

# **Conduction Disturbance in Congenital Heart Disease**

Department of Pediatrics  
Chonnam National University Hospital  
Young Kuk Cho

# Overview

- Conduction system in CHD
- Normal conduction system
- Congenital heart disease

VSD

ASD

AVSD

TAPVC

Ebstein Anomaly

TOF

Floppy Mitral Valve/MVP

TGA

Corrected TGA

HLHS

DORV

DILV

Isomerism

- Arrhythmias after CPB

# Introduction

Conduction system in congenital heart disease

Organogenesis defect

Congenital defect ->

conduction system : migration, interruption

Volume overload – chamber enlargement

conduction delay, interruption

Pressure overload- hypertrophy, fibrosis

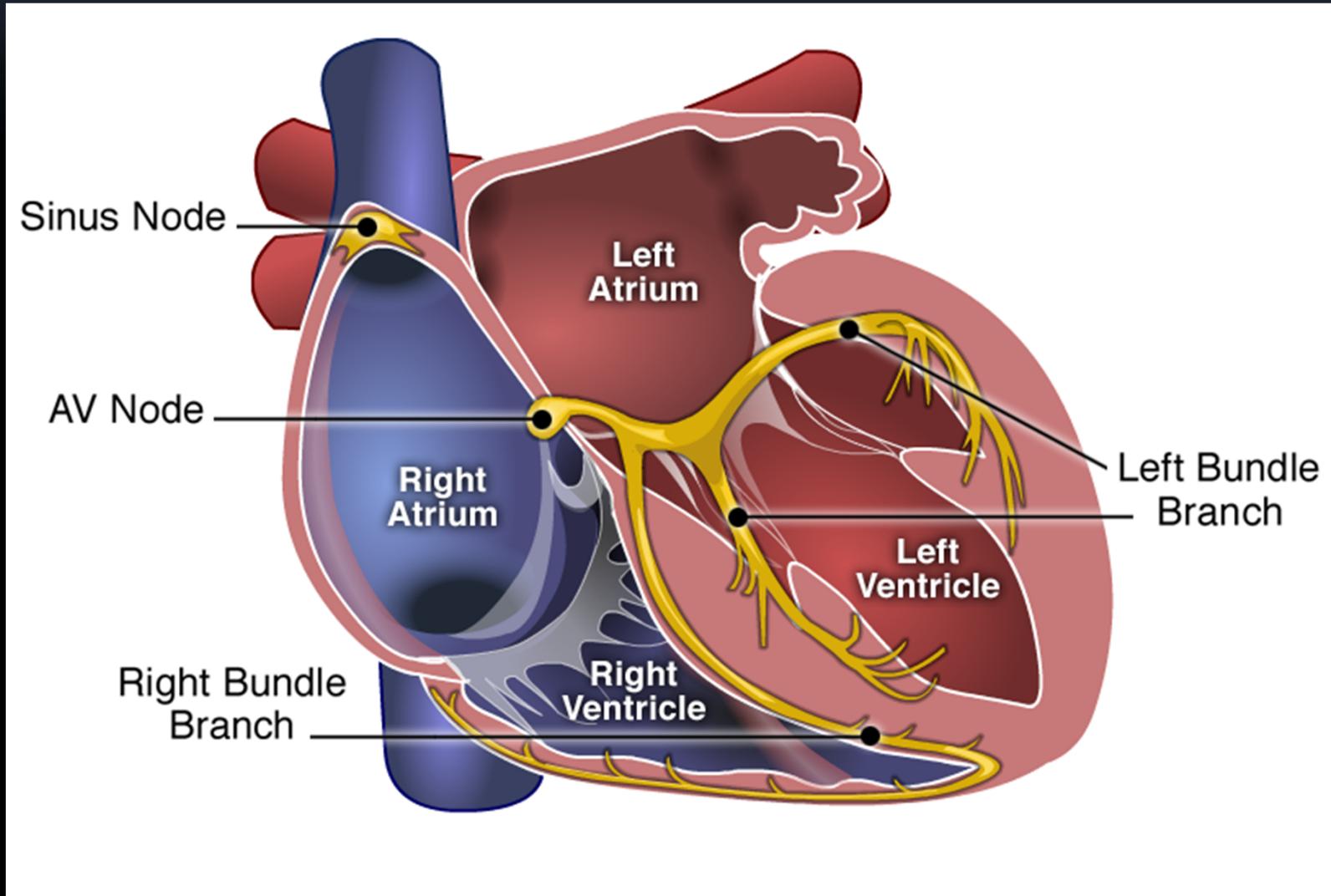
Operation associated conduction abnormality

conduction ts direct injury

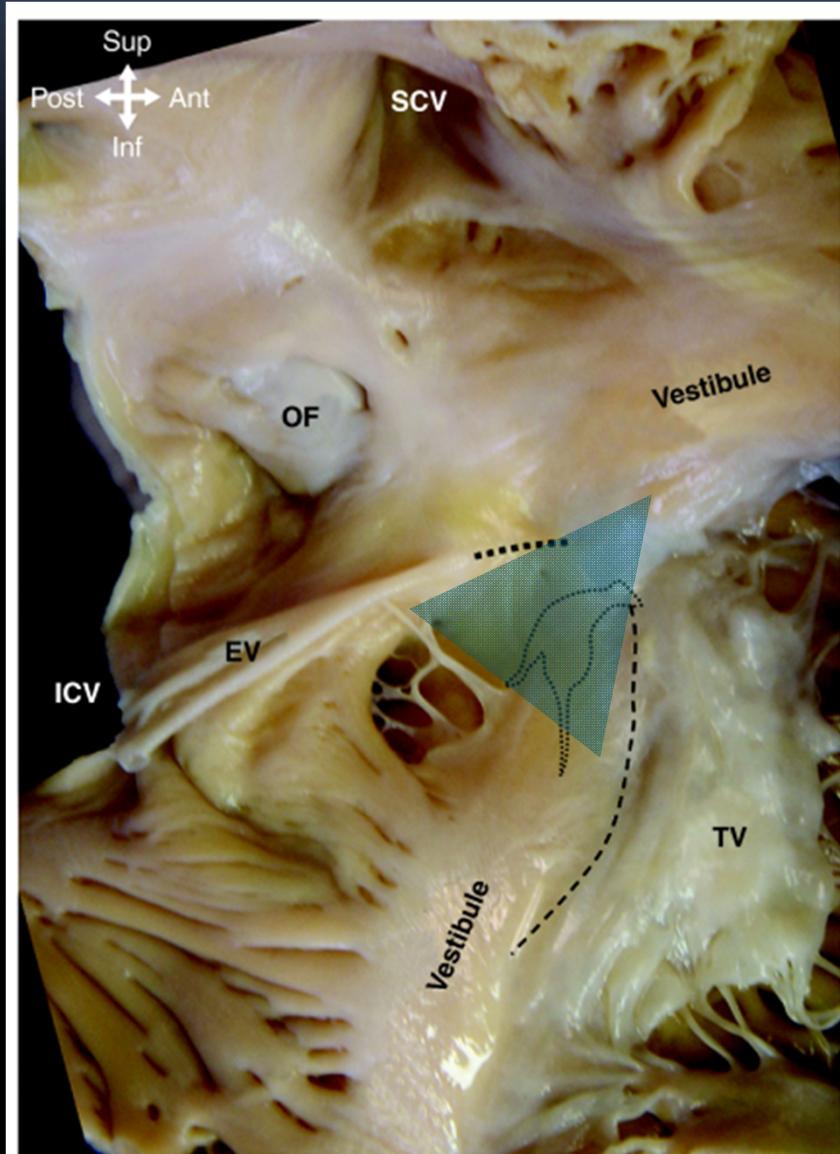
edema

hemorrhage

# Normal conduction



# AV node



## Triangle of Koch

- base of the septal leaflet of TV,
- AM margin of CS orifice,
- palpable subendocardial collagen bundle (tendon of Todaro)

# Ventricular Septal Defect

AV conduction to Defect -relationship  
important to surgical repair

His bundle

PM : along the posterior-inferior margin of the defect.

Inlet : antero-superiorly to the defect

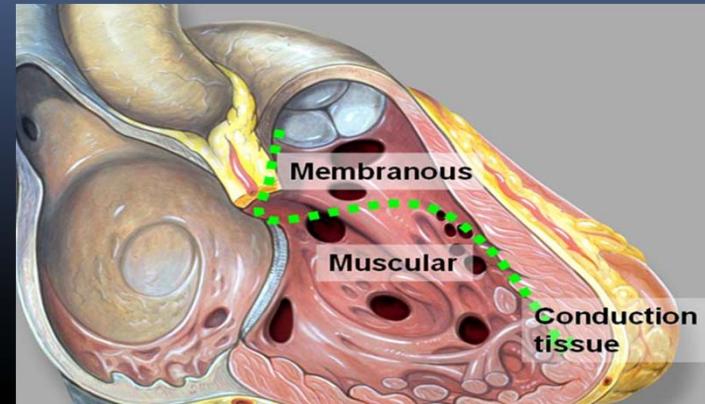
*Anderson et al. J Cardiac Surg 1992;7:17–34.*

Muscular & outlet, SA : little danger of heart block

extend into the PM : may occur

RBBB after repair

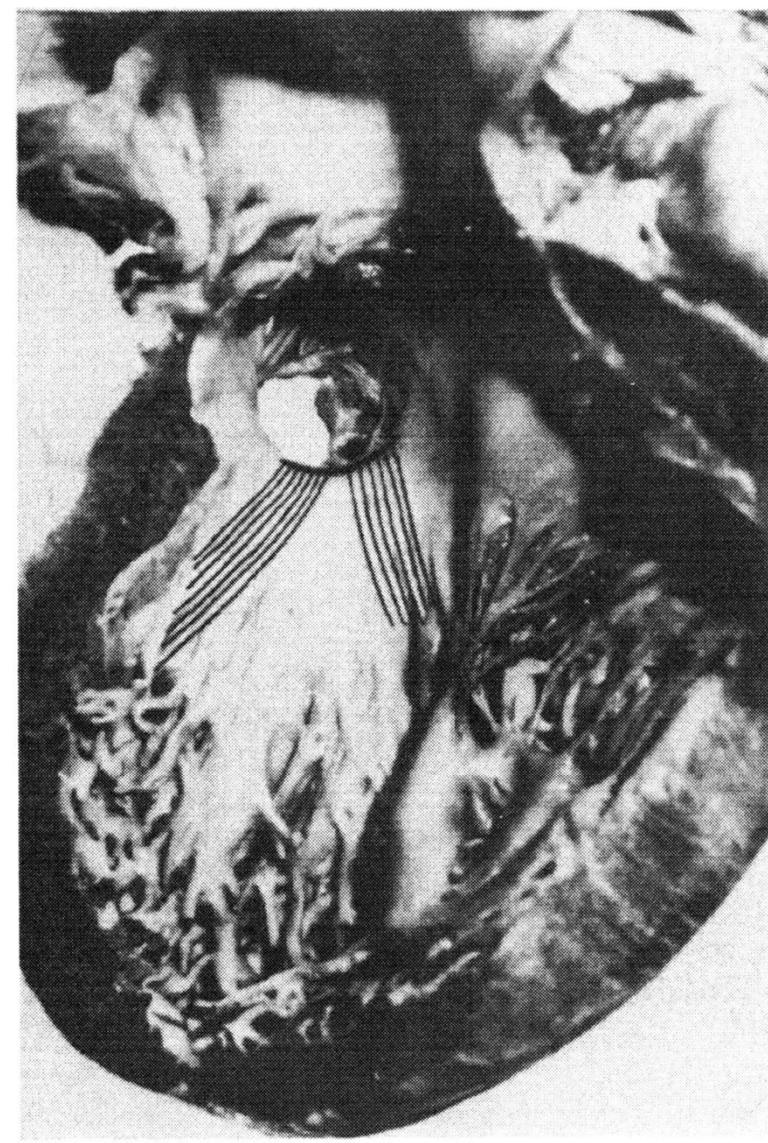
ventriculotomy or direct injury of Rt bundle



*Allen et al. Moss and Adams' heart disease in infants, children, and adolescents. 2008.*



A



B

Lev M. Am J Cardiol. 1968 May;21(5):619-27.

# Atrial Septal Defect

PR interval : prolonged in older patients  
intra-atrial & sometimes H-V conduction delay  
→ 1<sup>st</sup> AV block

Shiku DJ et al. J Electrocardiol 1982;15:9-14

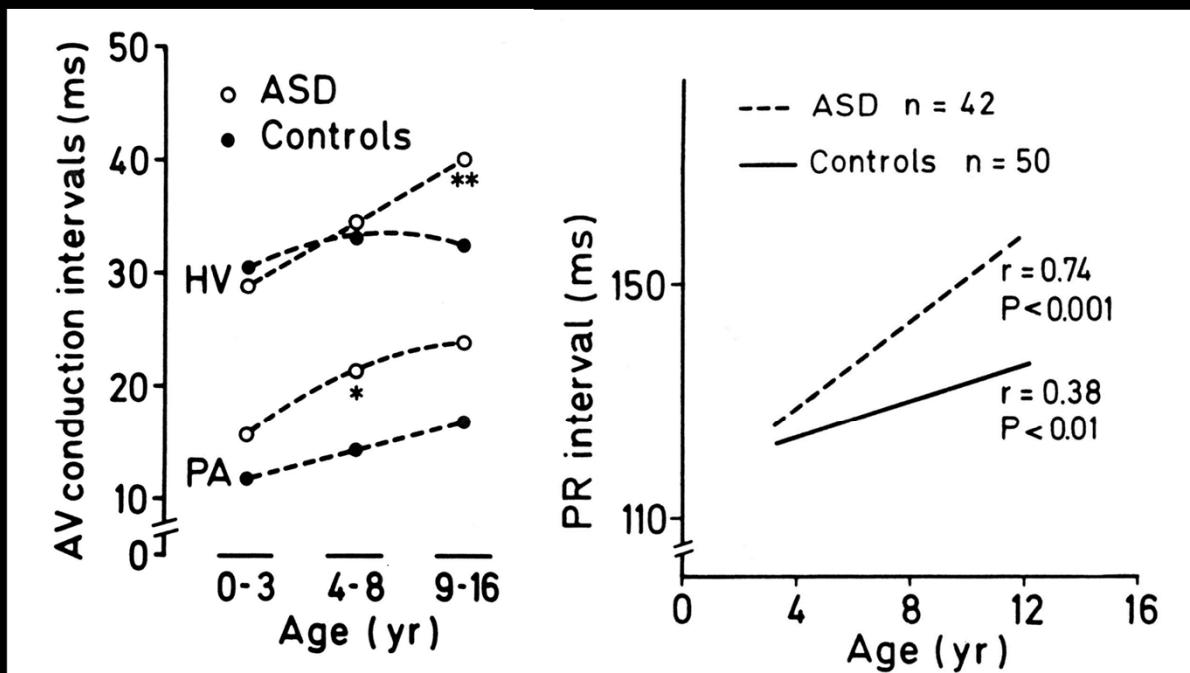


Fig. 2. Changes of PA and HV intervals with age in children with and without ASD. Open and filled circles represent mean values of ASD and control subgroups respectively. \* ASD value is significantly different from the corresponding control value at  $P < 0.05$ , \*\* at  $P < 0.01$ .

Fig. 3. Linear regression of the PR interval in relation to age in children with and without ASD. The slope of the PR line in ASD patients is significantly steeper than that of the PR line in the control group ( $P < 0.05$ ).

## Sinus node dysfunction by EPS

corrected sinus node recovery times

sinoatrial conduction times → abnormal

rare in resting ECGs or 24-hour ambulatory monitoring

→ predisposed to atrial arrhythmias

*Clark EB et al. Circulation 1982;65:976-980*

*Karpawich PP et al. Am J Cardiol 1985;55:519-521*

*Bink-Boelkens MTE et al. Int J Cardiol 1988;20:263-272*

TABLE 1. Electrophysiologic Data of Preoperative Patients with Secundum Atrial Septal Defects

Pt	Age (years)	Sex	Symptoms	ECG ARR	24-hour ECG ARR	Intracardiac electrophysiology				
						Sinoatrial node		AV node		
						CSNRT (msec)	SACT (msec)	AH (msec)	HV (msec)	W@APR (beats/min)
1	13	F	—	1° AV block	Sinus arrest junctional	-40	—	180	40	153
2	13	F	Syncope	—	2° AV block SAN arrest	800	—	80	45	140
3	18	M	—	—	Normal	450	286	95	53	120
4	4 6/12	F	—	—	Normal	470	158	60	35	—
5	6 6/12	M	—	—	NA	110	130	70	40	200
6	3 9/12	M	—	—	NA	80	126	70	35	200
7	6 3/12	M	—	—	Paroxysmal atrial flutter	SAN-EB	SAN-EB	—	—	200*
8	1 4/12	F	—	—	NA	130	—	80	40	200
9	13	F	—	—	2 episodes Mobitz II AV block	280	140	75	50	140
10	10	M	Dizziness	—	Normal	340	174	90	45	150
11	10 6/12	M	—	—	Wandering atrial pacemaker	390	—	80	40	200
12	1 6/12	F	—	—	NA	130	122	85	30	200
13	10/12	F	—	—	Frequent PACs	330	168	90	35	200
14	16	M	—	—	Normal	440	300 intermittent SAN-EB	90	40	200
15	1 4/12	F	—	—	Normal	120	140	60	35	200
					Normal <sup>6</sup>	Normal <sup>6</sup>	Normal <sup>8</sup>	Normal <sup>8</sup>	Normal <sup>9</sup>	
					< 275	< 200	< 120	< 55	> 160	

\*Wenkebach assumed to be in AV node because His could not be recorded.

Abbreviations: @CL = obtained at sinus cycle length; AH = atrial-His duration; ARR = arrhythmias; AV = atrioventricular; CSNRT = corrected sinus node recovery time; ERP = effective refractory period; FRP = functional refractory period; % green dye = left-right shunt calculated from green dye curves; HV = His to ventricular duration; NA = not available; Qp/Qs = pulmonary-to-systemic flow ratio; S = surgical repair; SACT = sinoatrial conduction time; SAN = sinoatrial node; SAN-EB = SAN entrance block; W@APR = atrial paced AV node Wenckebach rate; PACs = premature atrial complexes.

ECG : 40 ASD

6 (15%) 1<sup>st</sup> AV block -> 5/6 disappear after Op.

TABLE 2  
Pre- and postoperative 24-hour Holter recordings.

	Preoperative <i>n</i> = 31	Postoperative <i>n</i> = 31
Abnormal Holter recordings	14	8
Accelerated atrial rhythm	11	6
AVJ rhythm	1	2
Sinus arrest	2	—
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree AV block		
type I	1	—
type II	2	—
PACs > 10/hr	1	1
PVCs > 10/hr	—	1

PAC = premature atrial contraction; PVC = premature ventricular contraction; AVJ = atrioventricular junctional.

**TABLE I** Electrophysiologic Data

Age (yr)	CL	Preoperative Abnormal Electrophysiology						Postoperative					
		Atrium				AVN		CL	Atrium				AVN
		CSNRT	SACT	WCL	FRP	ERP	FRP		CSNRT	SACT	WCL	FRP	ERP
2	680	300	EB	400	260	240	320 <sup>†</sup>	600	360	122	280	240	230
3	650	350	180	360	310	300	340			204	260	240	230
4	630	360	EB	320	290	260	270	550	300	268	400	240	220
4	610	400	112	320	270	240	310	680	390	268	400	240	250
4	700	450	112	500	270	240	310	590	330	136	280	220	170
4	650	380	206	280	310	300	320						260 <sup>†</sup>
4	650	390	198	340	240	230	250						
5	610	320	160	350	250	240	260						
10	970	450	332	550	310	300	440	860	370	138	500	290	280
16	810	450	134	320	290	280	300	710	310	184	300	300	280
17	850	340	182	520	320	300	310	700	490	204	400	230	200
Normal		<275	<210	<380	*	*	*						280

Preoperative Normal Electrophysiology						
1	510	180	80		270	
1	580	160	150			
2	600	230	80	350	210	
2	610	250	122	320	230	220
3	500	60	164	360	190	180
3	600	260	160	300	260	240
3	520	260	192	280	260	240
4	670	90	126	250	180	160
5	640	220	168	380	200	190
16	550	270	78	280	230	180
					260	

All values are in milliseconds.

\* Cycle length-dependent.

† Inducible supraventricular tachycardia.

CL = cycle length; CSNRT = corrected sinus node recovery time; EB = entrance block; ERP = effective refractory period; FRP = functional refractory period; SACT = sinoatrial conduction time; WCL = Wenckebach CL.

# Atrioventricular Septal Defect

AV node

displaced posteriorly, near the orifice of the coronary sinus

His bundle

displaced inferiorly, along the inferior rim of the septal defect

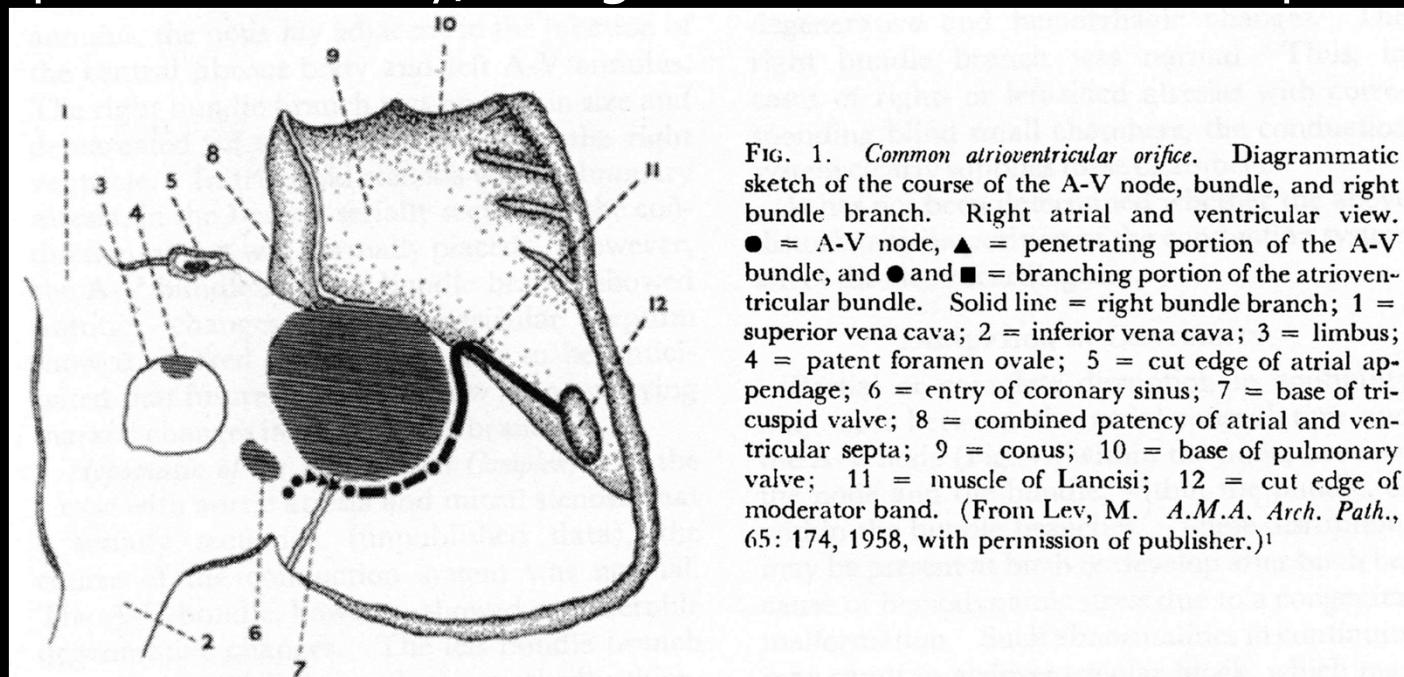


FIG. 1. *Common atrioventricular orifice.* Diagrammatic sketch of the course of the A-V node, bundle, and right bundle branch. Right atrial and ventricular view. ● = A-V node, ▲ = penetrating portion of the A-V bundle, and ● and ■ = branching portion of the atrioventricular bundle. Solid line = right bundle branch; 1 = superior vena cava; 2 = inferior vena cava; 3 = limbus; 4 = patent foramen ovale; 5 = cut edge of atrial appendage; 6 = entry of coronary sinus; 7 = base of tricuspid valve; 8 = combined patency of atrial and ventricular septa; 9 = conus; 10 = base of pulmonary valve; 11 = muscle of Lancisi; 12 = cut edge of moderator band. (From Lev, M. *A.M.A. Arch. Path.*, 65: 174, 1958, with permission of publisher.)<sup>1</sup>

## P-R interval prolongation

patient's age & HR (18 - 70%)

d/t intra-atrial conduction time

high right atrium ~ low septal right atrium

other intracardiac EPS measurements : normal

**TABLE I Electrocardiographic Findings In Patients with Atrioventricular Canal**

	Preoperative		Total	Postoperative		
	CAVC	IAVC		CAVC	IAVC	Total
PR	8/15	3/14	11/29	8/14	4/10	12/24
QRS (RBBB)	1/15	5/14	6/29	11/15	8/10	19/25
LAD	13/15	10/14	23/29	13/15	8/10	21/25
Rhythm Abn	0/15	0/14	0/29	2/16	0/10	2/26

Abn = abnormality; CAVC = complete atrioventricular canal; IAVC = incomplete atrioventricular canal; LAD = left-axis deviation; RBBB = right bundle branch block.

Fournier A, Young M-L et al. Am J Cardiol 1986;57:1137-1141

**TABLE II Electrophysiologic Findings in Preoperative Patients**

Pt	Associated Anomalies	Age (yr)	Basic Intervals				PR	Sinus Node		Atrium		AV Node		Ventricle			
			PA	AH	HV	AV		V-RV	SNRT	SACT	ERP	FRP	ERP	FRP	W	ERP	FRP
<b>Complete AV Canal</b>																	
1	PDA, ASD 2	12/12	30	34	36		100	26	360		140	180	ATL	ATL		170	185
2		6/12	10			124	134	0	550		175	180	ATL	ATL	<300	180	190
3	ASD 2	211/12	14	105*	32		151*	22		73	160	210	ATL	ATL		180	190
4		24/12	20	70	44		134	14	420		160	205	ATL	ATL			
5		92/12	20	150*	30		200*	0	900	120	180	265	ATL	ATL	300	230	240
6	PDA	94/12	44	101	31		176*	11	1,005	168	160	245	270	<350		210	220
7		32/12	47*	65	31		143†	25	610		210	230	250	340	310	250	260
<b>Incomplete AV Canal</b>																	
8		163/12	69*	76	42		187*	18	740		150	290	ATL	ATL	285	240	250
9		26/12	25	70	40		135	8	550	91	160	225	ATL	ATL	310		
10		123/12	39	66	41		146	53*	830	194	180	190	ATL	ATL	<300	190	210
11		36/12	51*	61	16		128†	20	660		175	210	210	210	<310	220	225
12		24/12	31	73	25		129	15			140	170	170	200			
13		61/12	37	67	37		141	15	1,230*	221*	200	220	ATL	ATL	<270	250	270
14		9/12	51*	76	16		143†	28	535		125	180	225	260	<280		
15		19/12	35	91	40		166*	20	410		135	165	ATL	ATL		230	250
16		3	23	83	37		143	10	608	90	180	240	ATL	ATL	350	200	220
17		39/12	24	75	29		128	30			<240	220	F270	F300		200	230
18	VSD, ASD 2	8/12	40*	50	40		130†	10	510		170	200	ATL	ATL	225	180	190

All intervals are in milliseconds.

\* Abnormal value, † Normal PR but prolonged PA.

AS = aortic stenosis; ASD 2 = atrial septal defect secundum; ATL = atrial limited; AV = atrioventricular; ERP = effective refractory period; F = fast AV nodal pathway; FRP = functional refractory period; PDA = patent ductus arteriosus; PS = pulmonary stenosis; R Arch = right aortic arch; S = slow AV nodal pathway; SACT = sino atrial conduction time; SNRT = sinus node recovery time; V-RV = right ventricular apical activation time; VSD = ventricular septal defect type AV canal; W = Wenckebach periodicity.

# Total Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection

RV volume overload  
occasionally incomplete RBBB

# Ebstein Anomaly

RAE – peaked P

P wave : more wider & notched (poor Px)

Wolff–Parkinson–White syndrome

20- 30%

m.c. : right-sided accessory pathway – LAD of delta wave

PSVT can be occurred

W/o Wolff–Parkinson–White syndrome

QRS complexes : RBBB

QRS interval : ↑ d/t intraventricular conduction delay

Arrhythmia

PSVT : w/wo WPW

atrial flutter or atrial fibrillation : older, severe

Other : wandering pacemaker or ventricular ectopy

*Kumar AE, et al. Am J Cardiol 1971;28:84–95.*

## 55 Ebstein anomaly

**TABLE IV**  
**Arrhythmias Observed in 24 Patients**

Type of Arrhythmia	no. of Cases
Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia	7
Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia and WPW "B"	5
WPW "B"	3
Atrial flutter	2
Atrial fibrillation	1
Nodal rhythm	3
Wandering pacemaker	1
Premature ventricular contraction	2

WPW "B" = Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, type B.

**TABLE V**

**Follow-up of the Electrocardiogram in 26 Patients with Ebstein's Anomaly with Time Interval of 5 or More Years**

	P Amplitude (mm) (mean $\pm$ SEM)	P Duration (sec) (mean $\pm$ SEM)	P-R (sec) (mean $\pm$ SEM)	P/PQ Index (mean $\pm$ SEM)	QRS Duration (sec) (mean $\pm$ SEM)
First visit	2.8 $\pm$ 0.24	0.07 $\pm$ 0.004	0.15 $\pm$ 0.005	0.92 $\pm$ 0.05	0.09 $\pm$ 0.005
Last visit	3.8 $\pm$ 0.27	0.09 $\pm$ 0.004	0.19 $\pm$ 0.008	0.88 $\pm$ 0.04	0.12 $\pm$ 0.005
Mean difference	1.0 $\pm$ 0.16	0.02 $\pm$ 0.005	0.04 $\pm$ 0.009	-0.04 $\pm$ 0.06	0.03 $\pm$ 0.006
P value	<0.001	<0.01	<0.001	NS	<0.001

NS = not significant.

# Tetralogy of Fallot

In postoperative  
m.c. RBBB, early and late arrhythmias

In older children & adult untreated TOF  
ventricular ectopy & other arrhythmias  
d/t RV hypertension and myocardial fibrosis.

Sudden death & ventricular arrhythmias  
early in the experience with total repair of TOF  
risk : 4.6%  
d/t bi-fascicular block -> complete AV block  
re-emergence of transient postOp complete AV block  
symptomatic VT

*Deanfield et al. Br Heart J 1980;44:248–253.  
Silka et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 1998;32:245–251.*

196 TOF repair  
F/U 1-20 yr (mean 10yr)

**Table 1** *Conduction defects on preoperative, postoperative, and follow-up electrocardiograms*

<i>Conduction pattern</i>	<i>Preoperative</i>		<i>Postoperative</i>		<i>Follow-up</i>	
	<i>No. of patients</i> (%)					
Normal	170 (87)		7 (4)		2 (1)	
Incomplete RBBB	22 (11)		2 (1)		2 (1)	
Complete RBBB	4 (2)		187* (95)		192 (98)	
RBBB + LAD	0 (0)		17 (9)		33 (17)	

RBBB, right bundle-branch block; LAD, left axis deviation.

\* Includes the 17 patients who also had left axis deviation.

**Table 2** *Frequency of perioperative arrhythmias related to electrocardiographic conduction defects*

<i>Conduction defect</i>	<i>Total patients</i>	<i>First degree AV block</i>		<i>Complete heart block</i>		<i>Nodal rhythm</i>	<i>Ventricular extrasystoles</i>
<b>Total group</b>	<b>196</b>						
RBBB	158	12	(8%)	7	(4%)	9	(6%)
RBBB + LAD	17	4	(23%)	1	(6%)	0	(0%)
Progressive conduction defect	21	2	(10%)	1	(5%)	1	(5%)

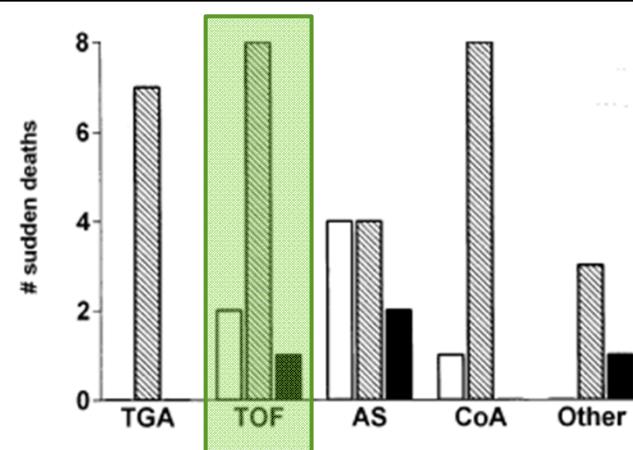
LAD, left axis deviation; AV, atrioventricular.

# Risk of sudden cardiac death after CHD repair population based prospective study Oregon 1958~1996, <19yr 3,589 total, 41 SCD

**Table 1.** Specific Congenital Heart Defects and Incidence of Sudden and Nonsudden Cardiac Death

No. (%) of Pts With Complete Follow-Up	Total Follow-Up (pt-yr)	Sudden Cardiac Death		Nonsudden Cardiac Death		
		No.	Incidence/ 1,000 Pt-yr	No.	Incidence/ 1,000 Pt-yr	
ASD	622 (86%)	7,904	0	0	0	
VSD	527 (87%)	6,354	1	0.2	8	1.2
AVSD	254 (87%)	2,217	2	0.9	15	6.7
PDA	623 (82%)	8,753	0	0	4	0.4
PS	241 (91%)	3,568	1	0.3	2	0.6
AS	169 (94%)	1,860	10	5.4	9	4.8
CoA	536 (92%)	6,706	9	1.3	17	2.5
<b>TOF</b>	<b>445 (91%)</b>	<b>7,082</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1.3</b>
d-TGA	172 (95%)	1,413	7	4.9	10	6.9
Total	3,589	45,857	41	0.9	74	1.6

AS = aortic stenosis; ASD = atrial septal defect; AVSD = atrioventricular septal defect; CoA = coarctation of the aorta; PDA = patent ductus arteriosus; PS = pulmonary stenosis; pt-yr = patient-years; Pts = patients; d-TGA = dextro-transposition of the great arteries; TOF = tetralogy of Fallot; VSD = ventricular septal defect.



**Figure 1.** Documented or probable etiologies of death among the 41 patients who died suddenly (arrhythmia [hatched bars], circulatory [open bars], congestive heart failure [solid bars]). The anatomic diagnoses of the other patients were pulmonary stenosis in one patient, ventricular septal defect in one and AV septal defect in two.

Recent studies : sudden death is considerably lower

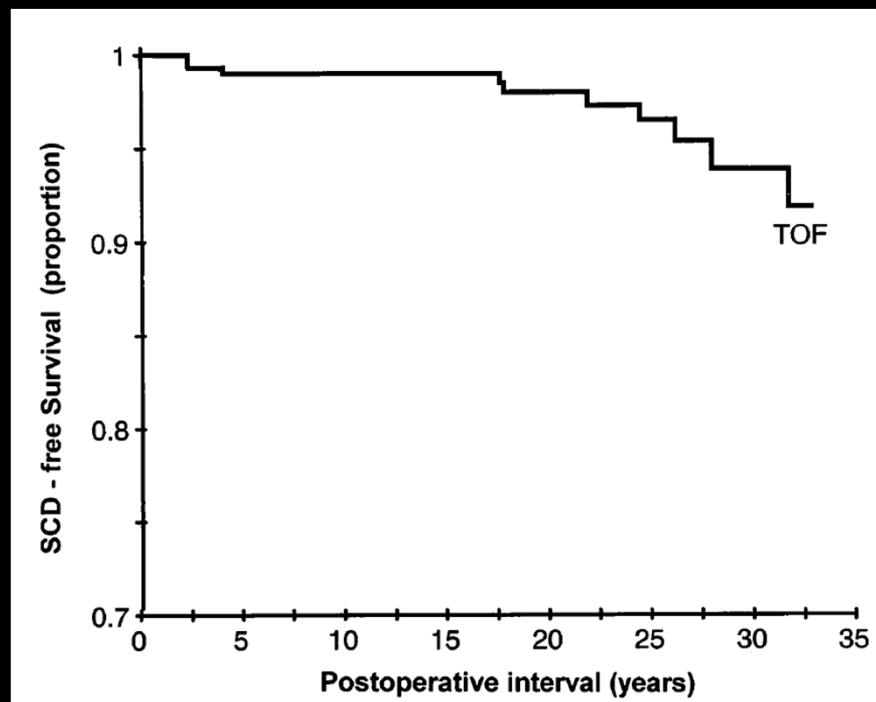
Silka et al. risk of SCD

1.2% at 10 years

2.2% at 20 years

4% at 25 years

6% at 30 years



*Silka et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 1998;32:245–251.*

## Risk group of ventricular arrhythmia & SCD

- ventricular arrhythmias : m.c. in older preOp patients  
-> remain after repair

**Table 3** *Arrhythmias and conduction defects in patients who died suddenly*

Case no.	Postoperative conduction defect	Follow-up conduction defect	Postoperative arrhythmia	Late arrhythmia
1	RBBB	RBBB	—	—
2	RBBB	RBBB	—	—
3	RBBB	RBBB	—	Supraventricular tachycardia
4	RBBB	RBBB	—	—
5	RBBB	RBBB+LAD	—	—
6	RBBB	RBBB	—	Ventricular extrasystoles
7*	RBBB	RBBB	—	—
8	RBBB+LAD	RBBB+LAD	—	—
9	Normal	RBBB	Junctional tachycardia	—

LAD, left axis deviation; RBBB, right bundle-branch block.

\*Operation performed at The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

## Postoperative arrhythmias

a/w : only surgery age

not postOp status, duration of F/U, hemodynamic status.

*Deanfield et al. Br Heart J 1980;44:248–253.*

- predictor of sudden death in 125 adult TOF
- PR degree
- Hx of sustained VT
- QRS duration  
    > 180ms
- LV dysfunction

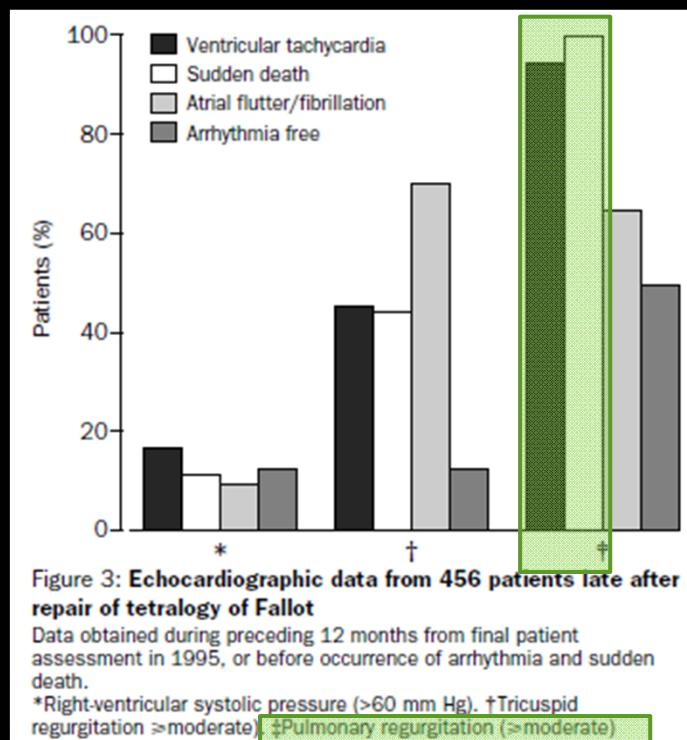
**Table 3.** Clinical Outcomes, Electrocardiographic and Hemodynamic Data for the SCD and Control Groups

	SCD Group (n = 12)	Control Group (n = 125)	p Value
Symptoms			
Dyspnea	7 (58%)	31 (25%)	0.03
Orthopnea	5 (42%)	15 (12%)	0.01
Palpitations	10 (83%)	41 (33%)	0.01
Presyncope or syncope	7 (58%)	14 (11%)	< 0.01
Edema	5 (42%)	16 (13%)	0.01
NYHA class ≥ 2	4 (33%)	18 (14%)	0.12
Atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter	3 (25%)	23 (19%)	0.74
Ventricular tachycardia	5 (42%)	7 (6%)	< 0.01
Medications			
Anticoagulation/antiplatelets	7 (58%)	29 (23%)	0.05
Antiarrhythmic drugs	8 (67%)	18 (14%)	< 0.01
ACE inhibitors	5 (42%)	16 (13%)	0.02
Diuretics	6 (50%)	13 (10%)	< 0.01
Beta-blockers	2 (17%)	5 (4%)	0.05
ECG data			
Number of patients with data	9	123	—
Mean (ms) QRS duration	170 ± 14	153 ± 21	0.02
QRS ≥ 180 ms	5 (56%)	16 (13%)	0.02
Echocardiographic data			
Mean age (yrs) of last echocardiogram	43 ± 18	38 ± 14	0.58
Moderate or severe LV dysfunction	5 (42%)	11 (9%)	< 0.01
RV > mild dilation	7 (54%)	40 (32%)	0.09
Mean RVSP (mm Hg)*	46 ± 19	44 ± 13	0.54
PR ≥ moderate	11 (92%)	64 (51%)	0.02
TR ≥ moderate	6 (50%)	38 (30%)	0.38
MR ≥ moderate	2 (17%)	7 (6%)	0.06
AR ≥ moderate	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	0.87

- 59 TOF pt ( $18 \pm 5$  yr)
  - ↑ severity of PR & RV dilation
  - higher risk of ventricular arrhythmias.

*Zahka et al. Circulation 1988;78(pt 2):14–19.*

- multi center study (800 TOF)
  - significant PR
  - a/w ventricular tachycardia & higher risk of sudden death



*Gatzoulis et al. Lancet 2000;356:975–981.*

# Floppy Mitral Valve/ Mitral Valve Prolapse

FMV/MVP : almost normal ECG

Nonspecific ST- & T- changes & T-wave inversion

Ventricular arrhythmia d/t

Autonomic dysfunction

Papillary muscle traction/ventricular stretch

WPW syndrome

Long QT syndrome

Mechanical stimulation of myocardium by leaflets

Abnormal innervation of floppy mitral valve

Endocardial friction lesions

Platelet aggregation; fibrin deposits

Myocardial fibrosis

103 children with FMV/MVP vs 50 normal children

### FMV/MVP

16% exercise-induced premature ventricular beats (PVBs)

38% PVBs on ambulatory monitoring

VT 4% during exercise, 8% on ambulatory monitoring.

### Control

none single PVB in exercise

8% uniform PVBs on ambulatory monitoring

*Kavey et al. J Pediatr 1984;105:885–890.*

**Table II.** Ventricular premature complexes on treadmill exercise and on 24-hour ambulatory ECG in children with mitral valve prolapse and in controls

	Mitral valve prolapse (n = 103)		Control (n = 50)	
	Treadmill exercise	Ambulatory ECG	Treadmill exercise	Ambulatory ECG
No VPCs	87	64	50	46
Grade 1	4	24	0	4
Grade 2	8	7	0	0
Grade 3	2	5	0	0
Grade 4	2	3	0	0
Supraventricular tachycardia	2	3	0	0

108 MVP children vs 70 normal controls

Benign arrhythmias on 24-hour Holter monitoring

MVP 49.1%

control 21.4%

PVBs : m.c.

Isolated PVBs

FMV/MVP 27.3% vs controls (8.5%)

*Ohara N et al. Acta Paediatr Jpn 1991;33:467-475*

Isolated atrial premature beats

23.6% of MVP children vs 10% in the controls

*Boudoulas H, Wooley CF, eds. The Floppy Mitral Valve, Mitral Valve Prolapse, and Mitral Valvular Regurgitation, 2000.*

# D-TGA(Transposition of great arteries)

In newborn period

dysrhythmias are rare

24-hour ambulatory ECG

-> short bradycardia & junctional rhythm may occur

In a large Dutch registry

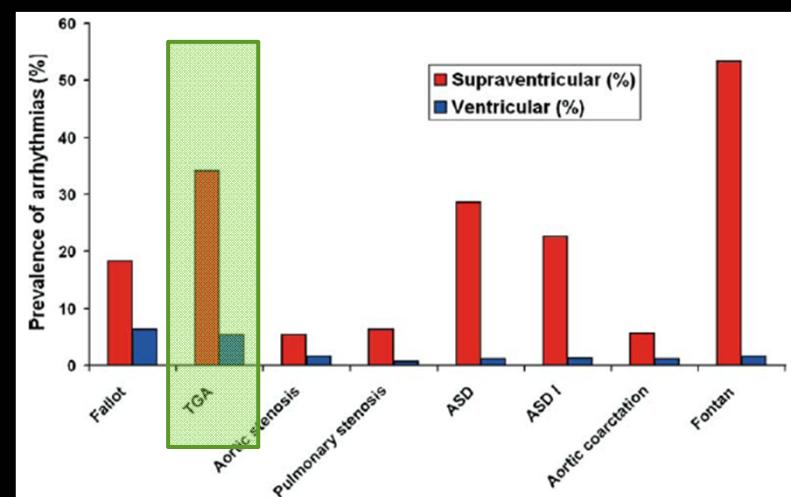
d-TGA/atrial switch

-35% atrial arrhythmias (second only to single-ventricle)

-7% ventricular arrhythmias

(second only to TOF)

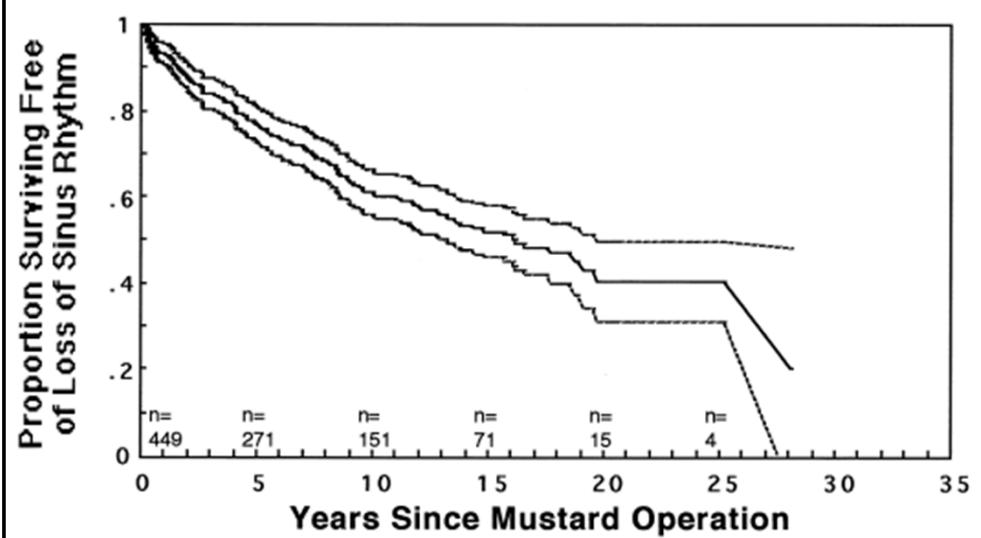
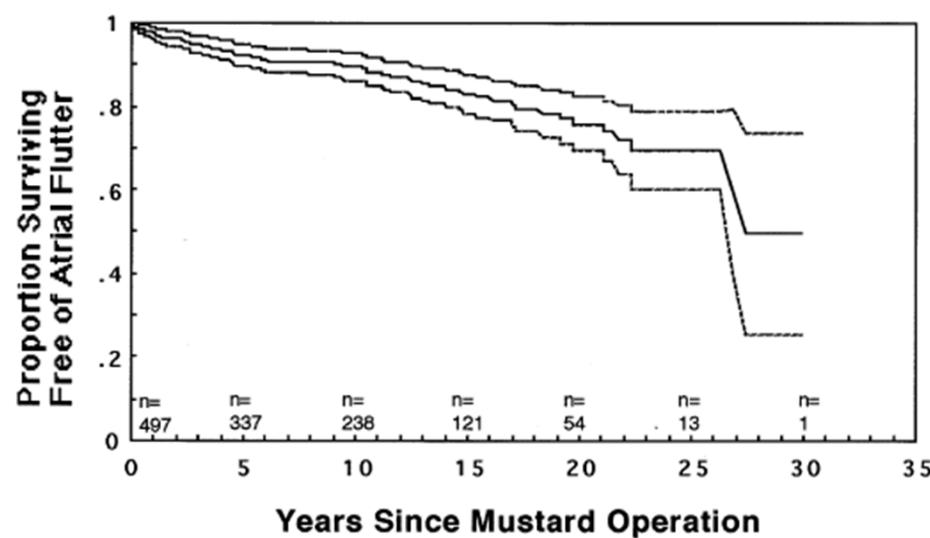
Vander Velde ET et al. Eur J Epidemiol  
2005;20:549~557



Atrial switch (Mustard)

Atrial flutter 14%

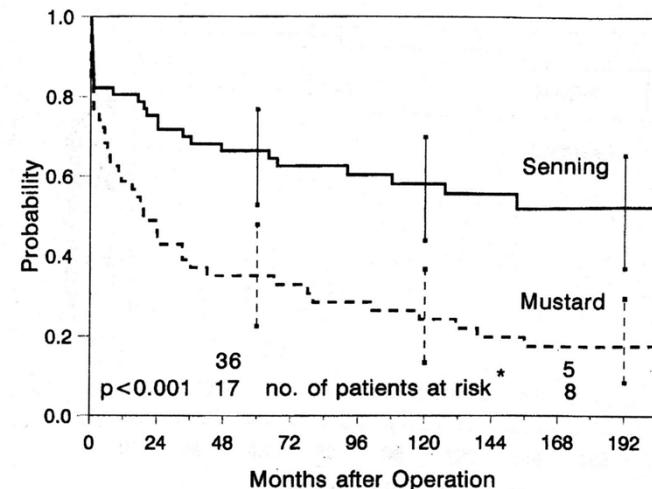
Sinus rhythm : only 40% after 20 years



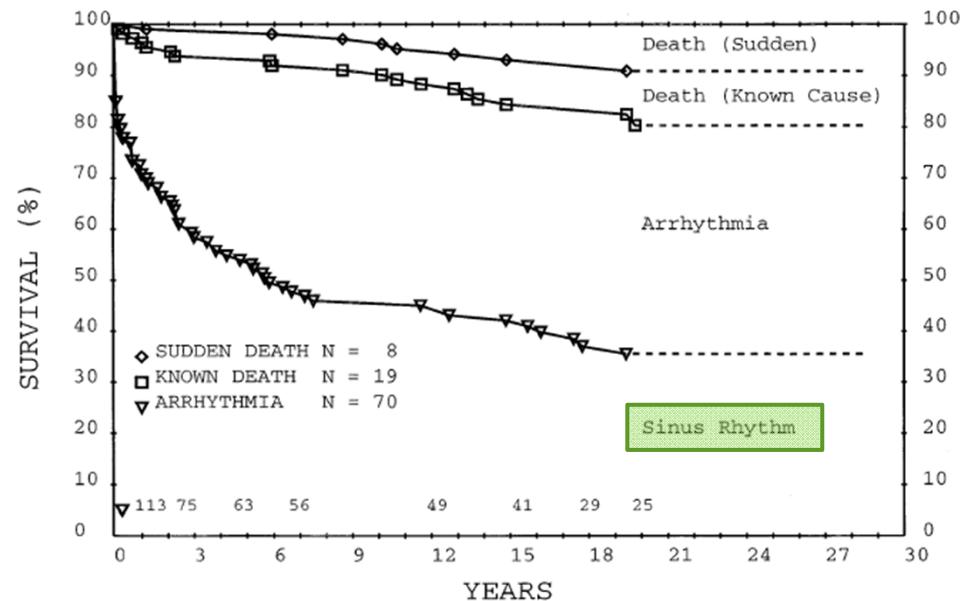
Gelatt M et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 1997;29:194~201

# Atrial switch (Mustard vs Senning)

losing sinus rhythm over time  
only 18% / 15 years post repair



**Fig. 1.** Kaplan-Meier curves for survival in the absence of rhythm disturbances of hospital survivors of atrial correction for transposition of the great arteries. (Unbroken lines, Senning operation; broken lines, Mustard operation.) The p value for comparison between rates in the Senning and Mustard patients was calculated with the log-rank test. Vertical lines represent 95% confidence intervals at 5-, 10-, and 16-year follow-up. \*See Statistics section for method of censoring.



## Mustard vs Senning

Helbing WA et al.

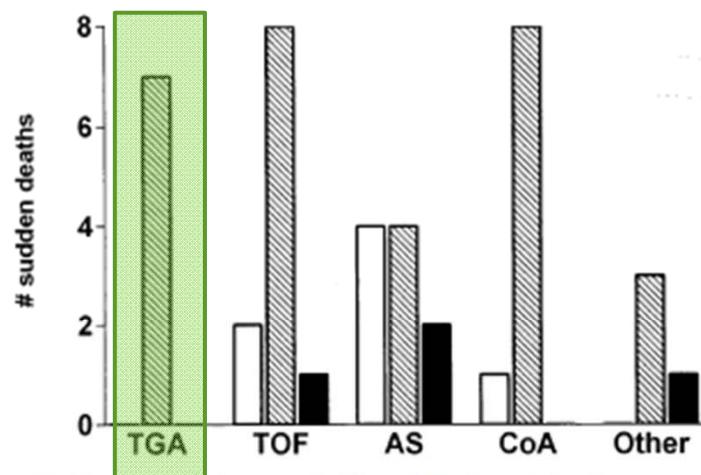
J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 1994;108:363~372

## Mustard

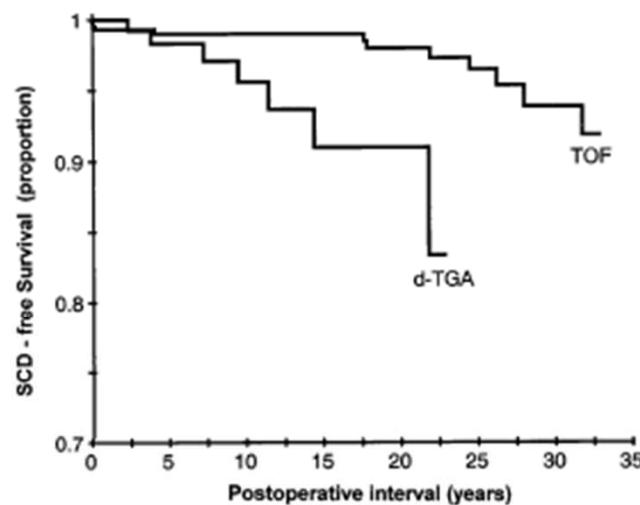
Wilson NJ et al.

J Am Coll Cardiol 1998;32:758-765

# Sudden cardiac death in post–atrial switch d-TGA most important unpredictable event



**Figure 1.** Documented or probable etiologies of death among the 41 patients who died suddenly (arrhythmia [hatched bars], circulatory [open bars], congestive heart failure [solid bars]). The anatomic diagnoses of the other patients were pulmonary stenosis in one patient, ventricular septal defect in one and AV septal defect in two.



**Figure 2.** Actuarial probability of SCD-free survival after surgical treatment of cyanotic congenital heart defects.

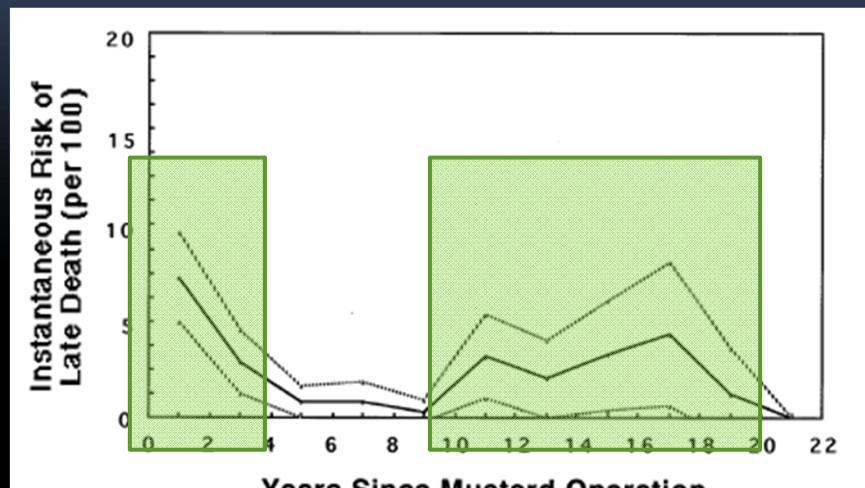


Figure 2. Instantaneous hazard (risk) of late death for each 2-year period after the Mustard procedure. Top and bottom lines indicate 95% confidence intervals.

Gelatt M et al. J Am Coll Cardiol  
1997;29:194~201

# SCD related to atrial or ventricular arrhythmias

## atrial arrhythmias leading to SCD(arrhythmia Sx, AFL/AF)

**Table 2.** Variables for Which Conditional Logistic Regression Analysis Was Performed, Noted in Mean OR With 95% CI

	p Value	OR (95% CI)
Symptoms		
Symptomatic*	<0.0005	6.45 (2.42–17.24)
Arrhythmic symptoms*	0.003	21.60 (2.80–166.79)
Heart failure symptoms*	0.001	4.44 (1.85–10.62)
ECG		
QRS duration	0.723	0.32 (0.001–175.66)
QT interval	0.668	0.16 (0.000–734.27)
QTc interval	0.193	1084.50 (0.029–4.1E + 07)
QRS duration >100 ms	0.251	1.980 (0.618–6.324)
QT dispersion	0.126	0.988 (0.973–1.003)
Heart rate	0.054	1.017 (1.000–1.035)
Basal heart rhythm nonsinus	0.790	1.112 (0.509–2.427)
Chest X-ray		
Enlarged heart size	0.053	2.227 (0.989–5.000)
24-h Holter		
Basal heart rhythm nonsinus	0.037	5.260 (1.10–25.00)
Documented episodes of arrhythmia	0.431	1.770 (0.44–7.25)
Mean heart rate	0.527	0.980 (0.919–1.044)
Minimum heart rate	0.952	1.001 (0.956–1.050)
Maximum heart rate	0.803	0.996 (0.965–1.028)
History of arrhythmia in follow-up		
Documented arrhythmia*	0.005	3.473 (1.451–8.310)
Documented SND in follow-up	0.035	2.405 (1.065–5.432)
Documented AFL/AF in follow-up*	0.001	4.866 (1.900–12.462)
Arrhythmia treatment		
Pacemaker implantation	0.550	0.641 (0.149–2.758)
Medication treatment*	0.002	5.159 (1.863–14.283)

\*Statistically significant risk factor ( $p < 0.005$ ).

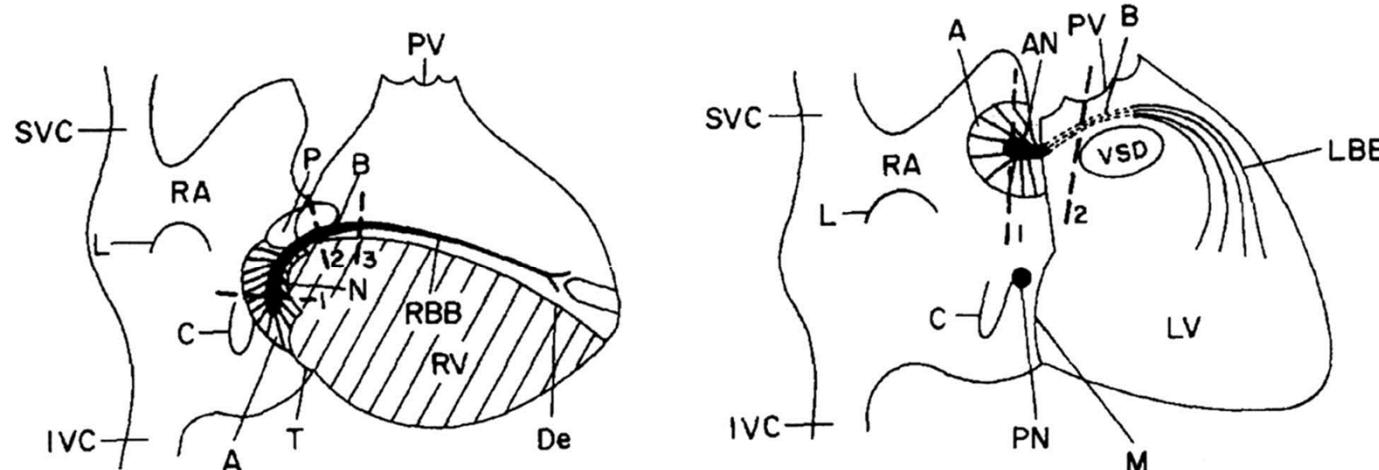
AFL/AF = atrial flutter/atrial fibrillation; CI = confidence interval; OR = odds ratio; SND = sinus node disease.

Kammeraad JA et al.  
J Am Coll Cardiol  
2004;44:1095-1102

# Corrected Transposition of the Great Arteries

Ventricular inversion

-> ventricular bundle branches : also inverted



**FIGURE 7.** Diagrammatic sketches of the conduction system in pure levocardia (left) (atrioventricular [A-V] concordance [d-loop]) and in one type of mixed levocardia (right) (atrioventricular discordance [f-loop]) as seen from the right side, and the sites of interruption that may be present. Note that the bundle of His in mixed levocardia is depicted by dotted lines to indicate that it is coursing on the parietal wall to reach the septum. Dashed lines labeled 1, 2 and 3 are areas in which interruption of the conduction system has been recorded in congenital A-V block: 1 = interruption in the A-V node and its approaches; 2 = interruption in the bundle of His; and 3 = interruption in the bundle branches. A = approaches to the A-V node; AN = anterior A-V node; B = bundle of His; C = opening of coronary sinus; De = demarcation between sinus and infundibulum of right ventricle; IVC = inferior vena cava; L = limbus fossae ovalis; LBB = left bundle branch; LV = left ventricle; M = mitral valve; N = normal (posterior) A-V node; P = pars membranacea; PN = posterior A-V node; PV = pulmonic valve; RA = right atrium; RBB = right bundle branch; RV = right ventricle; SVC = superior vena cava; T = tricuspid valve; VSD = ventricular septal defect.

# Complete heart block congenital and post surgical

Table 1  
Incidence of conduction abnormalities associated with L-TGA<sup>a</sup>

Source	Patient population	Heart block incidence	Atrial arrhythmias	Pacemakers
Bjarke et al. [5]	n = 101 43% single ventricles	n = 17 (17%) 1st: 7 (7%) 2nd: 2 (2%) 3rd: 8 (8%)	n = 12 (12%) (pre-surgical)	
Daliento et al. [7]	n = 17 All two ventricles	n = 5 (29%)		
Friedberg et al. [4]	n = 60 42% SV 52% VSD 6% IVS	n = 19 (32%) 1st: 10 (17%) 2nd: 2 (3%) 3rd: 7 (12%)		
Huhta et al. [3]	n = 107 All two ventricle 77% VSD	n = 23 (22%) CCHB: 4 (4%)	n = 4 (4%) WPW: 2 AFL: 2	n = 9 (39%)
Lundstrom et al. [20]	n = 111 All two ventricle	n = 35 (32%) CCHB: 4 (4%) Spont: 17 (15%) SxHB: 14 (13%)		n = 9 (8%) All for CHB
Fyler [21] (includes subset of Friedberg et al. population)	n = 90 All two ventricle	n = 29 (32%)		
Michigan Congenital Heart, 1998	n = 126 SV = 57 (45%)	n = 40 (32%) 1st: 11 (9%) 2nd: 4 (3%) 3rd: 19 (15%) – CCHB 6 SxHB: 6 (5%)	n = 19 (15%) WPW: 5 AFL: 6 AF: 1 PSVT: 2 SSS: 5	n = 27 (21%) SSS: 5 (4%) 2nd HB: 1 (1%) CHB: 10 (8%) SxHB: 9 (7%)

*Fischbach P et al. Prog  
Pediatric Cardiol  
1999;10:37-43*

## Complete heart block

10% at initial presentation

*Bharati S et al. Am J Cardiol 1978;42:147-153*

↑ 2%/year during follow-up

*Daliento L et al. Am J Cardiol 1986;58:314-318*

50% : pacemaker therapy

## Atrial arrhythmias

38%

atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter, and SVT

→Adult patients

routine exams, ECG, 24-hour ambulatory monitoring

# Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome

Arrhythmias after Fontan procedure

late atrial arrhythmias : 10- 45%

d/t sinus node dysfunction (atrial suture lines)

↑ atrial pressure

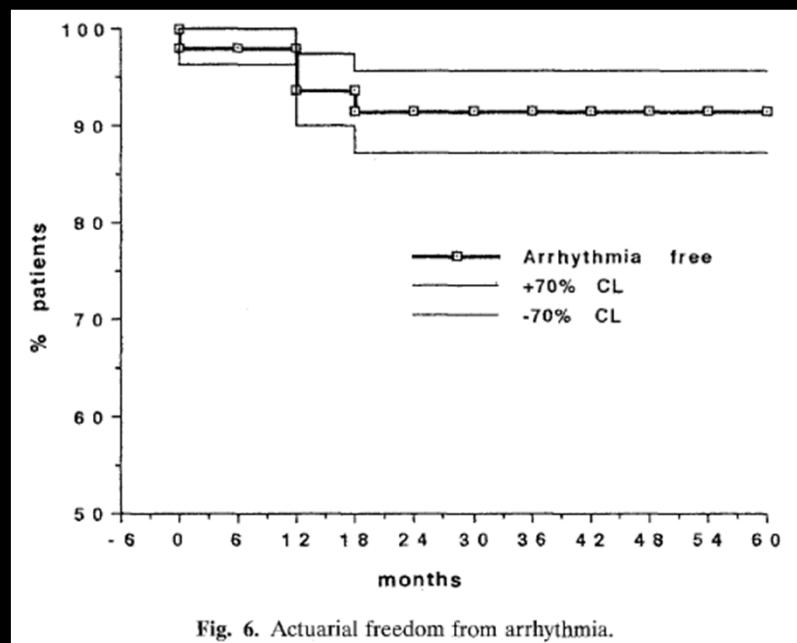


Fig. 6. Actuarial freedom from arrhythmia.

Amodeo A, et al. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg*  
1997;114:1020-1030.

TABLE 8. Early nonfatal morbidity

Complication	n	% of total
Prolonged pleural effusion	36	30
Atrial arrhythmias	25	21
Early reoperation	13	11
Bleeding	11	9
Other	2	1.7
Permanent pacemaker	8	7
Pneumonia	6	5
Renal failure	3	2.5
Cardiac arrest (surviving)	3	2.5
Tamponade	2	1.7
Cerebral vascular accident	2	1.7
Tracheostomy	1	0.8
Sternal wound infection	1	0.8
Gastrointestinal hemorrhage	1	0.8
Colitis	1	0.8

Burkhart HM et al. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg*  
2003;125:1252-1258

**TABLE 11. Arrhythmias in 215 Survivors**

Results from follow-up questionnaire	5 Years postop		Currently	
	No.	%	No.	%
Syncope	18	8	17	8
Rapid heart rate (tachycardia)	44	20	45	21
Slow heart rate (bradycardia)	17	8	15	7
Palpitations	51	24	60	28
Atrial flutter or fibrillation	26	12	41	19
Premature ventricular contractions	13	6	15	7
Ventricular tachycardia	9	4	13	6
Pacemaker	†	†	22	10
Number of antiarrhythmic medications*				
0	179	83	167	78
1	31	14	40	19
2	5	2	8	4

\*Excluding digitalis.

†Presence of a pacemaker was only asked for patient's current status.

*Driscoll D et al. Circulation 1992;85:469-496*

# Extracardiac Fontan for reducing the incidence of atrial arrhythmias by minimizes atrial suture lines lessens the atrial hypertension

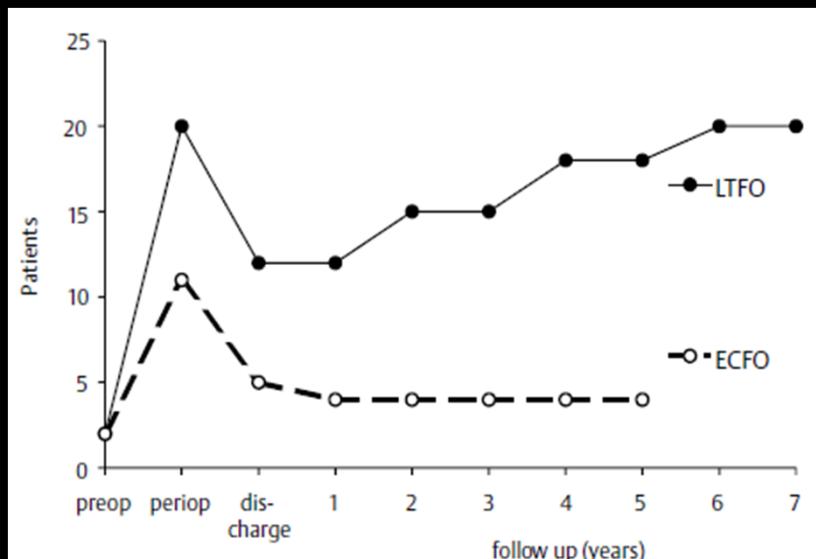


Fig. 1 Number of patients with new onset arrhythmias after ECFO (open circles, interrupted line) and LTFO (closed circles, solid line).

Ovroutski S, et al. Thorac Cardiovasc Surg  
2001;49:334–337.

# Double Outlet Right Ventricle

AV node

normal posterior position

conduction system

penetrated the right side of the central fibrous body

AV bundle

lie in the inferior wall of the defect

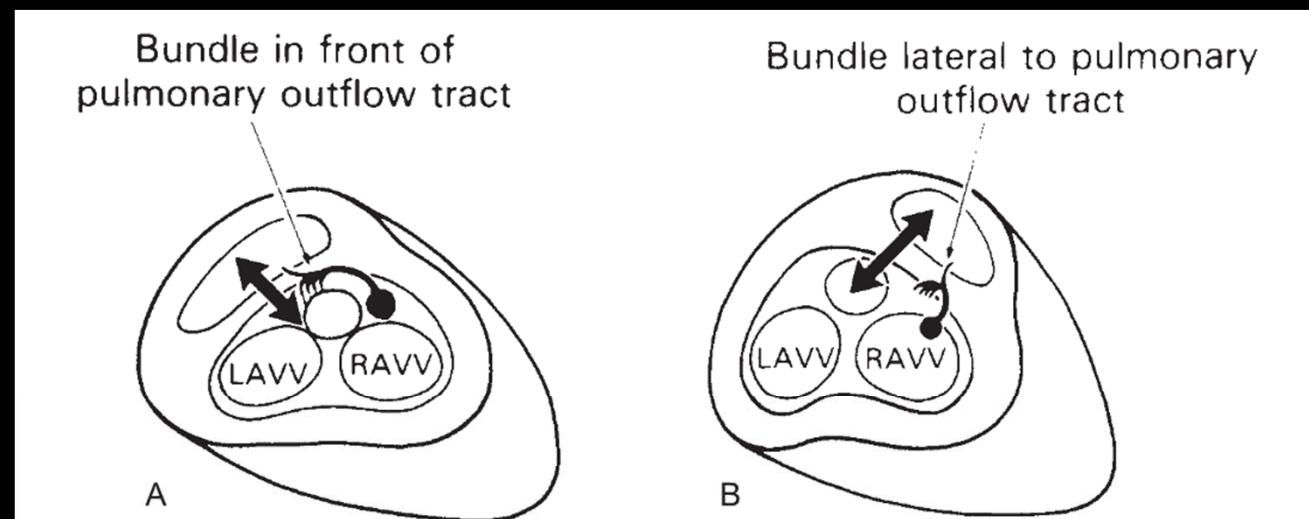
passed beneath the crest of the ventricular septum

*Stellin G, et al. J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 1991;102:849–855.*

First-degree AV conduction delay : common

# Double Inlet Left Ventricle

Conduction abnormalities similar : corrected TGA  
AV node  
anterolaterally at acute margin of the right AV valve orifice



**FIGURE 54.8** Conduction tissue. Schematic illustration of the course of the nonbranching bundle of the conduction tissue along the right rim of the ventricular septal defect in double-inlet left ventricle (DILV). **A:** The findings in DILV with a left-anterior subaortic right ventricle. **B:** The conduction tissue in DILV with a right-anterior subaortic right ventricle. LAVV, left atrioventricular valve; RAVV, right atrioventricular valve. (From Davies MJ, Anderson RH, Becker AE. Atrioventricular conduction tissues in congenital heart disease. In: Davies MJ, Anderson RH, Becker AE, eds. *The Conduction System of the Heart*. London: Butterworth, 1983:137, with permission.)

# merism

us node (SN)

by atrial appendages

-right isomerism : bilateral SN

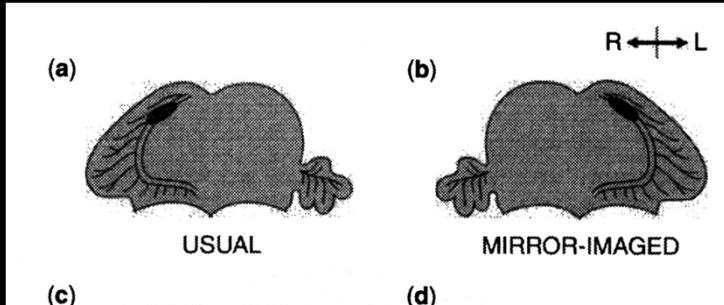
terminal crest & cavoatrial junction in normal fashion

22. Smith A., et al. *Cardiol Young* 2006; 16:437-454.

-left isomerism

no terminal crests, and no RA appendages.

SN cannot occupy its normal position



22. Smith A., et al.  
*Cardiol Young* 2006; 16:437-454.

biventricular AV connection

AV node : regular position

If right hand topology

AV bundle - postero-inferior penetrating

axis of conduction tissue - deviated posteriorly in AVSD

If left hand topology

- anterior AV node + conduction of cc TGA

or- sling of conduction tissue -> 2 AV nodes

biventricular AV connection

LV dominant : AV node – ant. position

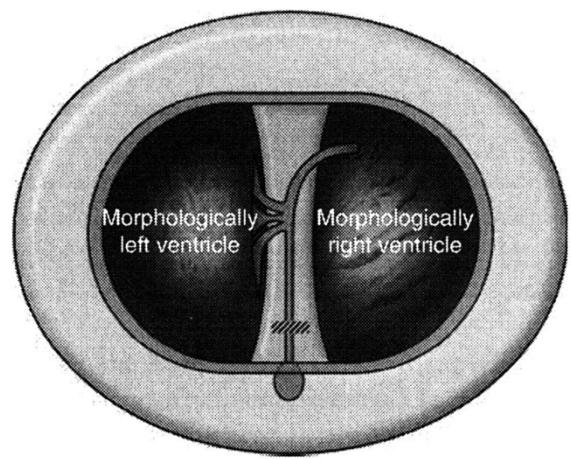
bundle vary

RV dominant

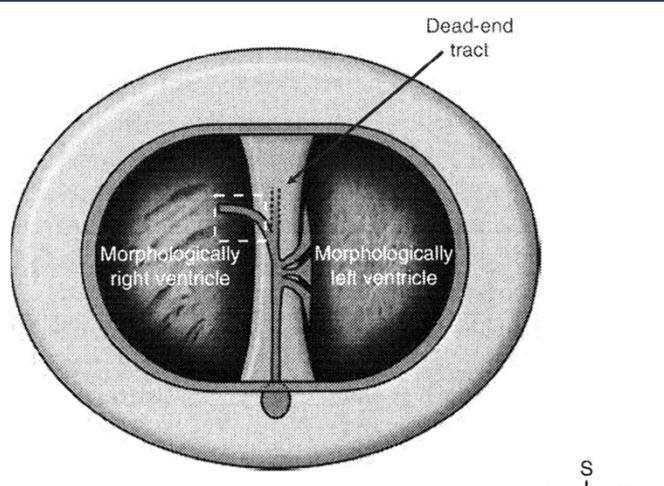
rud. LV in left – conduction sys. normal

rud. LV in right- ant. node. or sling

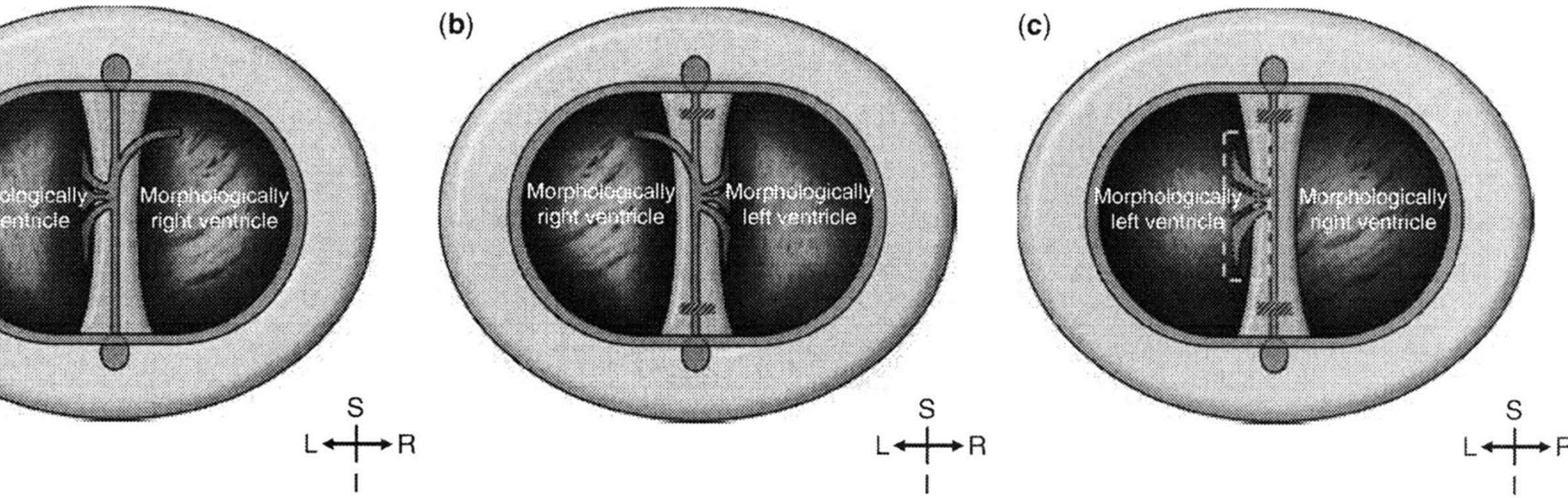
litory and indeterminate ventricle



BV connection,  
Rt. topology  
Lt. isomerism



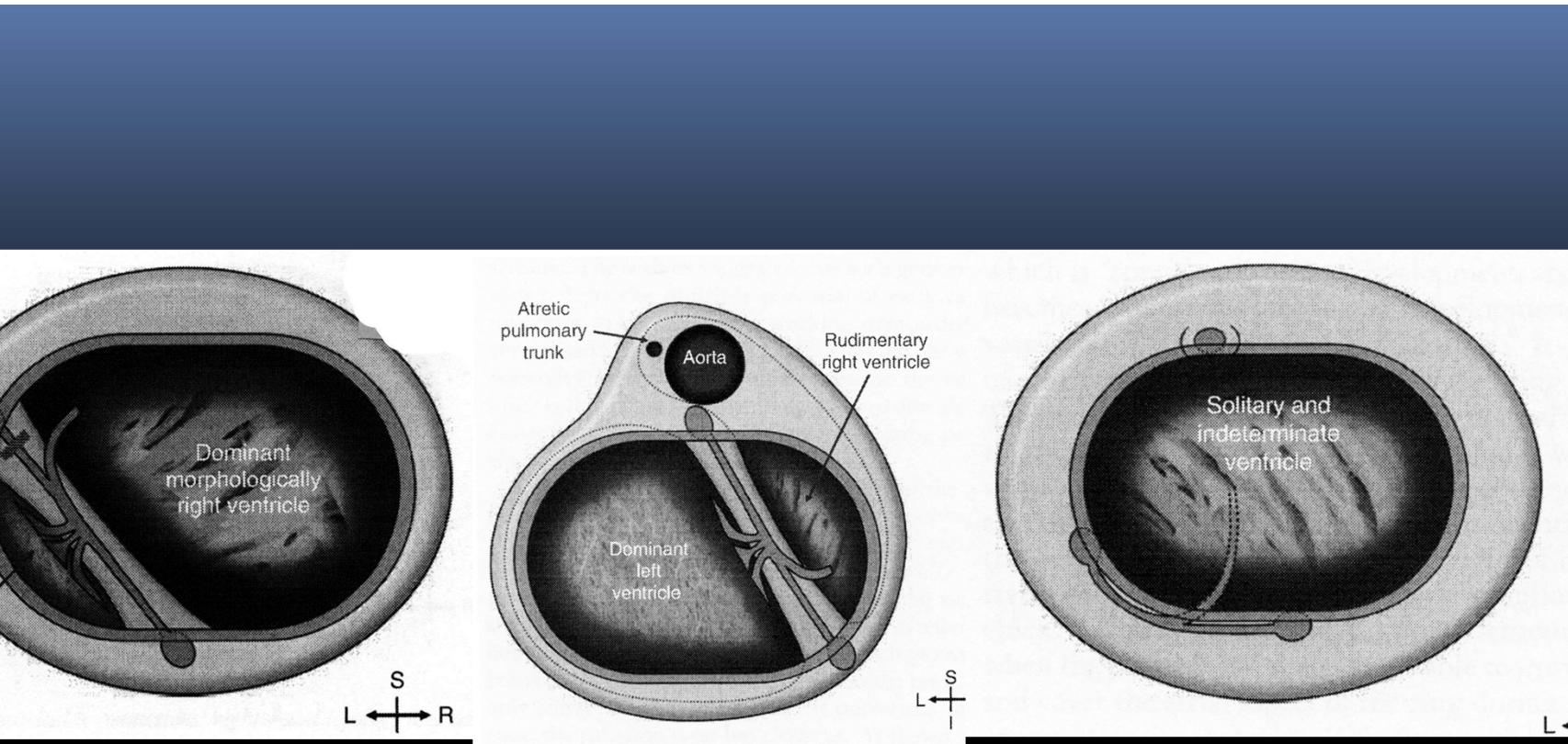
BV connection,  
Lt. topology  
Lt. isomerism



✓ connection,  
Lt. topology  
Lt. isomerism  
AVSD

BV connection,  
Lt. topology  
Lt. isomerism  
AVSD

BV connection,  
Rt. topology  
Rt. isomerism  
AVSD



IRV,  
.../Rt. isomerism

DILV,  
Rt. Isomerism  
CAVV

DI,  
Indeterminate V  
Rt. isomerism

## arrhythmias after Cardiopulmonary bypass

after CPB

25% : arrhythmias occur

risk factors

longstanding volume overload

ventricular hypertrophy

myocardial ischemia

ventriculotomy multiple suture lines

electrolyte disturbances.

arrhythmias

occur < 48 hrs of surgery

bradyarrhythmias- sinus bradycardia, complete block

tachyarrhythmias- SVT, atrial flutter, atrial fibrillation

# T : common after pediatric cardiac surgery young infants after repair of TOF closure of VSD & AVSD

Patients Who Experienced Junctional Ectopic Tachycardia

Diagnosis	Surgical Procedure	Postoperative Day for Initial Occurrence of JET (number of days of JET total)
PV A A s/p localization	Repair	1 (1)
	Repair	2 (1)
	RV-PA conduit	1 (1)
	Residual VSD closure	4 (1)
AVC	Repair	4 (1)
VSD/CoA	Repair/ECMO	1 (1)
VSD/CoA	Repair	3 (1)
ventricle (H)	Stage 1	1 (1)
ventricle (H)	Stage 1	2 (1)
ventricle (H)	Stage 1	1 (1)
ventricle (H)	BTS	3 (1)
ventricle	Hemi-Fontan/SVC plasty	2 (3)
ventricle	Extracardiac Fontan	5 (1)
ventricle	Extracardiac Fontan	1 (1)
ventricle	Extracardiac Fontan	4 (4)
C	Repair	1 (1)
C	Repair	1 (1)
C	Repair	1 (3)
C	Repair	1 (1)
CDH	Repair	2 (2)
oA	Repair	1 (1)
oA	Repair	1 (1)
S	Repair	1 (2)

Table 1. Success Rate Versus Anatomy and Tachyarrhythmia Type

Cardiac Anatomy (no.)	VT	VT/VF	AutoAT	IART	JET	Other SVT	Total
Postop Fontan (8)				1/2	5/5	0/1	6/8
Postop VSD or AVC (6)		0/1			4/5		4/6
Myocarditis (4)	1/2		2/2				3/4
Hamartoma/rhabdo (4)	3/3					1/1	4/4
Postop TAPVR (3)			2/2		1/1		3/3
Postop arterial switch (2)				1/1	1/1		2/2
Postop truncus (2)		1/1		1/1			2/2
Postop tetralogy (2)				1/1	1/1		2/2
Hypertrophy CM (2)		1/1	1/1				2/2
Dilated CM (2)	1/1	0/1					1/2
Normal (2)					1/1	0/1	1/2
Others (3)	1/1	0/1	1/1				2/3
Total (40)	6/7	2/5	6/6	4/5	13/14	1/3	32/40

Data presented are number of patients with successful treatment/total patients treated. AutoAT = automatic atrial tachycardia; AVC = atrioventricular canal defects; CM = cardiomyopathy; IART = intraatrial reentrant tachycardia; JET = junctional ectopic tachycardia; Postop = postoperative; rhabdo = rhabdomyoma; SVT = supraventricular tachycardia; TAPVR = total anomalous pulmonary venous return; VF = ventricular fibrillation; VSD = ventricular septal defect; VT = ventricular tachycardia.

## Inclusion

congenital heart diseases

conduction disturbance occur

- congenital

- acquired : hemodynamic effect on conduction system
- surgery related

conduction disturbance in CHD

understanding

Identification of risk group

minimize surgery related conduction dis.

regular evaluation – ECG, 24hr holter, EPS

early intervention