Clinical image

Limited intimal tear

Obaid Ashraf, M.D.,¹ Tahleel Altaf Shera, M.D.,¹ Naseer Ahmed Choh, M.D.²

¹Senior Resident, ²Associate Professor, Department of Radiodiagnosis & Imaging, SKIMS

Limited intimal tears of the aorta presenting as acute aortic syndrome are notoriously difficult to diagnose prospectively, reported to elude all cross-sectional imaging techniques. Although this entity has been included in the AHA classification of aortic dissection (class 3), this entity is thought to be rare and remains largely unknown to radiologists and clinicians. The limited intimal tear is a subtype of Aortic Dissection that is characterized pathologically by a stellate or linear tear through the intima

and underlying superficial media that results in exposure of the deeper media or adventitial layers. The intimal tear extends to a variable degree within the aortic media without significant separation of the medial layers and does not result in a second flow channel, as seen in classic dissection.

Here we present a case of a 65 year old male presenting with chest pain who was diagnosed to have a limited intimal tear by ECG gated CT angiography, and was subsequently corroborated by MRI.

a)Axial CTA, b) Coronal CTA, c) Coronal MR and d) endoluminal view of Limited Intimal Tear (Arrows)

Correspondence

Dr. Tahleel Altaf Shera, M.D.,
Senior Resident
Department of Radiodiagnosis SKIMS
E-mail : tahleel149@yahoo.co.in