Total anomalous pulmonary venous return
Retorno venoso pulmonar anómalo total

Pedro Epifânio a, *, Maria Emanuel Amaral a, Ângela Moreira b, Dina Rodrigues a, António Pires a, Eduardo Castela a

a Hospital Pediátrico de Coimbra, Serviço de Cardiologia Pediátrica, Coimbra, Portugal
b Hospital Pediátrico de Coimbra, Serviço de Radiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

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Total anomalous pulmonary venous return (TAPVR) is a rare condition, accounting for 1% of all congenital heart disease, with 50% being of the supracardiac and 20% of the cardiac type. The authors describe the cases of two infants with TAPVR and similar clinical manifestations.

Case 1

A three-month-old infant was referred with a diagnosis of lower respiratory tract infection with moderate respiratory distress and cyanosis. Physical examination revealed bilateral pulmonary rales and a low-grade systolic murmur (II/VI) at the upper left sternal (ULS) border. The echocardiogram revealed marked dilation of the right chambers, pulmonary trunk and superior vena cava, and a large atrial septal defect (ASD) with right-to-left shunt. A retroatrial conduit was evident with connection to the innominate vein through a vertical vein. A presumptive diagnosis of supracardiac TAPVR was made.

Figure 1  Echocardiogram in modified subcostal short-axis view showing a retroatrial conduit with connection with an enlarged coronary sinus (solid arrows). An atrial septal defect is also visible (dashed arrow). RA: right atrium.

Case 2

A two-month-old infant with poor weight gain and a systolic murmur was referred for cardiac evaluation. On examination he was in moderate respiratory distress and cyanotic, with minimal response to supplementary oxygen. A grade II/VI ULS systolic murmur was present. The echocardiogram revealed a small left atrium, dilated right chambers and pulmonary trunk, and a small ASD with a right-to-left shunt. A retroatrial conduit emptying into the coronary sinus

* Corresponding author.
E-mail address: p.pires.epifanio@gmail.com (P. Epifânio).
was also evident (Figure 1). These findings were suggestive of a cardiac type TAPVR.

Both diagnoses were confirmed by cardiac computed tomography (Figures 2 and 3).

Successful surgical repair was performed, with subsequent clinical improvement and normalization of right heart chamber dimensions.

**Ethical disclosures**

**Protection of human and animal subjects.** The authors declare that no experiments were performed on humans or animals for this study.

**Confidentiality of data.** The authors declare that no patient data appear in this article.

**Right to privacy and informed consent.** The authors declare that no patient data appear in this article.

**Conflicts of interest**

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.