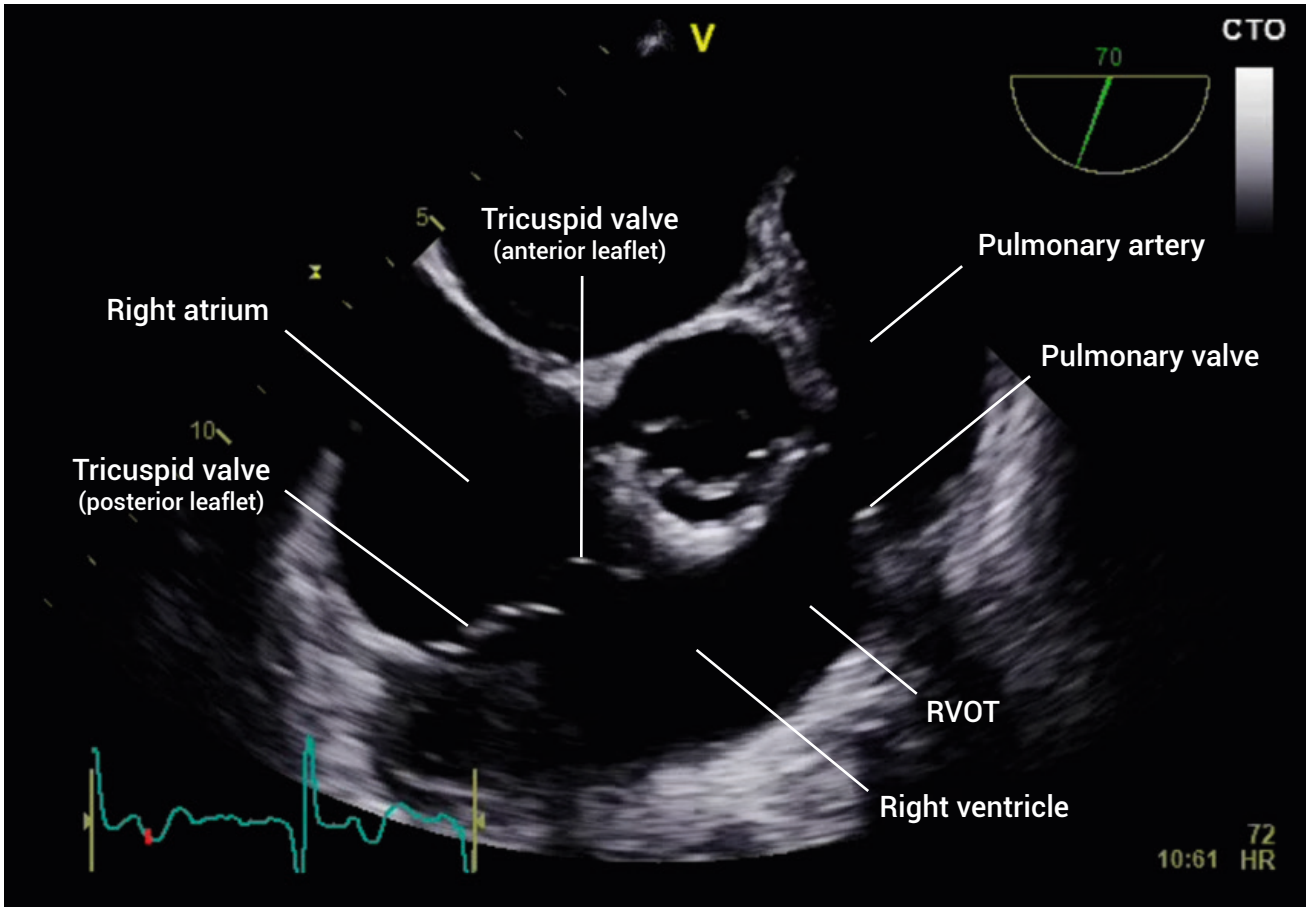
TEE ESSENTIALS

Assessment of the right heart: Mid-esophageal right ventricular inflow-outflow view

This TEE view is obtained at the mid-esophageal level, using a transducer angle of 60–80°. The view includes the right atrium, tricuspid valve, right ventricle (RV) and right ventricular outflow tract (RVOT), pulmonary valve, and proximal main pulmonary artery. In addition, this view shows the left atrium, interatrial septum, and aortic valve (seen along its short axis).



Check for any right atrial abnormalities, such as dilatation or the presence of a mass (e.g., thrombus or tumor).

Assess right ventricular size and function, and measure the RVOT internal diameter at end-diastole and end-systole: an RVOT end-diastolic diameter >35 mm indicates dilatation.

Assess the structure of the tricuspid and pulmonary valves, and use color Doppler to assess valve flow.

Assess the morphology of the proximal portion of the main pulmonary artery.

Further reading

Rudski LG, Lai WW, Afilalo J, et al. 2010. Guidelines for the echocardiographic assessment of the right heart in adults: a report from the American Society of Echocardiography. *J Am Soc Echocardiogr*. **23**: 685–713.