Holmes and colleagues examined 1-year patient outcomes after transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) in an analysis of linked Medicare claims and Society of Thoracic Surgeons/American College of Cardiology Transcatheter Valve Therapy (STS/ACC TVT) Registry data. Patients (n=12,182) who underwent TAVR between November 2011 and July 2013 were included in the analysis. The authors report that at 1-year follow-up, overall mortality was 23.7%, the stroke rate was 4.1%, and rate of the composite outcome of death and stroke was 26.0%. In the year after TAVR, 24.4% of survivors were rehospitalized once, and 12.5% were rehospitalized twice.

Familial hypercholesterolemia is characterized by impaired cellular cholesterol uptake. In light of evidence that statin therapy is associated with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes, Besseling and colleagues hypothesized that perturbations in transmembrane cholesterol transport may be linked to development of type 2 diabetes and they assessed the relationship in a cross-sectional study involving 25,137 patients with familial hypercholesterolemia and 38,183 unaffected relatives. The authors found a lower prevalence of diabetes among individuals with familial hypercholesterolemia. In an Editorial, Preiss and Sattar discuss a possible link between the low-density lipoprotein receptor and diabetes risk.

The role of surgery for most displaced proximal humeral fractures is unclear. Rangan and colleagues randomly assigned 250 adult patients with a displaced fracture of the proximal humerus involving the surgical neck to undergo surgical treatment or sling immobilization, with standard rehabilitation provided to both groups. The authors found that patient-reported clinical outcomes assessed in the 2 years after fracture occurrence were not significantly different between the treatment groups.
Clinical Review & Education

Food Antioxidants to Prevent Cataract 1048
Oxidative stress from physiological and environmental factors is a risk for cataract development. An article in JAMA Ophthalmology reported that dietary antioxidant intake—primarily from fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and coffee—was inversely associated with the risk of age-related cataract in a prospective cohort of middle-aged and elderly Swedish women. In this From The JAMA Network article, Mares discusses the evidence linking antioxidant foods and supplements with cataract prevention.

Doppler Echocardiography in the Evaluation of a Heart Murmur 1050
This JAMA Diagnostic Test Interpretation article by Foppa and colleagues presents the case of a 91-year-old woman with a history of hypertension who presented for a routine office visit. She denied chest pain, dyspnea on exertion, presyncope, or orthopnea. Her blood pressure was 140/76 mm Hg. Her lungs were clear. Cardiac examination demonstrated a regular rate and rhythm, normal S1, and systolic and diastolic murmurs. A 2-dimensional Doppler transthoracic echocardiogram was performed to assess valvular function, cardiac chamber size, and cardiac wall thickness. How would you interpret the echocardiography findings?

From The Medical Letter: Drugs for Chronic Heart Failure 1052
This Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics article provides a concise summary of recommendations for drug treatment of patients with chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction—defined as a left ventricular ejection fraction of 40% or less. Briefly, unless contraindicated, all patients should be prescribed both an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor and a β-blocker. A diuretic should be added if there is volume overload. An aldosterone antagonist can be considered for patients who are symptomatic or have left ventricular dysfunction after myocardial infarction.