

# Evaluation of LAAO Devices

Dr Julie Humphries



**ECHO**  
AUSTRALIA

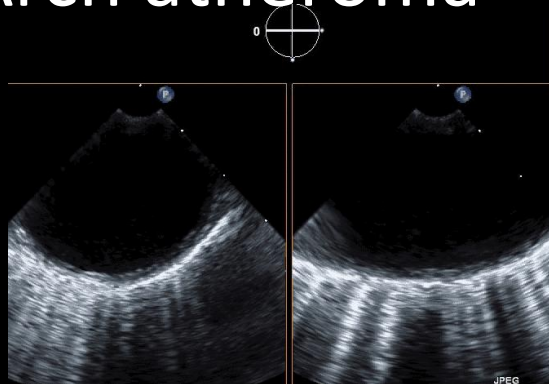
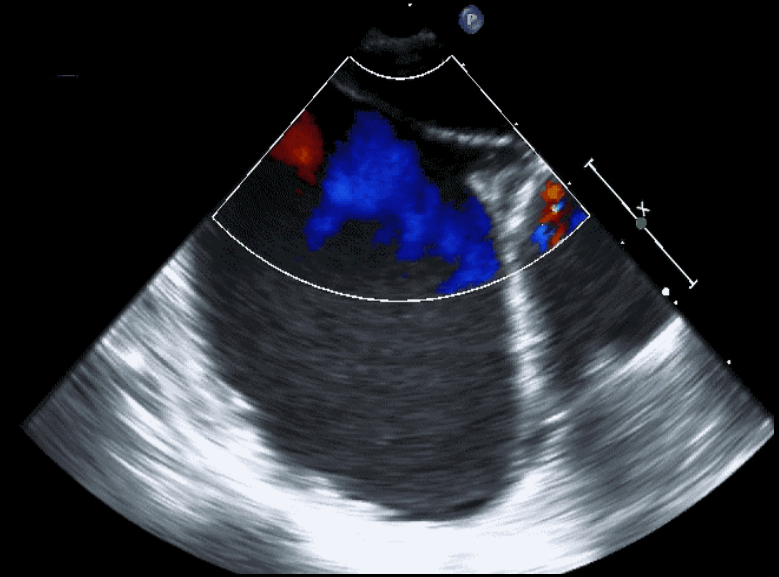
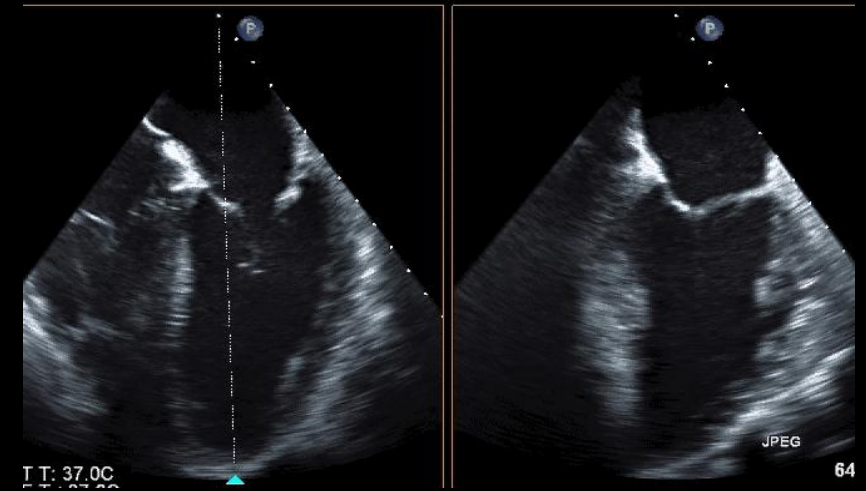
17–19 March 2025



# TOE Workup Pre LAA Closure

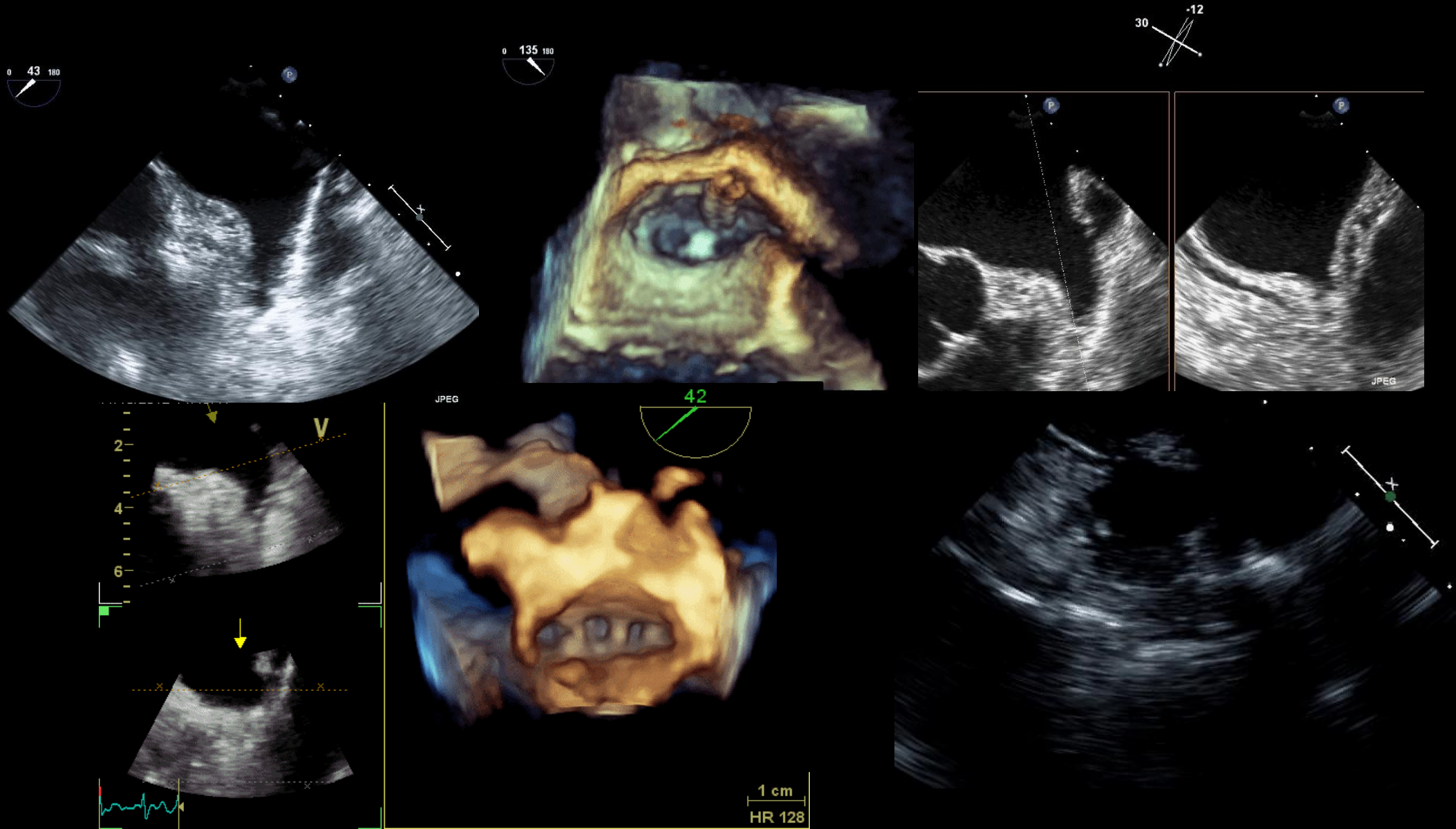
(rule out other RF for Stroke)

- Pericardial assessment
- Chamber function
- Valvular assessment
- Interatrial septum – identify shunts
- LAA anatomy
- Arch atheroma

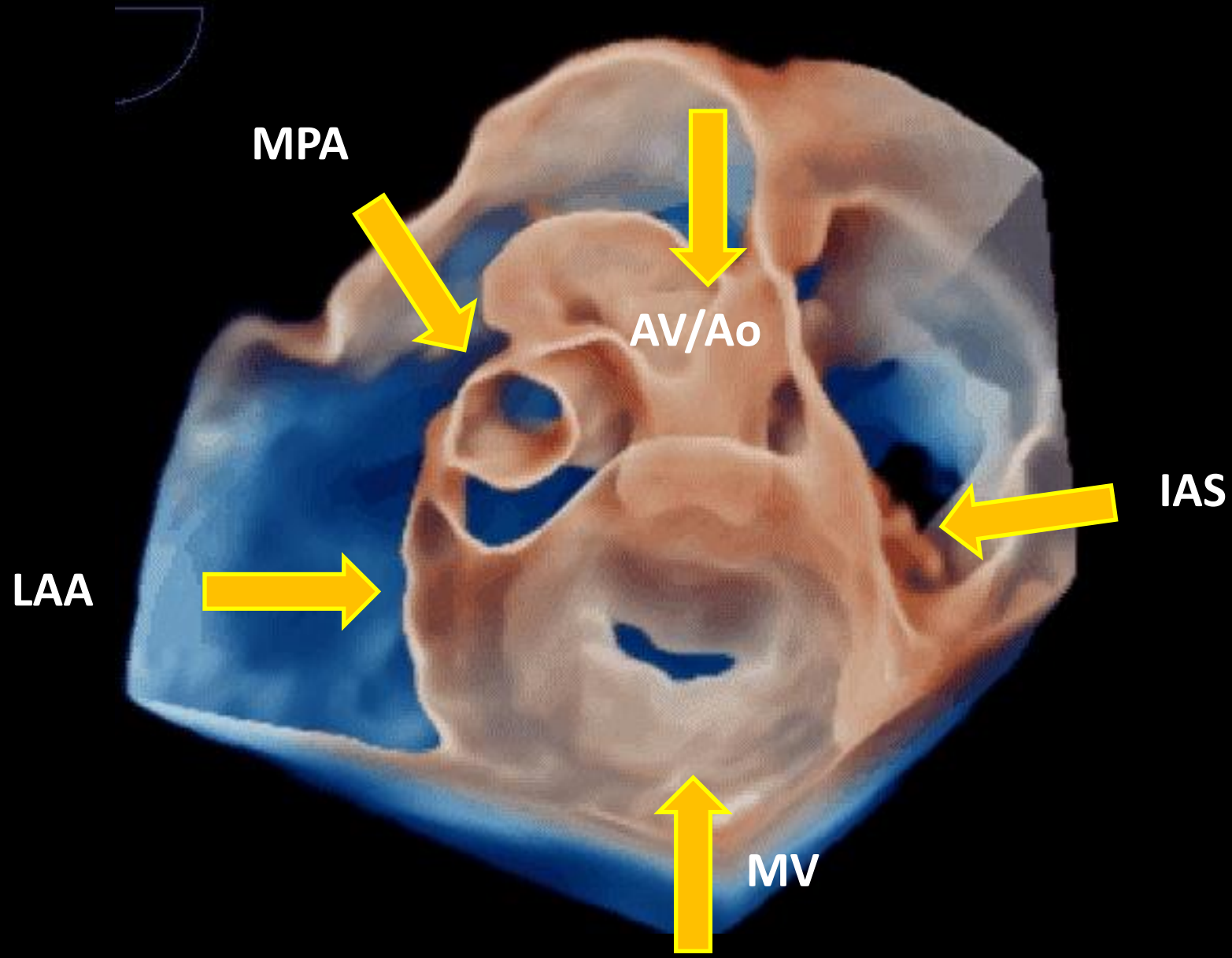




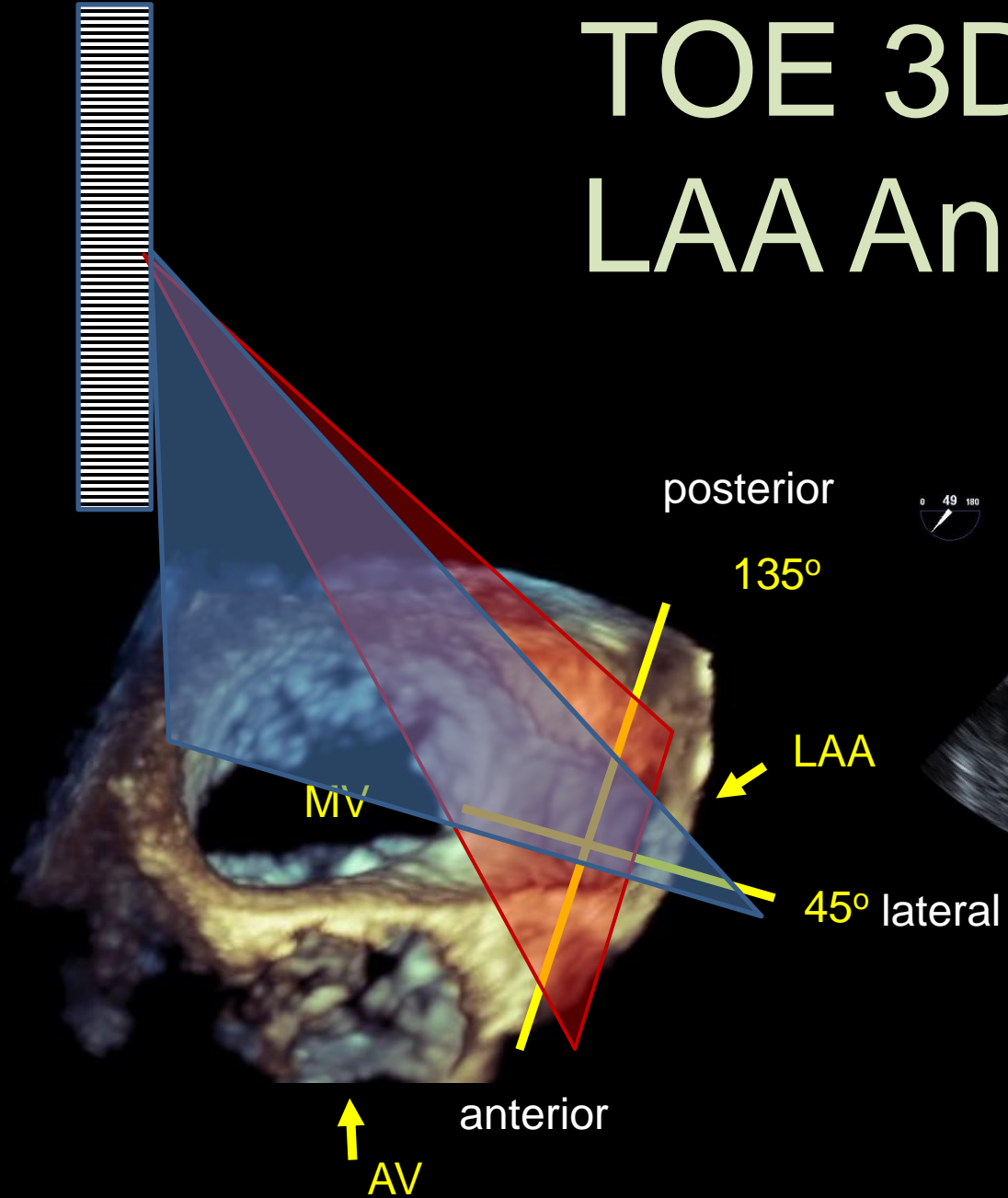
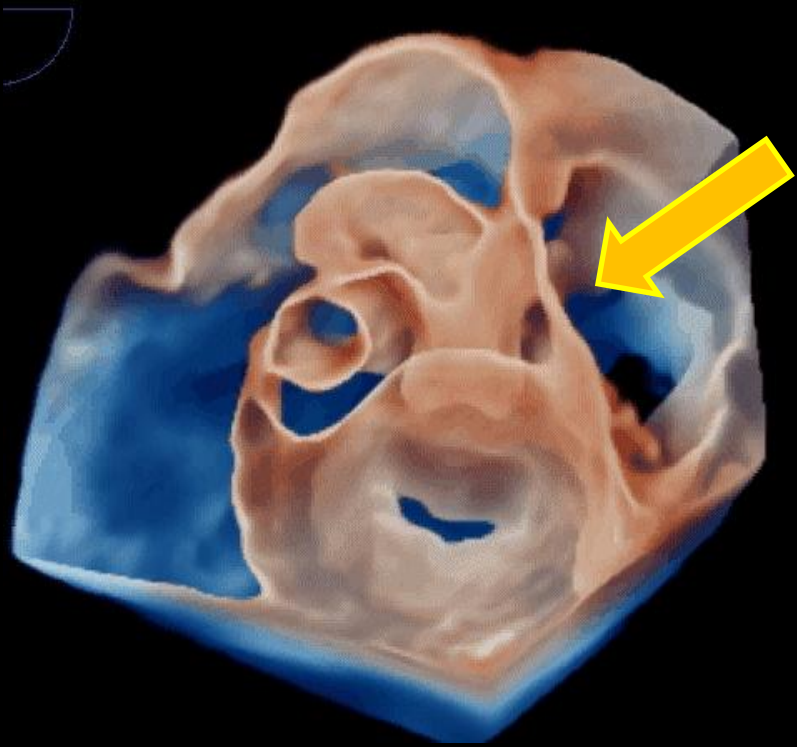
# LAA is unique & often complex



# LAA 3D Relationships

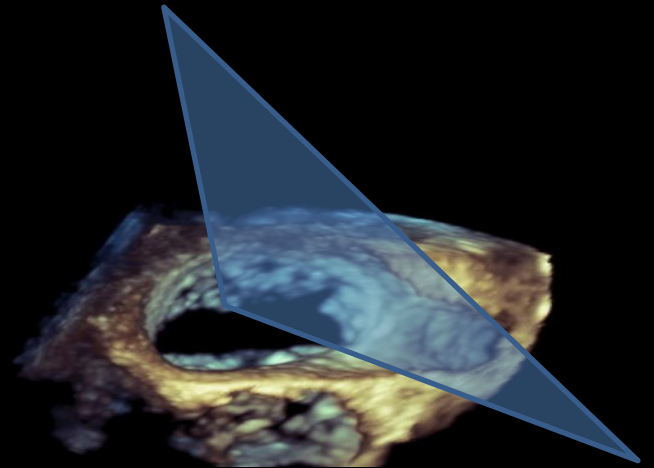
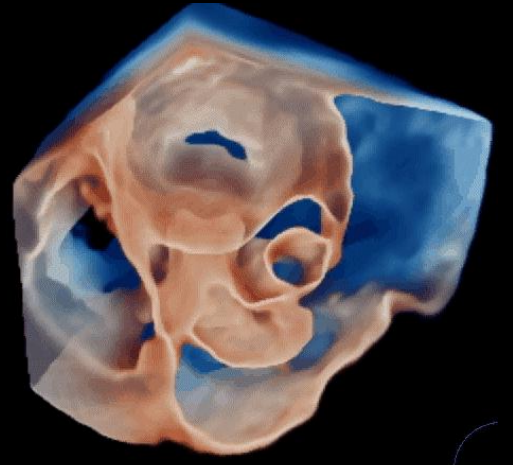


# TOE 3D of LAA Anatomy

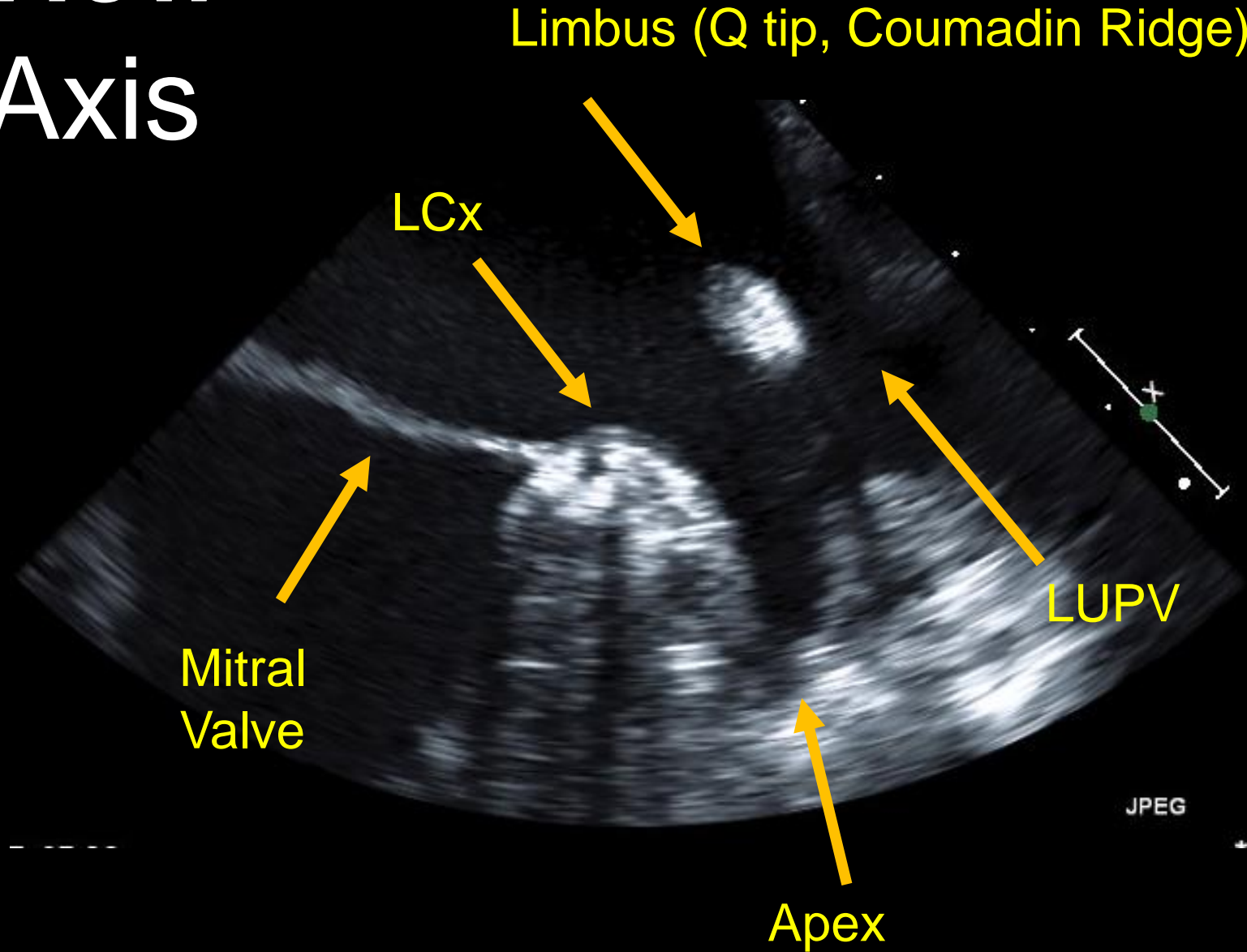




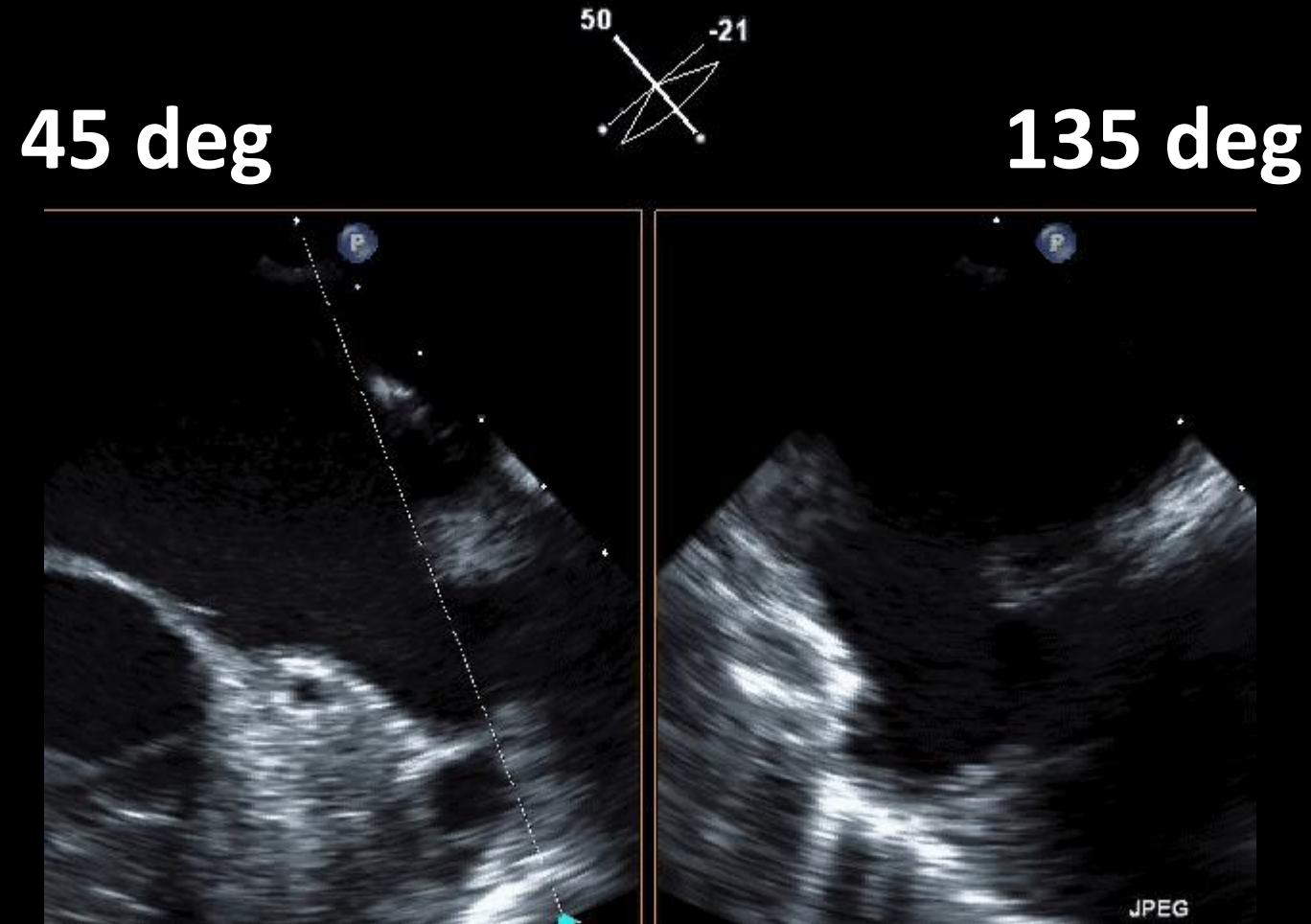
# LAA View



# LAA View Long Axis



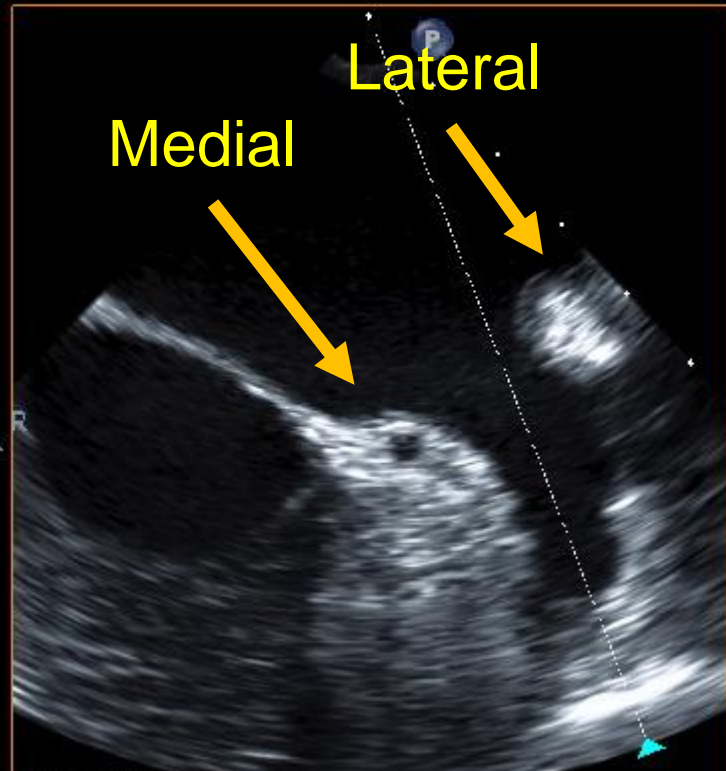
# LAA Implant View



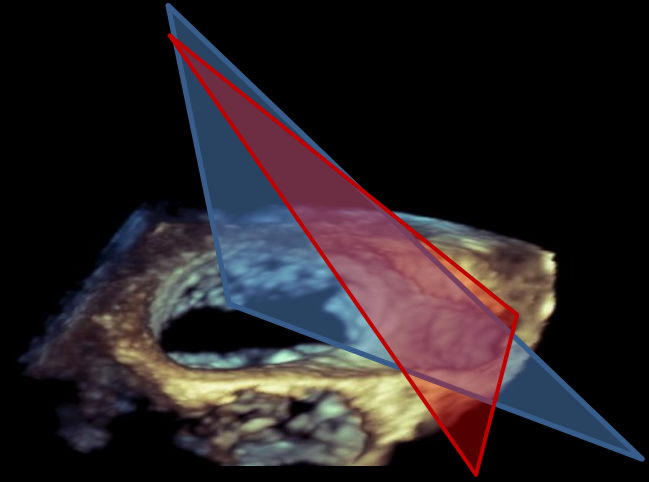
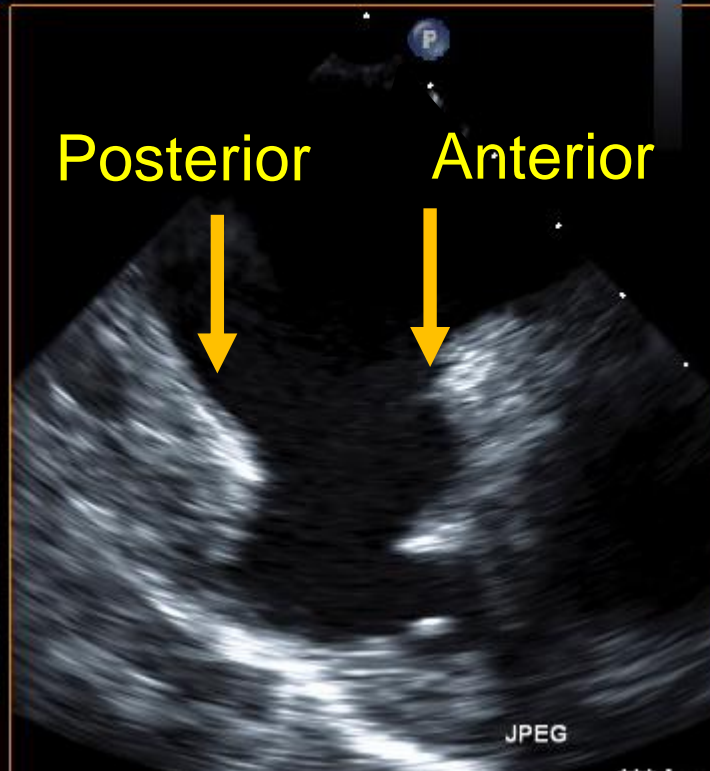


# LAA Implant View

45 deg

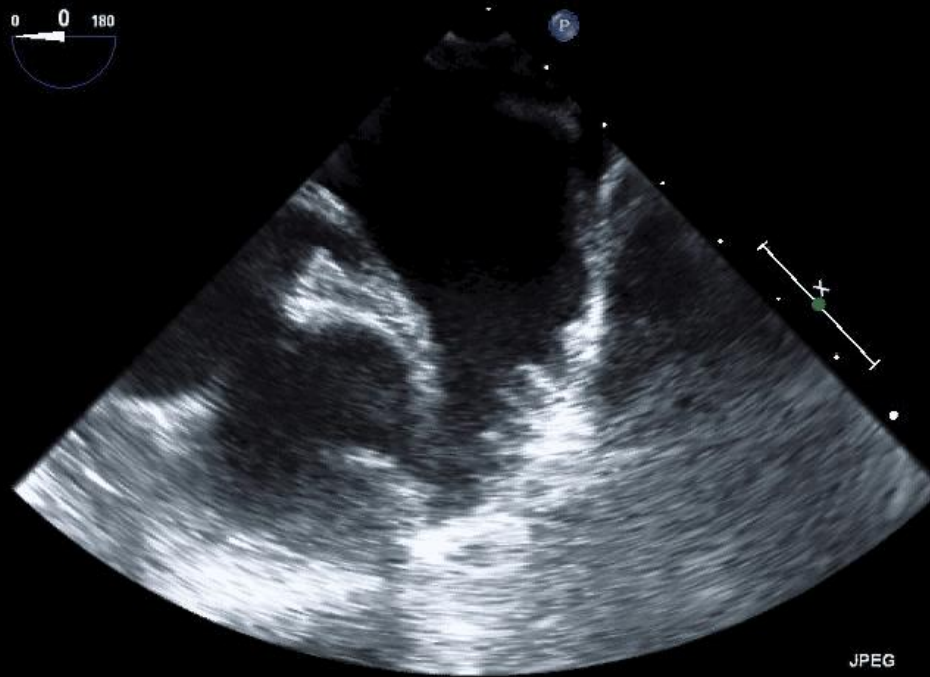


135 deg

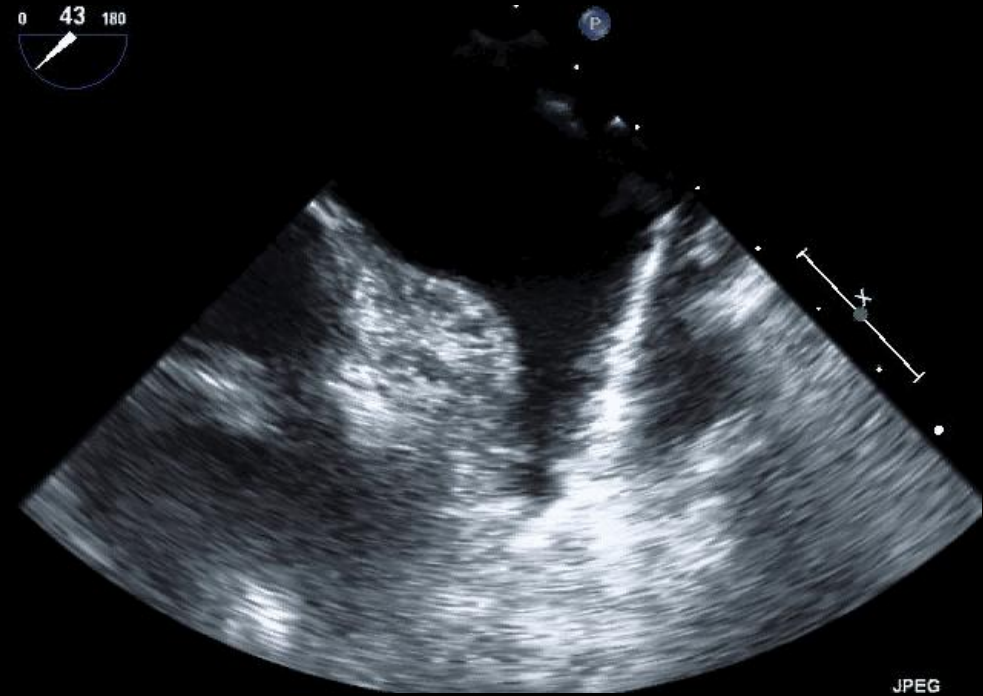


# LAA Views & Measurements

0 deg

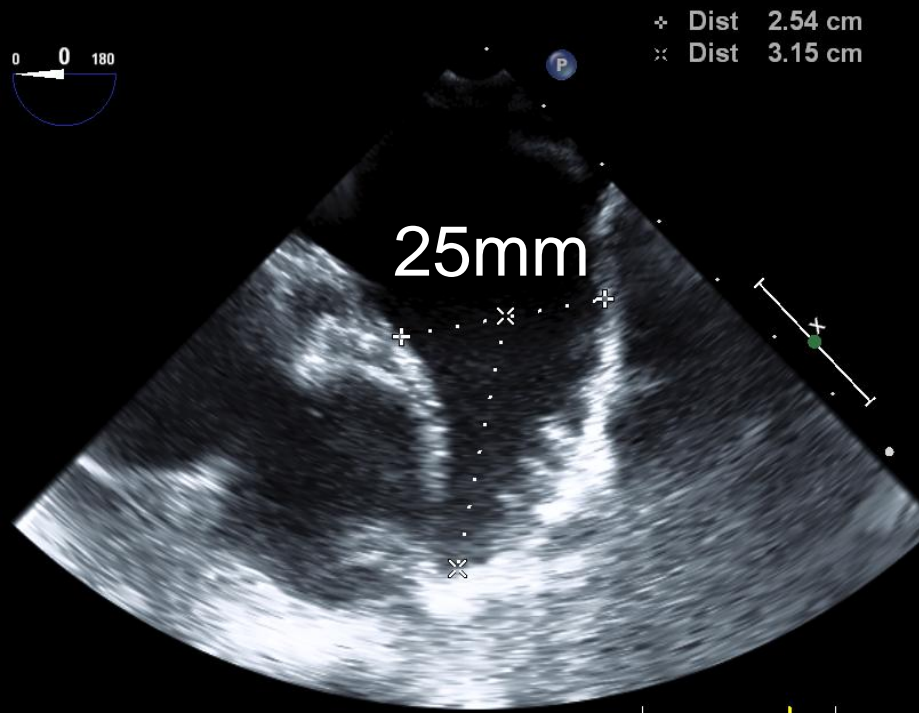


45 deg

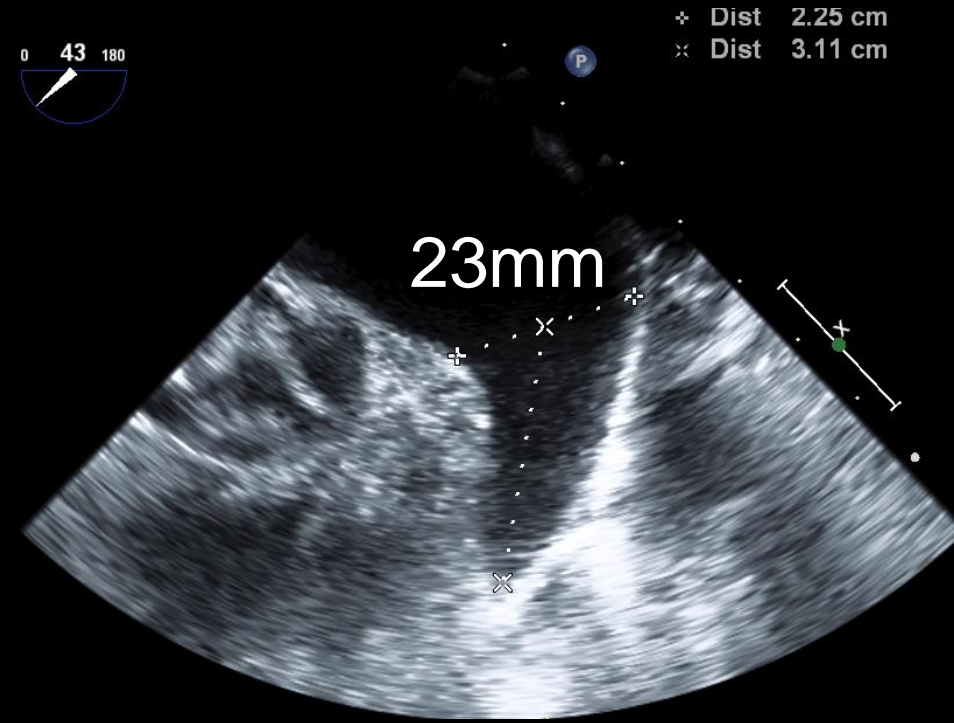


# LAA Measurements – Landing Zone

0 deg



45 deg

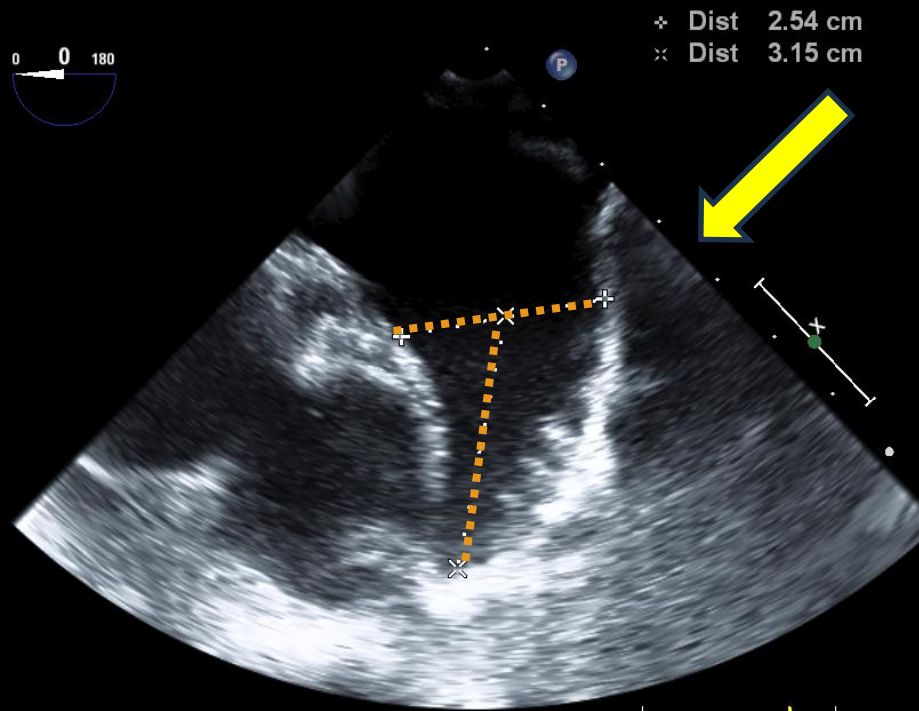


Landmarks – LCx to 1-2cm from Limbus

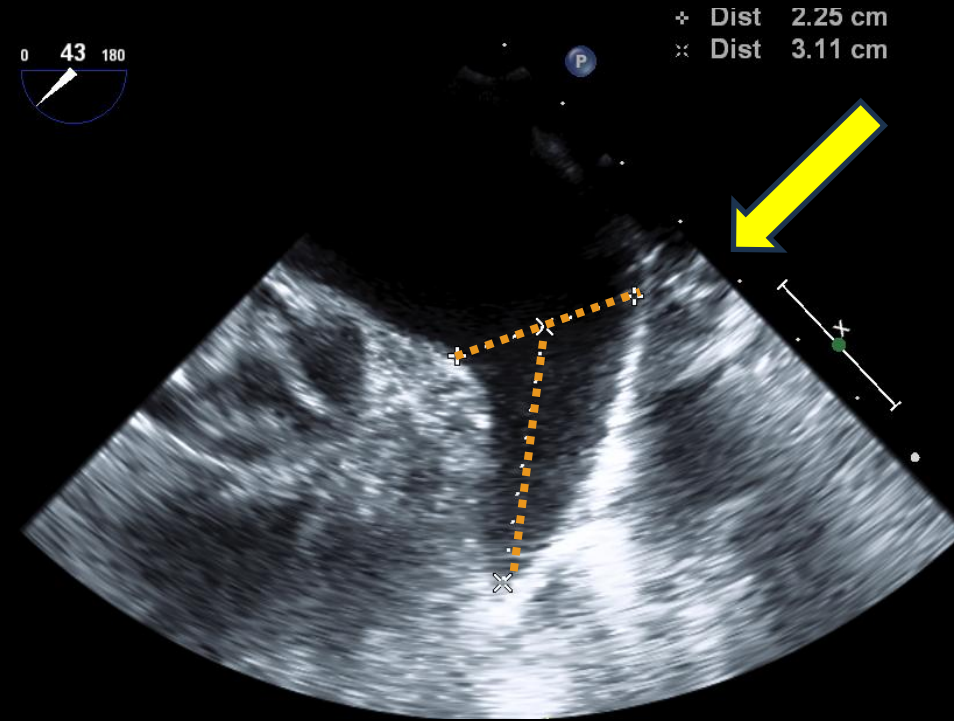


# LAA Measurements – Landing Zone

0 deg



45 deg



Landmarks – LCx to 1-2cm from Limbus

# LAA Views & Measurements

90 deg

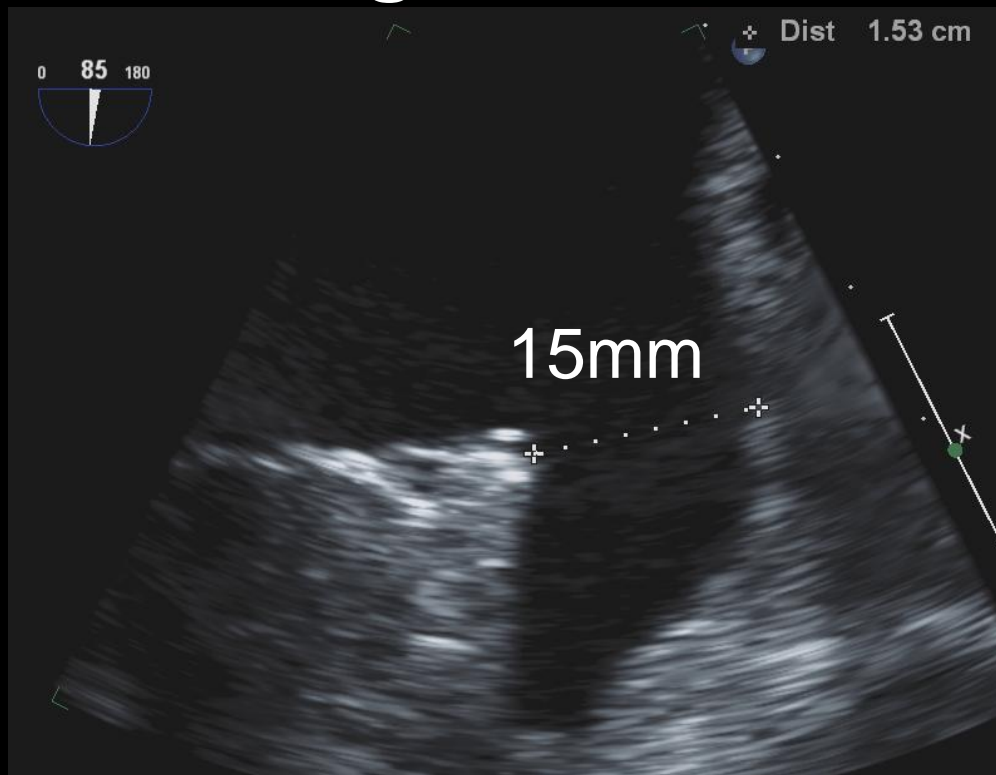


135 deg

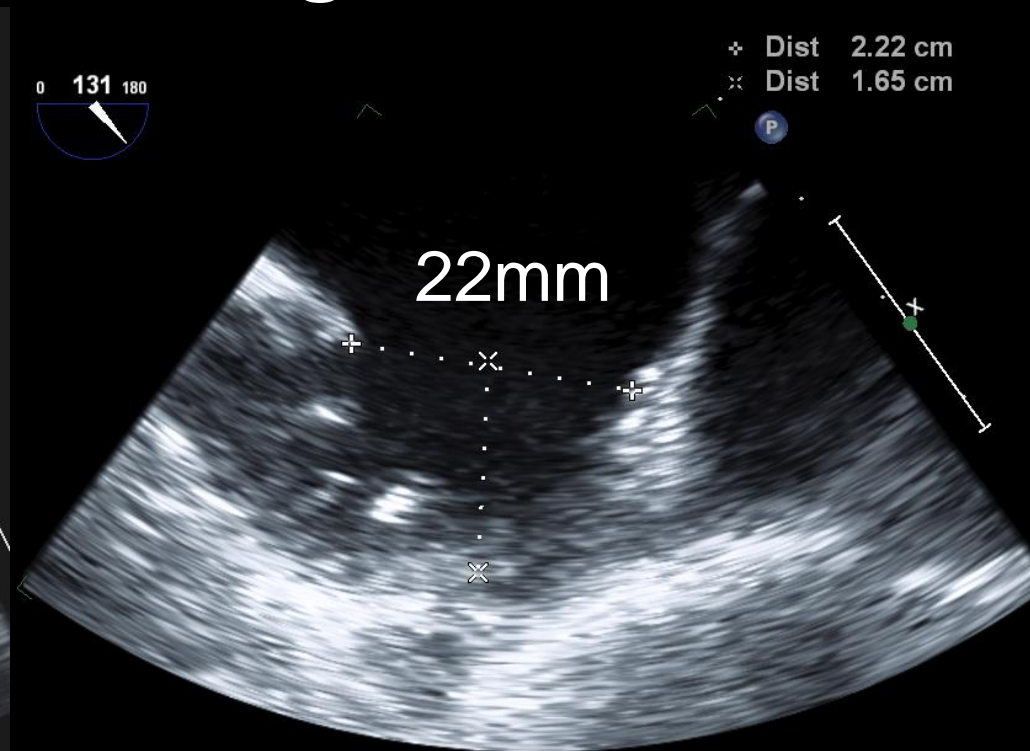


# LAA Measurements – Landing Zone

90 deg



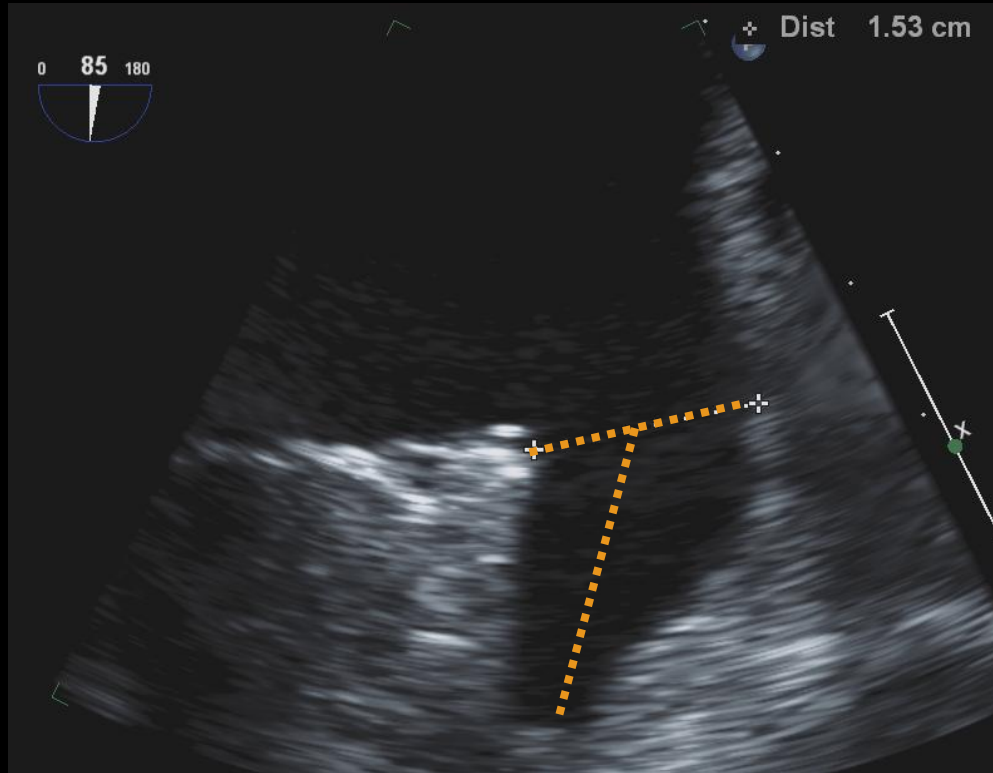
135 deg



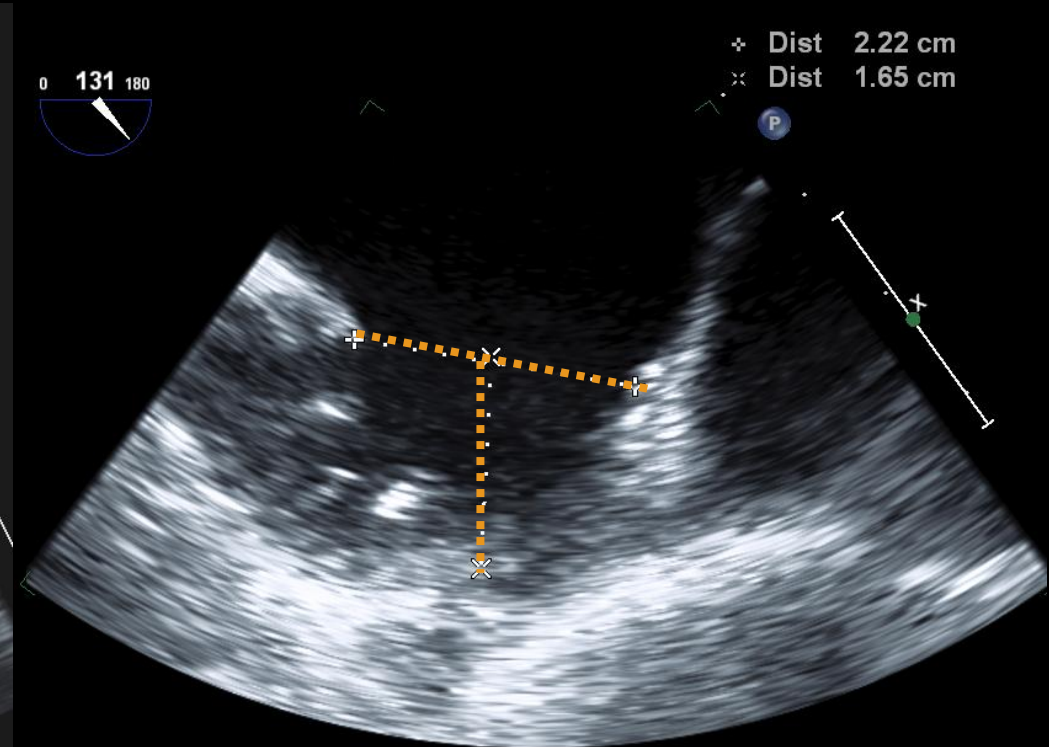


# LAA Measurements – Landing Zone

90 deg



135 deg



# Useful LAA Anatomical Information from TOE

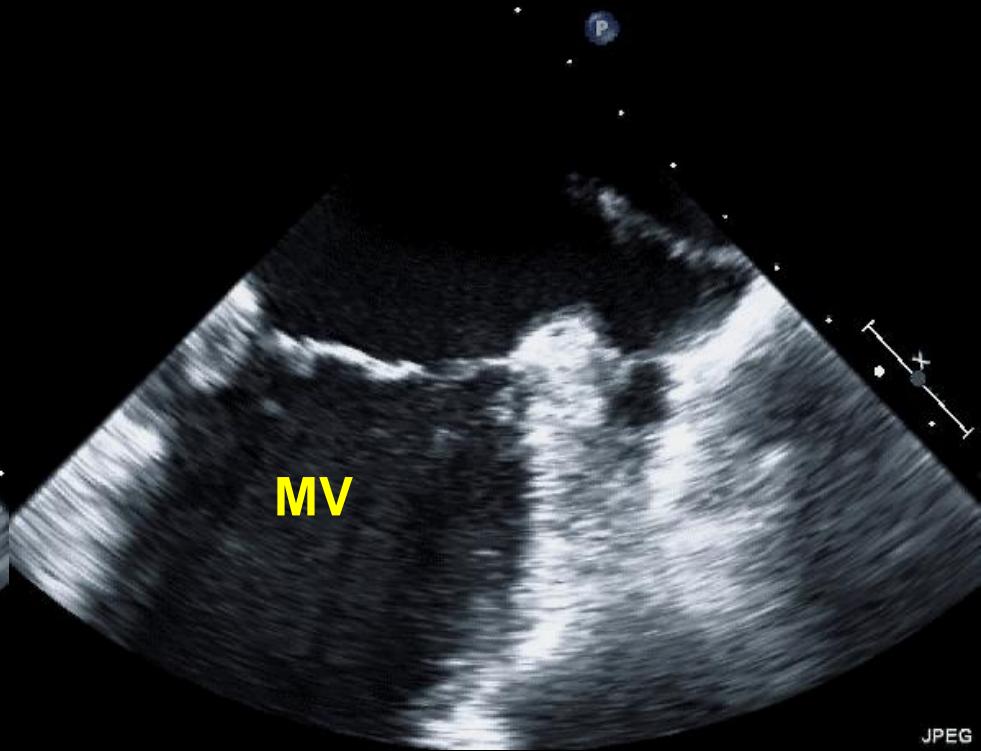
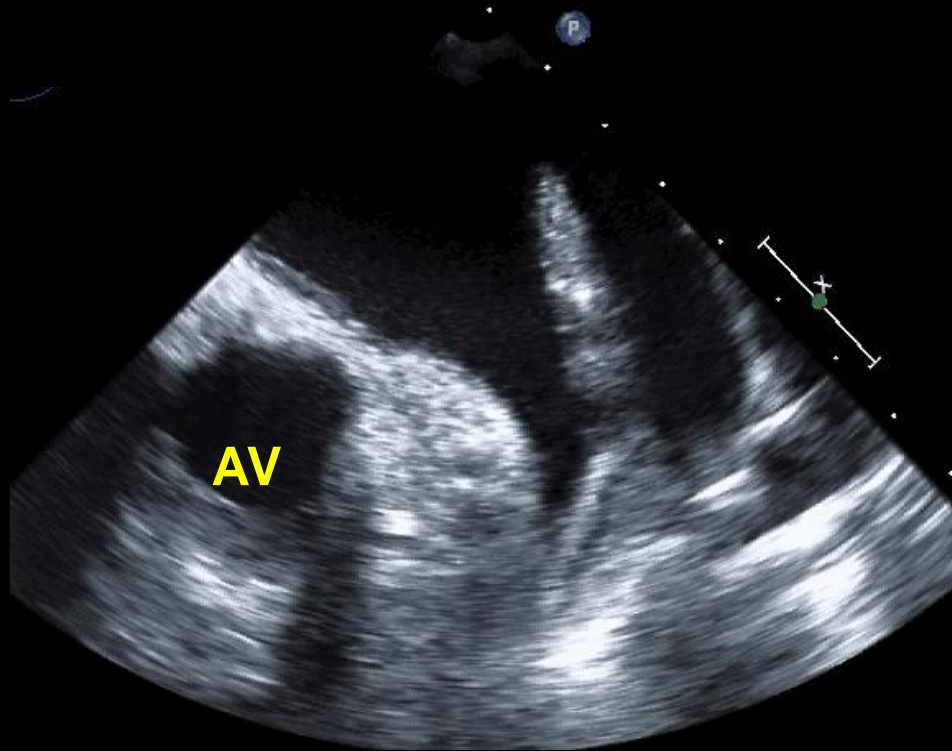


- Device “landing zone”
- Number of lobes/accessory lobes
- Interatrial septum landmarks
- LAA orientation
  - Anterior vs. Lateral

# LAA Orientation

Anterior

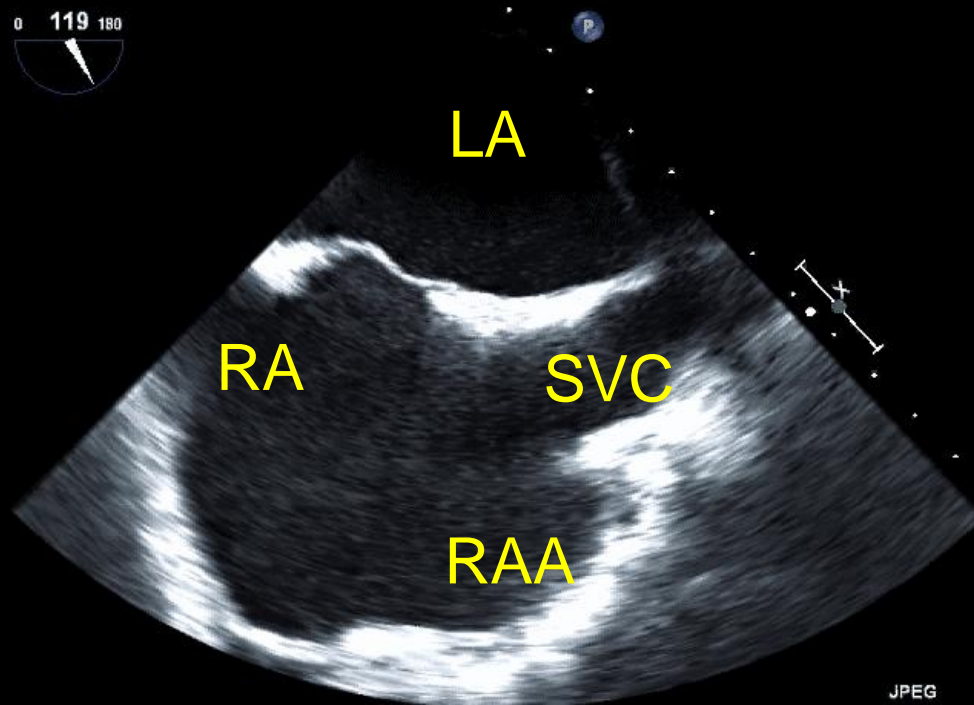
Lateral



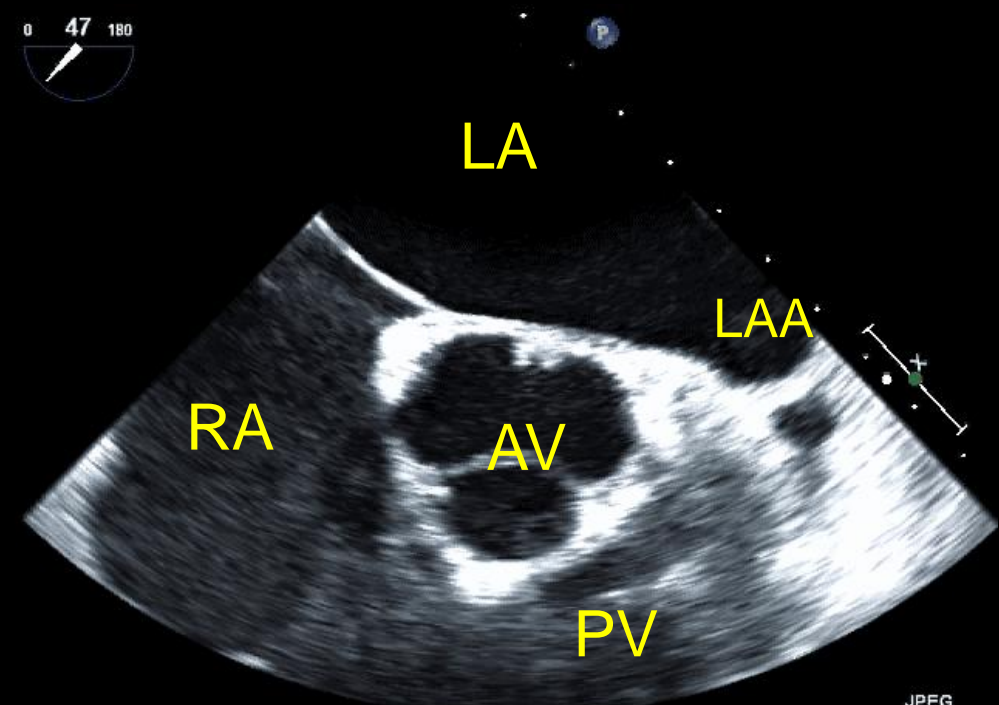


# Interatrial Septal Anatomy

Bicaval view (SI)  
(90-100°)

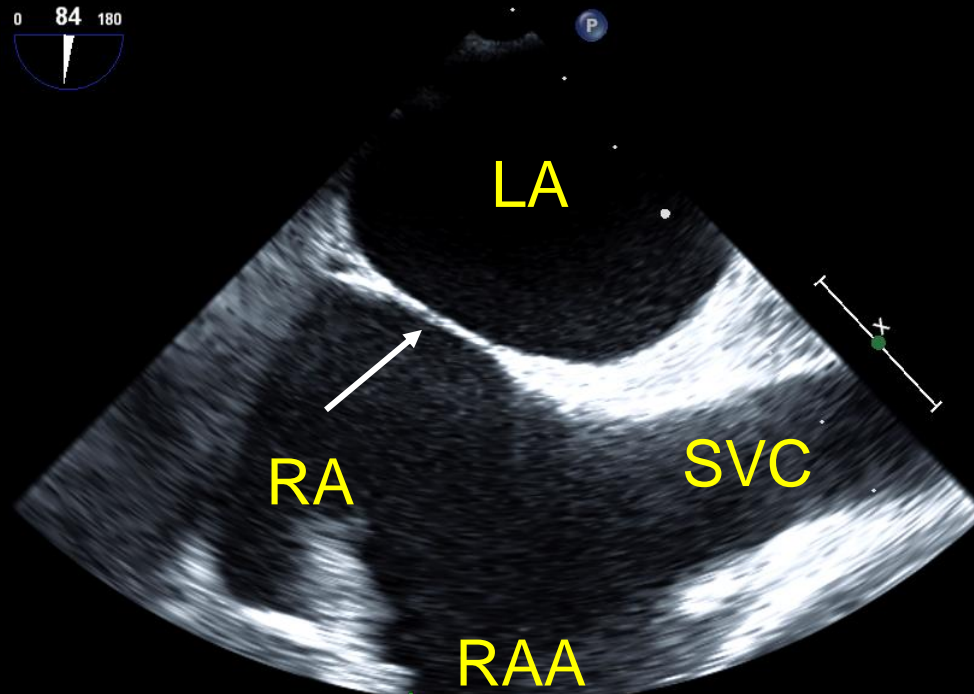


Short axis view (AP)  
(35 -50°)



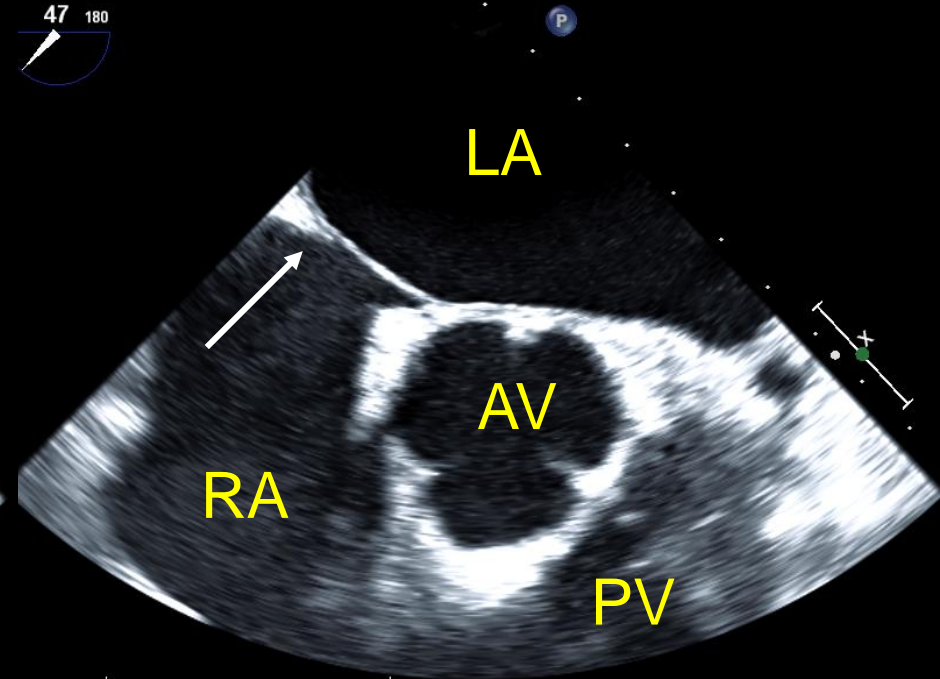
# Trans-Septal Puncture Landmarks

Bicaval view  
(90-100°)



Mid position  
Supero-inferior

Short axis view  
(35 -50°)



Posterior position  
Antero-posterior

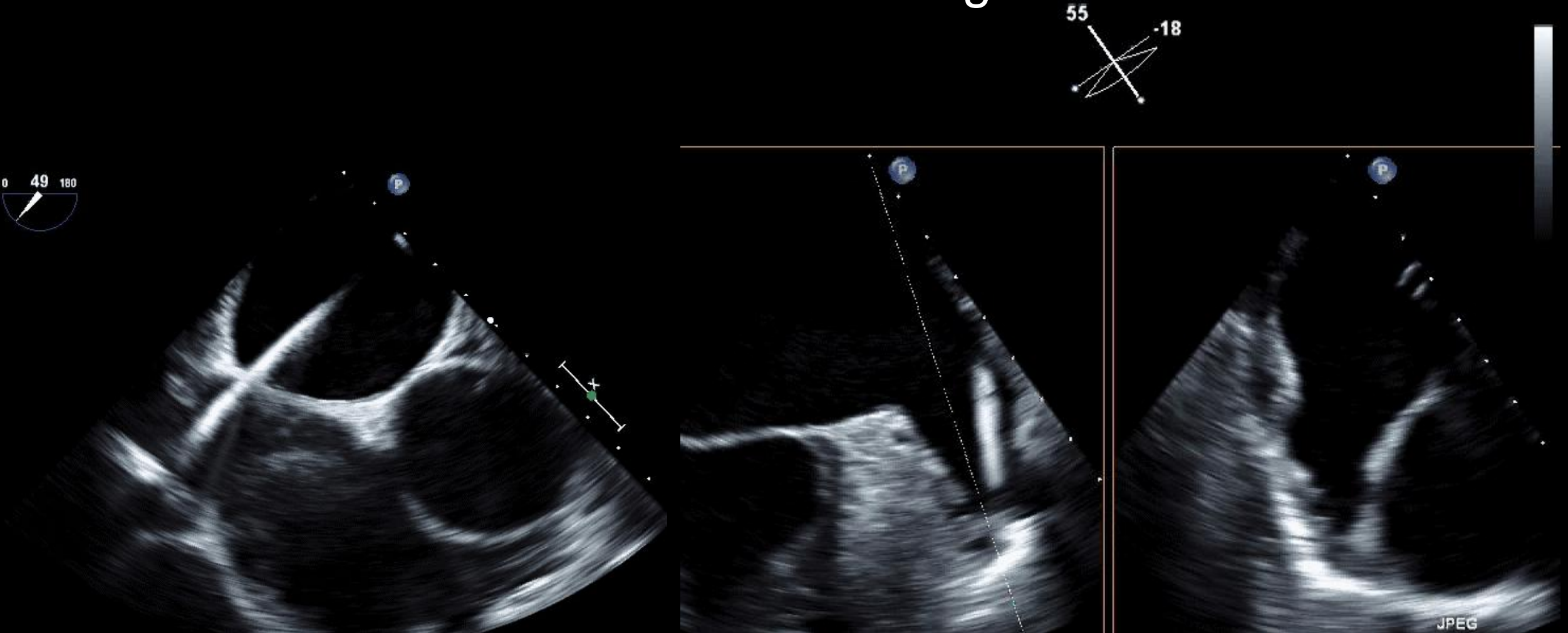
# Trans-Septal Puncture



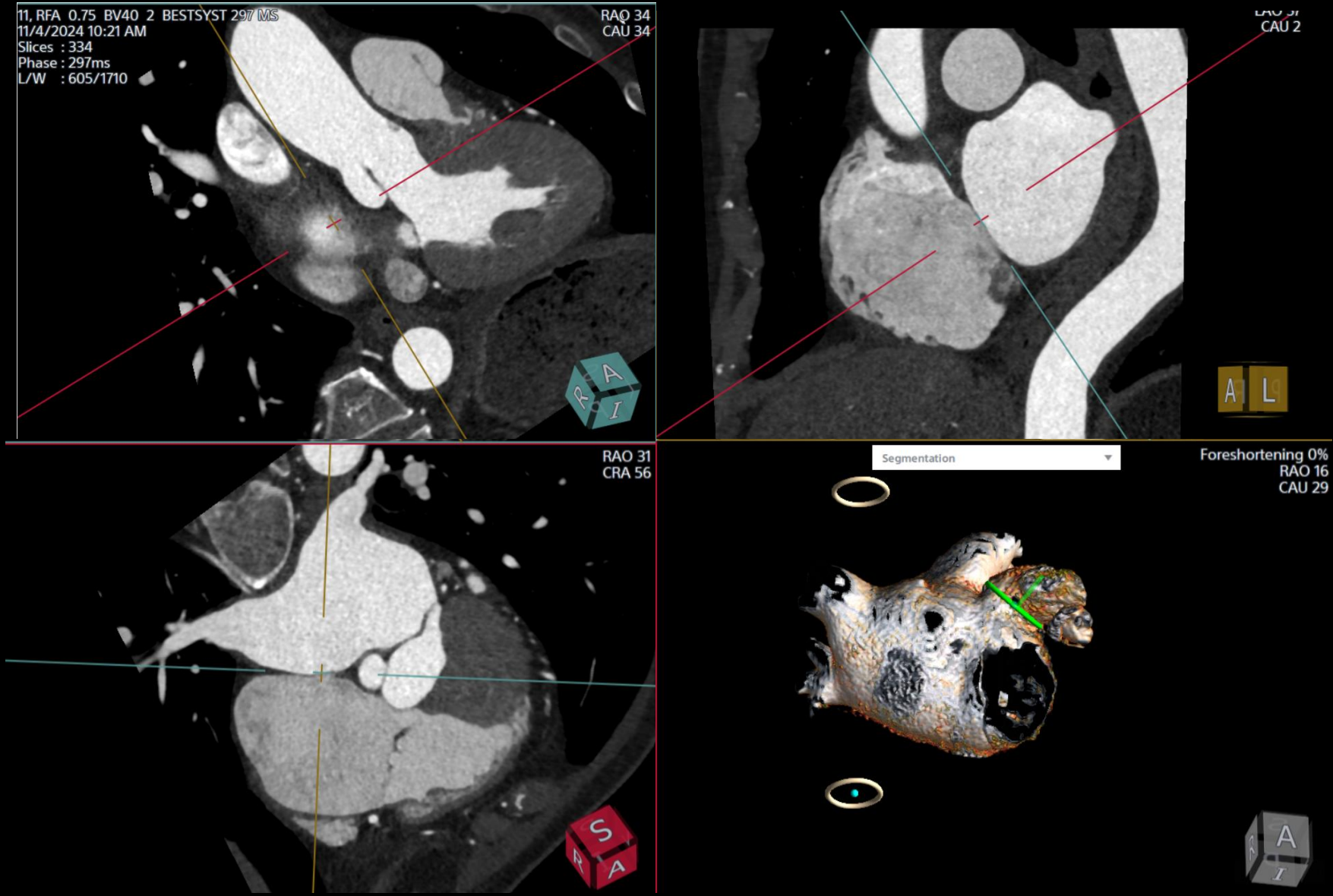


# Sheath Positioning

Posterior Puncture allows Coaxial Alignment of Sheath

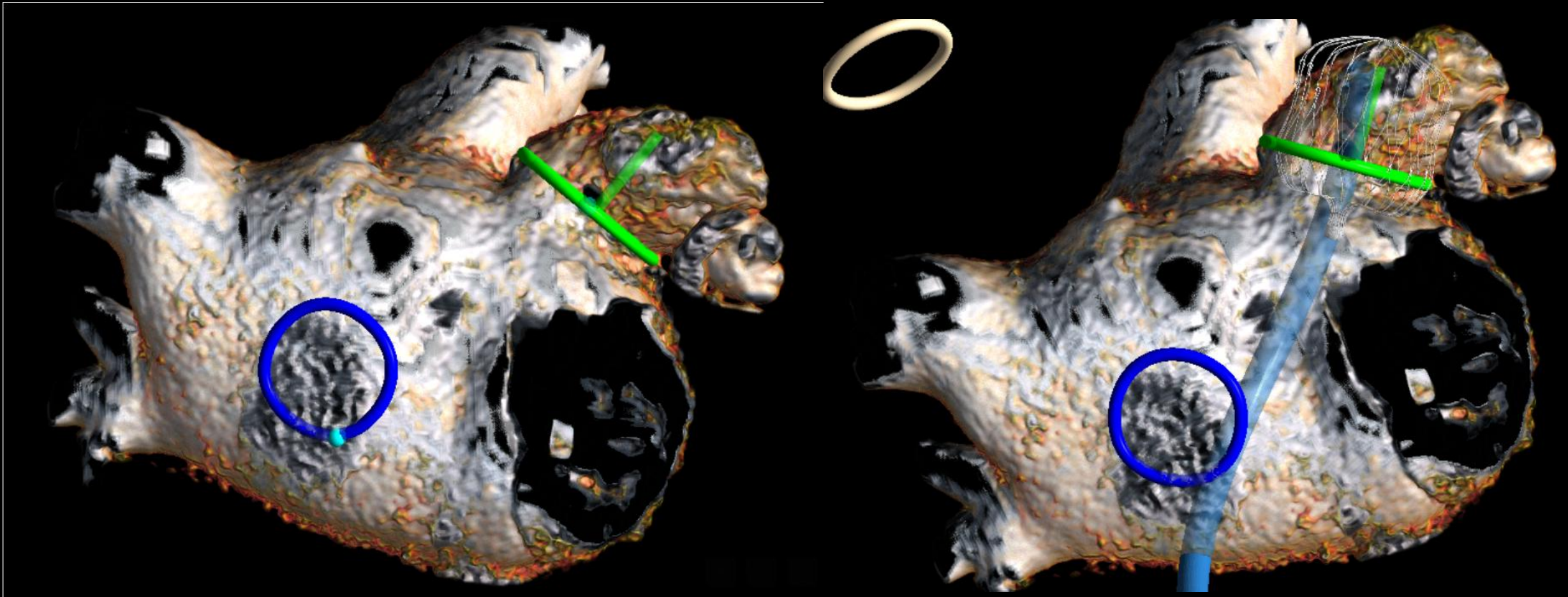


# Use of CT for Procedural Planning

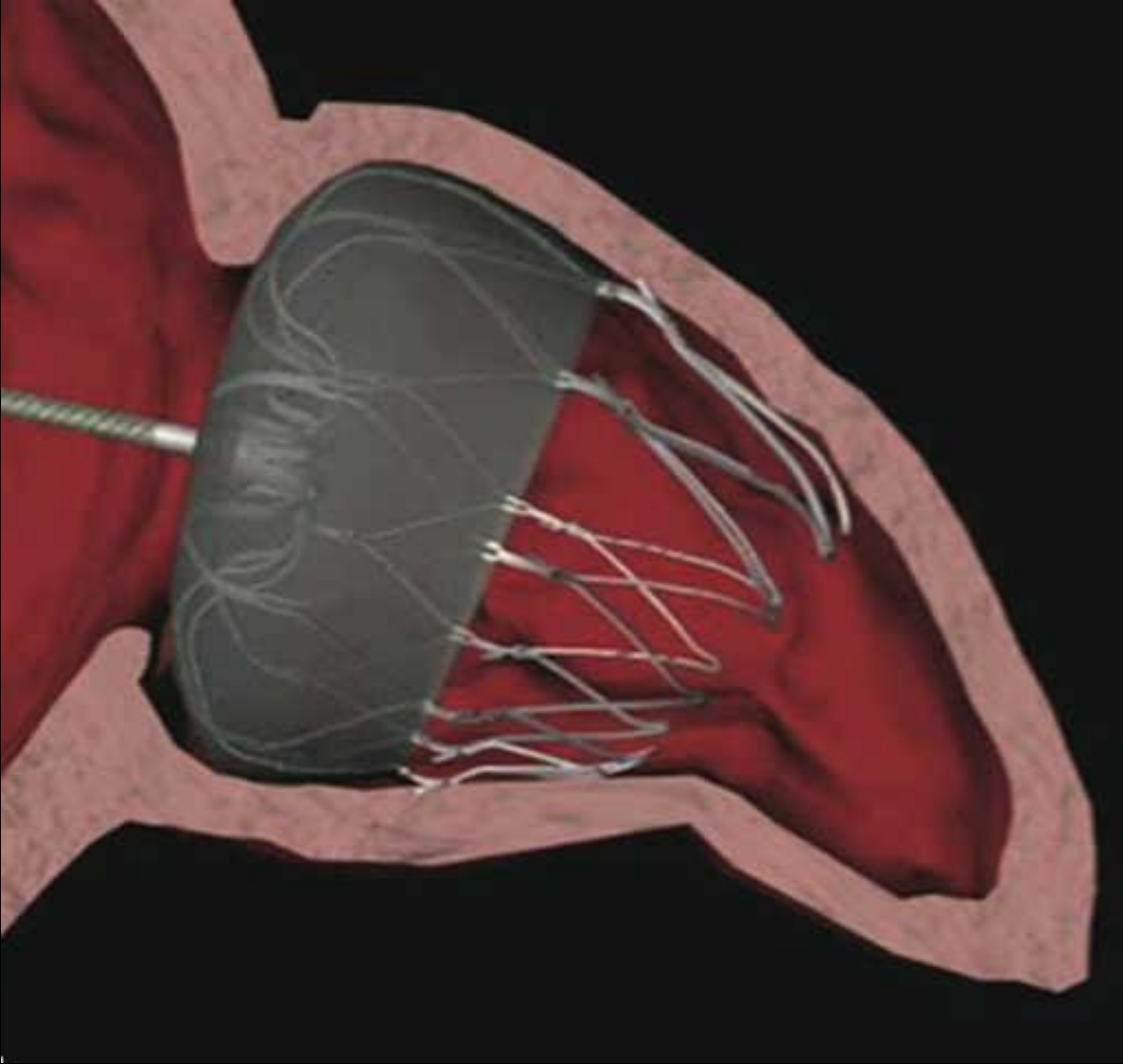




# Use of CT for Procedural Planning



# Watchman



# Amulet

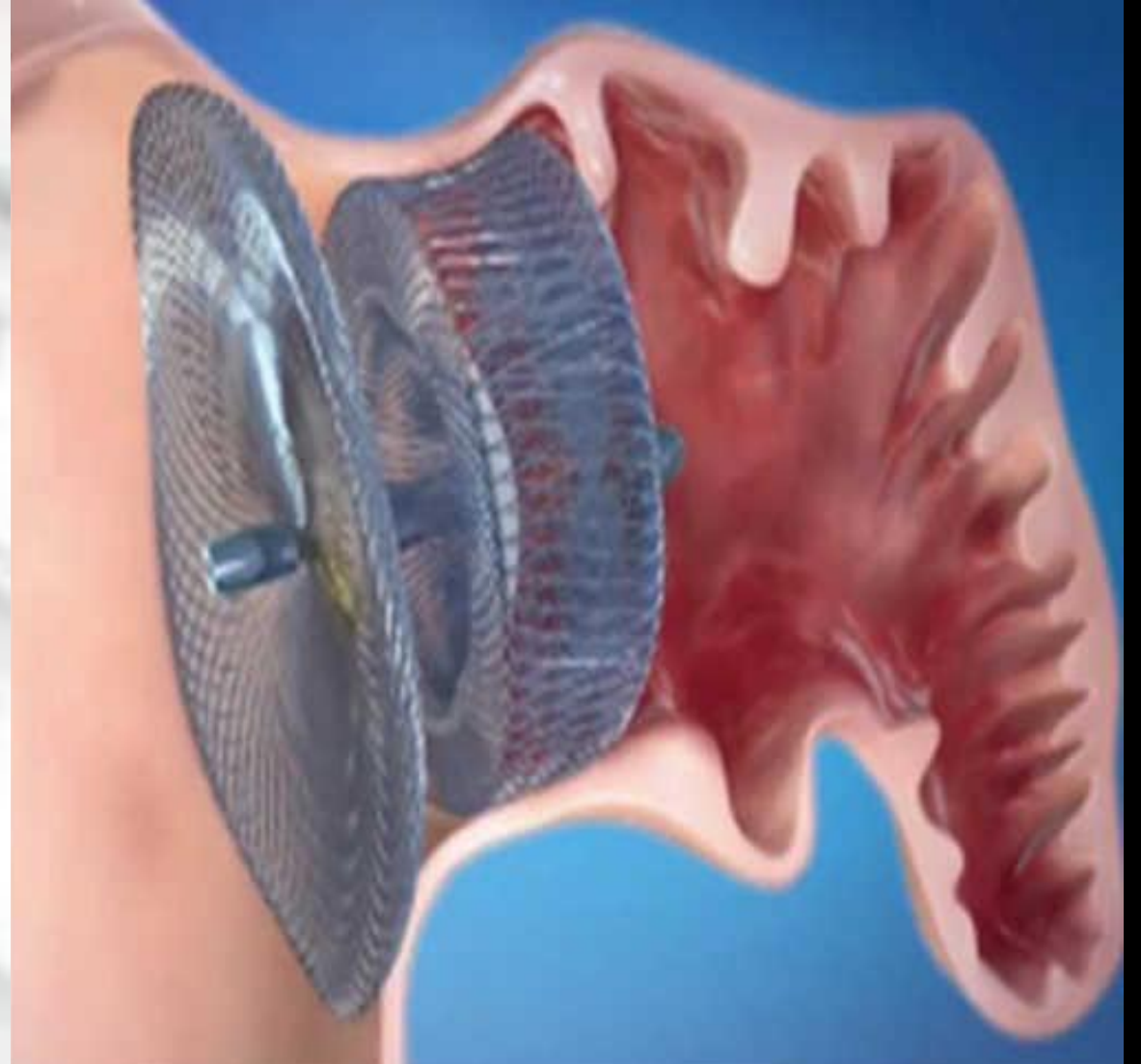




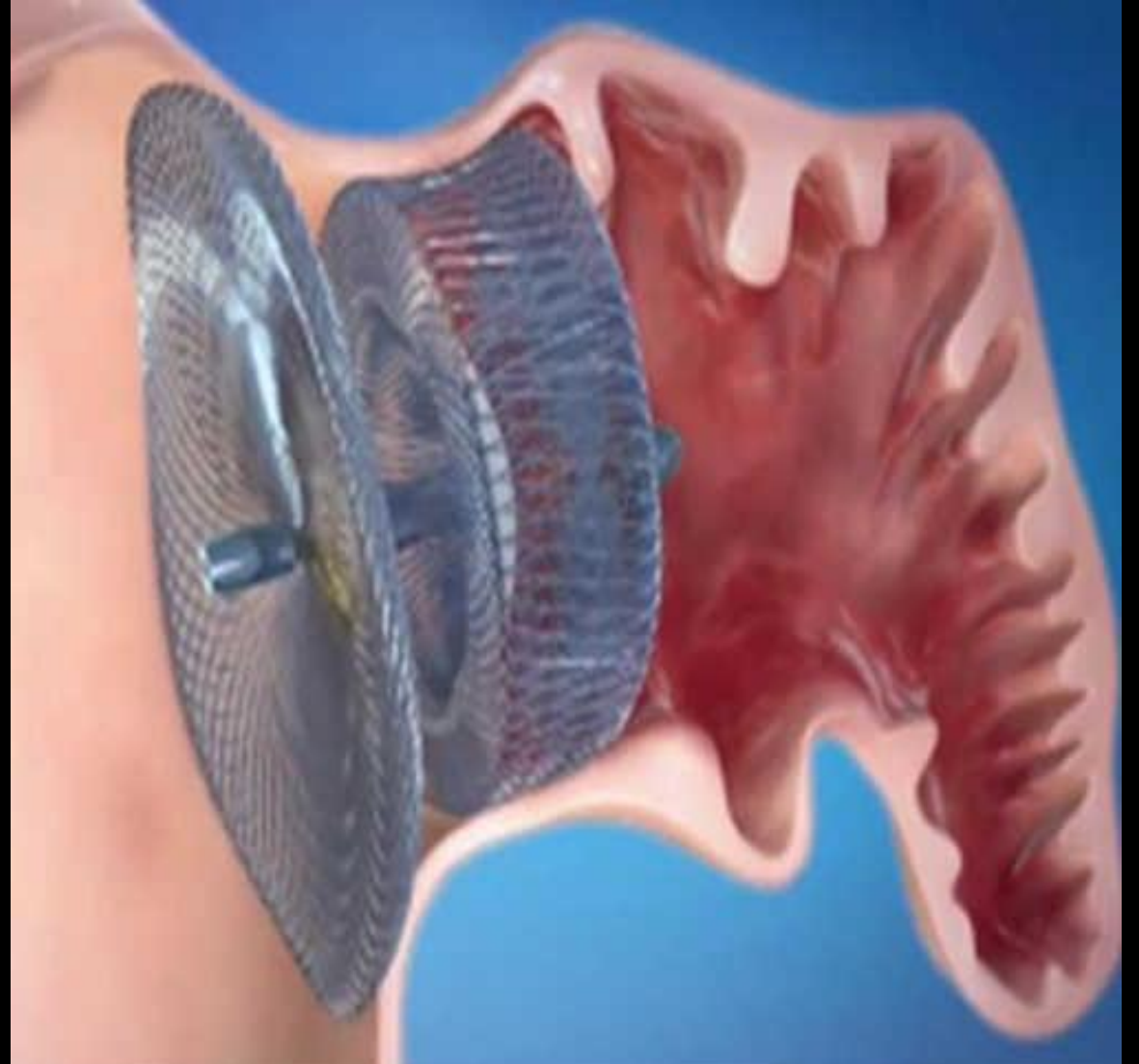
# Watchman

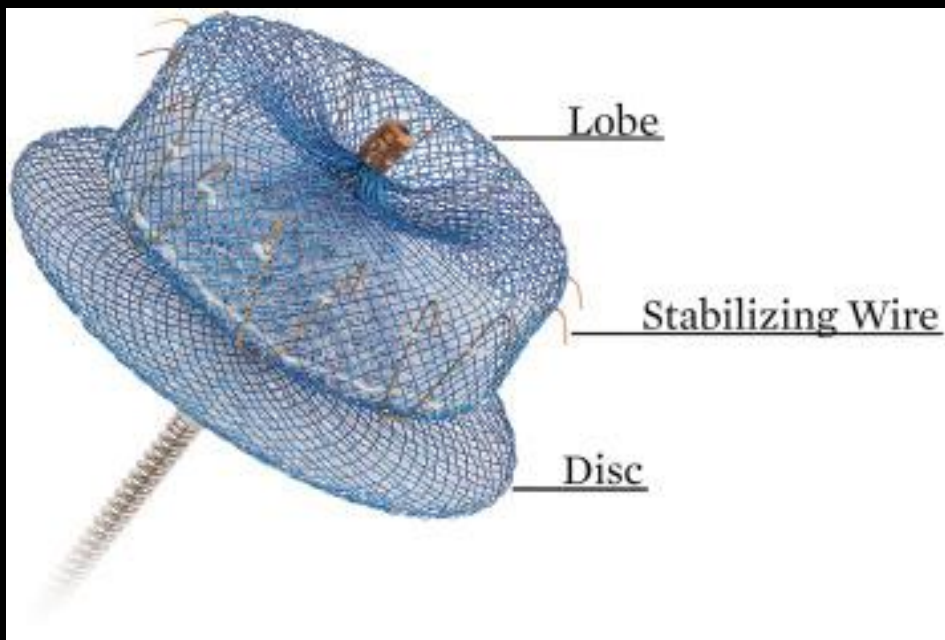


# Amulet

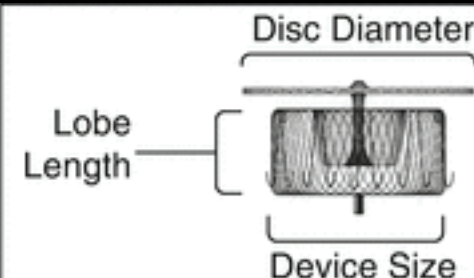


# Amulet



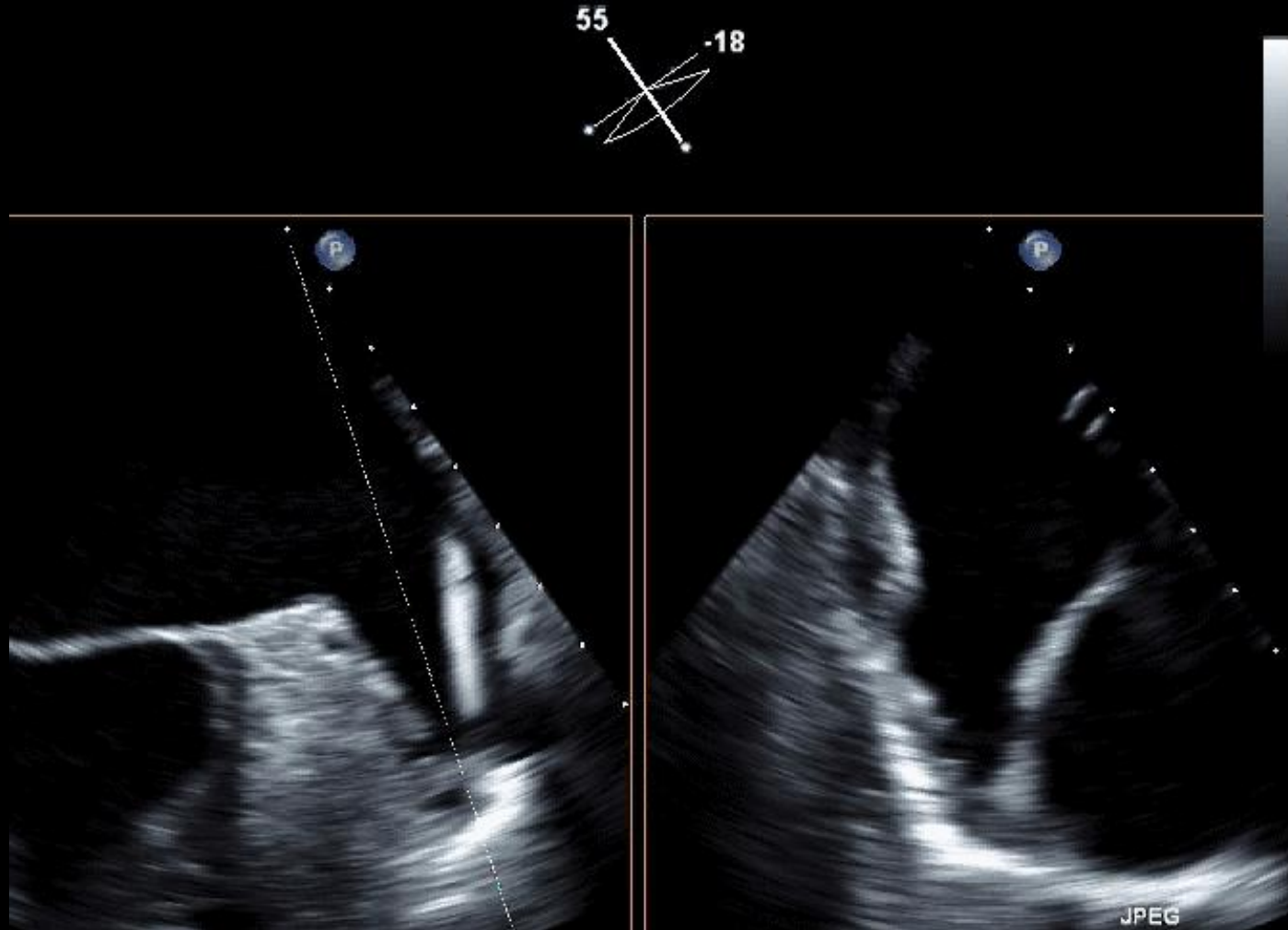


**AMPLATZER AMULET SIZING CHART**



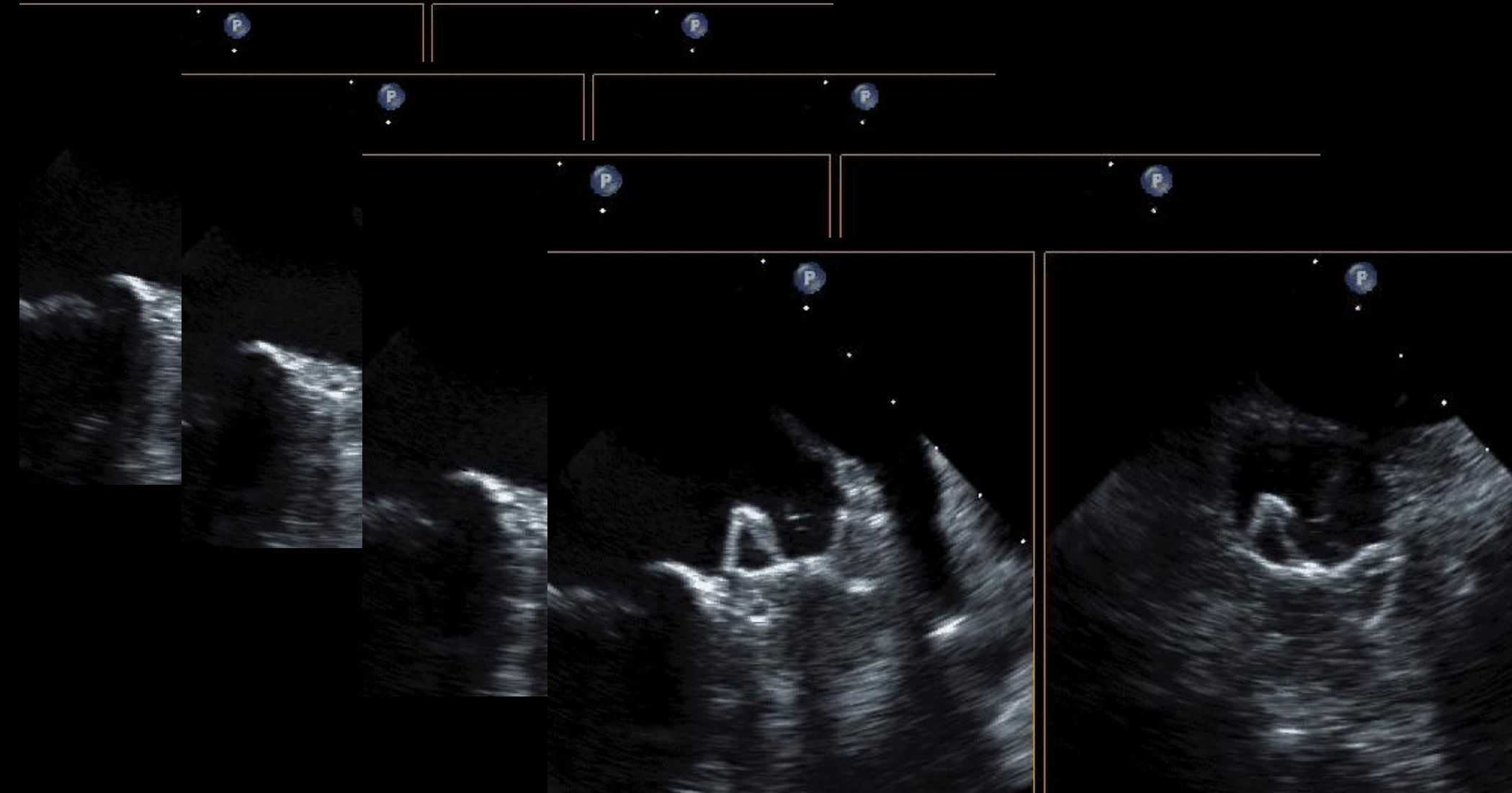
Maximum Landing Zone Width (mm)	Amulet™ Device Size	Lobe Length (mm)	Minimum LAA Depth (mm)	Disc Diameter (mm)	Sheath Diameter
11.0 – 13.0	16	7.5	≥10	22	12 F or 14 F (with adaptor)
13.0 – 15.0	18	7.5	≥10	24	
15.0 – 17.0	20	7.5	≥10	26	
17.0 – 19.0	22	7.5	≥10	28	
19.0 – 22.0	25	10	≥12	32	
22.0 – 25.0	28	10	≥12	35	14 F
25.0 – 28.0	31	10	≥12	38	
28.0 – 31.0	34	10	≥12	41	

# Coaxial Sheath

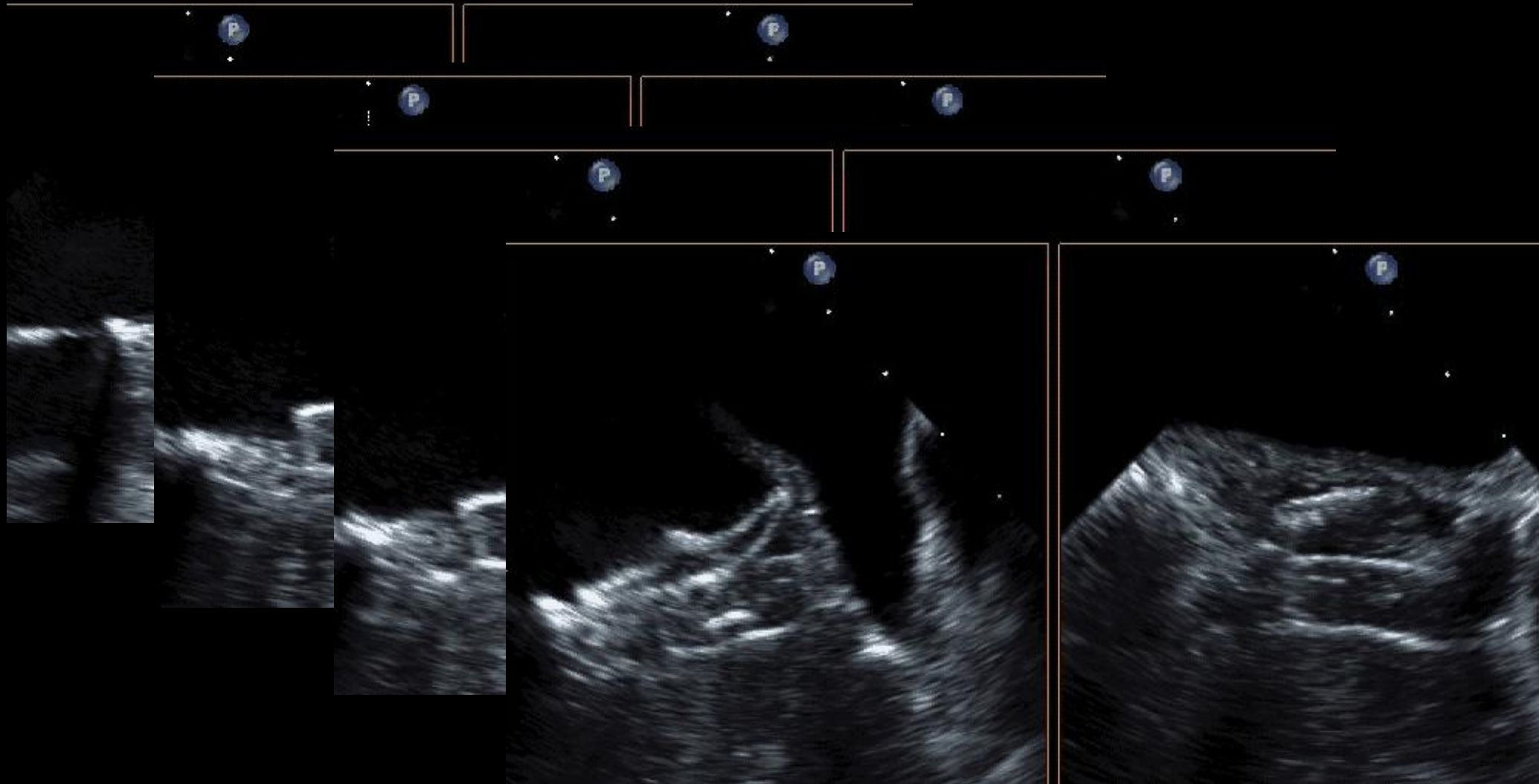




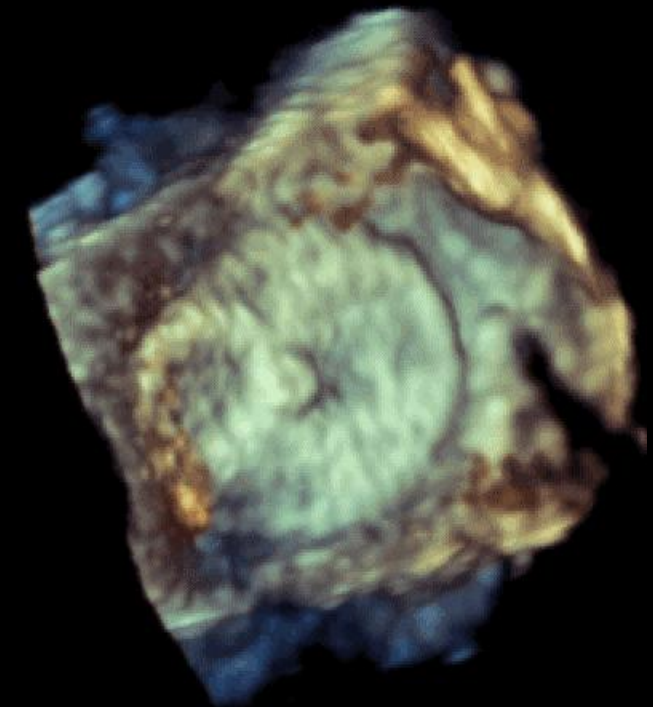
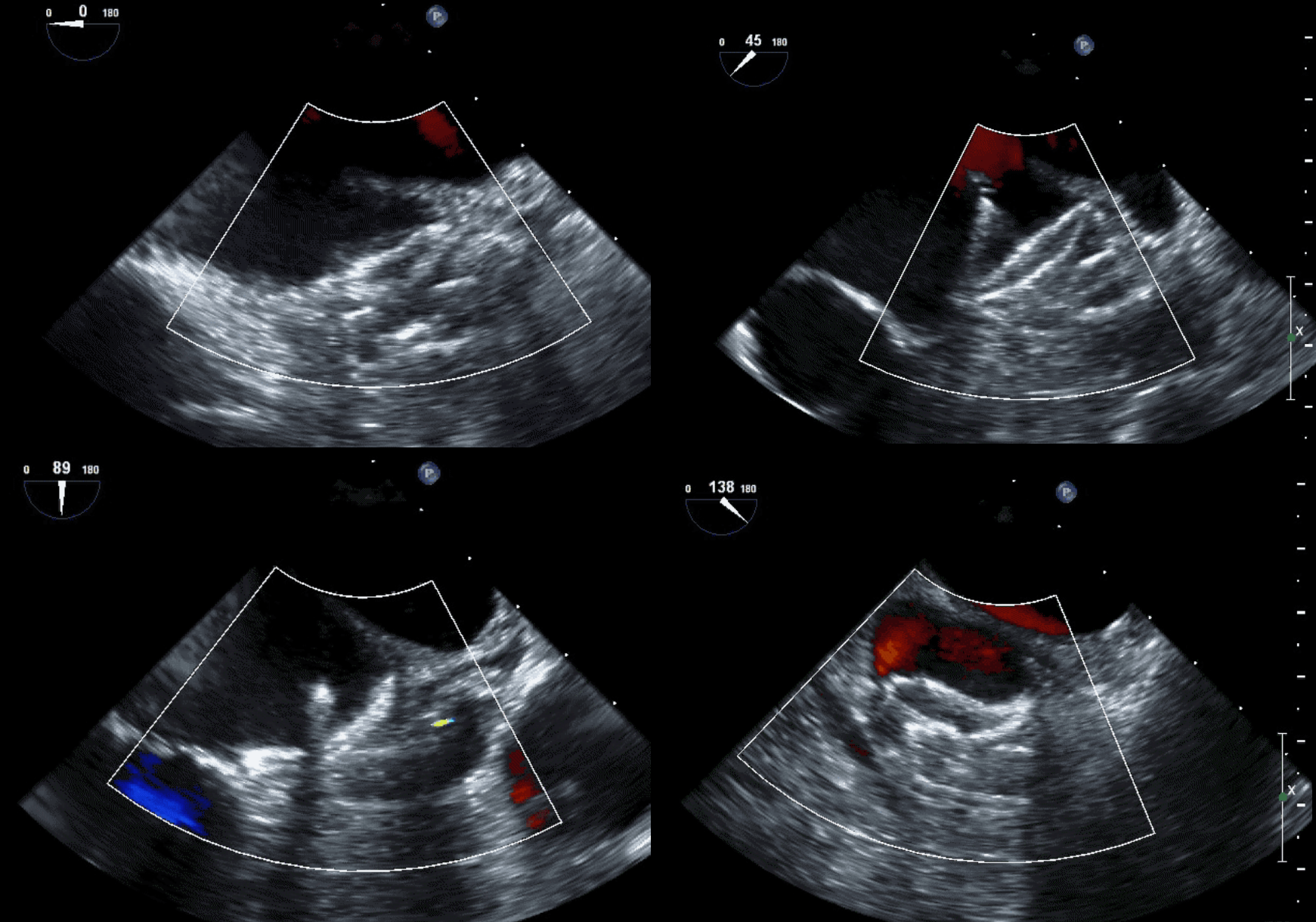
# Amulet Implant Stages



# Amulet Implant Stages

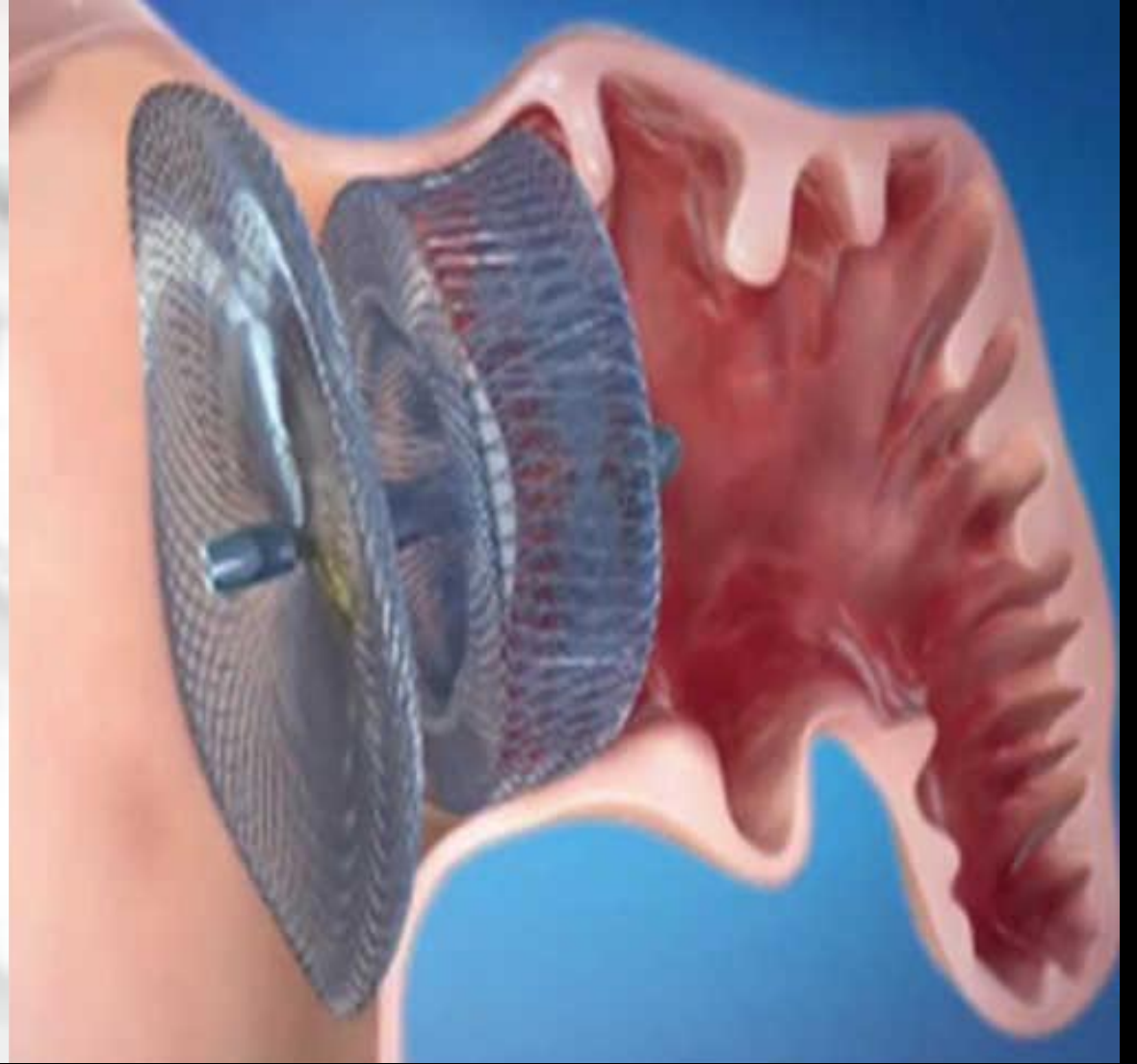


# Amulet Implant Assessment



All 4 views  
Nyquist 50cm/s











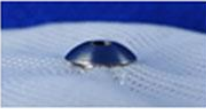
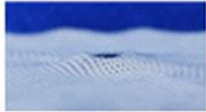








# Watchman Old device

First generation percutaneous left atrial appendage closure device		Next generation percutaneous left atrial appendage closure device
	Large size range and shorter device	
	Distal tines folded back	
	Greater number of struts	
 	Dual-row anchors	 
	Reduced metal exposure	

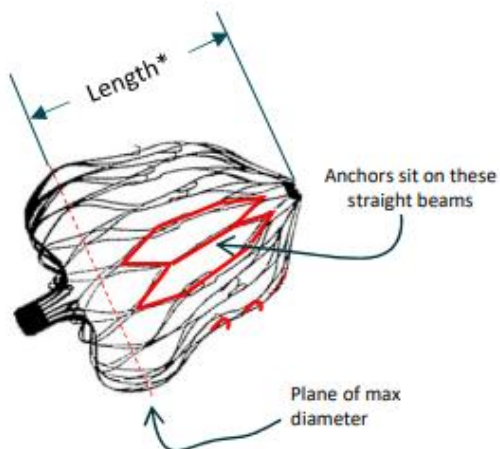
# Watchman FLX New device

# WATCHMAN FLX™ DEVICE SIZE

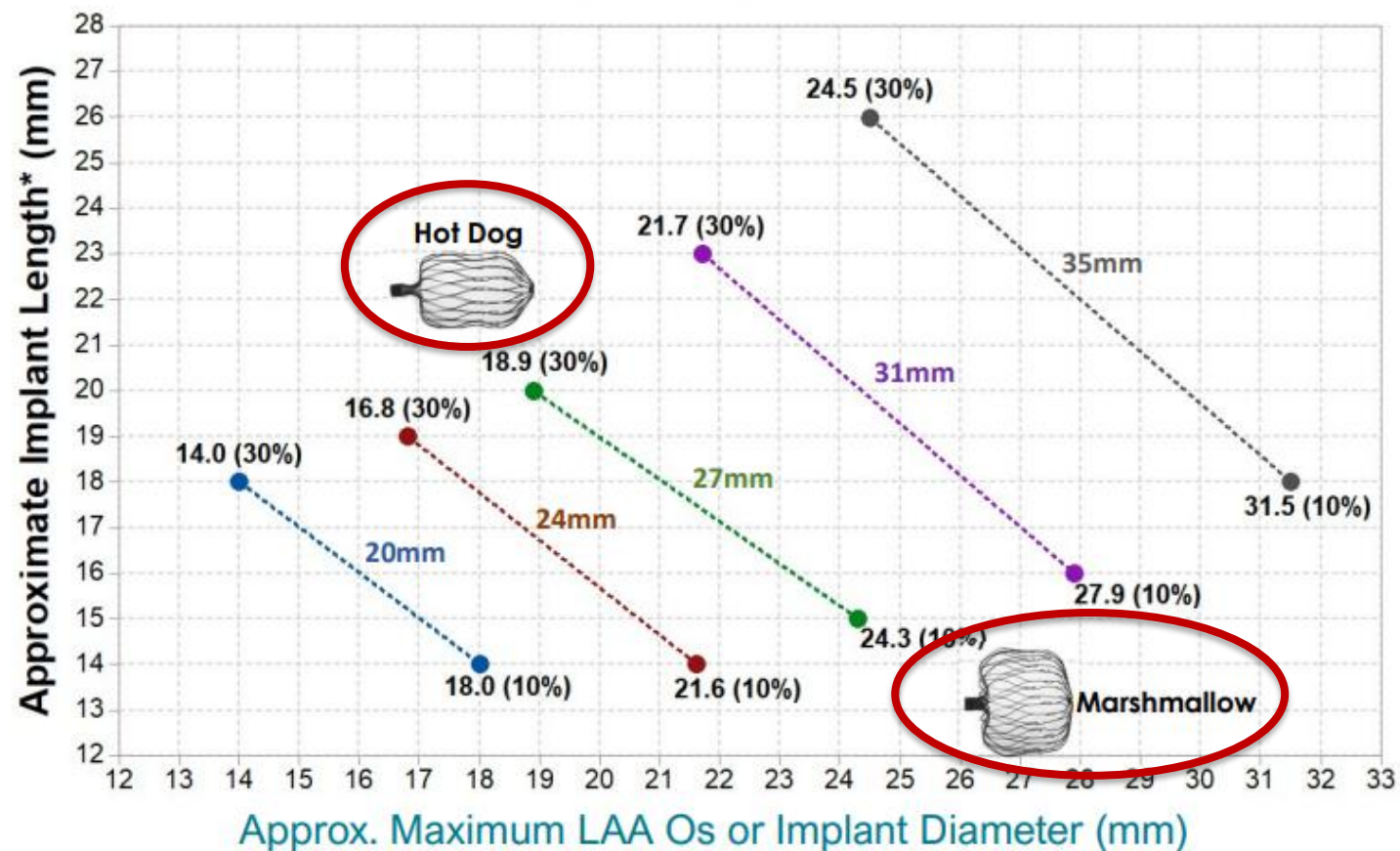
Device choice may be influenced by available depth.

Use a strategy to fill the LAA volume by considering length.

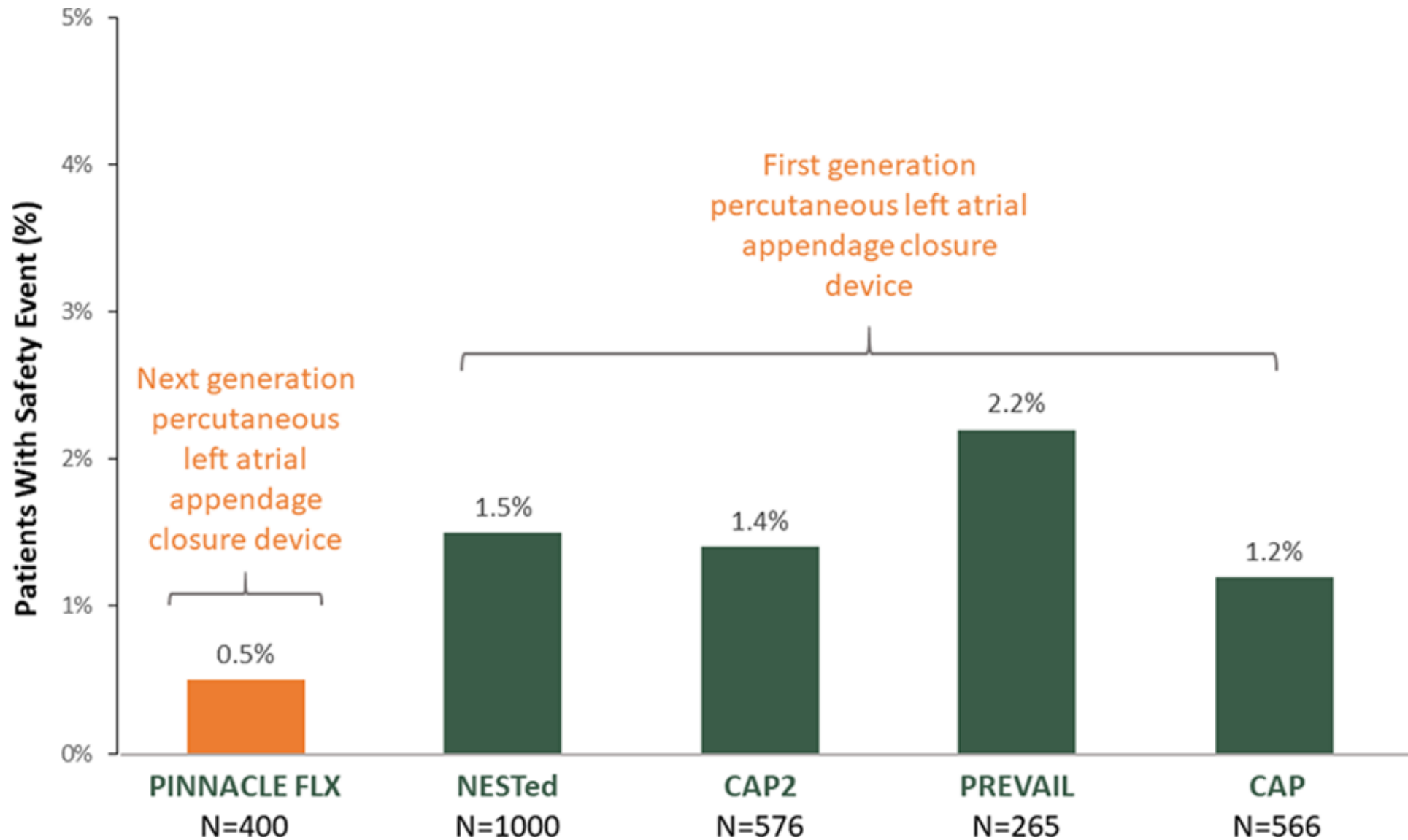
## Reference Information



FLX Length vs Implant Diameter



# Device Safety





# Implant Characteristics for FLX device

Parameter	N=400
Implant success	98.8% (395/400)
Unsuitable anatomy	3/400
Device did not meet release criteria	2/400
Procedure time, min	37.9±21.9 (400) [11.0, 174.0]
Number WATCHMAN FLX devices used per case	1.2±0.4 (400) [1.0, 4.0]
Final device size, mm	
20	11.4% (45/395)
24	26.8% (106/395)
27	31.1% (123/395)
31	22.8% (90/395)
35	7.8% (31/395)

# Watchman FLX Device Implant

TOE  
X8-2t  
32Hz  
11cm

xPlane  
55%  
55%  
50dB  
P Off  
Gen  
XRES 2



PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 37.9C

TIS 0.1

MI 0.3

M4

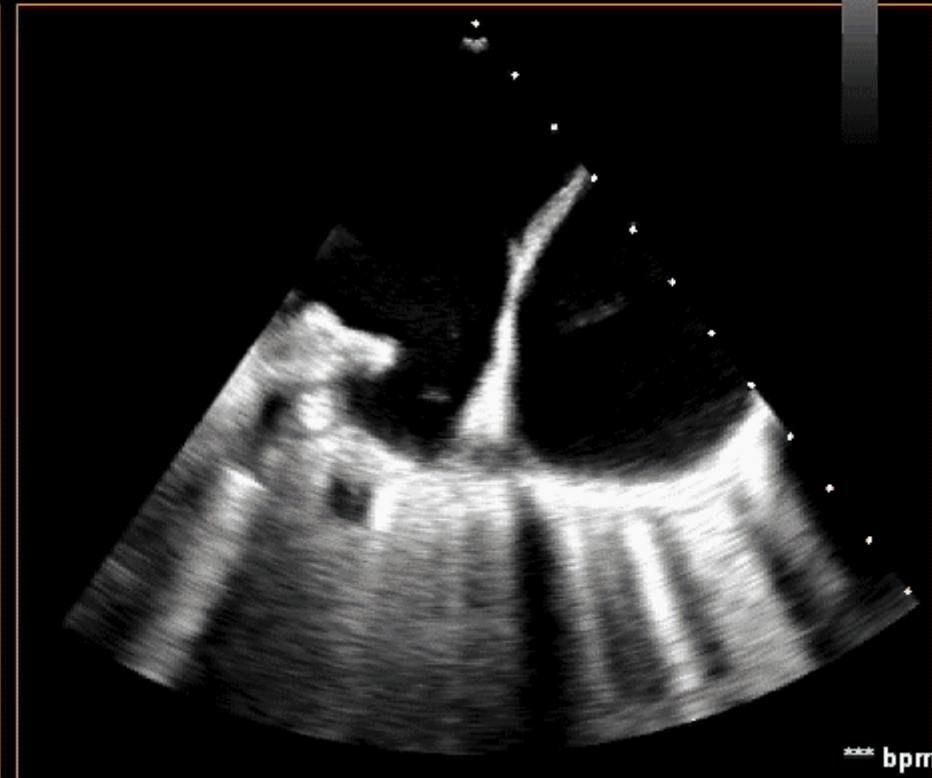
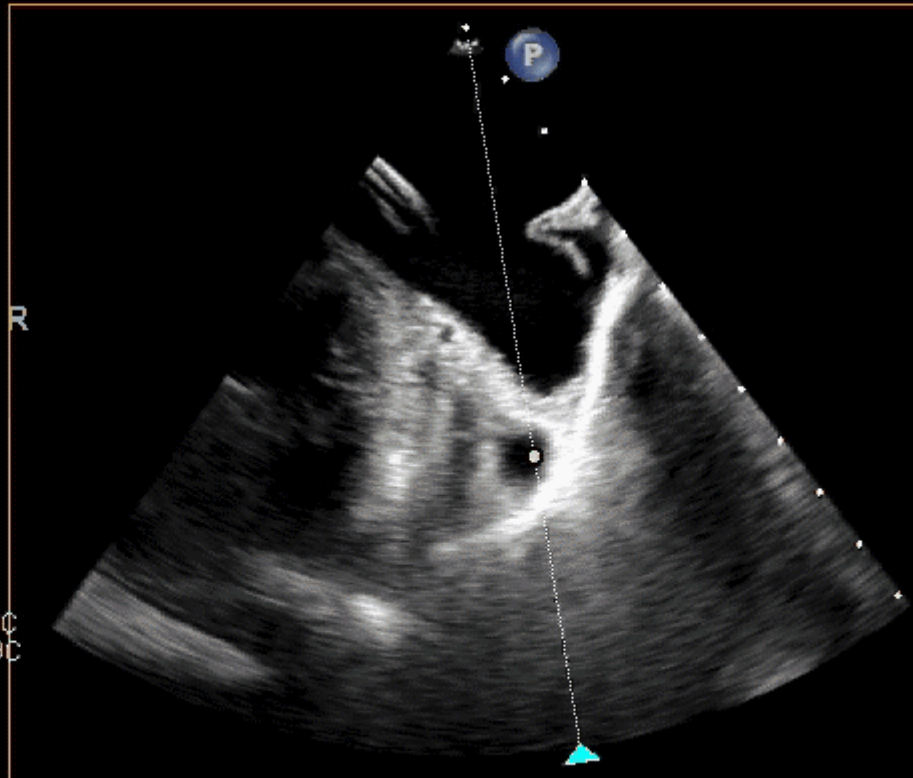
50



140



-9



# Watchman FLX Device Implant

TOE

X8-2t

32Hz

10cm

xPlane

54%

54%

50dB

P Off

Gen

XRES 2

TIS0.1

MI 0.7

M4

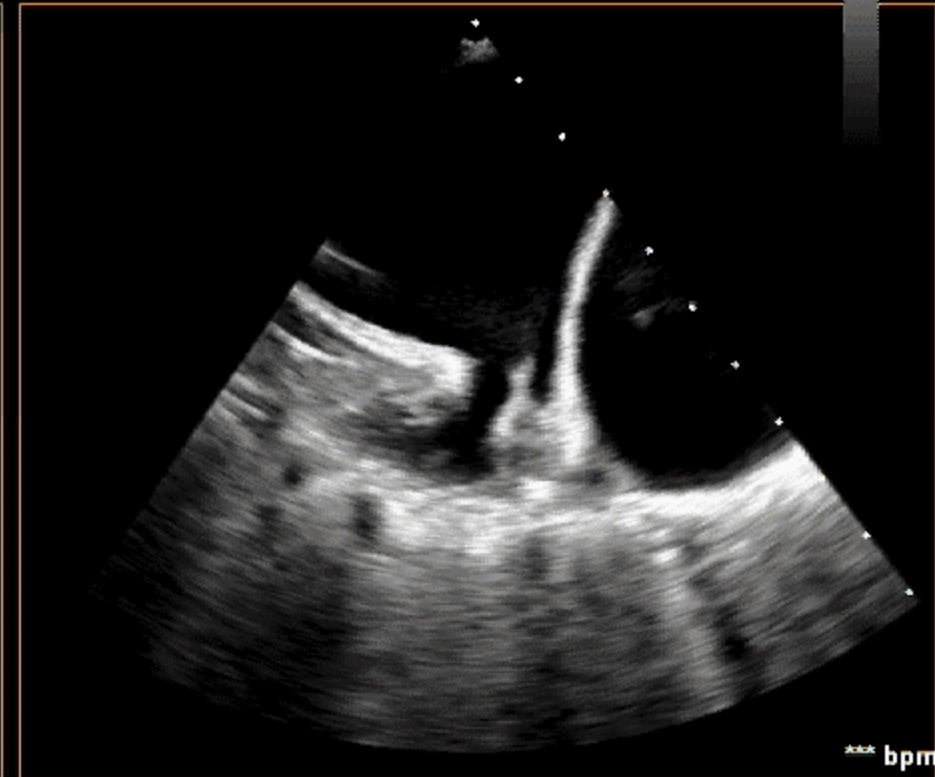
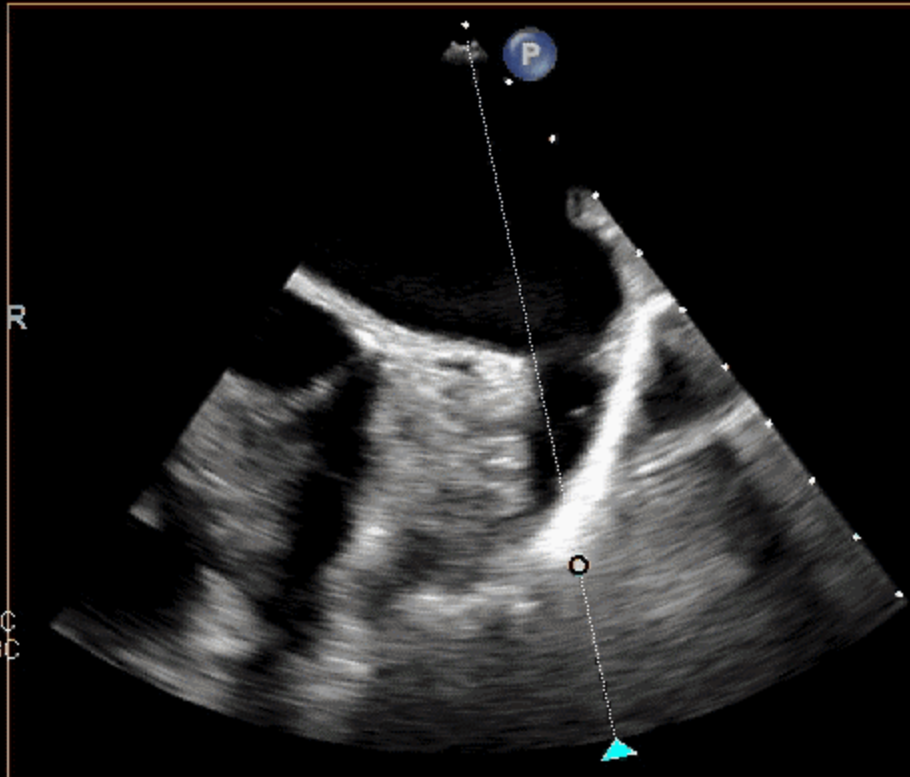
50

140

-12



PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 37.8C



\*\*\* bpm



# Watchman FLX Device Implant

TOE

X8-2t

32Hz

10cm

xPlane

54%

54%

50dB

P Off

Gen

XRES 2



PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 37.6C

TIS 0.1

MI 0.7

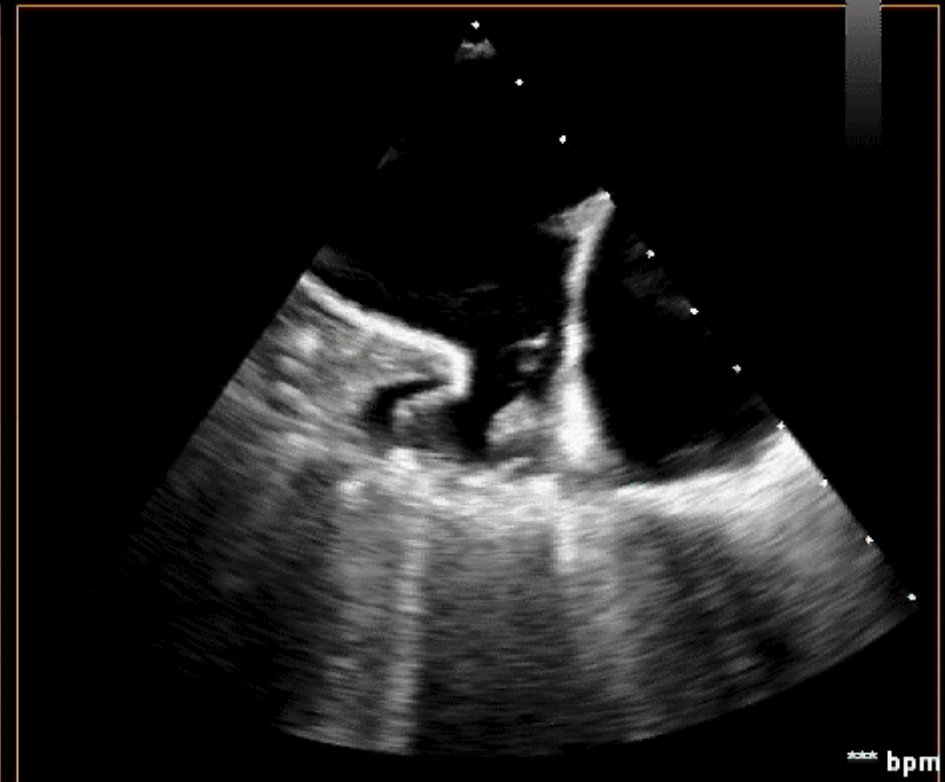
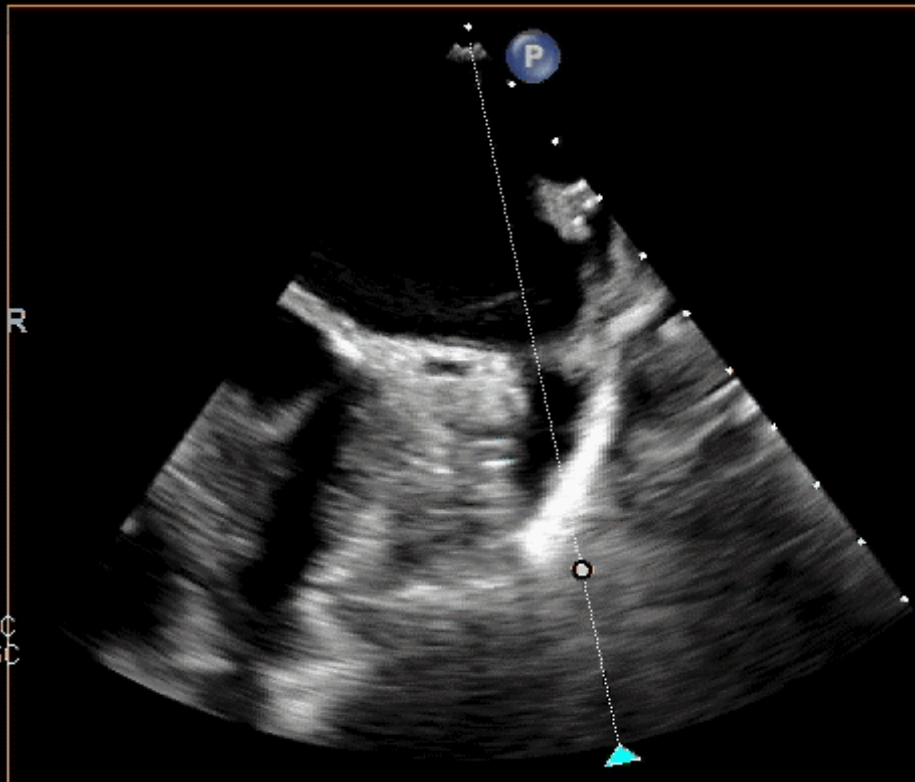
M4

50



140

-12



# Watchman FLX Device Implant

TOE

X8-2t

32Hz

10cm

xPlane

54%

54%

50dB

P Off

Gen

XRES 2

TIS 0.1

MI 0.3

M4

50

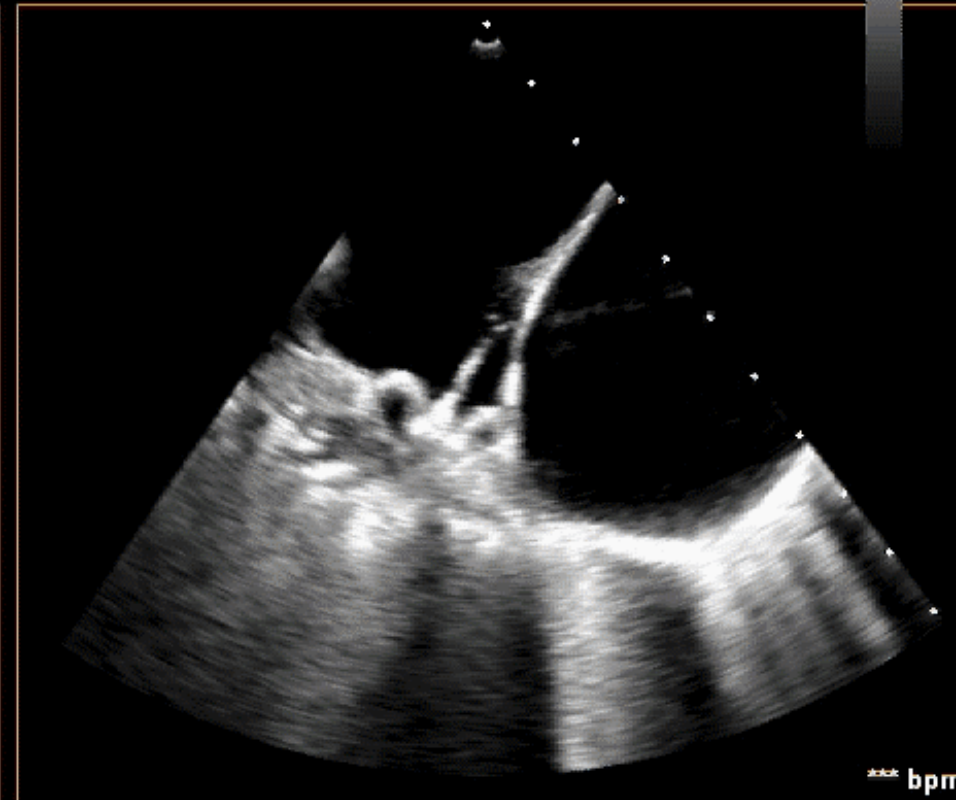
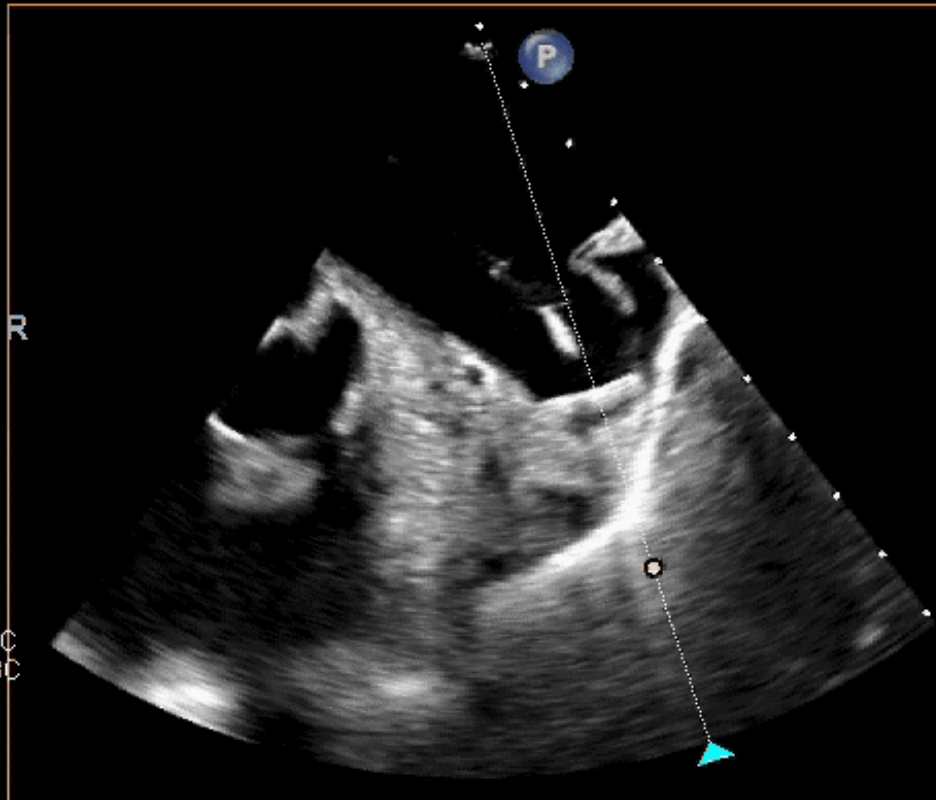


140

-18



PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 37.8C



\*\*\* bpm

# Watchman FLX Device Implant

TOE

X8-2t

12Hz

10cm

xPlane

56%

56%

50dB

P Off

Gen

XRES 2

CF

39%

5772Hz

WF 519Hz

4.4MHz

G

P

R

PAT T: 37.00

TEE T: 37.30

TIS0.6

MI 0.4

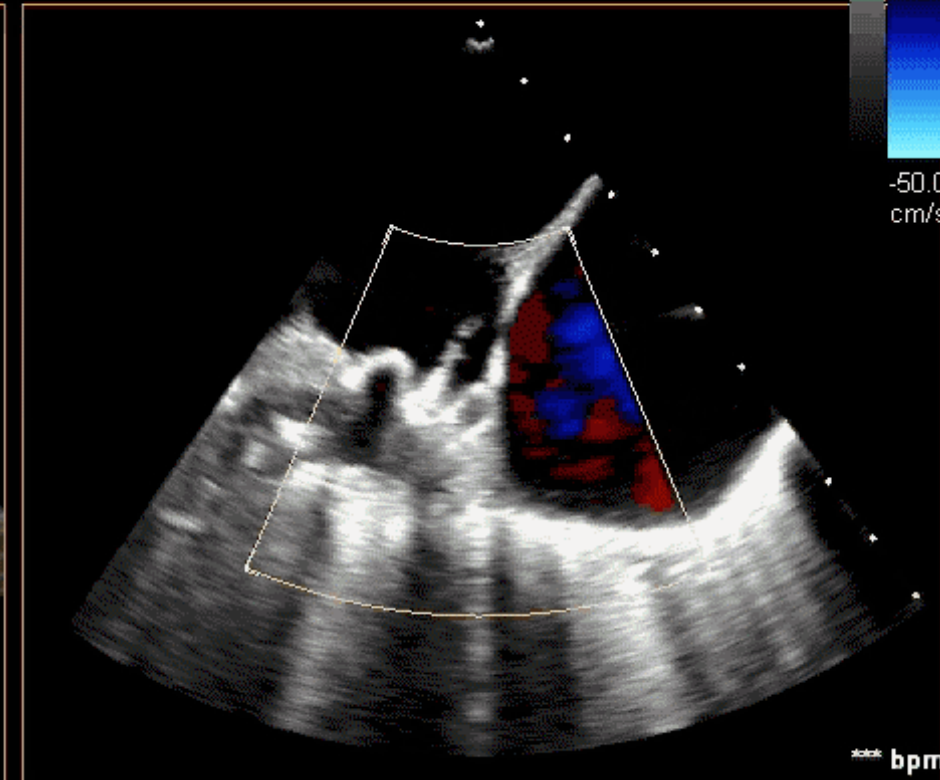
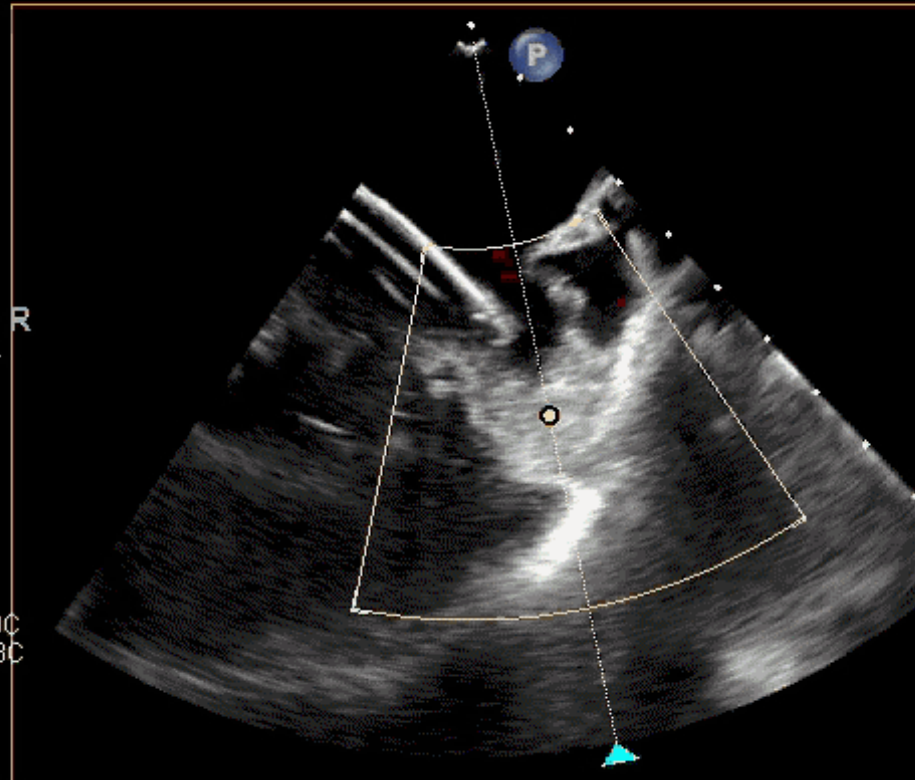
M4 M4

+50.0

-50.0

cm/s

bpm





# Watchman FLX Device Implant

TOE  
X8-2t  
32Hz  
10cm

xPlane  
54%  
54%  
50dB  
P Off  
Gen  
XRES 2

G  
P R

PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 37.8C

TIS0.1

MI 0.3

M4

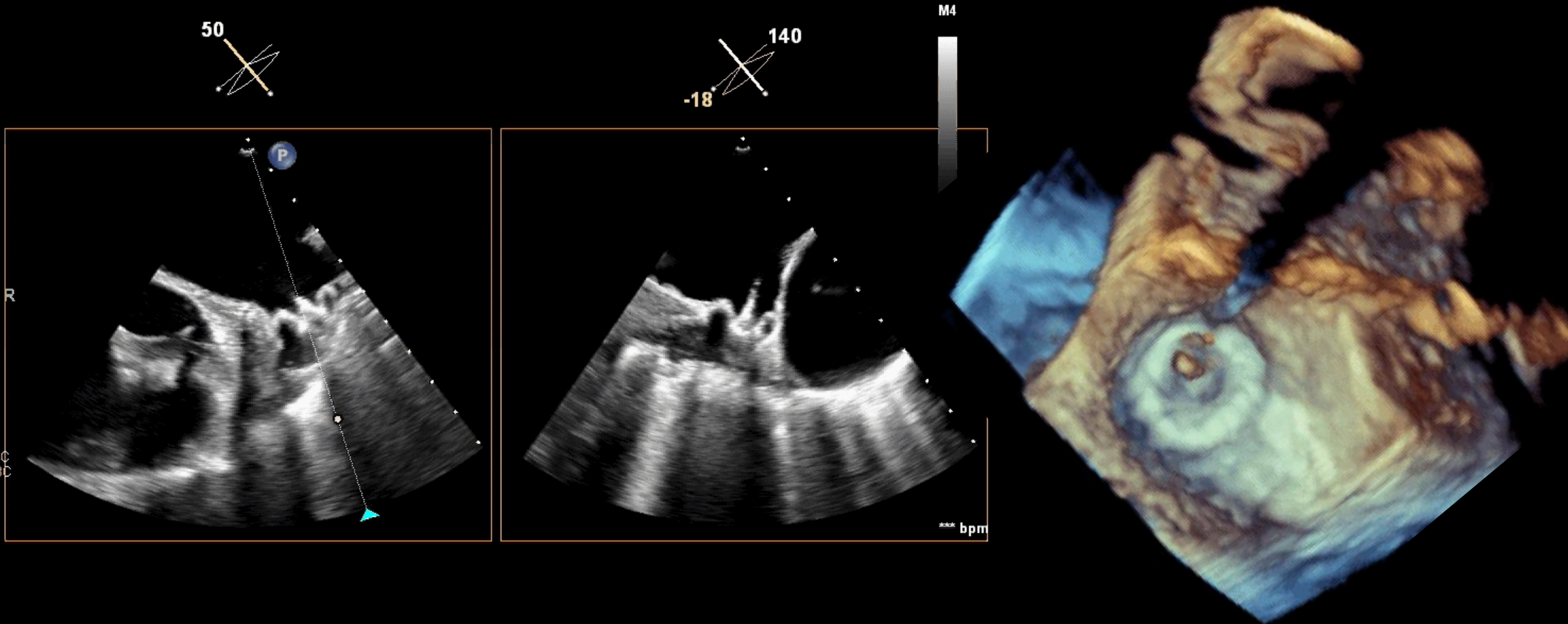
50

140

-18

P

\*\*\* bpm



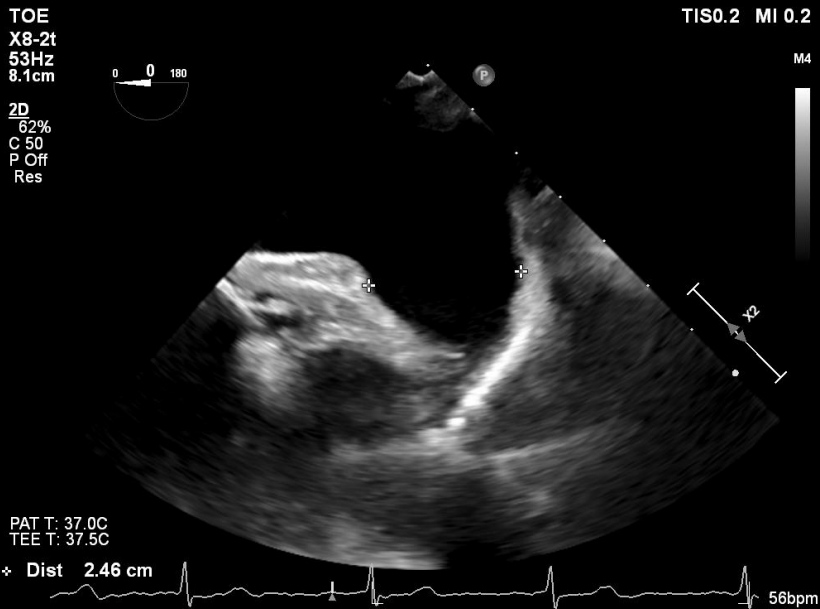
Case

# Case

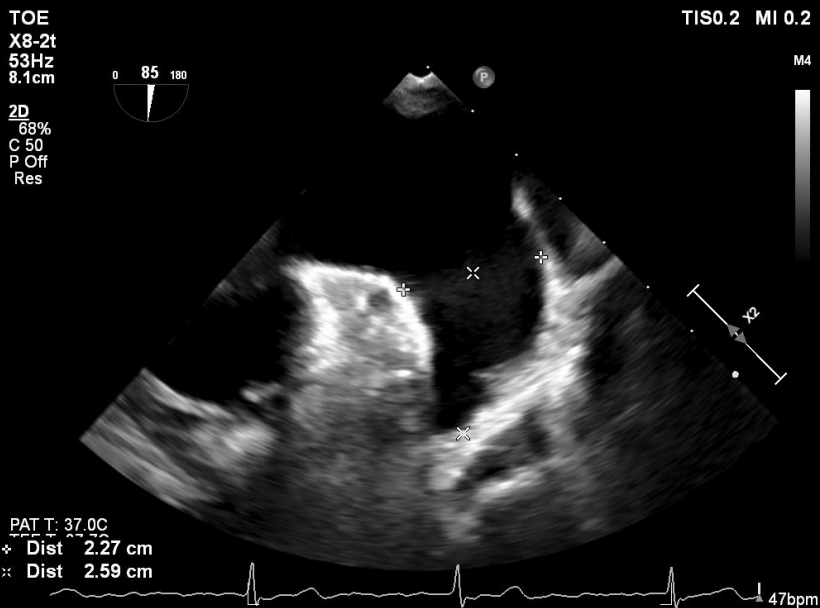
- 75 yo lady
- On apixaban for AF
- Tripped and fell
- Hit head
- Subdural haematoma requiring evacuation

# Case

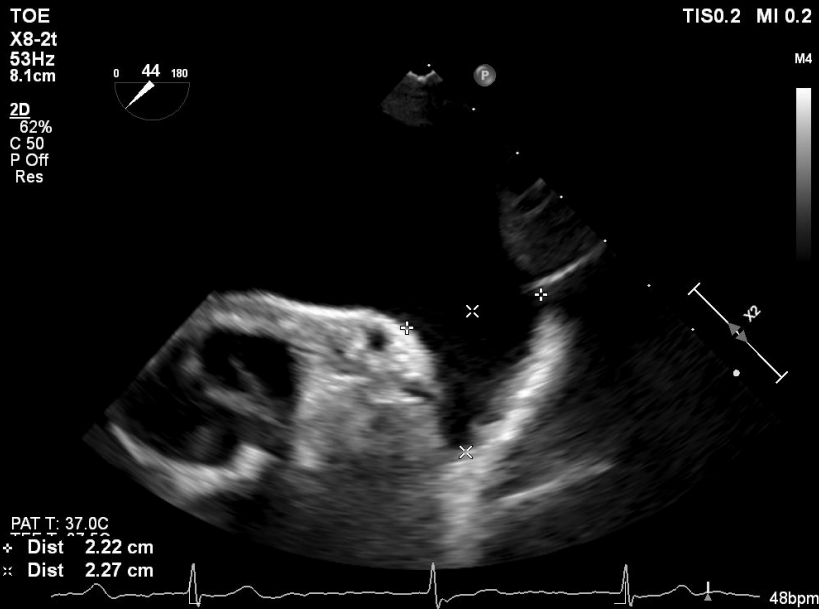
0 deg  
25mm



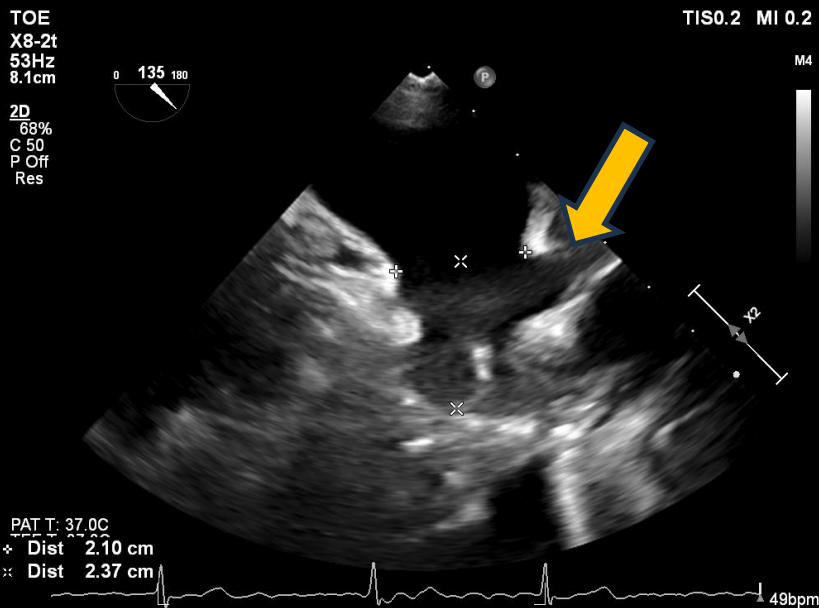
90 deg  
23mm



45 deg  
22mm

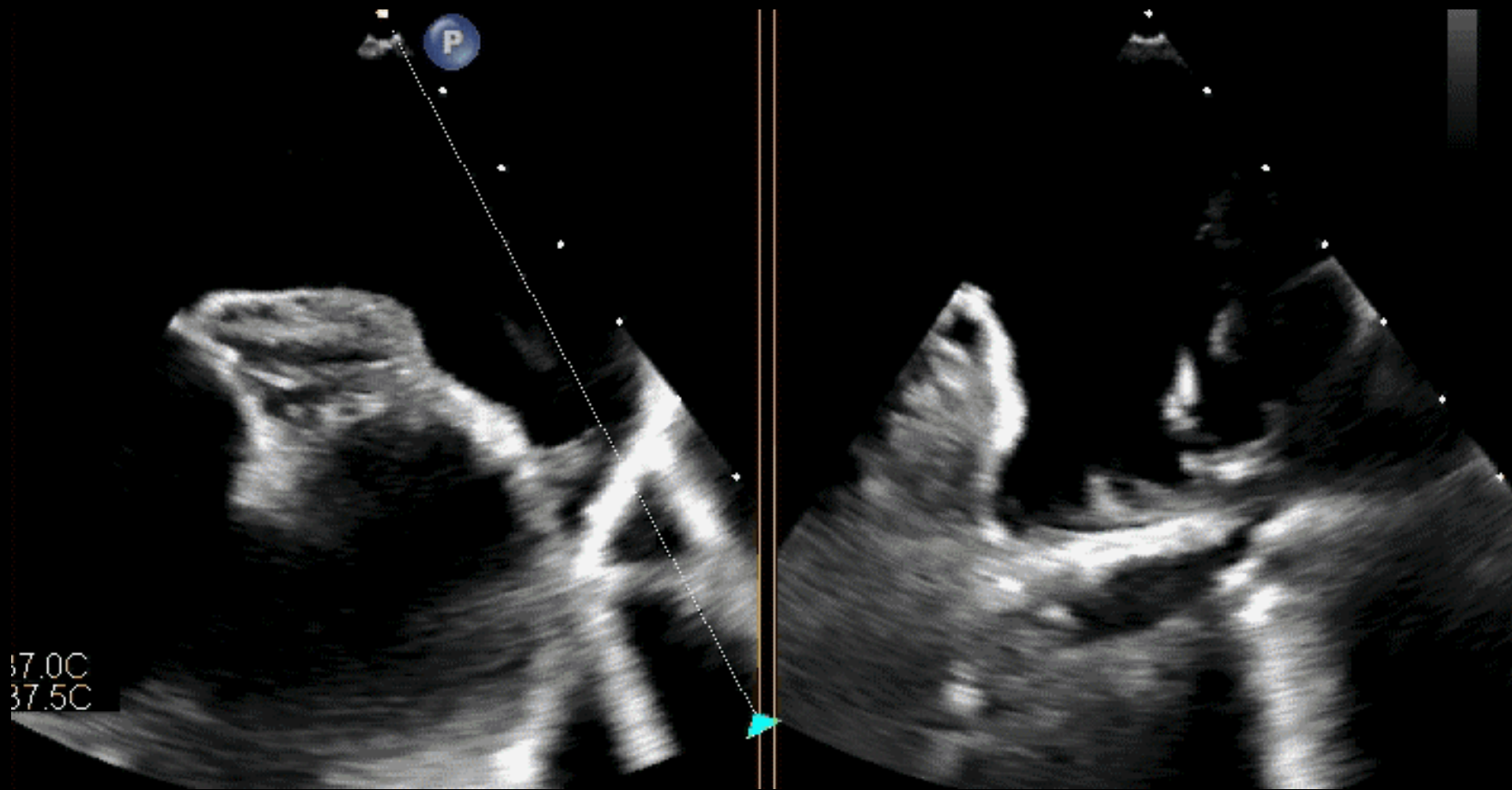


135 deg  
21mm

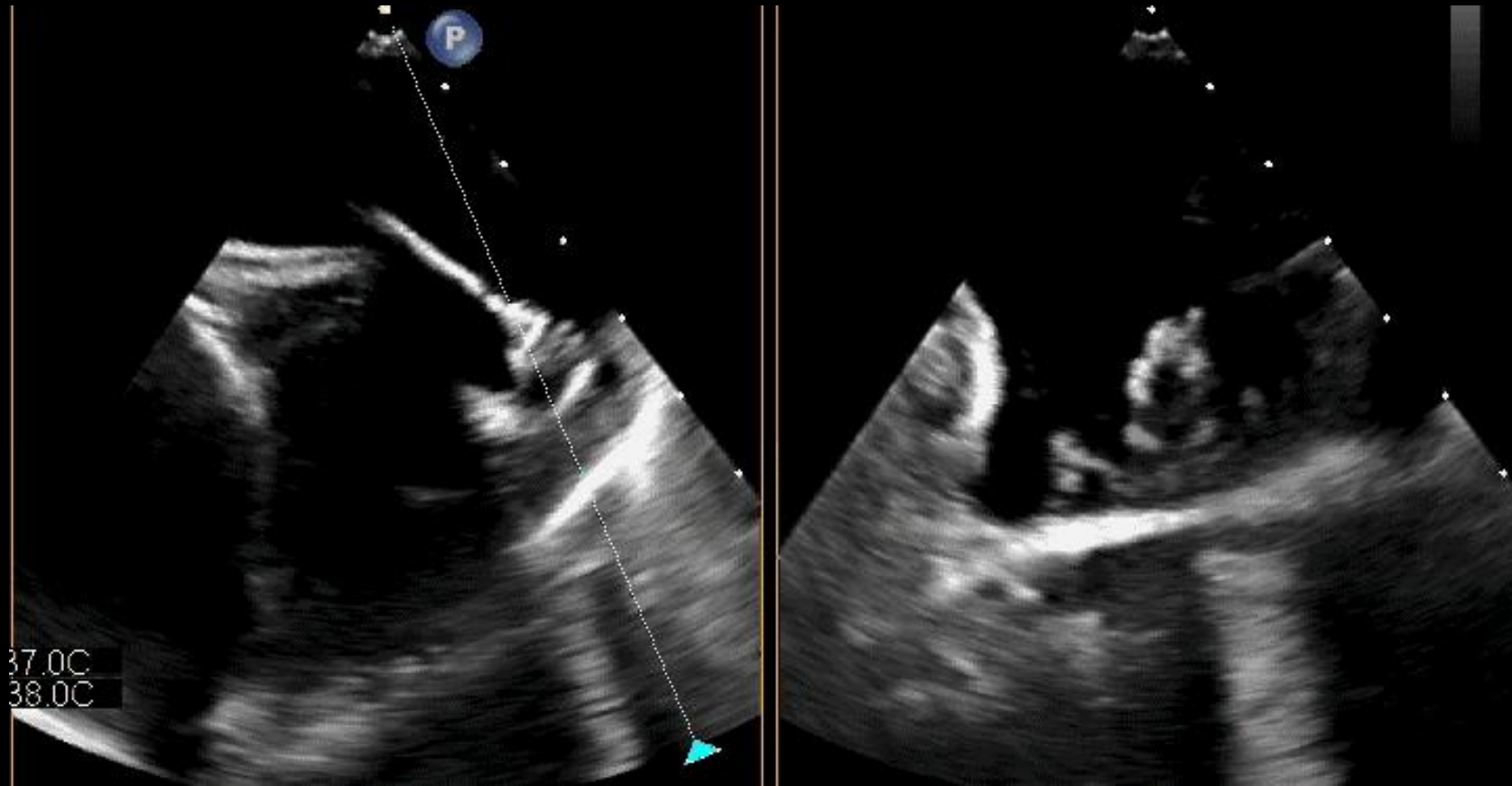




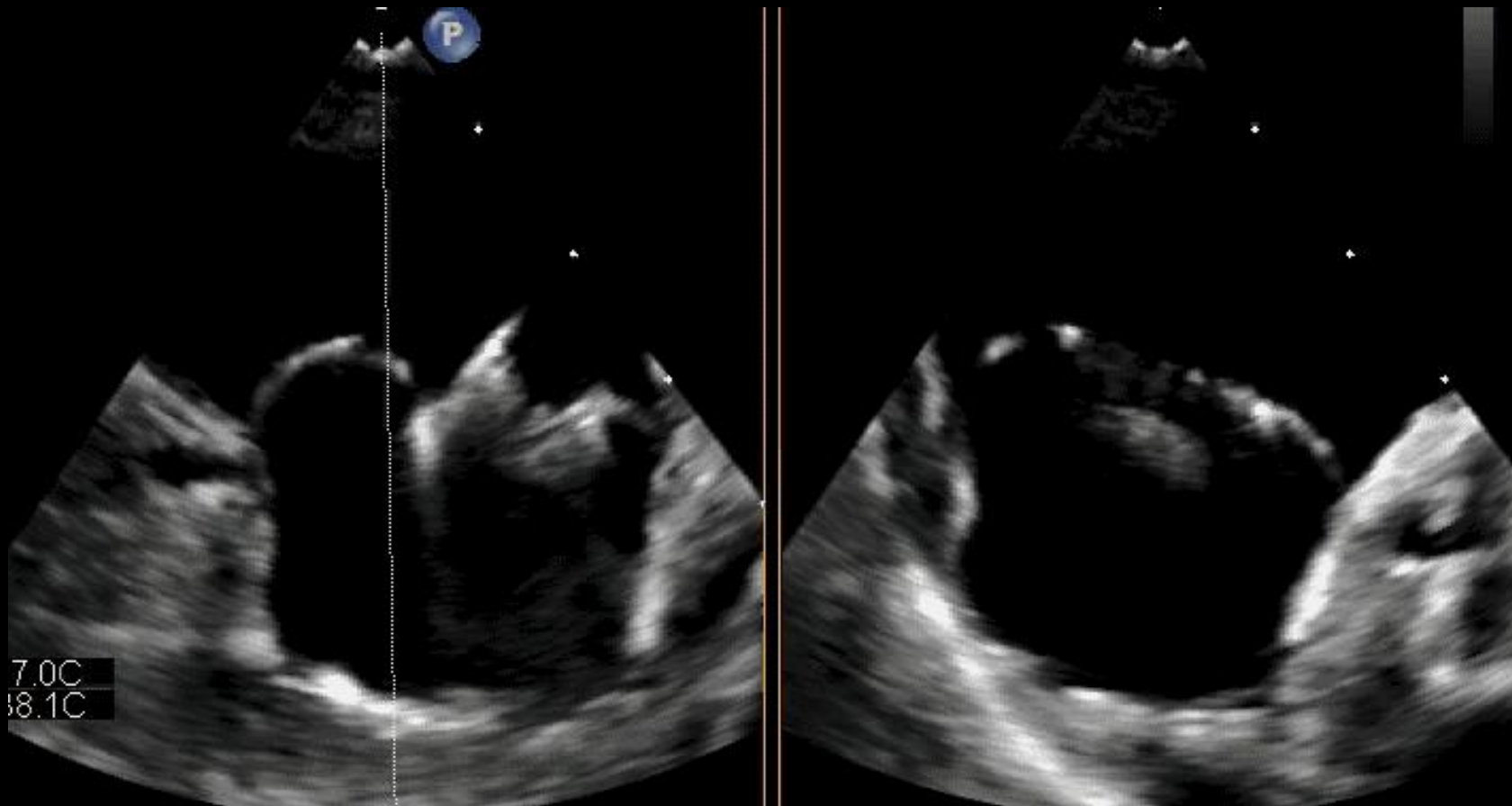
# Case



# Case – The Ball



# Case – Device Deployment



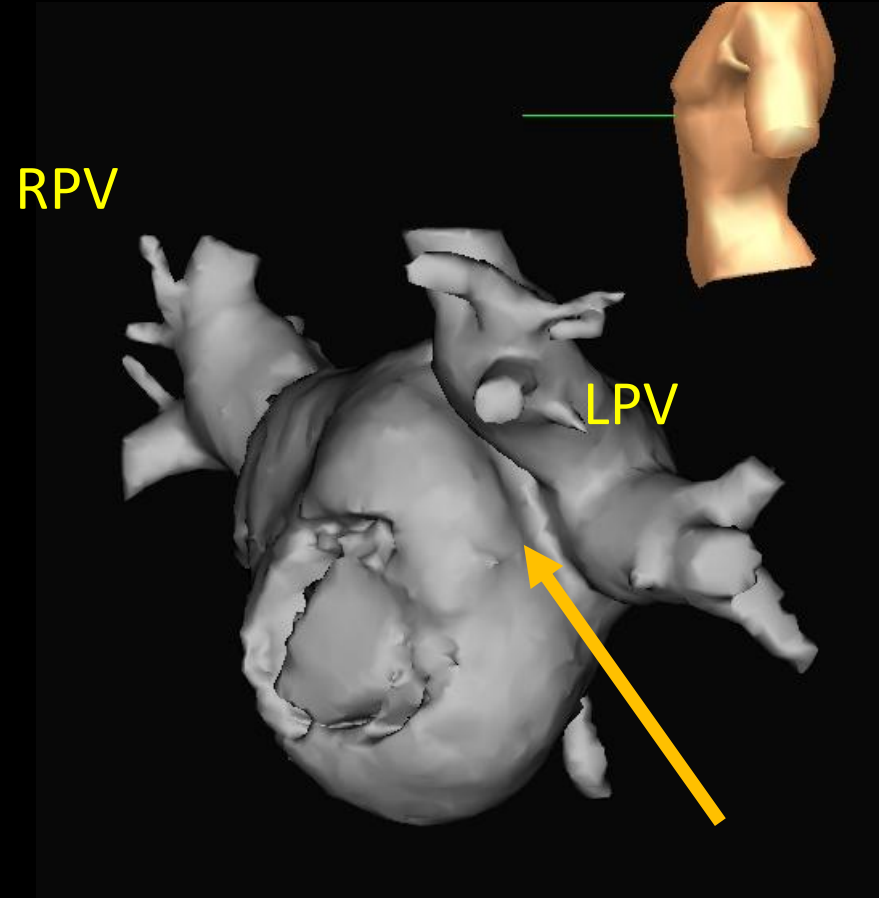
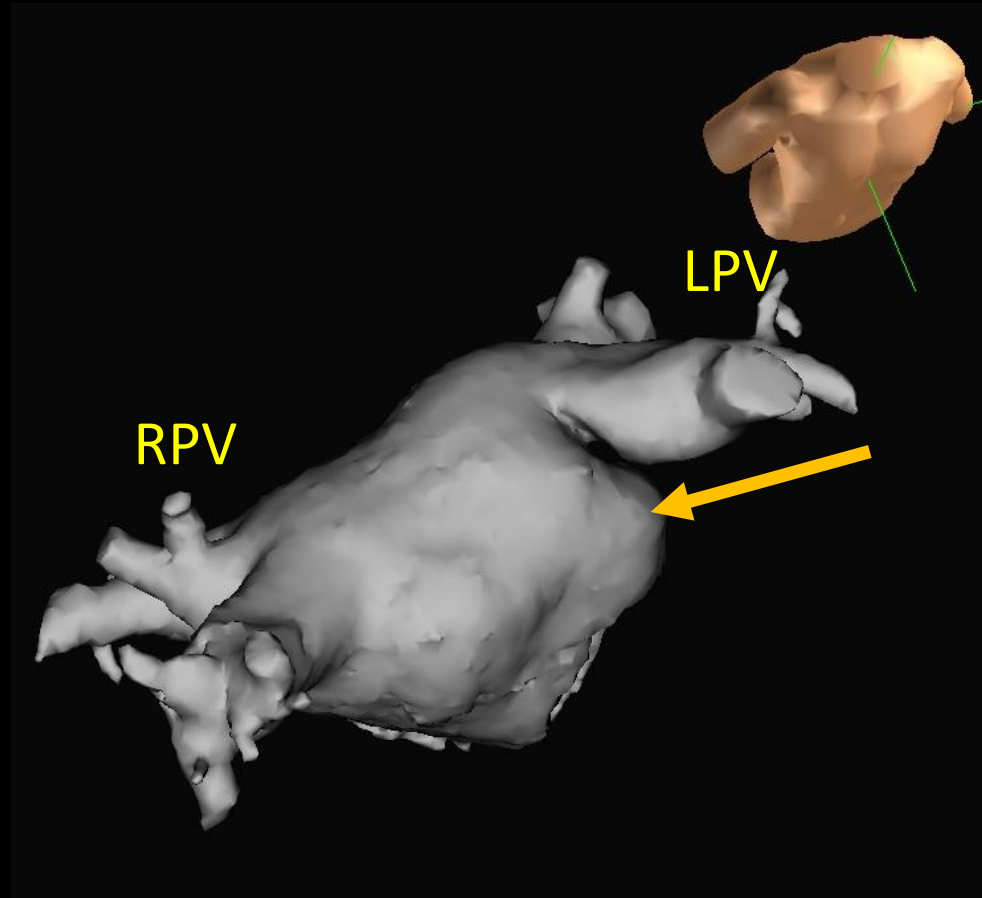
# Case – Follow Up TOE



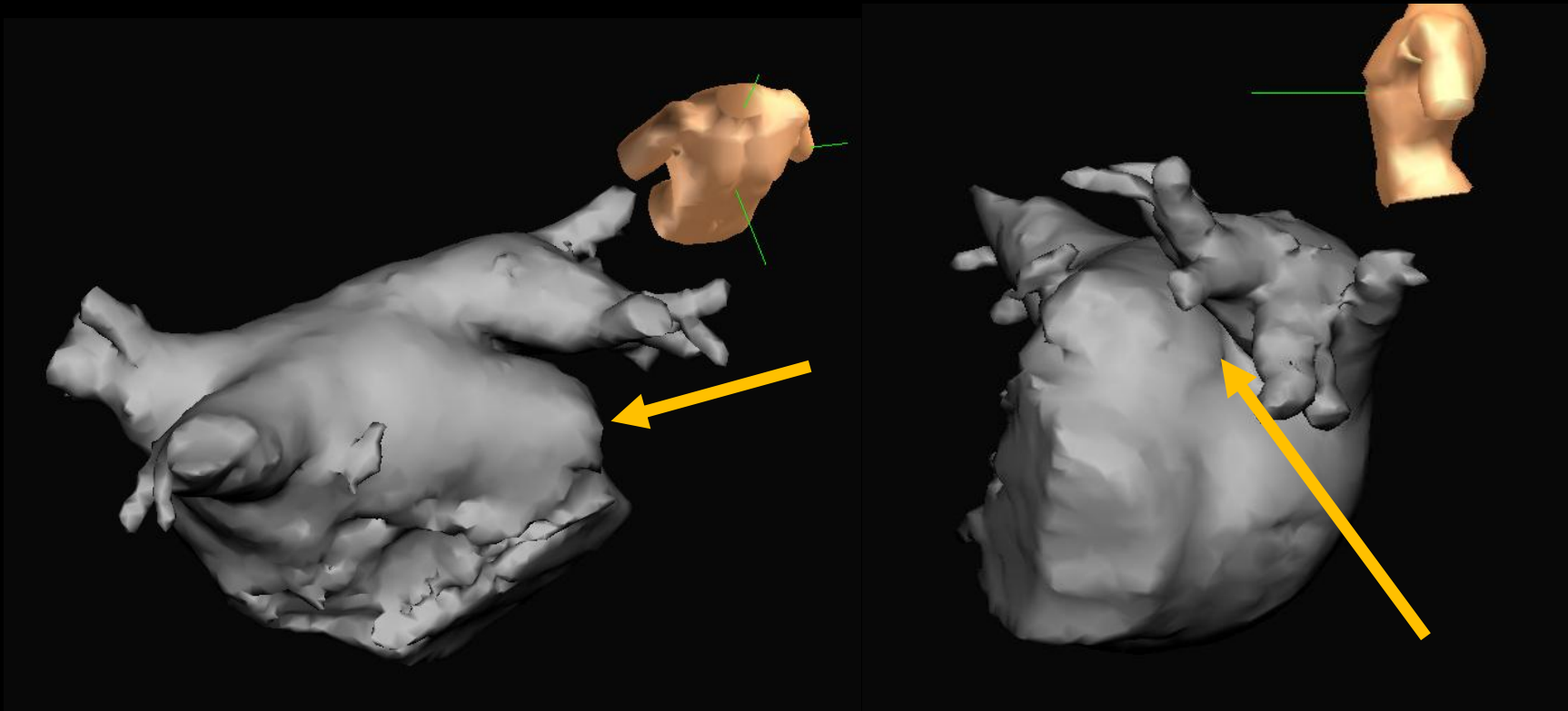


Case

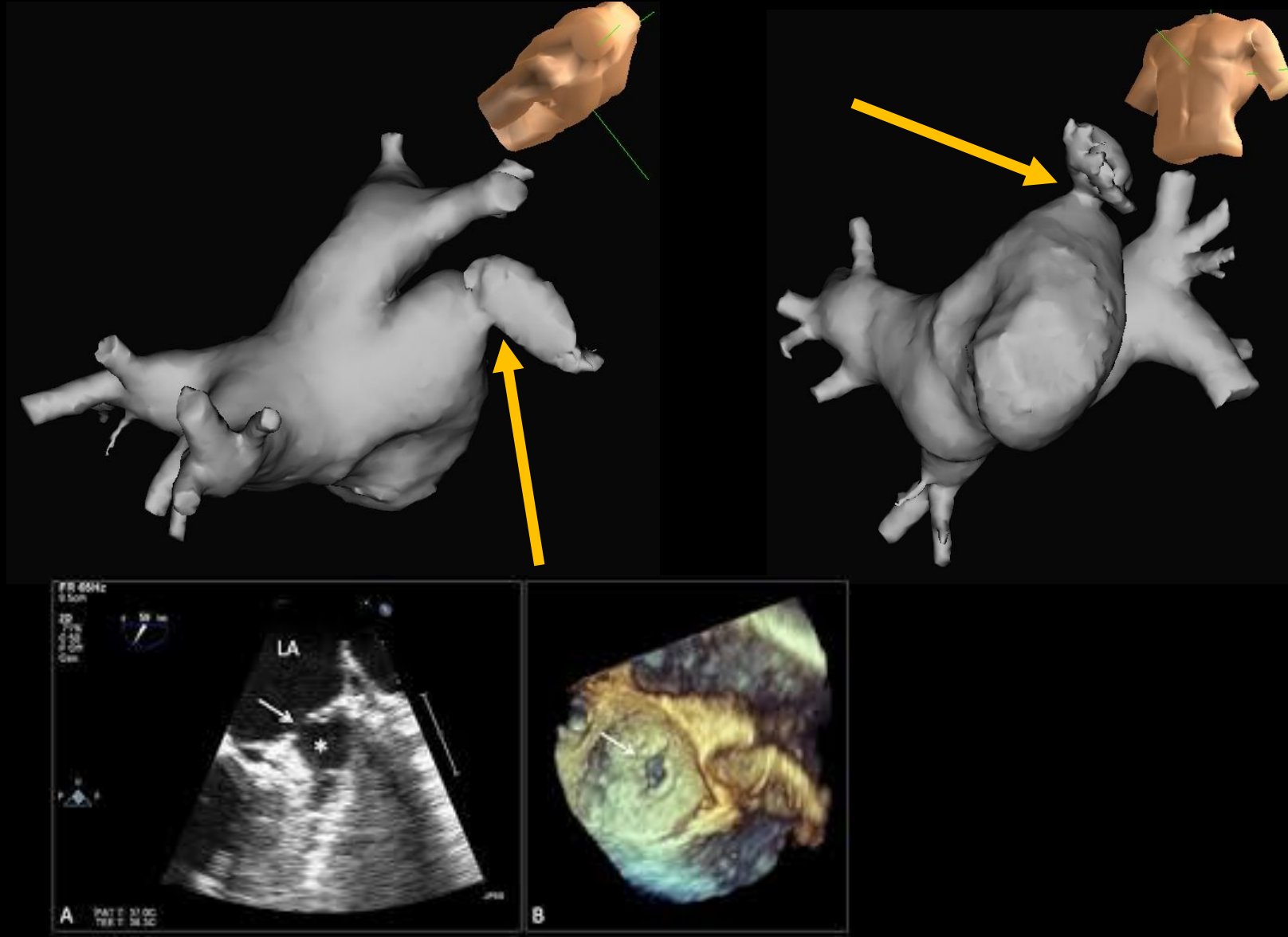
# LAA surgical excision



# LAA surgical excision

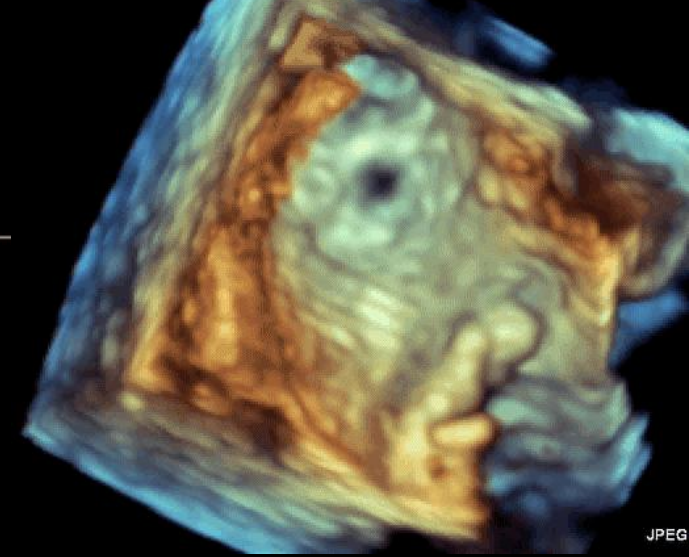


# Incomplete Surgical LAA Closure





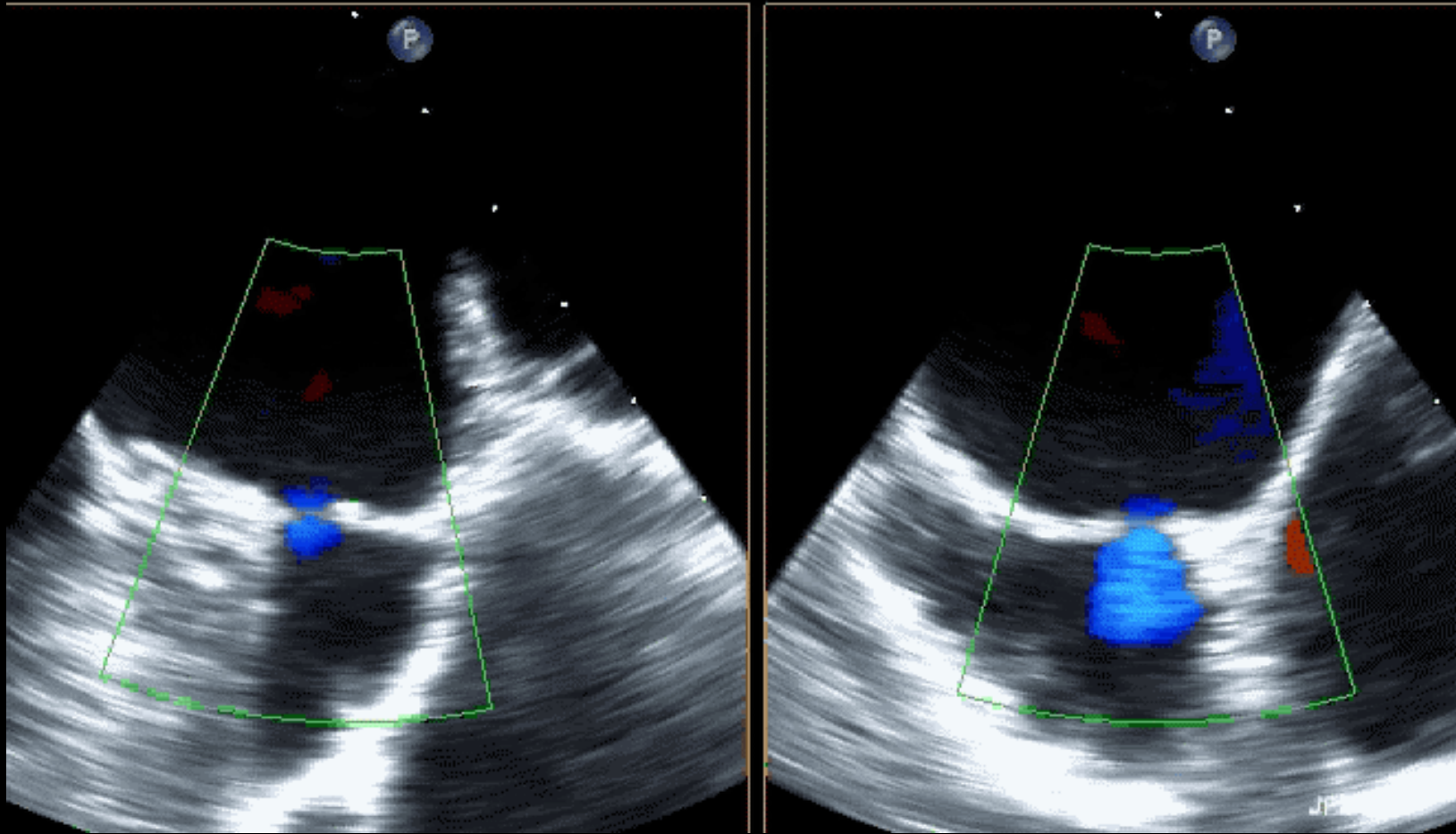
# Residual defect



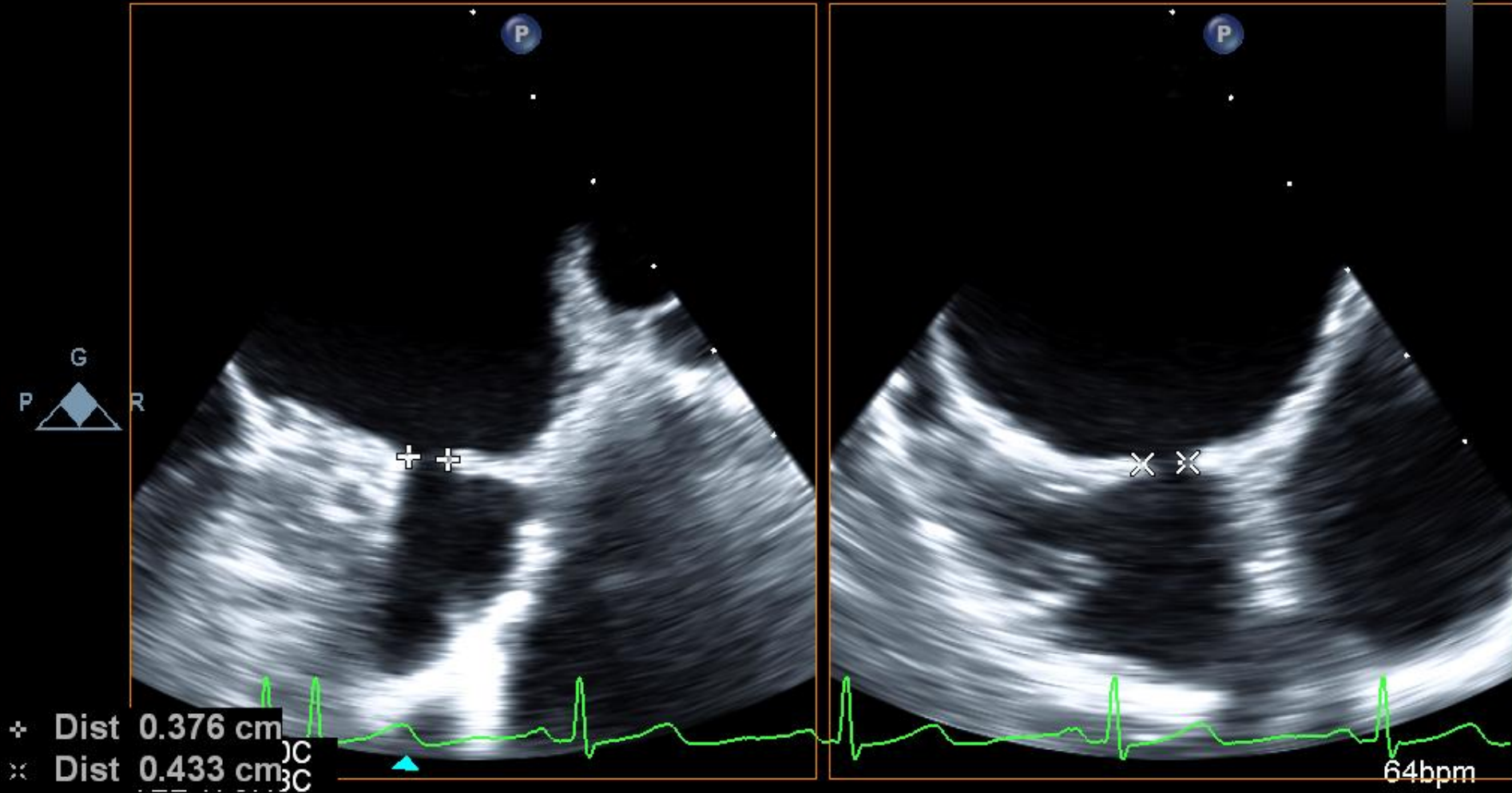
JPEG

JPEG

# Residual defect – To and Fro Colour Flow

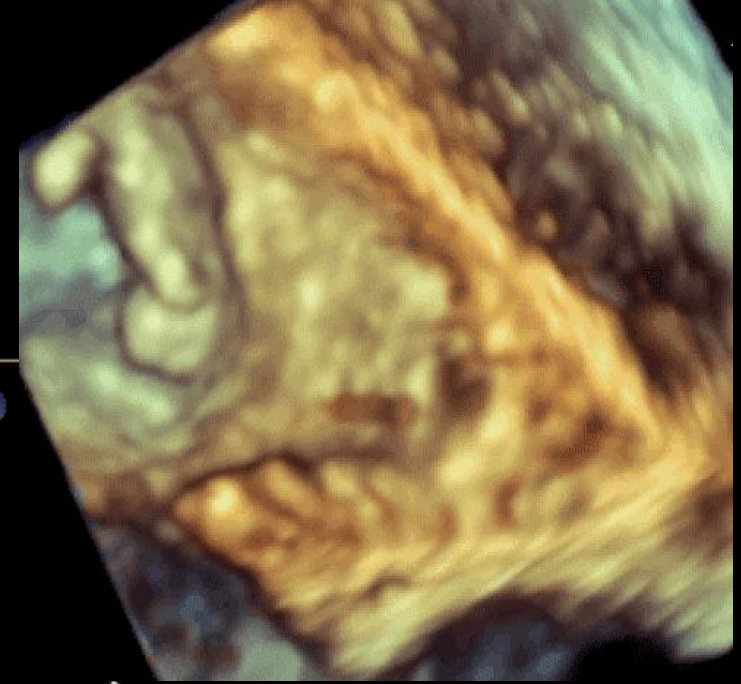
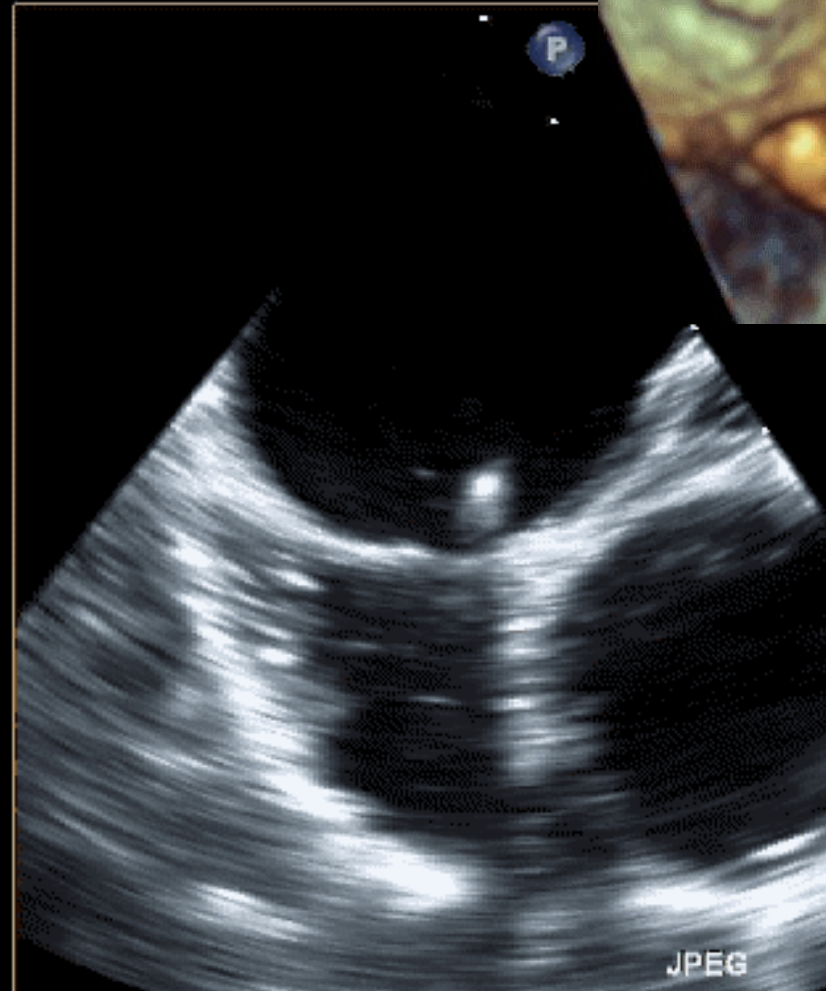


# Residual defect – 4mm



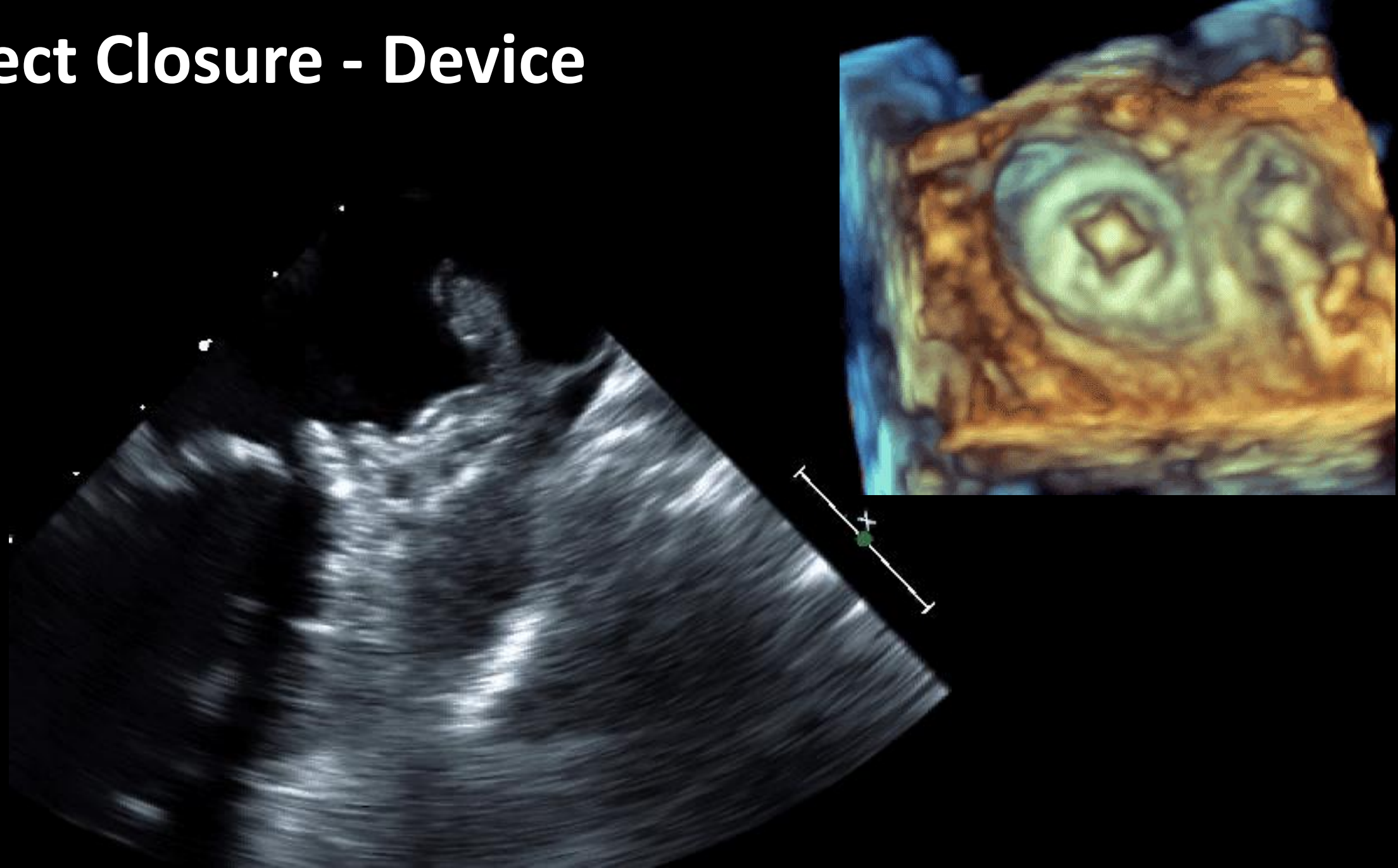


# Defect Closure - Wire



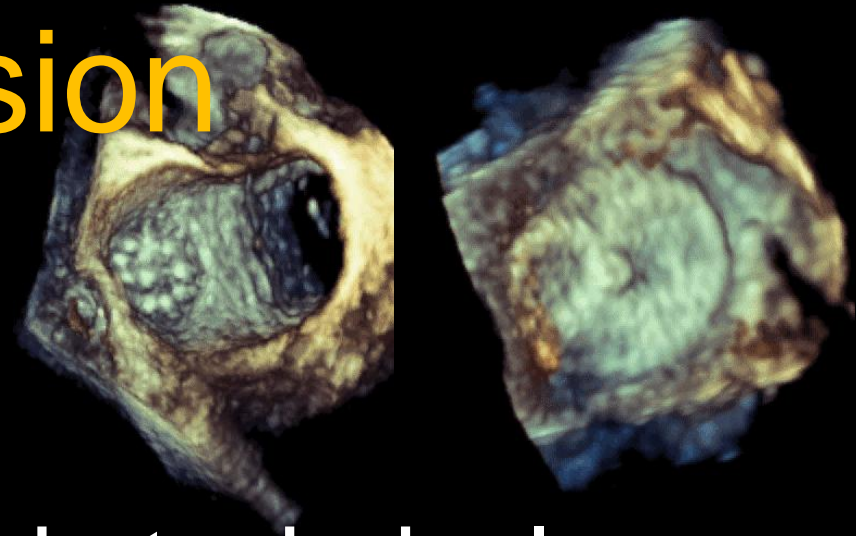


# Defect Closure - Device



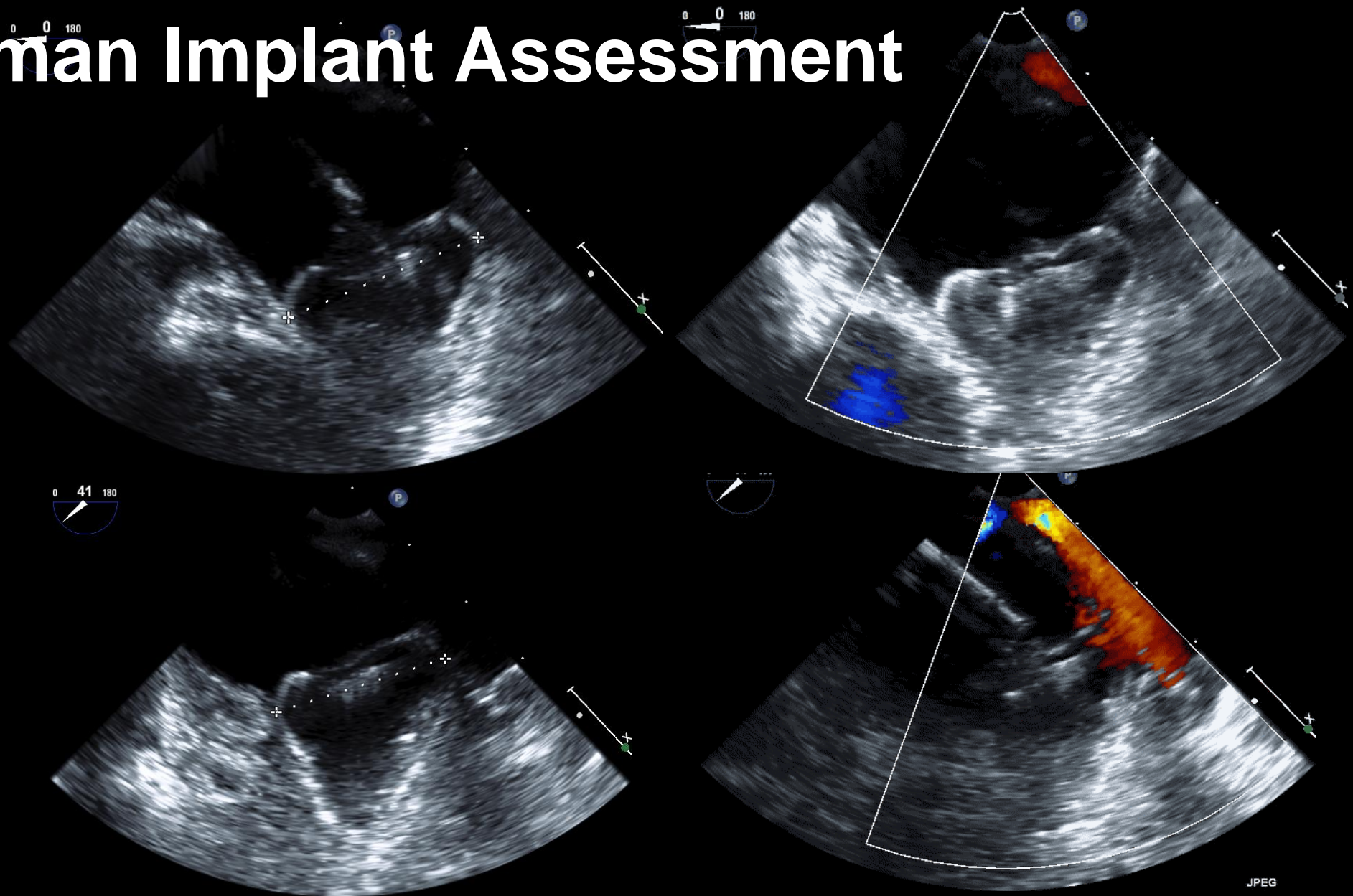
# Percutaneous LAA Occlusion

## Tips, Tricks & Take Homes



- No two LAA's are the same
- Identify features that may provide technical challenges from the start
- 3D perspective important
- Regardless of device, TS puncture is key to success
- Landing zone same for all devices
- Residual defects can be closed

# Watchman Implant Assessment



T: 37°C  
T: 38.7°C  
**“Crown” with screw  
thread on view**

**Assess for peridevice leak  
Nyquist @ 50cm/s**



# LAAO ProTOE Assessment Quick Reference Guide

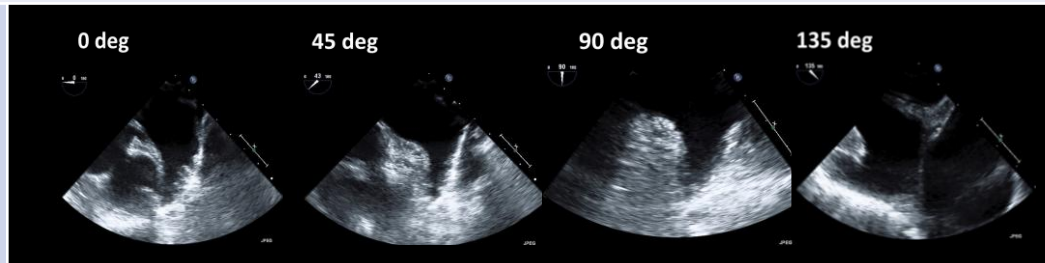
## Key images

## Images

## Tips

### LAAO views

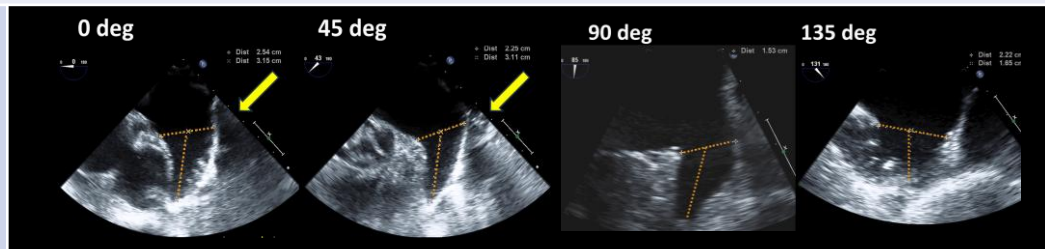
0, 45, 90, 135



Find the longest axis first to measure LAA ejection velocity, then move to each angle to evaluate for number of lobes and accessory lobes.

If any view is too difficult, choose the perpendicular view and biplane to evaluate desired angle.

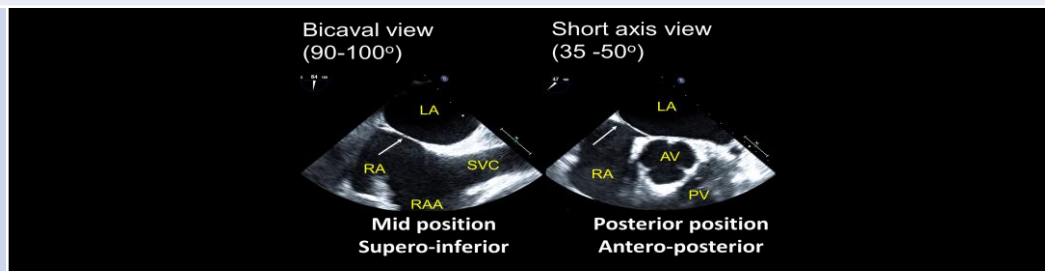
### LAAO sizing



Measure the **landing zone** (LCx to 1-2cm from the limbus in smooth zone) at **same depth** (use side depth markers to confirm). Expect the measurement line in first 3 views to angulate 10-20° from LCx. The 135° measure will look flat (AP view).

Measure the depth from the landing zone to apex.

### Interatrial septum

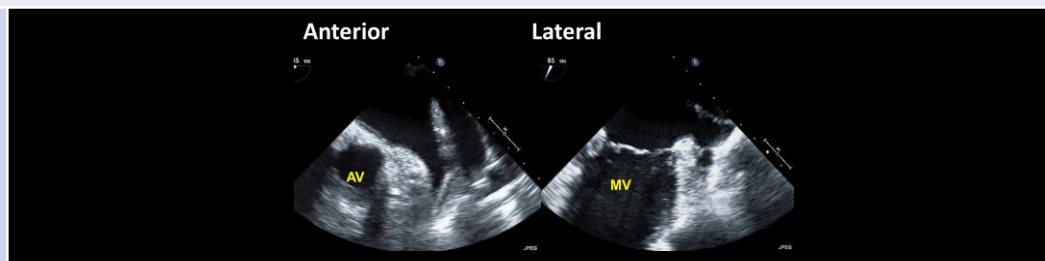


Assess the interatrial septum for fossa size and degree of thickening of the surrounding septum.

Trans-septal puncture position will depend on LAA orientation (below).

Assess for presence/absence of PFO.

### LAA Orientation



LAA orientation assists with procedural planning for most advantageous trans-septal puncture location.



# Evaluation of LAAO Devices

Dr Julie Humphries



**ECHO**  
AUSTRALIA

17-19 March 2025

