Images in Cardiovascular Medicine

Epitome of Cardiac Tamponade

David H. Spodick, MD, DSc

**Fig. 1.** A, Magnetic resonance image: Large pericardial effusion (pale zone overlying thin dark layer of epicardial fat).

B, 2-D echocardiogram (apical 4-chamber scan plane): Circumcardiac pericardial effusion with prominent right atrial collapse (arrow).
C, 12-Lead electrocardiogram: Marked electric alternation.

D, Noninvasive graphics: Top—Phonocardiogram showing pericardial rub and diminished first heart sound. Middle—Carotid displacement pulse. Bottom—Respiratory thermistor (Upward=inspiration). During inspiration the systolic pulse level falls and the rub is accentuated.

From the Cardiology Division, St Vincent Hospital, Worcester, Mass.
Address for correspondence: Dr David H. Spodick, Cardiology Division, St Vincent Hospital, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA 01604.

The editor of "Images in Cardiovascular Medicine" is Hugh A. McAllister, Jr, MD, Chief, Departments of Pathology, St Luke's Hospital and Texas Heart Institute, and Clinical Professor of Pathology, University of Texas Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine.

Circulation encourages readers to submit cardiovascular images to Dr Hugh A. McAllister, Jr, St Luke's Episcopal Hospital and Texas Heart Institute, 6720 Bertner, MC 4-265, Houston, TX 77030.