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A Rare Cause of Pulmonary Embolism: Popliteal Vein Aneurysm

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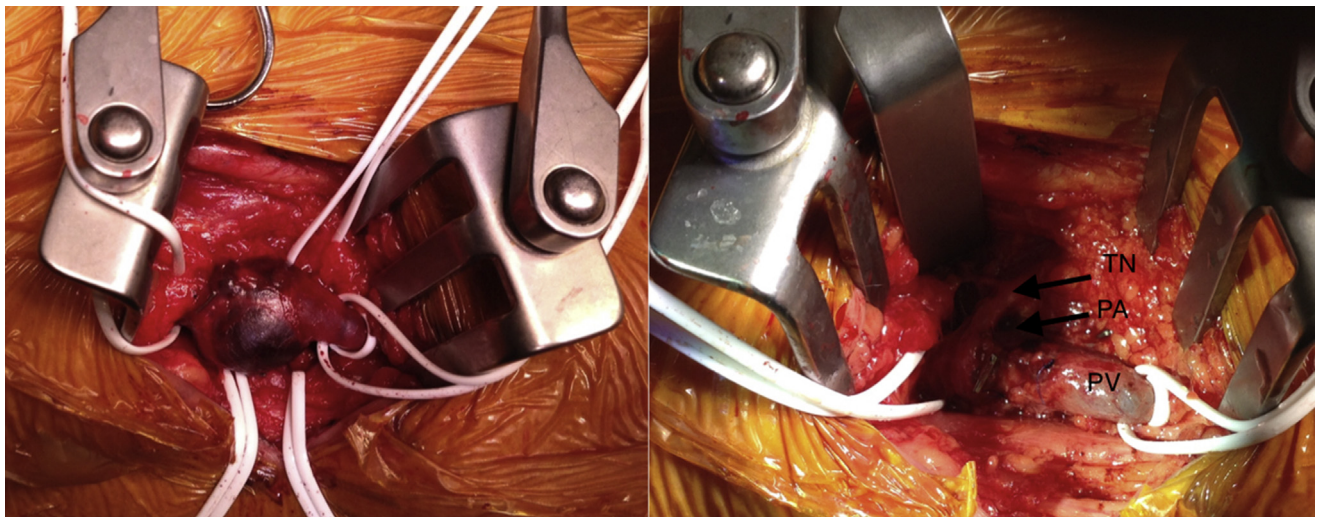
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COUP D'OEIL

A Rare Cause of Pulmonary Embolism: Popliteal Vein Aneurysm

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A 36-year-old male athlete was diagnosed with bilateral recurrent pulmonary embolism. No blood coagulation disorders were found. A 2-cm right popliteal vein aneurysm was discovered on duplex ultrasound, which was thought to be the source of his embolism. Neither deep vein thrombosis nor aneurysm thrombus was noted. The patient successfully underwent aneurysmorrhaphy with resection and direct suture repair of his aneurysm through a posterior approach. A crescent-like rim of thrombus was found after opening the aneurysm. The patient was free of pulmonary embolism recurrence up to 2 years follow-up. (TN = branches of tibial nerve; PA = popliteal artery; PV = popliteal vein).