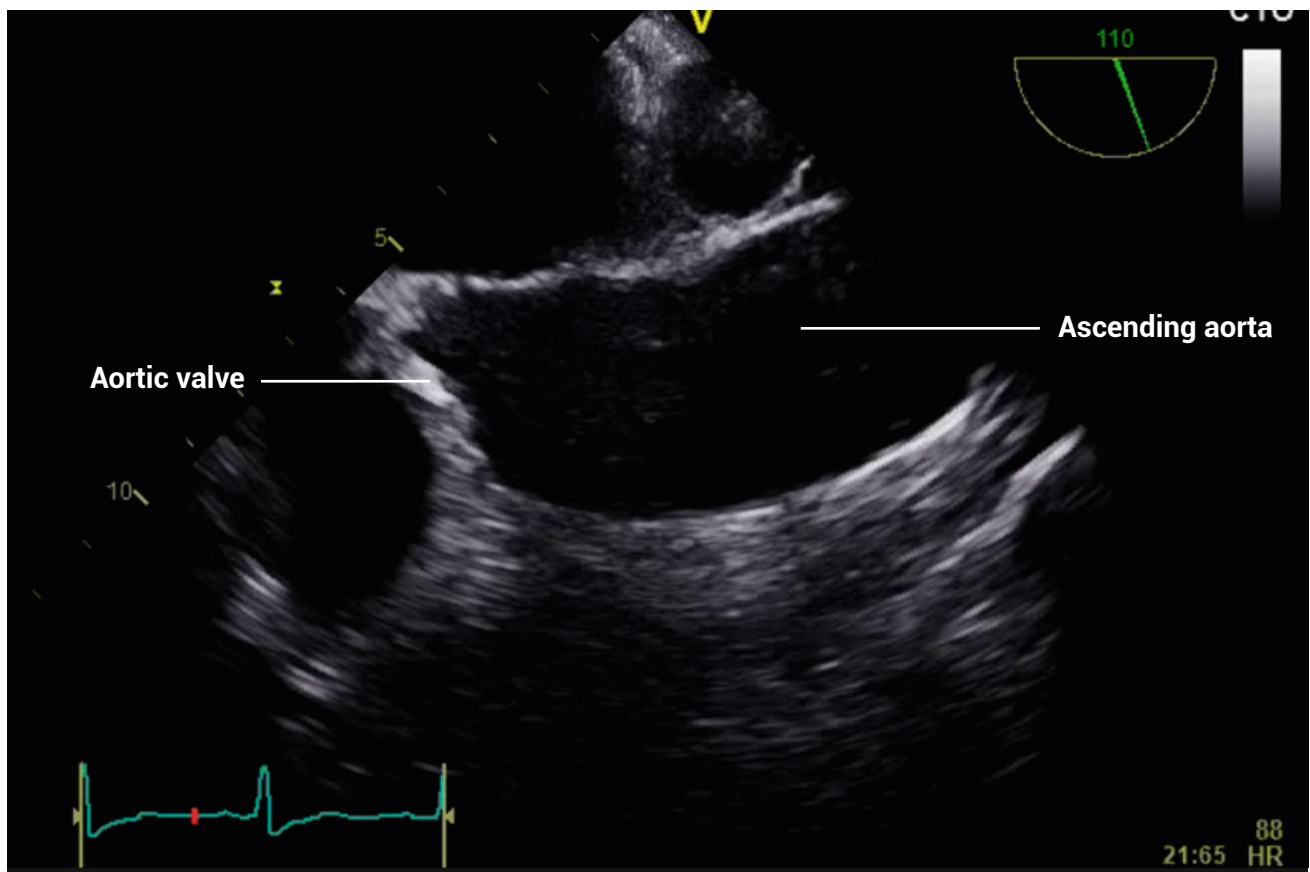


TEE ESSENTIALS

Assessment of the aorta: Mid-esophageal ascending aorta views

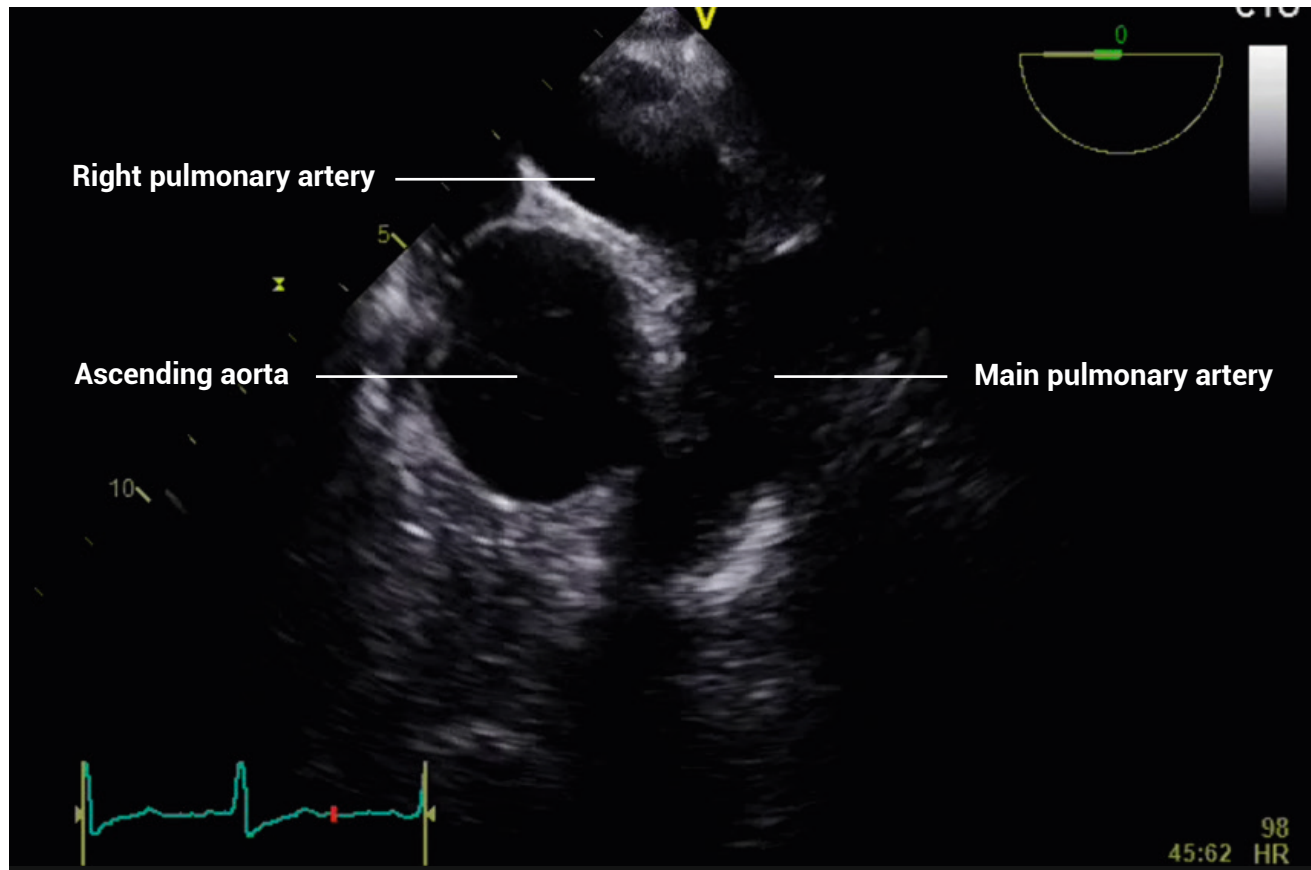
Mid-esophageal ascending aorta long-axis view

The mid-esophageal ascending aorta long-axis view is easiest to locate from the long-axis aortic root view. Starting from the long-axis aortic root view, withdraw the probe a little to bring more of the ascending aorta into view, and rotate the transducer angle backwards to around 90–110°. Center the ascending aorta in the middle of the sector. Assess the appearance of the aorta, and note the presence/absence of any abnormalities such as dissection or atheroma. Measure the diameter of the tubular ascending aorta in mid-diastole (normal range 2.2–3.6 cm).



Mid-esophageal ascending aorta short-axis view

Next, rotate the transducer angle backwards to around 0–30°. This provides the mid-esophageal ascending aorta short-axis view. The main pulmonary artery and the right pulmonary artery can also be seen in this view.



Further reading

Hahn RT, Abraham T, Adams MS, et al. 2013. Guidelines for performing a comprehensive transesophageal echocardiographic examination: Recommendations from the American Society of Echocardiography and the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists. *J Am Soc Echocardiogr.* **26**: 921–964.