Reviewer's report

Title: Thickening of the pulmonary artery wall in acute intramural haematoma of the ascending aorta.

Version: 1 Date: 20 December 2006

Reviewer: Laura Rita Tafuri

Reviewer's report:

The present case report deals with a rare acute aortic syndrome, the intramural haematoma of ascending aorta, and underlines that one of its complications, the compression of pulmonary artery, can clinically resemble a pulmonary embolism. It follows that in patients with suspected acute aortic syndrome, especially when clinical signs simulating a pulmonary embolism are present, a transesophageal echocardiogram is a valuable tool to confirm diagnosis and to look for a possible pulmonary involvement.

The topic of the study is very interesting. The case report is well written and the transesophageal echocardiogram images are well described.

If available it would be interesting to see images with pericardic effusion.

Minor comment: pg 4, line 2 "pulmanary" should read "pulmonary"

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable