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the cusps of the valve only operate satisfactorily because of the vortices that form in the blood, which cause the closure of the valve. (Leonardo da Vinci, 1513)



Roles of intracardiac vortex

- To prevent collision of flow
- To avoid excessive turbulence and dissipation of energy
- To redirect blood flow towards LV outflow tract
- To make fluid transport efficient



Quantification of intracardiac flow Vector flow mapping (VFM[®])















































Conclusions

- VFM (vector flow mapping) provides us information on intracardiac flow velocity and vortex independent of Doppler beam direction.
- Ejection rate, shear stress, energy loss and intraventricular relative pressure distribution derived from VFM may be useful to assess pathophysiology of various cardiac conditions.
- IVPD during IRT may be useful as a new index of diastolic function (diastolic suction).

