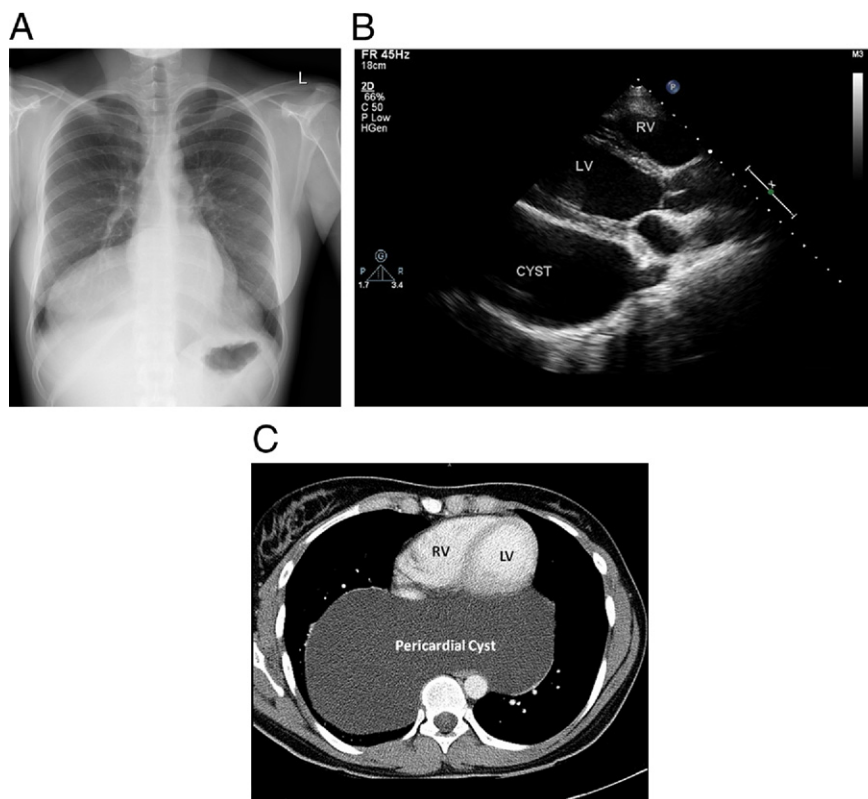


## IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

# A Giant Pericardial Cyst

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Manuscript received  
June 7, 2010;  
accepted June 11, 2010.

**A** 22-year-old woman presented with syncope. The results of physical examination and electrocardiography were unremarkable. A chest X-ray revealed markedly increased cardiac silhouette (A). Two-dimensional transthoracic echocardiography showed normal-sized cardiac chambers and a large echo-free space behind the heart (B, [Online Videos 1, 2, and 3](#)). Contrast-enhanced computed tomography revealed a large fluid attenuation mass within the posterior mediastinum measuring  $21.5 \times 11.4 \times 14.2$  cm consistent with pericardial cyst (C). Needle aspiration revealed clear fluid and no malignant or inflammatory cells.

A pericardial cyst is an uncommon benign congenital anomaly, which occurs because of incomplete fusion of fetal mesenchymal lacunae forming the pericardium. Surgical resection is reserved for treating related symptoms or cyst infection. Cyst = pericardial cyst; LV = left ventricle; RV = right ventricle.