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November, 2013

A Hazardous Change of Heart: Infective Endocarditis and its Complications

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Learning Objectives

- Know risk factors for, physical exam stigmata of, and diagnostic criteria of infective endocarditis (IE)
- Understand role of imaging in work up of IE
- Recognize common complications of IE on imaging
- Describe complications with terms appropriate to each modality

Our Patient: Presentation

JS is a 32 y/o female with history of IVDU who presents to OSH with altered mental status. She c/o chest pain, worse with inspiration.



Our Patient: Past Medical History

- Hand abscess from skin popping
 - Injection of drugs subcutaneously or intramuscularly
 - Lack of viable veins



http://see.visualdx.com/diagnosis/substance_abuse_skin_popping



Our Patient: Workup at OSH

Toxicology screen + for cocaine and heroin.

Blood cultures grew MRSA. Started on vancomycin.

Transferred to BIDMC out of concern for infective endocarditis.



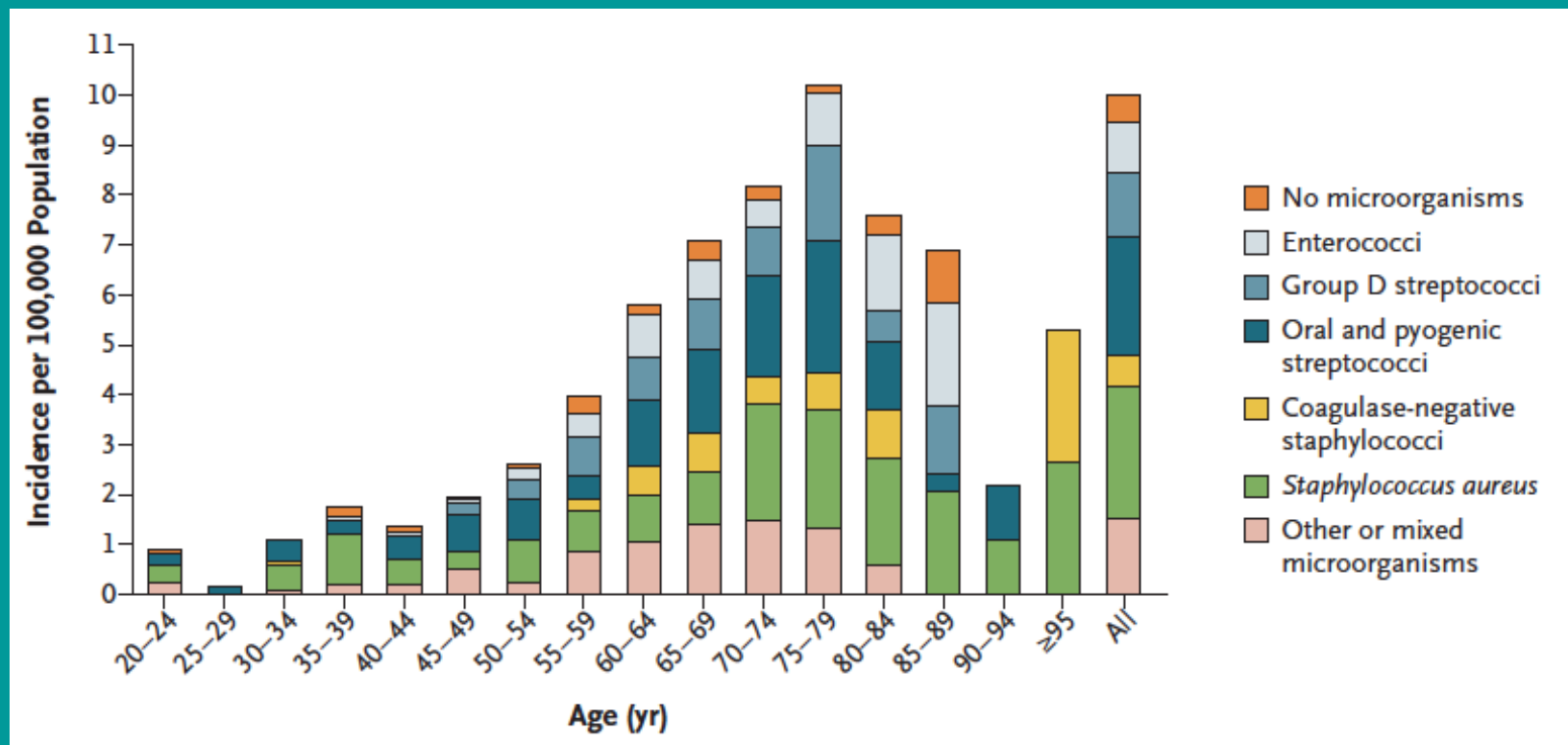
IE: Epidemiology and Pathology

- Infection of endocardium of heart, especially heart valves
- Incidence of ~1.5 to 3.3 cases per 1000 IVDU per year
- Vegetations can form in heart
 - Consist of fibrin, platelets, infectious organisms
 - Embolization of vegetations results in complications including abscesses and infarcts at myriad locations



IE: Infectious Organisms

- 80% of all infections are staph and strep
- Most commonly *S. aureus* in IV drug users
- Different organisms are more common in particular subsets of patients





IE: Classification

- Acute vs. sub acute
 - Acute: severe symptoms, develops over days, commonly Staph aureus
 - Sub acute: mild symptoms, develops over weeks to months, commonly Strep Viridans or enterococci
- Native vs. prosthetic valve
- Right sided vs. left sided



IE: Risk Factors

- Male:Female >2:1
- Dental procedures or disease
- IVDU
- indwelling IV catheters
- implantable cardiac devices
- Cardiac surgery
- Extra-cardiac sites of infection
- History of IE

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You are sent to evaluate the patient.
What signs do you look for?



IE: Physical Examination

- Fever
 - Common, occurring in 80% of cases
- New Murmur or worsening of old murmur
 - 20-48% of IE pts.
- Splenomegaly
 - 11% of IE pts.
- Splinter Hemorrhages
 - 8% of IE pts.
- Janeway lesions
 - 5% of IE pts.
- Roth's Spots
 - 5% of IE pts.

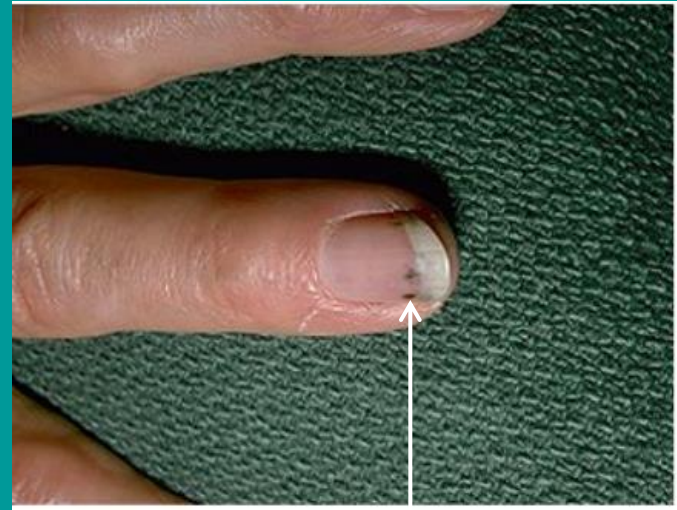


IE: Physical Examination

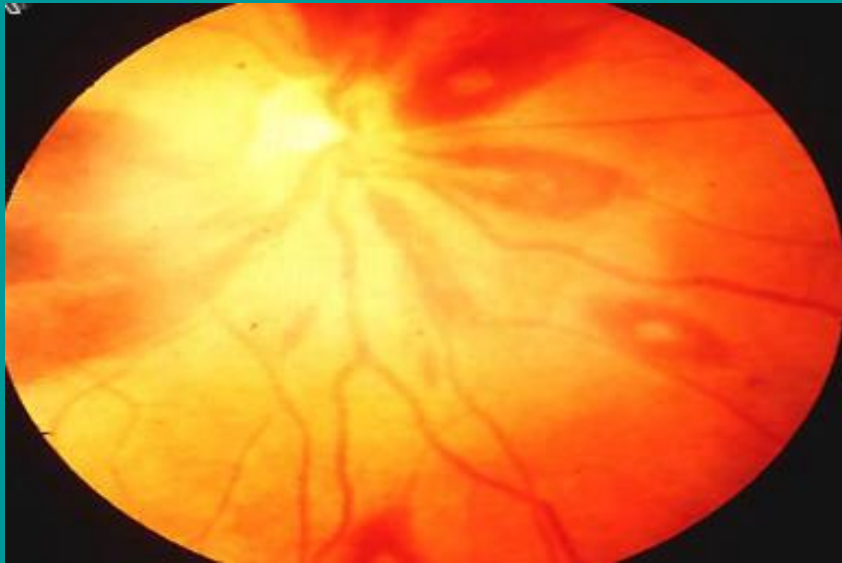
Pause to identify these physical exam findings and then continue to reveal their names



IE: Physical Examination



Splinter Hemorrhages



Roth's Spots



Janeway Lesions



Our Patient: Physical Examination

- Vitals: stable, afebrile
- General: fatigued, NAD
- Skin: **No peripheral cutaneous/mucocutaneous lesions, petechiae, splinter hemorrhages, Janeway lesions, Osler's nodes noted**
- HEENT: Conjunctiva clear, **no Roth Spots noted**
- Heart: **soft systolic murmur over left sternal border 3/6**
- Lungs: **bilateral rales and rhonchi**
- Abdomen: soft, NT/ND, **no hepatomegaly or splenomegaly**

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IE: Diagnosis

- Duke's Criteria
 - Two major, one major and three minor, or five minor criteria
 - Major criteria
 - + Blood Culture
 - Evidence of endocardial involvement
 - Echocardiogram findings
 - Minor Criteria
 - Predisposition to IE
 - Fever ($>38^{\circ}\text{C}$)
 - Vascular Phenomena
 - Immunologic Phenomena
 - Microbiological Involvement



Learning Objectives

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- **Understand role of imaging in work up of IE**
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What imaging do you want?



IE: ACR Criteria

- Rating system
 - 7-9: usually appropriate
 - 4-6: may be appropriate
- CXR (Rating: 8)
 - Evaluates for
 - cardiac chamber size
 - pulmonary venous HTN and edema
 - presence and severity of heart failure
 - pulmonary infarcts and abscesses from emboli



IE: ACR Criteria

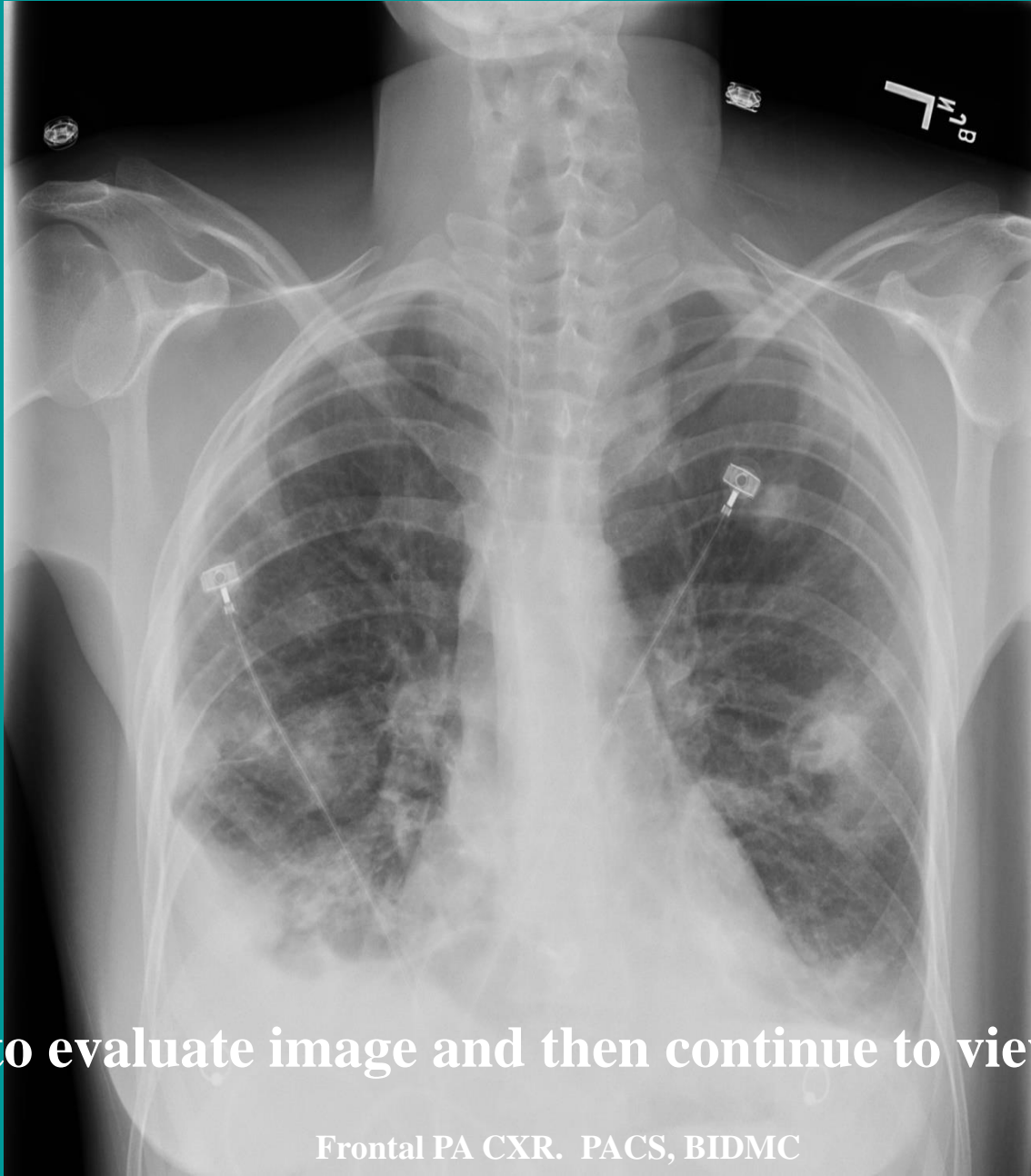
- Ultrasonography
 - PPV 97%
 - NPV 94%
 - Evaluates for
 - Vegetations
 - Severity of Valvular damage and valvular regurgitation
 - Perivalvular abscess
- TTE (Rank:9) vs. TEE (Rank:8)
 - TEE more sensitive for vegetations
 - TTE more cost effective if high pre-test probability



Learning Objectives

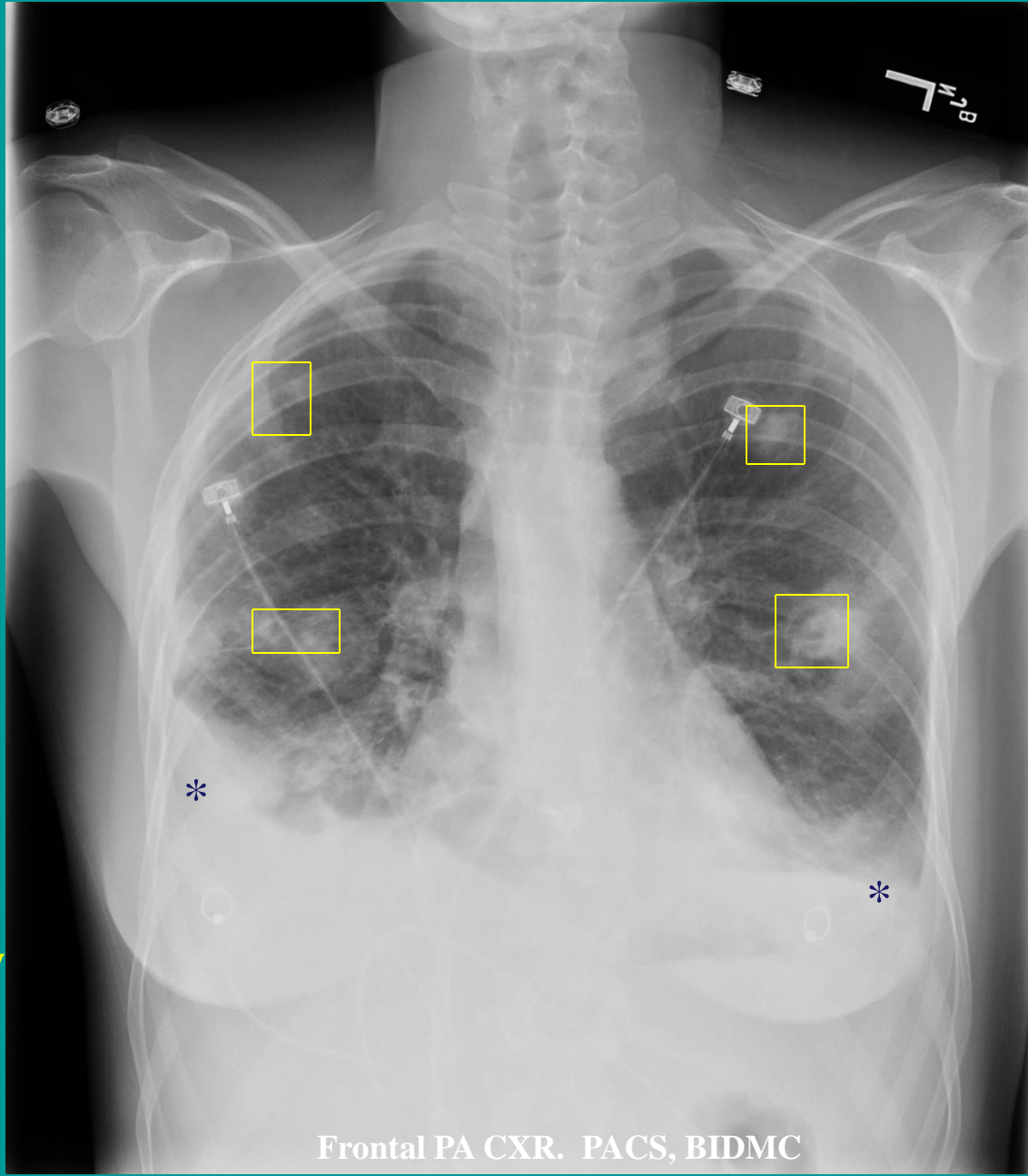
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Our Patient: CXR



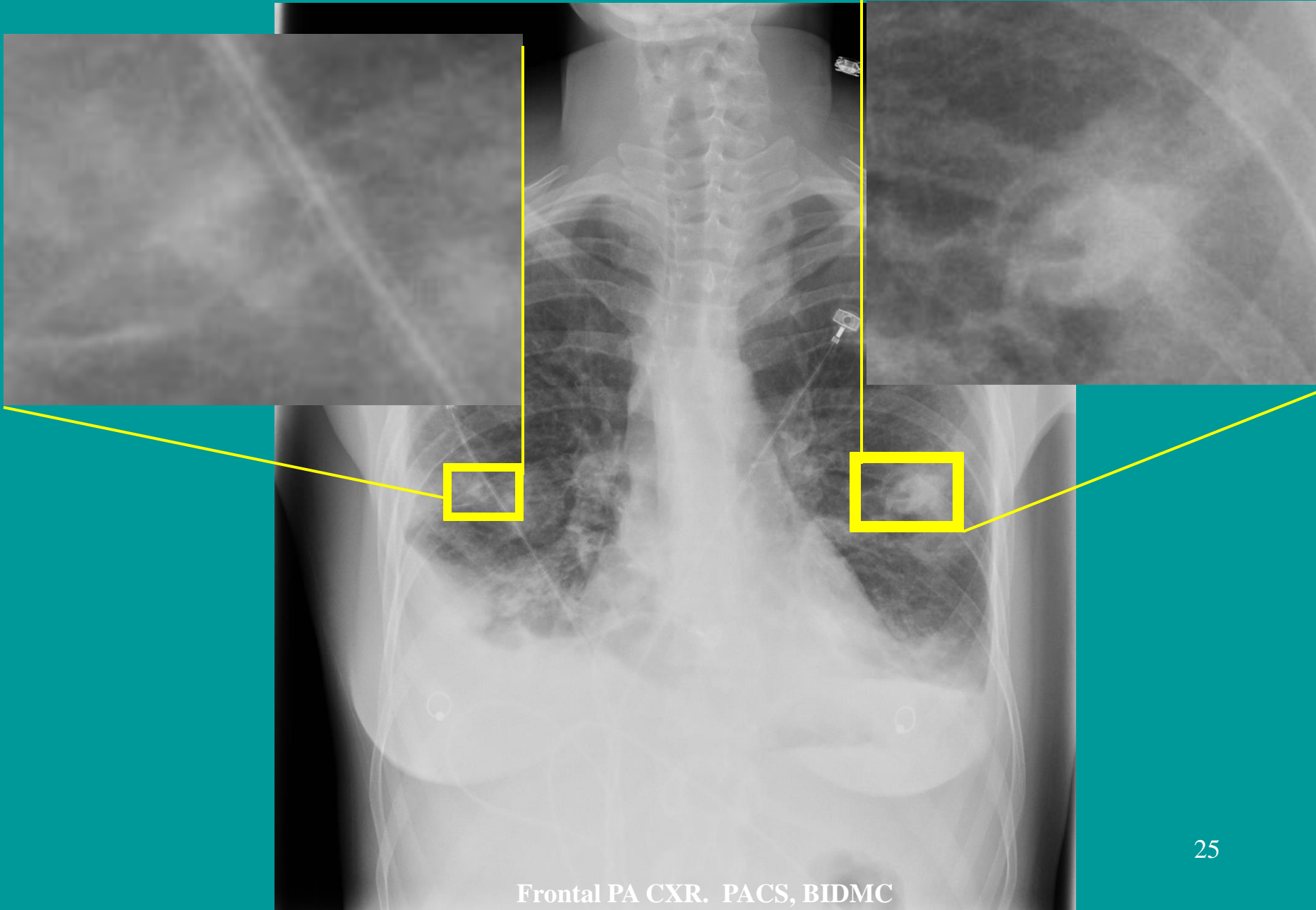
Pause to evaluate image and then continue to view findings

Our Patient: CXR



- Findings:
- 1. Rounded Opacities with Internal Lucency
 - 2. Pleural Effusions

Our Patient: CXR

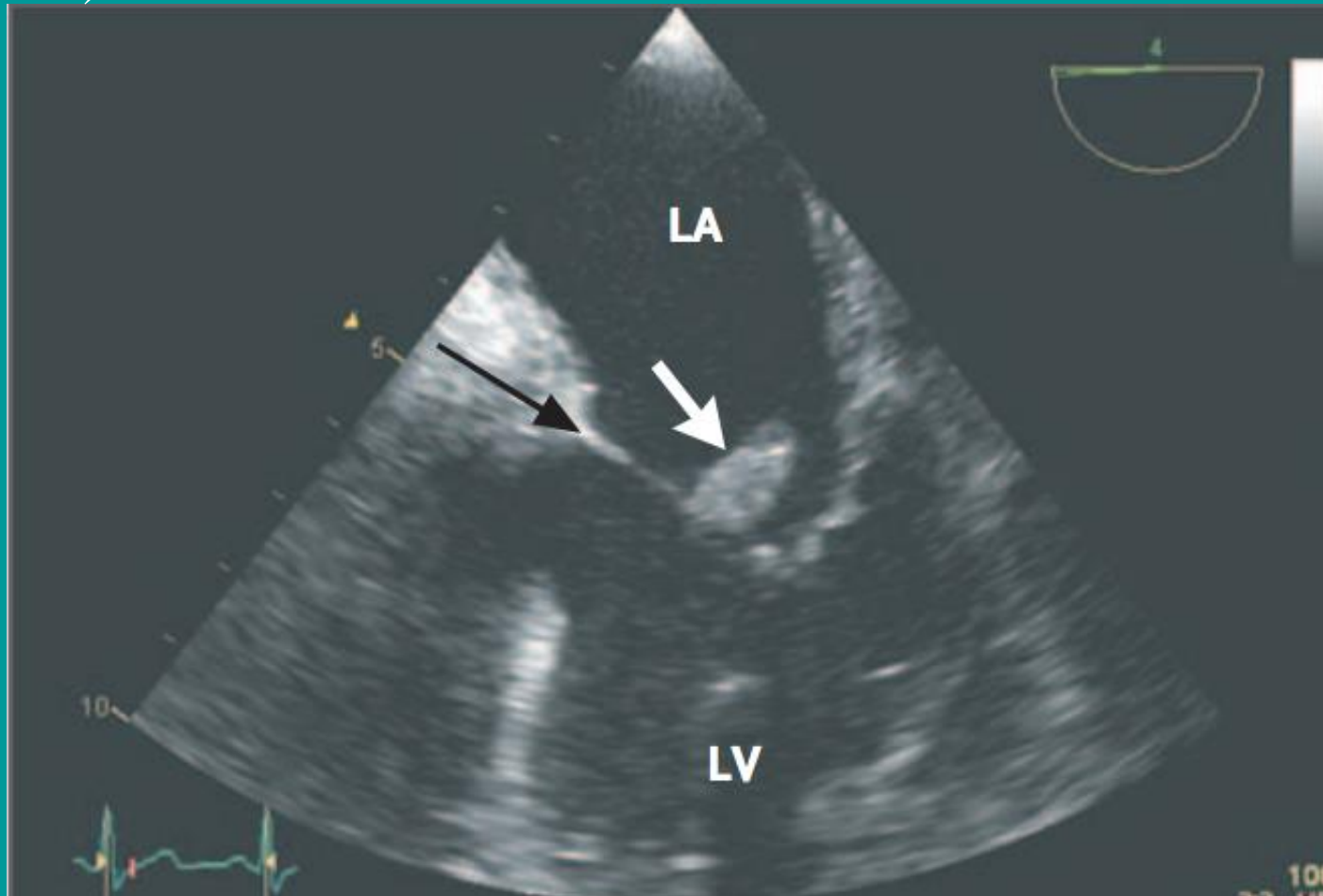


Frontal PA CXR. PACS, BIDMC



Companion Patient 1: TTE

- Large vegetation (white arrow) seen near mitral valve (black arrow)



Our Patient: TTE

- 1cm echogenic mobile mass in right ventricle attached to cordae
 - fibroelastoma, myxoma, vegetation
- No valvular abnormalities or regurgitation
- Left ventricle and atrium normal

Does our patient have IE?



Our Patient: Diagnosis

- By Duke's Criteria, our patient has IE 2 major criteria
 - + Blood Cultures: MRSA
 - Evidence of cardiac involvement (on TTE, exam)
- Additionally our patient satisfied at least one minor criteria
 - Predisposition to IE
 - History of IVDU
 - Tested positive for cocaine and heroin on admission at OSH
- Thus our patient has IE



IE: Treatment

- Antibiotics
 - Identification of causal organism and its susceptibility is crucial
 - Treatment lasts 2-6 weeks
 - Depends on organism, antibiotics, native vs. prosthetic valve, etc.
 - For MRSA consider vancomycin with daptomycin as an alternative
- Surgery
 - may be indicated to remove infected material or drain abscesses



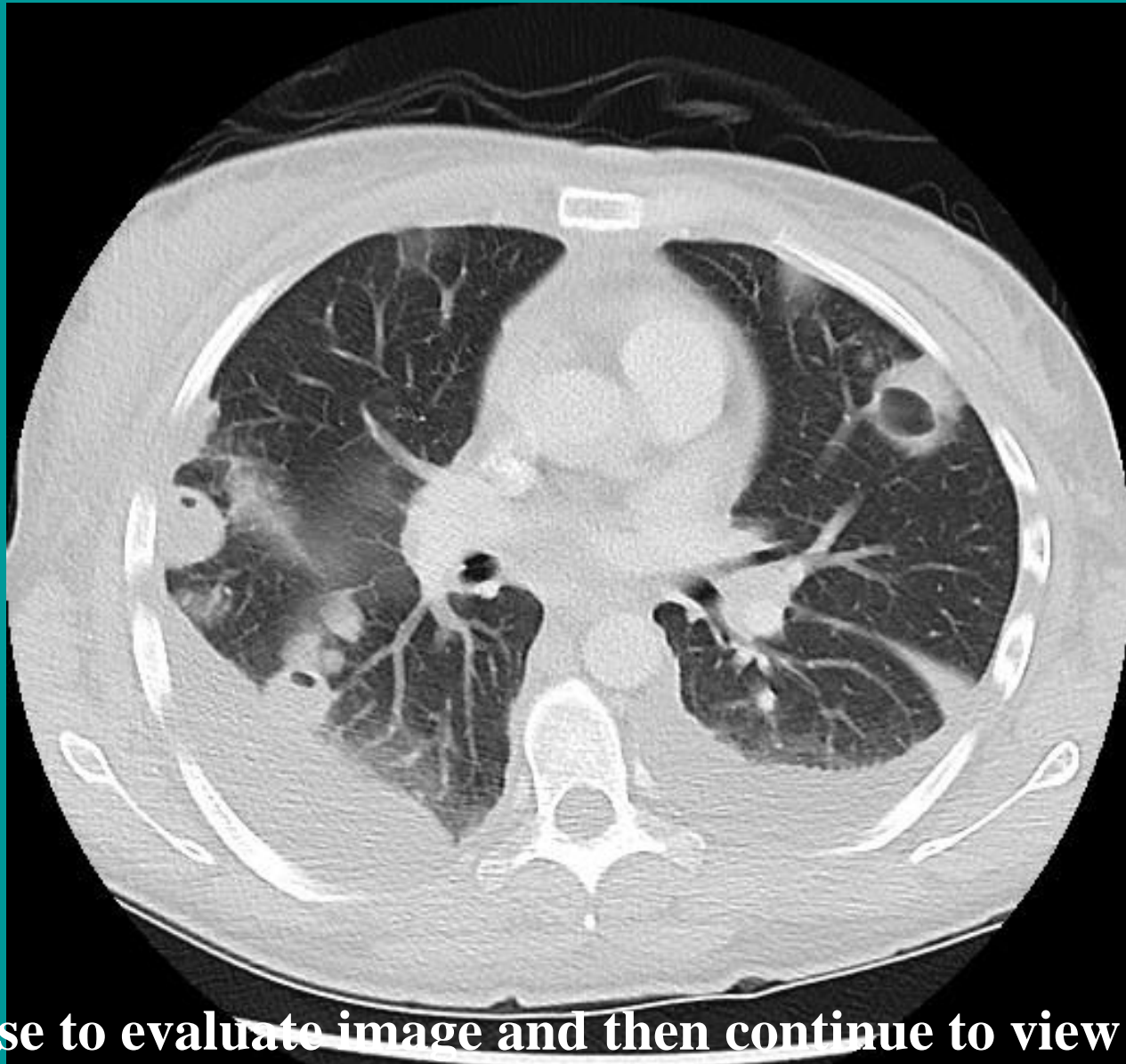
IE: Complications

- Pathogenesis
 - Local spread
 - Heart valve destruction
 - Metastatic spread
 - Lung abscess
 - Vertebral osteomyelitis
 - Embolic
 - Lung Embolus
 - Cerebral infarct
 - Immune mediated damage
 - Glomerulonephritis



In light of our pt.'s presentation
with chest pain, worse with
inspiration, and the lesions
visualized on CXR, a Chest CT
+C was ordered

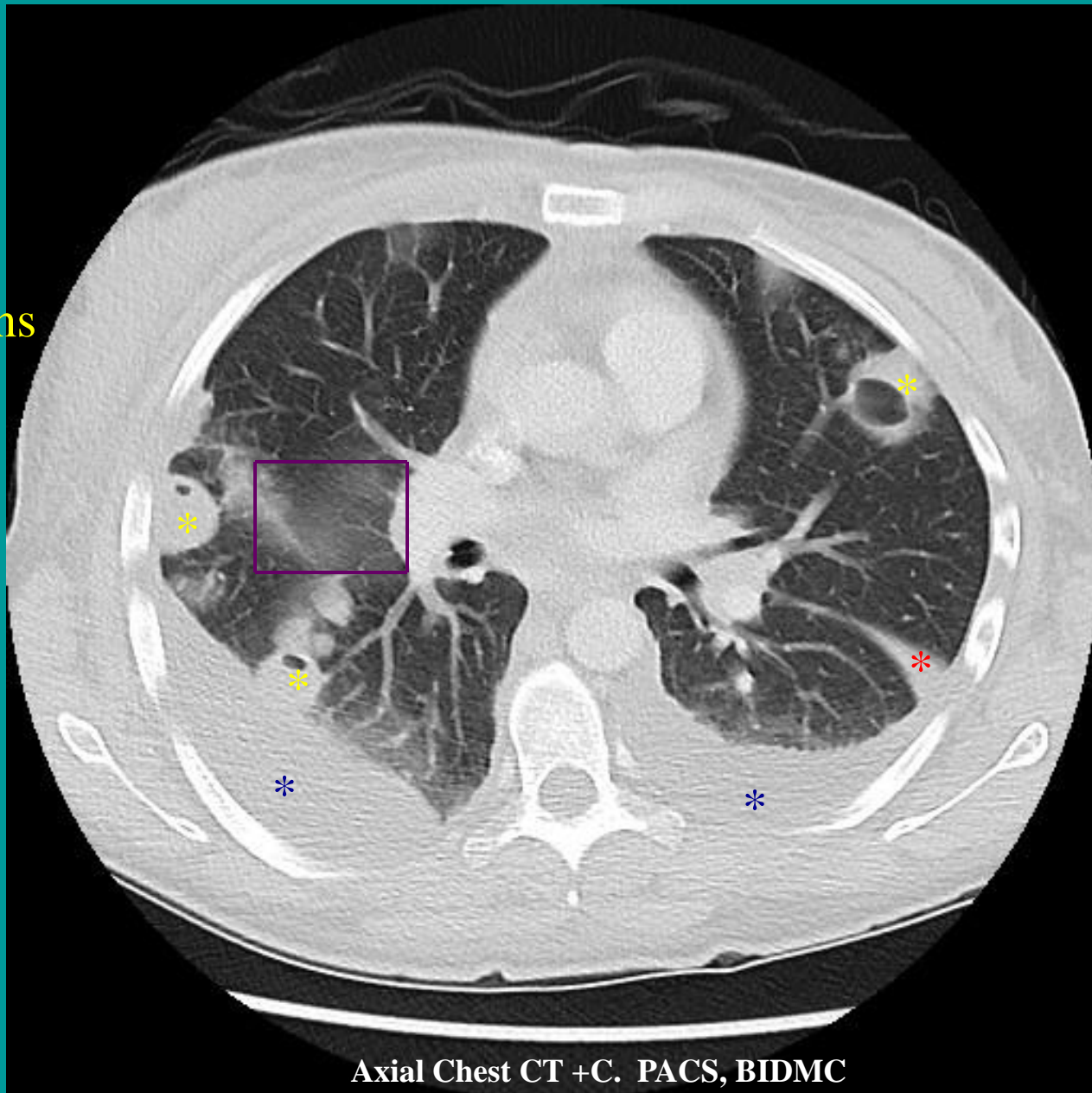
Our Patient: Chest CT



Pause to evaluate image and then continue to view findings

Our Patient: Chest CT

- Findings:
- 1. Rounded Consolidations With Cavitations
 - 2. Ground Glass Opacities
 - 3. Pleural Effusions
 - 4. Fluid in L Major Fissure



Axial Chest CT +C. PACS, BIDMC

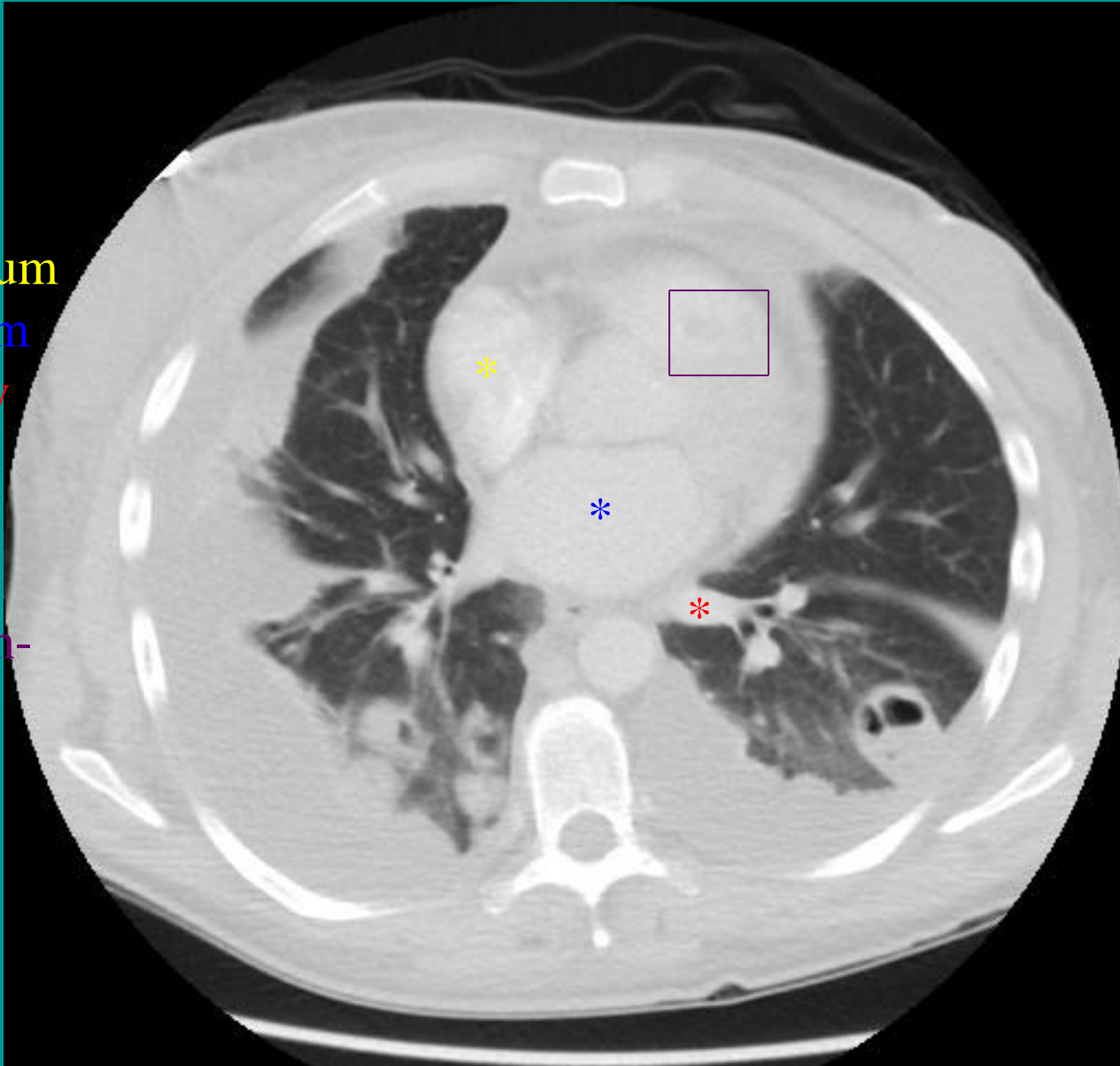
Our Patient: Chest CT

Structures:

1. Right Atrium
2. Left Atrium
3. Pulmonary Vein

Findings:

1. 1.8 cm non-enhancing hypodensity in R vent lumen



Axial Chest CT +C. PACS, BIDMC



After one week of IV vanc, JS
continues to have fevers.
What are you concerned about?



Concern for an abscess or infarct caused by septic thromboemboli should be high. Imaging can help locate these.

What locations and modalities would you consider using?

Our Patient: CT abdomen

- Look for intra-abdominal abscess, infarct
- Negative CT abdomen and pelvis +C



Companion Patient 3: CT abdomen

- hypodense splenic lesion (white arrow) suggestive of splenic infarct



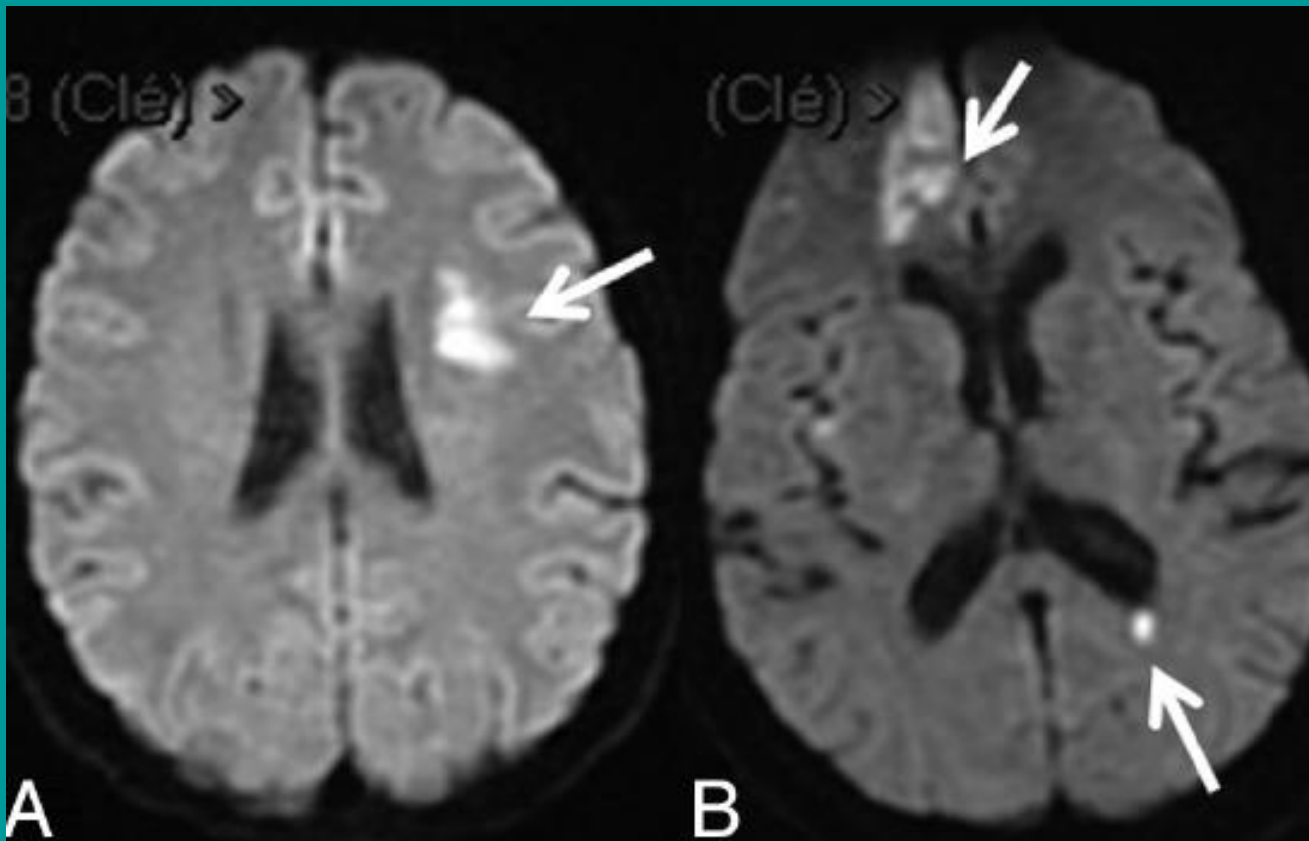
Our Patient: Head CT

- Look for microabscesses, septic emboli and infarction
- Negative CT Head -C



Companion Patient 2: MRI Head

- Ischemic lesions (white arrows) on DWI MRI
 - A: single territorial infarct.
 - B: territorial and small cortical and/or subcortical infarcts.



Axial DWI MRI.



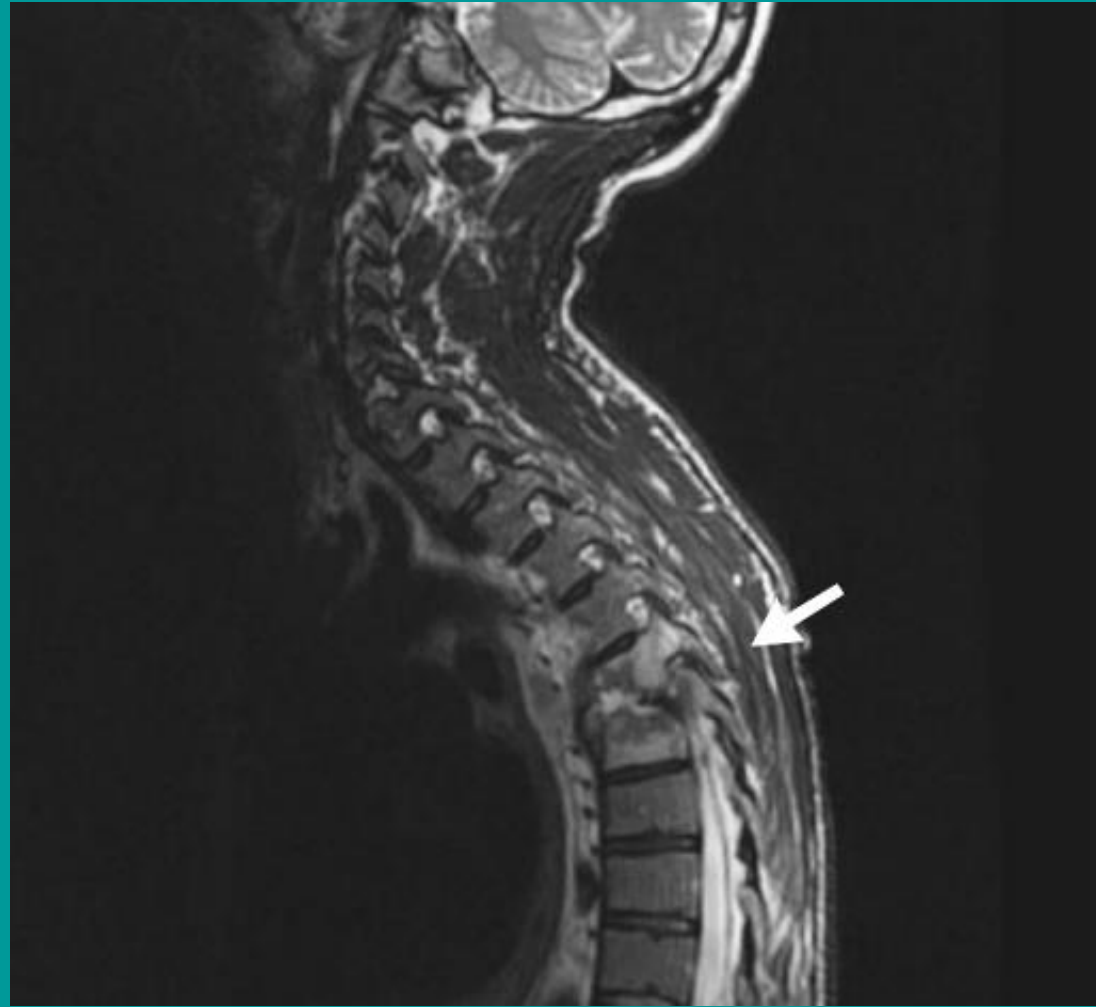
Our Patient: MRI spine

- Look for vertebral osteomyelitis
- Negative for osteomyelitis in spine



Companion Patient 4: MRI spine

- T2-weighted MRI
- Sagittal view of an IV drug user with vertebral osteomyelitis involving T6–T7 (white arrow) with an adjacent epidural abscess.





Our Patient's Hospital Course

- JS improved slowly on IV vancomycin
- Discharged to rehab 21 days after admission
 - breathing comfortably on room air
 - afebrile for 24 hours
 - Continue to follow pt. with outpatient visits
 - Address JS's drug addiction



IE: Prognosis

- Mortality rates vary across sub-groups
 - Predictors of higher mortality include increased age, staph aureus infection, heart failure, cerebrovascular and embolic events
- In-hospital mortality rates of 15-22%
- 5 year mortality: 40%



Summary Slide

- We have learned
 - Risk factors for IE
 - Physical exam stigmata of IE
 - Duke's criteria for diagnosis of IE
- Discussed the ACR criteria on the appropriate role of CXR and Echocardiography in the work up of IE
- Visualized common complications of IE on imaging
- Described these complications with terms appropriate to each modality including CT Abdomen, MRI Head, and MRI Spine



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Acknowledgements

- Our Patient, JS
- Dr. Mark Masciocchi
- Dr. Diana Litmanovich
- Dr. Gillian Lieberman