Endoleak: Complication of Endovascular Treatment after Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

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These images (Figures 1 to 2) correspond to an 80-year-old patient who underwent infrarenal abdominal aortic aneurysm repair using a stent-graft.

Endoleaks after endovascular repair are classified into 5 types: (1)
- Type I: at the proximal, distal, or iliac occluder attachment sites.
- Type II: lumbar collateral vessels, inferior mesenteric, middle sacral, or hypogastric artery, or polar arteries (simple: one patent vessel; complex: two or more vessels).
- Type III: graft body (disconnection of the modules, manufacturing failures).
- Type IV: stent-graft porosity.
- Type V or endotension: enlargement of the sac without detectable endoleak.

The following causes are considered: a) poor surgical technique, and b) angulation of the aneurysm neck, calcification, and mural thrombi. (2, 4) The echo-Doppler is an appropriate technique for the systematic follow-up of aortic stent-grafts, together with the selective use of CT scan when ultrasound results are unclear: (4)

Video annex. Abdominal aorta color Doppler ultrasound showing endoprosthesis and an important passage of blood flow, in red, through a 3.1 to 3.5 mm in diameter leak, toward the anterior wall of the aneurysm.

REFERENCES

Conflict of interest
None declared