

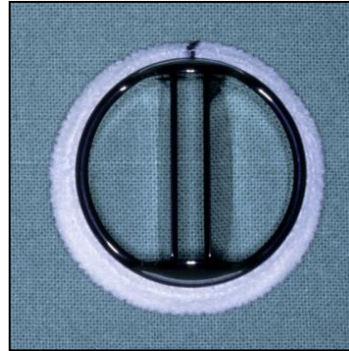
# Unicuspid Aortic Valve Repair

H.-J. Schäfers

Dept. Of Thoracic and CV Surgery  
Saarland University Medical Center  
Homburg/Saar, Germany



# Aortic Valve Replacement



Reproducible

Low Mortality  
(curr. 2-4%)

Late complications:

Thromboembolism  
Anticoagulation/Hemorrhage  
Structural failure  
PV endocarditis



# Pediatric AV Replacement

## Outcomes and Associated Risk Factors for Aortic Valve Replacement in 160 Children A Competing-Risks Analysis

Tara Karamlou, MD; Karen Jang, MS; William G. Williams, MD; Christopher A. Caldarone, MD;  
Glen Van Arsdell, MD; John G. Coles, MD; Brian W. McCrindle, MD, MPH

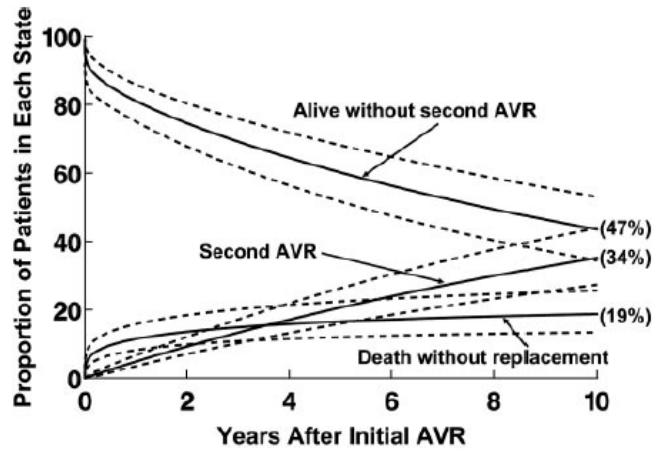
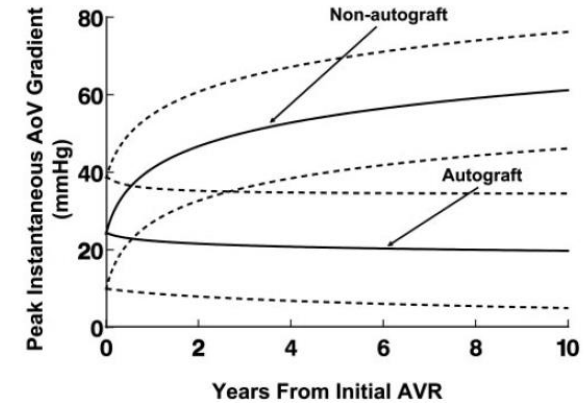
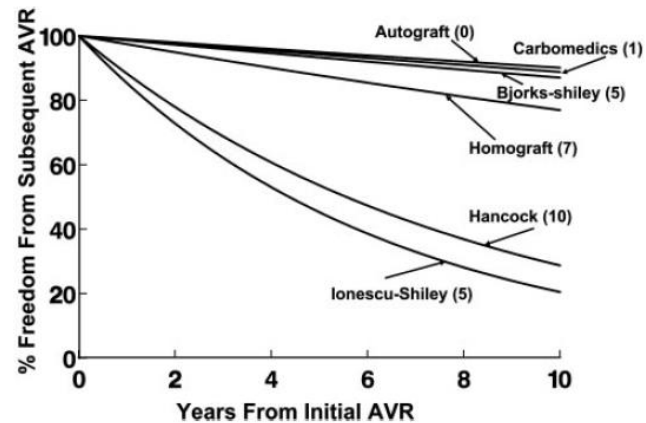


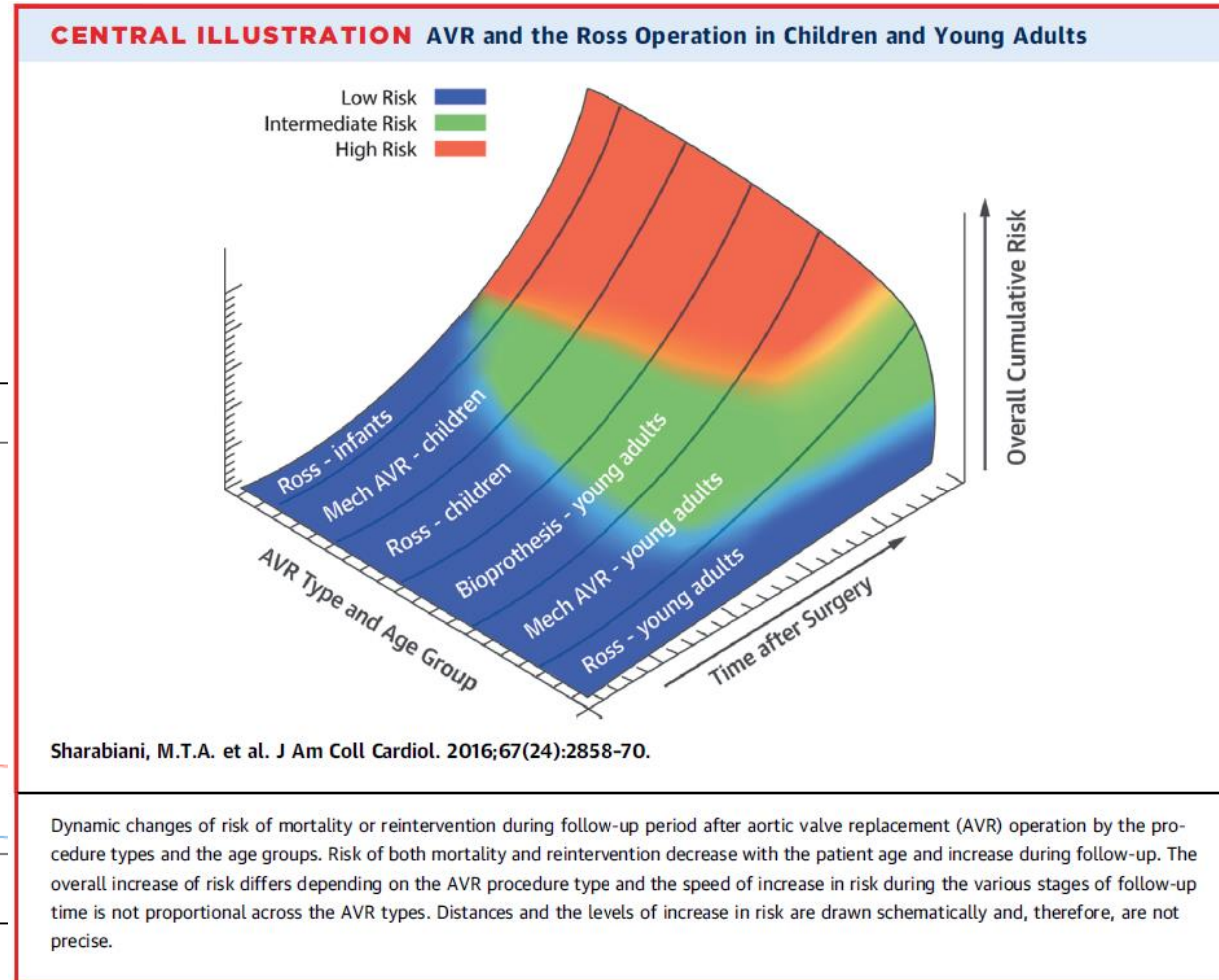
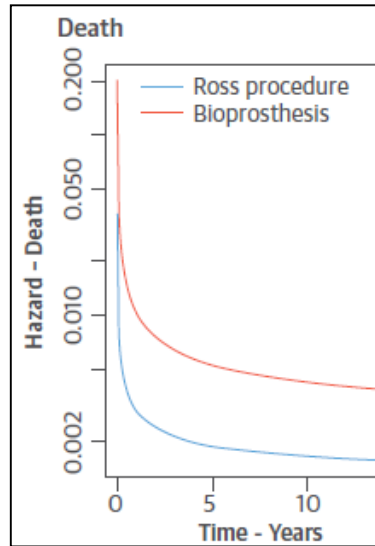
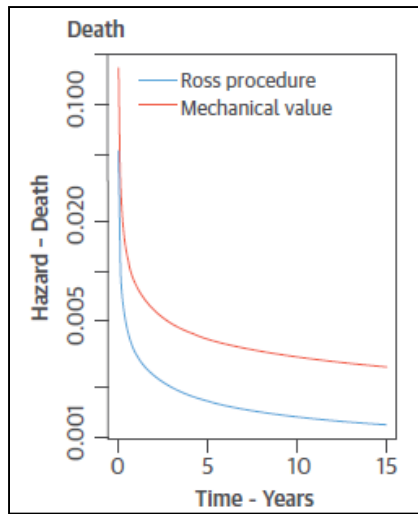
Figure 2. Competing-risks depiction of events after initial AVR in 160 children. All patients are represented in the graph as alive



# Aortic Valve Replacement and the Ross Operation in Children and Young Adults



Mansour T.A. Sharabiani, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Dan M. Dorobantu, MD,<sup>b,c</sup> Alireza S. Mahani, PhD,<sup>d</sup> Mark Turner, PhD,<sup>b</sup>  
 Andrew J. Peter Tometzki, MBChB,<sup>b</sup> Gianni D. Angelini, MD,<sup>a,b</sup> Andrew J. Parry, MBChB,<sup>b</sup> Massimo Caputo, MD,<sup>b</sup>  
 Serban C. Stoica, MD<sup>b</sup>



# Options and Disadvantages of AV Replacement in Pediatric Patients

- Absence of growth potential (mechanical/biological AVR)
- Anticoagulation (mechanical AVR)
- Early degeneration (biological AVR)
- Excess mortality (mechanical and biological AVR)
  
- Extensive surgery (Ross operation)

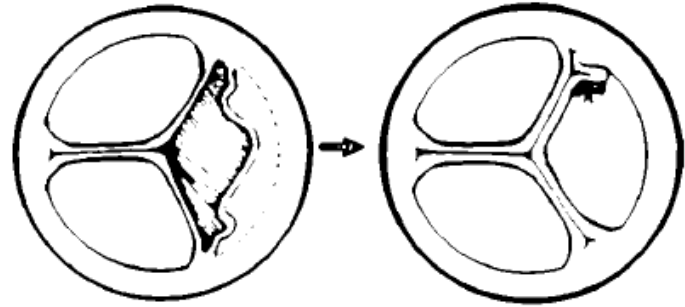


Repair as best compromise?

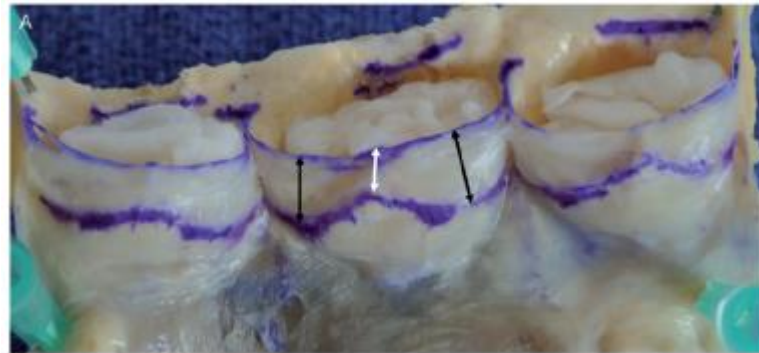
(Postponing the time of replacement to better circumstances e.g. low risk age)



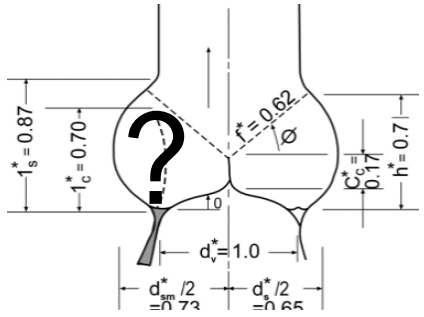
- ✓ All cusp margins should be at equal height for competent valve function.



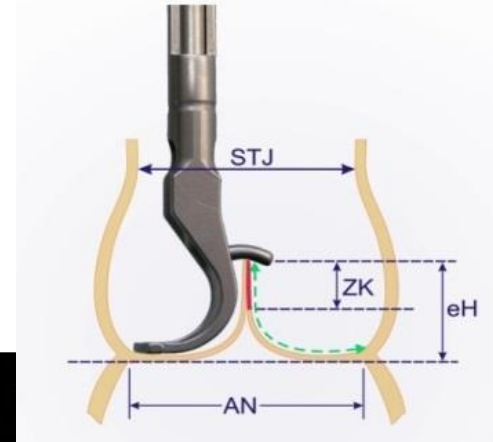
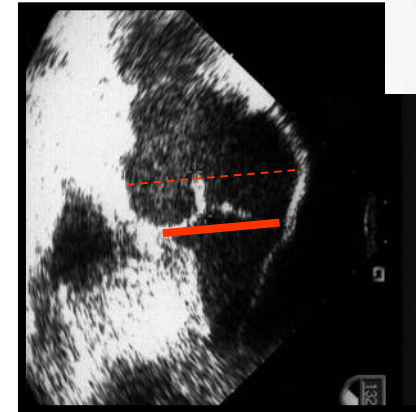
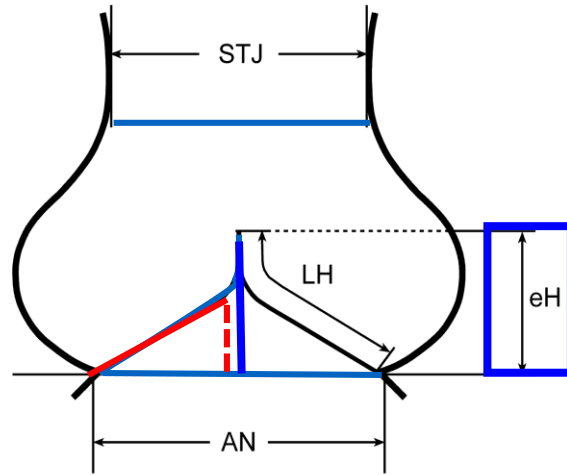
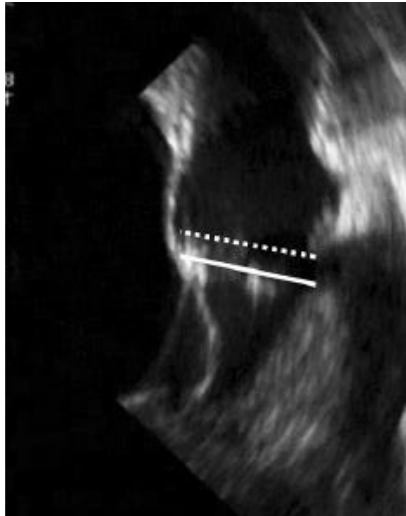
- ✓ Coaptation height should be high for secure diastolic function.



# Looks are not enough: Effective and Geometric Height



Swanson, Circ Res 1974



## A new approach to the assessment of aortic cusp geometry

Hans-Joachim Schäfers, MD, PhD, Benjamin Bierbach, MD, and Diana Aicher, MD, Homburg/Saar, Germany

9-10 mm (or 45% of gH) = normal

Schäfers HJ et al, JTCVS 2006



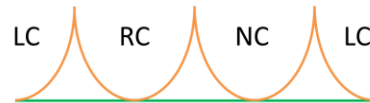
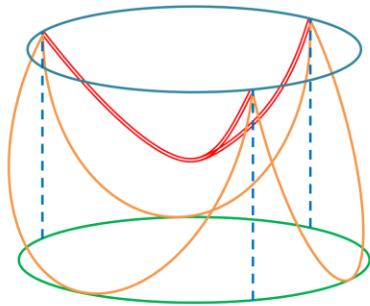
# Unicuspid Aortic Valve (Pubmed Hits 161)

Did you mean: bicuspid aortic valve (2929 items)



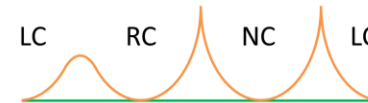
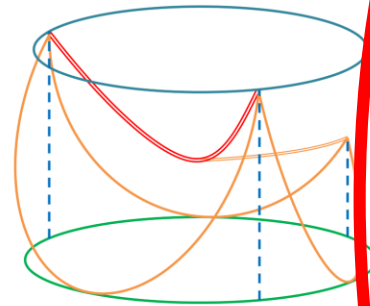
A

Tricuspid aortic valve



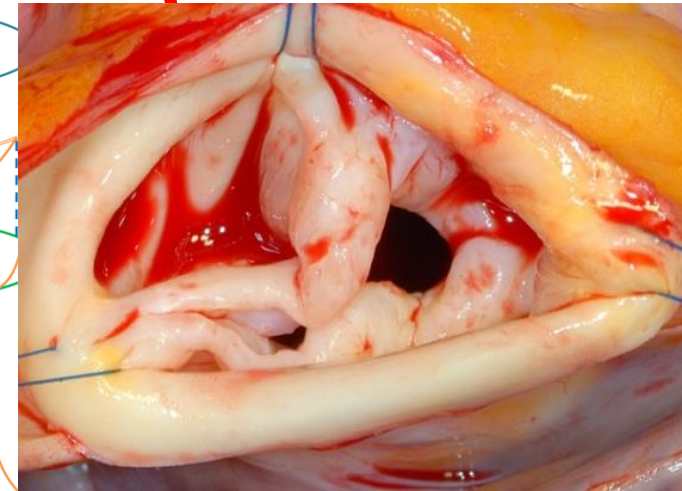
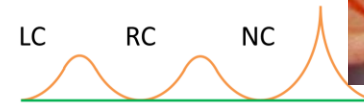
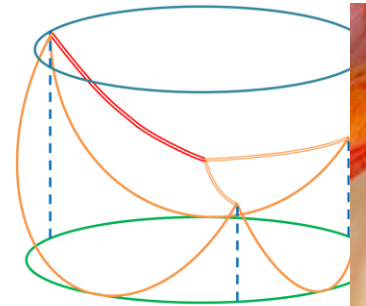
B

Bicuspid aortic valve



C

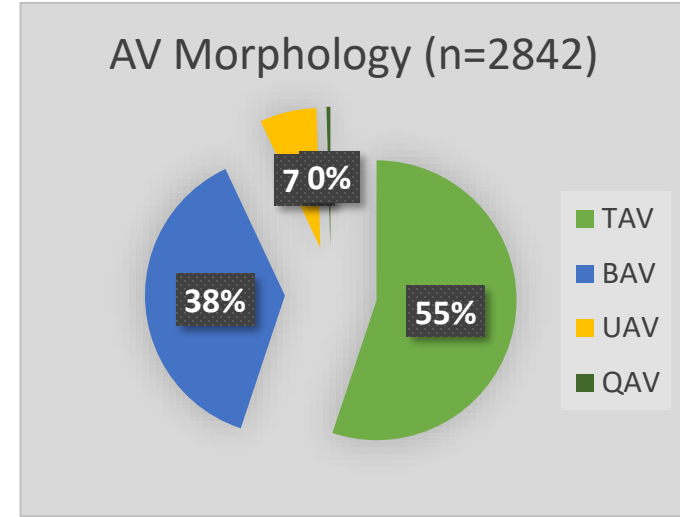
Unicuspid aortic valve



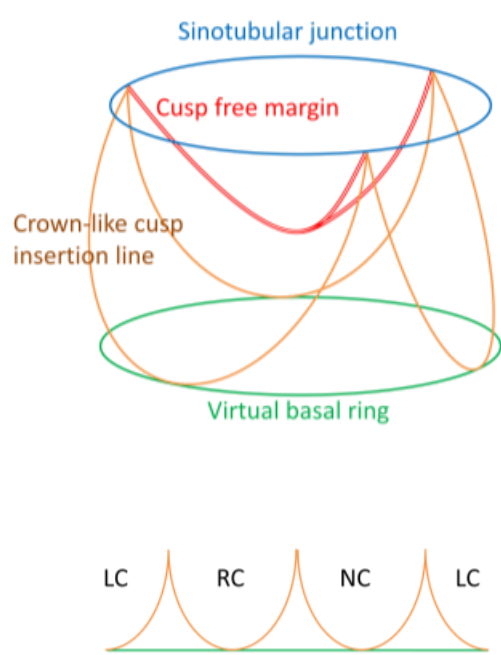
According to Anderson RH



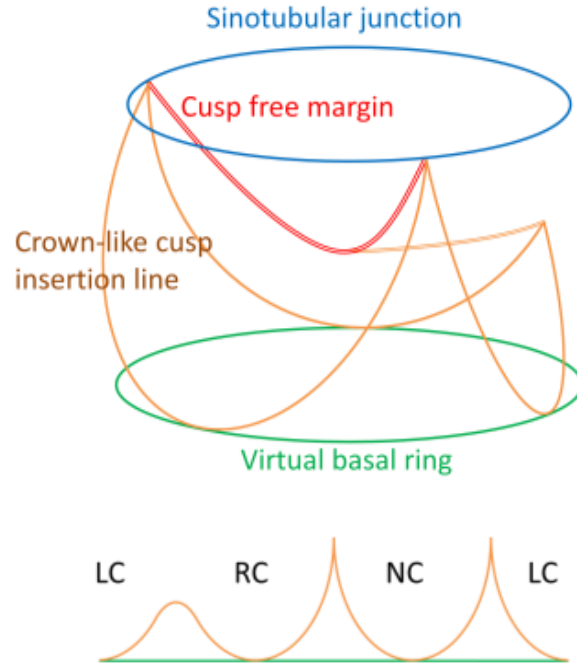
# Aortic Valve Morphology



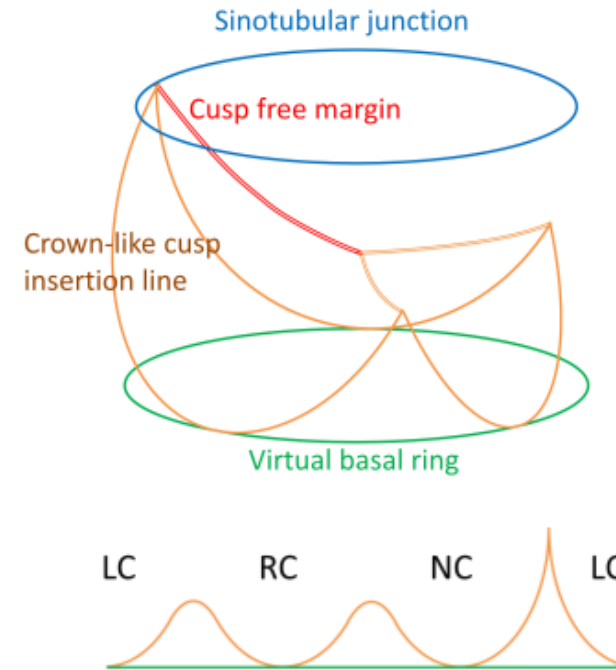
## Tricuspid



## Bicuspid



## Unicuspid

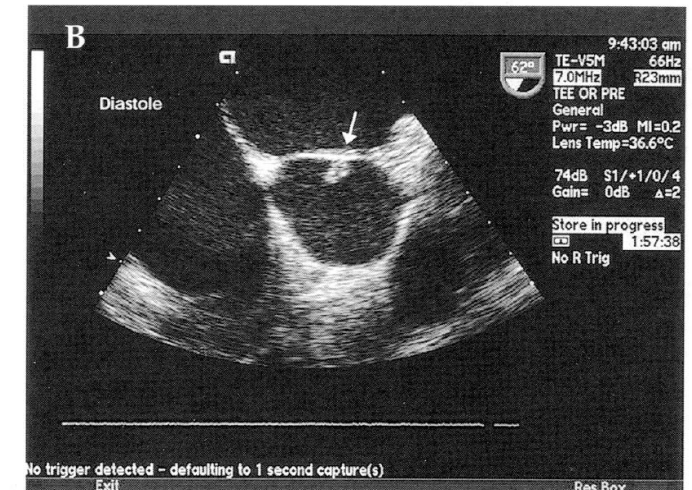


# Incidence and Echocardiographic Features of Congenital Unicuspid Aortic Valve in an Adult Population

Gian M. Novaro<sup>1</sup>, Micky Mishra<sup>2</sup>, Brian P. Griffin<sup>3</sup>

## Patients

All patients who underwent transthoracic echocardiography in the authors' laboratory between January 1, 1990 and May 31, 2002 were screened for the study. Patients aged >18 years and described as having a congenital UAV were identified.



Among 113,552 individual patient echocardiographic examinations, 21 patients (14 males, seven females) with congenital UAVs were identified, resulting in an estimated incidence of 0.019%. The mean patient age was  $34 \pm 10$  years (range: 21 to 60 years), and the mean

But: only adult patients!



# Unicuspid Aortic Valve (Pubmed Hits 161)

Did you mean: bicuspid aortic valve (2929 items)

Canadian Journal of Cardiology 32 (2016) 110–116

## Clinical Research

### New Insights Into Unicuspid Aortic Valve Disease in Adults: Not Just a Subtype of Bicuspid Aortic Valves

Pierre-Emmanuel Noly, MD,<sup>a</sup> Lauren Basmadjian, MD,<sup>a</sup> Ismail Bouhout, MD,<sup>a</sup>  
Van Hoai Viet Le, MD,<sup>b</sup> Nancy Poirier, MD,<sup>a</sup> and Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD<sup>a</sup>

**Methods:** From 2011 to 2015, all data from adult patients with confirmed UAVs (n = 42) who underwent aortic valve surgery were reviewed.

The prevalence of UAV in our surgical cohort of 2500 AV replacements over the study period was 1.68%. This is comparable with previously published data on the incidence

#### Accuracy of preoperative echocardiographic diagnosis

Preoperative TTE diagnosis of UAV was made in only 6 patients (14%). The rest of the AVs were described as bicuspid in 33 patients (77%) or undetermined (n = 3; 8%). Intraoperative TEE increased the rate of detection before surgical inspection to 69% (n = 29 patients). To determine the potential for accurate determination of the preoperative diagnosis, all preoperative TTEs were re-examined with full knowledge of the valve phenotype observed during surgery. In

**Table 2. Preoperative echocardiographic characteristics (n = 42 patients)**

Characteristic	Value	Median	Range
Type of valvular dysfunction			
Pure stenosis	8 (19)		
Pure regurgitation	5 (12)		
Mixed stenosis and regurgitation	29 (69)		

only adult patients!



# Aortic Valve Dysfunction in Children and Adolescents

(What are we treating?)

- Congenital aortic stenosis
- AR after thx of aortic stenosis
- Mixed AR / AS
- Aortic regurgitation due to endocarditis
- Root aneurysm due to connective tissue disease

What is the morphology of the dysfunctional av in childhood and adolescence?





Mathieu Vergnat, MD,<sup>a</sup> Boulos Asfour, MD,<sup>a</sup> Claudia Arenz,<sup>b</sup> Benjamin Viktor H

Alain J. Poncelet<sup>a\*</sup>, Gébrine El K Stéphanie Moniotte<sup>b</sup>, Mona

ABSTRACT

Objective: To evaluate the clinical outcome of aortic valve plasty [C hypothesis] in congenital aortic stenosis (AS) and bicuspid aortic valve (BAV).

Methods: A retrospective analysis of 33 neonates who underwent aortic valve repair (AVR) between 2000 and 2010.

Results: The mean age at surgery was 0.8 years. The majority of patients had bicuspid aortic valve (n = 24, 73%). The majority of patients had aortic stenosis (n = 29, 88%). The majority of patients had aortic regurgitation (n = 17, 52%). The majority of patients had aortic valve plasty (n = 29, 88%). The majority of patients had aortic valve replacement (n = 4, 12%).

Conclusion: AVR is a safe and effective procedure for congenital aortic stenosis and bicuspid aortic valve. AVR is associated with a low mortality rate and a low rate of reoperation.

Keywords: Paediatric aortic stenosis, bicuspid aortic valve, aortic valve repair, aortic valve replacement, congenital aortic stenosis, bicuspid aortic valve, aortic valve repair, aortic valve replacement.

<sup>a</sup> Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, UCL—Clinique de Cardiologie, UCL—Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium; <sup>b</sup> Department of Pediatric Cardiology, UCL—Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium; <sup>c</sup> Department of Anesthesiology, UCL—Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium; <sup>d</sup> Department of Pediatrics, UCL—Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium.

\* Corresponding author: Alain J. Poncelet, MD, Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, UCL—Clinique de Cardiologie, UCL—Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Avenue de la Croix-Rouge 177, 1200 Brussels, Belgium. Email: alain.poncelet@uclouvain.be

Received 24 February 2015; accepted 3 August 2015; published online 13 August 2015.

Abstract

**OBJECTIVES:** To evaluate the clinical outcome of aortic valve plasty [C hypothesis] in congenital aortic stenosis (AS) and bicuspid aortic valve (BAV).

**METHODS:** A retrospective analysis of 33 neonates who underwent aortic valve repair (AVR) between 2000 and 2010.

**RESULTS:** Sixty-six percent (55%) and 17% (52%) of patients had aortic regurgitation the patients, VSD closure was predominant (1 pericardocentesis). All were cardiac replacement at 5 complication (enlargement of the aortic annulus).

**CONCLUSIONS:** AVR is a safe and effective procedure for congenital aortic stenosis and bicuspid aortic valve. AVR is associated with a low mortality rate and a low rate of reoperation.

**Keywords:** Paediatric aortic stenosis, bicuspid aortic valve, aortic valve repair, aortic valve replacement, congenital aortic stenosis, bicuspid aortic valve, aortic valve repair, aortic valve replacement.

Surgical commissurotomy: Outcome of open heart surgery in neonatal aortic stenosis

Hans Peter C James L. Wil Melbourne, Australia

**Early interventional aortic stenosis. The balloon aortic valvuloplasty (BAV) series of 33 congenital aortic stenosis (AS) patients. The majority of patients had aortic regurgitation (AR) the patients, VSD closure was predominant (1 pericardocentesis). All were cardiac replacement at 5 complication (enlargement of the aortic annulus).**

Neonatal Predictors of Aortic Valve Morphology

Gabriella Ag Phalla Ou Pascal Vo

**Background:** Our institutional commissurotomy series of 33 congenital aortic stenosis (AS) patients. The majority of patients had aortic regurgitation (AR) the patients, VSD closure was predominant (1 pericardocentesis). All were cardiac replacement at 5 complication (enlargement of the aortic annulus).

Mostly AS

Valve morphologies:

tricuspid bicuspid unicuspid ?

Long-term result:

recurrent AS progressive AR

7:84–89  
-1243-0



CLE

of Aortic Regurgitation After Different Repair for Congenital Aortic Valve Stenosis

Johannes Kroll<sup>1</sup> · Jan Kiss<sup>1</sup> · Carolin Hess<sup>1</sup> · Brigitte Stiller<sup>2</sup> · Rüdiger Helmreich<sup>1</sup> · Rüdiger Helmreich<sup>1</sup>

Accepted: 3 August 2015 / Published online: 13 August 2015  
© Springer Science+Business Media New York 2015

To characterize the incidence of AR and to determine risk factors for AR progression in infants and children after surgical aortic valve repair (AVR) and aortic valve replacement (AVR) for congenital aortic valve stenosis (AS). We analyzed the aortic valve morphology and the incidence of AR in 16 patients with aortic regurgitation (AR, n = 16, 53%) and 3 patients with aortic regurgitation (AR, n = 3, 14%) after AVR. The majority of patients had aortic regurgitation (AR) the patients, VSD closure was predominant (1 pericardocentesis). All were cardiac replacement at 5 complication (enlargement of the aortic annulus).

patients had moderate or severe AR grades >2.5+. Patients with a monocuspid aortic valve and patients who had some kind of patch implantation into their cusps or commissures or shaving of thickened cusps were more likely to present with progression of aortic regurgitation. Monocuspid aortic valve and patch implantation, as well as cusp shaving, are probably linked to AR progression. The standard procedure of commissurotomy results in an absolute rate of AR progression of 40% over a medium-term follow-up period.

**Keywords:** Congenital aortic valve stenosis · Aortic valve repair · Bicuspid aortic valve · Monocuspid aortic valve · Aortic valve regurgitation

**Introduction:** Aortic valve repair (AVR) is a safe and effective procedure for congenital aortic stenosis (AS) and bicuspid aortic valve (BAV).

AVR is associated with a low mortality rate and a low rate of reoperation. The majority of patients had aortic regurgitation (AR) the patients, VSD closure was predominant (1 pericardocentesis). All were cardiac replacement at 5 complication (enlargement of the aortic annulus).

ity of the repair. (1) In this study, aortic valve repair for congenital abnormalities avoided reoperation in the majority of patients, avoided anticoagulation and retained growth potential of the valve. (2) Repeat aortic valve repair or replacement was used to treat subsequent valve deterioration.



# Morphology of Congenital AS

## Morphology of the ventriculoaortic junction in critical aortic stenosis

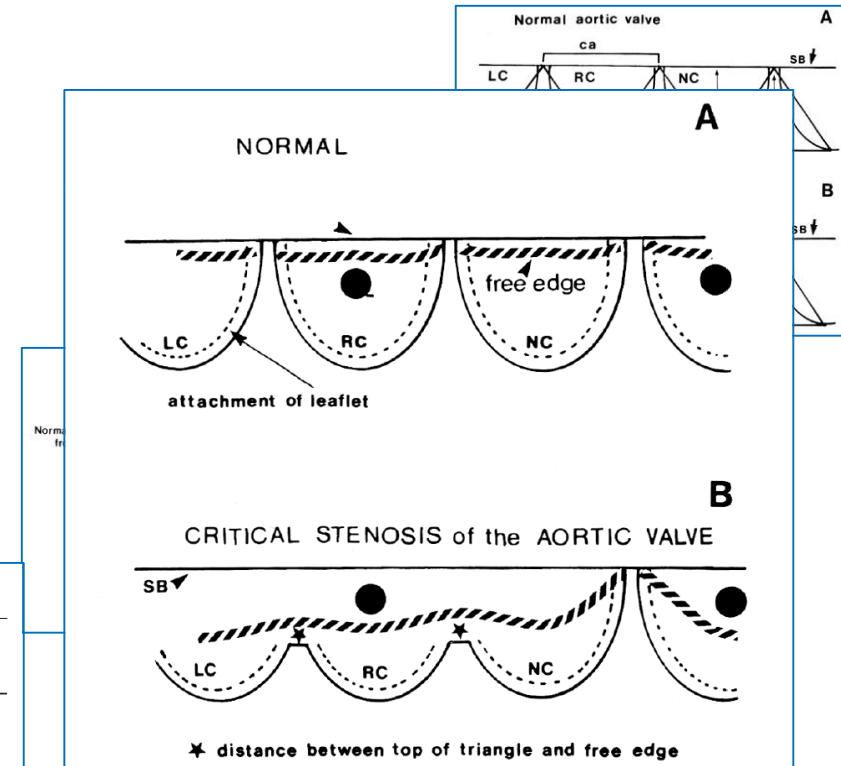
### Implications for hemodynamic function and clinical management

Roxane McKay, MD, FRCS, Audrey Smith, FIMLS, PhD,  
 Maurice P. Leung, MB, BS, MRCP,\* Robert Arnold, MB, ChB, FRCP, and  
 Robert H. Anderson, BSc, MD, FRCPath,\*\* *Liverpool, England*

The clinical presentation of infants with critical aortic stenosis, as well as the results of surgical treatment, differs from obstruction of the left ventricular outflow tract in older children. To investigate a possible anatomic basis for this situation, we performed a detailed morphometric study of 21 hearts from infants who had critical aortic stenosis and 11 normal hearts from infants less than 3 months of age. In each of the hearts with critical aortic stenosis, only one commissure extended to the sinutubular

Table II. Height of the interleaflet triangles (h on Fig. 1) in millimeters

	Normal		Abnormal		p Value
	N	Mean ± SD	N	Mean ± SD	
Left/right triangle	11	6 ± 0.8	20	2 ± 0.8	<0.0006
Noncoronary/right triangle	11	6 ± 0.7	19	2 ± 1.1	<0.001
Noncoronary/left triangle	11	6 ± 0.8	20	5 ± 0.7	<0.05



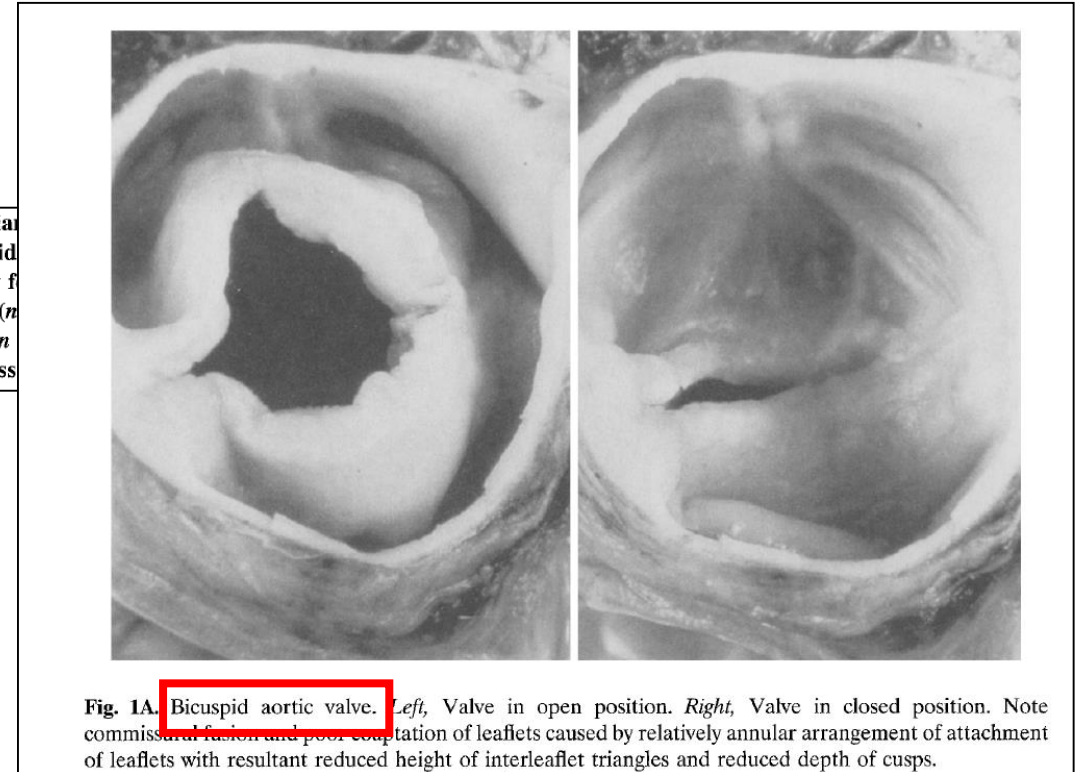
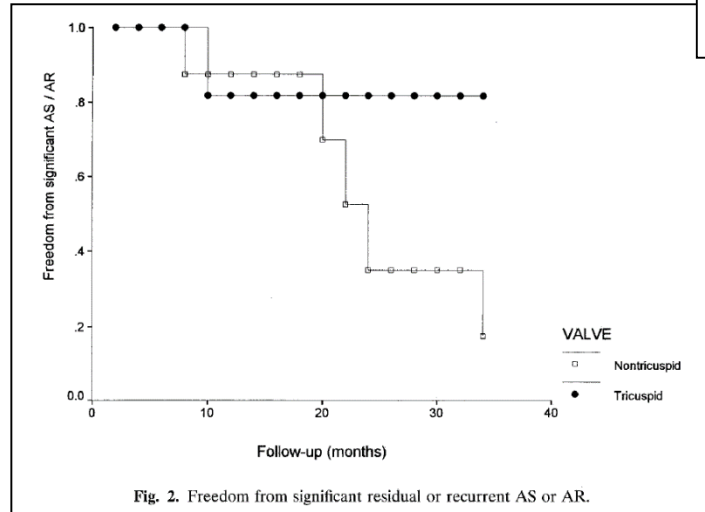
# Morphology of Congenital AS

## MORPHOLOGIC DETERMINANTS FAVORING SURGICAL AORTIC VALVULOPLASTY VERSUS PULMONARY AUTOGRAFT AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT IN CHILDREN

Jacques A. M. van Son, MD\*  
 V. Mohan Reddy, MD  
 Michael D. Black, MD  
 Hiranya Rajasinghe, MD  
 Gary S. Haas, MD  
 Frank L. Hanley, MD

The pulmonary autograft is being used with increasing frequency to replace the diseased aortic valve in the pediatric population. Attempted surgical aortic valvuloplasty with an unacceptable result and return to cardiopulmonary bypass for aortic valve replacement with a pulmonary autograft results in prolonged bypass time and increased potential for morbidity. Therefore, the ability to predict an unsuccessful outcome for valvuloplasty

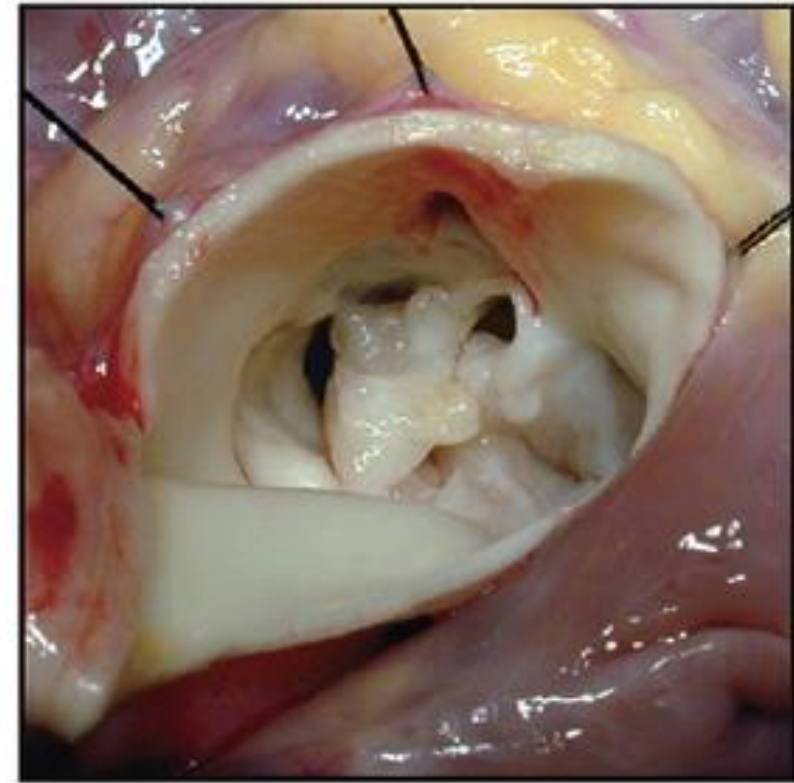
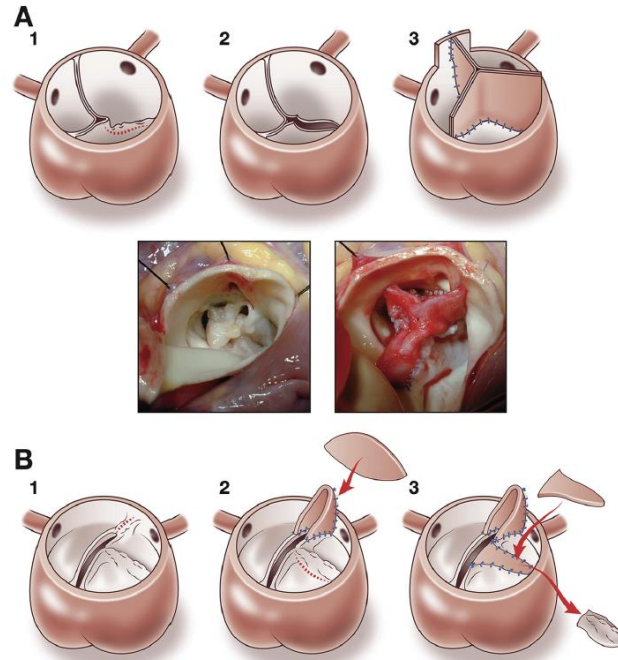
present study. **Methods:** Twenty-two patients (median weeks to 14 years) with bicuspid ( $n = 11$ ), tricuspid ( $n = 2$ ) aortic valves underwent valvuloplasty for aortic regurgitation ( $n = 9$ ), aortic regurgitation ( $n = 7$ ), or a combination ( $n = 6$ ) of aortic regurgitation and stenosis. Procedures included balloon aortic valvuloplasty ( $n = 11$ ), aortic valvotomy ( $n = 11$ ). **Median pressure gradient** across



# Morphology of Congenital AS

## Outcomes After Operations for Bicuspid Aortic Valve Disease in the Pediatric Population

Javariah Siddiqui, MBBS, Christian P. Brizard, MD, Igor E. Konstantinov, MD, PhD,  
John Galati, BS, PhD, Gavin Wheaton, MD, Michael Cheung, MB ChB,  
Stephen Horton, PhD, and Yves d'Udekem, MD, PhD

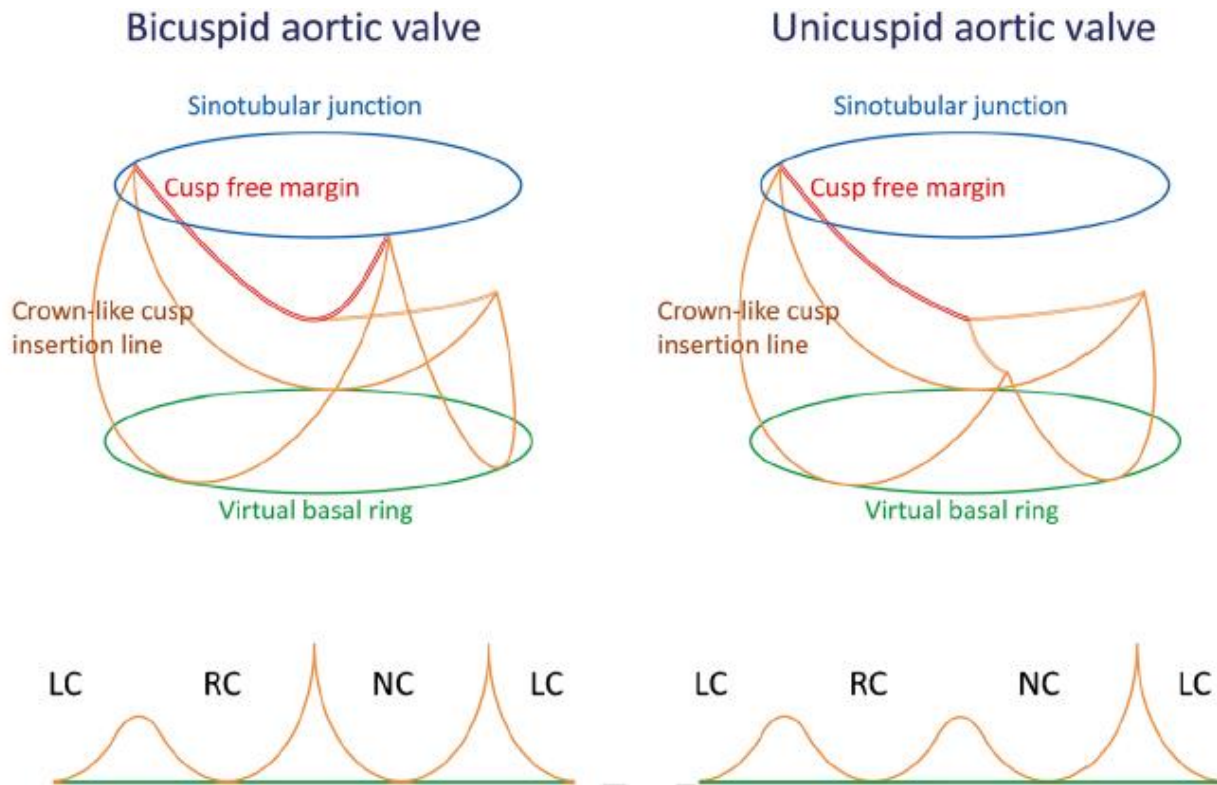


(Ann Thorac Surg 2013;96:2175–83)

A handwritten signature or mark in the bottom right corner of the slide.



# Unicuspid Aortic Valve (UAV)



Matsushima S. Indian J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2019.

April 11, 2019

THE HEART VALVE SOCIETY 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting

# Tricuspidisation of the aortic valve with creation of a crown-like annulus is able to restore a normal valve function in bicuspid aortic valves<sup>☆</sup>

René Prêtre<sup>a,\*</sup>, Alexander Kadner<sup>a</sup>, Hitendu Dave<sup>a</sup>,  
Dominique Bettex<sup>b</sup>, Michele Genoni<sup>a</sup>

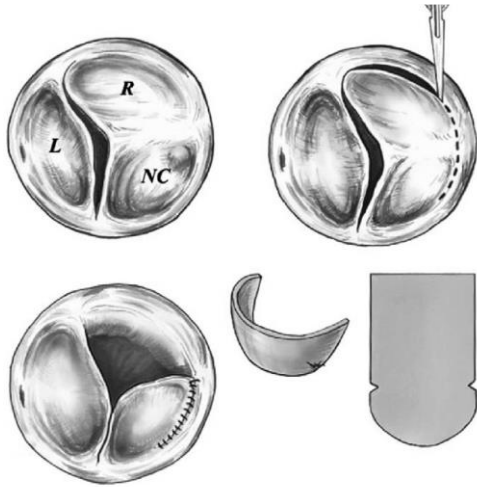


Fig. 1. Superior view of a BAV. The fused leaflet is disinserted from annulus to the deepest point of the non-coronary leaflet. The fused leaflet is trimmed to create a "normal" non-coronary leaflet. The right coronary leaflet is created with a patch of xenopericardium (L: left; R: right; NC: non-coronary).

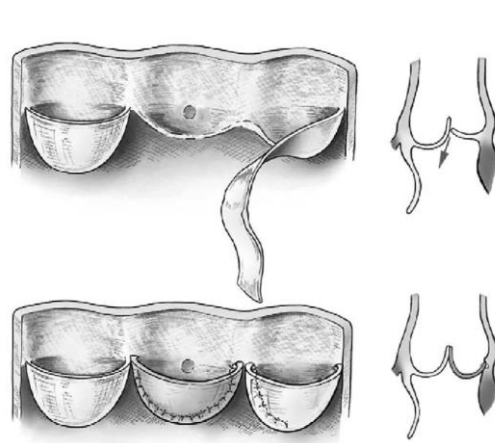


Fig. 2. Deployment of the aortic root showing the detachment of the fused leaflets and the re-attachment of a native and an artificial (dark gray) leaflet over a wider height, thus re-creating the crown-like annulus. Inserts right demonstrate the reason of the eccentric regurgitation (top) and the improved coaptation obtained with the annular remodelling.

Tricuspidisation of the aortic valve could be performed in 12 patients. During the same time period, we performed 46 Ross procedures, 8 other valve repairs and 3 conventional replacements in a similar population (younger than 35 years)

decided after disinsertion and modelling of the fused leaflets. The repair was interrupted in a more advanced phase and converted to a Ross procedure in four patients. In two of them, the conversion occurred after declamping of the aorta.

Tricuspidization (of BAV?) performed in 12 of 69 procedures

Conversion to replacement in 4 instances



# Bicuspidization – the Next Step

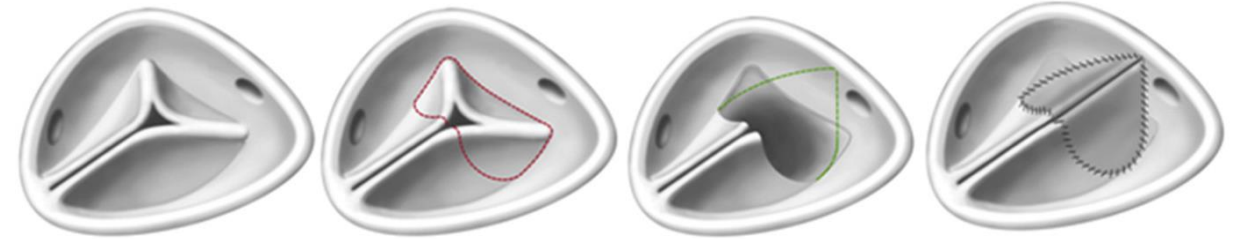
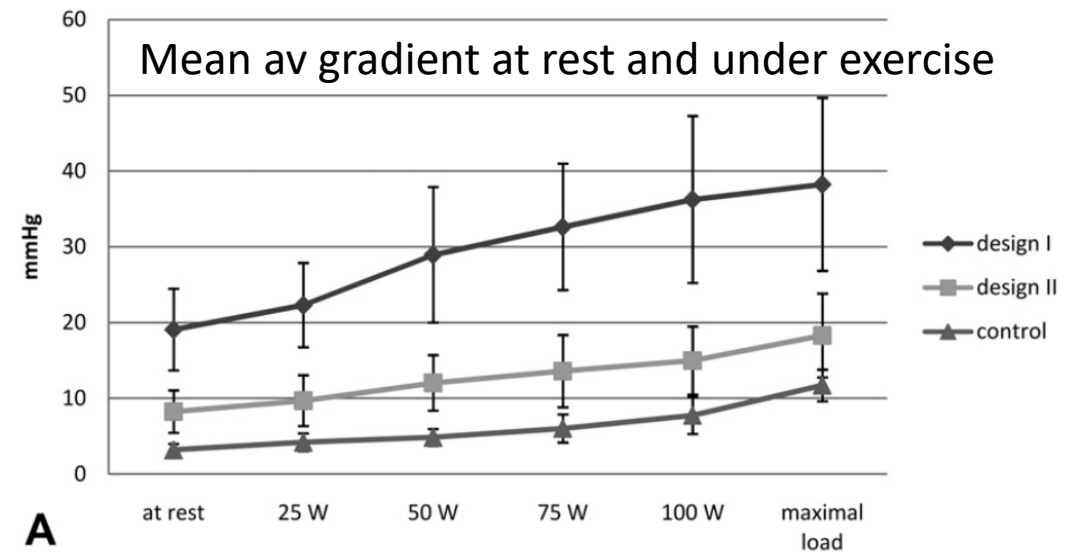


Fig 2. Bicuspidization of the unicuspid aortic valve: Design II.



Aicher D. Ann Thorac Surg 2013.

April 11, 2019

THE HEART VALVE SOCIETY 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting

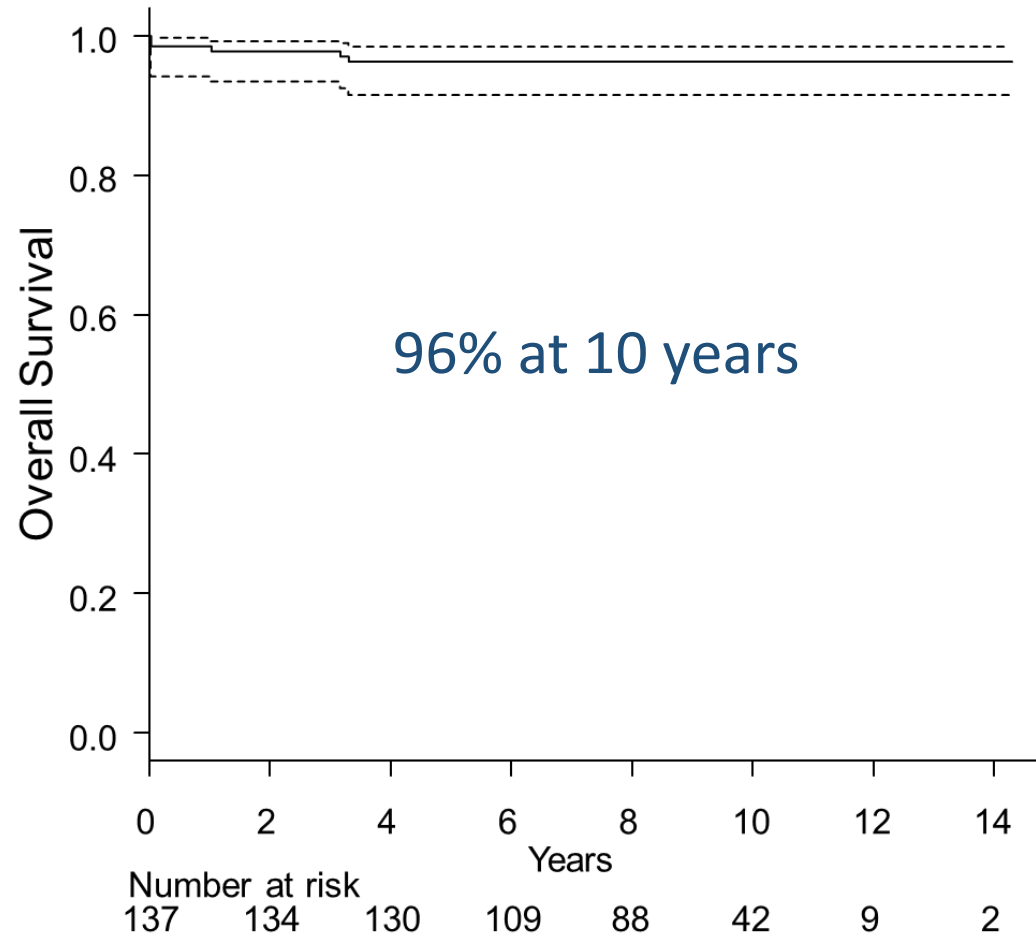


# Bicuspidization of the UAV

<b>Variable</b>	<b>n = 137</b>
Perfusion time, mean	80±23 min
Cross-clamp time, mean	<u>60±18 min</u>
Operative technique, n (%)	
Symmetric bicuspidization	112 (82)
External suture annuloplasty (Basal ring ≥ 26mm)	47 (34)
Concomitant procedure, n (%)	
Ascending aortic replacement	30 (22)
Root remodeling	20 (15)
Subaortic stenosis resection	4 (3)
<b>Intraoperative conversion to valve replacement, n (%)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>



# Survival

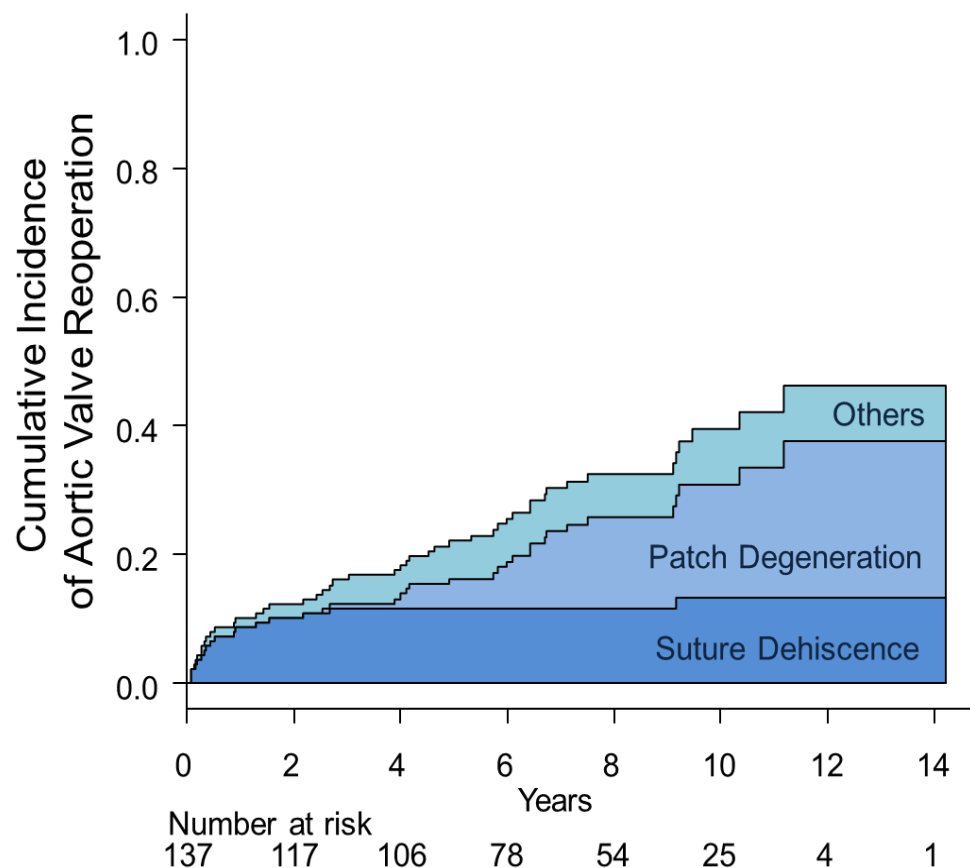


## Causes of deaths

- Infective endocarditis (n=2)
- Ventricular arrhythmia (n=1)
- Traffic accident (n=1)
- Unknown (n=1)



# Causes of Aortic Valve Failures (n=47)



Patch degeneration (n=20)

Suture dehiscence (n=17)

Subaortic stenosis (n=3)

Infective endocarditis (n=3)

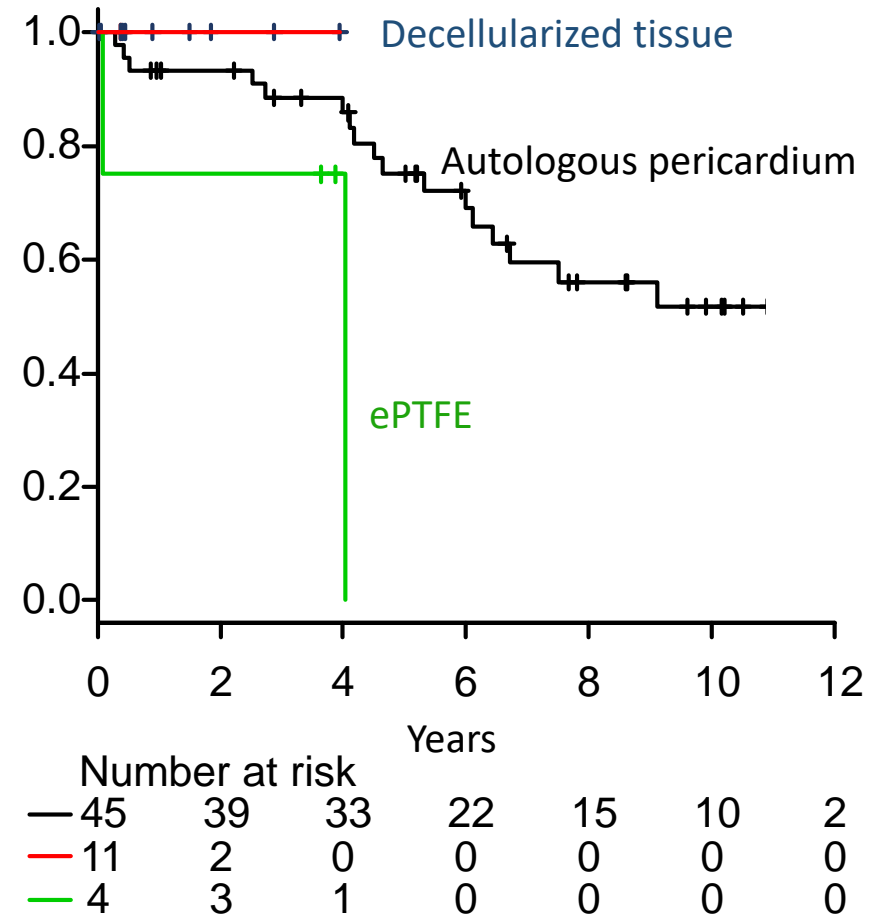
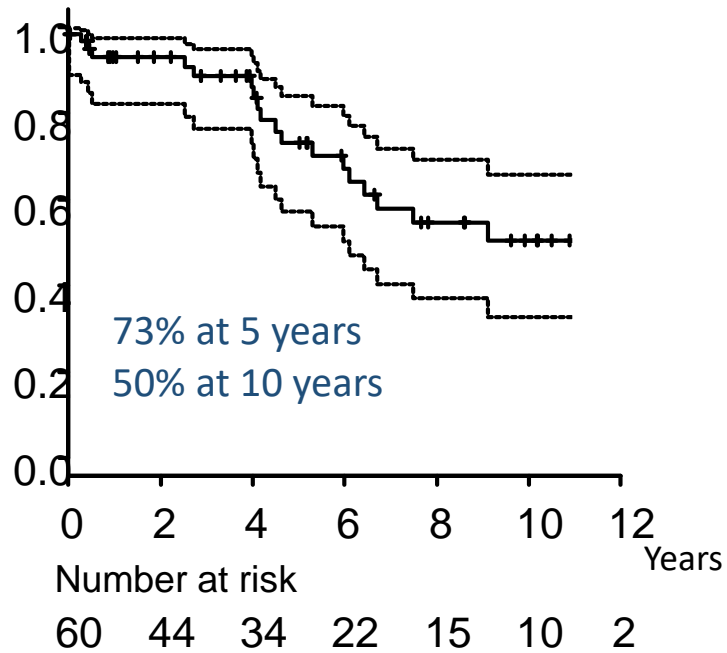
Tissue erosion by braided suture annuloplasty (n=2)

Aortic root dilatation (n=1)

Unknown (n=1)



# UAV - Freedom from Reoperation



# Conclusions

- The incidence/prevalence of UAV is grossly underestimated
- AV repair is an option for almost all congenital variants of the AV including the UAV
- Repair is associated with excellent survival. It postpones replacement and allows for growth and replacement in a low-risk scenario
- Bicuspidization of the UAV is a safe and reproducible repair approach with excellent survival. The “golden rule” ( $eH=0.45 \times gH$ ) also applies to that scenario.
- Patch degeneration is an unsolved problem with autologous pericardium (decellularized xenopericardial patch?).





# Thank you for your attention



[aortic-repair@uks.eu](mailto:aortic-repair@uks.eu)

