Cardiology

Swelling of volar aspect of the wrist

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A 68 year old patient was admitted to the intensive care unit after a Hartman's procedure for perforated diverticular disease. His post-operative recovery was complicated with respiratory failure, and he was in the intensive care unit for 13 days. During this period he required ventilation, and a right radial artery catheter was inserted for blood pressure monitoring and arterial blood-gas analysis. The arterial catheter was removed after eight days. On the 10th postoperative day a swelling was noticed on the volar aspect of the right wrist (fig 1).

QUESTIONS

- (1) What is the diagnosis?
- (2) What are the differential diagnoses?

- (3) How do you treat this condition?

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Figure 1 Swelling on the volar aspect of the right wrist.