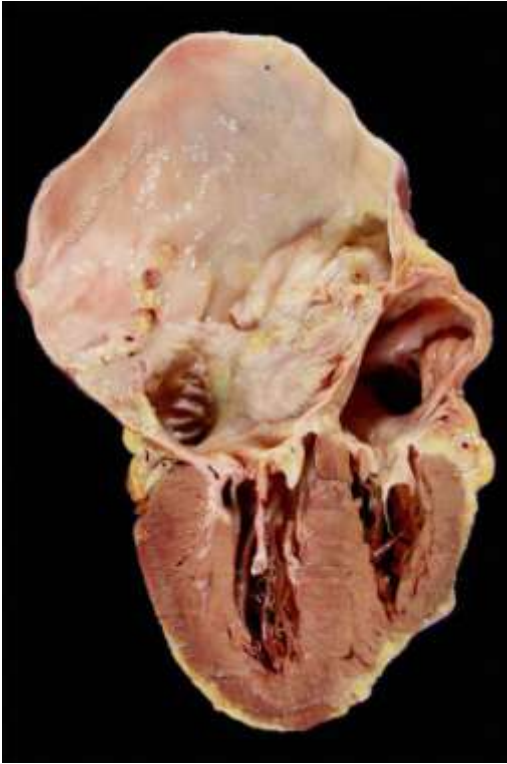
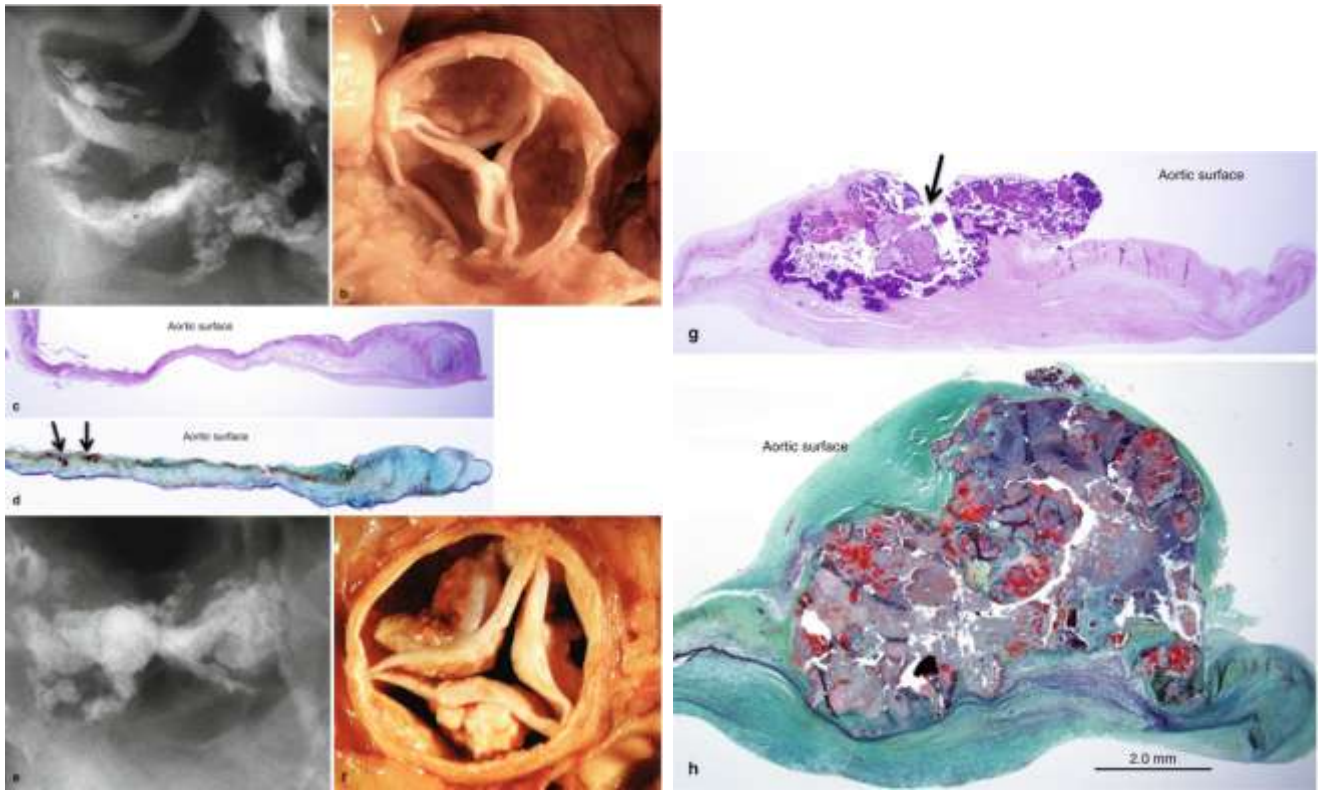




Rheumatic Mitral Valve Stenosis. Dorsal four chamber view of the heart. The left atrium is fibrotic with areas of dystrophic calcification. The mitral valve appears stiff due to severe fibrosis. The fused chordae tendineae are seen as columns of fibrous cord attached to the papillary muscle. The left ventricle is hypertrophied and moderately dilated due to a combination of mitral stenosis and regurgitation. The following image shows a close up of an excised rheumatic valve.



Cephalad anterior view of a mitral valve with marked billowing and prolapse of both valve leaflets into the atrial cavity. The leaflets are usually thickened and gelatinous on gross examination.



Two aortic valves seen at autopsy showing progression of calcific aortic stenosis. (a, b) Radiograph and gross image of aortic valve from an 83-year-old female. This valve shows mild calcification with small calcific deposits on aortic surface of cusps and sparing of the free edge. (c, d) Histologic sections of cusps showing fibrotic thickening and microscopic calcific deposits in the zona fibrosa (arrows). (e, f). Radiograph and gross image of stenotic aortic valve from an 82-year-old female. There is marked nodular calcification of the cusps with bulky deposits on the aortic surface. (g, h) Histologic sections of the cusps show calcific nodules superimposed on a fibrotic cusp with ulceration of the aortic surface (arrow). Note fibrotic thickening of the ventricular surface