



**UKS**  
Universitätsklinikum  
des Saarlandes

# Reconstruction of the Aortic Valve and Root: A practical Approach

## Results of Root Repair

Diana Aicher

**May 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 2015**

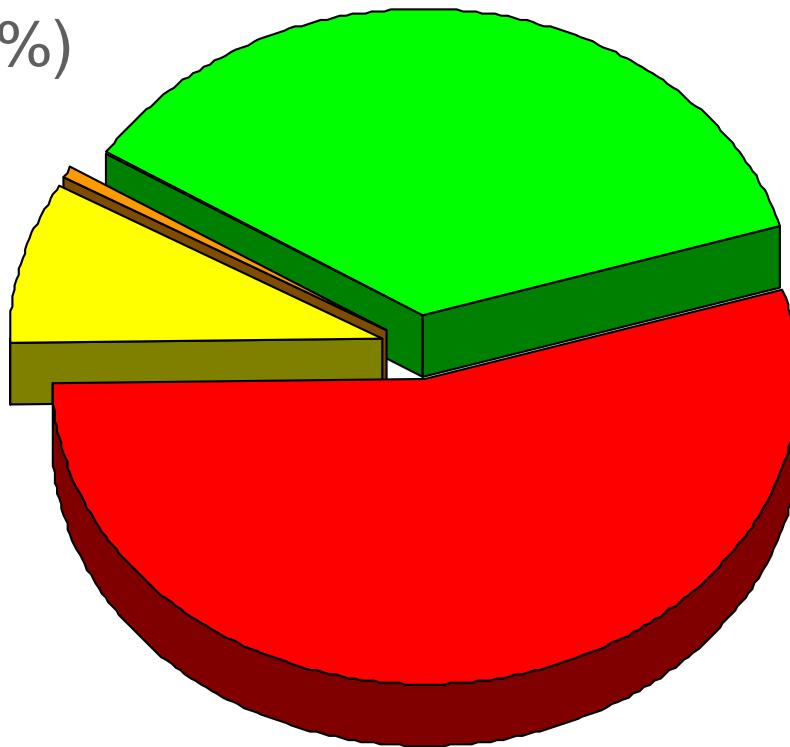


## Aortic Valve Morphology n=2073

quadricuspid (0.5%)

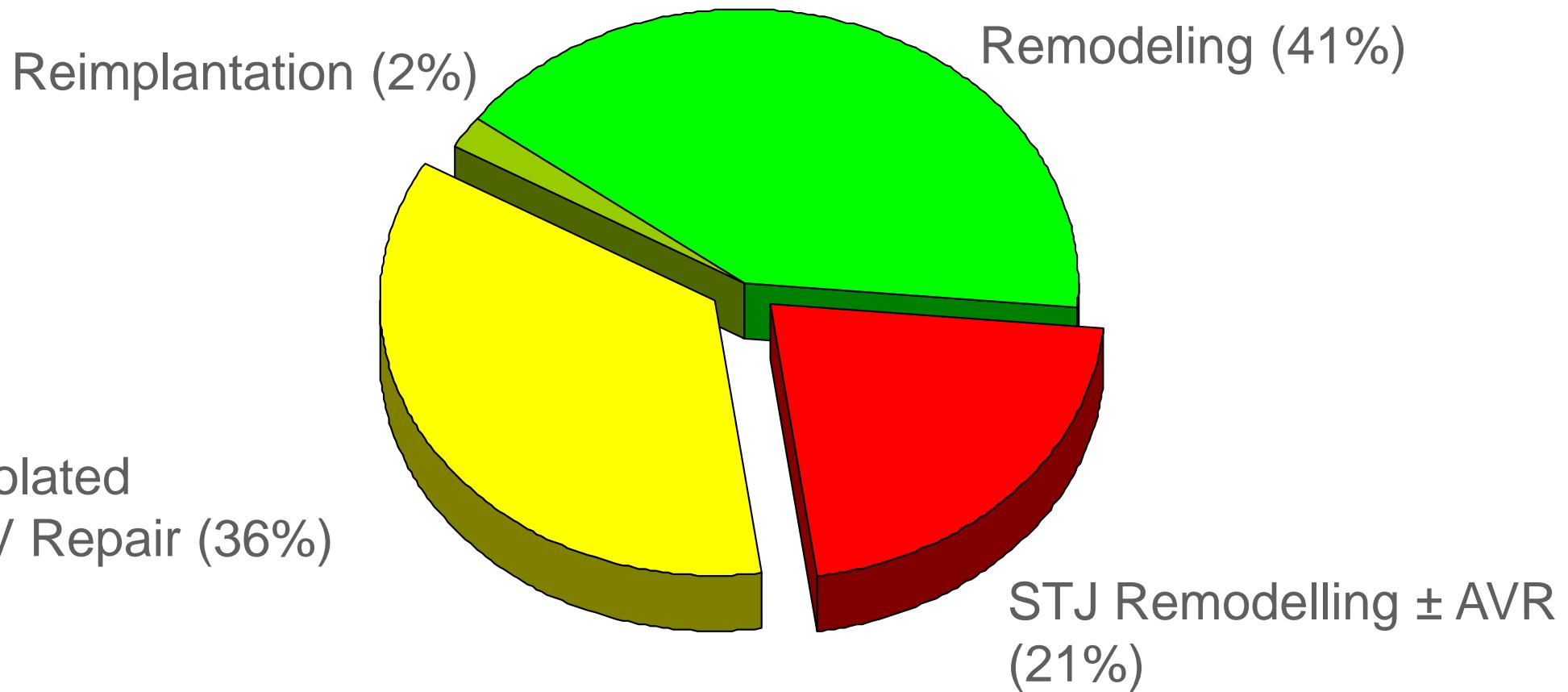
bicuspid (36%)

unicuspid (8.5%)



tricuspid (55%)

## Aortic Valve Repair n=2073

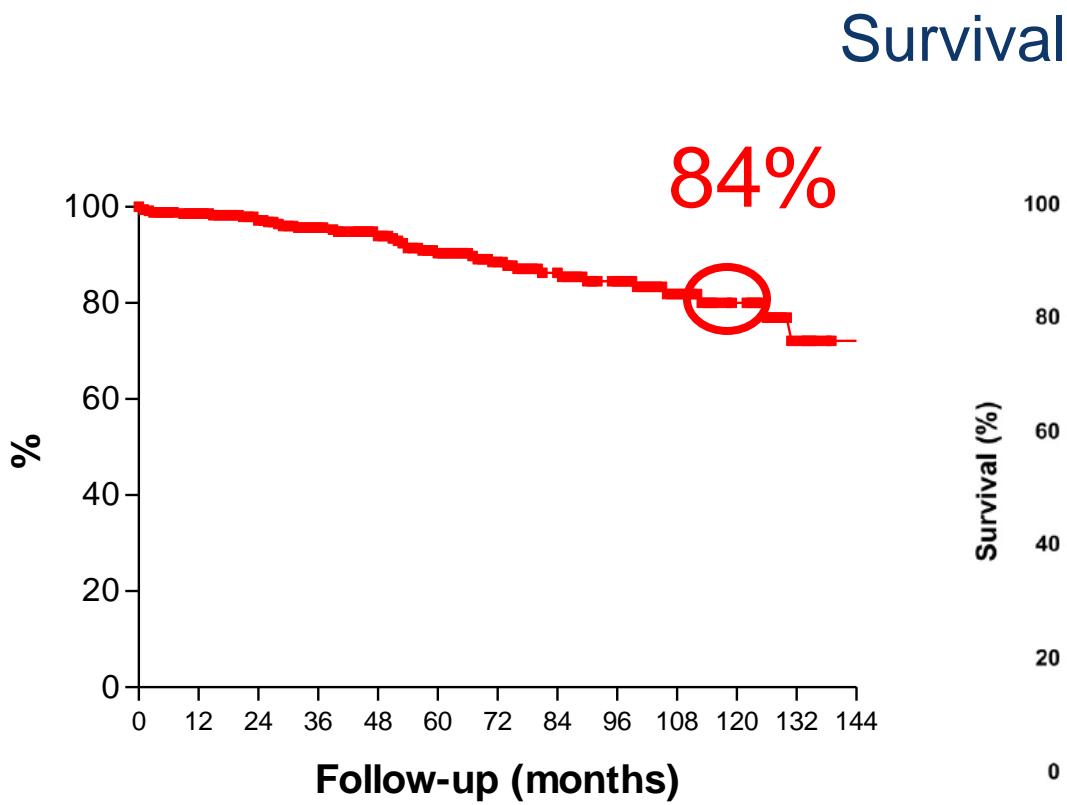


## Valve preserving surgery (10/1995- 3/2009)

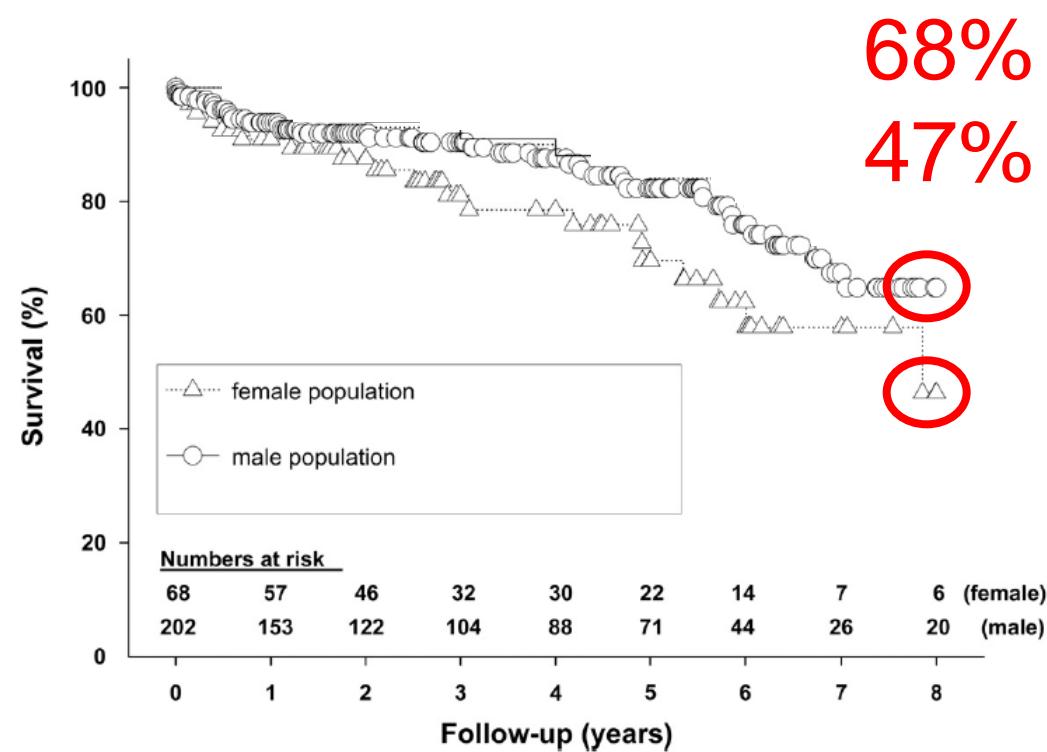
	Remodeling (N=401)	Reimplantation (N=29)	p
Age (years)	58 ± 15	42 ± 16	
Sex (m/f)	300/101	19/8	
Tricuspid AV	271	27	
BAV/UAV	124/6	2/-	
Diagnosis: Aneurysm	336	22	
AADA	59	7	
CADA	6	-	
Marfan	13	12	
Myocardial Ischemia (min)	82 ± 20	112 ± 24	0.01
Hospital mortality			
total	13/401 (3.2 %)	0/29	0.32
elective	9/342 (2.6%)	0/22	0.33
emergency	4/59 (6.8%)	0/7	0.08

## Results of Root Repair

### Aortic Root Repair (Homburg)



### Aortic Root Replacement (Composite)

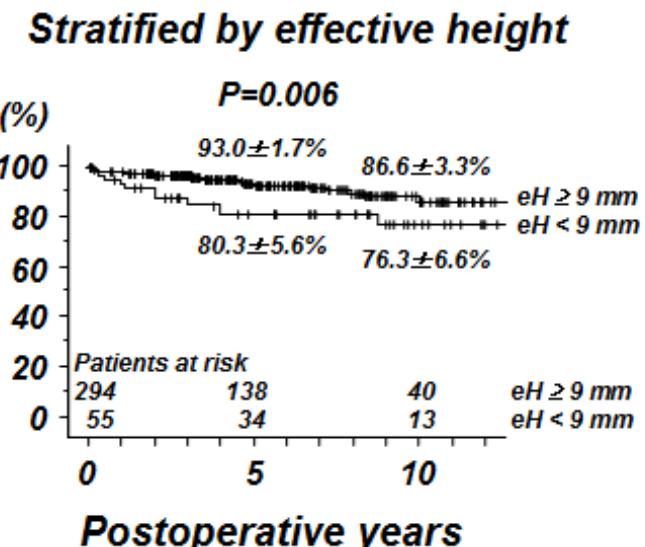
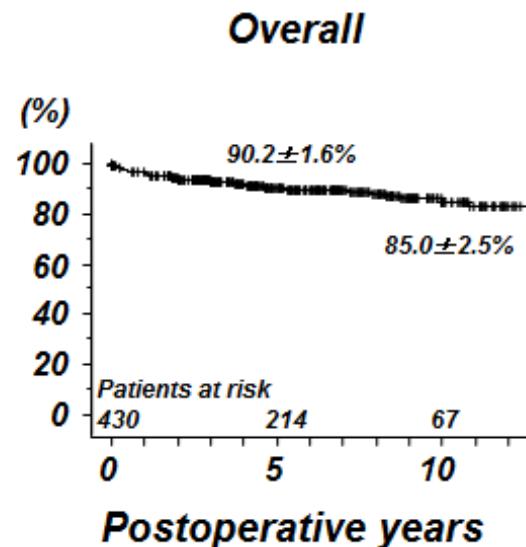


## Results of Root Repair

## Preoperative aortic root geometry and postoperative cusp configuration primarily determine long-term outcome after valve-preserving aortic root repair

Takashi Kunihara, MD, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Diana Aicher, MD,<sup>a</sup> Svetlana Rodionycheva, MD,<sup>a</sup> Heinrich-Volker Groesdonk, MD,<sup>a</sup> Frank Langer, MD,<sup>a</sup> Fumihiro Sata, MD, PhD,<sup>b</sup> and Hans-Joachim Schäfers, MD, PhD<sup>a</sup>

### ***Freedom from AR $\geq II$***

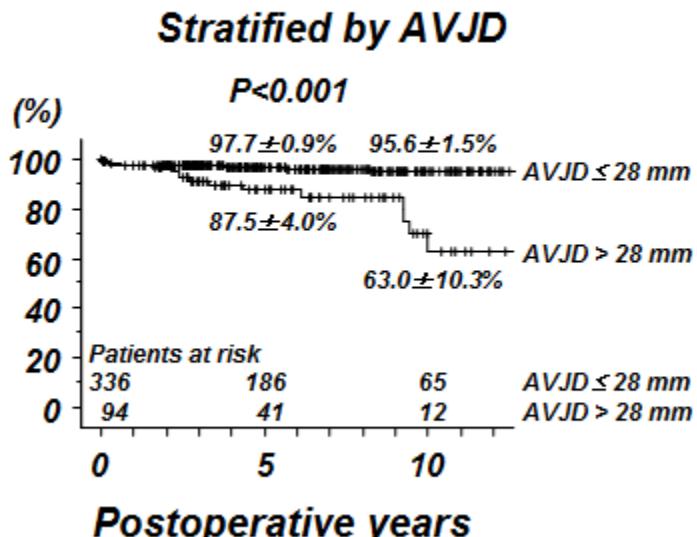
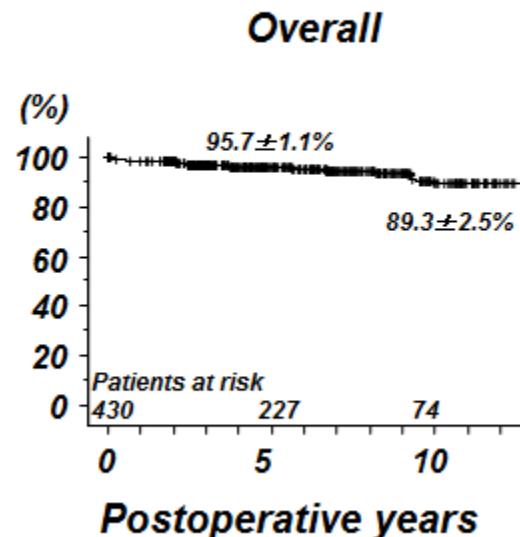


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### *Freedom from Reoperation*

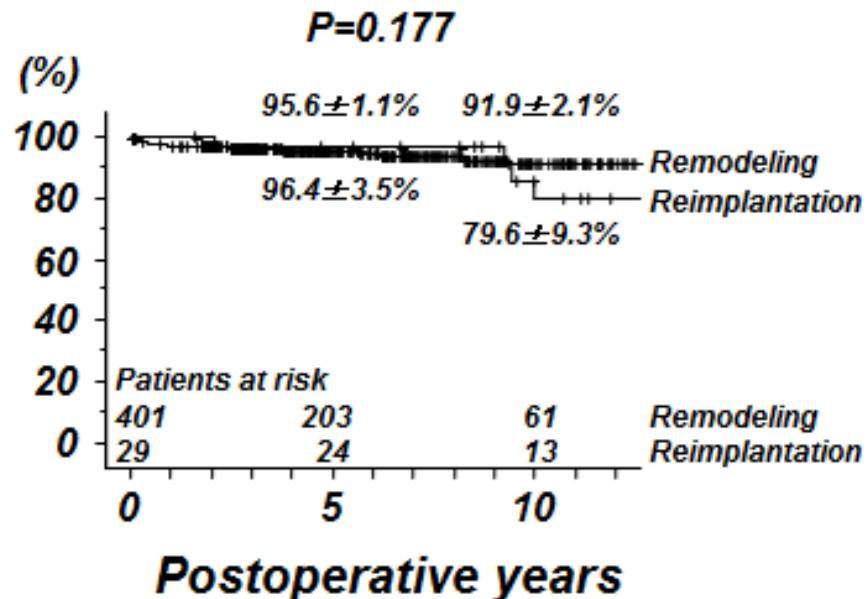


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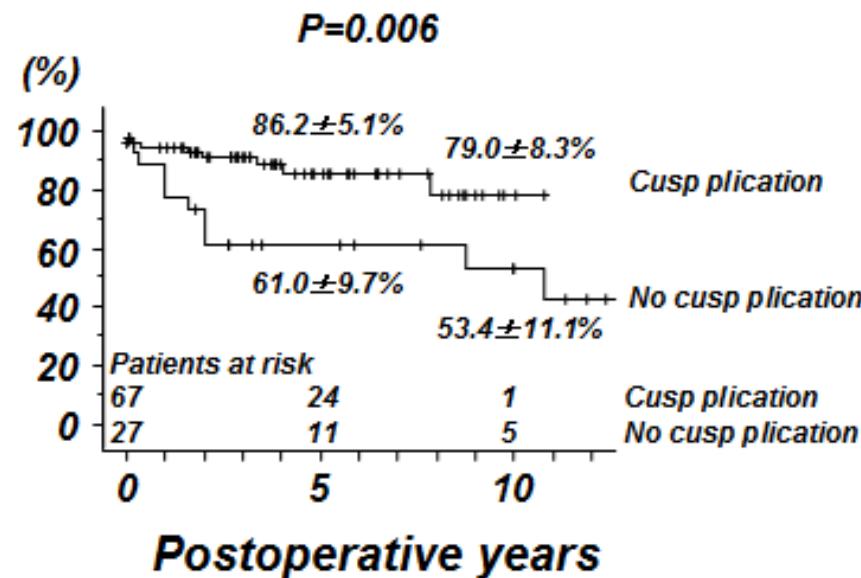


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***Freedom from AR  $\geq II$  in  
cases with AVJD > 28mm***



## Preoperative aortic root geometry and postoperative cusp configuration primarily determine long-term outcome after valve-preserving aortic root repair

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**TABLE 1.** Predictors of late aortic valve stability

	Univariate		Multivariate	
	P value	P value	HR	95% CI
AR grade $\geq$ II				
AVJ diameter $>$ 28 mm	<.001	<.001	3.326	1.833–6.036
eH $<$ 9 mm	<.001	<.001	3.354	1.857–6.060
STJ diameter	.025	.565		
Use of pericardial patch	.068	.071		
Concomitant CABG	.142	.177		
Reoperation				
AVJ diameter $>$ 28 mm	<.001	<.001	5.076	2.281–11.300
Use of pericardial patch	.005	.072	3.815	1.208–12.048
eH $<$ 9 mm	.042	.049	2.272	1.002–5.152
Body height	.115	.505		
Operative procedure	.177	.986		
Use of cusp plication	.188	.303		

Predictors of recurrent AR grade II or greater or reoperation on the aortic valve. HR, Hazard ratio; CI, confidential interval; eH, effective height; CABG, coronary artery bypass grafting.

## Valve-preserving Surgery

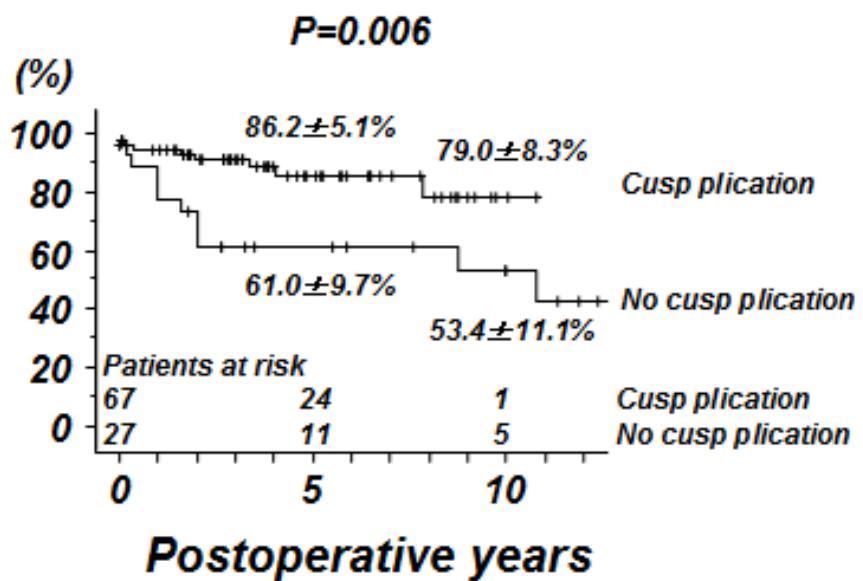
Suboptimal valve stability for AVJ > 28mm:

AVJ > 28mm risk factor or

AVJ indicator for large root  
(+large cusps) which will  
prolapse after more reduction  
of root dimensions



*Freedom from AR  $\geq II$  in  
cases with AVJD > 28mm*



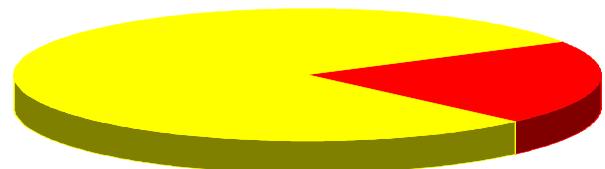
## Valve-preserving Surgery: Reasons for Reoperation

	Remodeling n=401	Reimplantation n=29
Cusp prolapse	10	-
Cusp suture dehiscence	6	-
Cusp retraction	3	-
Endocarditis	2	1
Commissural detachment	-	2
Aortic valve stenosis	1	-
	22 (5.5%)	3 (10.3%)

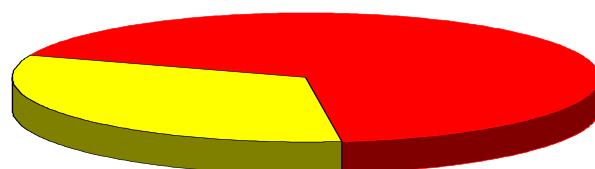
Results of Root Repair

## Cusp prolapse correction (%)

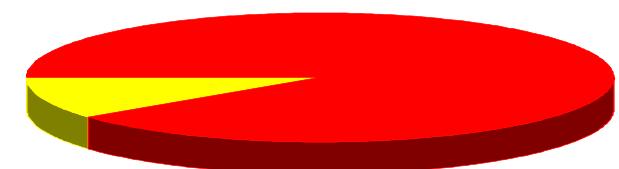
1995-2000: 19%



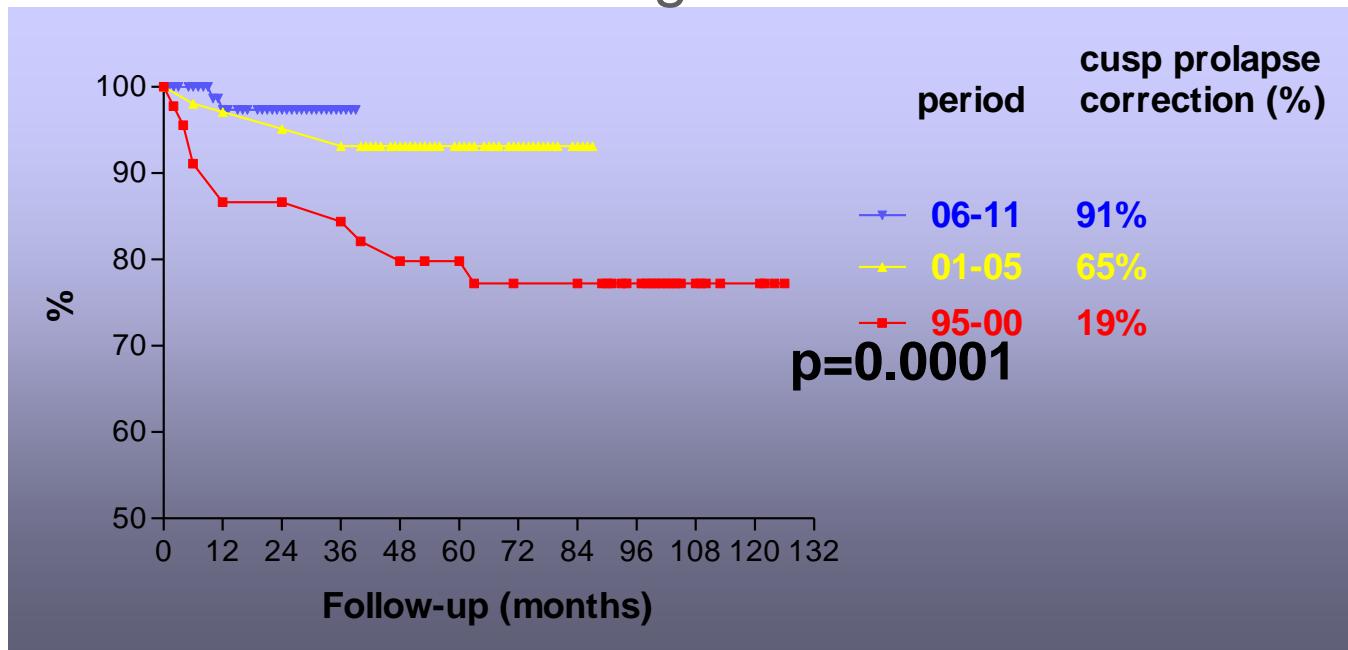
2001-2005: 65%



2006-2011: 91%



## Learning Curve



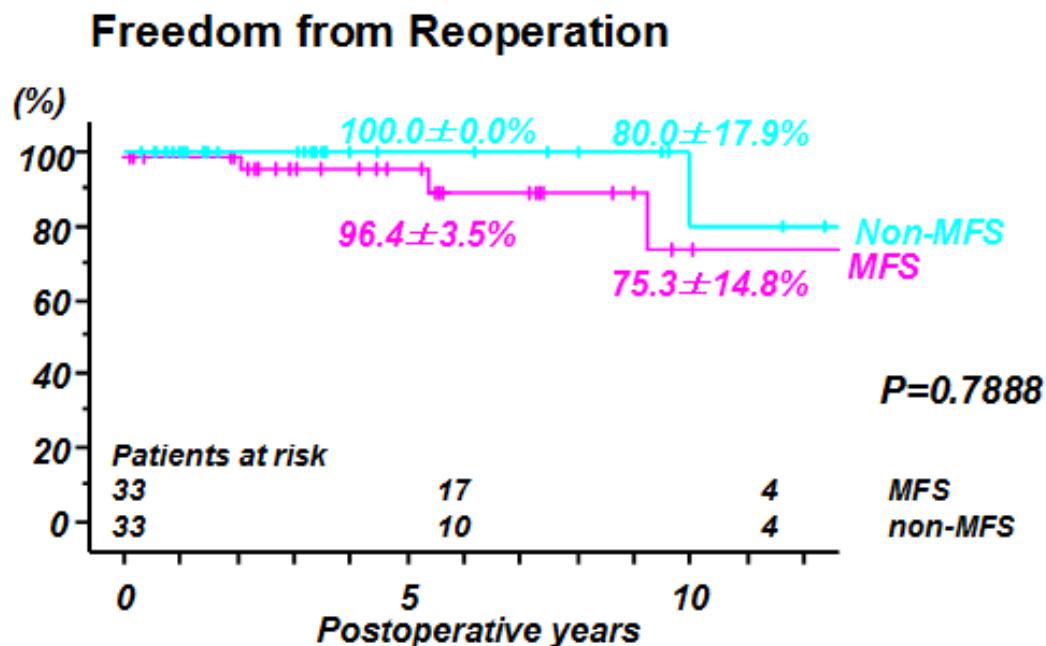
## Results of Root Repair

J Heart Valve Dis. 2012 Sep;21(5):615-22.

## Outcomes after valve-preserving root surgery for patients with Marfan syndrome.

Kunihara T<sup>1</sup>, Aicher D, Rodionycheva S, Asano M, Tochii M, Sata F, Schäfers HJ.

Long-term valve stability between patients with Marfan and propensity score-matched cohort without Marfan.

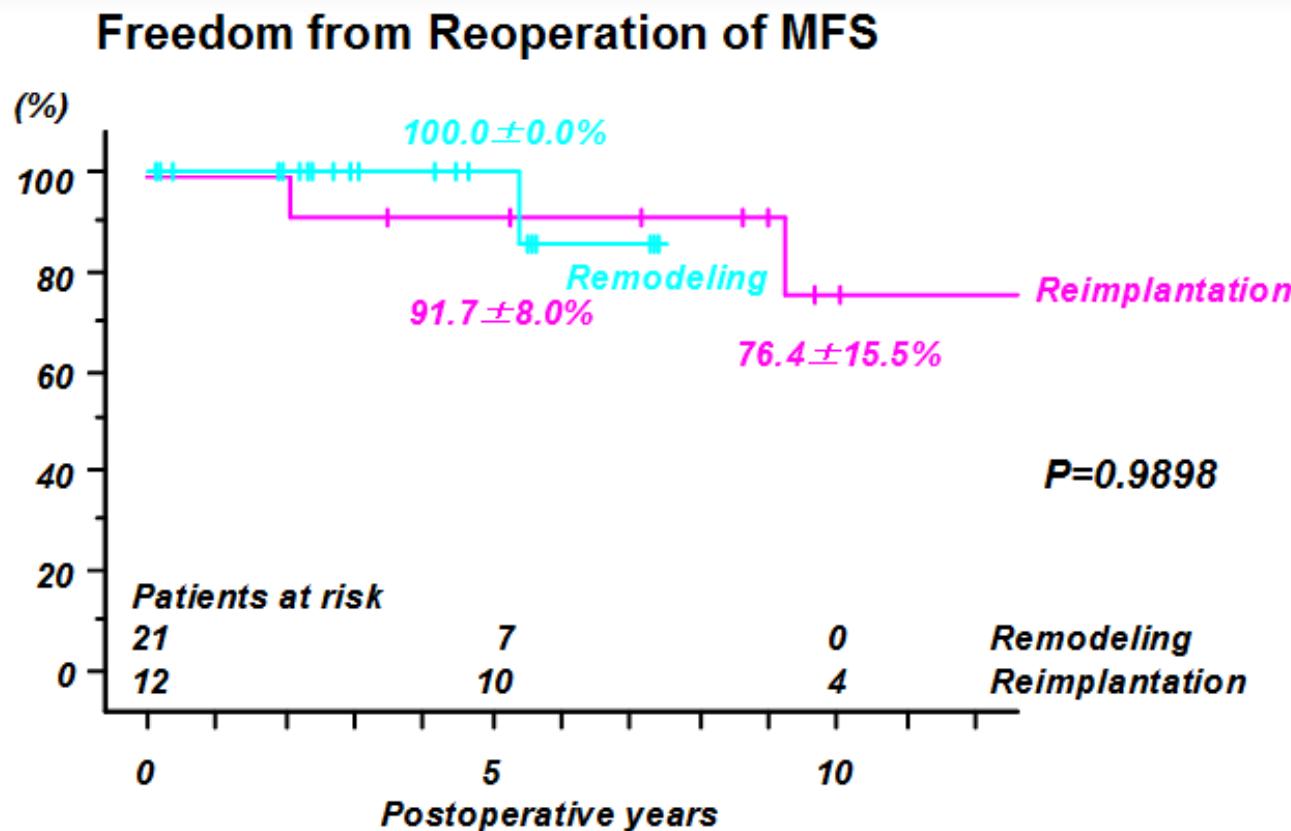


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# Root Remodeling and Aortic Valve Repair for Unicuspid Aortic Valve

Marco Franciulli, MD, Diana Aicher, MD, Tanja Rädle-Hurst, MD,  
 Hiroaki Takahashi, MD, PhD, Svetlana Rodionycheva, MD, and  
 Hans-Joachim Schäfers, MD, PhD

preoperative patients characteristics (12/2007 and 11/2013)

	range	mean	median
<i>Gender( M/F)</i>		23/2	
<i>Age (y)</i>	21-65	38±12	34
<i>AR (degree)</i>	2.5-3.5	2.9±0.3	3
<i>Preoperative gradient</i>			
<i>max (mmHg)</i>	6-74	21.4±17	20
<i>mean (mmHg)</i>	3-48	11.5±10	10
<i>diameter ascending aorta (mm)</i>	50-64	51±4	50
<i>Sinus diameter (mm)</i>	45-55	48±5	47

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## Early Results:

- No death
- 92% AR 0; 8% AR I at discharge,
- systolic mean gradient of  $6 \pm 3$  mmHg at discharge

## Mid-term Results:

- No death
- No bleeding or thromboembolic events
- One endocarditis (healed with conservative treatment)

## Valve stability:

- 3 reoperations (2 suture dehiscence patch/cusp: no annular stabilization; 1 after endocarditis)  
  biologic AV replacement (n=1); re-repair (n=2)
- Of 5 patients without annular support, 2 underwent reoperation (40%) versus  
  1 of 20 (5%) who were treated by suture annuloplasty.

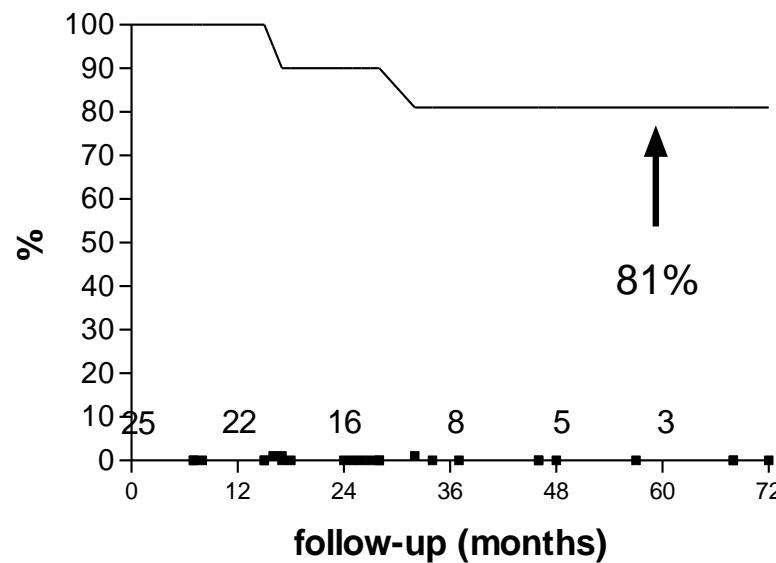
Results of Root Repair

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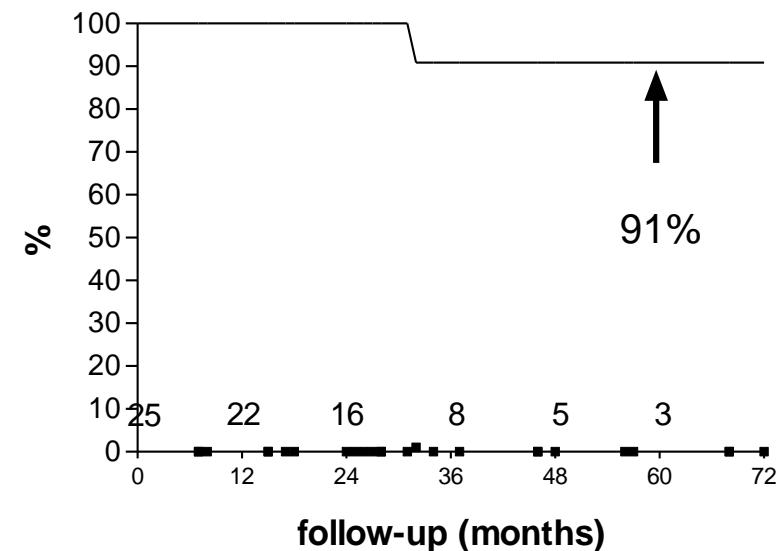
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## Results:

freedom from reoperation



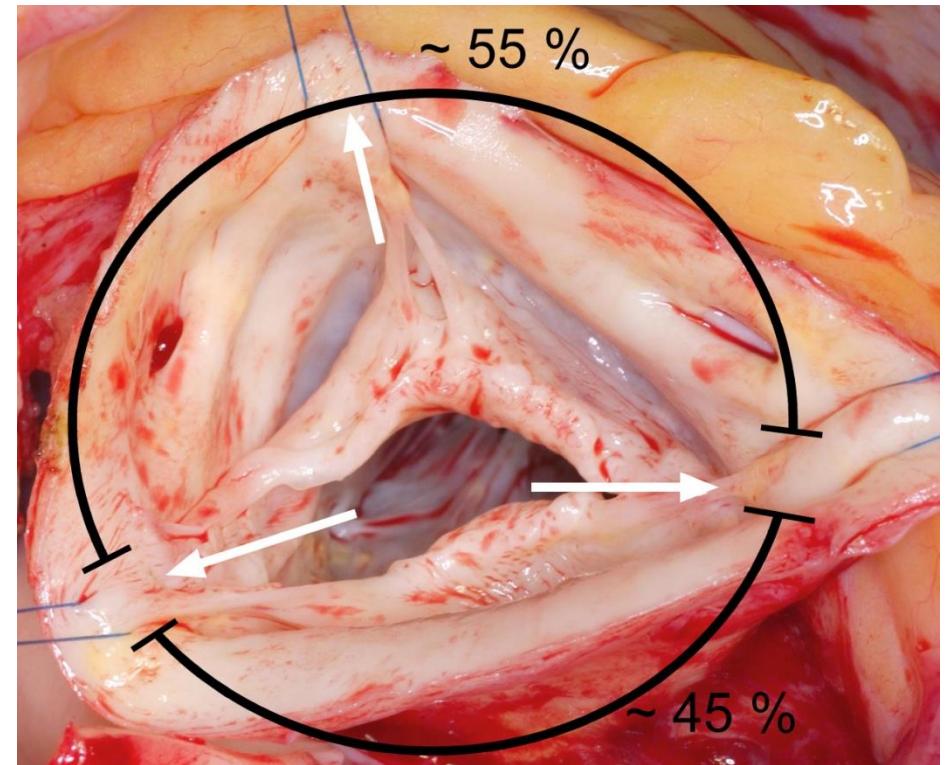
freedom from valve replacement



Cumulative follow-up 677 months (mean  $27 \pm 18$  months)

## Advantages of Remodeling

- Identical valve stability compared to reimplantation
- Shorter ischemic time
- Preserved aortic distensibility
- Individual anatomy in different morphologies (asymmetry regarding position of the coronary ostias and depth of the sinuses) can be easily adapted by remodeling



## Results of Root Repair

# Aortic valve insufficiency due to aortic dilatation: correction by sinus rim adjustment

ROBERT W. M. FRATER, MB,CH,B., M.S., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S., F.A.C.C.

**ABSTRACT** Idiopathic dilatation of the aortic root may commonly cause chronic insufficiency of the aortic valve. In these patients the cusp and sinuses are normal or virtually normal in area and pliability and the coronaries are not displaced. The insufficiency in these patients may be totally corrected by an adjustment of the intercommissural distance at the sinus rim level. The dilated ascending aorta is dealt

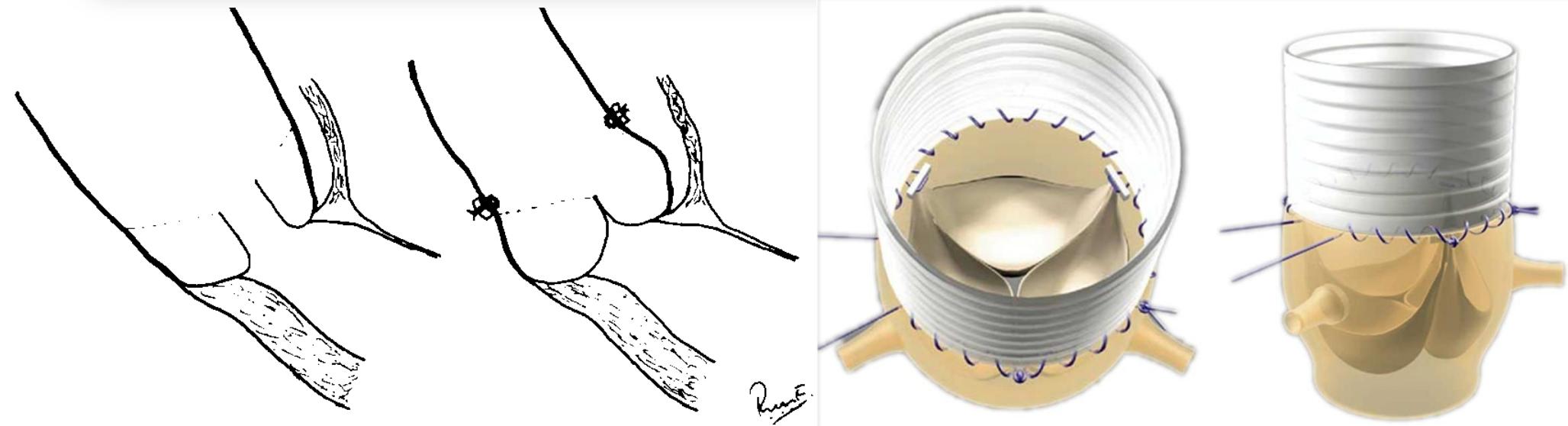


FIGURE 4. *Left*, The sinus rim is fixed in a systolic position. *Right*, The sinus rim reestablished in a diastolic position

# Mid-term results after sinutubular junction remodelling with aortic cusp repair<sup>†</sup>

Mitsuru Asano, Takashi Kunihara, Diana Aicher, Hazem El Beyrouti, Svetlana Rodionycheva,  
and Hans-Joachim Schäfers\*

## Patients characteristics

n	144
Age (years)	56.0 ± 17
Male, n (%)	103 (71.5)
BSA (m <sup>2</sup> )	1.95 ± 0.13
Left ventricular ejection fraction (%)	60.8 ± 13.0
Aortic regurgitation (grade)	3.2 ± 0.4
TAV (tricuspid)	58
Non –TAV (bicuspid /unicuspid)	86(59/27)

## Diameter of aortic root (mm)

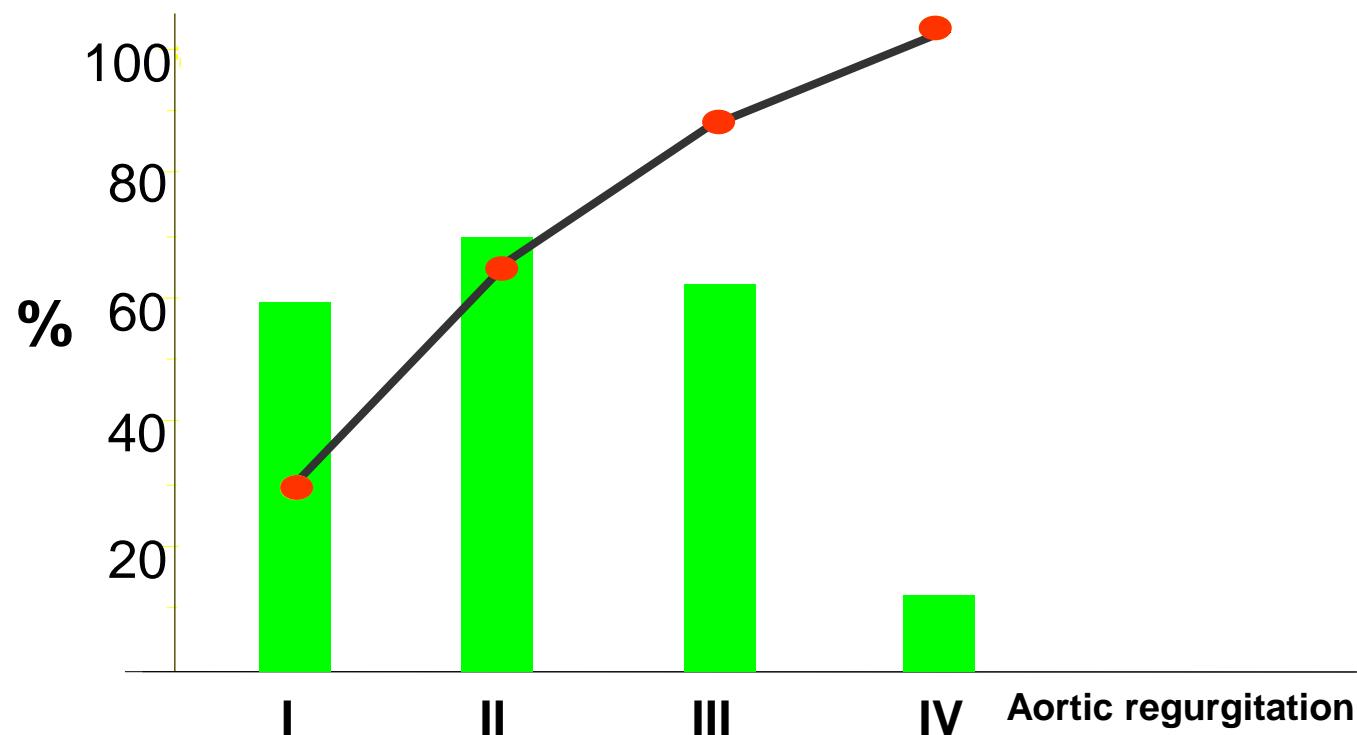
AVJ	27.3 ± 2.4
Sinus valsalva	36.8 ± 2.9
Sinutubular junction	30.7 ± 3.4
Ascending aorta	51.8 ± 6.1

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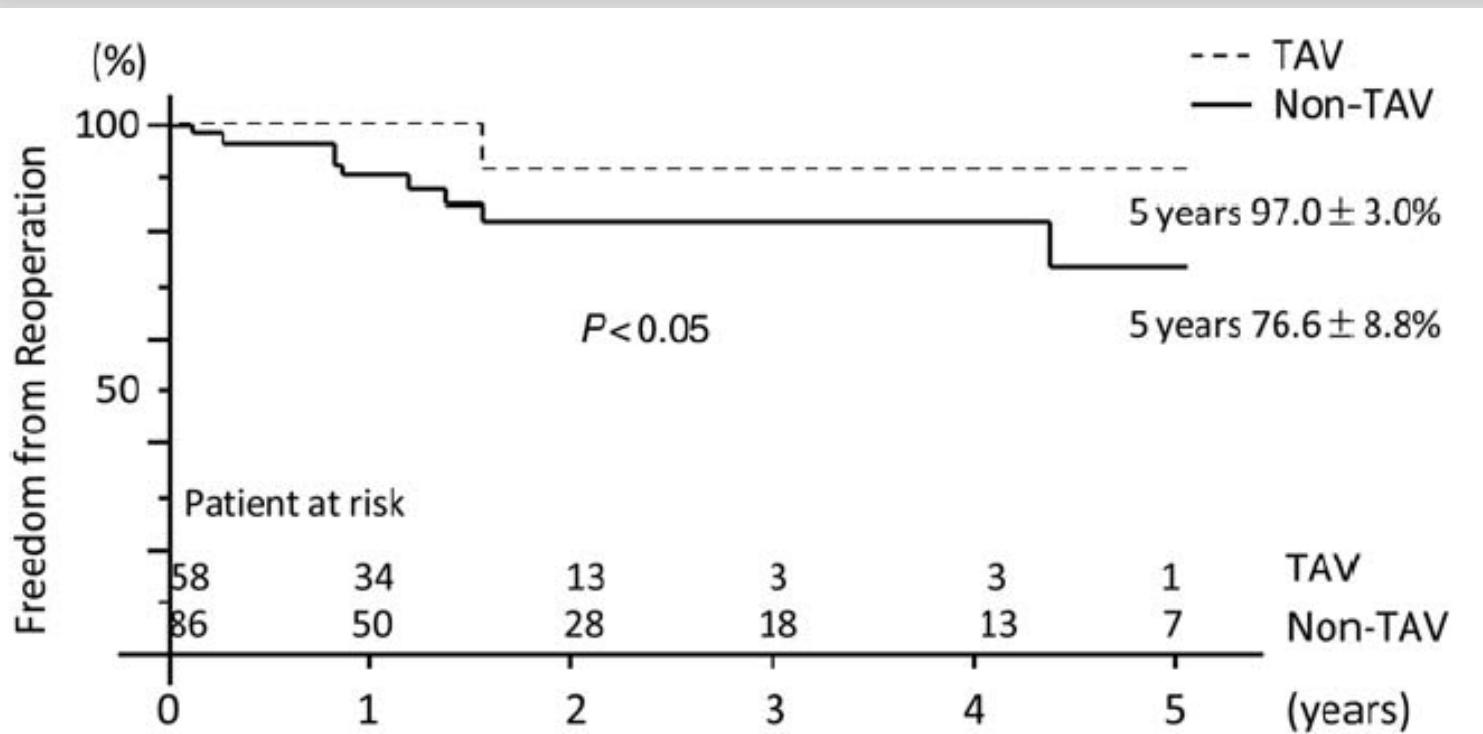
### Correlation between cusp prolapse and aortic regurgitation

Cusp prolapse



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Table 4: Analysis of risk factors for reoperation

	Univariate	Multivariate	HR	95% CI
AVJ > 28 mm	<0.01	<0.01	11.647	2.506-54.134
Pericardial patch	<0.05	0.42		
Non-TAV	0.09	0.21		
Cusp placation	0.10	0.14		
STJ > 30 mm	0.20	0.28		
Sinus valsalva	>40 mm	0.53		

AVJ: aortoventricular junction; STJ: sinutubular junction; HR: hazard ratio; CI: confidence interval.

## Conclusions

- Valve stability after Root Remodeling and Reimplantation are identical
  - even in Marfan patients.
- Additional cusp repair improves long-term results.
- STJ Remodelling is a good option in patients with a preserved sinus.