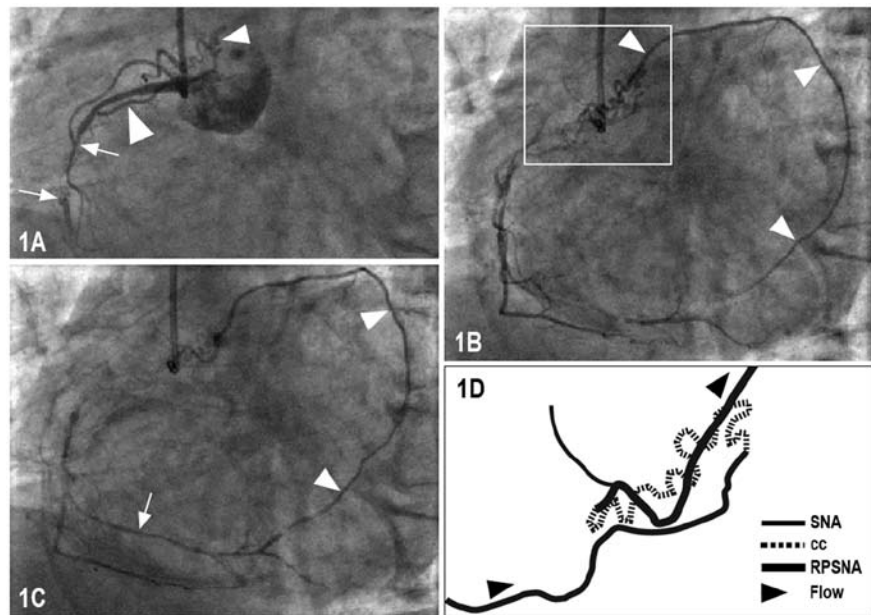


A Unique Right Coronary Artery Intra-coronary Collateral Pathway

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A 73-year-old man with angina pectoris underwent coronary angiography with the following findings: left anterior descending coronary artery moderately diseased; right coronary artery (RCA) proximally occluded with an atrial intra-coronary collateral pathway emerging from a proximal sinus node artery (SNA) and ending to a distal “right posterior” SNA (RPSNA), which was retrogradely supplying the peripheral RCA (panels 1A-1C, progressive RCA angiographic frames).

Panel 1A: right coronary artery angiogram showing the occluded RCA (arrows) with its proximal SNA (large arrowhead) giving rise to the coronary collateral (cc) (small arrowhead). Panel 1B: frame revealing RPSNA (arrowheads) to which the cc vessel leads. The cc pathway is schematically depicted in panel 1D. Panel 1C: frame indicating the post-occlusion RCA (arrow) filled via RPSNA (arrowheads).

The right posterior sinus node artery was first described, coined and reported in 2000.¹

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