- 20 Dimant J. Accidents in the skilled nursing facility. *NY State J Med* 1985; 85: 202–5.
- 21 McIntosh SJ, Lawson J, Kenny RA. Heart rate and blood pressure responses to carotid sinus massage in healthy elderly subjects. *Age Ageing* 1994; 23: 57–61.
- 22 Morley CA, Sutton R. Carotid sinus syncope. *Int J Cardiol* 1984; 6: 287–93.
- 23 Lempert T, Bauer M, Schmidt D. Syncope: a videometric analysis of 56 episodes of transient cerebral hypoxia. *Ann Neurol* 1994; 36: 233–7.
- 24 Aronow WS, Ahn C. Postprandial hypotension in 499 elderly persons in a long-term health care facility. *J Am Geriatr Soc* 1994; 42: 930–2.
- 25 Sattin RW. Falls among older persons: a public health perspective. *Annu Rev Public Health* 1992; 13: 489–508.
- 26 Brignole M, Oddone D, Cogorno S, Menozzi C, Gianfranchi L, Bertulla A. Long-term outcome in symptomatic carotid sinus hypersensitivity. *Am Heart J* 1992; 123: 687–92.
- 27 Kapoor W, Snustad D, Peterson J, Wieand HS, Cha R, Karpf M. Syncope in the elderly. *Am J Med* 1986; 80: 419–28.
- 28 Ward C, McIntosh S, Kenny RA. The prevalence of carotid sinus syndrome in elderly patients with fractured neck of femur (abstract). *Age Ageing* 1994; 23 (suppl 1): A16.
- 29 Vellas B, Cayla F, Bocquet H, de Pemille F, Albaredo JL. Prospective study of restriction of activity in old people after falls. *Age Ageing* 1987; 16: 189–93.
- 30 Wynne HA, Schofield S. Drug-induced orthostatic hypotension. In: Kenny RA, ed. *Syncope in the older patient*. London: Chapman and Hall, 1996; pp 137–54.

Images in clinical medicine

Right atrial thrombus from deep venous thrombosis

WM Drake, RS More

Department of
Medicine, St
Bartholomew's
Hospital, London
EC1A 7BE, UK
WM Drake

Department of
Cardiology, St Mary's
Hospital, London W2
1NY, UK
RS More

Accepted 25 June 1997

A 65-year-old man presented with sudden onset of irregular palpitations and breathlessness. Two weeks previously he had spent four days in bed on account of a 'flu-like' illness.

Examination revealed atrial fibrillation with a rapid ventricular response rate and a jugular venous pressure raised by 3 cm, but no other signs or symptoms. Transoesophageal echocardiography revealed multiple clots within dilated right-sided chambers (figure). Subsequent Doppler ultrasound of the legs demonstrated bilateral deep venous thrombosis extending up to the common iliac veins.

Figure Transoesophageal echocardiogram (transverse view) showing thrombus within a dilated right atrium