Picture quiz 3

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Image 1. AP chest radiograph

Image 1a. AP chest radiograph

Question

A 66-year-old woman with a history of inferior myocardial infarction. What are your observations? What is the diagnosis?

Description

Image 1 shows redistribution of the pulmonary vasculature, mild peribronchial cuffing and Kerley B lines consistent with pulmonary venous hypertension. There is moderate cardiomegaly. A double density behind the right side of the heart indicates left atrial (arrow) enlargement (Image 1a). The pulmonary trunk and left atrial appendage are normal. There is no pleural effusion.

Differential diagnosis

Although the presence of left atrial enlargement indicates a problem at the mitral valve level, the overall appearance and history suggest left ventricular failure as a more likely aetiology than primary mitral regurgitation or mitral stenosis.

Answer

Diagnosis

Left ventricular failure; mitral regurgitation secondary to papillary muscle dysfunction.

References


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