Commentary: Perfect preparation prevails

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Vendramin and colleagues¹ have provided a nicely summarized case report of an infrequently seen complication. They were tasked with a rapidly enlarging ascending aorta pseudoaneurysm in the setting of a previous chest wall reconstruction. The thoughtful and systematic approach to repair the proximal aorta pseudoaneurysm and reroute the great vessels provided a safe and successful approach to a complicated and potentially catastrophic problem.

The graphics provided by the video and the 3-dimensional reconstruction add an impressive element of elegance to the progression of the repair. Not only do they document the extent of disease and the initial intervention, they also demonstrate how the authors overcame the obstacle of the type I endoleak with 3-dimensional reconstruction imaging. The beautiful video and images appeal greatly to the rising generation of surgeons learning to use alternate methods of integrating learning new techniques for complex problems.

A combination of open debranching, carotid bypass, and endovascular techniques exemplify the breadth of

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Central Message

Challenging mycotic pseudoaneurysms benefit from careful surgical planning.

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techniques across disciplines that are able to be integrated to produce an excellent result. This is a reminder that we work in a field with enormous opportunity to incorporate specialists and combine our strengths. This is an excellent example of how perfect preparation prevails and a successful multidisciplinary approach can provide excellent results.

Reference

1. Vendramin I, Frigatti P, Piani D, Sponza M, Bortolotti U, Livi U. Successful repair of an ascending aorta injured by a displaced sternal plate. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg.* 2020;159:e151-4.