Malpositioning of the catheter in the persistent left superior vena cava occurs in 0.3%-0.5% of patients” Konstantinou et al (2016).

Abstract:

INTRODUCTION: We present a case of peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) port placement where the catheter had been malpositioned to the persistent left superior vena cava.

METHODS: Despite the obvious elevation of the P-wave signaling proximity of the catheter tip to the sinus node, the catheter was not in the desired location within the superior vena cava or the right atrium, because of the presence of a persistent left superior vena cava. Computed tomography was used in order to locate the catheter.

RESULTS: The catheter was located in the persistent left superior vena cava.

CONCLUSIONS: Malpositioning of the catheter in the persistent left superior vena cava occurs in 0.3%-0.5% of patients. The catheter was subsequently removed.

Reference:

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