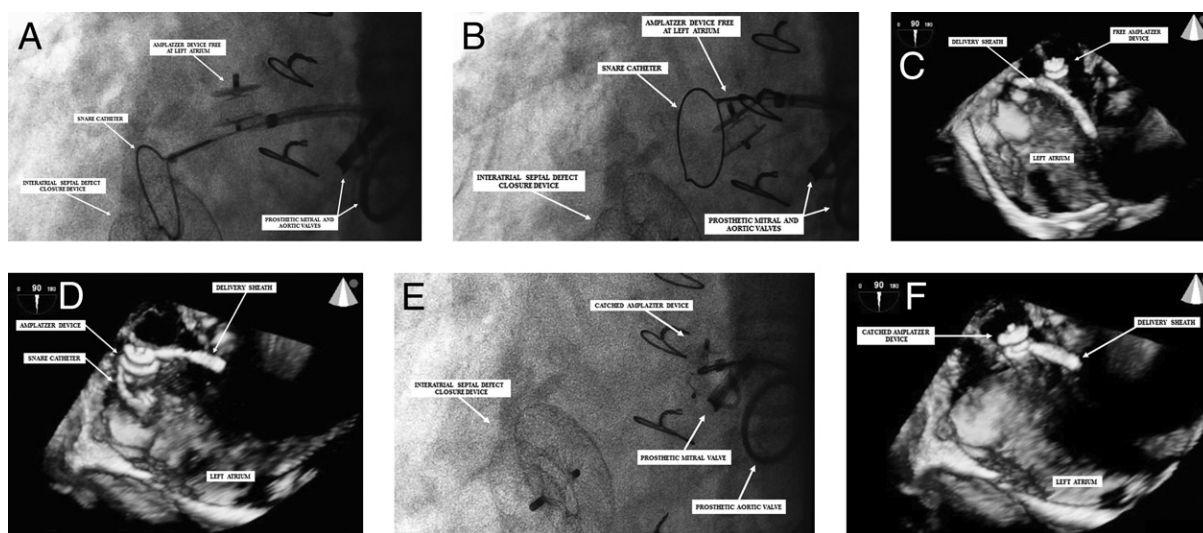


## IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

# Fishing in the Heart

## Removal of a Free Closure Device Inside the Left Atrium

José Manuel Montero-Cabezas, MD,\* María Teresa Velázquez-Martín, MD,\*  
Sagrario Fernández-Casares, MD,\* Agustín Albarrán-González-Trevilla, MD, PhD,\*  
Beatriz López-Melgar, MD,\* Jorge Centeno-Rodríguez, MD,† Juan Carlos Tascón-Pérez, MD, PhD\*  
*Madrid, Spain*



From the \*Servicio de Cardiología, Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, Madrid, Spain; and the †Servicio de Cirugía Cardíaca, Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, Madrid, Spain.  
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**A**n 80-year-old woman with prosthetic aortic and mitral valves implanted 23 years before, and an atrial septal defect closed with an occluder device, was diagnosed with severe hemolytic anemia. Transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) revealed severe mitral regurgitation due to a paravalvular leak, without prosthesis dysfunction. Surgery was contraindicated because of her comorbidities; therefore, percutaneous closure of the defect was planned. Because of the existence of a prosthetic aortic valve and an occluder device at the interatrial septum, a transapical approach was used to access the left ventricle. The procedure was performed under 3-dimensional TEE guidance. During positioning of the closure device, it dislodged from the delivery cable, and was released into the left atrium. After several attempts of retrieving it with a snare catheter (**A to D**, Online Videos 1 and 2), it was trapped and extracted (**E and F**, Online Video 3). Finally, the leak was successfully closed with 2 closure devices.