An 89-year-old diabetic woman was admitted for uncontrolled hyperglycemia. Chest x-ray revealed a severely enlarged cardiac profile (Fig. 1). Echocardiography showed a flail posterior mitral leaflet with severe valvular regurgitation; the left atrium was severely dilated, but left ventricular volumes were normal (Fig. 2). Despite advanced age, cardiac overload, uncontrolled systemic and pulmonary hypertension, slightly reduced left ventricular function, and the presence of atrial fibrillation, the patient was in New York Heart Association functional class II. A conservative strategy was adopted and medical therapy was optimized; at 6-month follow-up, clinical and echocardiographic parameters were stable.

Reference