



PECSIG Programme

Preparing for Transition: what you (and your patient) need to know

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Disclosures

None

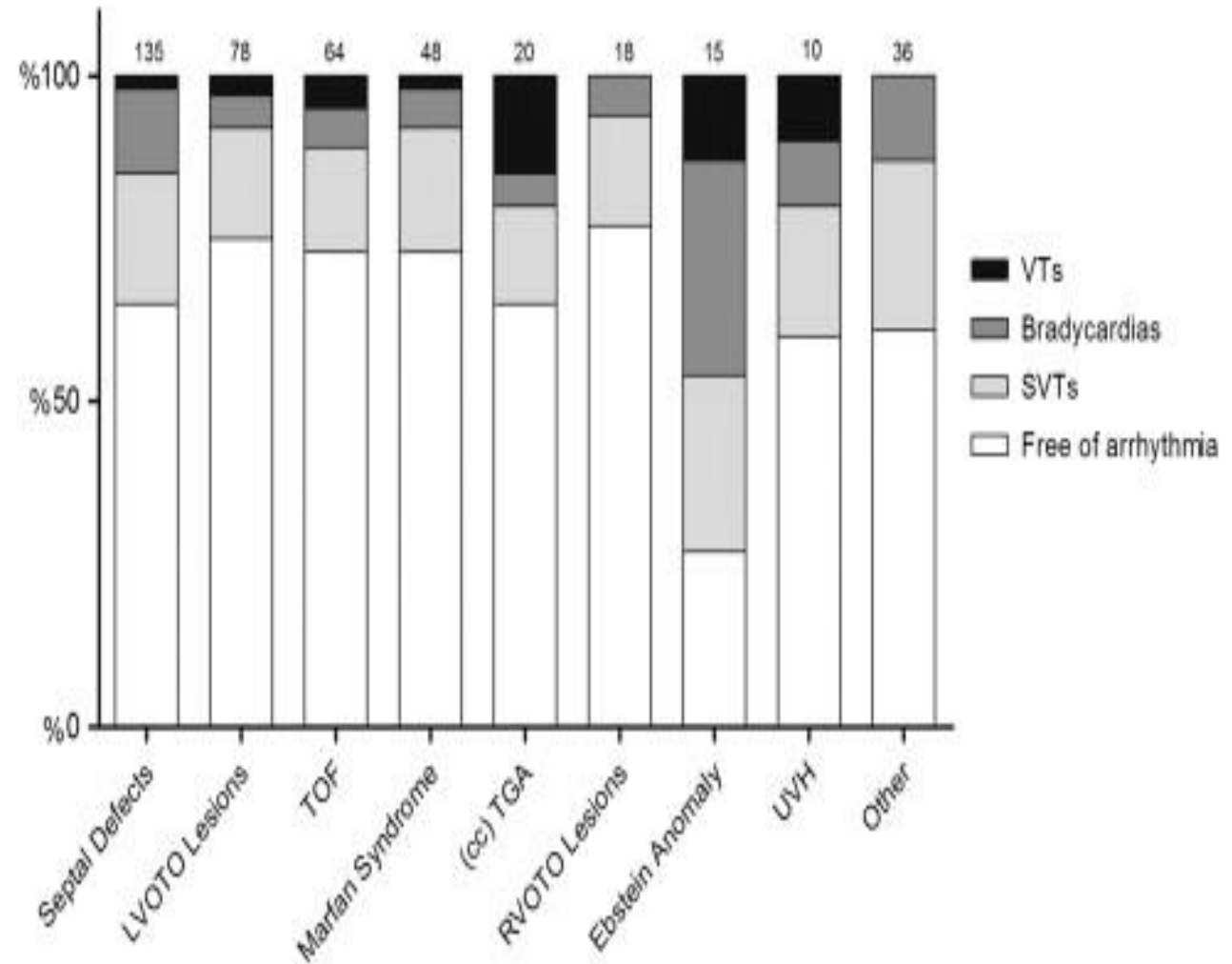
Standards

- Section A: The network approach
- Section B: Staffing and skills
- Section C: Facilities
- Section D: Interdependencies
- Section E: Training and education
- Section F: Organisation, governance and audit
- Section G: Research
- Section H: Communication with patients
- Section I: **Transition**
- Section J: Pregnancy and contraception
- Section K: Foetal diagnosis
- Section L: Palliative care and bereavement
- Section M: Dental

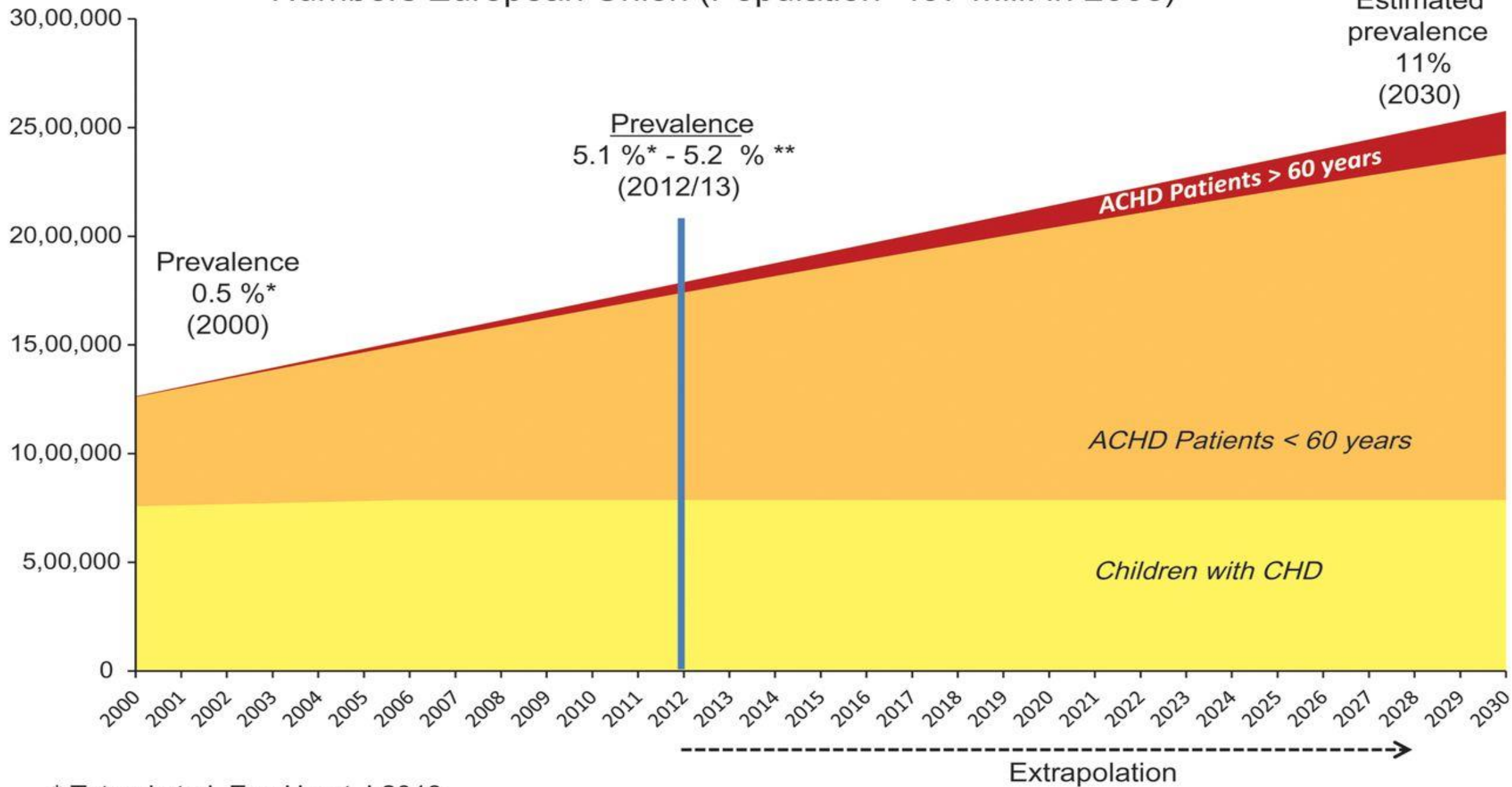


Transition-what you need to know

- Most need lifelong care
- Problems arrhythmia / heart failure
- Surgery and intervention
- Endocarditis
- PH
- Pregnancy
- End of life care
- Big numbers



Numbers European Union (Population 497 Mill. in 2008)



* Tutarel et al. Eur. Heart J 2013

** German Competence Network for Congenital Heart Disease (data on file)

Relative and actual age

	Patient's age (years)									
	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	Age difference:
ASD	25	26	32	38	42	47	52	57	61	>40
Valvar disease	29	31	36	40	45	49	54	59	63	30-40
VSD	28	30	36	40	44	49	53	59	63	20-30
Aortic Coarctation	32	33	38	43	47	52	56	62	66	10-20
AVSD	33	34	39	44	48	52	57	62	66	5-10
Marfan syndrome	37	38	42	46	50	54	59	64	68	2-5
Tetralogy of Fallot	37	38	42	47	50	54	60	65	69	<2
Ebstein anomaly	42	43	47	51	54	59	63	68	72	
Systemic RV	46	48	51	55	59	63	67	72	76	
Eisenmenger syndrome	57	58	62	65	69	73	77	81	84	
Complex CHD	58	59	63	67	70	74	78	82	85	
Fontan	64	65	68	72	75	78	82	86	91	

Values present relative age adjusted for predicted 5-years mortality. Colors reflect the difference between relative and actual age. For example a 40 year old Fontan patient has a mortality rate that is comparable to that of a 75 year old individual without CHD.

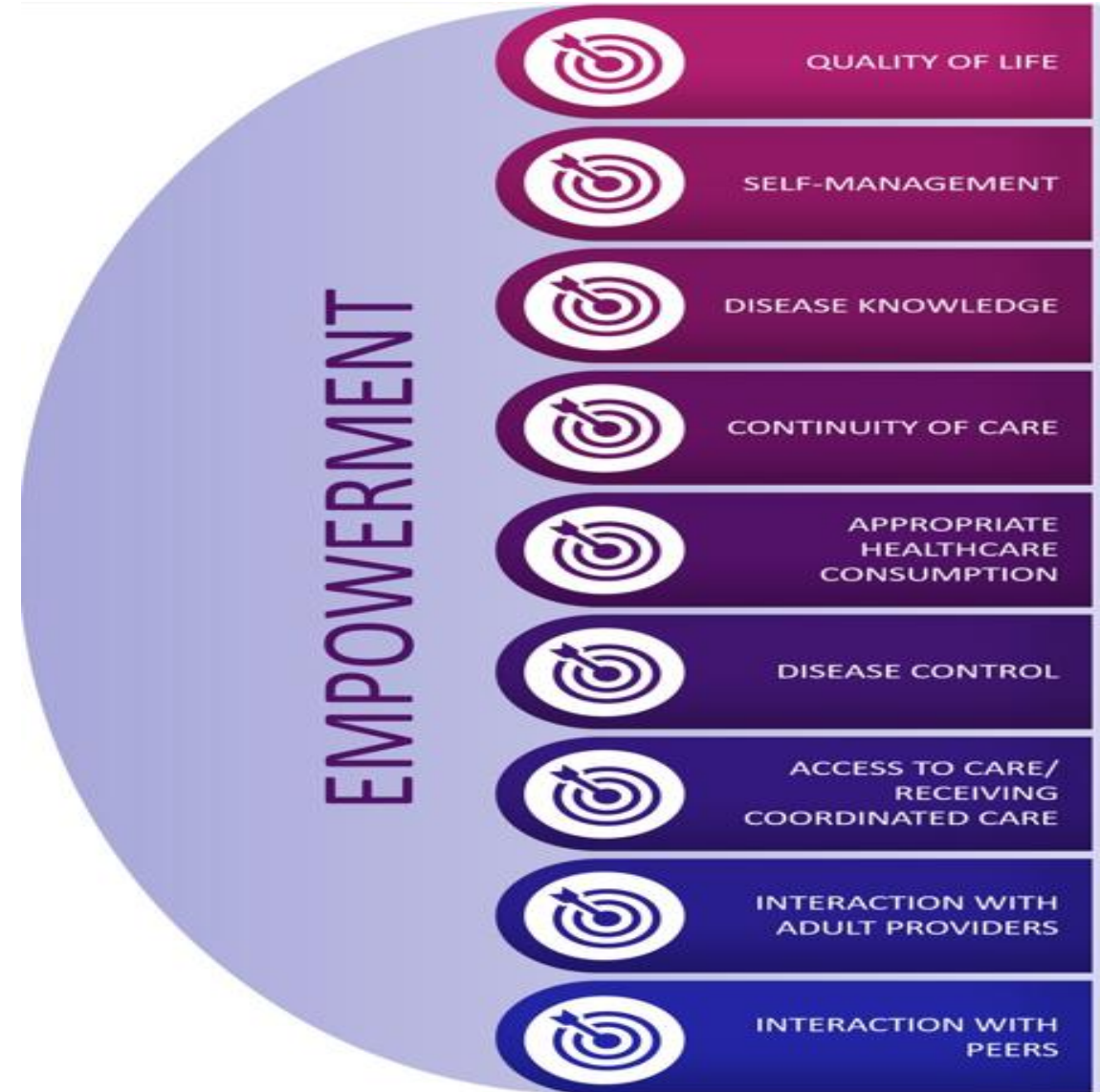
Purpose of Transition

- Should begin at age 13yrs
- Prepare young people for transfer to adult services
- To enable young people to manage their own health care, stay fit and well and out of hospital
- To understand their condition, medication and treatment plan
- Meet or introduce to the adult team



Goal

- Give an uninterrupted and co-ordinated transfer to adult services
- Develop skills in self-care
- **Empower patients** to manage their own health care
- Give in a developmentally appropriate way
- Educate around condition
- Support family in changing role
- May never happen!



Additional needs

- 25/10000 Down's Syndrome, 40% D.S. have CHD
- 17 % CHD occurs in association with a syndrome eg Turners/ Williams/ Noonan's Syndrome etc
- Need to be mindful of levels of understanding
- Conversations with young person and family, education e.g. lifestyle
- Support to family, hospital stay, involve community teams and charities
- Capacity assessment
- Best interest meeting



Transition v Transfer

Transition is an **active process** that considers medical, psychosocial and educational needs of adolescents as they move from child centred to adult centred healthcare (13yrs)

Transfer is an **event** which happens on one occasion when information or people move from one place to another (16yrs)

If it does not happen

- Poorly planned transition is associated with risk of **non-adherence to treatment**
- **Loss to follow-up**
- **Psychological distress**
- Measurable adverse consequences in **morbidity and mortality**
- Poor social and educational outcomes



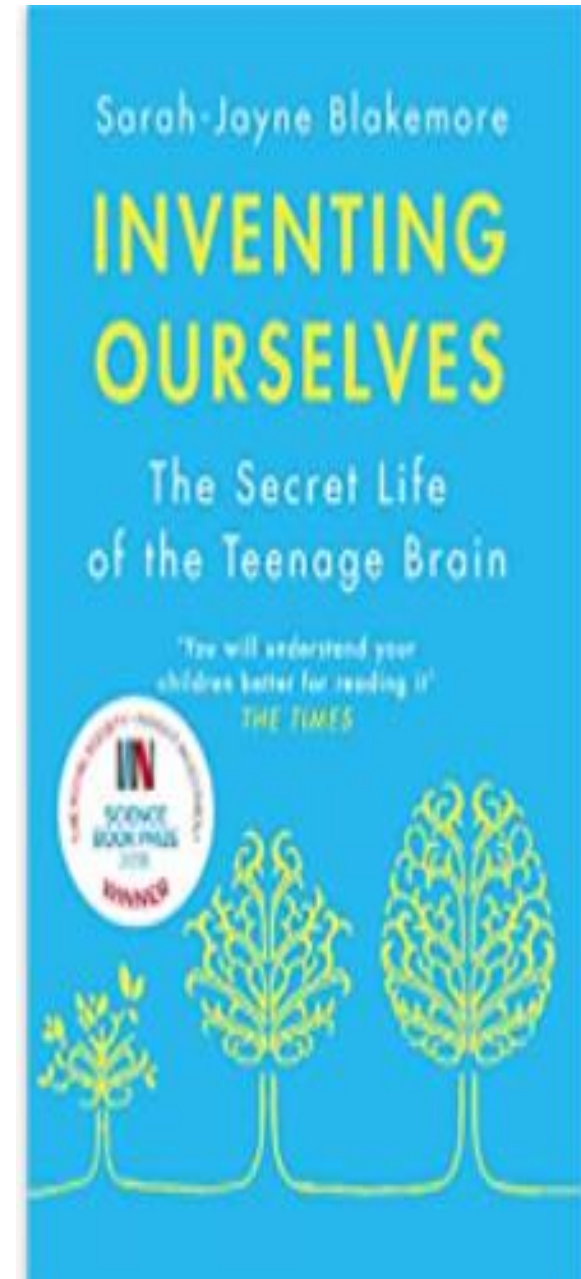
Lost to follow up

- 50%-75% patients lost to follow-up
- Reasons for lapse in care x 6
- Lost to follow-up and symptomatic 36%
- Proportion of patients **admitted to A and E** nearly doubled around the time of transition
- Patients must acquire appropriate beliefs about adult care well before transfer



Brain development

- Adolescents can have a tendency to take risks, more so when they are with their friends
- The drive is to become independent and impress
- The limbic system which is involved in emotion processing and reward processing, it gives you a kick out of taking risks
- The pre-frontal cortex, which stops us taking risks is still in development in adolescents leading to risk taking
- **Age and development based approach needs to be considered in clinic discussions-this changes in the context of chronic illness**



Resources



European Heart Journal (2021) 42, 4213–4223
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehab388

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Transition to adulthood and transfer to adult care of adolescents with congenital heart disease: a global consensus statement of the ESC Association of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions (ACNAP), the ESC Working Group on Adult Congenital Heart Disease (WG ACHD), the Association for European Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology (AEPC),



Transition & Young People

Click here for clinical information on transition and the care of young people with CHD

Find out more >

ACHD



ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

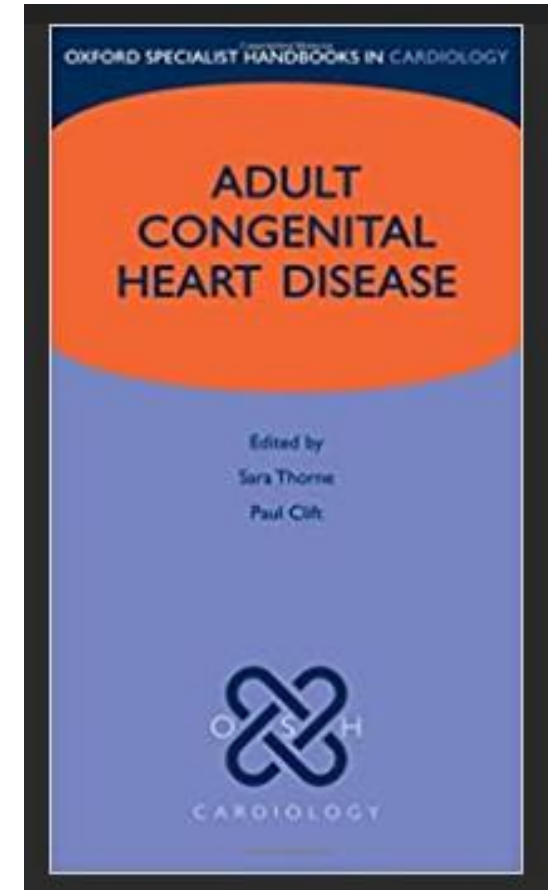
European Heart Journal (2020) 00, 1–83
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehaa554

ESC GUIDELINES

2020 ESC Guidelines for the management of adult congenital heart disease

The Task Force for the management of adult congenital heart disease of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

and symptomatic patients. In addition, the patient should be questioned about his/her **lifestyle** to detect progressive changes in daily activity in order to limit the subjectivity of symptom analysis. In symptomatic patients, alternative causes such as anaemia, depression, weight gain, and physical deconditioning, besides the congenital defect and its sequelae or residuae, should be kept in mind and further excluded if necessary.



Jargon free conversation



- **Half** of what a person is told is forgotten and **half** of what they remember is misunderstood
- Xander

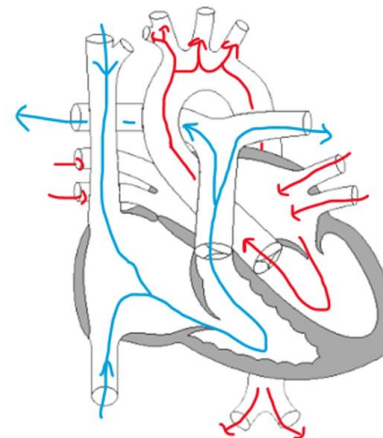
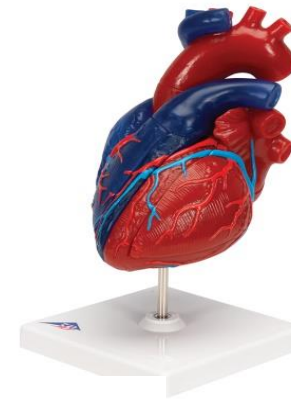
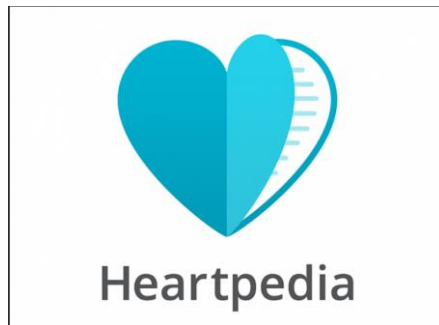
Practical tips-what our patients need to know

- Heart condition
- Medication
- Diet, alcohol, smoking and drugs
- Endocarditis risk
- Exercise guidelines
- Sex, pregnancy and contraception
- Extreme sport / Risk taking
- Travel
- Support
- Pts have poor understanding



Tell me what you understand about your heart condition?

- How do young people receive information?
- Empowers young person to understand and manage conditions
- Explain pathway
- Help to recognize when things change
- Computer, screen, websites, BHF
- Paper information- BHF Mullins
- Anatomical mould
- Heart model
- Hand drawing
- Parents
- Repeat back



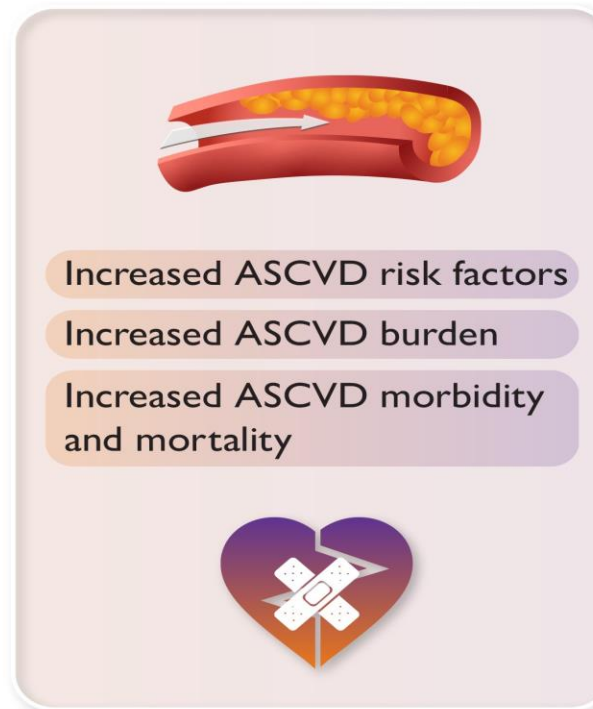
Can you tell me what tablets you are taking...?

- What are they for?
- Check adherence
- Side effects
- Warfarin / INR testing
- Amiodarone / TFTest
- Talk back method
- Build confidence
- Literacy is significant



Acquired risk factors in ACHD

Prevalence compared to background population



Risk factor modification in ACHD



Awareness



Therapy

Brida et al (2023) Acquired cardiovascular disease in adults with congenital heart disease: A call to action for timely preventive measures—a clinical consensus statement of the European Society of Cardiology Working Group on Adult Congenital Heart Disease in collaboration with the European Association of Preventive Cardiology and the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions. European Heart Journal. 00. Pp 1-16.

Can you tell me about your diet?

Risk of being overweight e.g. breathlessness, MI, hypertension, stroke, type 2 diabetes and poor mobility

Advice

- Discuss CVS risk factors, normal BMI, poor diet, junk food
- Wholemeal options
- Low fat, 5 portions fruit and veg and fish
- Low salt
- Cholesterol awareness
- Consider problems with relationship with food?
- Refer to GP for weight loss management or advice?



Many young people drink alcohol, have you tried it?

Poor understanding safe drinking and stimulant drinks. 14 units a week and alcohol-free days

Risks

HR and BP increase, stroke

Prolongs INR

Vomiting reduces absorption of medication

Excessive volume HF

Liver problems

Some cancers

Accidents and mental health problems



Do you know what a unit is?



Does anyone in your family smoke, have you tried it?

Risk of smoking

Leading cause of death

HR ↑

↓O₂ RR ↑↑BP

↑Toxins 4000

↑risk of MI x 2, CVA +clotting

↑respiratory disease

↑ cancer

Coronary artery disease

COPD

Smoking cessation

Nicotine replacement from GP

Risk of Vaping

- Coughing and headaches
- Sore throat and dizziness
- Effects on a never smoker powerful 2% nicotine
- Long term effects are unknown



www.ash.org

Recreational drugs?

FRANK

[Drugs A-Z](#) [News](#) [Help and advice](#) [Contact](#)

Honest information
about drugs

Risks

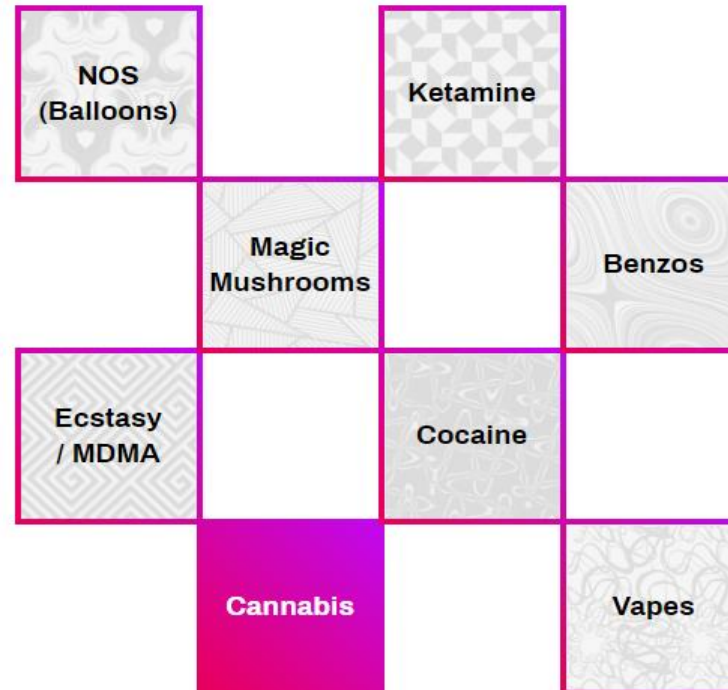
Ecstasy and speed **arrhythmias**

BZP **arrhythmias**

Ketamine **slows down HR**

IV - **endocarditis**

Advise against





ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2023) 44, 3948–4042

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehad193>

ESC GUIDELINES

2023 ESC Guidelines for the management of endocarditis

Developed by the task force on the management of endocarditis of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

Endorsed by the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS) and the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM)

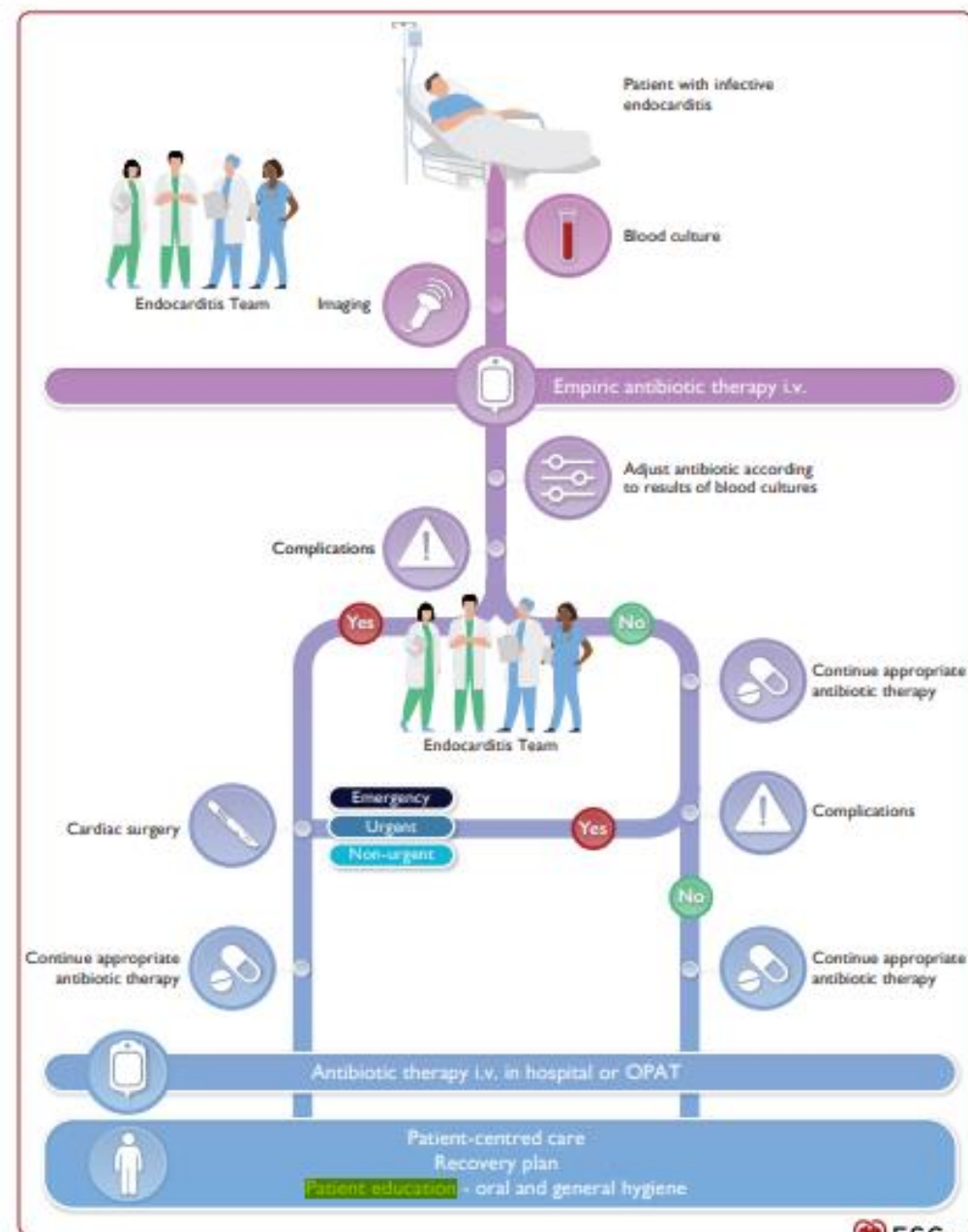


Figure 1 Management of patients with infective endocarditis. i.v., intravenous; OPAT, outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy.

Endocarditis

Risk

- *Poor dental hygiene/abscesses*
- *Skin infections*
- *Poor nail and skin care*
- *Piercings*
- *Tattoos*
- *Contaminated needles*
- *Invasive procedures*
- *Intervention*
- *Prosthetic valves*
- *Previous endocarditis*
- *IV drug user*
- *Cosmetic procedures*

Advice

- Dentist
- Recognising symptoms
- Flu like symptoms lasting more than five days
- Night sweats
- No antibiotics before blood culture results
- Caution piercings
- Caution tattoos
- Contact specialist centre if unwell



Piercings and tattoos

Risk

- 20% infected
- Infection if skin is broken
- Worse in nose, lip, tongue, belly button or genitalia

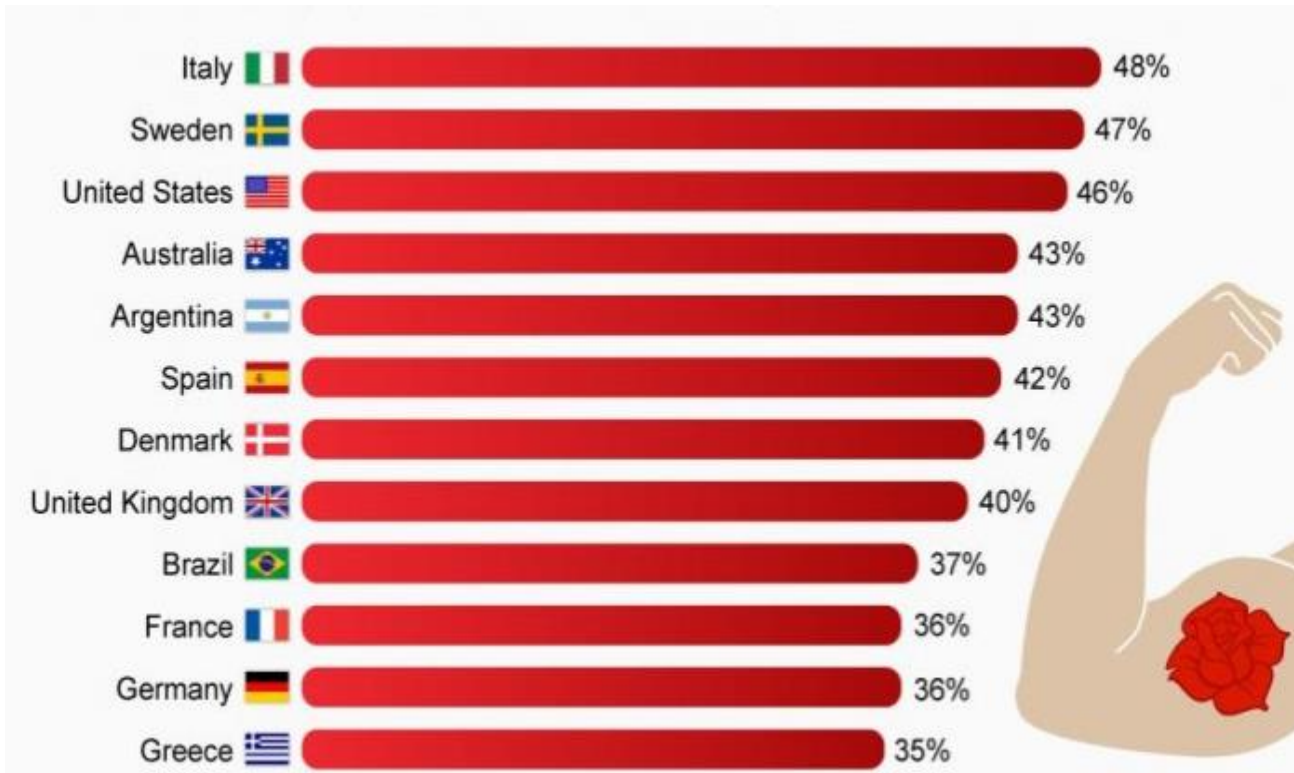


Advice

- Reputable, hygienic piercer
- Good skin care
- Ensure single use needles are used
- Remove infected ring/stud
- Do not replace until fully healed
- Tattoos.....
- Reputable studio
- Clean ink
- New needle
- Gloves



Tattoos will happen













Education of high-risk patients to prevent infective endocarditis

- **Maintain good dental hygiene**
 - Use dental floss daily
 - Brush teeth morning and evening
 - See your dentist for regular check-ups
- **Maintain good skin hygiene**
 - Minimize risk of skin lesions
 - In case of lesions, observe for signs of infection (redness, swelling, tenderness, puss)
 - Avoid tattoos and piercings
- **Be mindful of infections**
 - If experiencing fever for no obvious reason, contact your doctor, and discuss appropriate action based on your risk of endocarditis
- **Do not self prescribe antibiotics**
- **Show this card to your doctors before any interventions**

Exercise is safe

- Exercise + active lifestyle in CHD **lower** than general population
- Isotonic (dynamic or CVS exercise) e.g. **jogging or swimming**
- Isometric (static) e.g. **weight lifting and gym**
- Depends on condition/ exercise on prescription helpful
- Based on haemodynamic, arrhythmia
- **Avoid intense physical activity**, competitive or contact sport and weight lifting with mod to severe lesions
- **Advise** 150 mins mod intense exercise a week
- **Sudden death is v rare**

Recommendations for participation in competitive sport in adolescent and adult athletes with Congenital Heart Disease (CHD): position statement of the Sports Cardiology & Exercise Section of the European Association of Preventive Cardiology (EAPC), the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Working Group on Adult Congenital Heart Disease and the Sports Cardiology, Physical Activity and Prevention Working Group of the Association for European Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology (AEPC)

Werner Budts ^{1,2†}, Guido E. Pieleas ^{3*†}, Jolien W. Roos-Hesselink ⁴, Maria Sanz de la Garza⁵, Flavio D'Ascenzi⁶, George Giannakoulas ⁷, Jan Müller⁸, Renate Oberhoffer⁸, Doris Ehringer-Schetitska⁹, Vesna Herceg-Cavrak¹⁰, Harald Gabriel¹¹, Domenico Corrado ¹², Frank van Buuren¹³, Josef Niebauer¹⁴, Mats Börjesson ¹⁵, Stefano Caselli ¹⁶, Peter Fritsch¹⁷, Antonio Pelliccia¹⁸, Hein Heidbuchel¹⁹, Sanjay Sharma ²⁰, A. Graham Stuart ³, and Michael Papadakis ²⁰



Physical Activity Toolkit

An activity guide for teens & adults
with a congenital heart condition

Physical Activity Recommendations Form

Name: Date: (DD/MM/YY) / /

Name of condition:

Intensity of exercise recommended:	(tick appropriate box)
Low (active, moving about, but no obvious change in breathing or heart rate)	
Moderate (get warmer, breathe harder, heart beats faster – but can still carry on a conversation)	
Vigorous (breathe much harder, heart beats much faster - difficult to carry on a conversation)	

Amount of physical activity recommended:	(tick appropriate box)
At least 60mins physical activity every day (National guidelines for 5-18 year olds)	
30 - 60mins physical activity every day	
Up to 30mins physical activity every day	

Types of exercise:	(circle as appropriate)
Dynamic (muscles work to produce movement e.g. running, swimming)	safe / best avoided
Static (muscles work hard but with little movement e.g. weightlifting, rugby scrum)	safe / best avoided
Up to 30mins physical activity every day	safe / best avoided

Activities to avoid:	(circle as appropriate)
Activities with a high risk of impact (e.g. martial arts, hockey)	safe / best avoided
Activities with a high risk of injuries, such as cuts and grazes	safe / best avoided
Other:	safe / best avoided

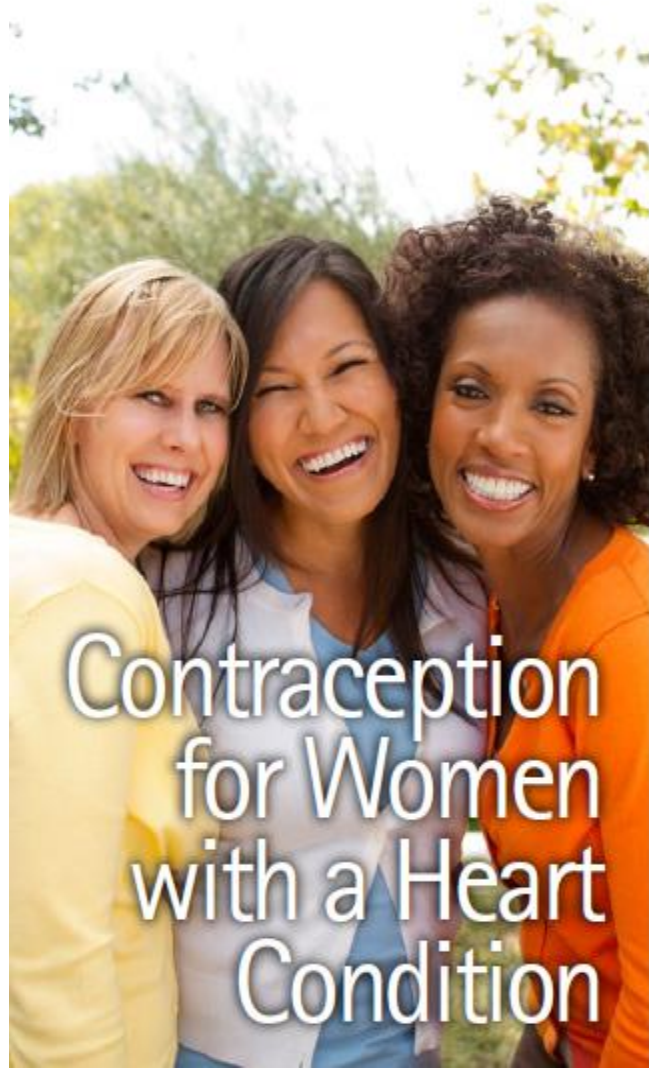
Competitive sport:	(tick appropriate box)
Avoid all competitive sports	
Participate in some competitive sports but rest when necessary	
Participate fully in all competitive sports	

Contraception

Contraception and a heart condition

- Most women regular methods
- **Cyanosis risk of thrombosis**, the combined pill may predispose to thrombosis
- Depo injection may cause bruising for the patients on Warfarin
- Progesterone only pill e.g. Cerazette
- Low progesterone implant e.g. Implanon 3yrs
- IUD theoretical risk of infection-vasovagal
- Morning after pill-ok
- Sterilization can be high risk





Contraception for Women with a Heart Condition



GUCH and Pregnancy

Pregnancy

- Symptom free before pregnancy will have normal pregnancy
- Circulating vol. doubles during pregnancy

Risks

- Increased risk due to heart failure, arrhythmias, thromboembolism and reduced oxygen to the foetus
- Saturations low advised not to become pregnant.
- Eisenmenger Syndrome -high risk
- Maternal mortality
- Foetal mortality
- Medication changes need to be considered
- Incidence of inheritance discussed





European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2018) **39**, 3165–3241

doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehy340

ESC GUIDELINES

2018 ESC Guidelines for the management of cardiovascular diseases during pregnancy

The Task Force for the Management of Cardiovascular Diseases during Pregnancy of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

Endorsed by: the International Society of Gender Medicine (IGM), the German Institute of Gender in Medicine (DGesGM), the European Society of Anaesthesiology (ESA), and the European Society of Gynecology (ESG)



European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2018) 39, 3165–3241

doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehy340

ESC GUIDELINES

2018 ESC Guidelines for the management of

Table 3 Modified World Health Organization classification of maternal cardiovascular risk

	mWHO I	mWHO II	mWHO II–III	mWHO III	mWHO IV
Diagnosis (if otherwise well and uncomplicated)	<p>Small or mild</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– pulmonary stenosis– patent ductus arteriosus– mitral valve prolapse <p>Successfully repaired simple lesions (atrial or ventricular septal defect, patent ductus arteriosus, anomalous pulmonary venous drainage)</p> <p>Atrial or ventricular ectopic beats, isolated</p>	<p>Unoperated atrial or ventricular septal defect</p> <p>Repaired tetralogy of Fallot</p> <p>Most arrhythmias (supraventricular arrhythmias)</p> <p>Turner syndrome without aortic dilatation</p>	<p>Mild left ventricular impairment (EF >45%)</p> <p>Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy</p> <p>Native or tissue valve disease not considered WHO I or IV (mild mitral stenosis, moderate aortic stenosis)</p> <p>Marfan or other HTAD syndrome without aortic dilatation</p> <p>Aorta <45 mm in bicuspid</p>	<p>Moderate left ventricular impairment (EF 30–45%)</p> <p>Previous peripartum cardiomyopathy without any residual left ventricular impairment</p> <p>Mechanical valve</p> <p>Systemic right ventricle with good or mildly decreased ventricular function</p> <p>Fontan circulation.</p> <p>If otherwise the patient is well and the cardiac condition</p>	<p>Pulmonary arterial hypertension</p> <p>Severe systemic ventricular dysfunction (EF <30% or NYHA class III–IV)</p> <p>Previous peripartum cardiomyopathy with any residual left ventricular impairment</p> <p>Severe mitral stenosis</p> <p>Severe symptomatic aortic stenosis</p>

High risk pregnancy

WHO I

Pulmonary stenosis (small/mild)
Patent ductus arteriosus (small/mild)
Mitral valve prolapse (small/mild)
Successfully repaired simple shunt defects (ASD, VSD, PDA, APVR)

Follow-up during pregnancy: once or twice in local hospital

Delivery: local hospital

WHO II

Unrepaired ASD or VSD
Repaired tetralogy of Fallot
Turner syndrome without aortic dilatation

Follow-up during pregnancy: every trimester in local hospital

Delivery: local hospital

WHO II-III

Mild left ventricular impairment (EF>54%)
Native or tissue valve disease not considered WHO I or IV
Marfan or other HTAD syndrome without aortic dilatation
Aorta <45mm in bicuspid aortic valve
Repaired coarctation
AVSD

Follow-up during pregnancy: Bimonthly in expert centre

Delivery: Expert centre

WHO III

Left ventricular impairment (30-45%)
Mechanical valve
Systemic right ventricle with good or mildly impaired function
Fontan (if otherwise well)
Unrepaired cyanotic disease
Moderate mitral stenosis
Severe asymptomatic aortic stenosis
Moderate aortic dilatation

Follow-up during pregnancy: (bi)monthly in expert centre

Delivery: Expert centre

WHO IV: pregnancy not recommended

Pulmonary arterial hypertension
Severe systemic ventricular dysfunction (EF<30%)
Moderate systemic right ventricular dysfunction
Severe mitral stenosis
Severe symptomatic aortic stenosis
Severe aortic dilatation
Vascular Ehlers-Danlos
Severe (re)coarctation
Fontan with any complication

Follow-up during pregnancy: Monthly in expert centre

Delivery: Expert centre

APVR = anomalous pulmonary venous return, ASD = atrial septal defect, AVSD = atrioventricular septal defect, EF = ejection fraction, ESC = European Society of Cardiology, HTAD = hereditary thoracic aorta disease, PDA = persistent ductus arteriosus, VSD = ventricular septal defect, WHO = World health organization

Adapted and modified for congenital heart disease, from the ESC 2018 "Cardiovascular diseases during Pregnancy (management of) Guidelines" Table 3

Education in Heart

Table 1 Lesion-specific risks

	Maternal cardiovascular risk	Obstetric risk (other than caesarean section)	Fetal/Neonatal risk*	References
ASD, repaired	3.6% arrhythmia, 3.6% persistent NYHA deterioration	11% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 16% PPH	1.8% offspring mortality†	Yap BJOG 2009
ASD, unrepaired	4.5% arrhythmia, 3% persistent NYHA deterioration, 0.8% TIA	11% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 8.3% PPH	3.0% offspring mortality	Yap BJOG 2009
VSD, repaired	2.3% arrhythmia	7% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 12% PPH	21% SGA	Yap BJOG 2010
VSD, unrepaired	1% arrhythmia, 1% endocarditis	15% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 9.6% PPH	6.7% SGA, 1% offspring mortality	Yap BJOG 2010
PDA	‡	‡	‡	
AVSD	23% persistent NYHA deterioration, 19% arrhythmias	17% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 6.3% gestational diabetes, 21% PPH	10% SGA, 6.3% neonatal mortality	Drenthen EHJ 2005
TOF	8%–12% arrhythmia or heart failure, 2% persistent NYHA deterioration	8% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 10% PPH	17%–21% SGA, 18% prematurity, 6.5% offspring mortality	Meijer Heart 2005, Balci AHJ 2011, Kampman Us Obst Gyn 2017
Ebstein	7.3% arrhythmia or heart failure	8.5% PPH	19%–27% prematurity, 18% offspring mortality	Connolly JACC 1994, Katsuragi AJObstGyn 2013, Lima Arch Cardiovasc Dis 2016
LVOT obstruction	3.8%–12% heart failure, 2%–5.7% arrhythmia, 1% endocarditis	6.4%–11% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 4.2% PPH	8%–21% prematurity, 13% SGA, 0%–1.1% fetal mortality	Silversides AJC 2003, Yap IJC 2008, Tzemos AHJ 2009, Orwat JACC 2016
RVOT obstruction	9% heart failure	15% hypertension-related complication	17% prematurity, 4.8% offspring mortality	Drenthen Heart 2006, Greutmann EHJ 2010
TGA—after arterial switch	0%–12% arrhythmia or heart failure	‡	9%–21% prematurity	Stoll JAMA card 2018, Tobler Am J Car 2010, Fricke Heart Lung Circ 2019, Horiuchi J Card 2019
TGA—after atrial repair	6.6%–22% arrhythmia, 11%–14% persistent NYHA deterioration	18% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 14% PPH	24%–38% prematurity, 22%–38% SGA, 12% offspring mortality	Drenthen EHJ 2005, Cataldo BJOG 2016, Trigas Circ J 2014
ccTGA	26%–32% heart failure, CVA or worsening of cyanosis	2% hypertension/pre-eclampsia, 14% PPH	9% prematurity, 1.3% offspring mortality	Therrien Am J Card 1999, Gelson EJOG 2011, Drenthen JACC 2007
Fontan	3%–37% arrhythmia, 4% thrombotic event, 3%–11% heart failure	14% PPH	59% prematurity, 20% SGA, 7.6%–17% offspring mortality	Garcia Ropero Circ CV Qual Outcomes 2018
Cyanotic disease	32% heart failure, arrhythmia or progression of hypoxaemia	10% PPH	37% prematurity, up to 24% fetal mortality	Ladouceur Circ 2017, Presbitero Circ 1994, Drenthen JACC 2007
PAH in CHD (note: very broad spectrum of results)	0%–28% mortality, 31%–35% RV failure, 7% pulmonary hypertensive crisis, 7%–14% thromboembolism, 9% arrhythmia	0%–6% pre-eclampsia, 0%–38% PPH	17%–86% prematurity, 0%–7% offspring mortality	Thomas JAHA 2017, Sliwa EJHF 2016, Bedard EHJ 2009
Eisenmenger	36% mortality, 21%–45% heart failure, 19% thromboembolism	29% PPH	65%–88% prematurity, 38%–83% SGA, 10%–27% fetal mortality, 18%–25% perinatal mortality	Drenthen JACC 2007, Duan BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2016
Coarctation	None reported	22% hypertension/pre-eclampsia	2% offspring mortality	Vriend EHJ 2005

WHO IV: pregnancy not recommended

Pulmonary arterial hypertension

Severe systemic ventricular dysfunction (EF<30%)

Moderate systemic right ventricular dysfunction

Severe mitral stenosis

Severe symptomatic aortic stenosis

Severe aortic dilatation

Vascular Ehlers-Danlos

Severe (re)coarctation

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Follow- up during pregnancy: Monthly
in expert centre

Delivery: Expert centre

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Adapted and modified for congenital heart disease ,
from the ESC 2018 "Cardiovascular diseases during
Pregnancy (management of) Guidelines" Table 3

Extreme sports

Bungee jumping

Skiing

Parachute jump

Risks

High altitude/hypoxia

Warfarin

Diving HR↓

↑ pul oedema

↑ air embolism

↑ decompression R-L

One off may be ok



Theme park rides

Risks

HR

BP↑

BP↓

ICD pts avoid dodgems

Warfarin- risk of bleeding



Risk taking

Non-adherence,
DNA, medication,
INR testing unreliable



Engaging in
Extreme sport, unprotected sex
drugs, alcohol use

Leading to
Social problems
depression and mental health problems



How is your mood?

Untreated depression and anxiety common

Smoking, alcohol, drugs dependency

Rarely diagnosed, undertreated
Led to reduced QOL

- Psychology Psychiatry
- CAMS

‘We have a psychology service for our patients’





AHA SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT

Psychological Outcomes and Interventions for Individuals With Congenital Heart Disease: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association

Adrienne H. Kovacs, PhD, Chair, Judith Brouillette, MD, PhD, Patricia Ibeziako, MD, Jamie L. Jackson, PhD, Nadine A. Kasparian, PhD, Yuli Y. Kim, MD, Tracy Livecchi, LCSW, Christina Sillman, MSN, Lazaros K. Kochilas, MD, MS, FAHA, Vice Chair, and on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Lifelong Congenital Heart Disease and Heart Health in the Young; and Stroke Council

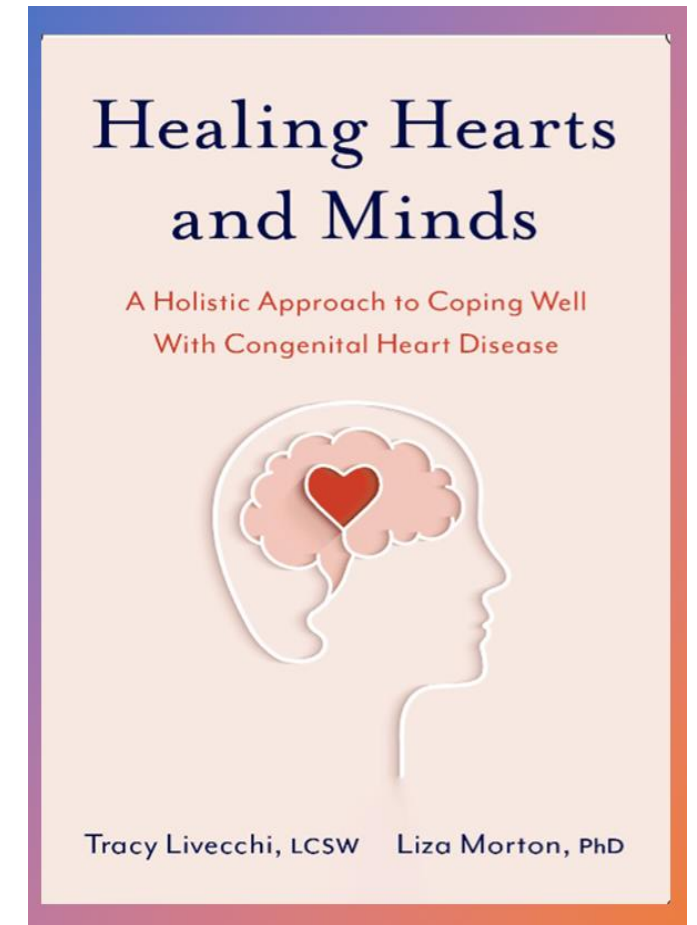
ABSTRACT: Although resilience and high quality of life are demonstrated by many individuals with congenital heart disease, a range of significant psychological challenges exists across the life span for this growing patient population. Psychiatric disorders represent the most common comorbidity among people with congenital heart disease. Clinicians are becoming increasingly

Psychology

Anxiety and Depression in 35% of ACHD patients – high health care utilization and mortality

Referral

- Anxiety and low mood relating to ACHD
- Surgery, procedure, new diagnosis, poor prognosis
- Trauma, PTSD fears and phobia
- Fear of bad news
- High risk pregnancy relating to ACHD
- Risk taking behaviour, compliance
- Body image
- Learning disability pts need additional support
- In patient support
- Patient Book club



Do your scars worry you?

- Scars
- Body image
- Changing faces camouflage make-up



Providing support
and promoting respect
for everyone with
a visible difference



Flying

Risks

Thrombosis, arrhythmia, infection

Oxygen, wheelchair

Advice

Hydrated, DVT prophylaxis

Aspirin

Fit to fly test by respiratory

Clinic letter

Travel insurance



Driving



Risks

Advice

After an event 6 months

Pacemaker 1 week

ICD secondary prevention 1 mth

ICD 6 mths

Inform DVLA

After surgery 4-6 weeks

HGLV reapply Insurance need to know

- Gov.uk

Social issues

Interrupted Education

- Peer pressure / bullying
- Employment Difficulties
- Benefits complicated
- High rates of rejection
- Insurance Problems



Benefits - introduction

Careers and Employment

Employment advice and support

Only 10% are totally disabled

Intellectual limitations

Isolation and low self esteem

Life Insurance

Mortgage and buying a house

Variable loading

Travel insurance shop around



www.direct.gov.uk/youngpeople

Next steps-transfer

- Conversations
- Written to adult colleagues detailed clinical hand over
- Medway proforma to handover coming soon
- Copied in a CNS/Link nurse to clinic letter
- Nurse will write to patient and provide contact details in the event of patient needing to contact the service before first ACHD appt
- Explain the plan to the young person and family reiterated in clinic letter
- Be clear about where and when ACHD appt will be

Give the info!

- YP pack, charity info
- Date for virtual YP evening
- Link to Tour of adult hospital



Bye!



Use CNS teams



Adult Congenital Heart Disease Nurse Specialists Bristol Heart Institute



**Are available to give advice and support on
cardiac and lifestyle issues for you and
emotional support for you and your family.**

**Monday to Friday, 8am – 4pm
Cardiac nurse specialist call 0117 342 6599 or email
BHIACHDnurses@uhbw.nhs.uk
Hospital switchboard: 0117 923 0000 Bleep 3393**

Support for patients

- Somerville Foundation
- Newsletter / leaflets
- Telephone help line
- Support groups/mental health
- Financial support
- Workshops / conferences
- Web Sites
- BHF Lifestyle advice



The Somerville Foundation
Helpline: 0800 854759
or helpline@thesf.org.uk
www.thesf.org.uk

Transferring to adult care

The Somerville Foundation provides accurate, timely information and advice for all congenital heart patients and enables them to share and learn from experiences and support each other.
There are a number of different leaflets available providing information and support about the issues you might face. These can be found by going to their website or by scanning the QR code provided.
You can also get quarterly updates by subscribing to their Newsletter at the following link: <https://thesf.org.uk/category/guch-news/>

South Wales and South West
Congenital Heart
Disease Network



Lifestyle Information

Energy



Half a heart, half the energy

Lifestyle Information



Piercings, alcohol and more

Covid-19 Support



Support through Covid-19

On this page

- [Tips for taking care of your heart as you grow up](#)
- [Having kids if you have a heart condition](#)
- [Smoking, drugs, alcohol and sex](#)
- [Getting active in a way that's safe for you](#)
- [Mental health and your heart](#)
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Thankyou