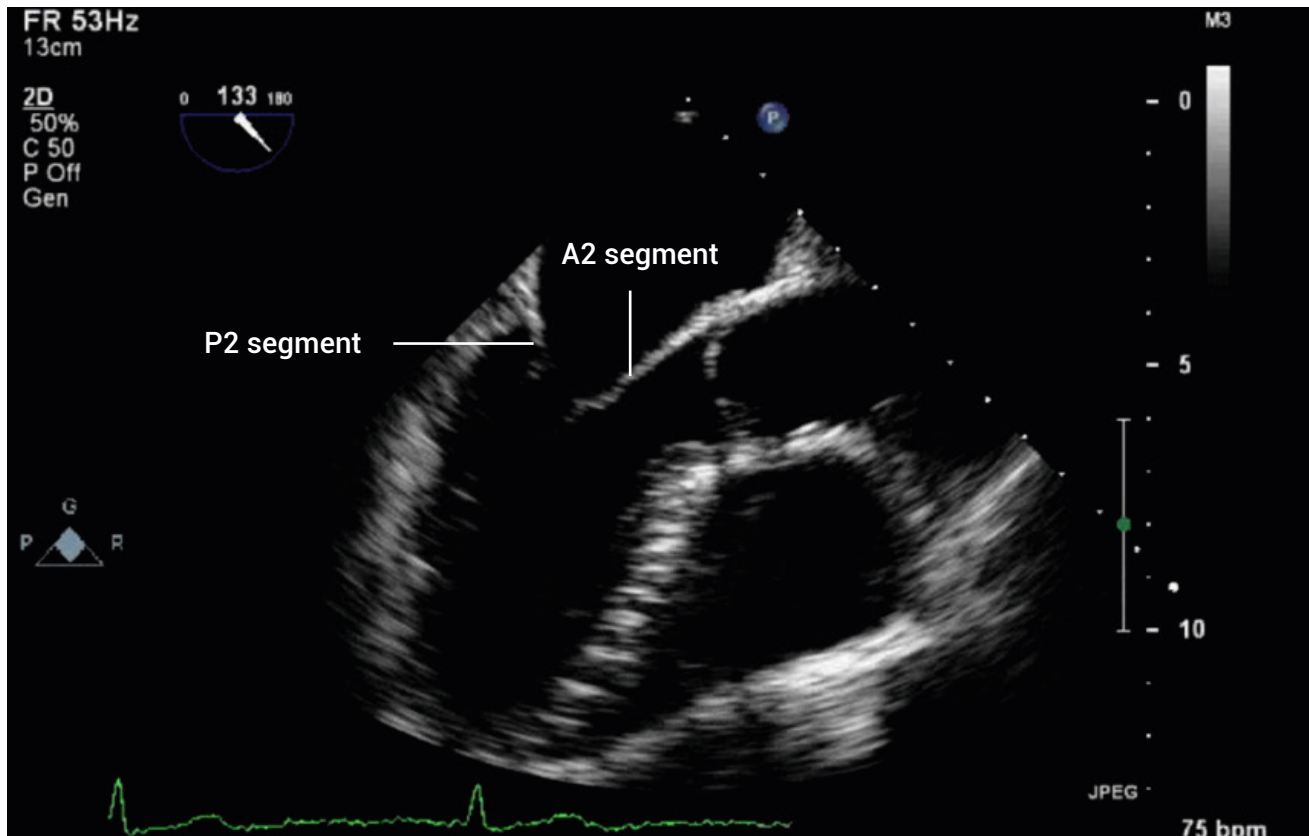


TEE ESSENTIALS

Assessment of the mitral valve: Mid-esophageal long-axis view

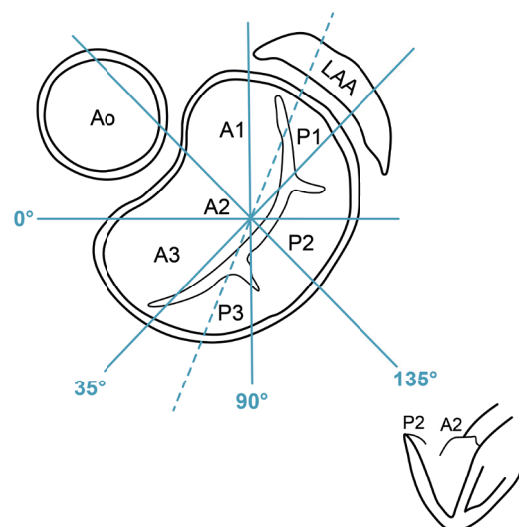
The mid-esophageal long-axis view is obtained using a transducer angle of 120–140°. This is an equivalent view to the apical three-chamber (long-axis) view on transthoracic echo.



In this view the A2 and P2 segments are seen. Use color Doppler and continuous wave/pulsed wave Doppler as appropriate to assess mitral valve function. This is the optimal view for grading mitral regurgitation severity using the vena contracta or proximal isovelocity surface area (PISA) methods.

Measurements

This is a suitable view for measuring the mitral annular diameter (minor axis), which should be measured at end-diastole and at end-systole. Surgeons find these measurements useful when planning mitral valve repair.



Further reading

Ender J and Sgouropoulou S. 2013. Value of transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) guidance in minimally invasive mitral valve surgery. *Ann Cardiothorac Surg.* 2: 796–802.