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# Long term outcome after AVSD repair

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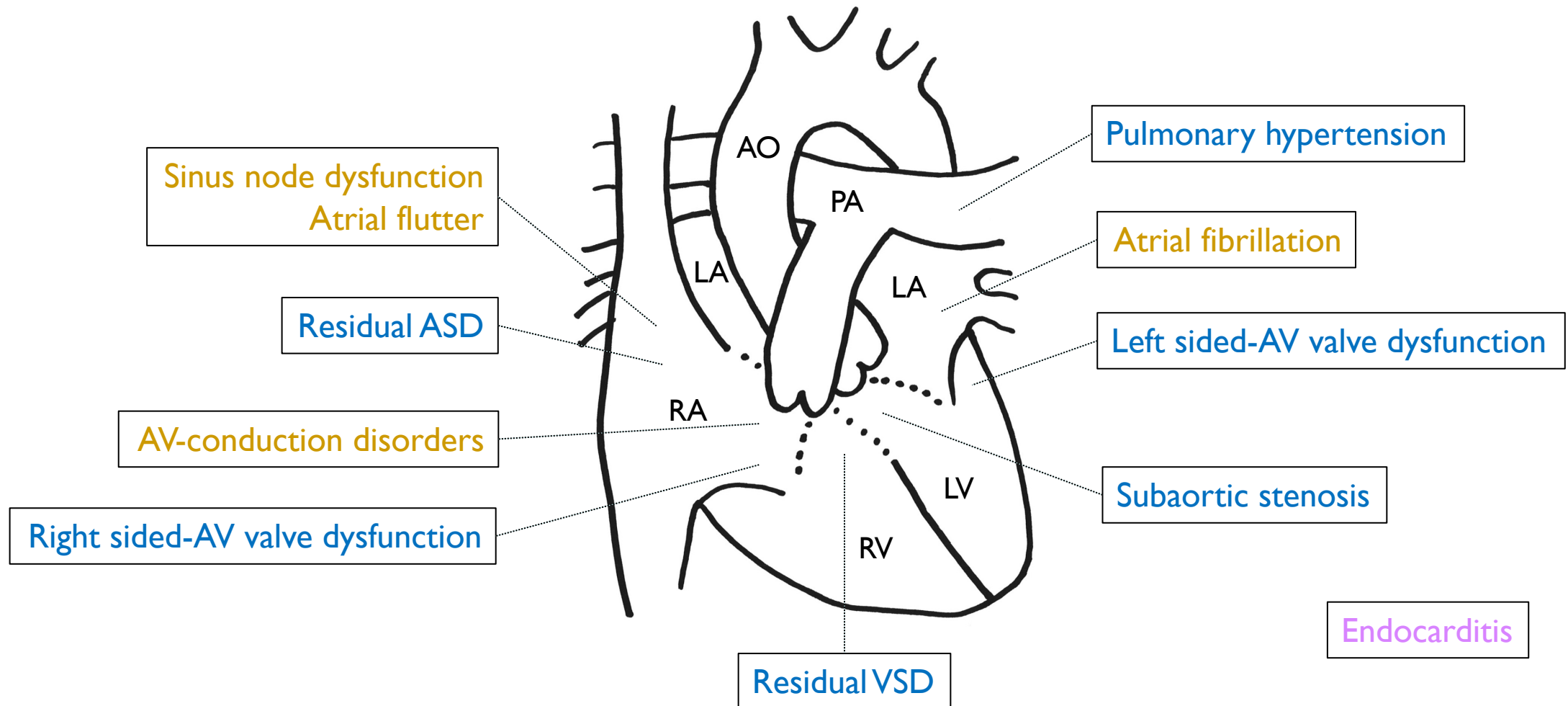
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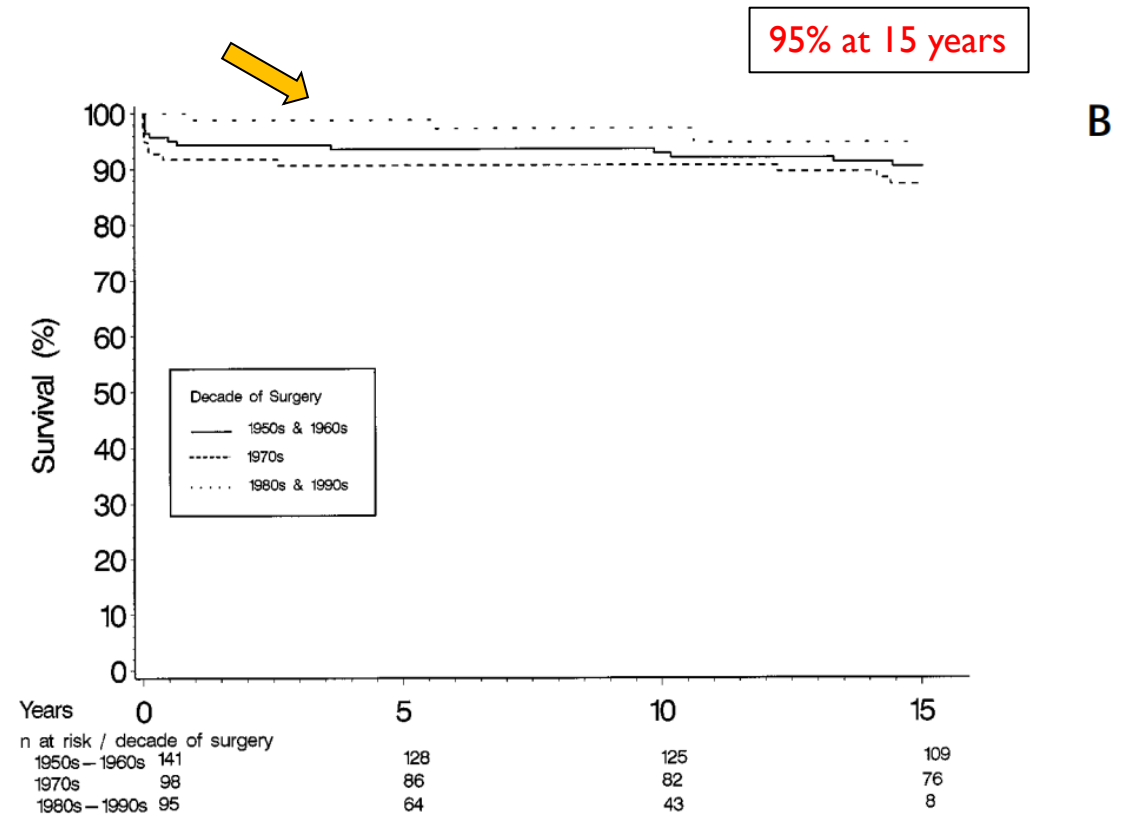
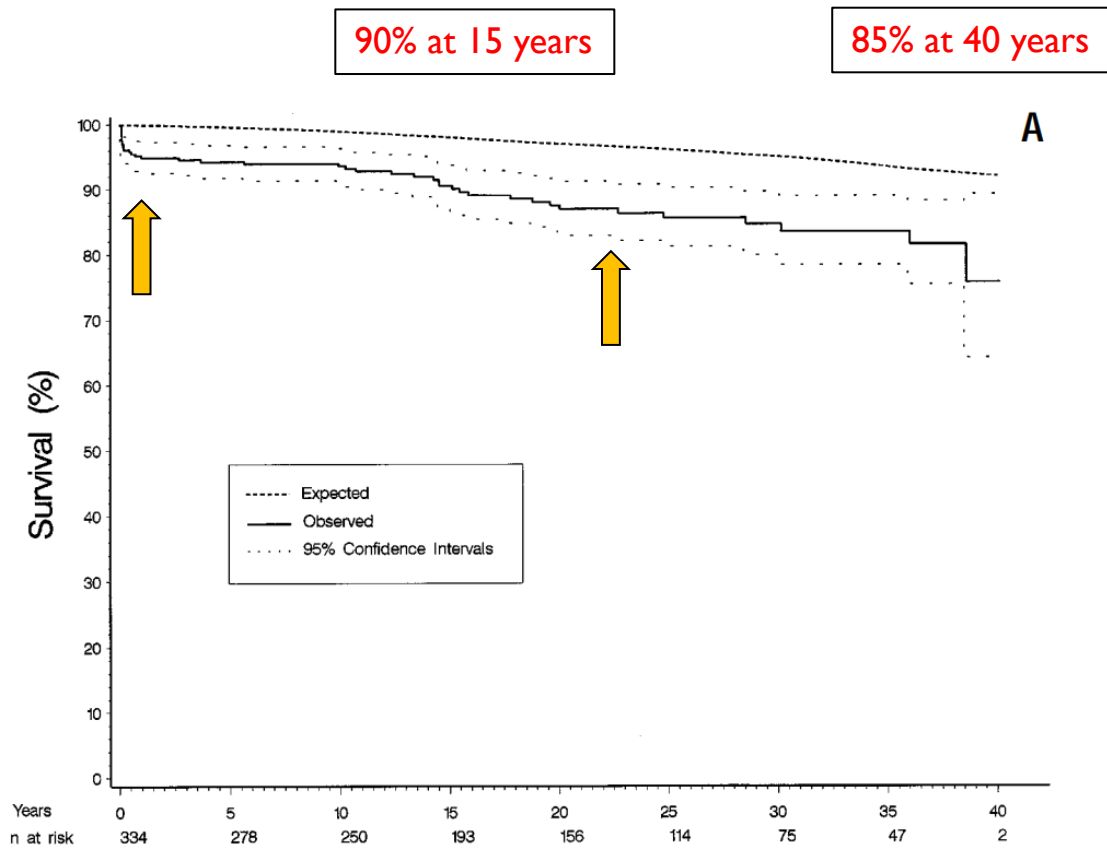
## Conflict of interest

- Adult congenital cardiologist
  - Facing the results of the therapeutic decisions by pediatric cardiologists and congenital cardiac surgeons

# Sequellae late after atrioventricular septal defect repair



# Survival and decades of surgery

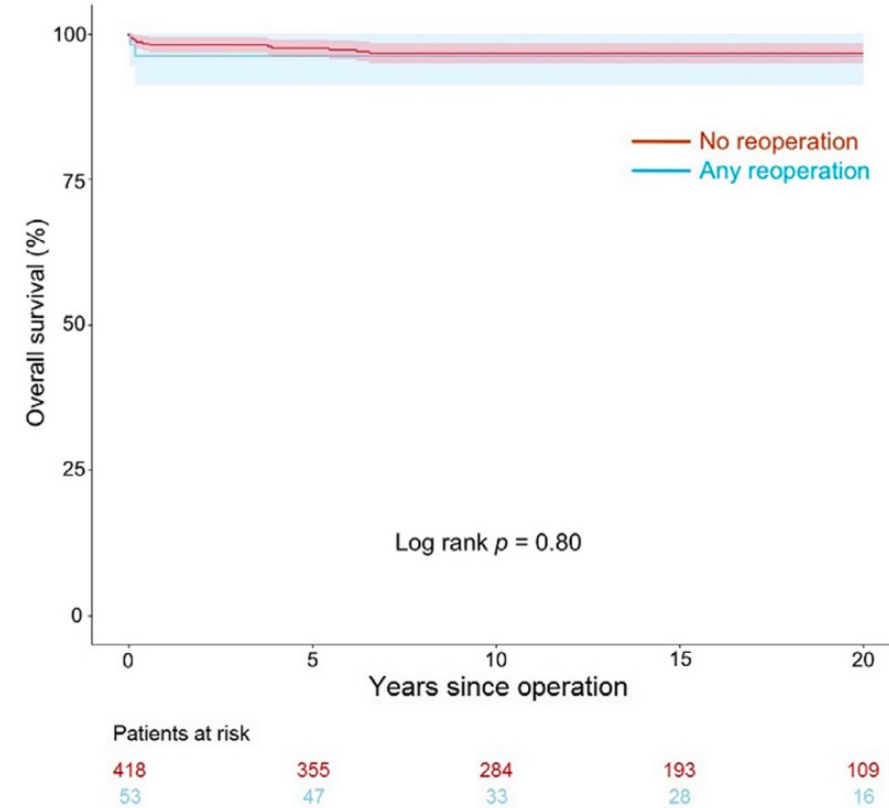
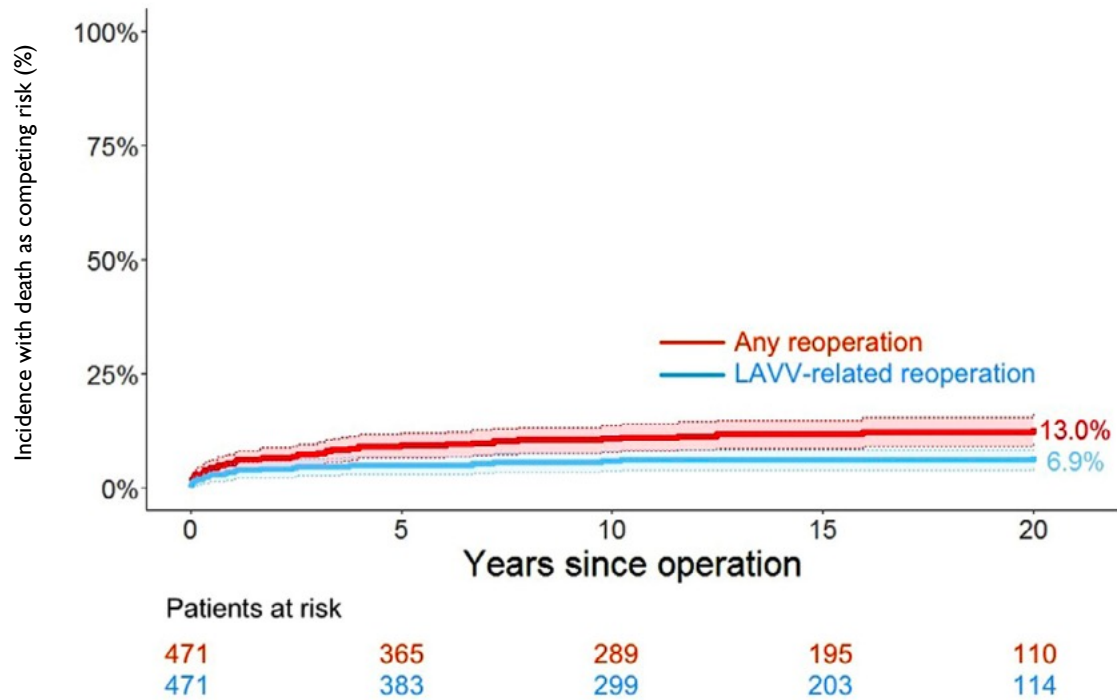


**Fig 1.** Kaplan-Meier curve represents overall survival (A) and by the decade of the operation (B) in this cohort of patients.

# Re-operation and impact on survival





Overall re-operation rate: 10 -15%

No significant impact on mortality (perioperative † 3.8%, late † 0%)



# Risk factors of overall re-operation

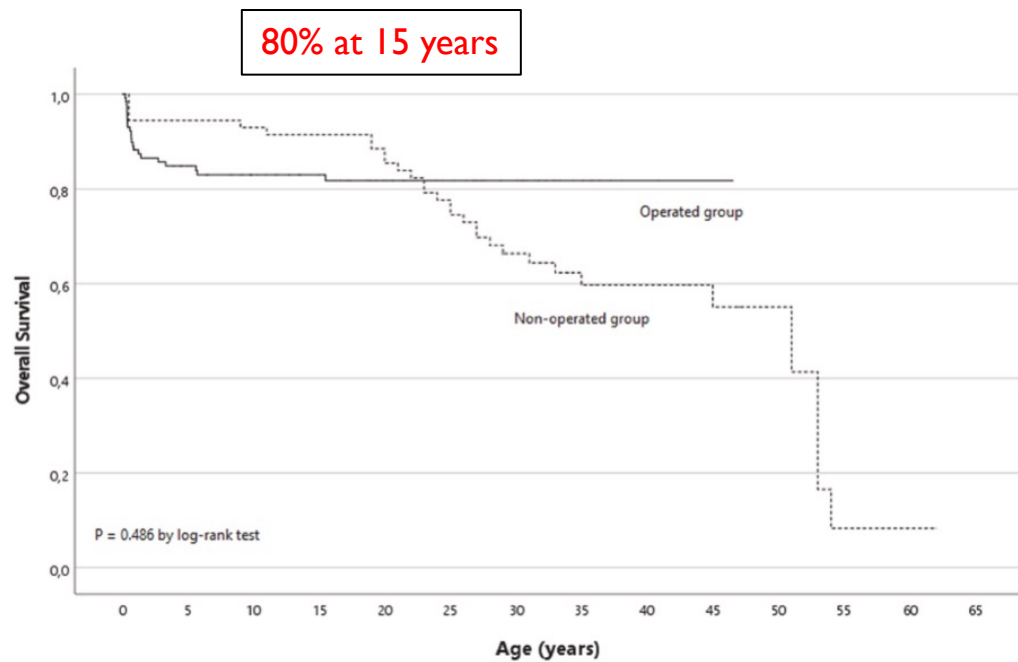
**Table 3.** Univariable and Multivariable Analysis of Risk Factors for Any Reoperation After Primary Repair of AVSD

Characteristic	UnivariableHR (95% CI)	P value	MultivariableHR (95% CI)	P value
<b>AVSD subtypes</b>				
pAVSD	1			
tAVSD	5.15 (1.72-15.4)	0.003		
cAVSD	1.96 (0.69-5.55)	0.206		
Age at primary repair (y)	0.99 (0.98-1.01)	0.276		
Weight at primary repair (kg)	0.98 (0.94-1.02)	0.367		
Female gender	0.93 (0.54-1.60)	0.797		
-  Trisomy 21	0.39 (0.22-0.67)	0.001	0.51 (0.29-0.90)	0.019
<b>Associated cardiac malformations</b>				
Coarctation	1.79 (0.44-7.36)	0.421		
+  Tetralogy of Fallot	5.15 (1.59-16.7)	0.006	6.13 (1.86-20.2)	0.003
Prior cardiac/palliative surgery	2.06 (0.74-5.70)	0.166		
Double orifice LAVV	1.05 (0.25-4.31)	0.950		
Incomplete commissures	3.00 (1.56-5.77)	0.001		
Extra cleft	1.63 (0.73-3.62)	0.230		
LV single papillary muscle head	3.29 (1.40-7.69)	0.006		
+  Unbalanced AV-valves/ventricles	5.24 (2.36-11.6)	<0.001	5.24 (2.30-11.9)	<0.001
Incomplete cleft closure	2.43 (1.28-4.63)	0.007		
<b>Residual mitral regurgitation</b>				
None/mild	1			
+  Moderate	3.65 (1.76-7.59)	0.001	2.88 (1.37-6.05)	0.005
Severe	69.4 (24.5-197)	<0.001	40.7 (14.9-111)	<0.001

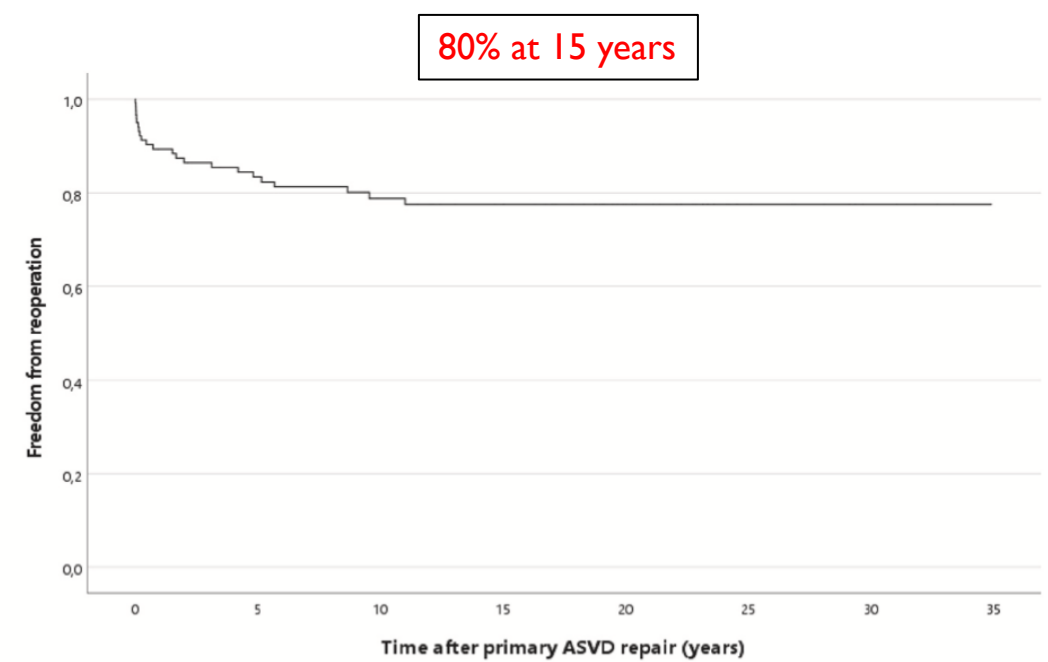
AVSD, atrioventricular septal defect; AV, atrioventricular; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; LAVV, left atrioventricular valve; LV, left ventricle; p/t/cAVSD, partial/transitional/complete atrioventricular septal defect.

Values were expressed as number and percentage (%) or as mean ± standard deviation.

# Survival and re-operation in Down syndrome



	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65
Patients at risk:														
operated	134	94	79	69	53	36	25	10	2	1	0	0	0	0
non-operated	72	65	62	61	58	48	34	24	17	12	8	1	1	0
Total events:														
operated	0	19	21	21	22	22	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23
non-operated	0	4	5	6	8	17	22	24	25	26	26	32	32	33



	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35
Patients at risk:								
134	80	60	53	35	13	6	0	
Total events:	0	18	22	23	23	23	23	23

Fig. 2. Kaplan Meier redo surgery free curve in repaired patients.

# Re-operations and findings on the left-sided AV-valve

50% of re-operation at left sided AV-valve

Findings on left AV-valve

**Table 2.** Indications for First Reoperation After Primary Repair for AVSD

Indication for Reoperation	pAVSD	tAVSD	cAVSD	Total
Number of primary repairs	78 (16.6)	88 (18.7)	305 (64.8)	471 (100)*
LAVV pathology	2 (2.6)	9 (10.2)	17 (5.6)	28 (5.9)
LVOTO	1 (1.3)	6 (6.8)	9 (3.0)	16 (3.4)
Residual shunt	1 (1.3)	2 (2.3)	4 (1.3)	7 (1.5)
Pacemaker implantation	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0.7)	2 (0.4)
Total	4 (5.1)	17 (19.3)	32 (10.5)	53 (11.1)

LAVV, left atrioventricular valve; LVOTO, left ventricle outflow tract obstruction; p/t/cAVSD, partial/transitional/complete atrioventricular septal defect.

Values presented as number and (%).

\*Six patients were lost to follow-up (2 with pAVSD and 4 with cAVSD).

**Table 4.** Perioperative Findings in LAVV at Re-repair

Pathology*	n	%
Repair dehiscence	15	58
Residual cleft	7	27
Dysplastic leaflet tissue	7	27
Stenosis after prior repair	4	15
Abnormal leaflet pliability	3	12
Leaflet perforation	3	12
Leaflet prolapse-tethering	2	7
Double orifice	2	7
Deficient mural leaflet	1	4
Additional cleft (previously unrepaired)	1	4
Septation patch dehiscence	1	4
Myxomatous leaflet tissue	1	4
Chordal rupture	1	4

LAVV, left atrioventricular valve.

\*More than one pathologic finding may have been present in any given patient.



# Re-operation for left or right atrioventricular valve

Table 3  
First reoperations performed in the total study population

Re-operation at median 7 years; range 1 month - 71 years

Reoperation	PAVSD n= 31 (%)	CAVSD n= 28 (%)	Total n= 59 (%)	P-value
→ Repair of the LAVV	22 (71)	23 (82)	45 (76)	0.31
Cleft closure	21 (68)	23 (82)	44 (75)	0.21
Commissuroplasty	9 (29)	10 (36)	19 (32)	0.58
Annuloplasty	2 (6)	0 (0)	2 (3)	0.49
→ Mechanical valve replacement of the LAVV	6 (19)	2 (7)	8 (14)	0.26
Residual ASD repair	3 (10)	0 (0)	3 (5)	0.24
Enucleation of LVOT obstruction	0 (0)	3 (11)	3 (5)	0.10
Additional corrections				
→ Repair of the RAVV	5 (16)	5 (18)	10 (17)	0.86
Cleft closure	0 (0)	3 (11)	3 (5)	0.10
Commissuroplasty	4 (13)	3 (11)	7 (12)	1.0
Annuloplasty	1 (3)	0 (0)	1 (2)	1.0
Residual VSD repair	2 (6)	5 (18)	7 (12)	0.24
Residual ASD repair	9 (29)	3 (11)	12 (20)	0.10
Enucleation of LVOT obstruction	0 (0)	1 (4)	1 (2)	0.22
Mechanical aortic valve replacement	1 (3)	0 (0)	1 (2)	1.0

PAVSD, partial atrioventricular septal defect; CAVSD, complete atrioventricular septal defect; LAVV, left atrioventricular valve; RAVV, right atrioventricular valve; VSD, ventricular septal defect; ASD, atrial septal defect; LVOT, left ventricular outflow tract.

# Replacement or repair of the left AV-valve?

Risk for re-re-operation

Risk for pacemaker implantation

Table 1  
Incidence of left AV valve anomalies and results of valve reconstruction

Anomalies	Left AV valve incompetence after reoperation (grade)			
	0	I	II	III
(No. of patients)	(n = 13)	(n = 5)	(n = 4)	(n = 6)
Dysplastic valvular tissue	1	1 (1)		3 <sup>a</sup>
Fibrotic deformity of septal leaflet	1	2	2	3
Posterior leaflet prolapse		1 (1)		1 <sup>a</sup>
Parachute valve			2	
Severe deformity of the valve				1 <sup>a</sup>
Double orifice valve	1		1	1
Total	3	4	5	9

( ), numbers in parenthesis indicate deceased patients.

<sup>a</sup> Subsequent left AV valve replacement performed.

## Prosthetic Valve Complications

Overall, 61.2% of patients (19 of 31) were free of a prosthetic valve. There were no major bleeding or thromboembolic complications for patients who underwent prosthetic mitral valve replacement. Severe left ventricular systolic dysfunction developed in 3 patients with a prosthetic valve. One of these patients required heart transplantation owing to progression of cardiomyopathy.

## Need for Pacemaker Implantation

Pacemaker placement was required in 8 patients (25%). In this series, patients who underwent valve replacement had a significantly higher incidence of pacemaker insertion than did patients who underwent valve repair (62.5% versus 13.0%,  $p = 0.005$ ).

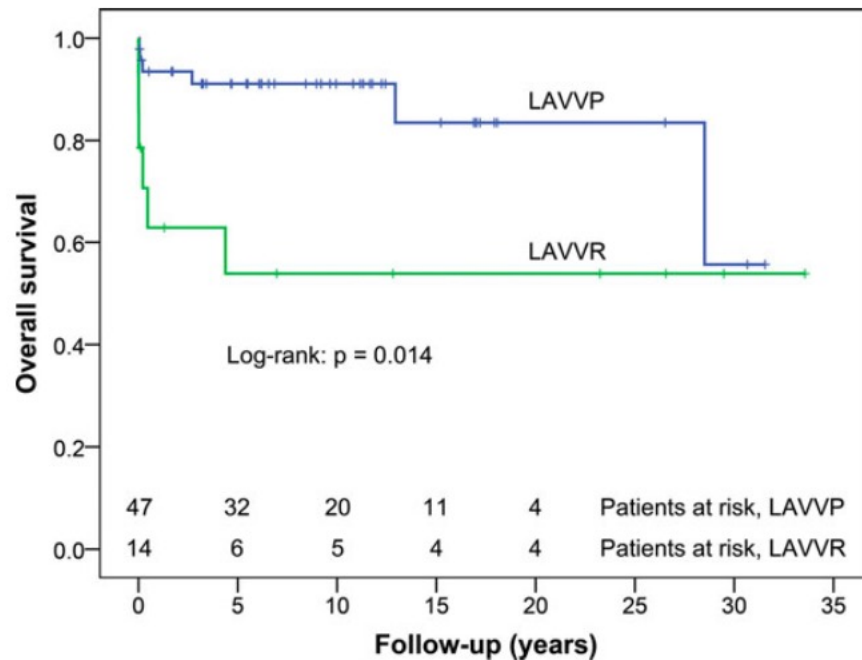
## Durability of Left Atrioventricular Valve Repair

At follow-up, 71.4% of operative survivors of valve repair (15 of 21) were free of prosthetic valve replacement. The median time to valve replacement after recurrent LAVVR was 3.3 years. Those with a durable repair had mild or less LAVVR in 93.3% (14 of 15) at recent echocardiography. The remaining patient had moderate LAVVR, was stable on serial echocardiograms, and was clinically asymptomatic.

Analysis of factors impacting durability of valve repair

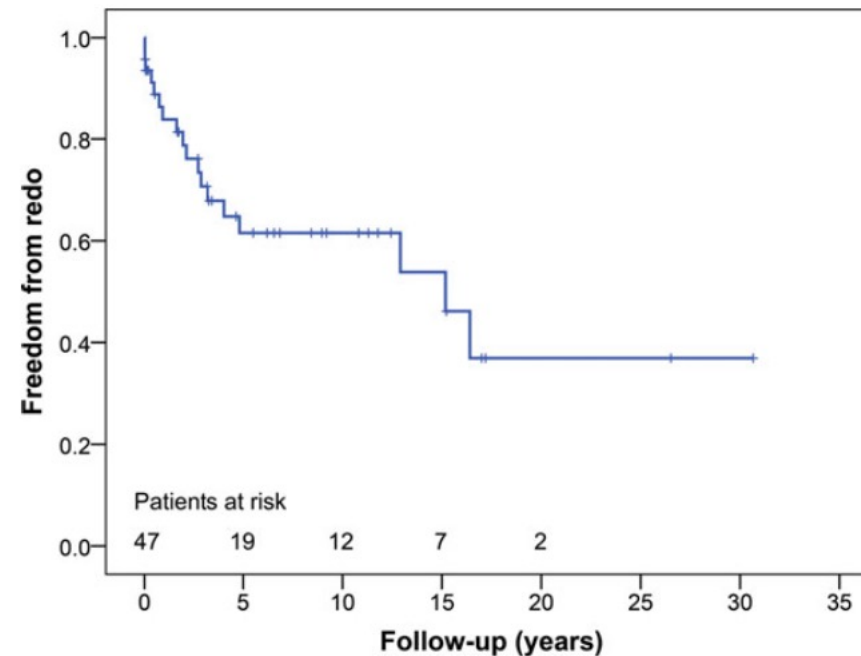
# Mechanical valve or repair of the left AV-valve?

Long-term survival



**Figure 1:** Overall survival after reoperation for LAVV pathology at the first reoperation ( $n = 61$ ). LAVV: left atrioventricular valve; LAVVP: left atrioventricular valvuloplasty; LAVVR: left atrioventricular valve replacement.

Long-term data on reoperation

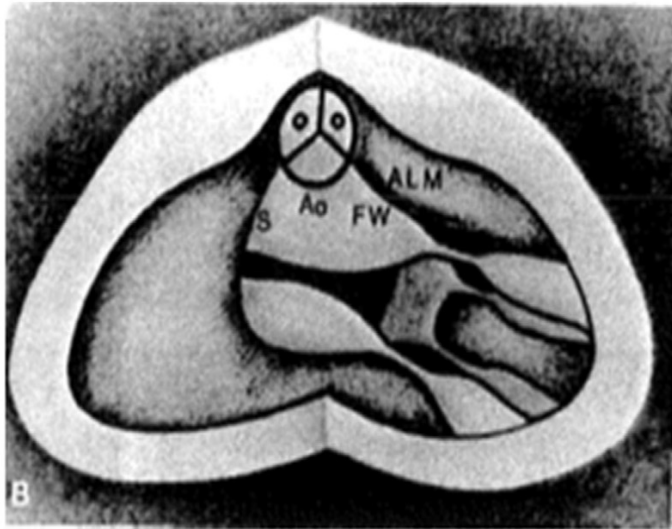


**Figure 4:** Durability of LAVVP at the first reoperation ( $n = 47$ ). LAVVP: left atrioventricular valvuloplasty.

## When to intervene on the left AV-valve?

<b>AV valve regurgitation</b>		
Valve surgery, preferably AV valve repair, is recommended in symptomatic patients with moderate to severe AV valve regurgitation and should be performed by a congenital cardiac surgeon.	<b>I</b>	<b>C</b>
In asymptomatic patients with severe left-sided AV valve regurgitation, valve surgery is recommended when LVESD $\geq 45$ mm <sup>d</sup> and/or LVEF $\leq 60\%$ provided other causes of LV dysfunction are excluded.	<b>I</b>	<b>C</b>
In asymptomatic patients with severe left-sided AV valve regurgitation, preserved LV function (LVESD $< 45$ mm <sup>d</sup> and/or LVEF $> 60\%$ ), high likelihood of successful valve repair, and low surgical risk, intervention should be considered when atrial fibrillation or systolic PAP $> 50$ mmHg is present.	<b>IIa</b>	<b>C</b>

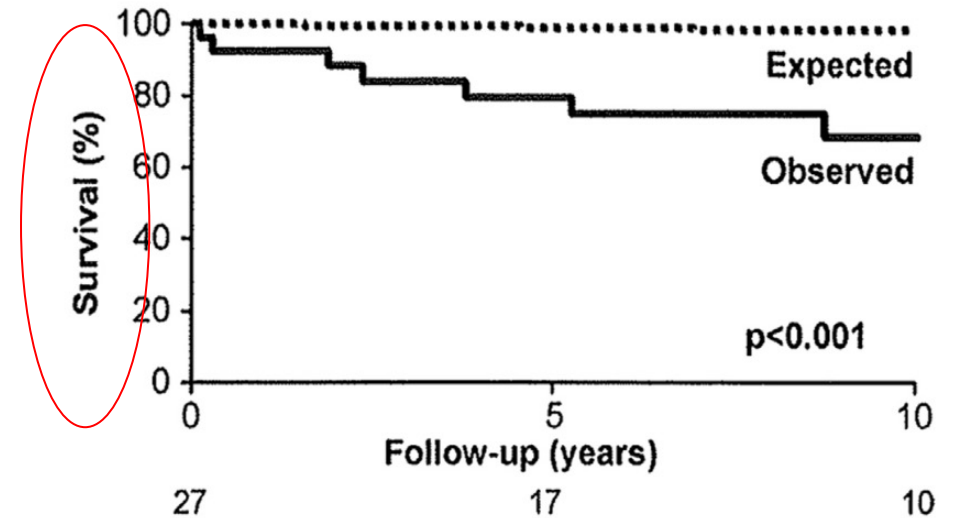
# Re-operation for left ventricle outflow tract obstruction



Reoperation occurs at 5 – 7 years  
Reoperation free after 10 years: 95%

## Predictors of LVOTO

- Displacement of the AV valve leaflet tips into the LV
- Presence of fixed or thick chords in the LVOT
- An acute aortoseptal angle
- High insertion of the anterolateral papillary muscle
- An abnormal aorta to subaortic ratio



**Figure 1** Actuarial survival after reoperation for LVOTO after repair of AVSD. A significant difference ( $P < .001$ ) is observed as compare with age and gender matched population.



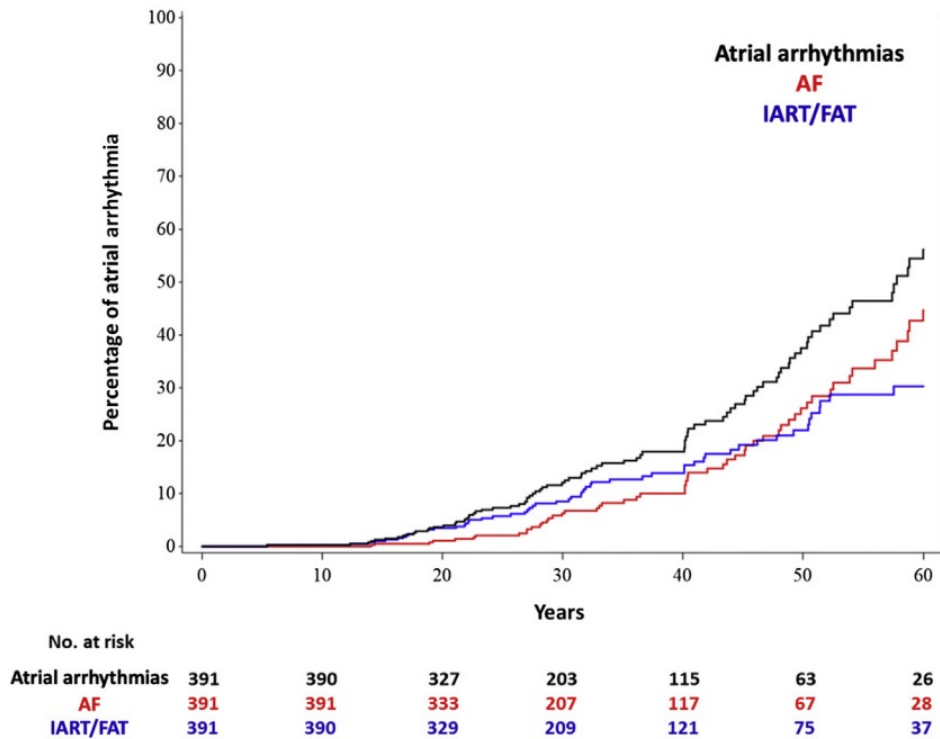
# When to intervene on the LVOT?

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
In symptomatic patients (spontaneous or on exercise test) with a mean Doppler gradient $\geq 40$ mmHg <sup>c</sup> or severe AR, surgery is recommended.	<b>I</b>	<b>C</b>
Asymptomatic patients should be considered for surgery when one or more of the following findings are present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mean gradient <math>&lt; 40</math> mmHg but LVEF <math>&lt; 50\%</math>.</li> <li>● AR is severe and LVESD <math>&gt; 50</math> mm (or <math>25</math> mm/m<sup>2</sup> BSA) and/or EF <math>&lt; 50\%</math><sup>d</sup>.</li> <li>● Mean Doppler gradient is <math>\geq 40</math> mmHg<sup>c</sup> and marked LVH present.</li> <li>● Mean Doppler gradient is <math>\geq 40</math> mmHg<sup>c</sup> and there is a fall in blood pressure below baseline on exercise.</li> </ul>	<b>IIa</b>	<b>C</b>

Asymptomatic patients may be considered for surgery when one or more of the following findings are present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mean Doppler gradient is <math>\geq 40</math> mmHg,<sup>c</sup> LV is normal (EF <math>&gt; 50\%</math> and no LVH), exercise testing is normal, and surgical risk is low.</li> <li>● Progression of AR is documented and AR becomes more than mild (to prevent further progression).</li> </ul>	<b>IIb</b>	<b>C</b>
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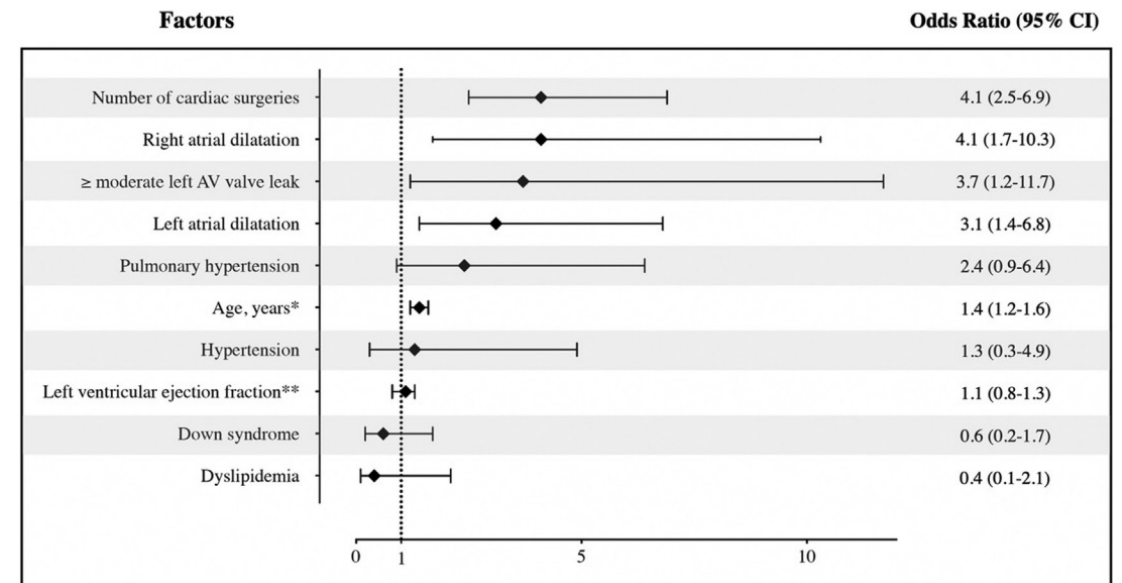
# Supraventricular arrhythmia

**FIGURE 1** Lifetime Cumulative Incidences



Lifetime cumulative incidences of atrial arrhythmias, atrial fibrillation (AF), and intra-atrial re-entrant tachycardia/focal atrial tachycardia (IART/FAT)

**FIGURE 2** Forest Plot

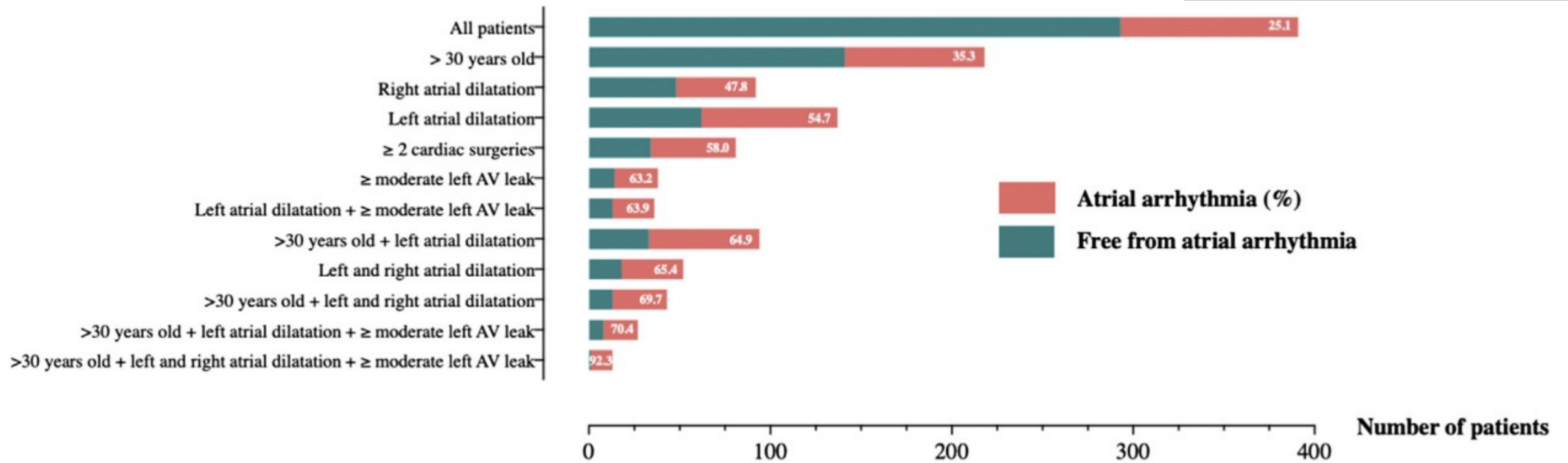


Forest plot of factors associated with atrial arrhythmias in multivariate analysis. \*By 5-year increments. \*\*By 5% increment. AV = atrioventricular; CI = confidence interval.

# Supraventricular arrhythmia and mechanical/functional data

**FIGURE 3** Prevalence of Atrial Arrhythmia

391 patients (61.6% women)  
mean age of 36.3 ± 16.3 years



Prevalence of atrial arrhythmia in different subgroups of patients. Abbreviation as in [Figure 2](#).



# Ventricular arrhythmia

c AVSD: N = 238

pAVSD: N = 177

mean follow-up duration of 9 years  
(range: <30 days - 47 years)

**Table 2**  
Early and late post-operative arrhythmias.

		cAVSD (n = 23)		pAVSD (n = 25)	
		DS (n = 18)	NS (n = 5)	DS (n = 3)	NS (n = 22)
Overall post-operative arrhythmias	SVT (n = 48)	18	5	3	22
	VT/VF (n = 6) < 1,0%	2	1	0	3
Early post-operative arrhythmias	SVT (n = 33)	16 (88,9%)	4 (80%)	3 (100%)	10 (45,5%)
Late post-operative arrhythmias	SVT (n = 15)	2 (11,1%)	1 (20%)	0 (0%)	12 (54,5%)

cAVSD = Complete atrioventricular septal defect, DS = Down syndrome, NS = Non-syndromic, pAVSD = Partial atrioventricular septal defect, SVT = Supraventricular tachycardia, VF = Ventricular fibrillation, VT = Ventricular tachycardia.

# Sinus node dysfunction and atrio-ventricular block

**Table 1** Characteristics of patients with partial and complete AVSD undergoing PM implantation

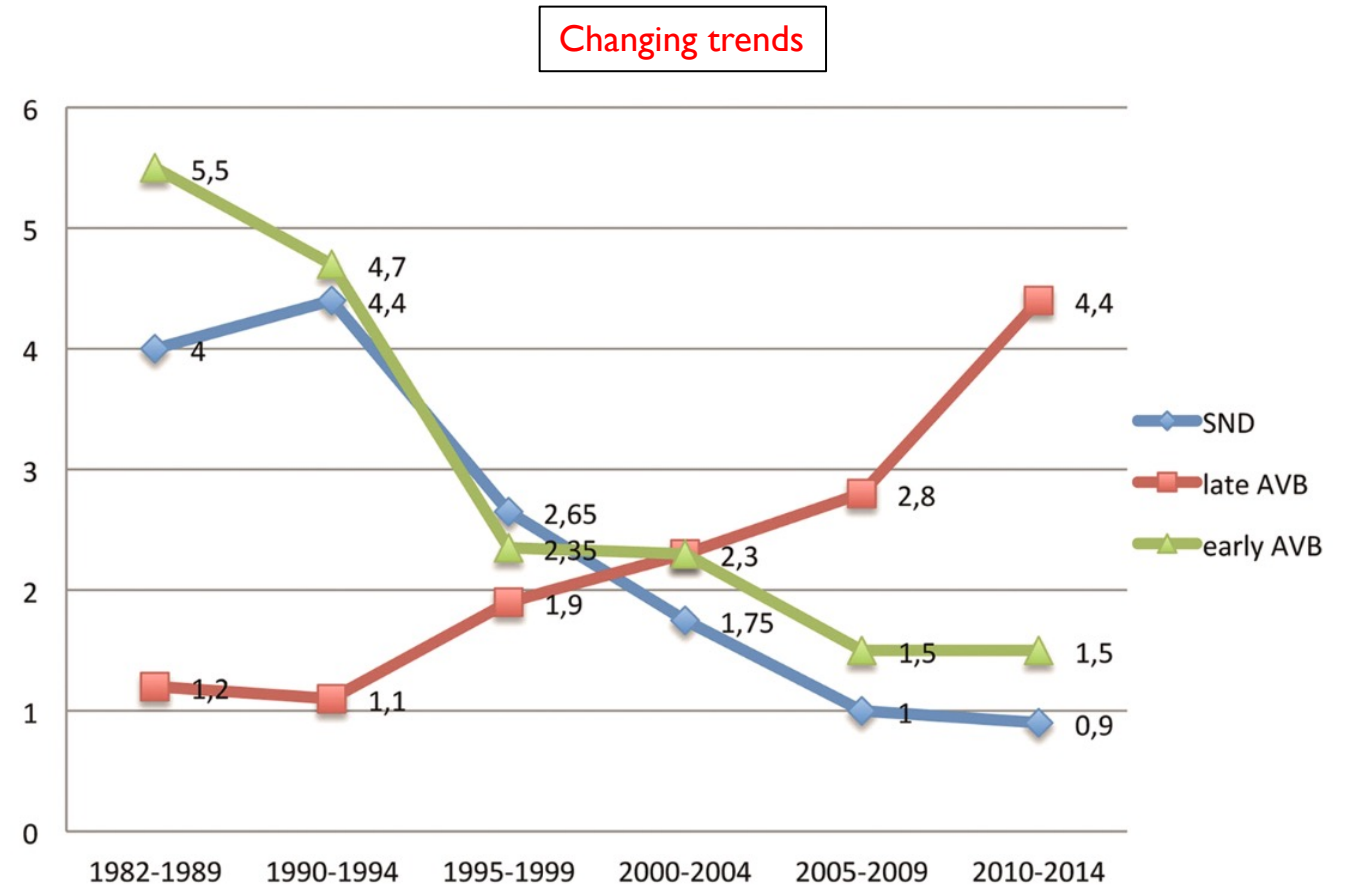
	Partial AVSD (n=17)	Complete AVSD (n=21)	p
Male gender	10 (59)	9 (43)	0.32 <sup>a</sup>
Age at first surgery (years)	4.1 ± 7.9	2.7 ± 3.9	0.5 <sup>b</sup>
Down syndrome	7 (41)	13 (62)	0.2 <sup>a</sup>
Age at PM implantation (years)	7.0 ± 8.6	8.9 ± 8.3	0.5 <sup>b</sup>
Early AVB	7 (41)	7 (33) <b>2,4%</b>	0.62 <sup>a</sup>
Late AVB	8 (47)	4 (19) <b>1,4%</b>	0.06 <sup>a</sup>
Late SND	1 (6)	9 (43) <b>3,1%</b>	0.01 <sup>a</sup>
Timing of AVB onset (years)	4.3 ± 3.5	6.6 ± 7.2	0.45 <sup>b</sup>
Timing of SND onset (years)	2 ± 0	10.6 ± 6	0.22 <sup>b</sup>
Mortality	2 (12)	2 (9.5)	0.55 <sup>a</sup>

Values are expressed as number (%) or mean ± SD

AVB atrioventricular block, AVSD atrioventricular septal defect, SND sinus node dysfunction, PM pacemaker

<sup>a</sup>Chi-square test

<sup>b</sup>Independent *t* test



# Residual pulmonary hypertension

Variable	No. of Patients	All, <i>n</i> = 88	Non-Residual PH after Surgical Correction, <i>n</i> = 61 (69.3%)	Residual PH after Surgical Correction, <i>n</i> = 27 (30.7%)	<i>p</i> -Value
Female sex, <i>n</i> (%)	88	44 (50.0)	33 (54.1)	11 (40.7)	0.248
Age at diagnosis (RHC) (years)	88	0.84 (0.61–3.03)	0.84 (0.60–3.60)	0.84 (0.62–2.00)	0.469
Diagnosis, <i>n</i> (%)	88				
ASD		3 (3.4)	3 (4.9)	0 (0)	0.550
APVD		1 (1.1)	1 (1.6)	0 (0)	1.000
PDA		6 (6.8)	5 (8.2)	1 (3.7)	0.662
VSD		26 (29.5)	17 (27.9)	9 (33.3)	0.605
Combined		24 (27.2)	12 (19.6)	12 (44.4)	0.016
TF		3 (3.4)	3 (4.9)	0 (0)	0.550
→ CAVSD		14 (15.9)	11 (18.0)	3 (11.1)	0.536
TGA		3 (3.4)	3 (4.9)	0 (0)	0.550
TA		1 (1.1)	1 (1.6)	0 (0)	1.000
Other complex defects		7 (8.0)	5 (8.2)	2 (7.4)	1.000

*All preop PH*

*Redo cath after 10 years*

*AVSD: 3/14 21%*

# Residual pulmonary hypertension

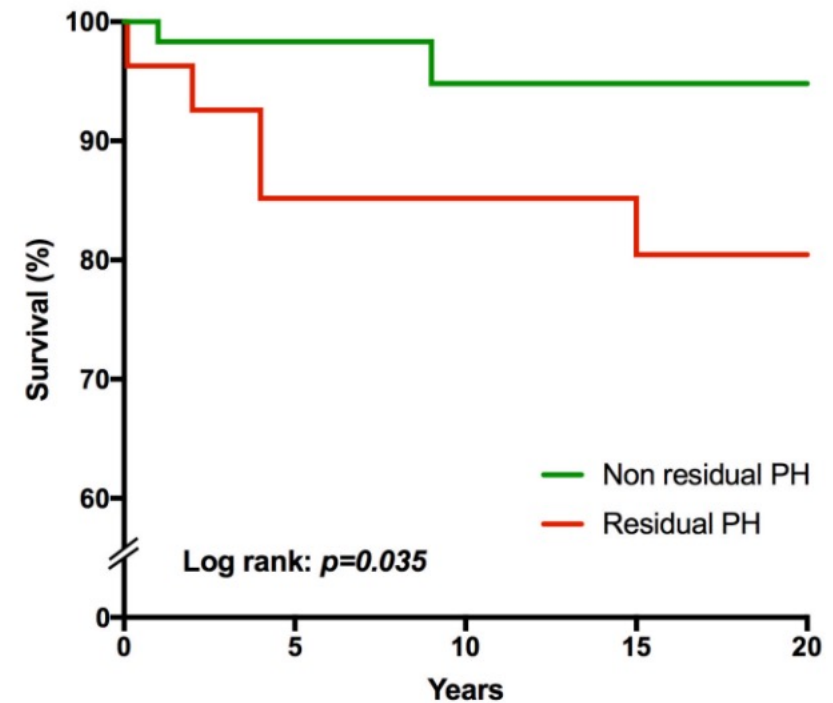
*Pulmonary arterial hypertension (shunt)  
Postcapillary pulmonary hypertension (left heart)*

*Prevalence in AVSD population at late follow-up: ? %*

*Prevalence in Down patients: 11.7%*

*- Echocardiographic diagnosis*

*- Median follow-up time: 19 years*



No. at risk:

61	59	54	49	37
27	22	21	15	14

Figure 2. Kaplan–Meier survival analysis. PH—pulmonary hypertension.

# Endocarditis

Table 2.—Annualized Risk of Endocarditis Within This Population

Risk for Endocarditis	No. of Cases per 1000 Patient-Years
<b>High</b>	
Pulmonary atresia with ventricular septal defect	11.5
Tetralogy of Fallot with palliative systemic-to-pulmonary shunt	8.2
Aortic valve stenosis*	7.2
Pulmonary atresia*	6.4
Unoperated ventricular septal defect	3.8
<b>Moderate to low</b>	
Primum atrial septal defect with cleft mitral valve*	1.8
Coarctation of the aorta*	1.2
→ Complete atrioventricular septal defect*	1.0
Tetralogy of Fallot*	0.7
Dextrotransposition of the great arteries*	0.7
Ventricular septal defect*†	0.6
<b>No documented risk</b>	
Atrial septal defect*	0
Patent ductus arteriosus*	0
Pulmonic stenosis*	0

\*After definitive surgical repair. For pulmonary atresia, this represents establishment of right ventricle to pulmonary artery continuity.

†All cases of endocarditis occurred either with a residual ventricular septal defect or with associated aortic valve anomalies including bicuspid aortic valve and aortic insufficiency. No cases of endocarditis occurred with closed ventricular septal defect in the absence of other anomalies.


# Endocarditis

**Table 2.** Primary CHD lesion in patients with infective endocarditis

Diagnosis	n	%	Adult	Child	Infant
Tetralogy of Fallot*	150	22.8%	84	56	10
VSD	129	19.6%	76	46	7
Bicuspid aortic valve	70	10.7%	59	11	0
Aortic valve disease (AS / AR)	57	8.7%	46	11	0
Discordant VA connections (TGA)	42	6.4%	20	16	6
Coarctation of the aorta	33	5.2%	26	6	1
Mitral valve anomaly	31	4.7%	22	8	1
Common arterial trunk	31	4.7%	7	21	3
AVSD	25	3.8%	6	11	8
ASD**	18	2.7%	8	5	5
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	14	2.1%	0	3	11
Pulmonary valve anomaly	14	2.1%	13	0	1
Congenitally corrected TGA	9	1.4%	7	2	0
Tricuspid valve anomaly	7	1.1%	6	1	0
PDA	7	1.1%	7	1	0
Functionally UVH***	6	0.9%	5	1	0
Other ****	14	2.1%	7	5	2
Unknown	79	10.7%	36	31	10

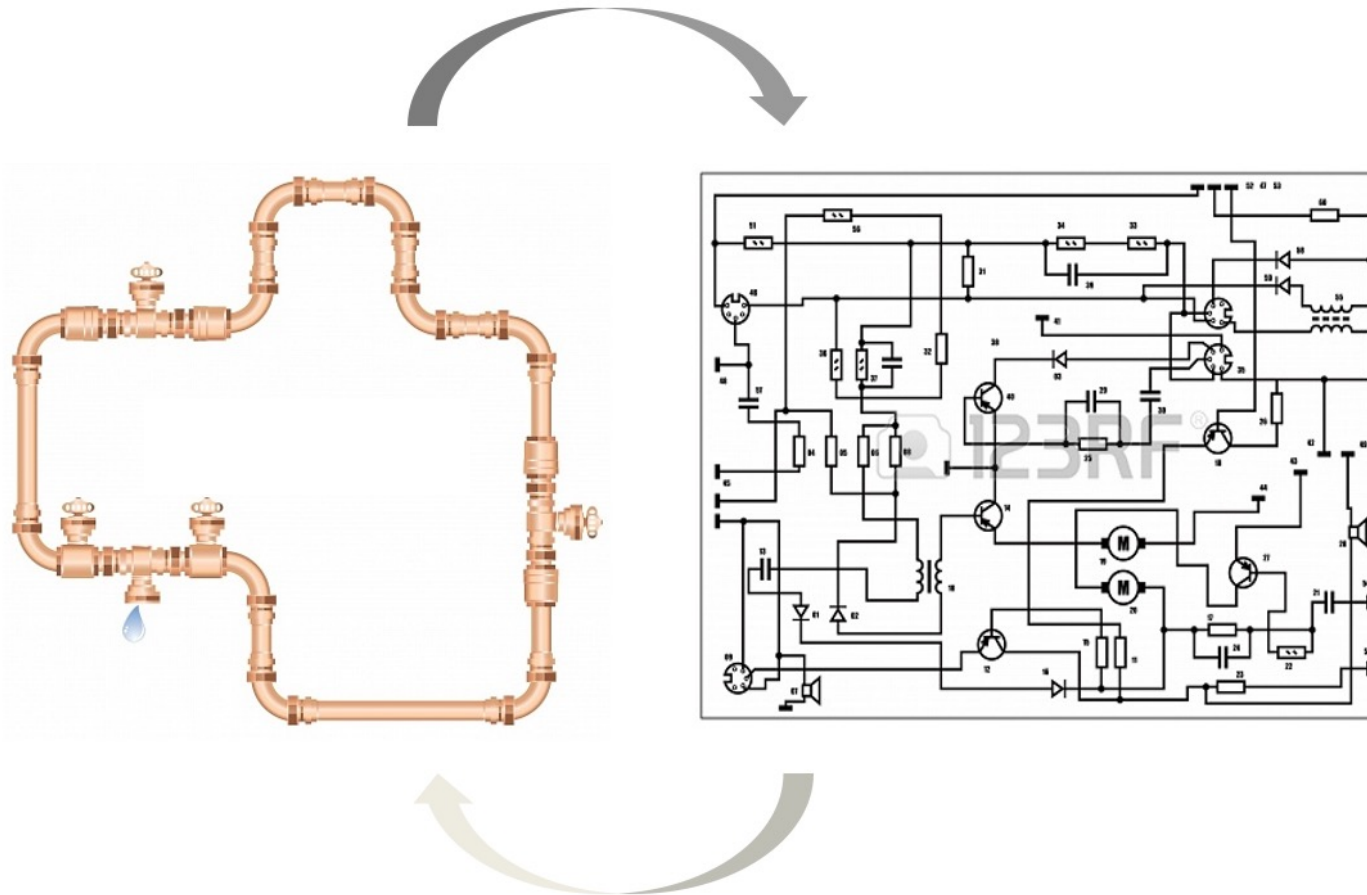


**Table 5.** Risk factors for inpatient mortality on univariate and multivariable analysis (Cox-regression analysis)

Factor	Univariate analysis		Multivariable analysis	
	HR (95% CI)	P	HR (95% CI)	P
<b>CHD diagnosis</b>				
Tetralogy of Fallot	0.58 (0.26–1.3)	.19		
VSD	0.96 (0.45–2.1)	.92		
Bicuspid aortic valve	0.19 (0.026–1.4)	.1		
TGA	1.1 (0.33–3.4)	.91		
Coarctation of the aorta	0.45 (0.061–3.2)	.42		
Mitral valve anomaly	0.85 (0.21–3.5)	.82		
Common arterial trunk	1.9 (0.58–6)	.3		
AVSD	3.2 (1.4–7.7)	.0083**	3.0 (1.2–7.6)	0.017* 
ASD	0.98 (0.13–7.1)	.98		
HLHS	3.9 (1.2–13)	.024*	3.2 (0.81–12.6)	0.096
Pulmonary valve anomaly	1.3 (0.17–9.2)	.81		
Congenitally corrected TGA	2 (0.28–15)	.48		
Tricuspid valve anomaly	2.3 (0.32–17)	.4		
Functionally UVH	0.56 (0.24–13)	.58		
PDA	3.6 (0.5–27)	.2		



# Other issues addressed by individual approach



Sequellae  
Residual lesions

Heart failure  
Arrhythmias

Contraception  
Hereditiy  
Pregnancy

Sportmedical issues  
Sociolegal issues  
Vocational issues

...

## Conclusions

- Overall long term outcome is good after AVSD repair.
- Re-interventions mainly focus on the left-sided AV-valve.
- There is an increased prevalence of supraventricular arrhythmias, especially among older individuals.
- Long-term considerations include the need for pacemaker implantation due to atrioventricular block
- Although patients with Down syndrome may display some differences, the overall prognosis is favorable.