

## ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC DIAGNOSIS OF MITRAL VALVE DYSFUNCTION

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Dysfunction of any element of the mitral complex can produce mitral regurgitation and varied clinical syndromes. The most common forms of mitral valve dysfunction are mitral valve prolapse and ruptured chordae tendineae.

Echocardiographic methods are very useful in diagnosing the mechanism of mitral valve dysfunction. They make it possible to recognise pathological lesions of chordae not only in acute mitral failure but also in cases without any significant haemodynamic disturbances.

Our experience is based on 47 cases with mitral valve prolapse and 25 ones where dysfunction chordae tendineae has been demonstrated by M-mode and two-dimensional echocardiography.