MULTIPLANE TEE PROVIDES A “ROAD MAP” FOR MITRAL VALVE REPAIRS

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The surgical repair of the mitral valve is an increasingly favored option among cardiothoracic surgeons all over the world. The ability to assess the valve pathology accurately in a flaccid heart through left Atriotomy is often severely limited. Most surgeons have to rely on ability of transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) to define pathology in vivo in a beating heart. A detailed understanding of TEE anatomy can be used to provide a “road map”, which is often invaluable in obtaining a successful surgical outcome. A more detailed the road map, more successful the surgery; as a general rule.