

# 심실중격결손의 이해

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# Definition and prevalence

- **Definition**

- VSD = hole between ventricles; may occur at any septal site, even beneath pulmonary valve leaflets.

- **Associations**

- May coexist with PDA, coarctation, aortic insufficiency, TOF, DORV, truncus arteriosus, transposition, AV anomalies.

# Definition and prevalence

## Epidemiology:

- Most common congenital heart disease (CHD) in childhood (~0.5% population).
- U.S. (2008): 31.4% of CHD cases were VSD.
- Paris cohort (2005–2008): 52% of neonates with CHD had VSD.

## Maternal/Genetic Risks:

- Offspring recurrence risk: ~6% if mother has CHD.
- Familial/genetic component evident in recurrence studies.

## Environmental Risks:

- Maternal alcohol or marijuana use ↑ risk of isolated VSD.
- Maternal conditions: epilepsy (carbamazepine), migraine, chronic hypertension, supraventricular tachycardia linked to higher risk.

# Embryology and Pathologic Anatomy

- **Embryology of Interventricular Communication**
  - Appears during 6–8 weeks of fetal life.
  - Floor = muscular septal crest; roof = inner heart curvature.
  - Initially: double inlet to LV, double outlet from RV.
  - Interventricular communication acts as LV outlet until subaortic outlet transfers to LV.
  - Closure achieved by tissue growth from AV cushions → membranous septum.

# Embryology and Pathologic Anatomy

- **Developmental Errors → VSD**
  - Failure of RV inlet transfer.
  - Failure of arterial root separation / aortic transfer.
  - Failure of interventricular communication closure.
  - Abnormal muscular septum formation (compaction defects).



# Embryology and Pathologic Anatomy

- **Classification Evolution**

- Historic numeric classification: 4 types.
- Modern approach: emphasizes **anatomic borders**.
- Three main phenotypic types:
  - **Juxtapulmonary**
  - **Perimembranous**
  - **Muscular**
- Location relative to RV landmarks and septal malalignment also important.
- Surgical relevance: border-based classification predicts **AV conduction axis location**.

# Traditional “Type I–IV” Classification

- **Type I (Juxtapulmonary / Doubly Committed Outlet Defect)**
  - Beneath pulmonary valve; aortic–pulmonary fibrous continuity (conal hypoplasia).
  - Opens between limbs of septal band.
  - Posteroinferior muscular rim protects conduction axis.
  - Surgical risk ↑ if extends to central ventricular base.

# Traditional “Type I–IV” Classification

- **Type II (Perimembranous / Central Defect)**
  - At central ventricular base (site of embryonic interventricular communication).
  - Fibrous continuity between aortic and tricuspid valves.
  - Conduction axis at posteroinferior margin → **high surgical risk.**
  - Most common VSD during surgery.



# Traditional “Type I–IV” Classification

- **Type III (Inlet Defect / Canal-Type Variant)**
  - Malalignment between atrial and ventricular septum.
  - Associated with straddling/overriding tricuspid valve.
  - Resembles AV canal defect but with separate AV junctions.
  - Conduction axis displaced from normal Koch's triangle → anomalous node.

# Traditional “Type I–IV” Classification

- **Type IV (Muscular Defects)**
  - Exclusively muscular borders; variable geography.
  - Locations: inlet, outlet, apical, basal.
  - May appear multiple (“Swiss cheese septum”).
  - Surgical challenge: thin muscular strands between multiple defects.

# Special Variants

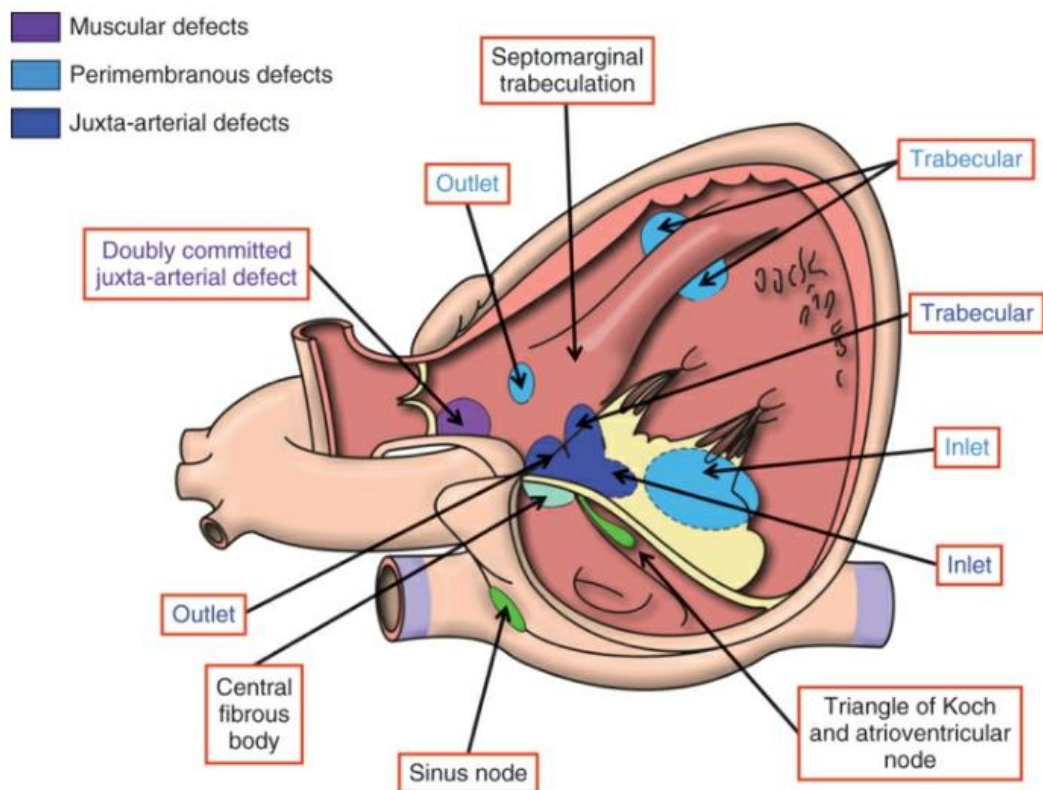
- **Gerbode Defect:** LV → RA shunt.
  - Direct (true) form = membranous septum deficiency.
  - Indirect form = central VSD with tricuspid leaflet deficiency.
  - Rare; surgical closure needed, excellent outcomes.

# Associated Pathophysiology

- **Aortic valve prolapse/regurgitation** → often with juxtapulmonary or malalignment outlet defects.
- **Outflow tract obstruction** → from septal malalignment:
  - Anterocephalad malalignment → TOF.
  - Posterocaudal malalignment → subaortic obstruction (with coarctation/arch interruption).



# 분류

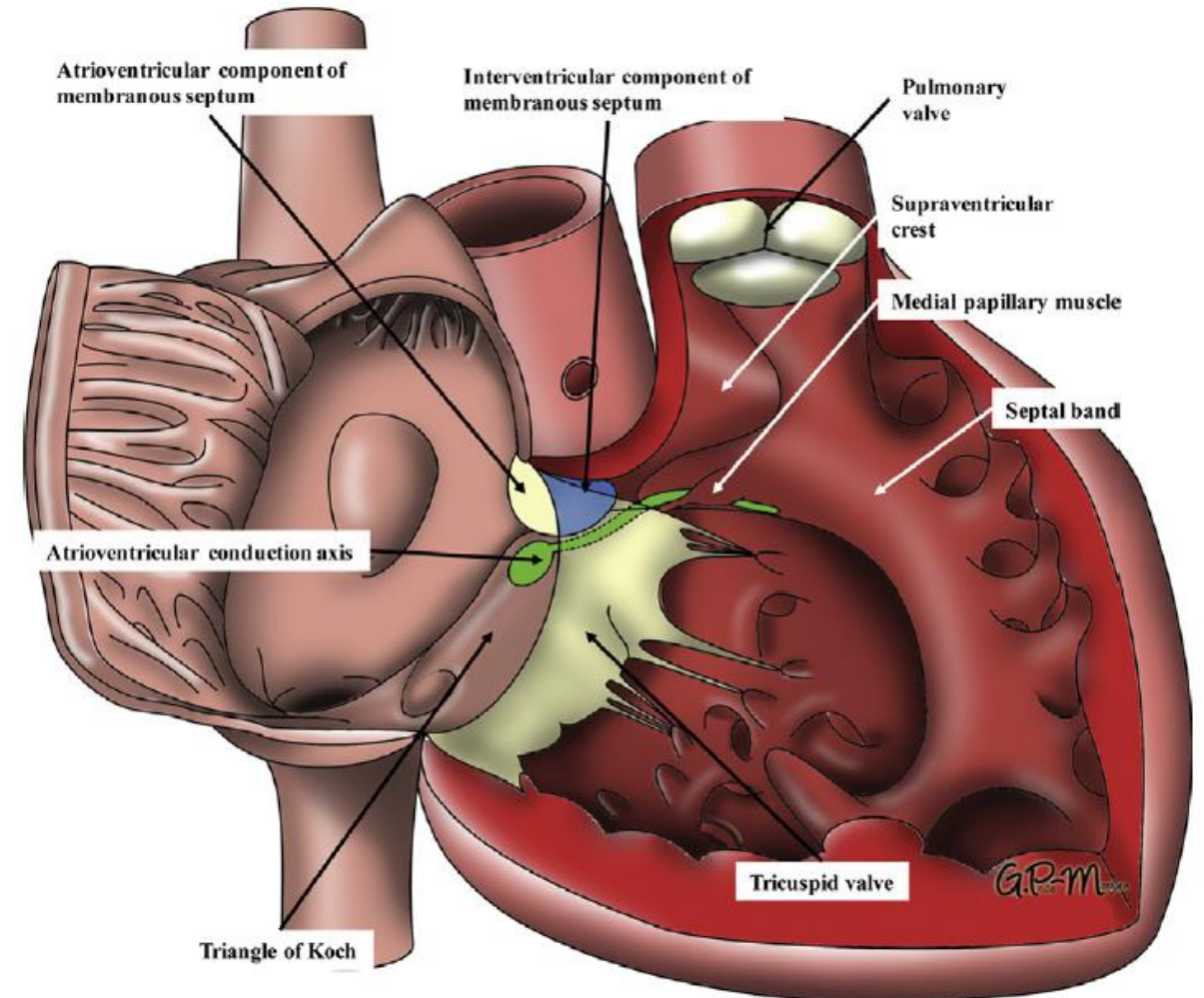
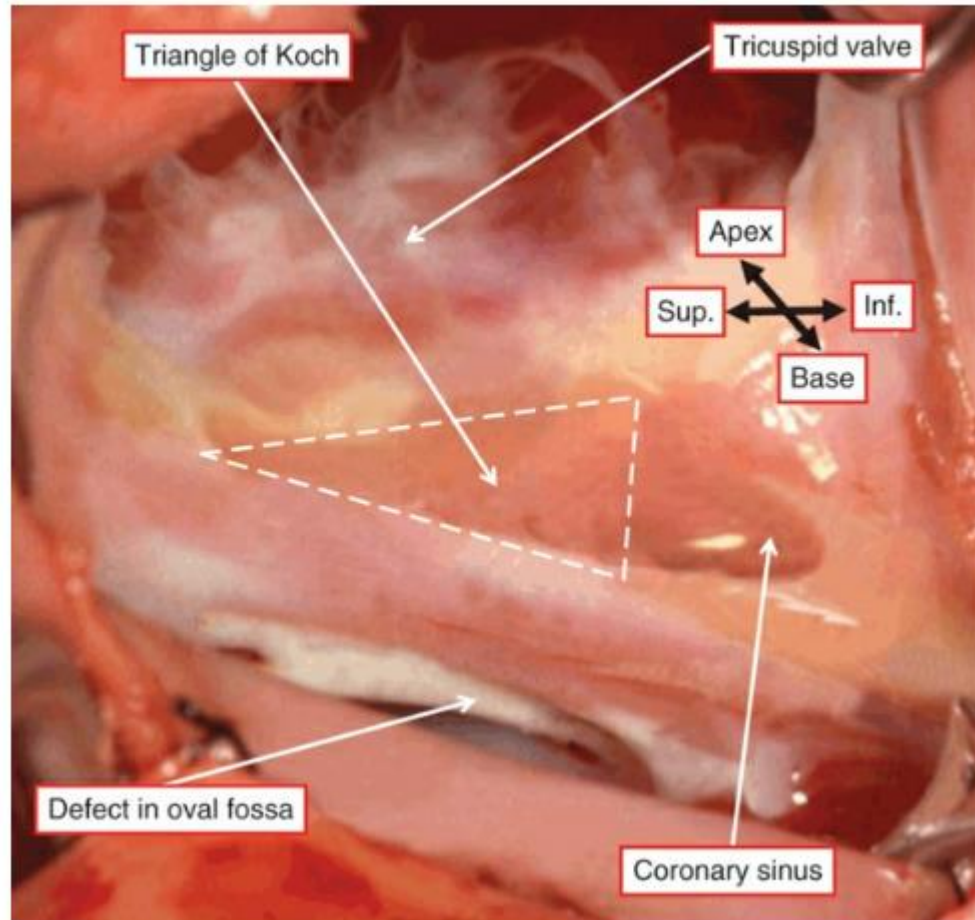


**Table 35-1** Morphologic Classification of Ventricular Septal Defect

| Classification               | % of VSDs | Location/Borders   |
|------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Perimembranous               | 80        | Borders tricuspid valve<br>Conduction system in posterior rim                            |
| Muscular                     | 5         | Borders all muscle<br>Frequently multiple<br>Conduction system remote                    |
| Doubly committed subarterial | 5-10      | Borders both semilunar valves<br>Conduction system remote                                |
| Inlet septal                 | <5        | Atrioventricular septal type<br>Posterior position<br>Conduction system in posterior rim |

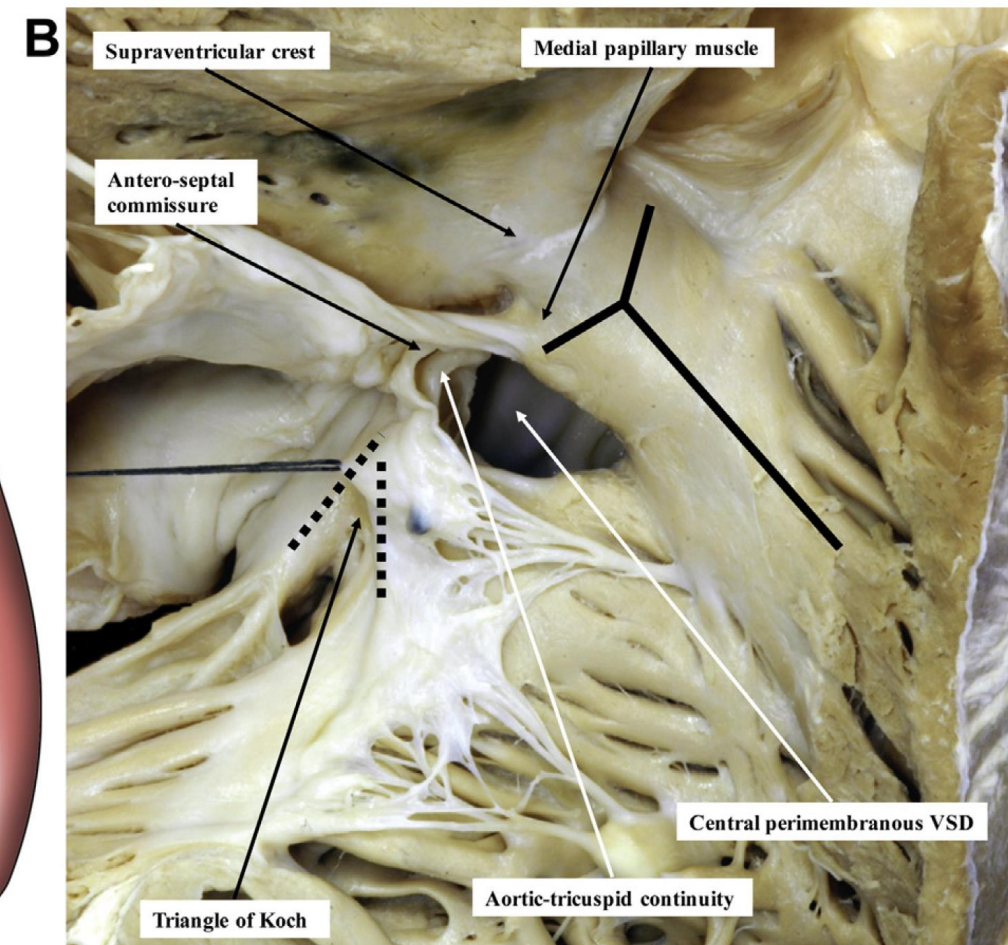
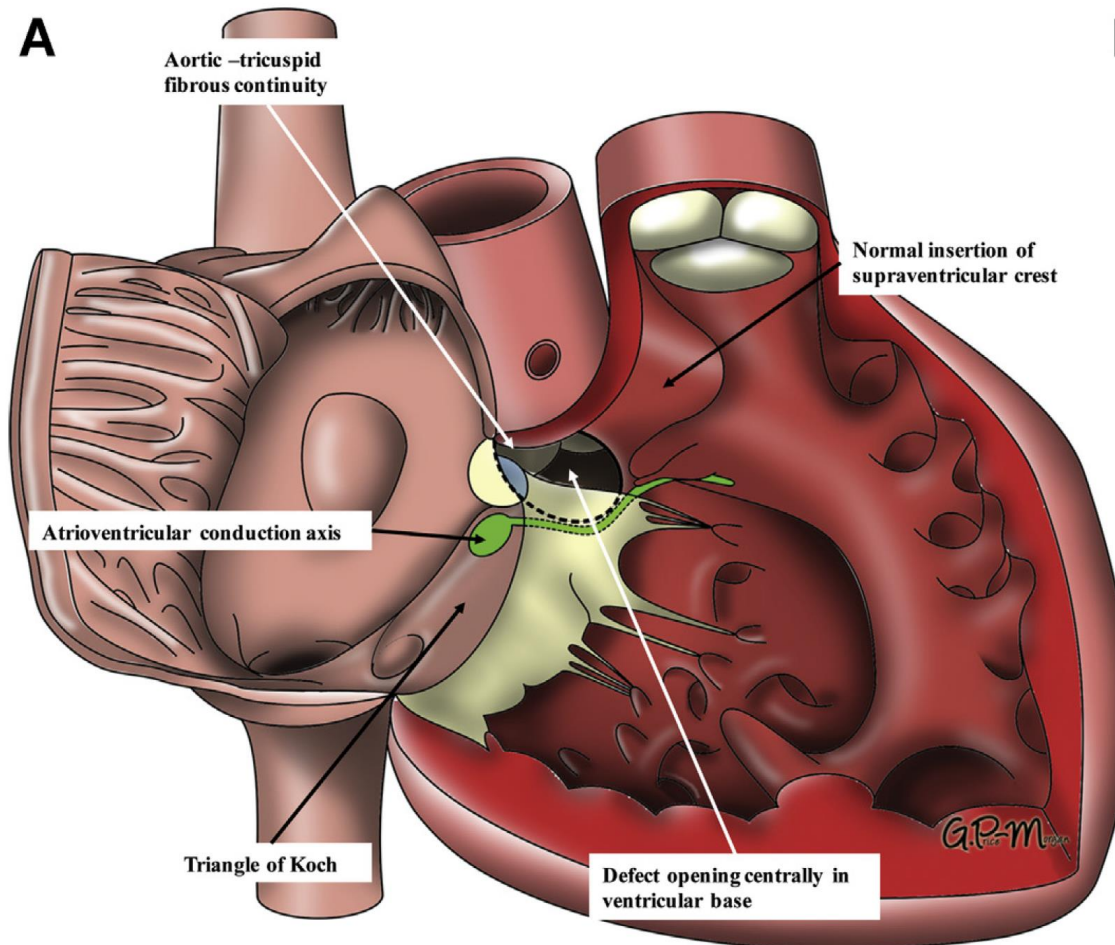
Key: VSD, Ventricular septal defect.

# Conduction axis



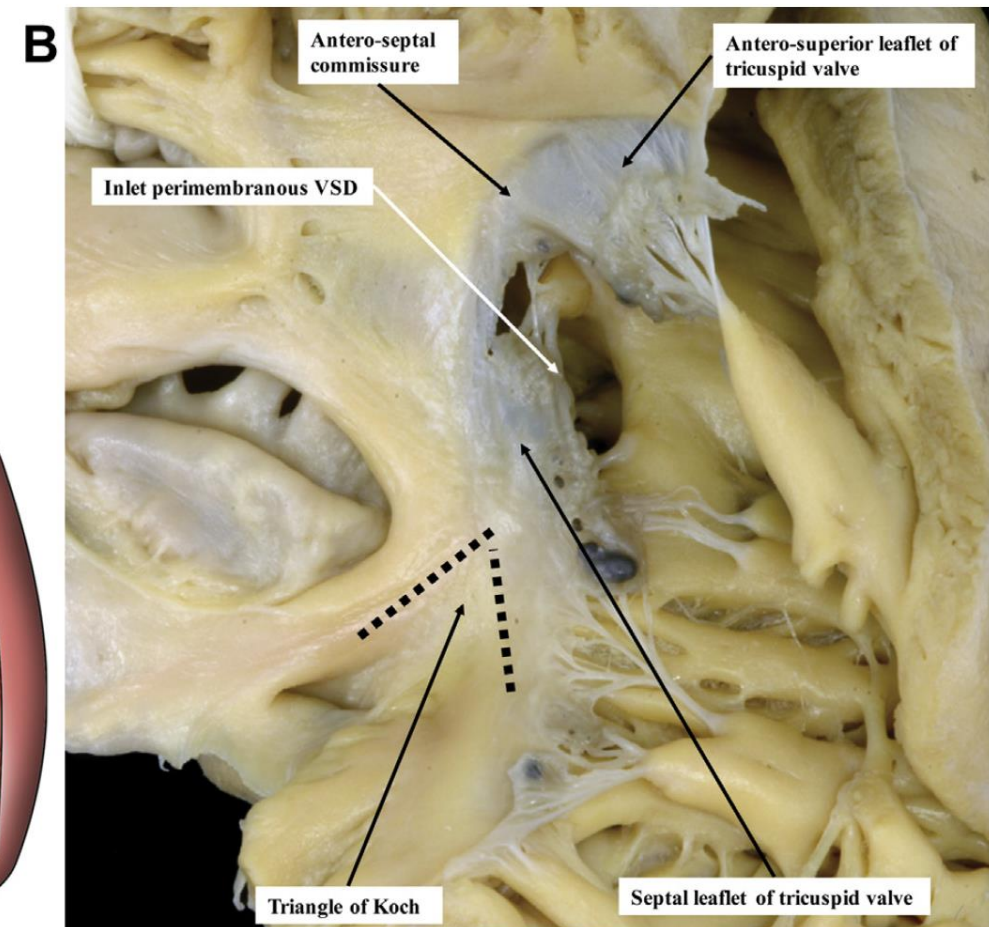
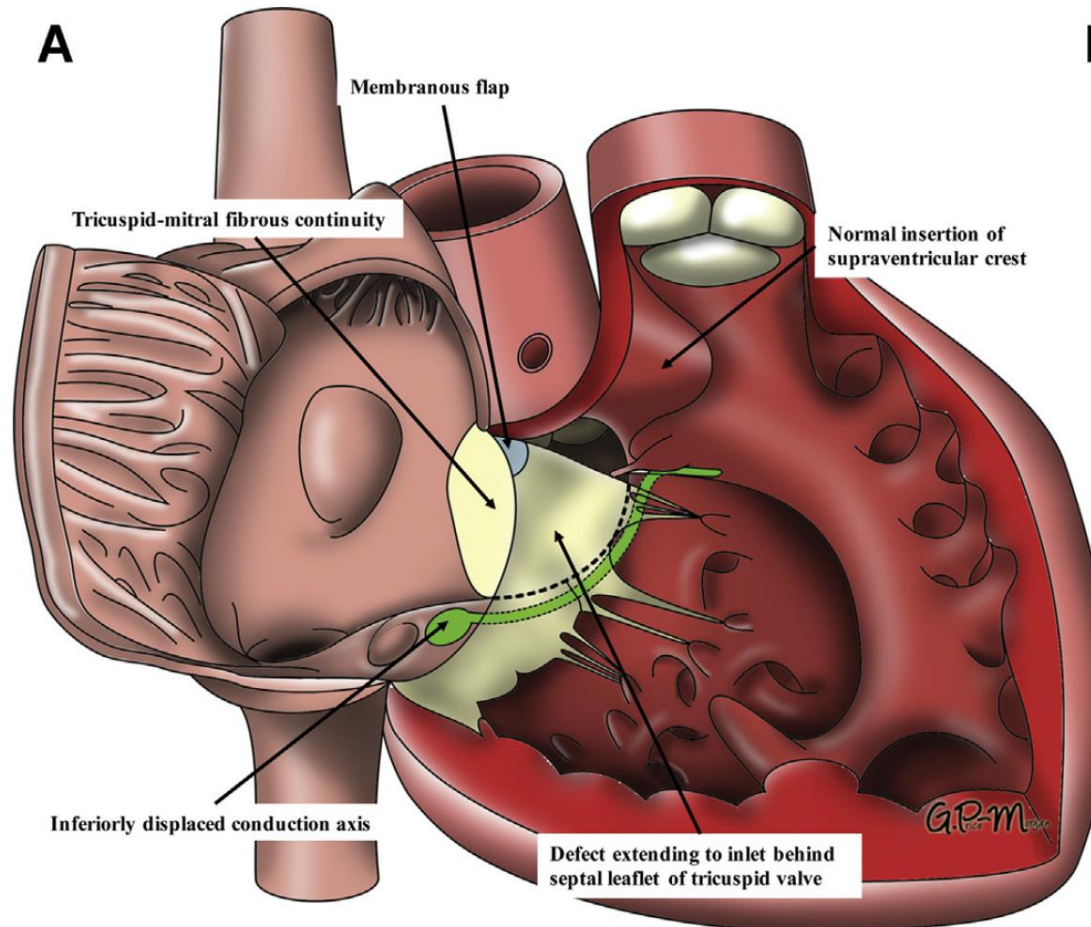


# Central perimembranous defect



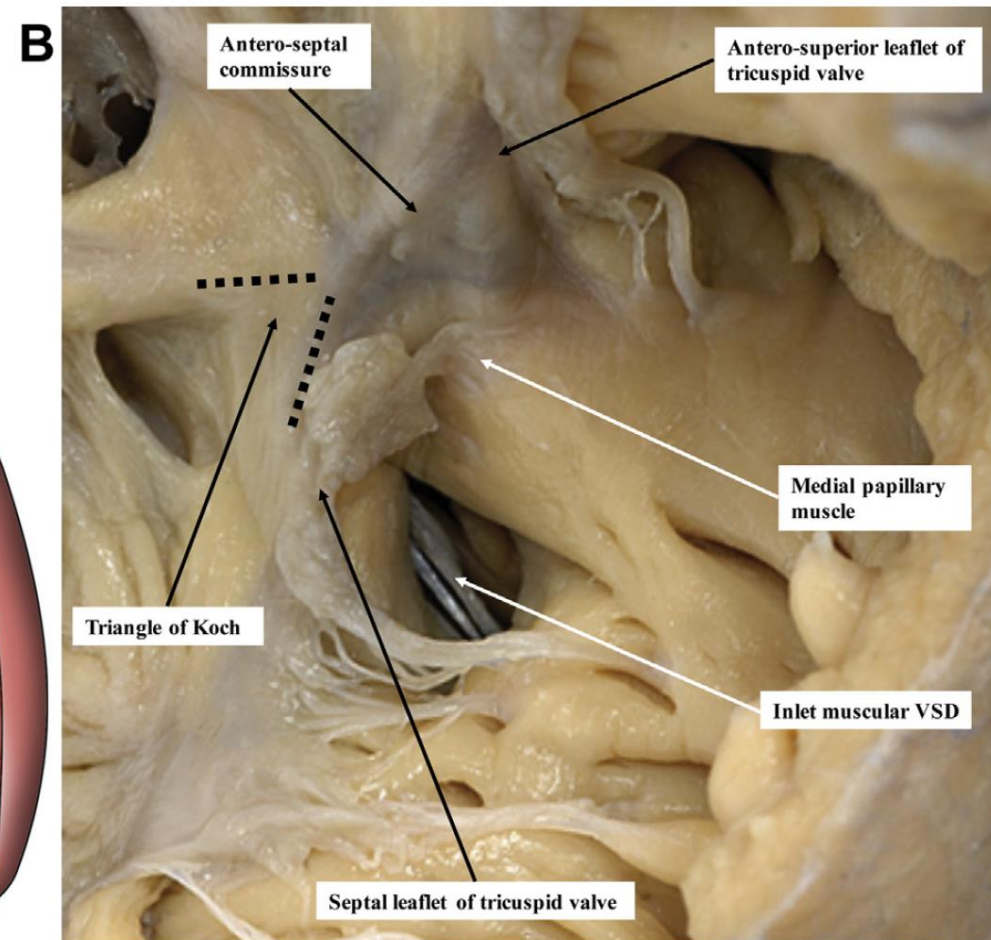
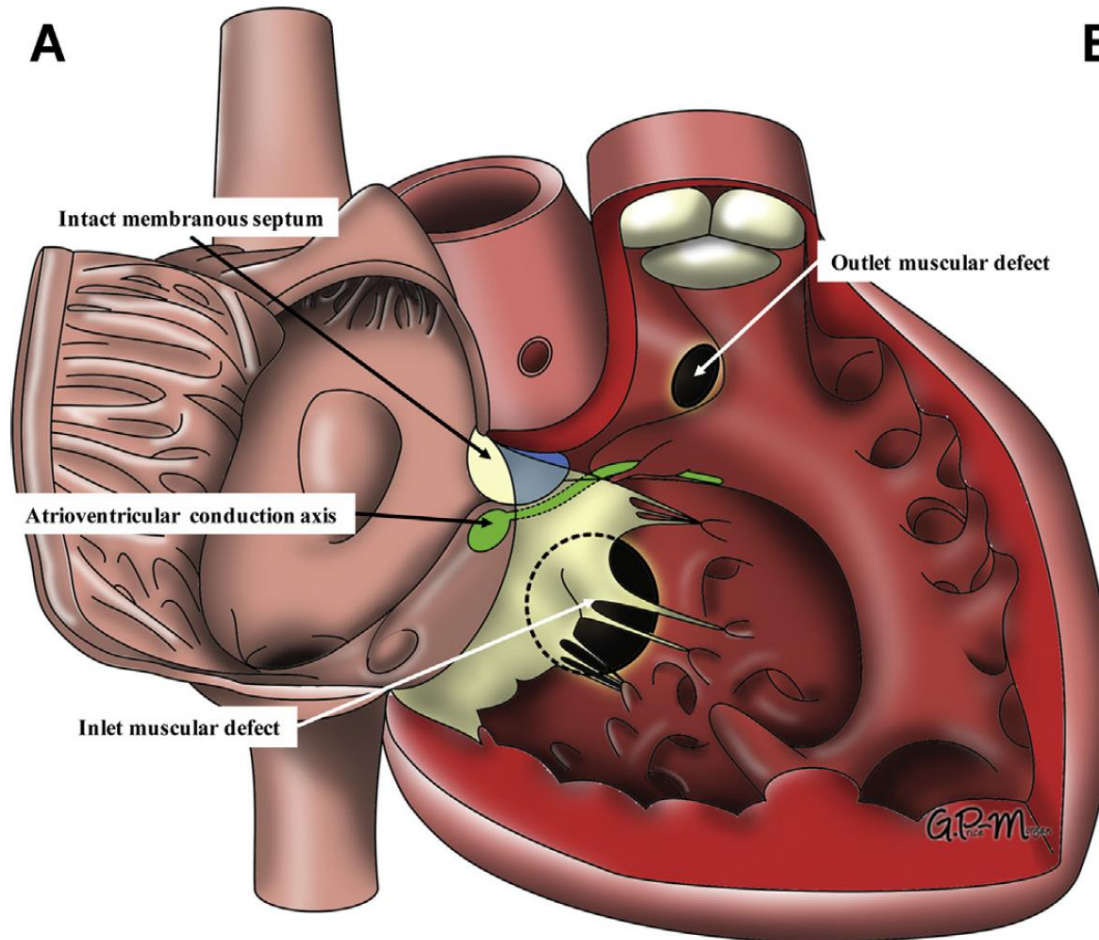


# Inlet perimembranous VSD



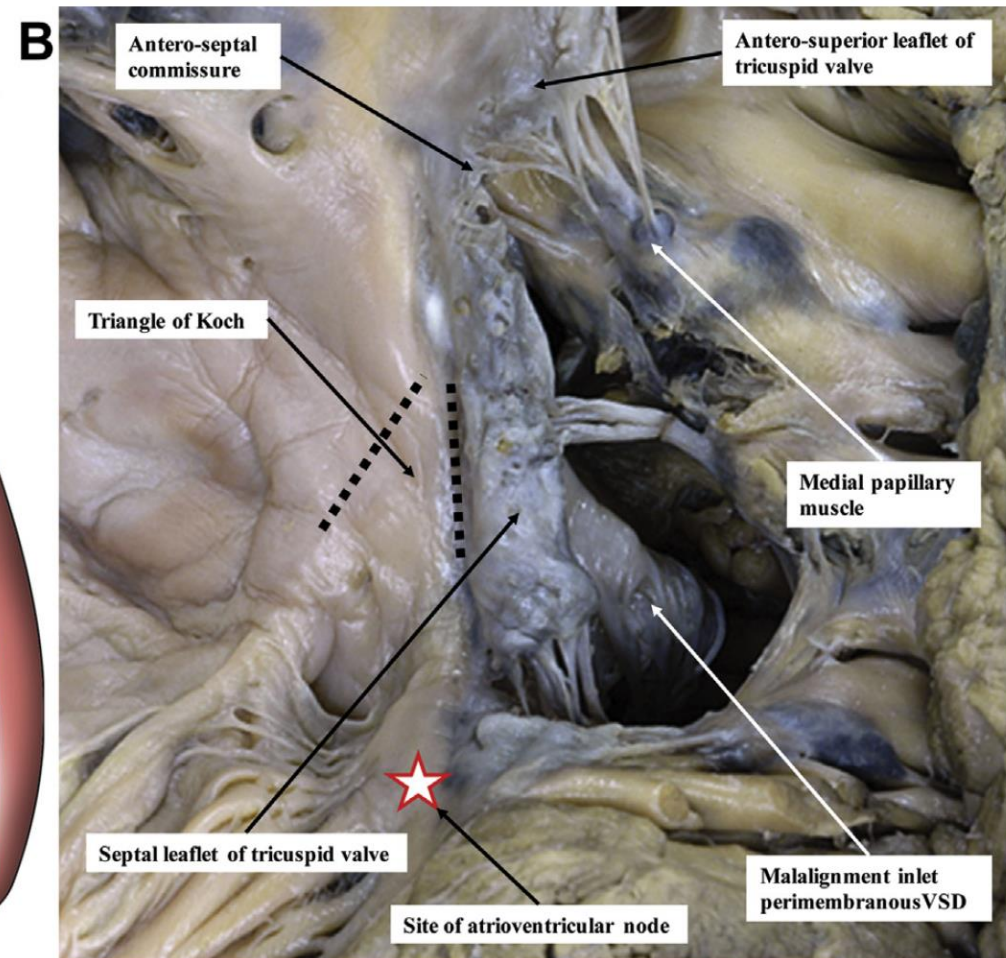
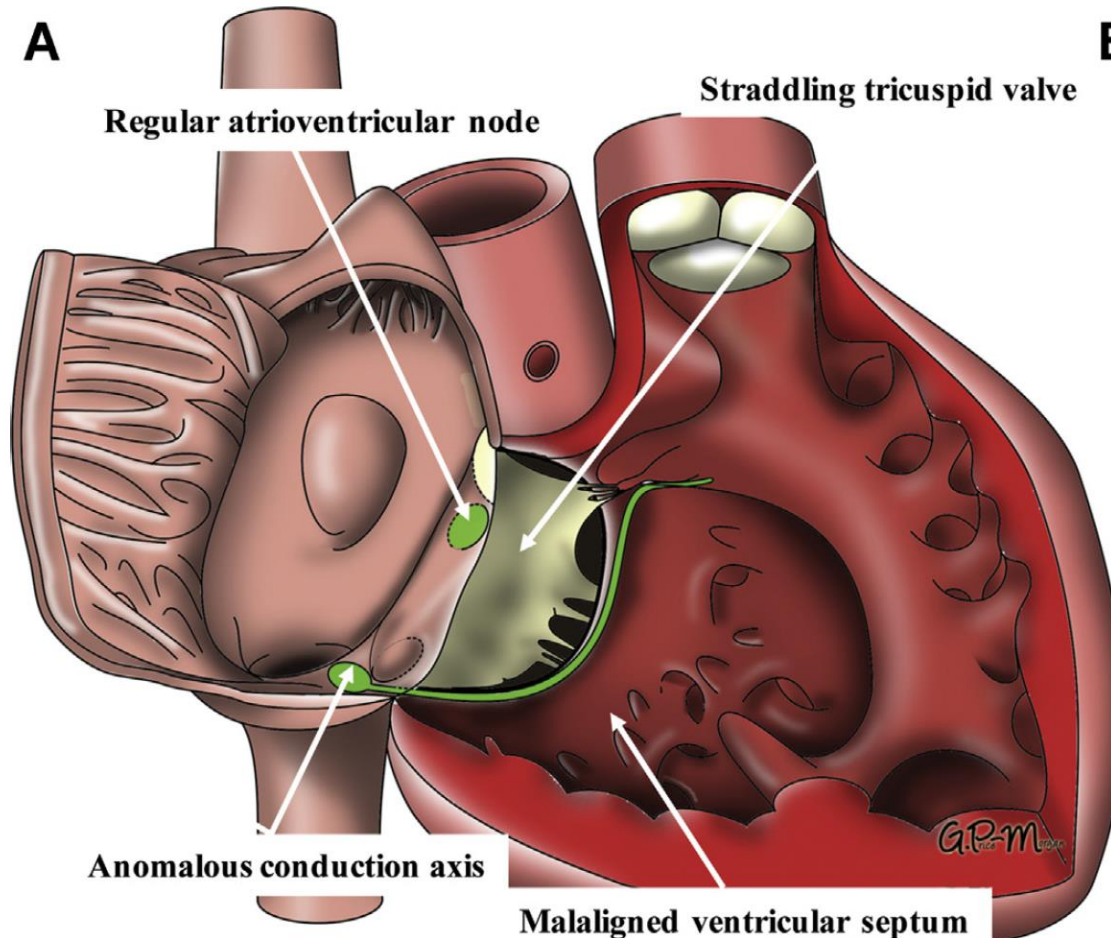


# Inlet muscular defect



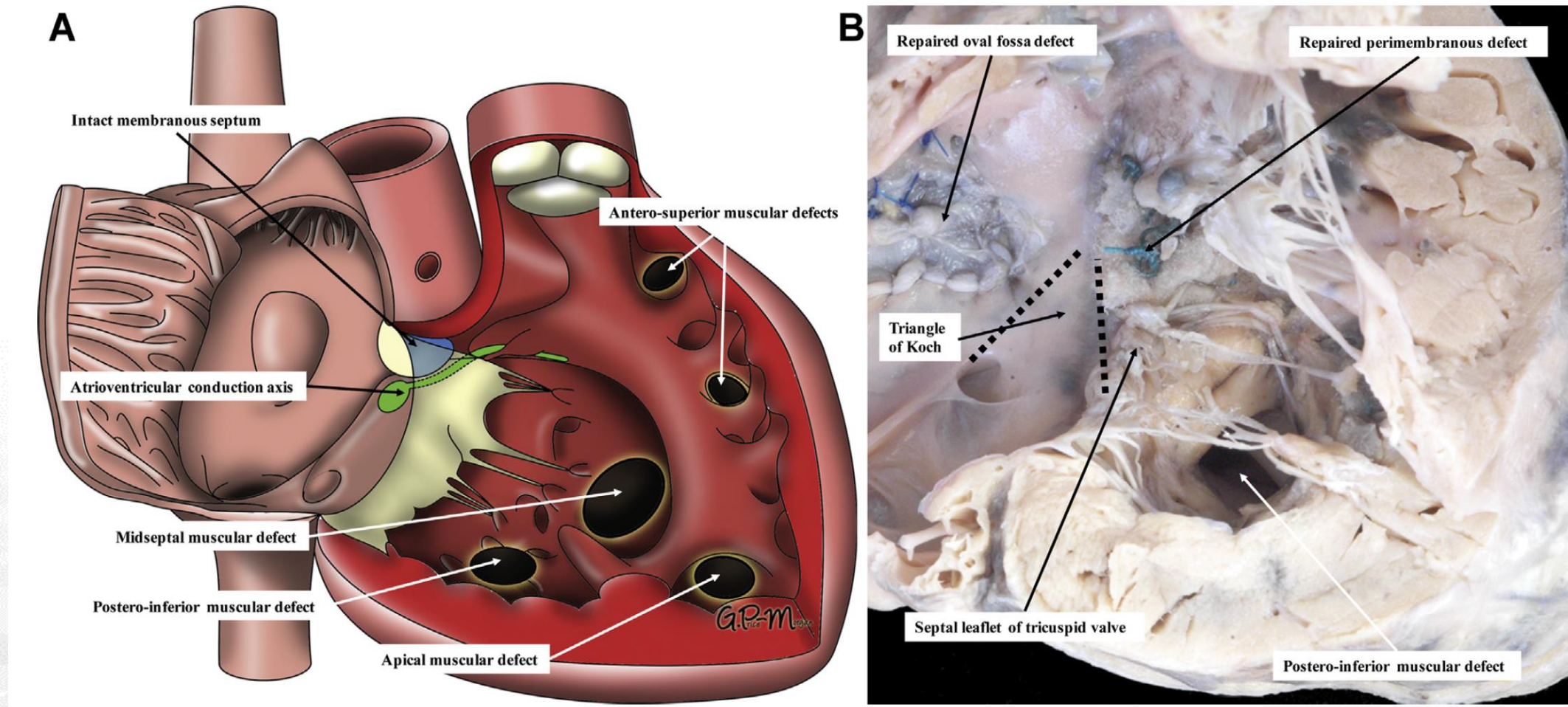


# Inlet PM VSD with malalignment of septum





# Trabecular muscular defect



# Pathophysiology

## Determinants of Left-to-Right Shunt

- **Primary factors:** VSD size + pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR).
- **Other modifiers:** ventricular compliance, outflow obstructions (pulmonary/aortic).

## Age-Dependent Physiology

- **At birth:** High PVR → minimal shunt; VSD often undetected.
- **Weeks–Months:** PVR falls → ↑ left-to-right shunt → audible murmur.
- **Excessive shunt:** CHF → dyspnea, poor feeding, recurrent infections, failure to thrive.



# Pathophysiology

- **Progression of Pulmonary Vascular Disease**
  - Early: Pulmonary arteriolar thickening (first months).
  - 2–3 years: Irreversible pulmonary vascular obstructive disease.
  - Late:  $PVR > \text{systemic resistance}$  → shunt reversal → **cyanosis (Eisenmenger physiology)** → death if untreated.

# Natural History

- **Spontaneous Closure**

- Majority are **restrictive (<0.5 cm)**.
- **80% close by 1 month**, mostly within 1st year; rare after 5 years.
- Mechanisms:
  - Fibrosis of margins (hemodynamic).
  - Septal tricuspid leaflet adherence → pouch.
  - Muscular hypertrophy (common in muscular VSD).
- Rare in adulthood (~10%).
- Undesirable closure: **aortic valve prolapse → aortic regurgitation** (requires early surgery).

# Natural History

- **Complications Over Time**

- **Childhood:** CHF (dyspnea, FTT, recurrent infections).
- **Adolescence/Adulthood:** Endocarditis, AR, arrhythmias, pulmonary hypertension, heart failure.
- **Pulmonary vascular disease:**
  - Begins 1–2 years → irreversible damage.
  - Eisenmenger syndrome: reversal of shunt, cyanosis, RV failure (2nd–3rd decade; death by ~40 yrs).
- **Subpulmonic stenosis:** From RV infundibular hypertrophy, mimicking TOF physiology.

# Natural History

- **Endocarditis**

- Incidence: ~0.3%/patient/year; higher in adults with unrepaired VSD.
- Typical site: septal leaflet of tricuspid valve.
- Signs: fever, bacteremia, recurrent infections.
- Treatment: antibiotics → followed by surgical closure + tricuspid repair.
- **Prophylactic closure** of restrictive VSDs remains controversial.



# Natural History

- **Aortic Valve Prolapse & Regurgitation**

- Common with outlet VSDs (juxtaarterial, muscular outlet, malaligned perimembranous).
- Leads to ↓ shunt (leaflet prolapse) but ↑ aortic insufficiency.
- **Early closure** advised if prolapse present, to prevent AI progression.
- If AI already exists → repair at time of closure.

# Diagnosis

- **Clinical Features**

- **Auscultation:** Loud holosystolic murmur at LSB (louder with smaller defects).
- Murmur weakens/shortens as PVR ↑; may disappear in severe pulmonary hypertension (loud P2).
- Other findings: hyperactive precordium (rare), ventricular bulge, hepatomegaly, distended neck veins.

# Diagnosis

## Imaging & ECG

- **Chest X-ray:** Variable pulmonary vascularity, cardiomegaly, biventricular enlargement.
- **ECG:** May be normal, or show RVH, LVH, or biventricular hypertrophy.

## Echocardiography (Mainstay)

- Defines presence, size, location, borders.
- Assesses outflow tracts, aortic valve involvement, AV valve tension apparatus.
- Doppler → shunt direction and velocity.

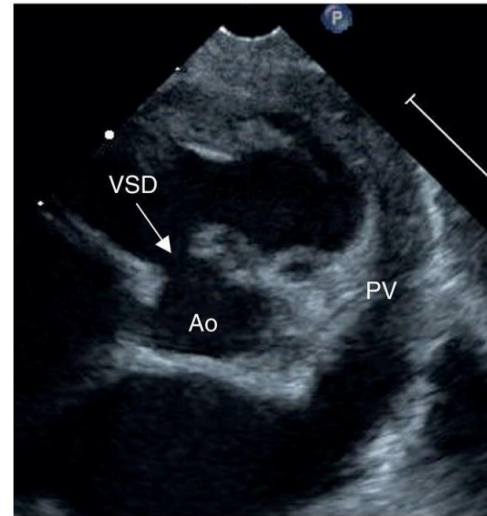
# Diagnosis

- **Cardiac Catheterization**

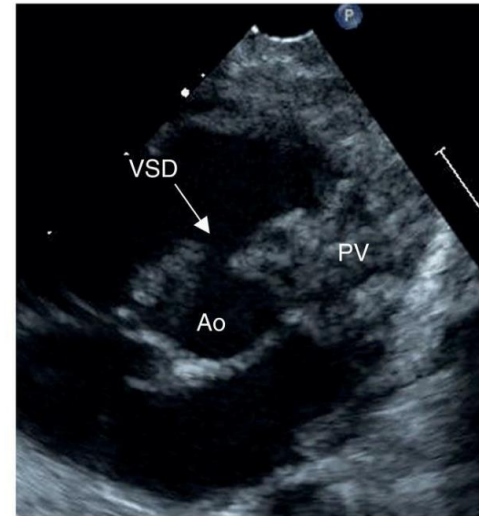
- Now less frequently required.
- Indicated when:
  - Older children/young adults with large VSD.
  - Need to quantify **Qp:Qs ratio**, measure **pulmonary arterial pressure & resistance**, and test **vasodilator response**.
- Less used in infants since echo findings + symptoms are sufficient for surgical decision-making.



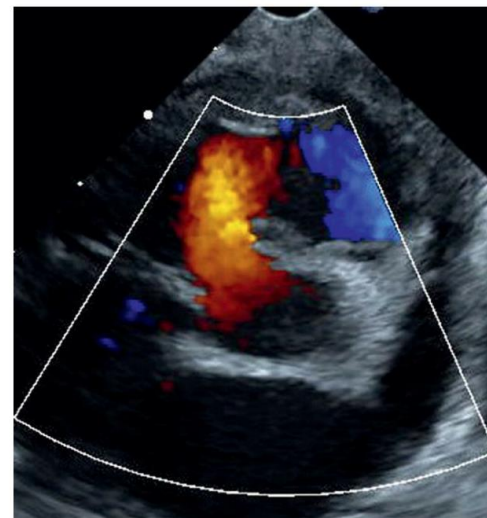
# Echo : parasternal short-axis view



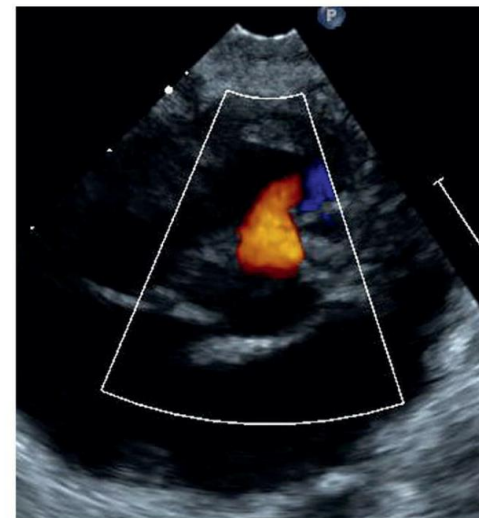
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Lai, Wyman W.; Mertens, Luc L.; Cohen, Meryl S.; Geva, Tal. Echocardiography in Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease: From Fetus to Adult (p. 255). Wiley. Kindle Edition.

# Medical Management

- **Goals of Medical Management**

- Control pathophysiologic effects of left-to-right shunt.
- Manage increased pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR).
- Prevent infective endocarditis (antibiotic prophylaxis)

# Medical Management

- **Infants with CHF**

- **Therapies:** Digitalis, diuretics, afterload reduction.
- Nutritional support for poor feeding/FTT.
- Antibiotics for recurrent pulmonary infections.
- Supportive therapy may delay surgery or allow spontaneous closure.
- Severe cases: assisted ventilation + inotropes as bridge to surgery.
- Evaluate for secondary causes: subaortic stenosis, coarctation, PDA, infection.



# Medical Management

- **Older Patients with Pulmonary Hypertension**
  - **Cardiac catheterization** essential:
    - Measure pulmonary arterial pressure.
    - Assess vasodilator response (O<sub>2</sub>, amrinone, isoproterenol, nitroglycerin, nitroprusside, inhaled NO, PGE1).
  - **Favorable response** = ↑ L→R shunt and/or ↓ mean PA pressure → candidate for VSD closure.
  - Same agents useful postoperatively to reverse reversible pulmonary hypertension.

# Patient Selection

- **Selection Criteria for VSD Closure**
  - **Defect characteristics:** Size & type (echo  $\pm$  cath).
  - **Natural history:** Likelihood of spontaneous closure vs progression.
  - **Clinical status:** Presence and severity of symptoms.
  - **Complications:** Pulmonary hypertension, CHF, endocarditis, aortic regurgitation, associated anomalies.

# Large VSD

- **Timing of Closure – Infants**

- **Indication:** Severe, intractable CHF → surgery within first 3 months.
- If medical therapy effective → observe until ~6 months.
- After 6 months: spontaneous closure unlikely; risk of progressive pulmonary vascular disease increases.
- Indications:
  - $PVR > 4$  Wood units/m<sup>2</sup>.
  - $Q_p:Q_s > 2:1$ .



# Large VSD

- **Older Patients with Large VSD**

- May show “clinical improvement” due to  $\uparrow$  PVR and  $\downarrow$  L $\rightarrow$ R shunt.
- **Not surgical candidates:**
  - Dominant R $\rightarrow$ L shunt.
  - PVR  $> 8$  Wood units/m<sup>2</sup>.
  - No vasodilator response.
- Lung biopsy: no longer recommended.
- Some centers  $\rightarrow$  staged therapy: preoperative sildenafil/bosentan  $\rightarrow$  surgical closure.

# Large VSD

- **Advanced PAH Management**
  - Targeted drugs ↓ PVR:
    - **Prostanoids** (epoprostenol).
    - **Endothelin receptor antagonists** (bosentan, ambrisentan).
    - **PDE-5 inhibitors** (sildenafil, tadalafil).
  - Used pre- & post-op → improve operability and outcomes.
  - Clinical studies: significant ↓ PA pressure, improved functional status, low operative mortality.

# Large VSD

- **Surgical Innovations – Valved Patch Closure**
  - **Unidirectional or double-flap fenestrated patch** → allows decompression during pulmonary hypertensive crises.
  - Reported series:
    - Novick technique: survival 96% (primary VSD).
    - Rao: mortality 5.6%; crises manageable.
    - Talwar: no deaths; long-term survival excellent; no cyanosis.



# Large VSD

- **Special Cases**

- VSD + severe PAH in developing countries → high morbidity/mortality due to delayed diagnosis and limited resources.
- Rare option: **VSD closure with lung transplantation** for advanced pulmonary vascular disease.

# Small VSD

- **Management:** Usually no medical therapy; most shrink or close spontaneously.
- **Follow-up:**
  - After 1 year → periodic reassessment for physiologic/anatomic changes.
- **More liberal indications for closure** (even if  $Q_p:Q_s < 2:1$ ):
  - Aortic valve prolapse (with or without regurgitation).
  - Prior infective endocarditis.
  - Ventricular dilation.
- **Evidence:** Large series (Backer et al., 1993) → safe closure, no operative deaths or major complications.
- **Rationale:** Surgical risk < lifetime risk of endocarditis, AR progression, TR.

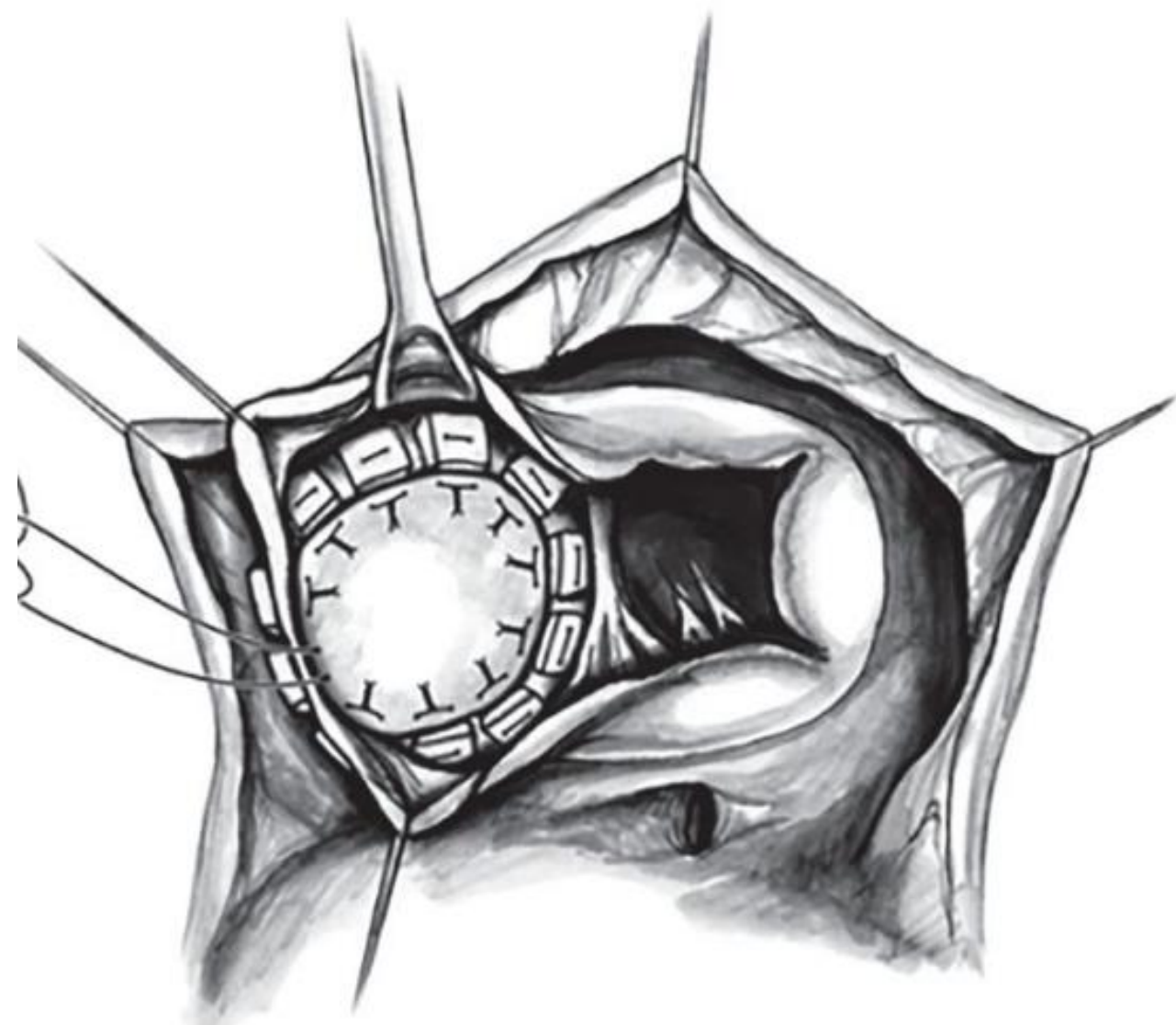
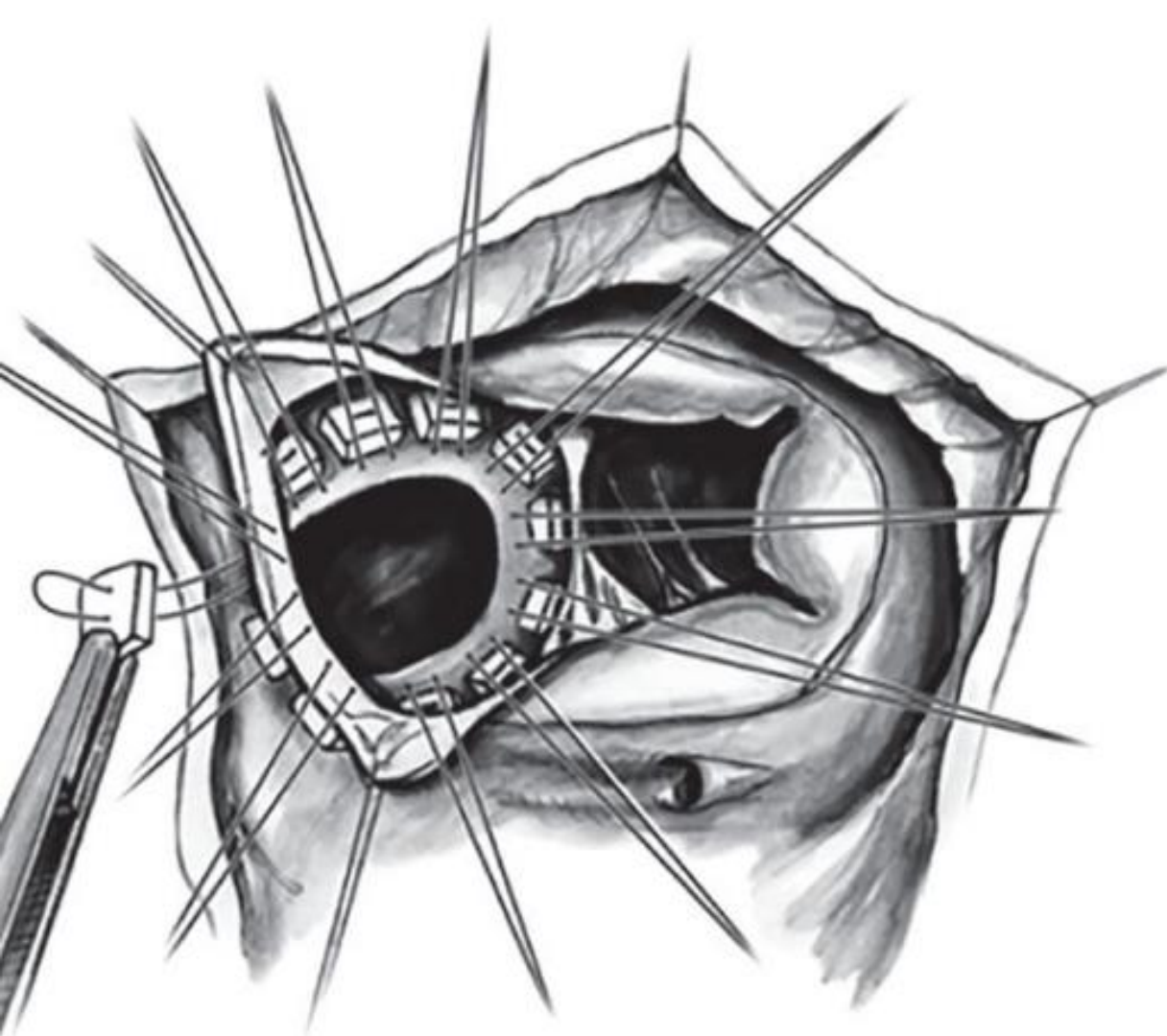
# Doubly Committed & Juxtaarterial VSDs

- Defects beneath pulmonary valve.
- High risk of **aortic valve prolapse & regurgitation**, especially >5 years of age.
- **Recommendation:** Early closure in all cases, regardless of shunt size.



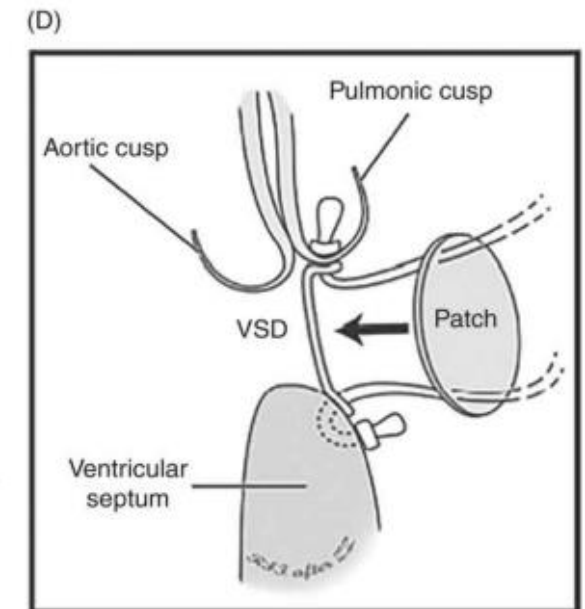
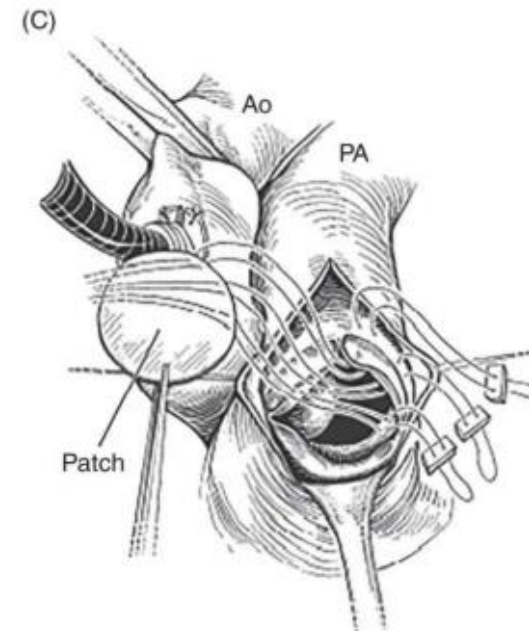
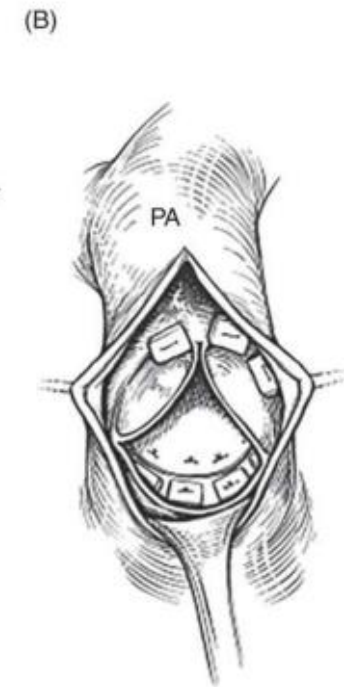
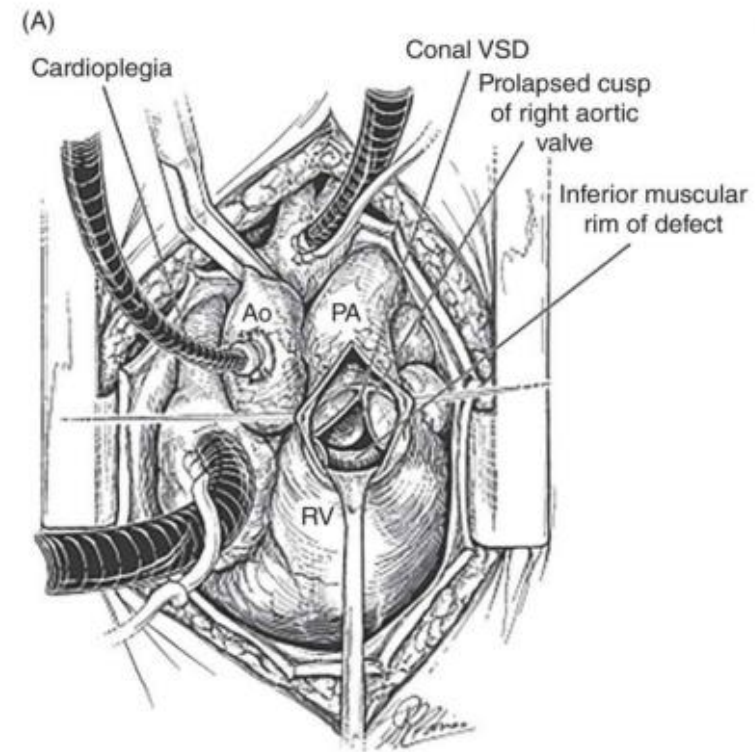
# Surgical Considerations

- **Preoperative imaging:** Defines defect location, exposure options, conduction pathway risks, and closure technique (especially when valve leaflets form part of defect border).
- **Operative approaches:**
  - Right atrial
  - Transpulmonary
  - Transaortic
  - Right ventricular
  - Left ventricular
- **Complex / multiple VSDs:** May require **combined approach**.



**Transatrial Closure of Perimembranous  
or Central Ventricular Septal Defect:**

# Operative view of the doubly committed and juxtaarterial (conal) ventricular septal defect (VSD)





# Results

## **Scully et al. (2000–2006, n=215)**

- Median age: 10 months; 50% had CHF/FTT pre-op.
- Mortality: 0.5% operative, 0.9% late.
- No heart block, no reoperation for residual VSD.
- 26% developed RBBB; no valve-related complications.

## **Hoffman et al. (1968–1980, n=176)**

- Survival: 92% alive >20 years, NYHA I.
- Mortality: 4% late deaths (mostly RV hypertrophy/arrhythmia).
- Reoperation in 10% (few for residual VSD).
- Pacemaker: 6 patients (early postop or >15 yrs later).

# Results

- **Natural History of Small, Unoperated VSDs (Soufflet, n=220; median f/u 6 yrs)**
  - Mortality: 1% (sudden death, end-stage HF).
  - Endocarditis: 4%.
  - Surgical closure required: 7.5%.
  - Spontaneous closure: 4%.
  - Increased risk of **PAH** with persistent open perimembranous VSD.

# Results

- **Conduction & Ventricular Function**
  - **RBBB common** after repair (up to ~50%).
  - **Pederson study:**
    - Post-op systolic long axis function reduced in all patients.
    - Diastolic dysfunction more prominent in those with RBBB.
  - **Karadeniz study:**
    - RBBB associated with ↓ RV fractional area change → RV dysfunction risk.



# Complications

- **Anatomic risk structures:** conduction system, tricuspid & aortic valves.
- **Arrhythmias:** transient common; RBBB frequent (esp. transventricular).
- **Heart block:** permanent CHB ~1–2% (pacemaker needed).
- **Valve injury:** aortic or tricuspid regurgitation (suture/leaflet injury).
- **Residual shunt:** <5%; reoperation if Qp:Qs > 1.5:1.
- **Bypass-related risks:** neurologic injury with deep hypothermia/circulatory arrest → continuous CPB preferred.

# Pulmonary Artery Bands

- **Historical use:**

- Protect lungs from unrestricted flow.
- Delay corrective surgery until older age.
- Indications: Swiss-cheese VSDs, complex anatomy (uncertain repair strategy), univentricular physiology with excessive pulmonary flow.

- **Limitations/Complications:**

- Significant morbidity/mortality.
- Band migration → branch PA distortion.
- Band erosion → PA lumen injury.
- Pulmonary valve distortion.
- Subannular ventricular hypertrophy.

- **Current role:**

- Transient stage before definitive closure in small infants.
- Palliative procedure for multiple VSDs.
- **Primary repair preferred** when feasible.

# Transcatheter/ Transventricular Device Closure

- **Muscular VSDs:**

- Advantage: Good visualization of apical/anterior defects.
- Avoids CPB & cross-clamp.
- Rare risk of heart block.
- Risks: device embolization, hemolysis, chordal/papillary muscle injury.
- Useful when multiple or hard-to-access defects.

- **Perimembranous VSDs:**

- **Major issue:** High risk of complete heart block (5.7–22%).
- Late-onset CHB possible → pacemaker dependence, risk of cardiomyopathy & shortened lifespan.
- Other complications: AI, TR, hemolysis, embolization, endocarditis.
- Device pressure on LV margin = direct risk to His bundle.
- Considered **unacceptable risk** by most clinicians today.



# Transcatheter/ Transventricular Device Closure

## Surgical Closure

- Avoids femoral vessel cannulation.
- Allows correction of additional lesions (ASD, coarctation, multiple VSDs).
- Operative mortality now near zero in uncomplicated cases.
- CHB after surgery: ~1–2% (lower than device closure).

## Current Limitations of Device Closure

- Young children/infants (<8–10 kg) with CHF, FTT, PAH are **poor candidates**.
- Long-term safety of large metallic devices in the heart remains uncertain.

**Thank You**  
For your attention