Retrieval of leadless pacemaker embolizes to the lungs

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Introduction : Case

Methods : Case

Result : The patient is a man with pacemaker using unipolar lead. Because ERI, we elected to proceed with placement of a leadless pacemaker (Micra). The Micra was deployed successfully, and had 3 of the 4 tines engaged. I cut and pulled the tether out of the system. And then the pacing threshold became unstable. We decided to remove the device, by using a snare and a steerable introducer. Snaring the retrieval head was challenging because the head was too close to septum. Using an electrode catheter, we attempted to turn the device in some other direction, so that the retrieval head was accessible. In the next instant, the Micra had dislodged and embolized to the left pulmonary artery. We snared 2 of the 4 tines (Figure1), the device was gently pulled to the right atrium. Finally, we snared the retrieval head with another snare and successfully retrieved without any complications. (Figure2)

Conclusion : Case