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A case of AMI caused by soft plaque with signet ring-like appearance

A 72-year-old man had attended our hospital with hypertension and atypical chest pain. Coronary CT revealed mild stenosis of proximal left anterior descending artery, however no induced ischemia was detected by thallium myocardial scintigraphy. So we didn't perform coronary angiography (CAG). Suddenly, he suffered from exertional dyspnea and lower jaw pain, so he admitted to our hospital. Electrocardiogram revealed ST elevation in V1-4 leads, and echocardiogram showed akinesis of anteroseptal left ventricular wall. Emergent CAG was performed and revealed a total occlusion of proximal left anterior descending artery with thrombus. We performed percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) under intra aortic balloon pumping support. We performed aspiration thrombectomy and implanted bare metal stent. Finally, TIMI 2 flow was obtained. Coronary CT was performed 6 month before PCI. It revealed mild stenosis with soft plaque of left anterior descending artery and showed semicircular thin enhancement along the outer contour of the vessel wall (signet ring-like appearance). Signet ring-like appearance is known as a predictor of no flow after PCI. Moreover it may be useful for the prediction of AMI.