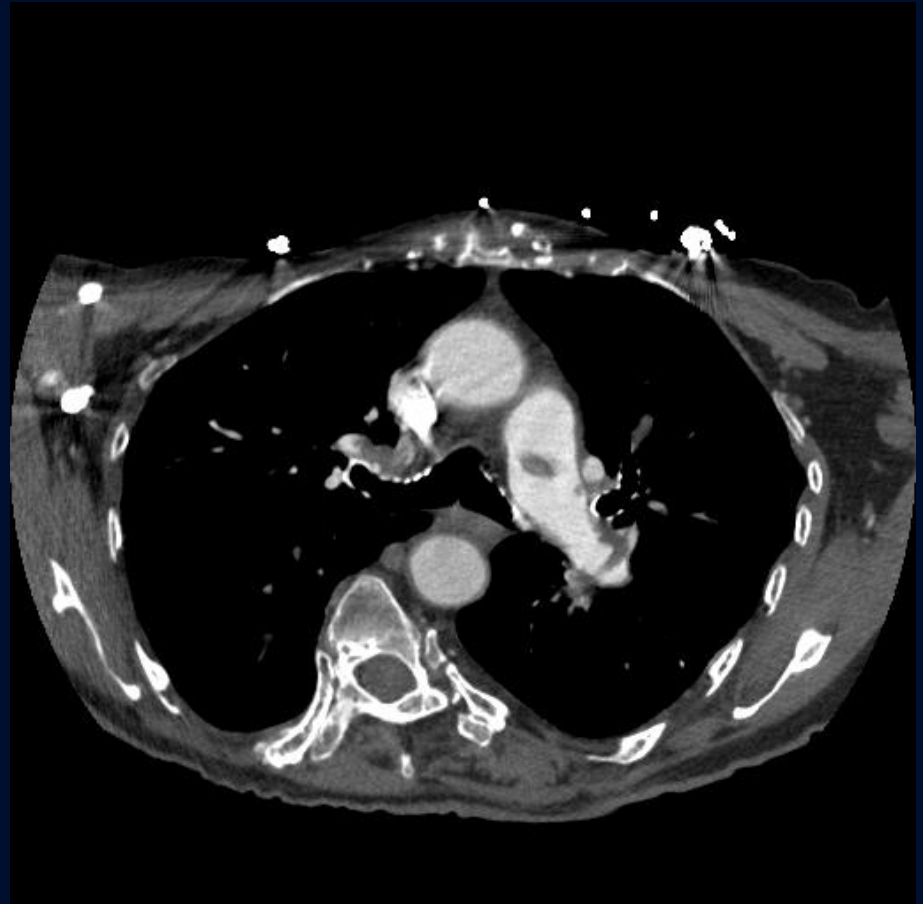
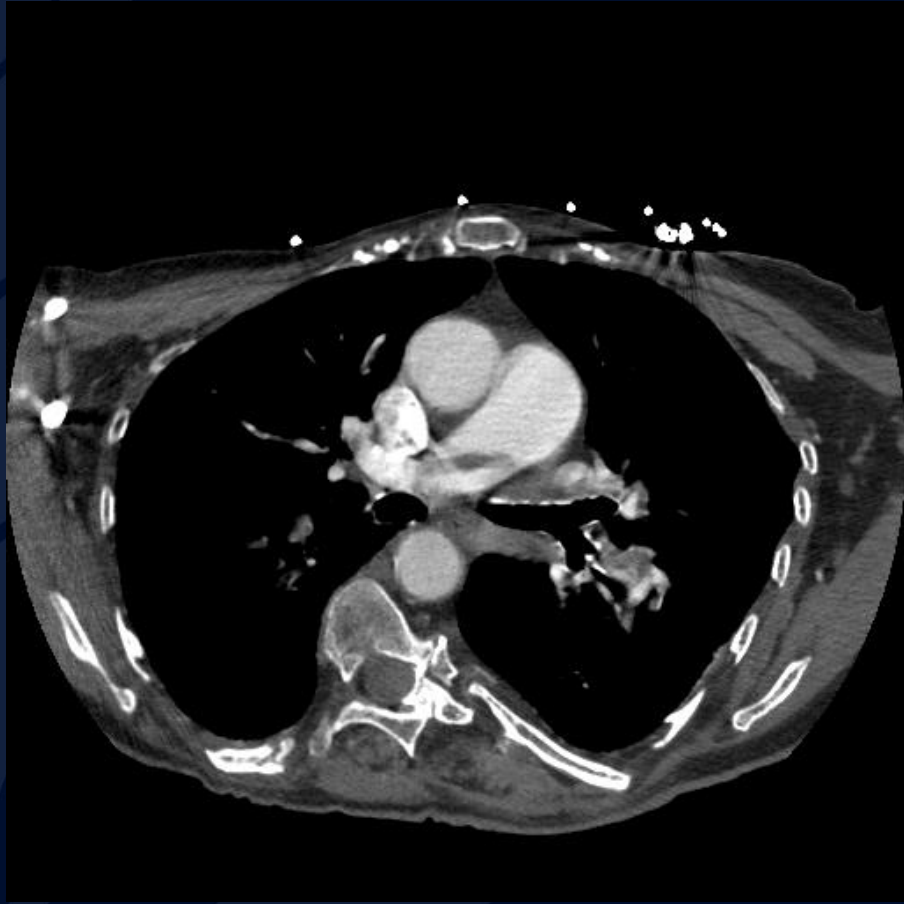


78F with decreased O2 sat

Krithika Srikanthan, MD





Sc 304

W 684
L 188



26-Oct-2017

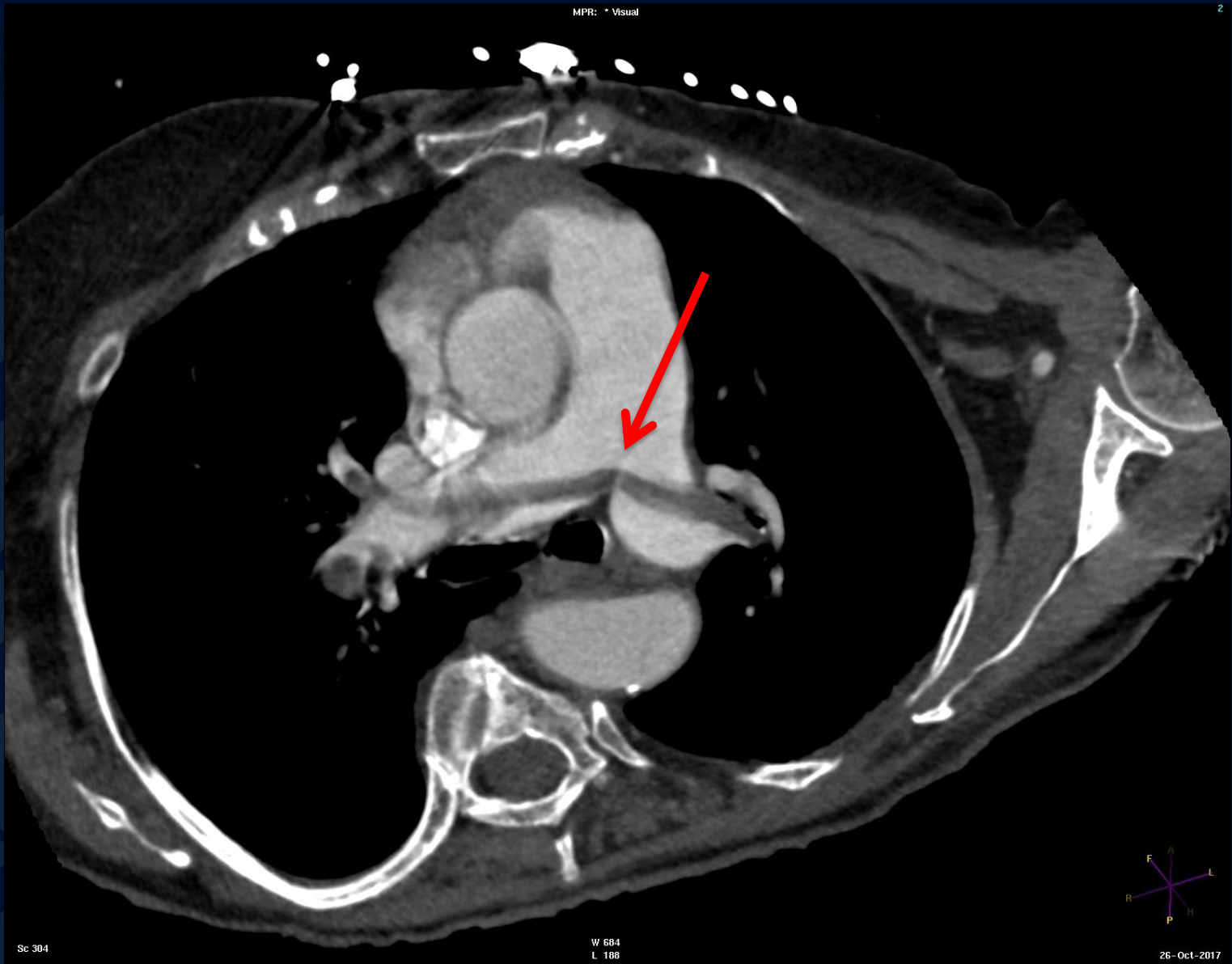
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RADIOLOGY

A large, stylized oak leaf graphic in a dark blue color, positioned on the left side of the slide. The leaf has a prominent central vein and several smaller veins branching off it. The leaf's edge is serrated.

?

Saddle Embolus



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CTA Findings

- Embolus (filling defect) straddles bifurcation of PA
- If >50% vascular bed reduction
 - right heart strain:
 - RV dilation (RV:LV diameter width >1)
 - straightening or leftward bulging intraventricular septum
 - contrast reflux into IVC, hepatic veins, azygous vein
 - PAH
 - enlargement of the pulmonary trunk (>3cm)
- <15% embolic events result in infarction – wedge shaped opacity
- 50% patients with PE have pleural effusion
- 70% will have lower extremity DVT

Imaging Recommendations

- CTA – PA (study of choice)
 - Pregnant patient with ABNORMAL chest radiograph
- V/Q:
 - Contrast allergy
 - Renal failure
 - Pregnant patient with NORMAL chest radiograph

Saddle Embolus

- Incidence among patients diagnosed with PE 2.6%
- May be associated with significant hemodynamic instability, but not always. Mortality not necessarily different.
- Rx:
 - Anticoag
 - Thrombolysis for severely symptomatic patients
 - IVC filter
 - Catheter or surgical embolectomy in select high risk people

References

1. Statdx
2. Radiopaedia
3. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1755001710000643>