Left atrial compression

A 55-years old male patient presented to our clinic with the complaint of atypical chest pain. On the physical examination; blood pressure was 110/70 mm Hg, heart rate was 70/min with sinus rhythm without murmur. On echocardiographic examination ejection fraction (EF) was 62% and there were no other cardiac or valvular abnormalities. There was a large echolucent cystic mass compressing the left atrium (Fig. 1, Video 1. See corresponding video/movie images at www.anakarder.com). Chest computed tomography (CT) revealed a large mass with a maximum diameter of 4.8 cm compressing the left atrium (Fig. 2). Based on these findings, we diagnosed the lesion as a cystic mass causing a sensation of heaviness in the chest, and considered the patient to be a candidate for surgery.

What is your diagnosis?

1. Cyst hydatid
2. Aneurysmatic descending aorta
3. Bronchogenic cyst
4. Pericardial cyst

Figure 1. Transthoracic echocardiographic view of the left atrial compression by cystic mass
LA - left atrium; LV - left ventricle; RA - right atrium; RV - right ventricle; *: cystic mass

Figure 2. Computed tomographic view of the left atrial compression by cystic mass
LA - left atrium; *: cystic mass

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