Reviewer's report

Title: Unexpected limited chronic dissection of the ascending aorta.

Version: 1  Date: 3 March 2008

Reviewer: Masato Nakajima

Reviewer's report:

This is a very rare but interesting finding in a case of aortic dissection. It might be useful information for cardiovascular surgeons to think of this possibility in view of a degenerative aortic valve disease complicating aortic dissection.

Discretionary revisions are required.

I would like the authors to give us some more information:
Did the patient show any symptoms like anterior chest pain etc. during the period of awaiting a surgery after catheter examination?
How do you think about the usefulness of computed tomographic scan to examine preoperative cardiovascular status?
Would you give us detailed information about the pathological findings of the adventitial inflammation. Do you think it is due to the aortic dissection? Is there any possibility to suspect arteritis.

Masato Nakajima, M.D.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable