

KYACC Meeting  
September 10, 2022

# Congenital Heart Surgery in Kentucky A 30+ Year Retrospective

Erle H. Austin III, M.D.  
Norton Children's Hospital  
University of Louisville  
Louisville, Kentucky



# Congenital Heart Defects

Most common birth defect

8 per 1000 Live Births

40,000 infants per year in United States

3X the incidence of childhood malignancy

# Congenital Heart Disease

1.3 million people in United States

Highest average hospital charges, length of stay, mortality of all birth defects

100,000 years of life lost each year

\$6,000,000,000 in acute care costs per year

# The Centers

## Louisville

Kosair (now Norton) Children's Hospital

University of Louisville



## Lexington

Kentucky Children's Hospital

Albert B Chandler Hospital

University of Kentucky



# The Team

Success in managing patients with congenital heart disease requires a team

- Cardiologists
- Neonatologists
- Intensivists
- Surgeons**
- Anesthesiologists
- Radiologists
- Nurses/ Nurse Practitioners
- Other Caregivers (perfusionists, echo techs, cath lab techs)

# The Surgeons - pre-1980s to Present

## Louisville

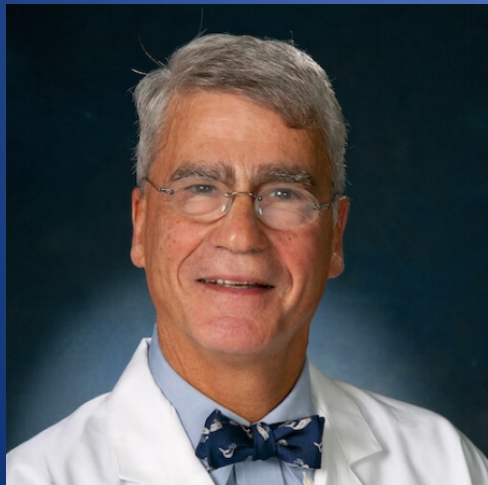
- Allen Lansing
- Constantine Mavroudis
- Erle Austin
- Thomas Yeh, Jr.
- Michael Mitchell
- Christopher Mascio
- Deborah Kozik
- Frank Pigula
- Bahaaldin Alsoufi

## Lexington

- Frank Spencer
- Gordon Danielson
- Edward Todd
- Robert Salley
- Simon Abraham
- William Douglas
- Mark Plunkett
- Deborah Kozik
- James Quintessenza
- Carl Backer

# Second Neonatal Heart Transplant in the World

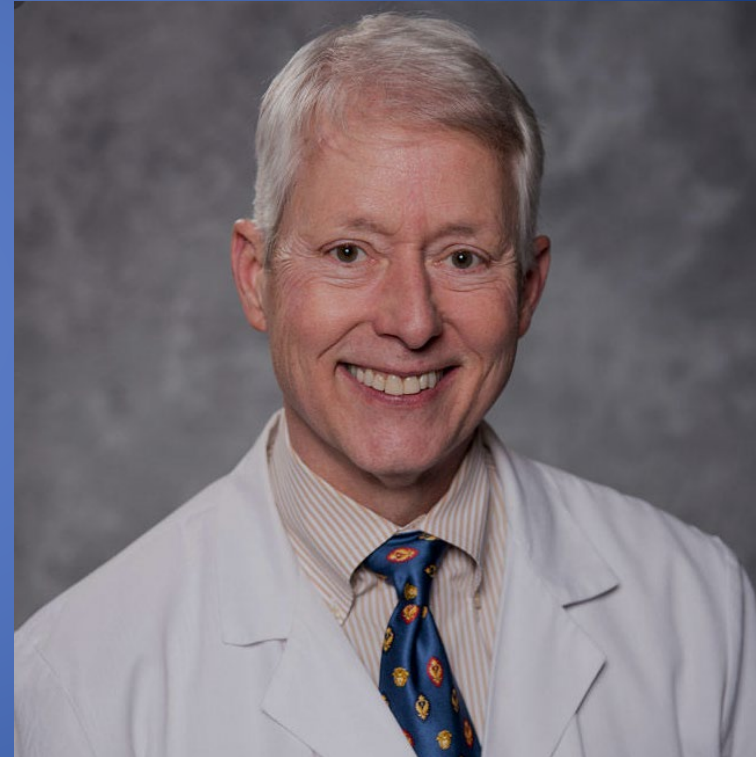
- 23 day old male with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome
- Kosair Children's Hospital
- June 14, 1986
- Surgeon: Constantine Mavroudis, MD



# Surgeons Performing Congenital Heart Surgery in Kentucky in 1989



Erle Austin



Robert Salley



# My Retrospective View of Significant Advances in Congenital Heart Surgery Since Coming to Kentucky in 1989

Congenital Heart Surgery in Kentucky Has Kept Pace with  
Congenital Heart Surgery in the Rest of the World

# The 1980s Perspective

ASDs and PDAs were closed by surgeons.

Transposition was repaired at the atrial level.

# The 1980s Perspective

Single ventricles other than Tricuspid atresia?

What is Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome?

# The 1980s Perspective

How are we doing compared to other centers?

When the heart stopped, the patient died.

# The 1980s Perspective

Is the brain at risk during heart surgery?

Would an adult need surgery for a heart defect?

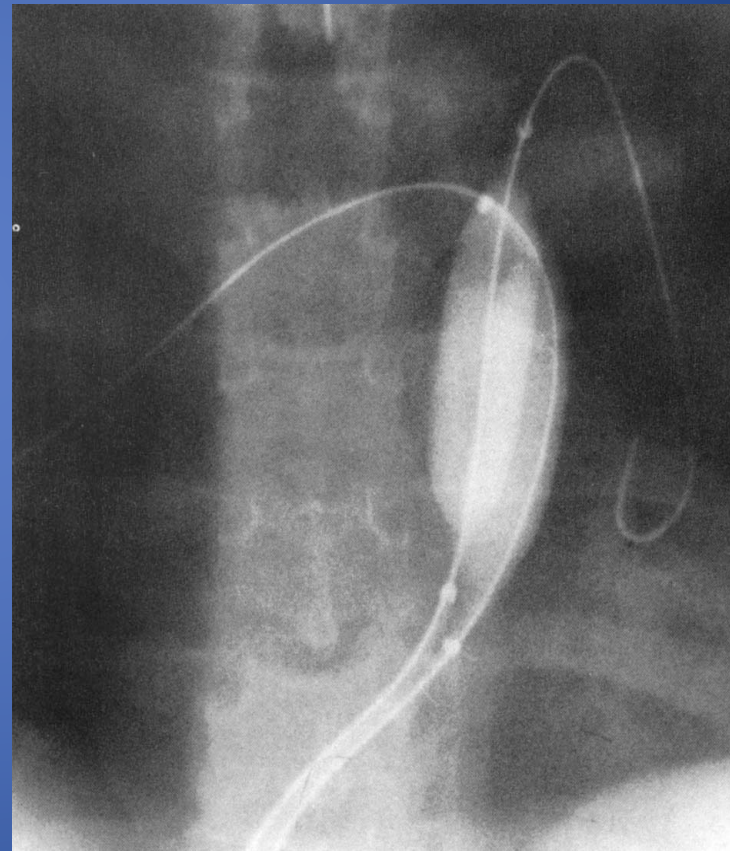
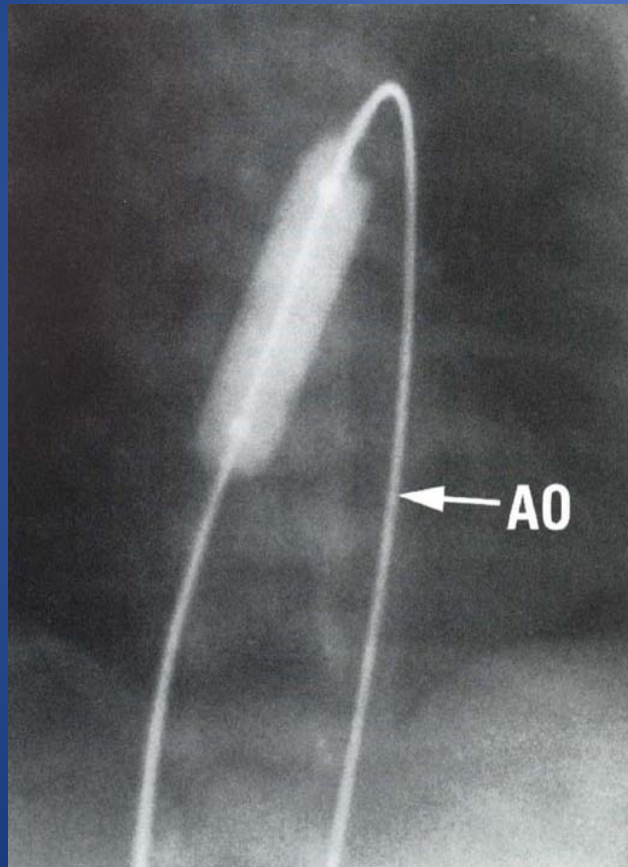
# Some Important Advances in Last 30+ Years

- Interventional Cardiology
- The Arterial Switch for Transposition
- Staged Reconstruction for Hearts with Only One Ventricle
- Intraoperative Neuromonitoring
- Self-evaluation and Databases
- Mechanical support for failing heart
- The Adult with Congenital Heart Disease

# Percutaneous Interventions for Congenital Heart Disease

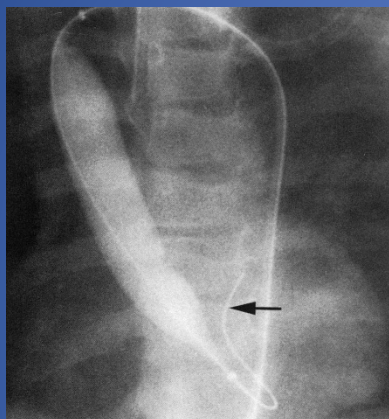
What happened to the easy cases?

# Pulmonary Valvulotomy

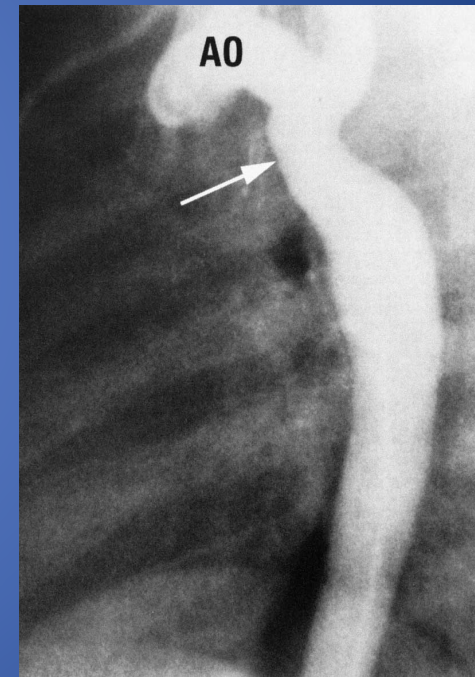
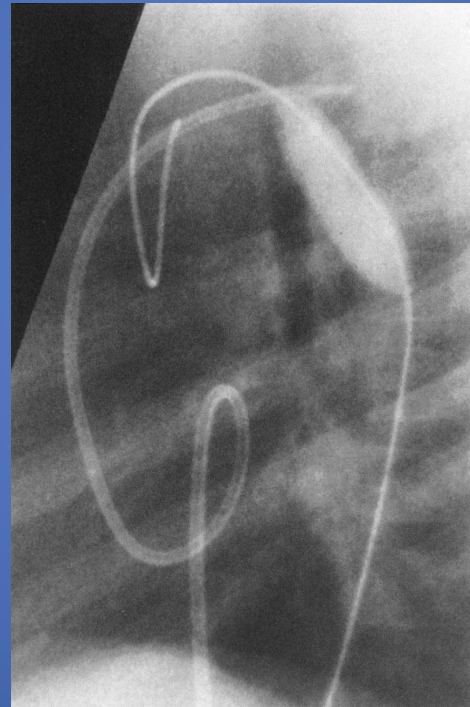
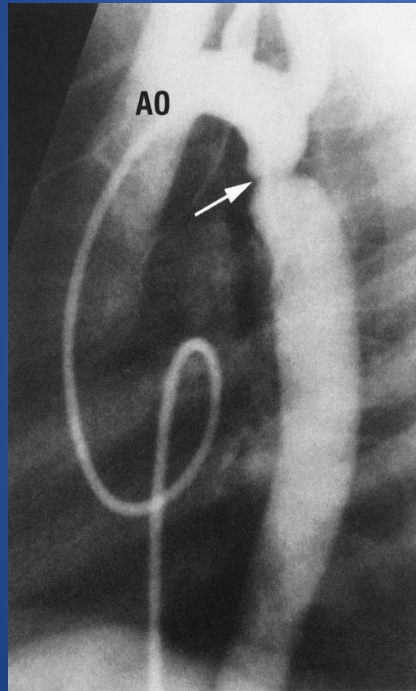




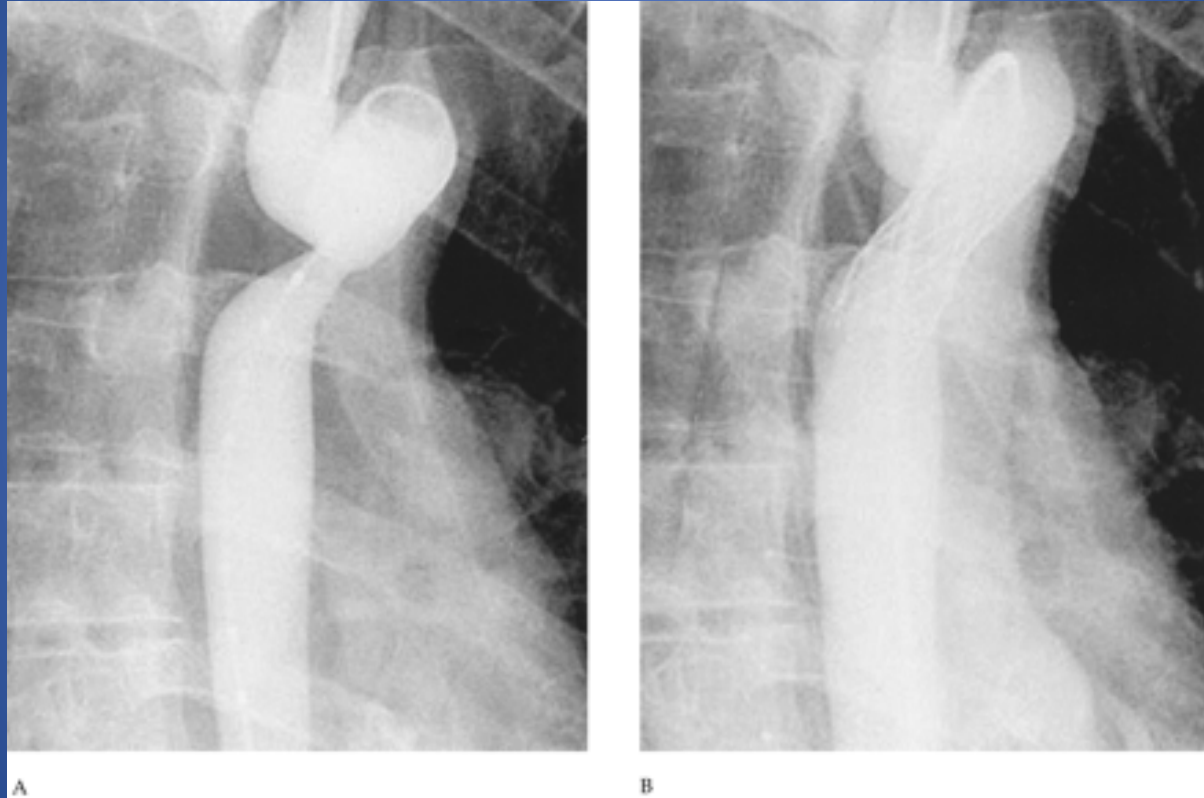
# Aortic Valvulotomy



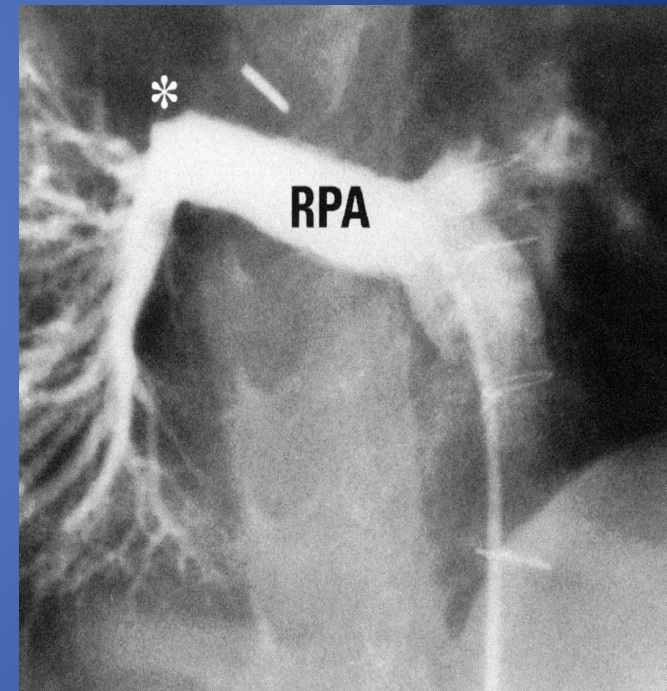
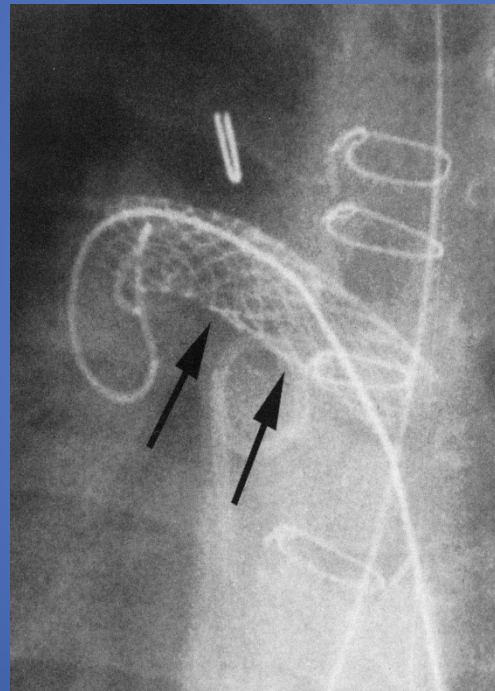
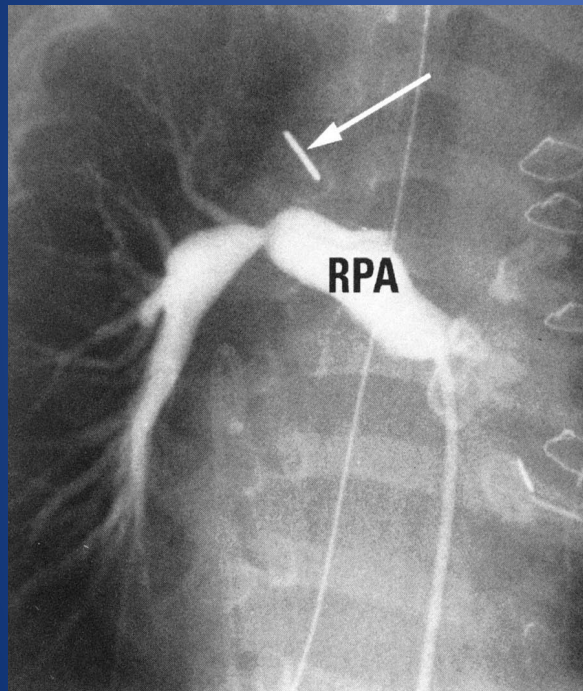
# Balloon Dilation of Coarctation



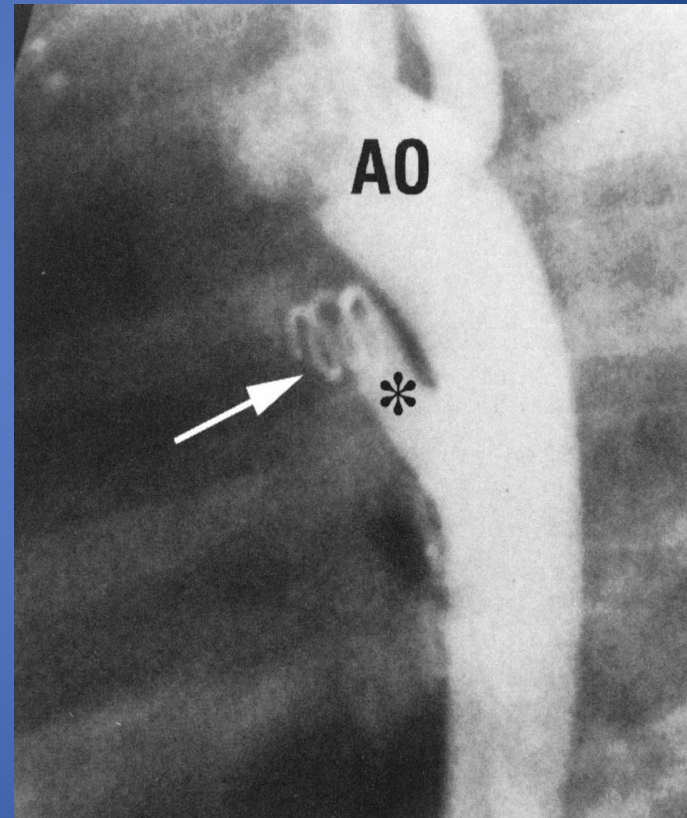
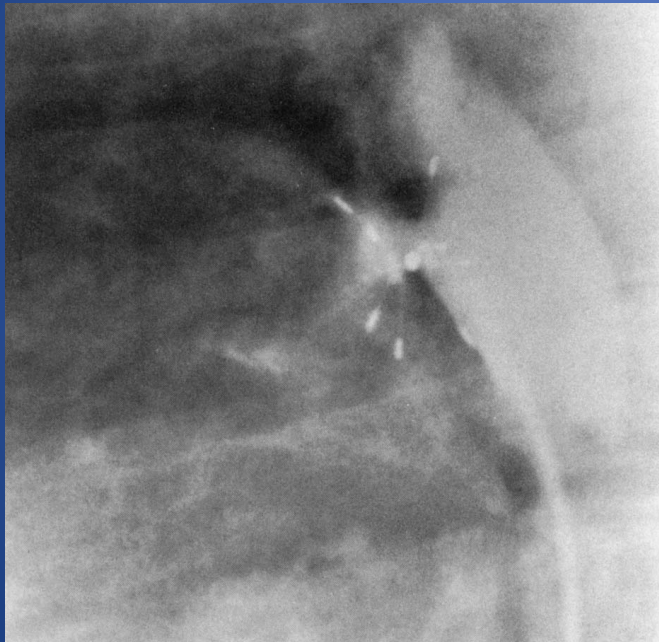
# Stenting for Coarctation



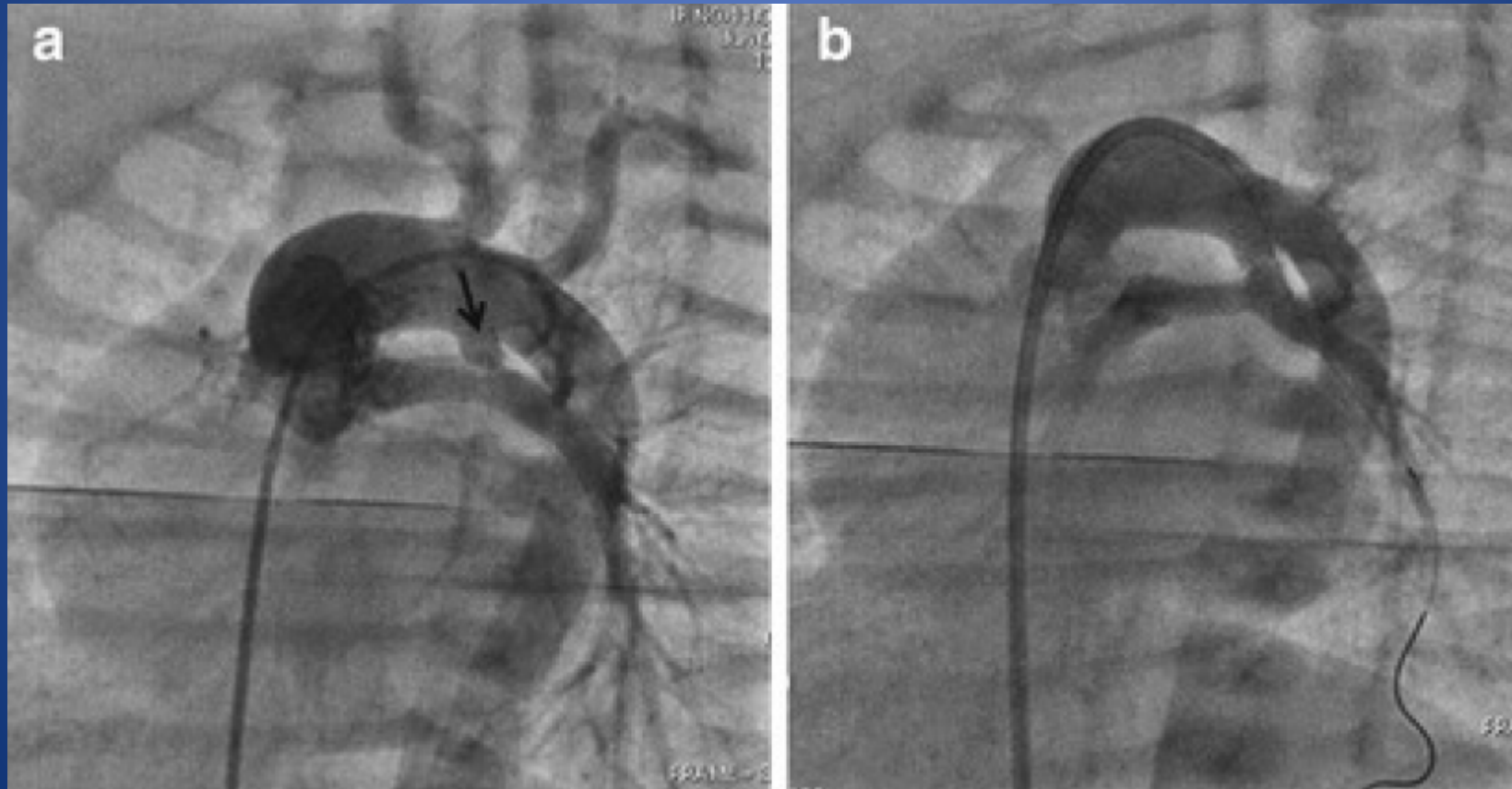
# Balloon Dilation and Stenting of Branch Pulmonary Artery Stenosis



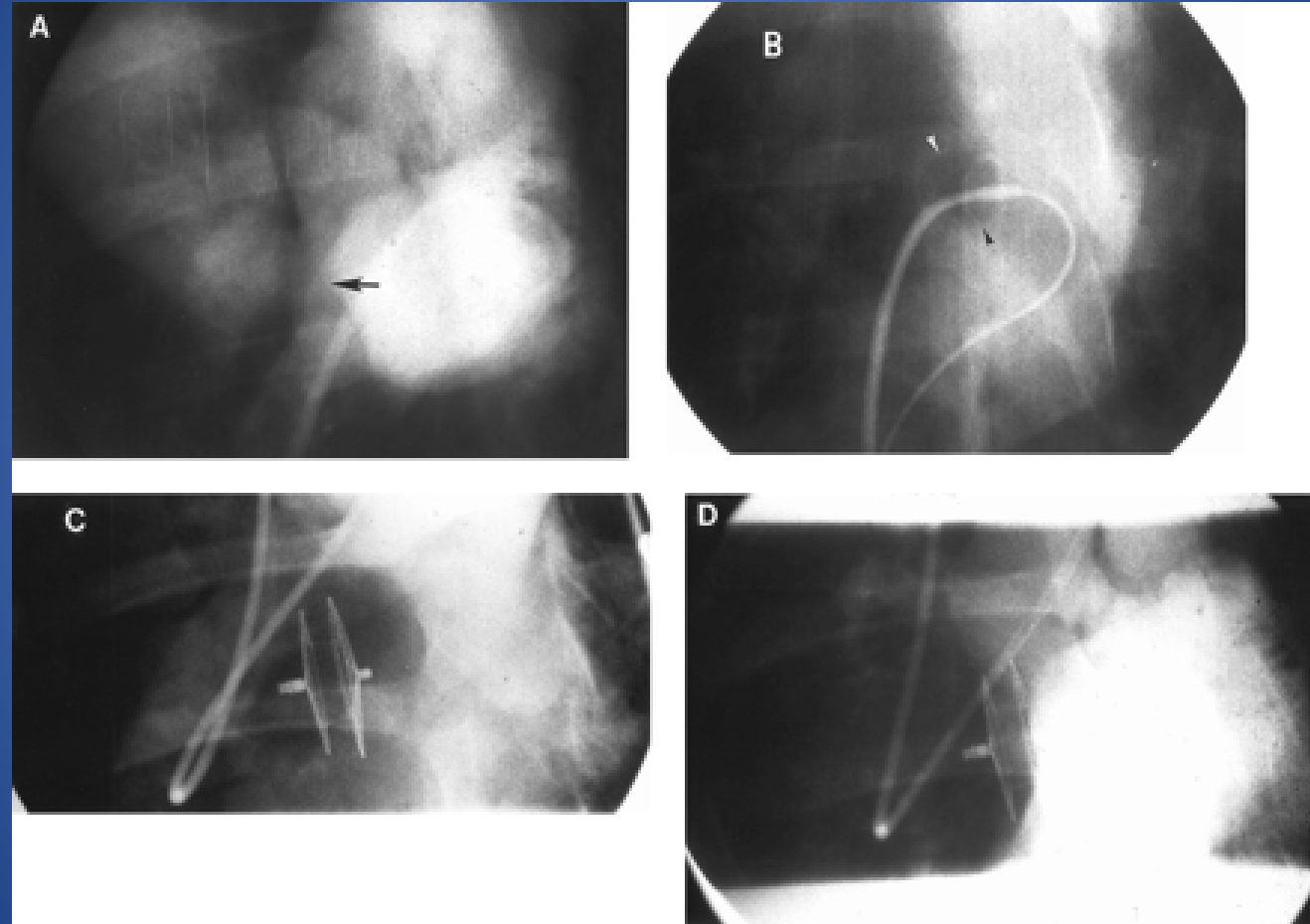
# Device Closure of PDA



# Stenting a PDA



# Device Closure of ASD



# Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve Replacement



Medtronic Melody  
Valve



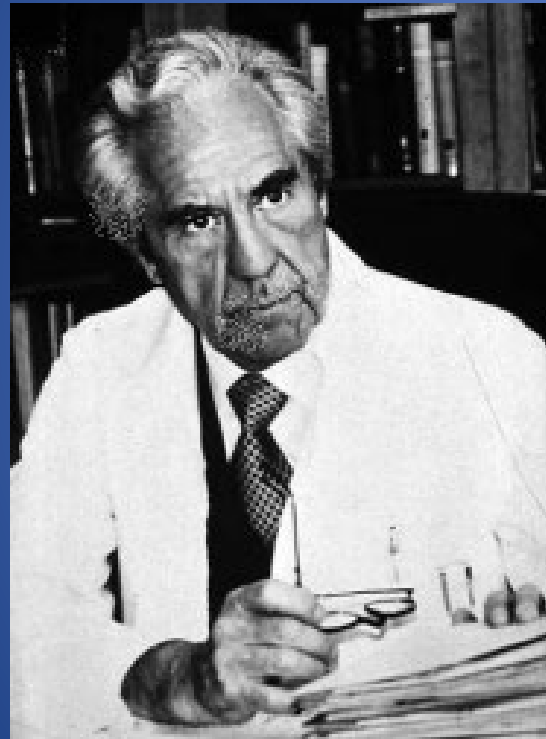
## Surgeon ↔ Interventional Cardiologist

- Fewer easy cases for the surgeon
- Many difficult surgical cases more easily approached percutaneously
  - recurrent coarctation
  - peripheral PA stenoses
  - multiple collateral vessels
- Combined (hybrid) approaches and spirit of teamwork lead to improved patient outcomes, newer techniques and devices
  - Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve Replacement
  - Hybrid approach to Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome

# Transposition of the Great Arteries

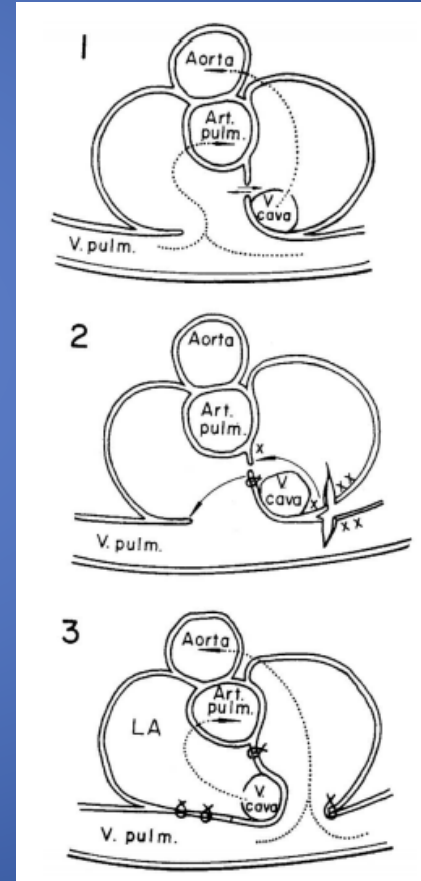
# Transposition of the Great Arteries

## The Senning Procedure



Ake Senning

1957



Senning A. Surgery 1959;45:966-80

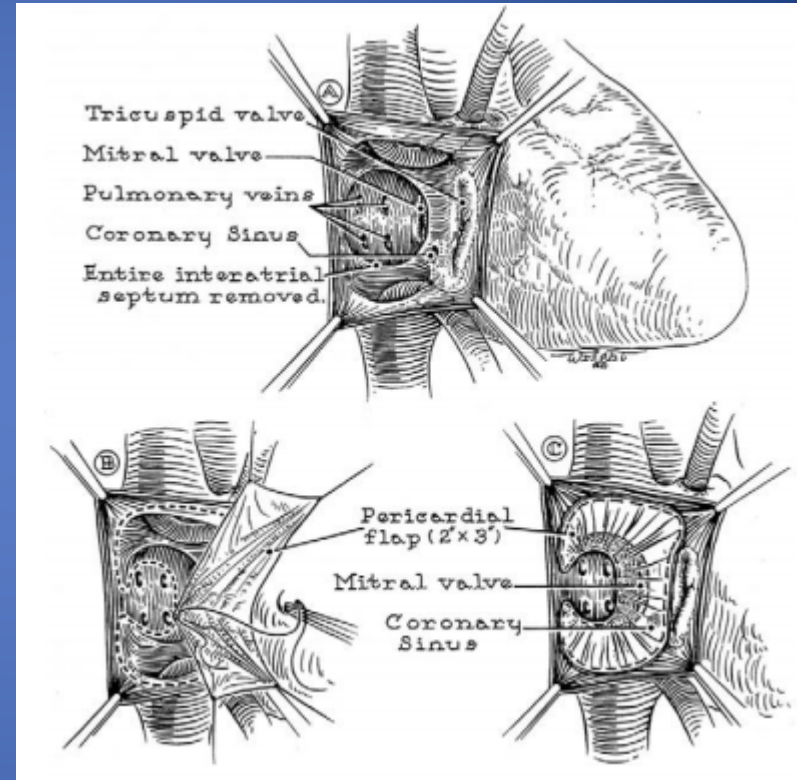
# Transposition of the Great Arteries

## The Mustard Procedure



1963

William T. Mustard



Mustard WT, et al. JTCVS 1964.

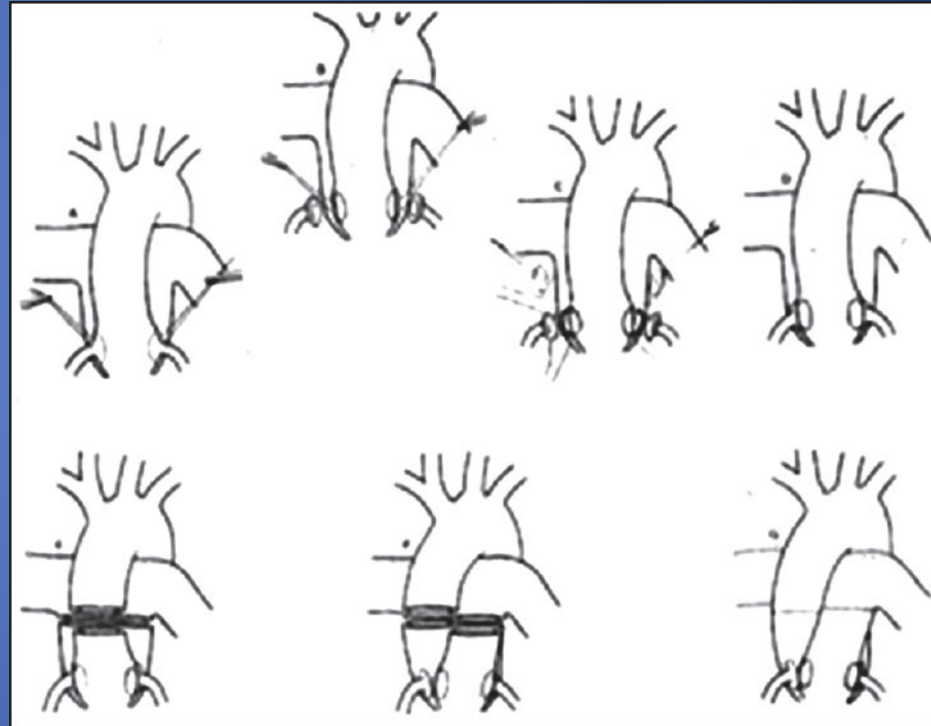
# Transposition of the Great Arteries

The Jatene Procedure (Arterial Switch)



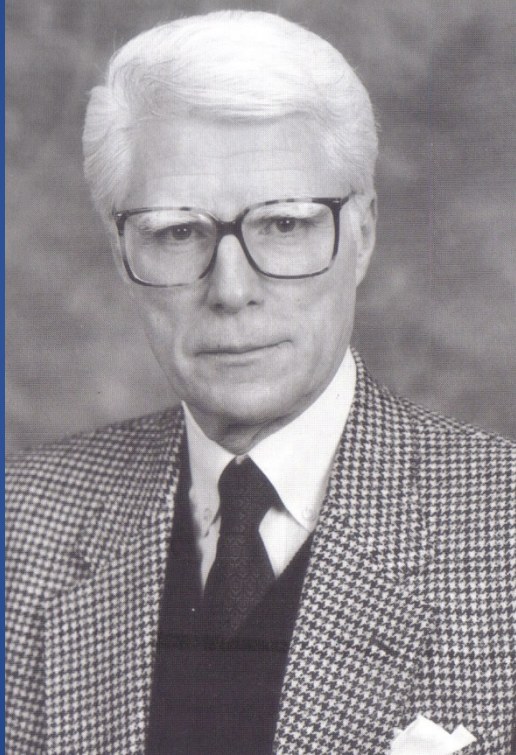
Adib Jatene

1975



Jatene et al. Arq Bras Cardiol 1975

# Arterial Switch in Newborn with Transposition and Intact Ventricular Septum



Aldo Casteneda

- January 2, 1983
- First arterial switch operation at Boston Children's Hospital
- 11 day old neonate with TGA/IVS

# Anatomical Repair of Transposition of the Great Arteries with Intact Ventricular Septum in the Neonate: Guidelines to Avoid Complications

Constantine Mavroudis, M.D.

Ann Thorac Surg 43:495–501, May 1987

Jan, 1985 – Oct, 1986  
16 consecutive neonates  
2.4 – 4.2kg  
1 to 6 days of life  
14 of 16 (88%) survival  
Kosair Children's/U of L



# Current Results of Management in Transposition of the Great Arteries, With Special Emphasis on Patients With Associated Ventricular Septal Defect

GEORGE A. TRUSLER, MD,\* ALDO R. CASTANEDA, MD, FACC,†

AMNON ROSENTHAL, MD, FACC,‡ EUGENE H. BLACKSTONE, MD, FACC,§

JOHN W. KIRKLIN, MD, FACC,§ and the CONGENITAL HEART SURGEONS SOCIETY

*Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Boston, Massachusetts, Ann Arbor, Michigan and Birmingham, Alabama*

Two hundred forty-five patients <15 days of age with transposition of the great arteries with or without a ventricular septal defect or pulmonary stenosis were entered into an ongoing 20 institution treatment study between January 1, 1985 and June 1, 1986. Complete follow-up is available on all patients. The ventricular septal defect narrowed in only 1 of 36 patients with combined transposition of the great arteries and ventricular septal defect; pulmonary stenosis developed or worsened in 3 of these 36 patients and in 3 of the 187 patients with simple transposition. Twelve month overall survival among the 245 patients was 80%. No morphologic feature of transposition was a risk factor for death but major associated cardiac and noncardiac anomalies (more common in patients with combined transposition and ventricular septal defect) and low birth weight were risk factors.

Neither arterial switch repair (n = 86), atrial switch (Mustard) repair (n = 21) nor atrial switch (Senning) repair (n = 39) was a risk factor for death, but results in all surgical groups were better in the last part of the experience. Death before repair was less frequent late in the study. Possibly, in low birth weight infants, survival was better with the arterial than with the atrial switch repair.

These data suggest that survival at 1 year is similar with either the arterial or the atrial switch repair. The early results of repair of combined transposition of the great arteries and ventricular septal defect are as good as those of simple transposition. Special institutional efforts are required to attain good results with the arterial switch repair and to prevent death before repair.

*(J Am Coll Cardiol 1987;10:1061-71)*



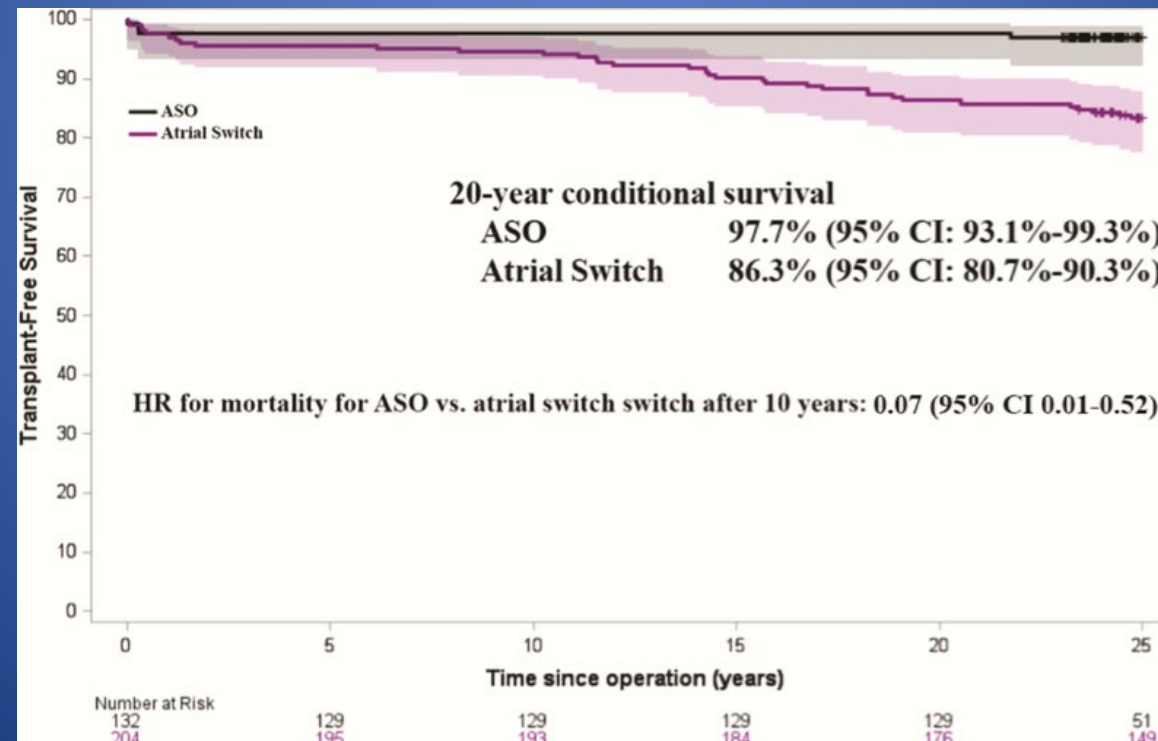
# Long-Term Survival After Arterial Versus Atrial Switch in d-Transposition of the Great Arteries



Alexander Kiener, MD, MPH, Michael Kelleman, MSPH, Courtney McCracken, PhD, Lazaros Kochilas, MD, MSCR, James D. St. Louis, MD, and Matthew E. Oster, MD, MPH

Department of Pediatrics, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia; Emory University Rollins School of Public Health, Atlanta, Georgia; Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia; and Department of Pediatric Surgery, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City, Missouri

Ann Thorac Surg 2018;106:1827-33



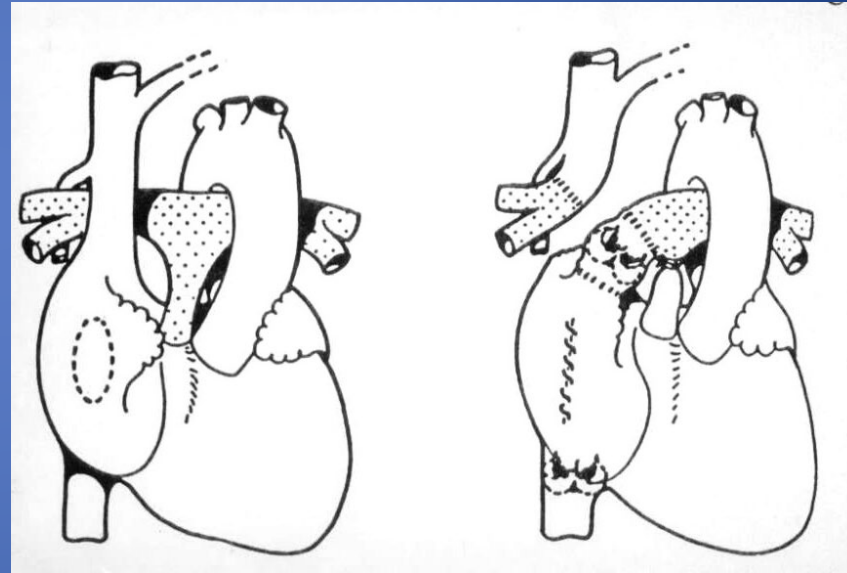
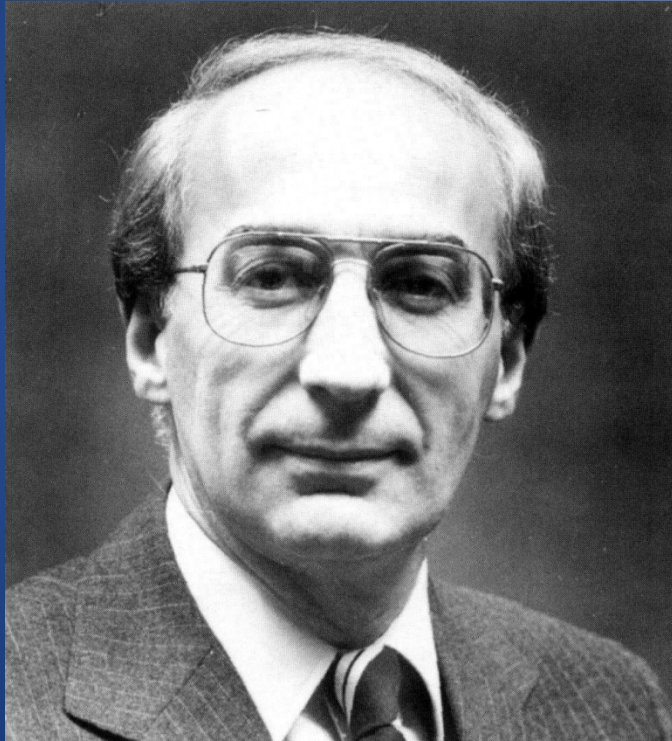
# Single Ventricles

# Staged Reconstruction for Univentricular Hearts

- Tricuspid atresia
- Unbalanced AV Canal
- Large VSD with Straddling AV Valves
- Double Inlet Left Ventricle
- Double Inlet Right Ventricle
- Some forms of Double Outlet Right Ventricle
- Pulmonary atresia with intact ventricular septum and inadequate right ventricle
- Mitral Atresia
- Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome

# Fontan Operation

1968 – Tricuspid Atresia



Fontan and Baudet, Thorax 26:240, 1971

# Evolutions in the Fontan Procedure

- Applications

- From Tricuspid Atresia

- To All forms of Single Ventricle

- Techniques

- From Unidirectional Cavopulmonary Anastomosis (Classical Glenn procedure)

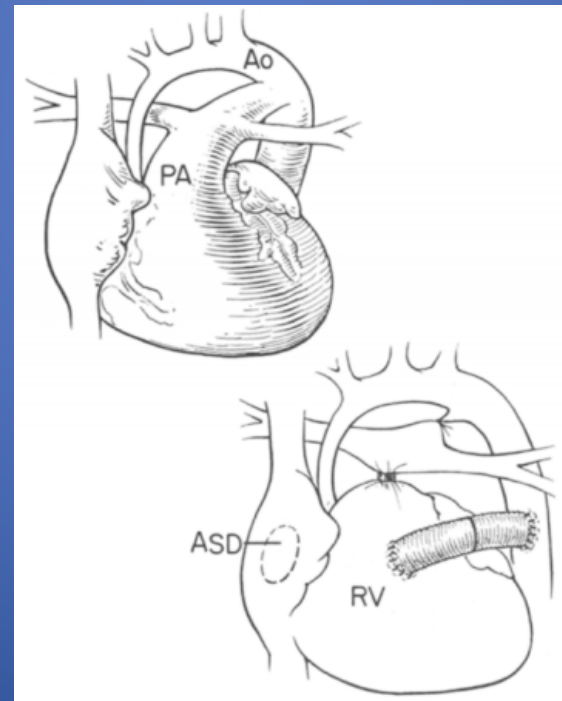
- To Extracardiac Conduit Fontan Procedure

# Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome: Experience With Palliative Surgery

WILLIAM I. NORWOOD, MD, FACC\*  
JAMES K. KIRKLIN, MD\*  
STEPHEN P. SANDERS, MD†

*Boston, Massachusetts*

**Aortic atresia is a form of hypoplastic left heart syndrome always complicated by associated severe hypoplasia of the ascending aorta and various degrees of mitral valve and left ventricular hypoplasia. At present it is a universally fatal lesion in early infancy. This is a report of a new palliative procedure for hypoplastic left heart syndrome that has resulted in early ongoing survival of two infants with aortic atresia. On the basis of experience with a third patient, an operation for future physiologic correction is proposed.**



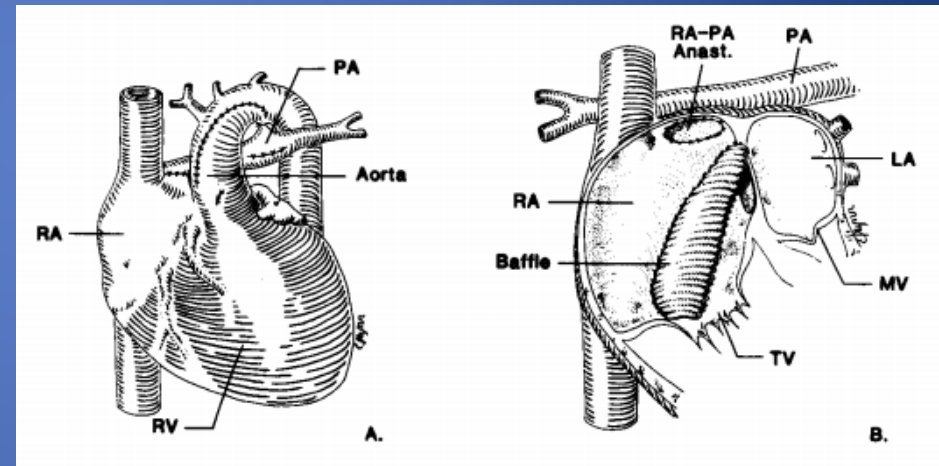
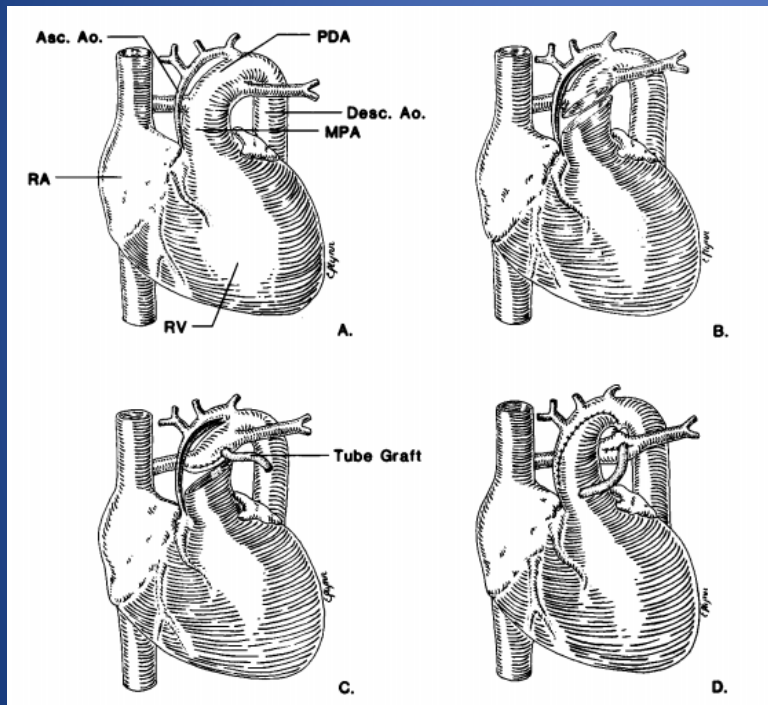
2/6/1979

Norwood, Kirklin, Sanders Am J Cardiol 1980

# PHYSIOLOGIC REPAIR OF AORTIC ATRESIA-HYPOPLASTIC LEFT HEART SYNDROME

WILLIAM I. NORWOOD, M.D., PETER LANG, M.D.,  
AND DOLLY D. HANSEN, M.D.

N Engl J Med 1983



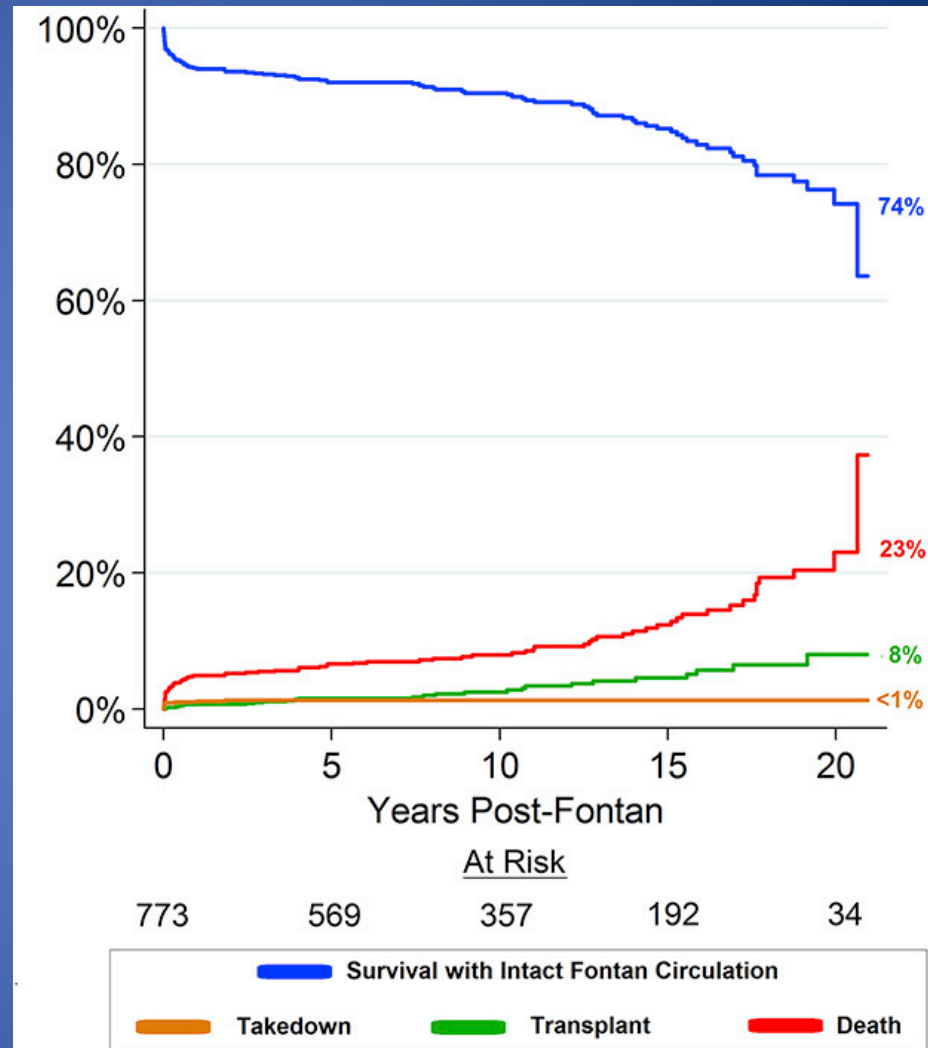
# Important Surgical Advances in Single Ventricle Reconstruction

- Bidirectional Glenn 1985
  - Hopkins/Oldham/Lamberti
- Lateral tunnel
  - Puga; Jonas; de Leval 1987
- Extracardiac conduit
  - Marcelletti 1990
- RV-PA conduit for Stage 1
  - Sano 1998





Two ventricles  
are still better  
than one



# Intraoperative Neuromonitoring

# Intraoperative Neuromonitoring

- Pediatric cardiac surgery

- Improved survival begs improved quality of life

- Neurologic outcome of primary importance!**

- Neurologic sequelae

- Up to 25% of patients.

# Ultimate Neurologic Outcome

- May reflect pre-existing condition
- May reflect other events during hospitalization
- Period of cardiopulmonary bypass (w/wo CA)
  - **Critical period during which the brain is in great jeopardy**
  - Surgeon's control and responsibility

# Background

- In 1995 our group began to routinely monitor all patients during pediatric cardiac surgery using all three neuromonitoring modalities
  - EEG (4 channel)
  - Transcranial Doppler
  - Transcranial near-infrared spectroscopy
- Began as an observational study, but in short time began to apply interventions

# Multimodality Neuromonitoring

- EEG – demonstrates neural function
  - Affected by cooling, anesthesia, artifact
- TCD – demonstrates presence of and changes to blood flow to the brain
- NIRS – demonstrates oxygen availability to brain tissue

**Disk electrodes use conductive paste.  
Self-adhesive disks only outside hairline.**

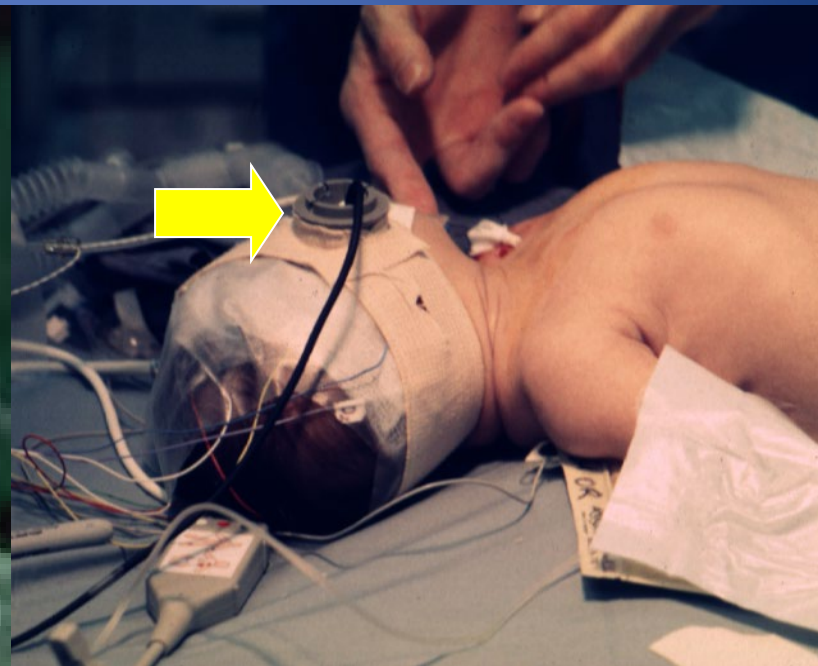


# TCD Probe Fixation

Bisonette plastic wheel

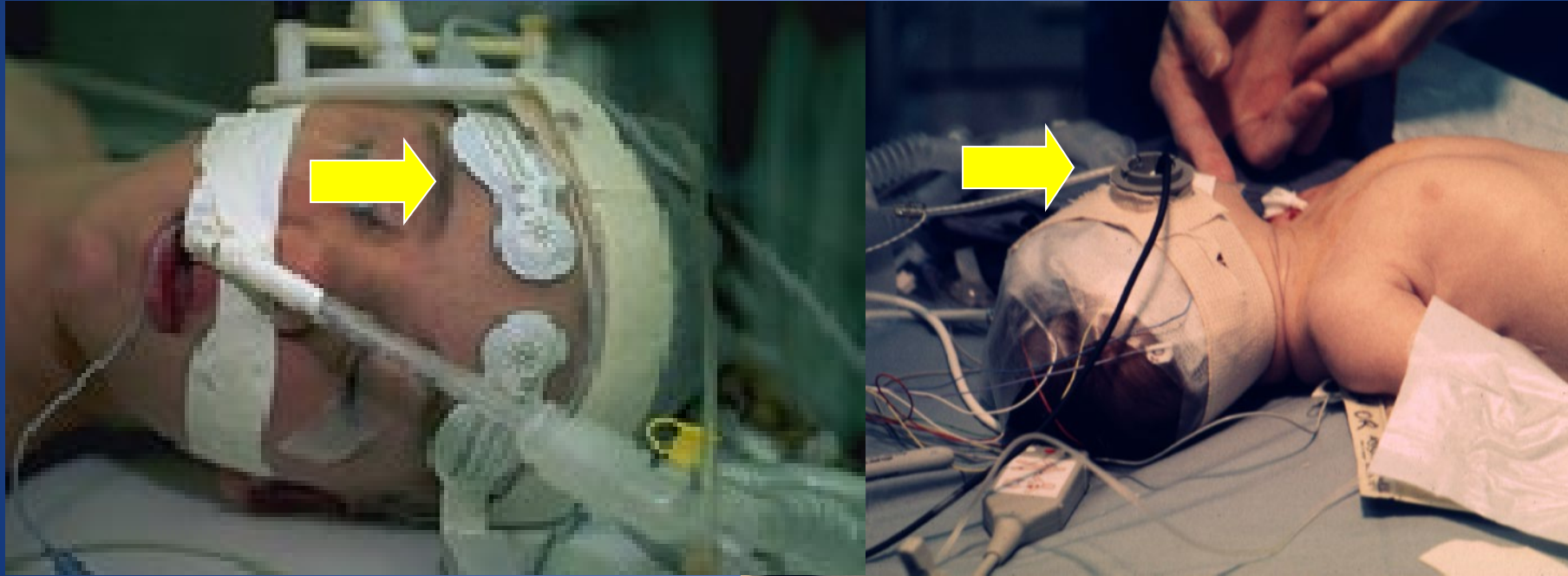


Soft flexible plastic socket



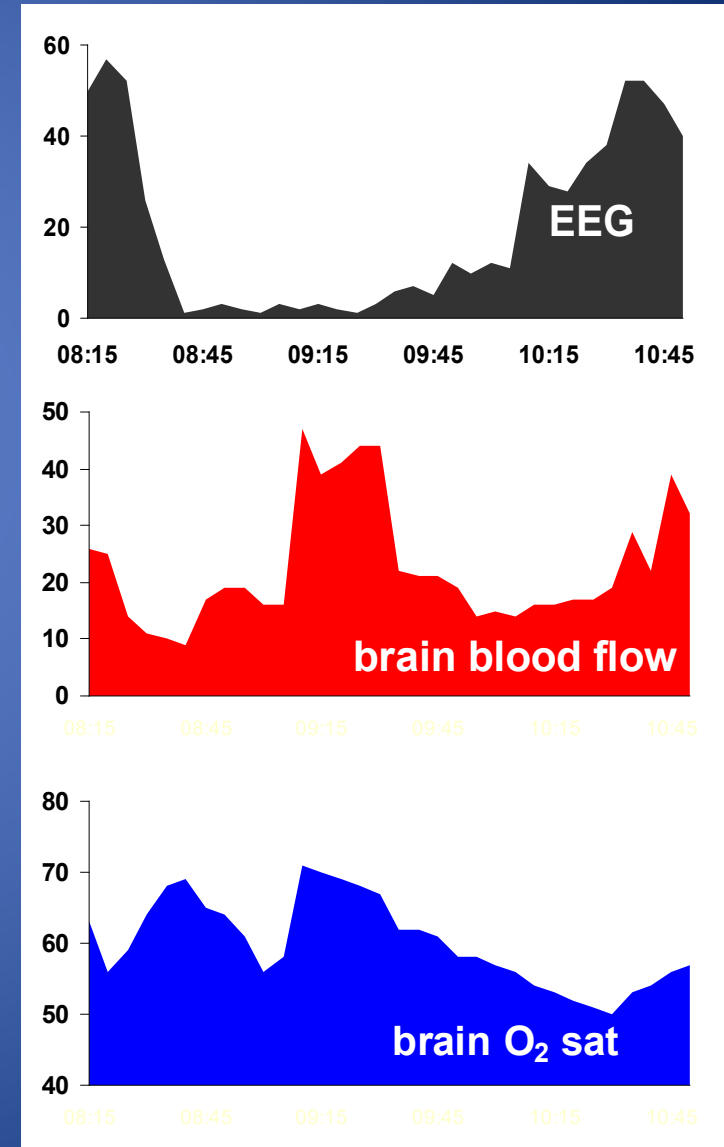
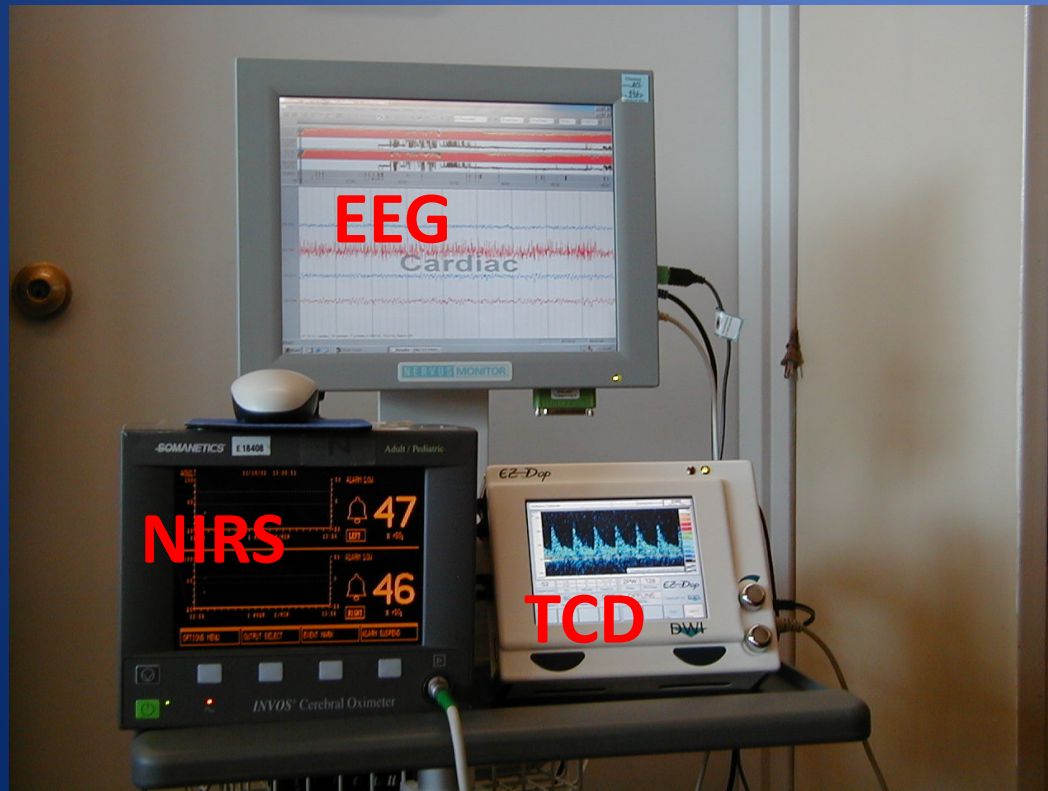


# Near-Infrared Spectroscopy Patches



# Multi-modality Neuromonitoring

- Synaptic Function  
    **EEG**
- Large Cerebral Vessel Perfusion  
    **transcranial Doppler (TCD)**
- Small Cerebral Vessel Oxygenation  
    **near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS)**



# Multi-modality Neuromonitoring

Retrospective analysis of our first 250 patients

176 patients with significant changes

–Among 42 pts w/o intervention

- 28% neurologic complications

–Among 134 with intervention

- 5% neurologic complications

# Conclusions Reached

- Cerebral perfusion and oxygenation abnormalities occur commonly during pediatric heart surgery.
- Multimodality neuromonitoring allows timely detection of intraoperative events that can threaten neurologic function.
- Neuromonitoring-based interventions decrease the incidence of postoperative neurologic sequelae

# As a Result of This Initial Experience

- We have continued to apply multi-modality neuromonitoring on virtually all pediatric cardiovascular surgery cases
- We take all significant changes seriously and intervene as indicated.

# Self Evaluation

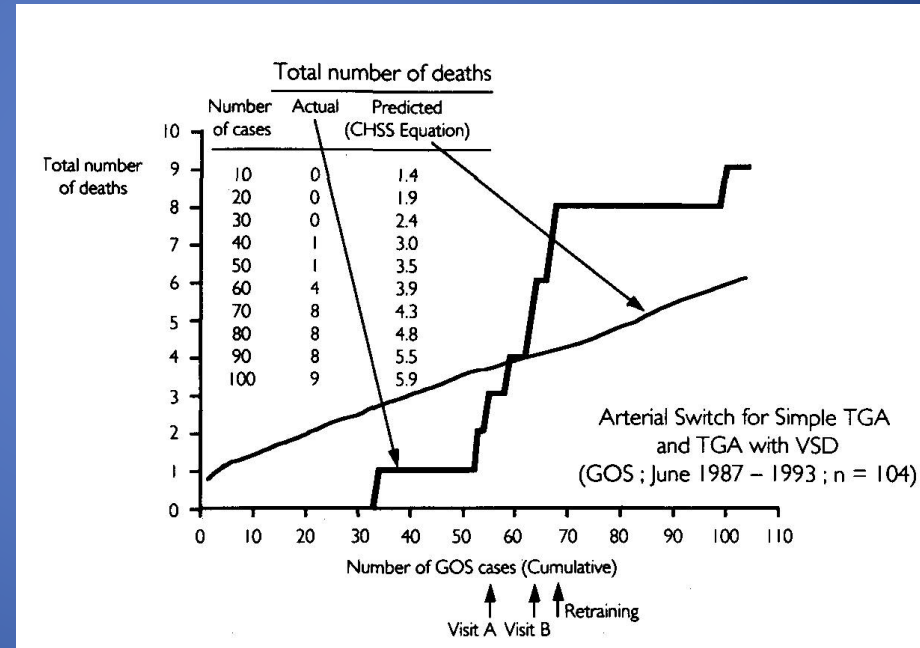
# Self Evaluation

- Recognition of failures
  - Importance of keeping track
- Development of databases
  - Permitted tracking at individual centers
  - Identifying “real” outcomes (benchmarks)
  - Variation in outcomes

# Analysis of a cluster of surgical failures

*Application to a series of neonatal arterial switch operations*

JTCVS 107:914, 1994



Marc R. de Leval, MD, FRCS, Katrien François, MD (by invitation), Catherine Bull, MRCP (by invitation), William Brawn, FRCS (by invitation), and David Spiegelhalter, PhD (by invitation), *London, England*





The Report of the Public Inquiry into  
children's heart surgery at  
the Bristol Royal Infirmary 1984–1995

# Learning from Bristol

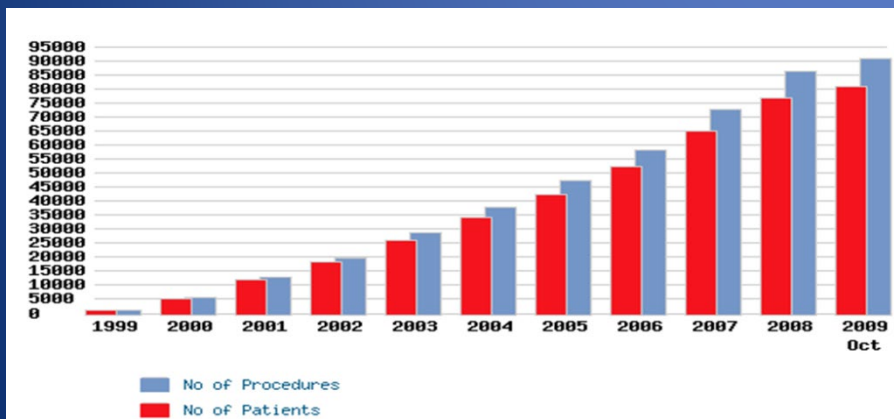
Presented to Parliament by  
the Secretary of State for Health  
by Command of Her Majesty  
July 2001

# Quality Assessment - Databases

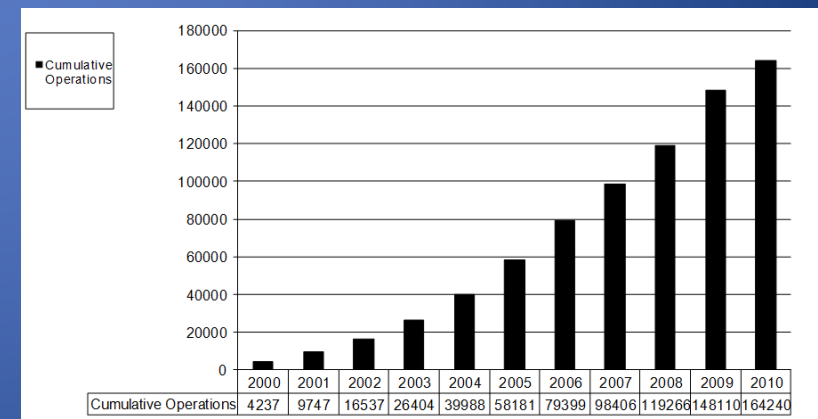
## Databases to assess outcomes in Pediatric Heart Surgery

- Pediatric Cardiac Care Consortium - J. Moeller – 1984
- Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society – Datacenter
- EACTS Congenital Database - 1999
- STS Congenital Database - 2000

EACTS Congenital Database



STS Congenital Database



# Quality Assessment - Databases

## Good news

- Benchmarks derived from outcomes at multiple centers
- Permit individual centers to compare its outcomes to benchmarks

## Not so good news

- Push for “transparency”
- Public likes to compare/rate/rank
- Risk adjustment challenging
- Risk aversion becoming a real phenomenon

# How We Have Used STS Congenital Database

Self-assessment with benchmarks for comparison

- Compare to group means

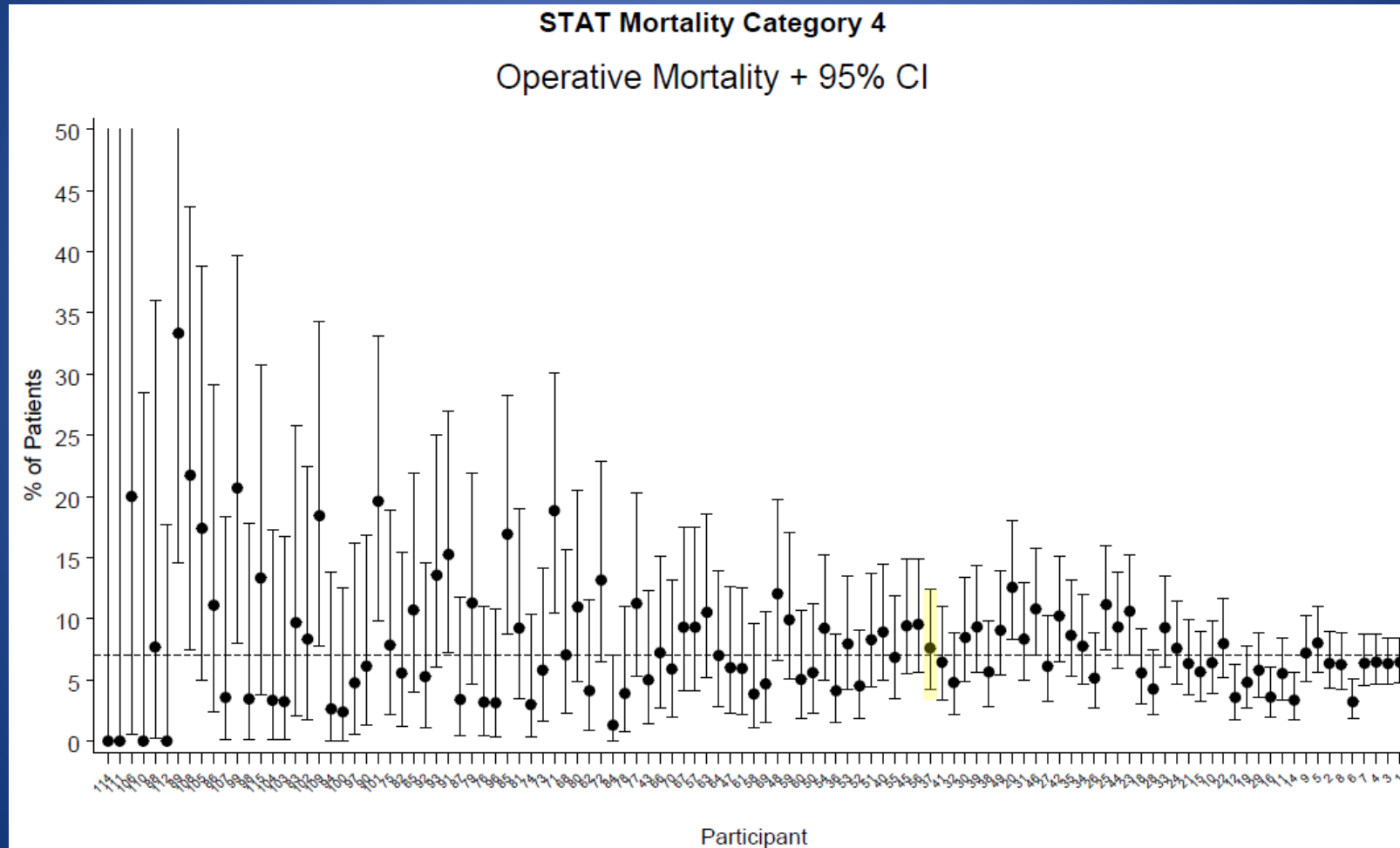
- Compare to other (unidentified) centers

In concert with easily accessible database (CardioAccess)

- Permits more frequent feedback

- Dashboards

# STS Congenital Database



# Dashboard

Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2015		Jan	Feb	Mar		
20	27	32	42	35	35	39	40	23	47	28	388	<b>Total Operations in CardioAccess</b>	33	35	30		
9	12	11	21	22	19	16	16	13	12	10	172	Cardiopulmonary Bypass (CPB)	16	17	21		
6	11	14	7	10	8	15	15	2	16	13	123	No CPB Cardiovascular (excluding primary PDA ligations, wt <2500g)	16	10	4		
0	0	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	3	4	17	Primary PDA Ligations wt <2500g	0	0	0		
1/1	2/1	2/4	2/9	2/0	1/2	1/3	2/2	3/0	1/15	0	20/37	ECMO, CPS or VAD Initiation/Other (decan, repositioning, etc)	0	2/5	2/2		
3	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	0	11	Thoracic	1	0	1		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	Bronchoscopy	0	0	0		
0	1	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	7	Minor Procedure/Other	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Interventional Cardiology (includes pacemakers done by Cardiology in OR)	0	0	0		
												<b>STAT Mortality Categories (Mortalities/Surgeries)</b>	<b>STS Median and Interquartile Range</b>				
0/4(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/8(0%)	0/7(0%)	0/11(0%)	0/8(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/6(0%)	0/4(0%)	0/7(0%)	0/10(0%)	0/75(0%)	STAT Category 1	0.6% (0.4%-0.8%)	0/10(0%)	0/12(0%)	0/7(0%)	
1/1(100%)	0/3(0%)	0/6(0%)	1/9(11%)	0/5(0%)	0/7(0%)	0/10(0%)	0/9(0%)	0/5(0%)	0/2(0%)	1/2(50%)	3/61(5%)	STAT Category 2	1.6% (1.3% - 2.0%)	0/6(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/5(0%)	
0/5(0%)	0/2(0%)	0/2(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/2(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/1(0%)	0/2(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/28(0%)	STAT Category 3	2.6% (2.0% - 3.3%)	0/6(0%)	0/4(0%)	0/4(0%)	
0/3(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/3(0%)	1/6(17%)	0/7(0%)	1/6(17%)	1/4(25%)	0/4(0%)	0/3(0%)	1/6(17%)	0/3	4/54(7%)	STAT Category 4	7.4% (6.6% - 8.2%)	1/5(20%)	0/2(0%)	0/8(0%)	
1/1(100%)	0/1(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/3(0%)	0/1(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/0(0%)	0/1(0%)	1/9(11%)	STAT Category 5	15.2% (13% - 17.8%)	0/1(0%)	0/1(0%)	0/0(0%)	
1/14(7%)	0/12(0%)	0/19(0%)	2/26(8%)	0/25(0%)	1/24(4%)	1/20(5%)	0/22(0%)	0/15(0%)	1/18(6%)	1/16	8/227(4%)	# of pts in STAT categories	1/28(3%)	0/22(0%)	0/26(0%)		
17	16	23	30	28	30	22	26	19	25	20	272	<b>Number of Patients in CardioAccess</b>	28	24	24		
3	4	5	4	8	4	6	9	3	6	7	63	Neonate (<31 days)	6	4	5		
6	6	9	8	3	8	6	4	9	11	7	80	Infant (31 days - 1 yr)	10	10	13		
7	5	5	13	15	14	9	9	5	6	4	100	Child (1 yr - 18 yrs)	7	6	5		
1	1	4	5	2	4	1	4	2	2	2	29	Adult (>18 yrs)	5	4	1		
0	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	<b>Transplant Program</b>	0	0	0		

# Dashboard

Encourages regular assessment of outcomes

Encourages regular comparison to prior experience and benchmarks

Identifies areas requiring quality improvement

Provides continuous monitoring of performance

---

# A Word of Caution in Public Reporting



Thomas L. Spray and J. William Gaynor

---

Semin Thorac Cardiovasc Surg Pediatr Card Surg Ann 2017; 20:49-55.

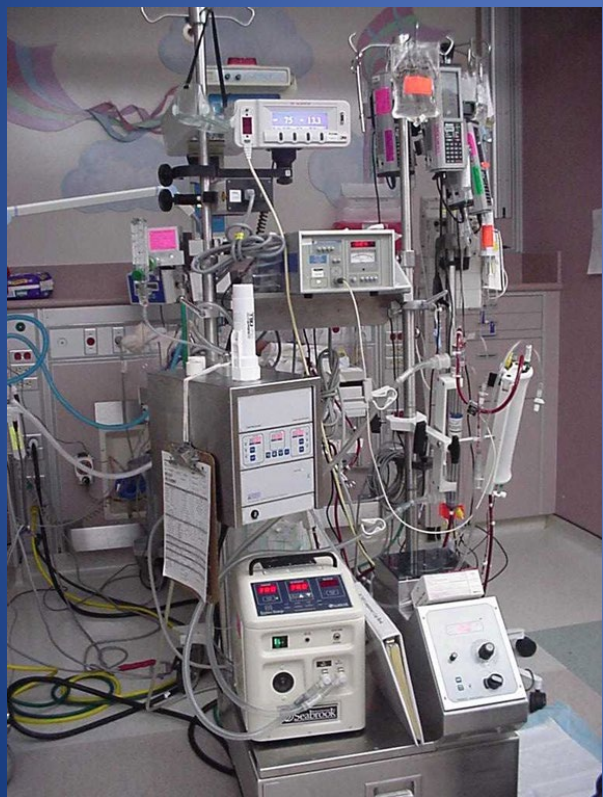
We must be very careful that we don't create a system where we are afraid to take on a patient with increased risk of mortality because it may affect our overall ranking.



# Mechanical Support

# Mechanical Support

ECMO



VAD - Berlin



# Berlin Heart EXCOR<sup>®</sup> HDE

## Weight Range

0-8 kg

8-25 kg

15-30 kg

30-55 kg

35-60 kg

## Pump Size

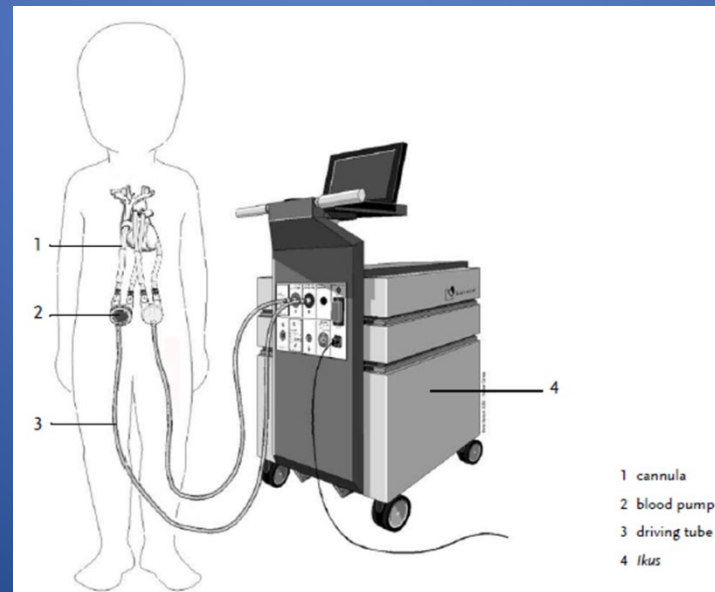
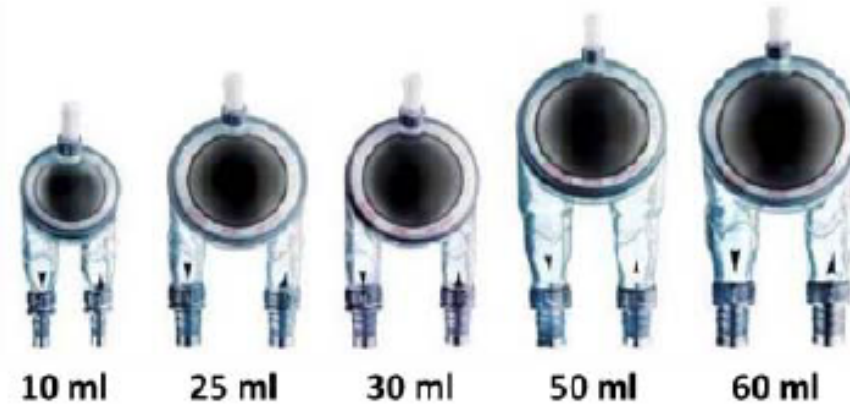
10 ml

25 ml

30 ml

50 ml

60 ml



# Berlin Heart EXCOR<sup>®</sup>



# Berlin Heart EXCOR®

First Clinical Implant 1990 Germany

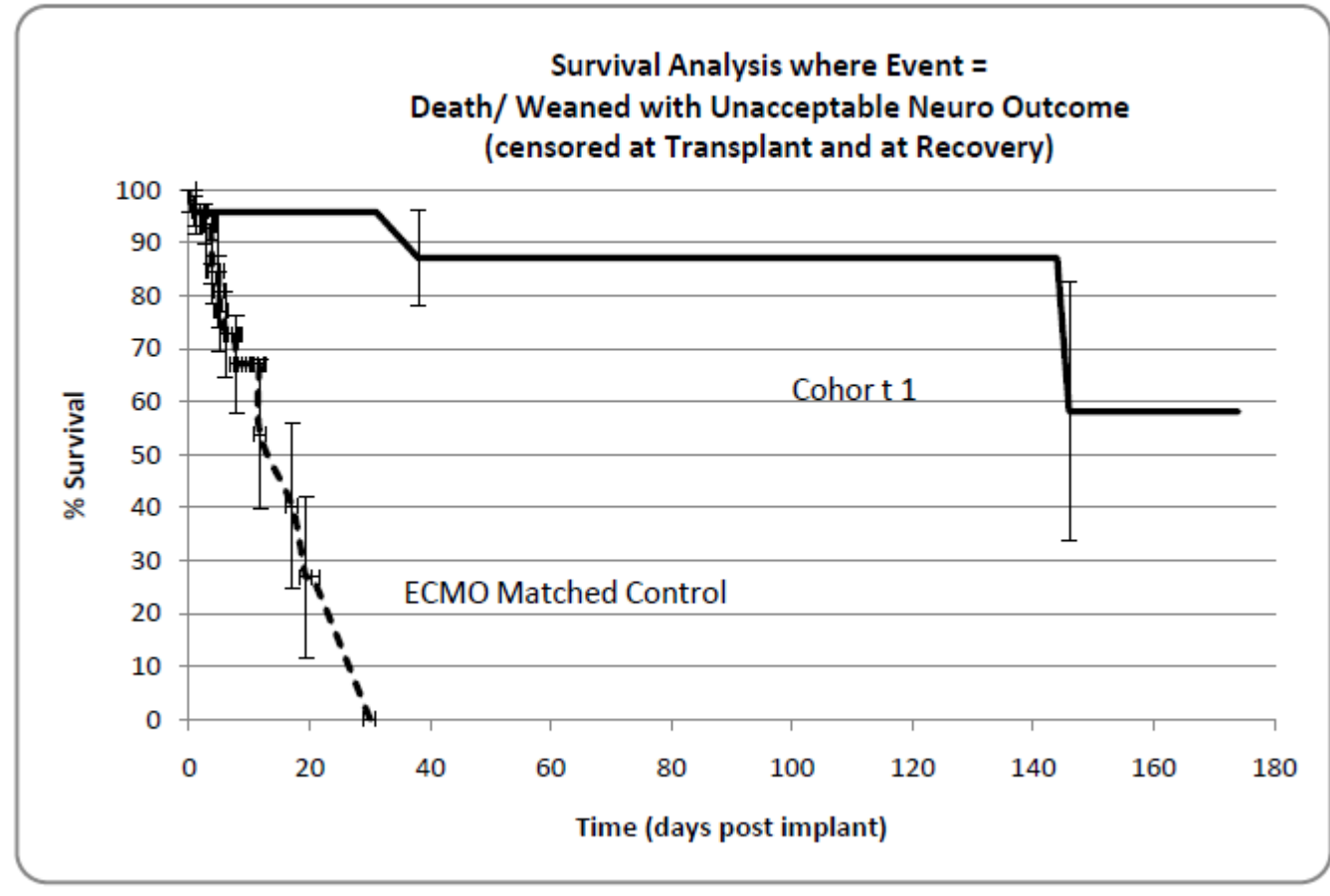
First US Clinical Implant - 2000 - U of Arizona

North American Implants (00-07) – 97

IDE approval – June 2007

FDA Humanitarian Device Exemption – Dec 2011

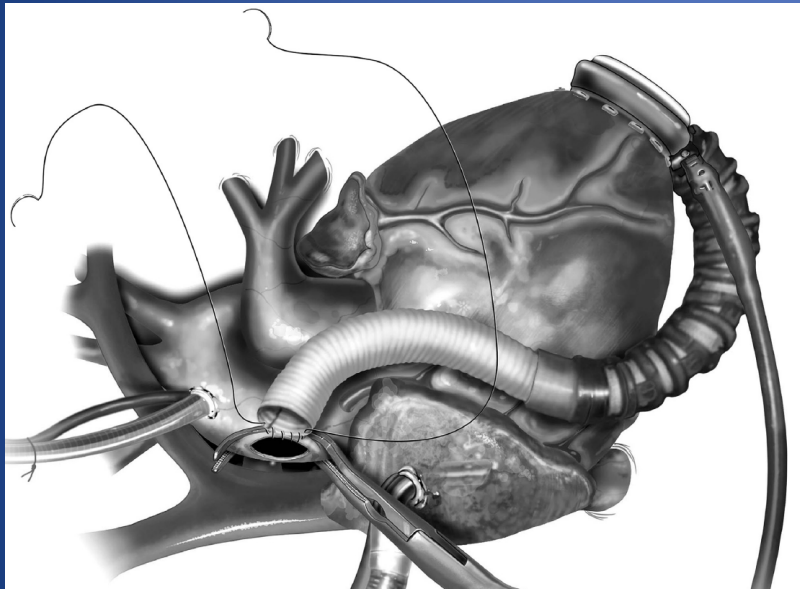
Figure 2. Survival to Death/Weaned with Unacceptable Neuro Outcome:  
Cohort 1 versus ECMO



Median wait time for heart transplant  
in children = 119 days (JHLT 2011)

# Mechanical Support for Children – Adult Devices

## HeartWare LVAD



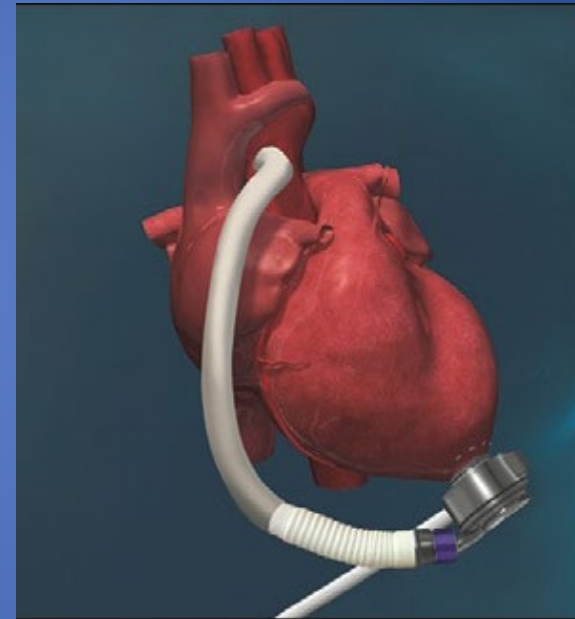
Honjo & Rao OpTechTCVSurg 2014

Youngest 6 yo

Lowest weight 17 kg

**Withdrawn from Market in 2021!**

## HeartMate 3



O'Connor et al. JHeartLungTransplantation 2020

28 pts <18 yo

Youngest 8 yo

Lowest weight 19.1 kg

# Progress in Mechanical Support for Small Children Lags behind what has been achieved for Adults

## NHLBI Pediatric Circulatory Support Program

November, 2002 – Proposals solicited for novel circulatory support systems for children weighing 2 to 25 kg

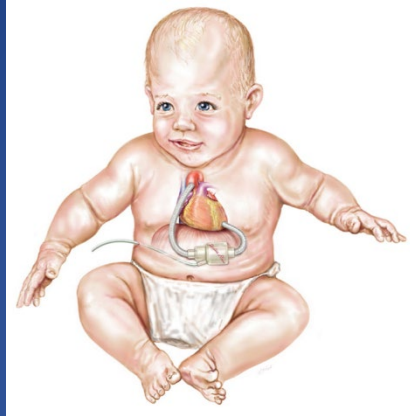
### System requirements

- Deployable in less than 1 hour
- Minimize infection, bleeding, hemolysis, thrombosis
- Capable of providing up to 6 months support

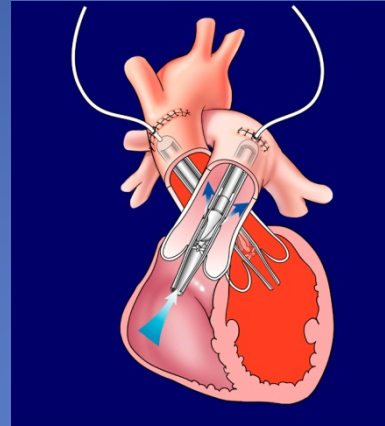




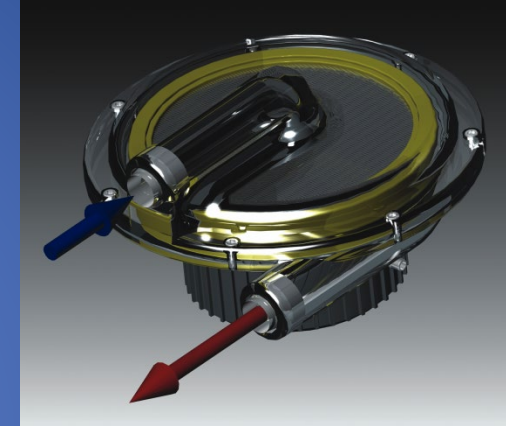
# Pediatric Circulatory Support Systems



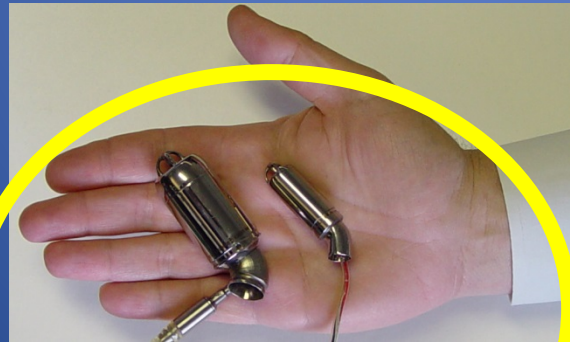
PediaFlow VAD  
**University of Pittsburgh**  
Harvey Borovetz, Ph.D.



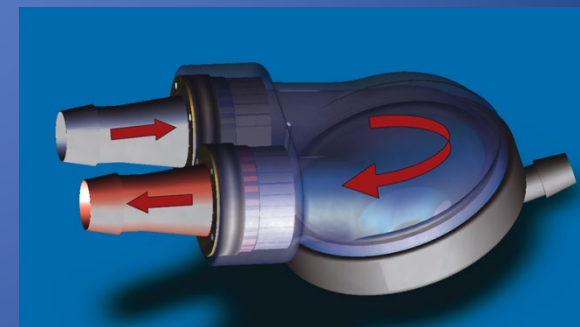
PediPump  
**Cleveland Clinic**  
**Lerner College of Medicine-CWRU**  
Brian Duncan, M.D.



pCAS  
**Ension, Inc., Univ of Louisville**  
Mark Gartner, M.S.



Child-size and Infant-size  
Jarvik 2000 LVADs  
**Jarvik Heart, Inc.**  
Robert Jarvik, M.D.



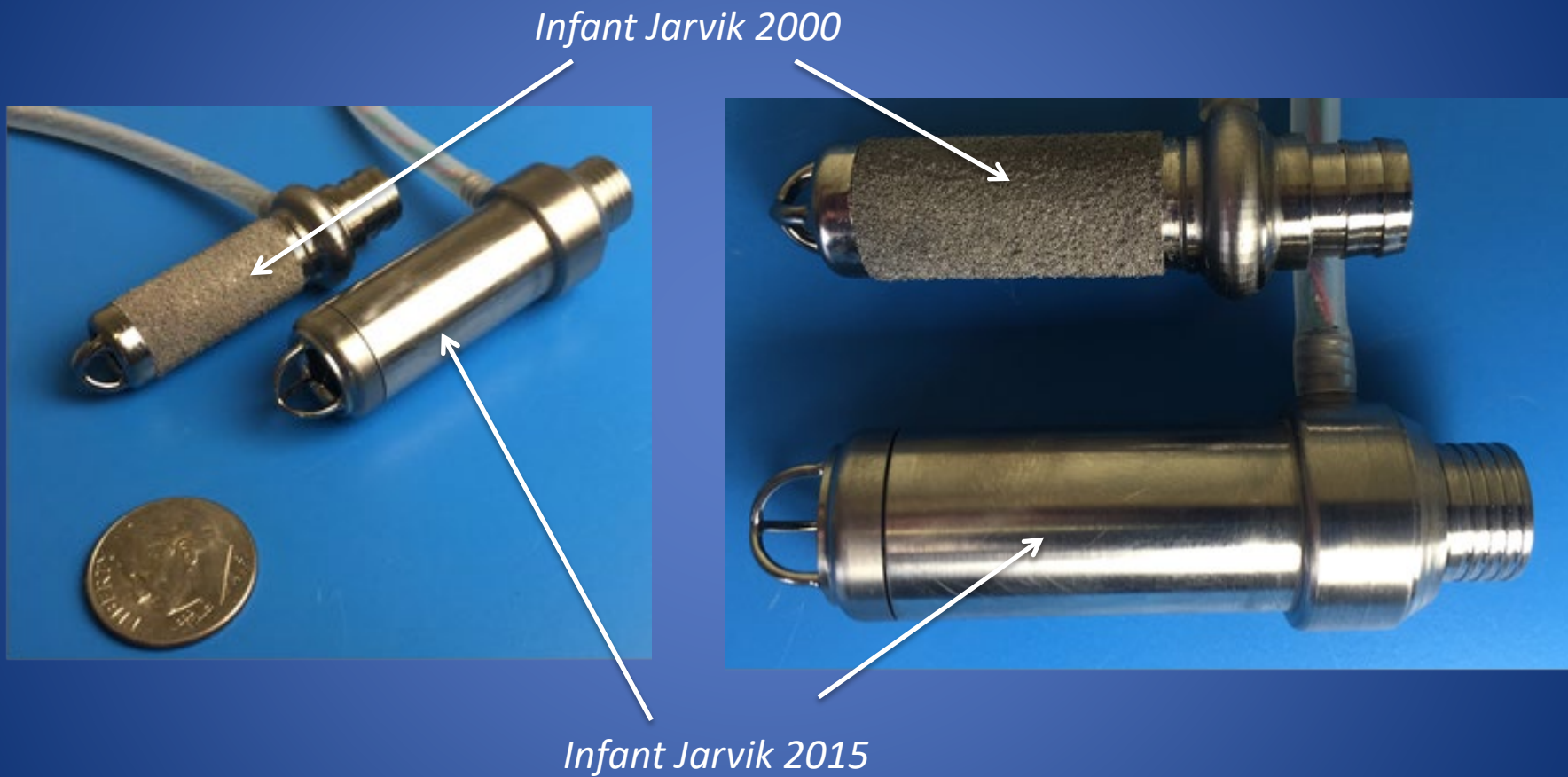
Pulsatile Pediatric Ventricular  
Assist Devices  
**Penn State University**  
Bill Weiss, Ph.D.

# Infant Jarvik 2000 VAD



- 11 mm x 52.0 mm
- Miniature power/controller cables
- Modified analog control system
- Ceramic Cone Bearings
- Continuous Flow up to 1.5 l/min
- For 4-15 kg children

# Infant Jarvik 2015 vs 2000



# Infant Jarvik 2015 VAD



- 15 mm x 55.4 mm
- Miniature power/controller cables
- Modified analog control system
- Ceramic Cone Bearings
- Continuous Flow up to 3.0 l/min
- For 4-25 kg children

# Current Status of PumpKIN Trial

Originally designed as prospective two-arm randomized study

Now completing a single-arm Feasibility trial – 8 to 20 kg

7 children at 4 US centers implanted with Jarvik 2015 as bridge to tx

Age range 7 months to 7 years; weight range 8.2 to 19 kg

Median duration of support 143 days (range 5 to 188 days)

100% survival to transplant

Pivotal trial designed (n=22) – Enrollment to begin soon.

# Continuing Status for Small Child or Infant

The Berlin Heart EXCOR<sup>®</sup> is currently the only FDA-approved durable VAD option for smaller children.

No intracorporeal devices available for patients < 20 kg.



# Adult Congenital Heart Disease

# Adults with Congenital Heart Disease

- 1 million adults with congenital heart disease
  - Exceeds number of children with CHD
- Consists of
  - Unrepaired congenital defects
  - Heart failure
  - Complications associated with earlier repairs
  - Newly recognized CHDs not found until adulthood
  - Complex arrhythmias
  - Pregnancy issues



# Outcomes in adult congenital heart surgery: Analysis of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Database

Christopher E. Mascio, MD,<sup>a</sup> Sara K. Pasquali, MD,<sup>b</sup> Jeffrey P. Jacobs, MD,<sup>c</sup> Marshall L. Jacobs, MD,<sup>d</sup> and Erle H. Austin III, MD<sup>a</sup>

**Objective:** Outcomes data for adults undergoing congenital heart surgery are limited. Previous analyses used administrative data or focused on single-center outcomes. We describe the most common operations, patient characteristics, and postoperative outcomes using a multicenter clinical database.

**Methods:** The study included adults (aged  $\geq 18$  years) listed in the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Congenital Heart Surgery Database (2000–2009). We describe patient characteristics and morbidity and mortality, and examine congenital procedures in the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Adult Cardiac Surgery Database to permit consideration of the primary dataset within a broader context.

**Results:** A total of 5265 patients (68 centers) from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Congenital Heart Surgery Database were included. Patients' median age was 25 years (interquartile range, 20–35). Common preoperative risk factors included noncardiac abnormalities (17%) and arrhythmia (14%). Overall, in-hospital mortality was 2.1%, 27% had 1 or more complication, and median length of stay was 5 days. Common operations included right ventricular outflow tract procedures (21%) and pacemaker/arrhythmia procedures (20%). We further evaluated cardiopulmonary bypass procedures in more than 100 patients. Mortality ranged from 0% (atrial septal defect repair) to 11% (Fontan revision/conversion). Separate evaluation of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Adult Cardiac Surgery Database revealed 39,872 adults undergoing congenital heart operations.

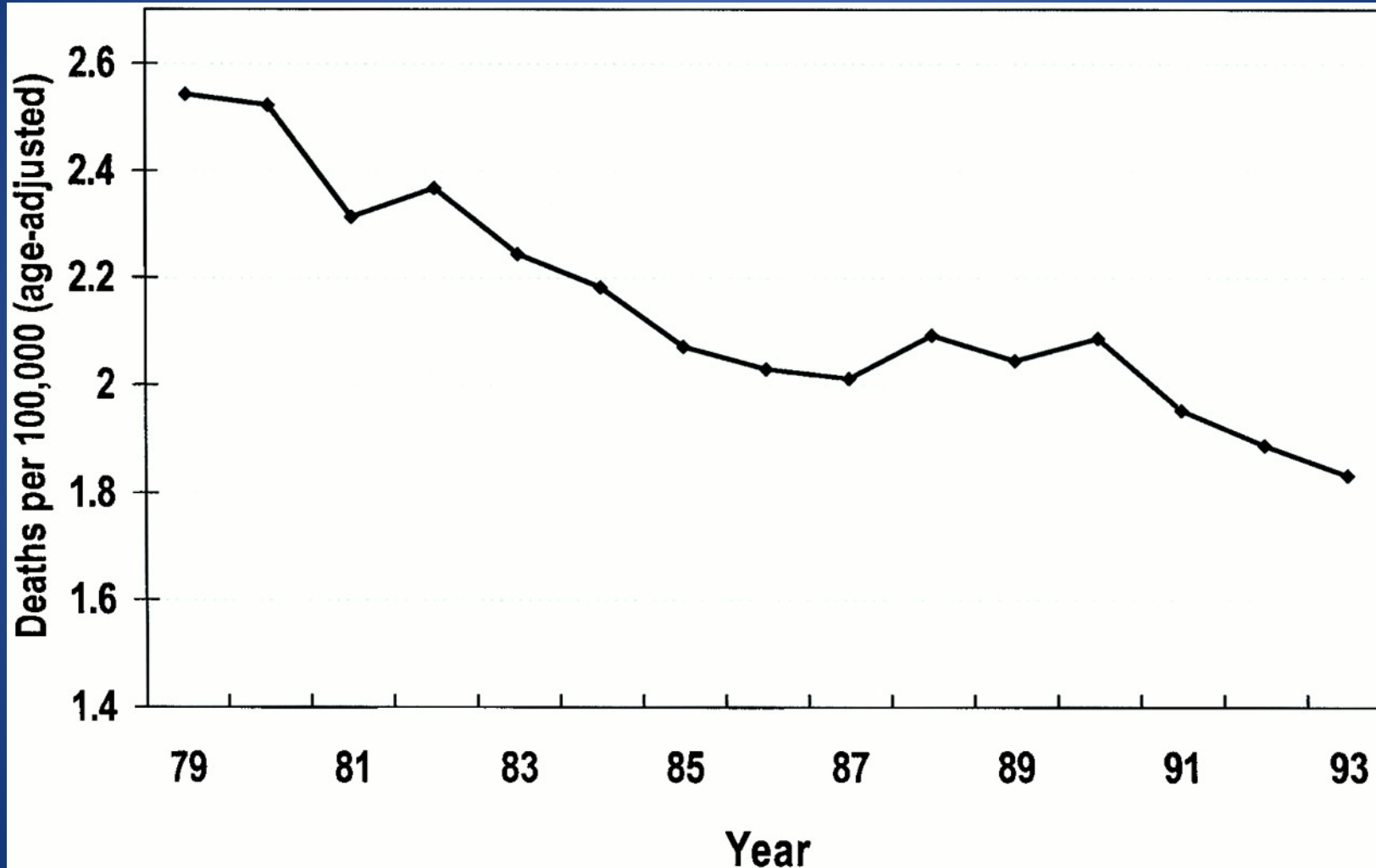
**Conclusions:** Most adult congenital heart operations listed in the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Congenital Heart Surgery Database are performed in the third to fourth decades of life; approximately half are for right heart pathology or arrhythmia. Many patients have complications, but mortality is low with the exception of those undergoing Fontan revision/conversion. Many more adults undergoing congenital heart surgery are entered into the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Adult Cardiac Surgery Database. (J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2011;142:1090-7)

# Adults with Congenital Heart Disease

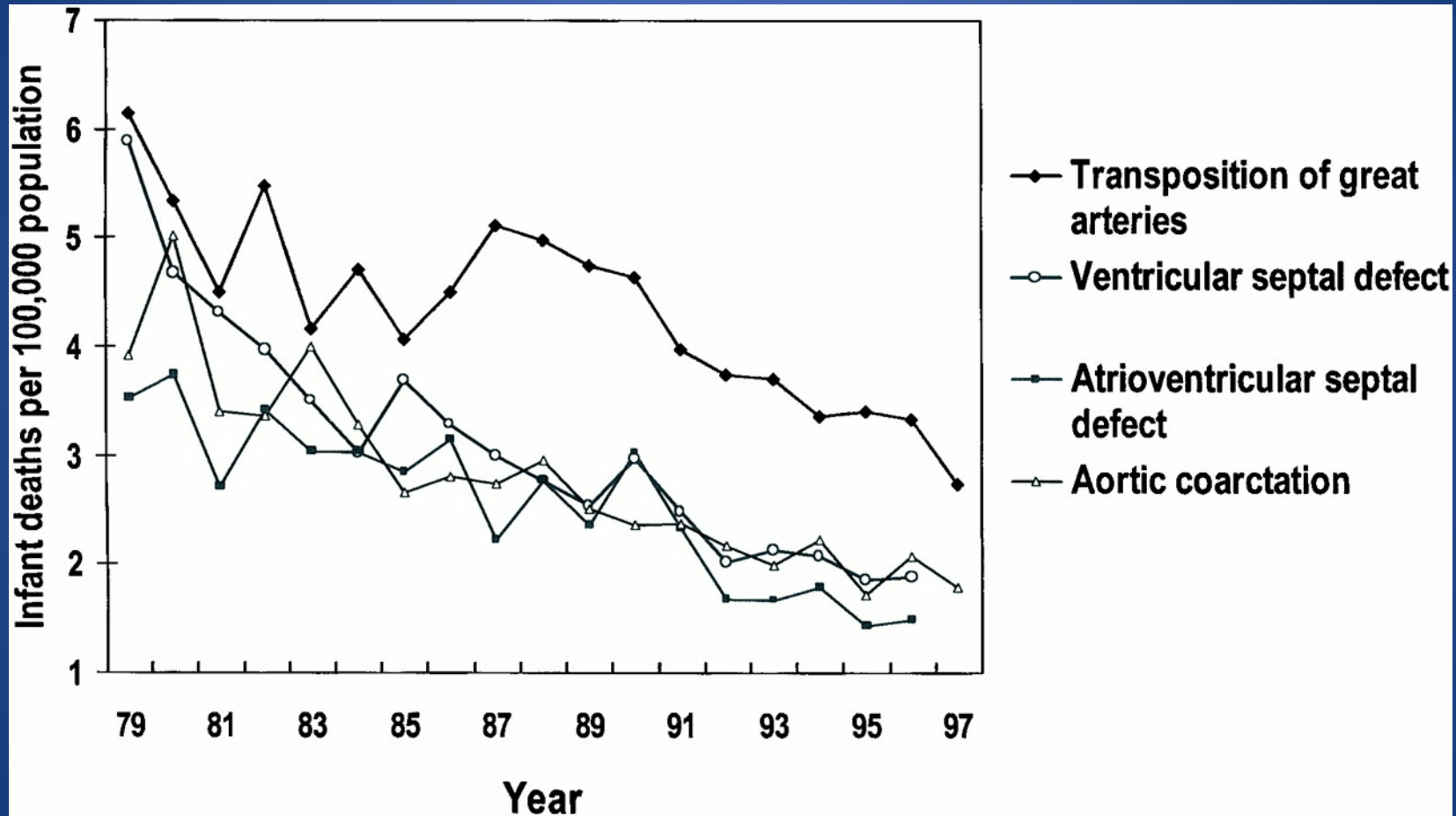
- Adult congenital population is increasing in number (and complexity) thanks to our successes at younger ages
- Cardiologists dedicated to adults with congenital heart disease are increasing in number and knowledge
- Adult Congenital Heart Association established in 1998, began Accreditation Program in 2017
  - (Norton Children's and Cincinnati Children's are both accredited)
- Centers in both Louisville and Lexington now have sections devoted to this growing segment of patients

So, how have we done?

## Death rate due to congenital heart disease, United States, 1979–1997

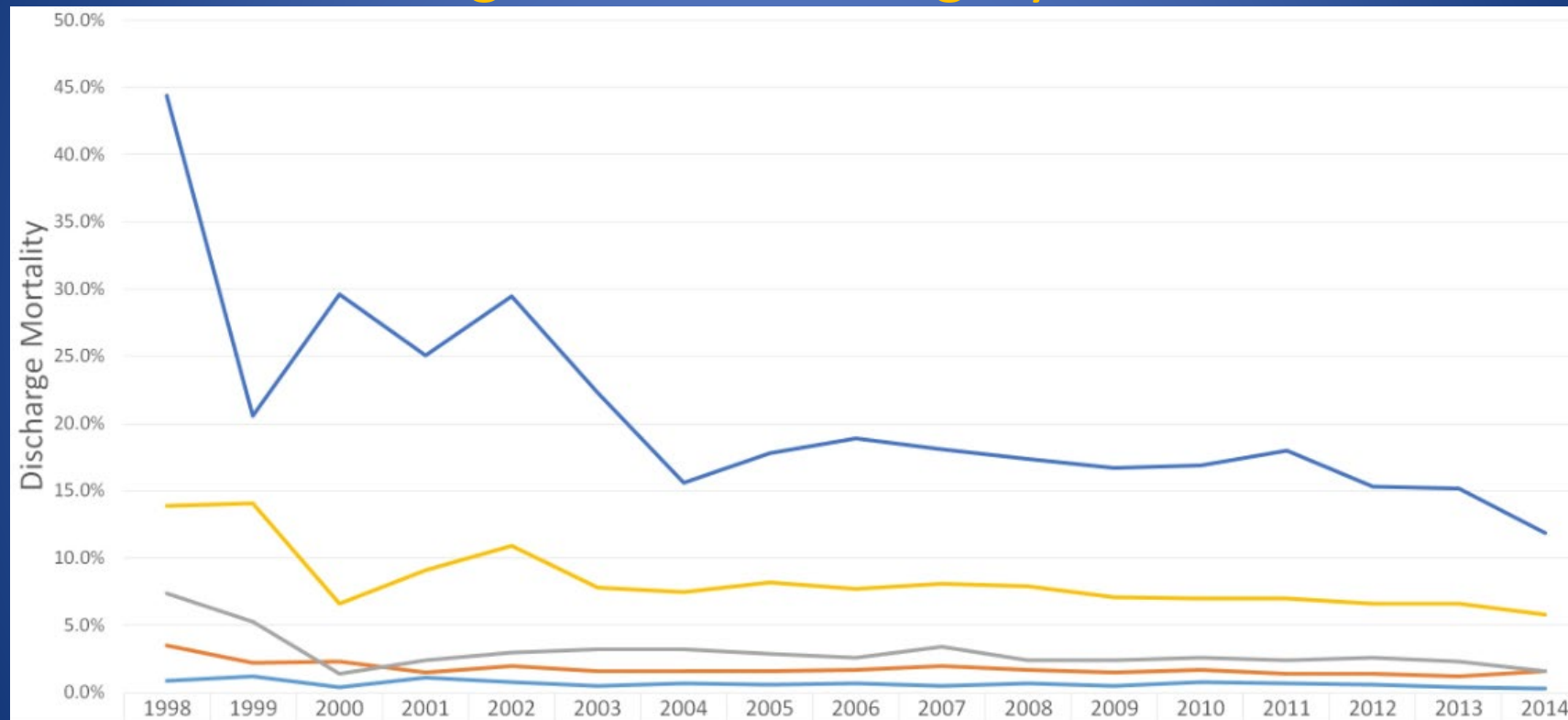


# Infant mortality due to selected CHDs, United States, 1979–1997



# Discharge Mortality versus Year of Surgery stratified by STAT Category as of 2014

## STS Congenital Heart Surgery Database



Jacobs, He, Mayer, Austin, et al. Ann Thor Surg 2016

# Looking back 30+ years

Much has been learned and much has been accomplished

Less complex lesions are now managed with excellent success

Many now managed with catheter intervention alone

Significant improvement achieved for the complex ones

Scientific advancement, collaboration, team-work and self analysis

And in Kentucky we are doing more than keeping pace,  
we are forging ahead!

In Lexington at Kentucky Children's Hospital and UK

- Congenital Heart Clinic
- Joint Pediatric Heart Care Program with Cincinnati Children's Hospital
  - Two-sites model
- Carl Backer, MD (past President of Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society)
  - Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at Kentucky Children's
  - New editor of World Journal of Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery
- Full set of cardiology and pediatric specialists in Lexington and Cincinnati



And in Kentucky we are doing more than keeping pace,  
we are forging ahead!

In Louisville at Norton Children's Hospital and U of L

– Norton Children's Heart Institute

- Collaboration amongst services (Surgery, Cardiology, CICU, NICU, Anesthesia, Nursing)
- Co-directors: Bahaaldin Alsoufi, MD and Brian Holland, MD

– Surgeons

- Bahaaldin Alsoufi, MD and Deborah Kozik, DO

– Cardiologists

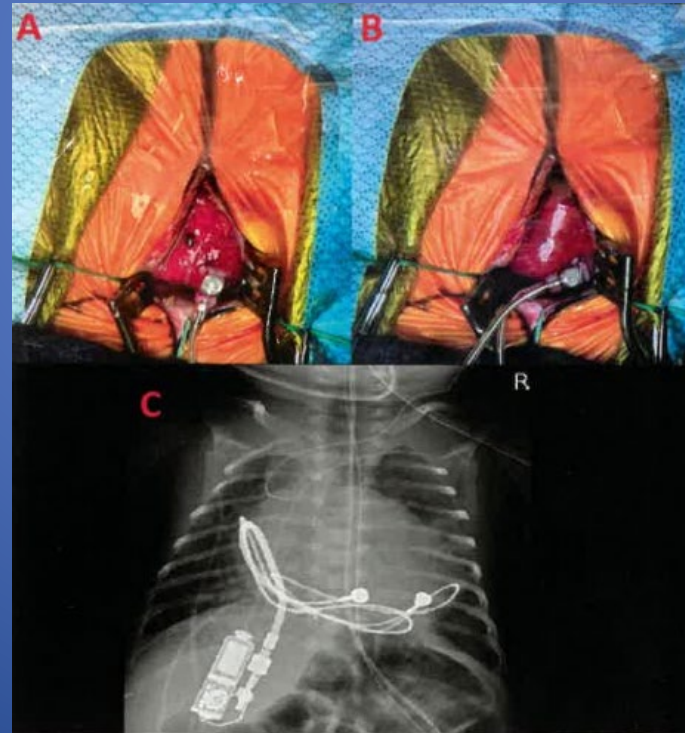
- 31 providers (up from 4 in 1989) with dedicated sections
  - Interventional cardiology
  - Electrophysiology
  - Heart failure and transplantation
  - Adult congenital
  - General pediatric cardiology – 16 outreach sites



## A First for the United States: Norton Children's Heart Institute Physicians Implant Tiny Pacemaker, Saving Infant's Life

*Patient Born at 28 Weeks with Slow Heart Rate and Congenital Heart Disease Receives Never Before Used Pacemaker Implant*

Congenital Cardiology Today 20:12 Sept 2022



# Recent literature contributions from Norton Children's - 1

## Heart Transplantation:

- Increasing donor-recipient weight mismatch is associated with shorter waitlist duration and no increased morbidity or mortality. Alsoufi B. EJCTS 2022.
- Associated factors and impact of persistent renal dysfunction in children listed for heart transplantation. Alsoufi B. ATS 2022.
- Systemic Venous Reconstructions During Pediatric Heart Transplantation. Altin F, Alsoufi B, et al. WJCPHS 2022.
- Interplay between donor and recipient factors impacts outcomes after pediatric heart transplantation: An analysis from the united network for organ sharing database. DAS B, Alsoufi B, et al. ASAIO 2021.
- ABO-Incompatible Heart Transplant in Infants. Kozik D. ATS 2021.
- Did outcomes of infants listed for heart transplantation change? Alsoufi B. EJCTS 2022.
- Trends and outcomes of heart transplantation in adults with congenital heart disease. Alsoufi B . ATS 2022.

# Recent contributions from us at Norton Children's - 2

## Mechanical circulatory support:

### – ECMO:

- **Repeat ECMO Is Appropriate in Selected Children With Cardiac Disease: An Extracorporeal Life Support Organization Study.** Alsoufi B. WJPCHS 2021.
- **Factors Associated With Survival Following Extracorporeal Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in Children.** Alsoufi B. WJPCHS 2020.

### – MCS outcomes:

- **Recent Era Outcomes of Mechanical Circulatory Support in Children With Congenital Heart Disease as a Bridge to Heart Transplantation.** Das B. ASAIO 2022.
- **Meeting needs-pushing boundaries: Mechanical circulatory support in children.** Deshpande S, Sparks J, Alsoufi B. JTCVS 2021.

### – Special situations:

- **Single ventricle VAD and Hybrid palliation in neonate with HLHS and dysplastic severe TR.** Alsoufi B. 2020
- **Total artificial heart in 7 years old to salvage primary graft dysfunction.** Alsoufi B. 2022.

# Recent contributions from us at Norton Children's - 3

## Complex valve repairs and replacement:

- **Early Outcomes of Patients Undergoing Neoaortic Valve Repair Incorporating Geometric Ring Annuloplasty.** Kupferschmid J...Austin E, Alsoufi B, et al. WJPCHS 2022.
- **Repair of neoaortic valve following the Ross procedure using the Geometric Ring annuloplasty.** Austin E. AATS 2022.
- **Outcomes Following Aortic Valve Replacement in Children With Conotruncal Anomalies.** Alsoufi B. WJPCHS 2022.
- **Are Mechanical Prostheses Valid Alternatives to the Ross Procedure in Young Children Under 6 Years Old?** Alsoufi B. ATS 2022.
- **Multicentre comparative analysis of long-term outcomes after aortic valve replacement in children.** Knight J,..Alsoufi,..et al. Heart 2022.

# Recent contributions from us at Norton Children's - 4

## Innovative surgeries and hybrid approaches:

- **Norwood Operation With Partial Left Ventriculectomy for Neonatal Dilated Cardiomyopathy. Alsoufi B. ATS 2022.**
- **Unusual Case of Common Arterial Trunk With Atresia of the Right Pulmonary Artery and Aortopulmonary Collaterals. Kozik D. WJPCHS 2020.**
- **Simultaneous Norwood and Aortic Uncrossing in Neonate With Aortic Atresia and Right Circumflex Aorta. Alsoufi B. STCVS 2020.**
- **Modified Microvascular Plug as a Flow Restrictor in Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome with Dysplastic Tricuspid and Pulmonary Valves. Kurtz J. Pediatric Cardiology 2021.**
- **Hybrid strategy for management of high risk neonates with complex biventricular anomalies and arch obstruction. Alsoufi B. Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery Annual 2023.**

# Bottom Line

We've done pretty well for patients with congenital heart disease in Kentucky over the past 30 years.

The future is bright!!!









