## Accepted Manuscript

Title: Porcine heart interatrial septum anatomy

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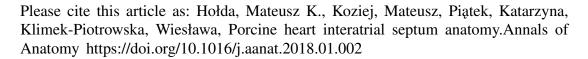
PII: S0940-9602(18)30011-6

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aanat.2018.01.002

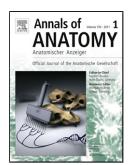
Reference: AANAT 51220

To appear in:

Received date: 29-8-2017 Revised date: 24-1-2018 Accepted date: 25-1-2018



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**ABSTRACT:** 

**Background:** The left-sided atrial septal pouch (SP), a recently re-discovered anatomical

structure within the human interatrial septum, has emerged as a possible source of thrombi

formation and a trigger for atrial fibrillation, thereby potentially increasing the risk for

ischemic stroke. In many studies, the swine interatrial septum has been used as model of the

human heart. Also, possible new strategies and devices for management of the SPs may first

be tested in this pig model. Therefore, in this study, we aimed to evaluate swine interatrial

septum morphology and to compare it with the human analog, especially in the light of SP

occurrence.

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