

# Rad<sup>to</sup>RadLearning

*Focused tips from our experts*

## Left Atrial Appendage Occluder Device Leak

CARDIOTHORACIC IMAGING NATIONAL SUBSPECIALTY DIVISION



### PEER LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Left atrial appendage occluder (LAAO) device complications include leakage through the face of the device due to lack of endothelialization and peripheral leakage due to incomplete peripheral sealing.



*Left: Normal watchman device.  
Center: Through-device leakage.  
Right: Peripheral leakage.*



### PRACTICAL INSIGHTS

- Leaks can be seen on non-cardiac examinations with contrast entering the device or seen distal to it.
- Peripheral leak geometry is best assessed with a dedicated cardiac CTA and can be missed on ungated studies.
- Persistent peripheral leaks can be treated with embolization.



**LAAO DEVICE LEAKS ARE MORE COMMON THAN YOU THINK.**

## CLINICAL VALUE