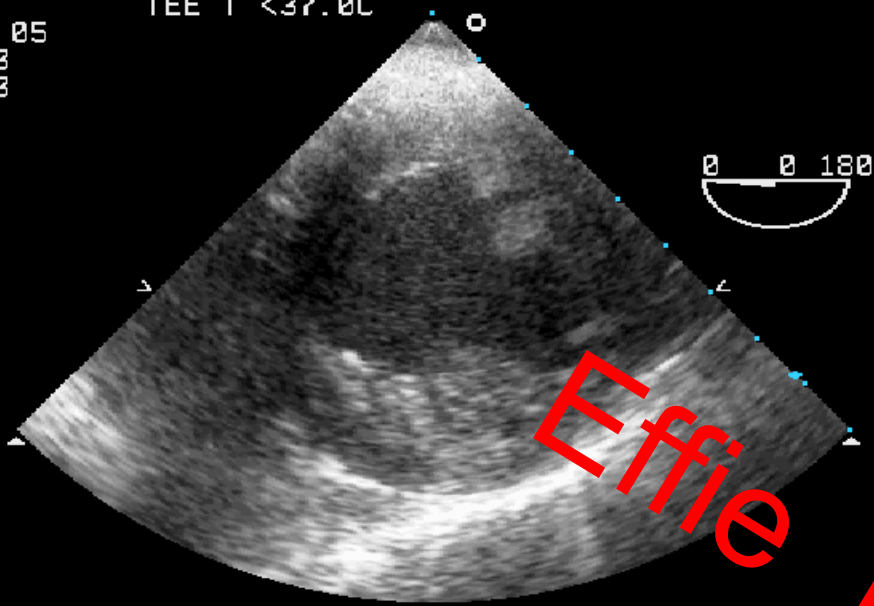




MI: 0.4  
T6210  
26 JULY 05  
19:43:53  
2/0/E/F3

PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T <37.0C

GAIN 50  
COMP 65  
92BPM  
9CM  
71HZ



Less inotropes  
Better filling



TIS: 0.9  
Car TEE CWC

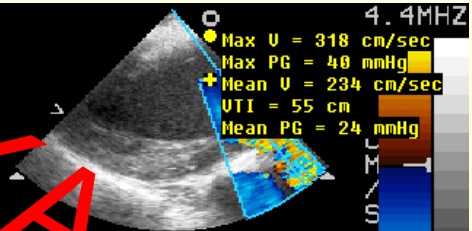
|      |     |           |
|------|-----|-----------|
| RA + | MAX | 318. cm/s |
|      | MIN | 234. cm/s |
|      | VTI | 55.0 cm   |
|      | MAX | 40.4 mmHg |
|      | MIN | 24.4 mmHg |

GAIN 50 COMP 65  
56BPM

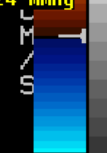
26 JULY 05  
19:45:08

PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T <37.0C

4.4MHZ  
0 137 180



4.4MHZ  
Max U = 318 cm/sec  
Max PG = 40 mmHg  
Mean U = 234 cm/sec  
UTI = 55 cm  
Mean PG = 24 mmHg



66  
0  
100  
200  
300  
400  
500  
+CM/S

FOCUS: 8.2CM

e: 0  
◆= 100

DELAY1 0 MS EVERY 5 BEATS

Effie ROUSKA, MD

Decreasing!



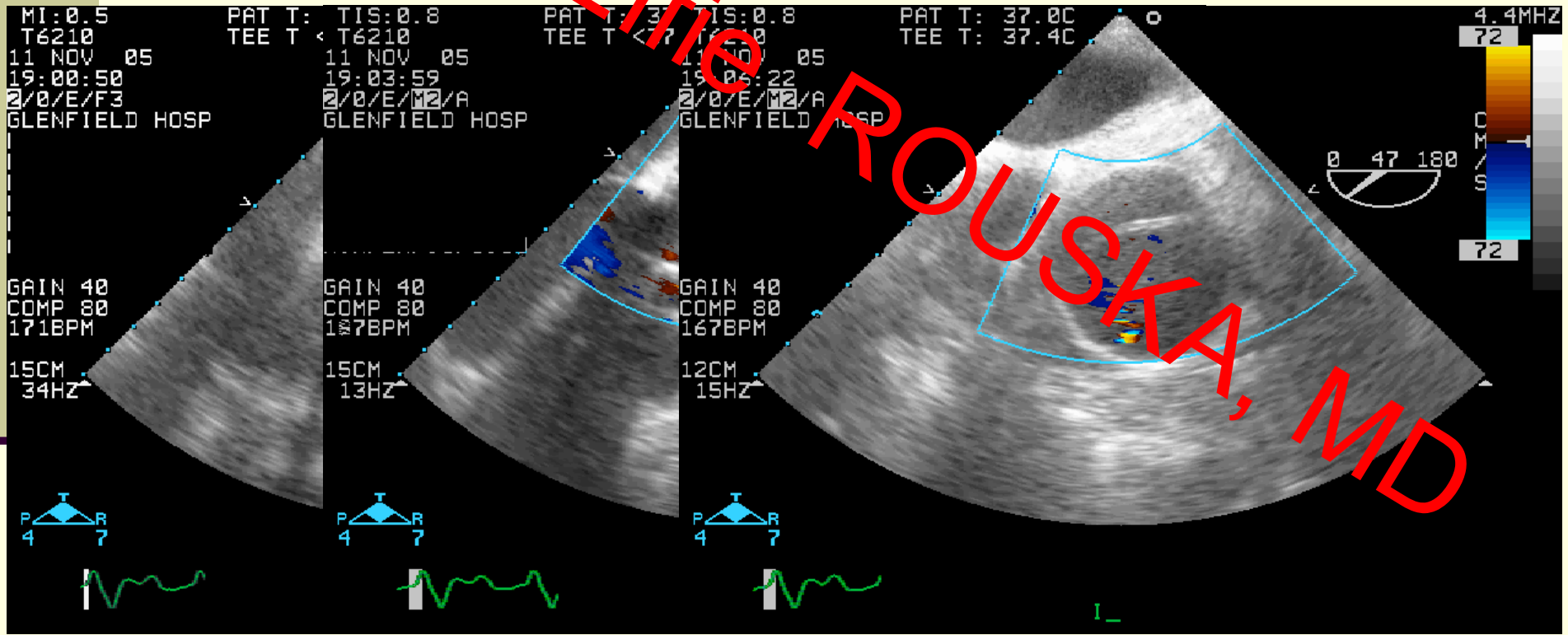
# 2 60 yrs old male with severe AR, asc aorta 36 mm

Stented bioprosthetic valve

Immediate postop TOE – insignificant

Concerns about left radial arterial line

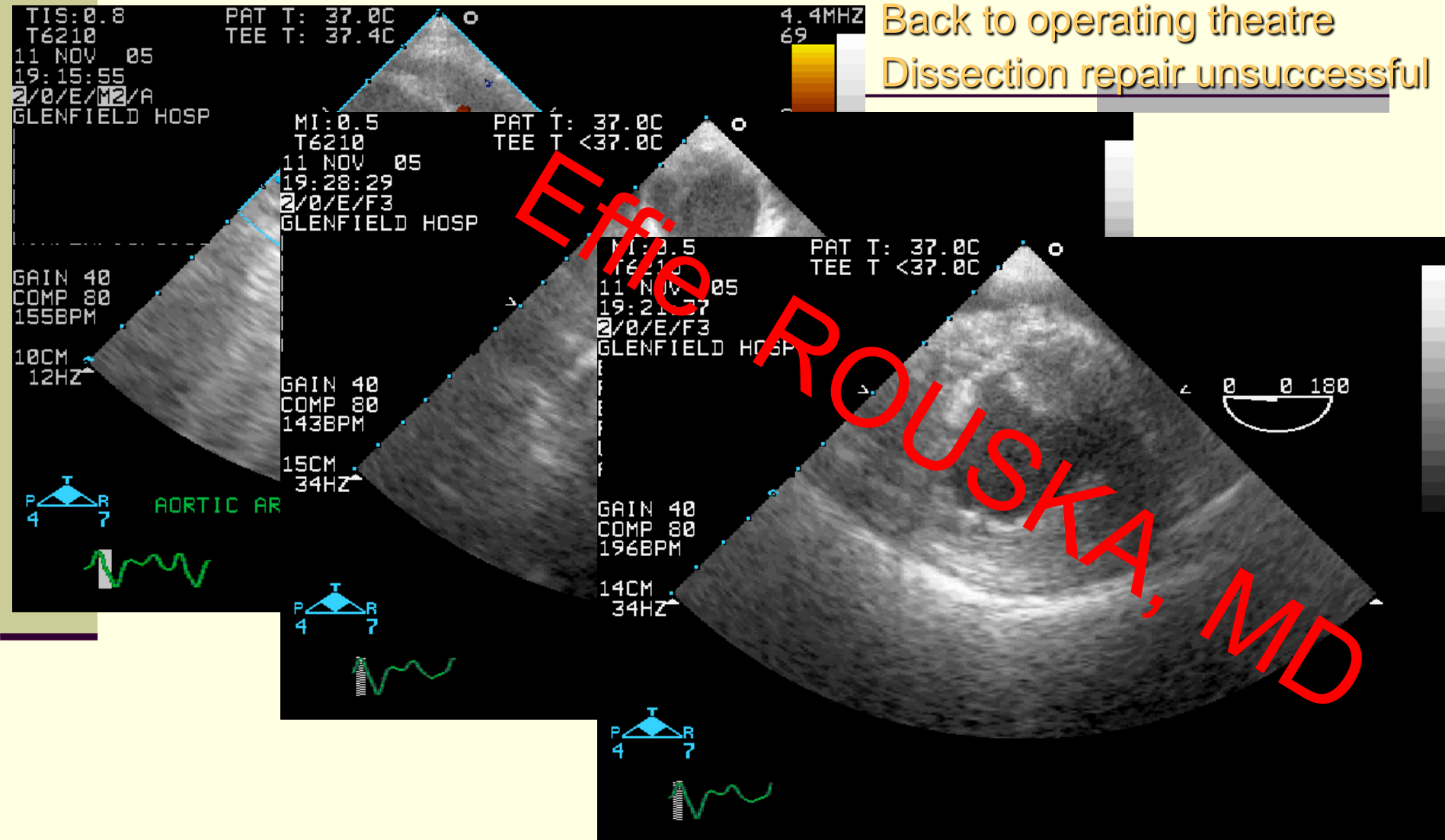
2hrs post surgery – anuric on CICU, hemodynamically stable



Intra-operative TOE not strongly indicated(Class II indication-ACC/AHA/ASE guidelines)

# Stented bioprosthetic AVR – TOE in CICU

Back to operating theatre  
Dissection repair unsuccessful

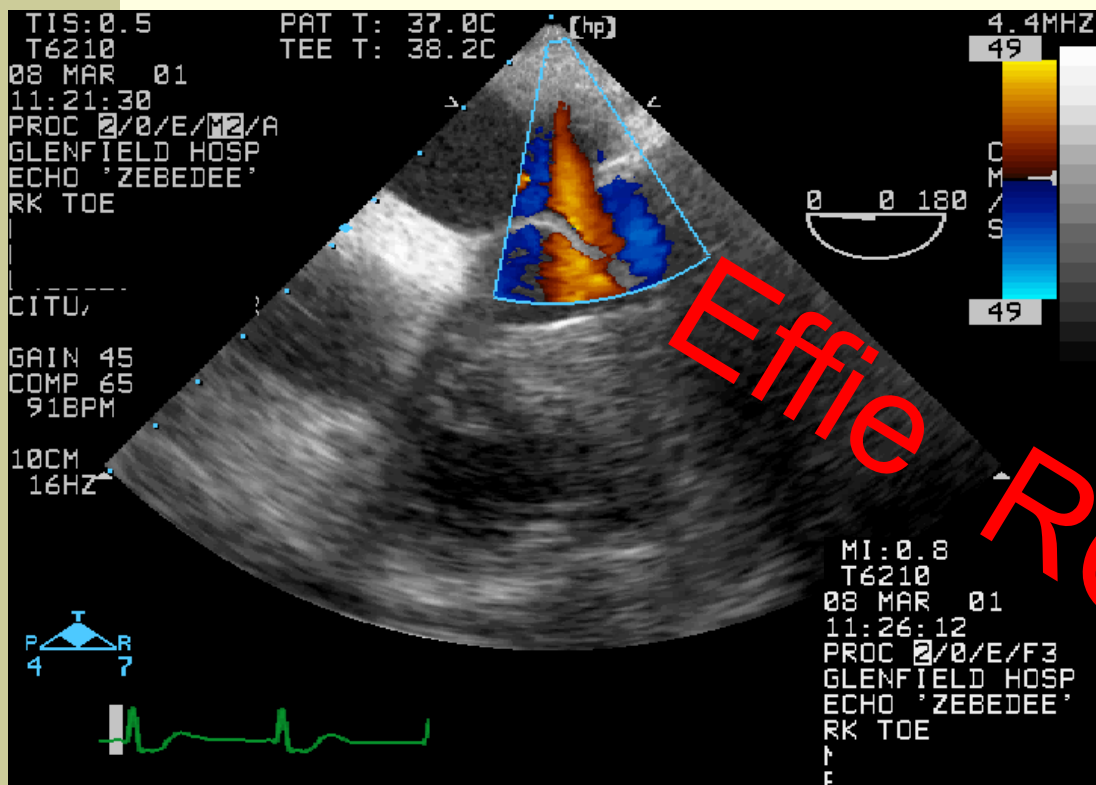


# TEE in ICU



Effie  
ROUSKA, MD

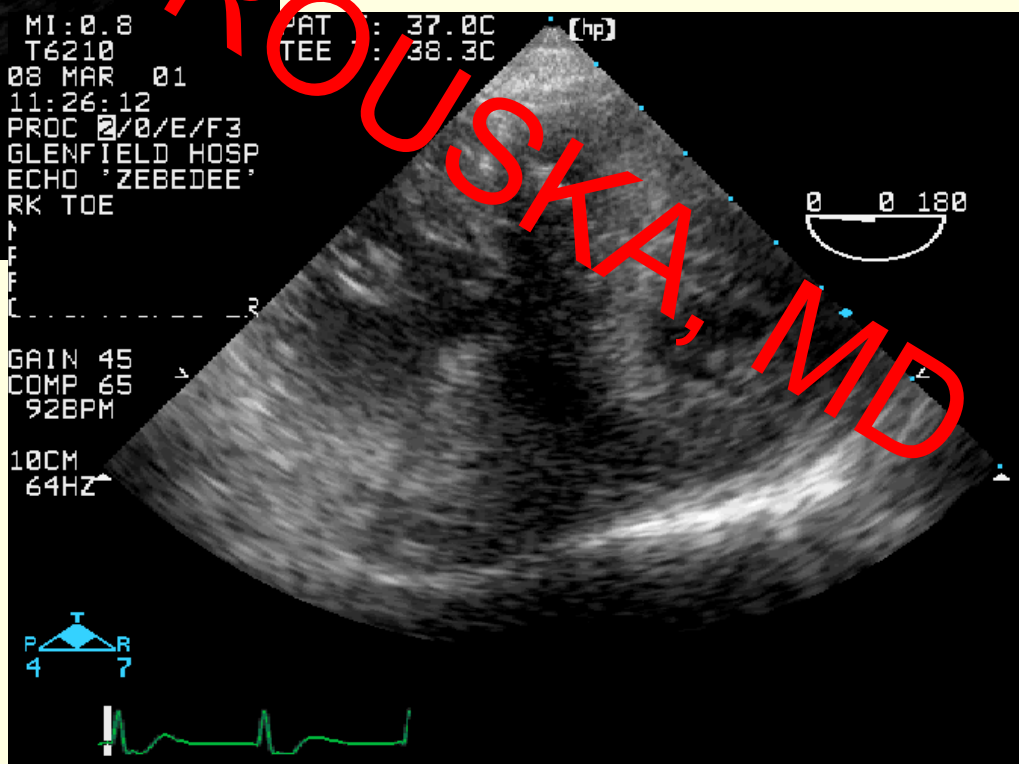
# 63 yrs old male – post MV repair



poor LV following surgery

high dose inotropes  
hypotensive on CICU

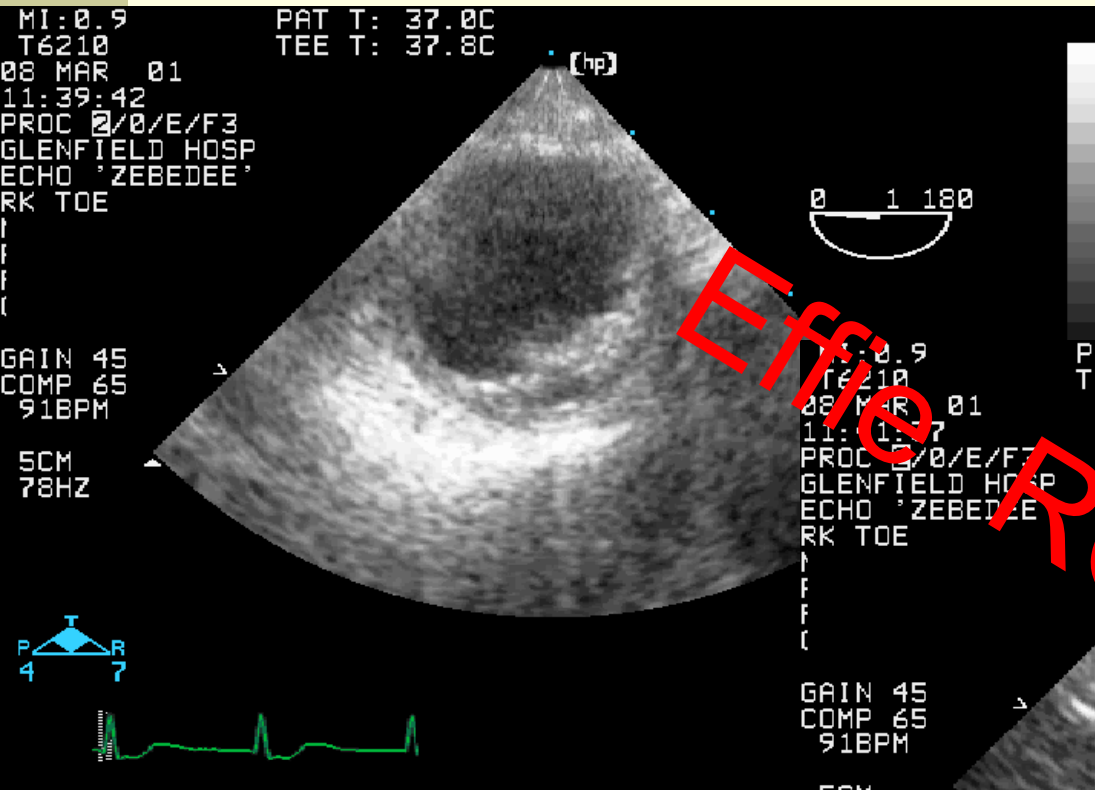
increase in inotropes



Why hypotensive?

Treatment options?

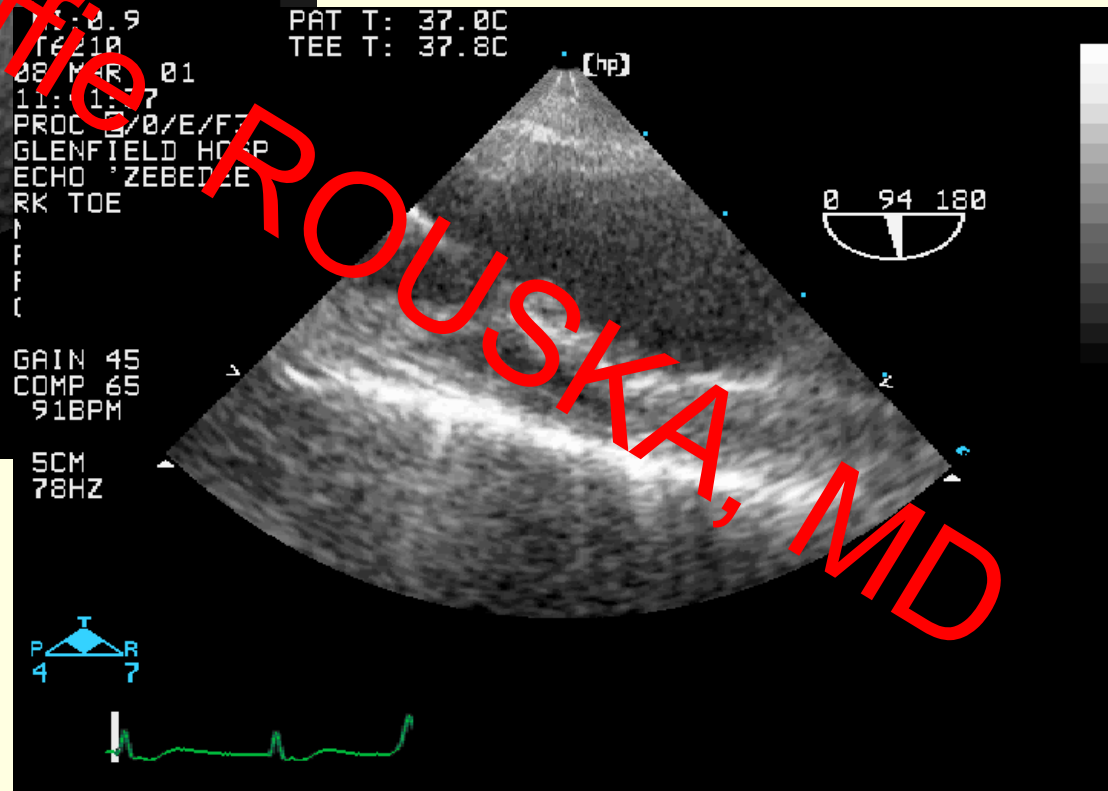
# 63 yrs old male – post MV repair



Volume

Decrease inotropes

IABP!



CXR – tip of IABP low

Difficult to advance

Should it be advanced any further?

EFFIE ROUSKA, MD



# Perioperative TOE

FOR ALL cardiac surgical patients ?



MD

Shernan SK, Gelman S. Perioperative transesophageal echocardiography for cardiac surgery. A fleeting trend or standard of care? *Anaesthetist* 2002;51(2):79-80



Effie ROUSKA, MD

MR. A. W. SOSNOWSKI  
CARDIOTHORACIC  
SURGEON





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***Make things simple....***

***but not simpler than that...***

***Einstein,***

***ROUSKA, MD***

***Thank you***