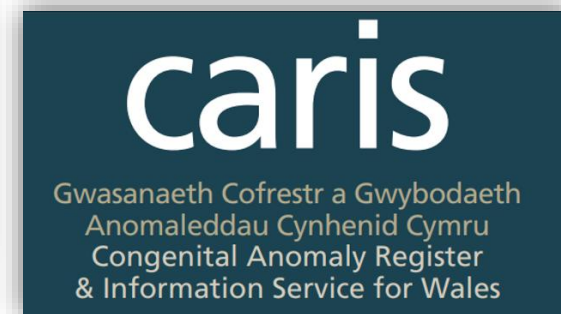


# CARIS ANNUAL MEETINGS 2025

## Combined Presentation Slides

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November – The National Imaging Academy, Pencoed.

Microsoft Teams - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025,.



# AGENDA

## Face to Face event :

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GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

| <b>Congenital Anomaly Register and Information Service - CARIS Annual Meeting 2025</b> |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Date</b>  | Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025      |
| <b>Time</b>  | 13:00 – 16:30                              |
| <b>Venue</b>   | National Imaging Academy, Pencoed CF35 5HY |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>13:00</b>   | <b>Welcome</b>  | <i>Kinza Younas<br/>Consultant Obstetrician &amp;<br/>Gynaecologist</i>         |
| <b>13:10</b>   | <b>CARIS update</b>   | <i>Llion Davies<br/>Public Health Wales</i>                                     |
| <b>Focus session: Fetal Medicine Pathway<br/>Chair: Kinza Younas</b> |   |   |
| <b>13:20</b>   | <b>Linking Antenatal Detection and CARIS data for quality assurance</b>             | <i>Laura Macdermott<br/>Programme Coordinator<br/>Antenatal Screening Wales</i> |
| <b>13.35</b>   | <b>Fetal Medicine Pathway &amp; NT vs Cystic Hygroma</b>                            | <i>Armin Vandeperre<br/>Consultant in Obstetrics and Fetal Medicine</i>         |
| <b>14:05</b>   | <b>Hypoplastic left heart – prenatal diagnosis and postnatal management pathway</b> | <i>Alan Pateman<br/>Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist</i>                      |
| <b>14:35</b>   | <b>CARIS Projects</b>   | <i>Trainees and CARIS<br/>Asha and Samantha</i>                                 |
| <b>14:50</b>   | <b>Break</b>  |   |
| <b>15:10</b>   | <b>Live scanning session</b>  | <i>Armin Vanderperre<br/>Consultant in Obstetrics and Fetal Medicine</i>        |
| <b>16.00</b>   | <b>EUROCAT</b>  | <i>David Tucker<br/>CARIS</i>   |
| <b>16:15</b>   | <b>Closing remarks</b>  |   |

# AGENDA

Virtual / Microsoft teams:  
The meeting will be starting shortly...

Please make sure that your  
microphones are muted and cameras  
switched off.

This meeting will be recorded.

## Congenital Anomaly Register and Information Service - CARIS Annual Meeting 2025 Virtual Session

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| Date  | Thursday November 27 <sup>th</sup> 2025 |
| Time  | 12:00 – 14:00                           |
| Venue | MS Teams                                |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 12:00  | Welcome  | <i>Kinza Younas<br/>Consultant Obstetrician and<br/>Gynaecologist</i>                             |
| 12:05  | CARIS update   | <i>David Tucker / Llion Davies<br/>Public Health Wales</i>  |
| Focus session: Fetal Medicine Pathway<br>Chair: Kinza Younas |  |   |
| 12:15  | Linking Antenatal Detection and CARIS data for quality assurance | <i>Laura Macdermott<br/>Programme Coordinator<br/>Antenatal Screening Wales</i>                   |
| 12:30  | Antenatal detection and in utero treatment                       | <i>Asma Khalil<br/>Prof of Fetal Medicine<br/>St George's &amp; Liverpool Womens<br/>Hospital</i> |
| 13:10  | Fetal medicine pathway   | <i>Armin Vanderperre<br/>Consultant in Obstetrics and Fetal<br/>Medicine</i>                      |
| 13:30  | Nuchal Translucency vs Cystic Hygroma                            | <i>Mark Denbow<br/>Consultant in Fetal Medicine</i>   |
| 13:50  | Questions and closing remarks                                    |   |
| 14:00  | Close  |   |

# CHAIR'S WELCOME

**PROF. KINZA YOUNAS – (CLINICAL LEAD, CARIS)**

MBBS, FRCOG , M.D.(UK),DFRSH.FHEA, MAS Dip(G)

EFRM (B)

**CONSULTANT OBSTETRICIAN AND GYNAECOLOGIST,  
SBUHB.**



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CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

# CHAIR'S WELCOME

## Kind request

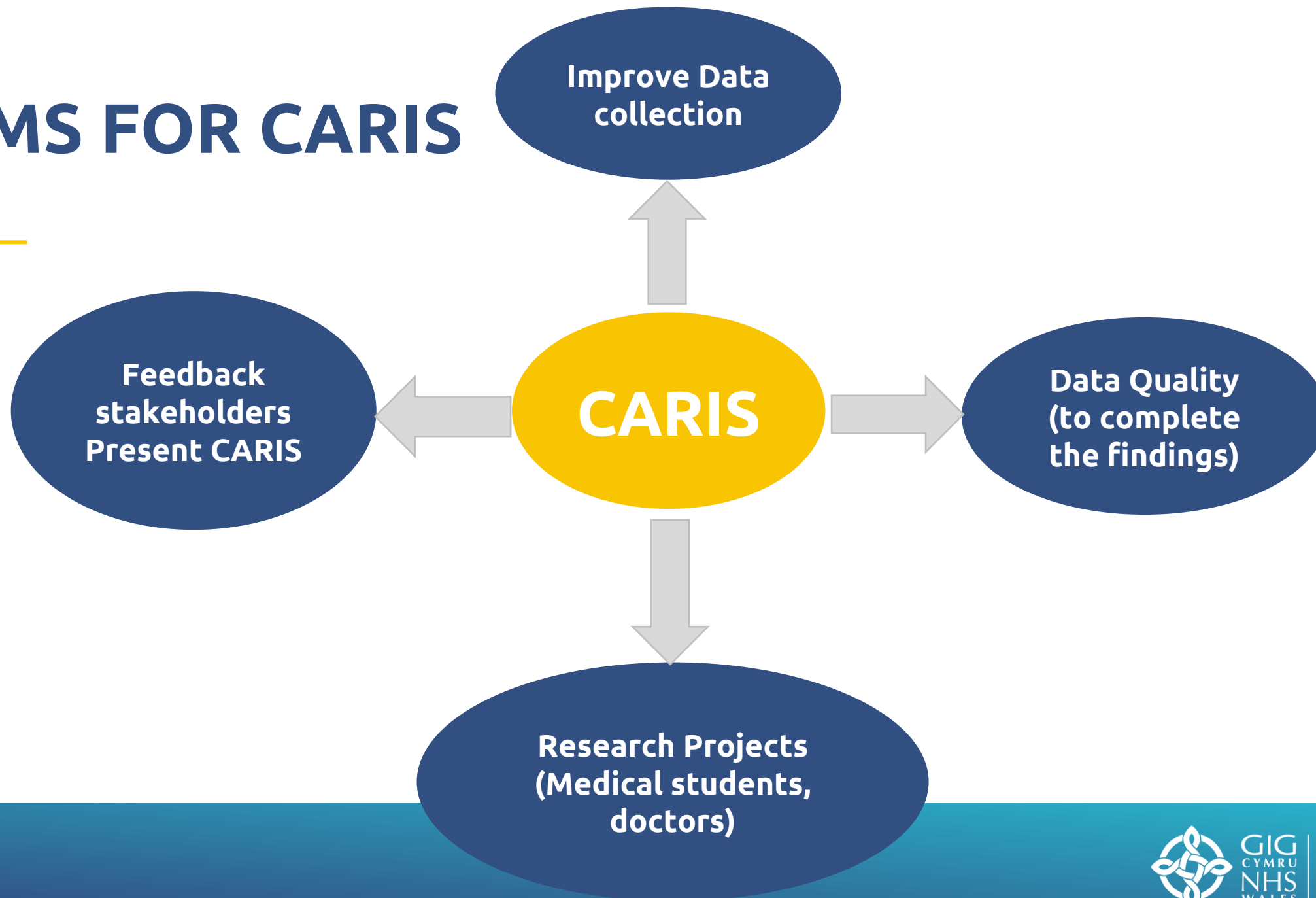
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- Please remember to switch off cameras and microphones.
- This session is being recorded and will be published on our web page.
- There should be time at the end of each session for questions, but you can add them to the chat for us to address. If we don't have time to respond in the meeting, we will answer any outstanding questions afterwards.
- We will provide CPD certificates upon receipt of completed feedback so please look out for the links in the chat.



# AIMS FOR CARIS

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# DATA COLLECTION AND QUALITY

- **Clinical Governance & Quality Assurance**

Clinical oversight of case ascertainment

Ensure high standards for data accuracy, completeness, and consistency

Expert review of complex or borderline cases

- **Strategic leadership**

Advise stakeholders on trends, risks, and service implications

- **Oversee policies and governance frameworks**

# CONTINUED.

- Clinical point of contact
- Engage colleagues' regular input via data sharing
- Annual reports and annual meetings

## Measure, Evaluate, Recognize Engagement

# CONTINUED.

- **Facilitate high-quality research using CARIS data**
- Review research proposals for clinical relevance, feasibility, and ethical considerations
- Promote academic outputs, presentations, and multicenter collaborations.
- **Showcase CARIS projects and activates**
- Represent CARIS in regional, National, and International networks(including congenital anomaly surveillance groups and public-health bodies.

# GOALS

- Every year different themes to address important topics
- **“Antenatal Congenital anomalies detection in Wales”.**
- Engagement of participants, sharing knowledge, exploring new themes for research.
- Leading towards meaningful discussion and new collaboration
- Road leads to safe cost-effective clinical care for patients.

# CARIS TEAM UPDATE

---

DR. LLION DAVIES - Consultant in Public Health Medicine.  
DAVID TUCKER – CARIS Team Manager



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Wales

# CARIS ANNUAL STATISTICS –

Published 10 November 2025

Congenital anomaly rate reduced stepwise since 1998

| Years     | Rate per 10,000 births |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 2005-2009 | 523.6                  |
| 2010-2014 | 478.1                  |
| 2015-2019 | 417.0                  |
| 2020-2024 | 340.3*                 |

*\* Expected to increase as further retrospective cases added for these most recent years*

?true reduction or under-reporting


# CARIS Case Ascertainment

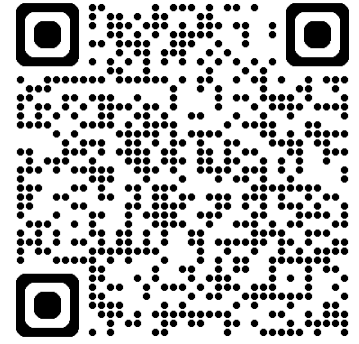
|                          | 1998-2024 | 2015-2024 | Comment                                |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Singular Anomaly % cases | 61.5%     | 56.9%     | Ascertainment proxy                    |
| Live Births % cases      | 84.2%     | 79.4%     | ↓ ascertainment of less serious cases? |

- ?Covid impact
- ?Attendance impact

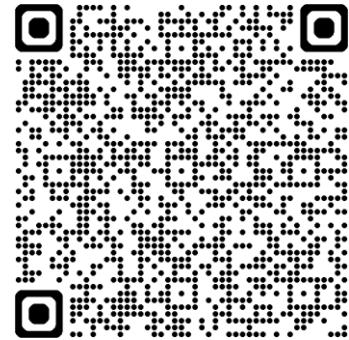
# PLEASE REMEMBER TO...

## Continue reporting cases to CARIS

- By email to: [caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk)
- Digitally: by visiting our report to CARIS QR links OR page 
- <https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/caris/contact-caris/>
- Traditional mail (Full case data) with downloadable forms
- E-Forms – for quick flagging of cases or full case reports
- Maternal infections – HIV and Syphilis case reporting



ENGLISH



CYMRAEG

# CARIS RECENT RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION

## 15 articles 2024/25

### Open access Communication

#### BMJ Open Ethics and legal requirements for data linkage in 14 European countries for children with congenital anomalies

Hugh Claridge<sup>1</sup>, Joachim Tan<sup>2</sup>, Maria Loane<sup>3</sup>, Ester Garne<sup>4</sup>, Ingeborg Barisic<sup>5</sup>, Clara Caverro-Carbonell<sup>6</sup>, Carlos Dias<sup>7</sup>, Susan Jordan<sup>8</sup>, Babak Khoshnood<sup>9</sup>, Sorja Kiuru-Kuopajarvi<sup>10</sup>, Kari Klungsoy<sup>11</sup>, Olatz Mokoroa Carollo<sup>12</sup>, Vera Nelen<sup>13</sup>, Anna Pierini<sup>14</sup>, Hanitra Randrianaivo<sup>15</sup>, Anke Rissmann<sup>16</sup>, Hermien de Walle<sup>17</sup>, Wladimir Wertelecki<sup>18</sup>, Joan K Morris<sup>19</sup>

**ABSTRACT** Linking healthcare data sets can create valuable resources for research, particularly when investigating rare exposures or outcomes. However, across Europe, the permissions processes required to access data can be complex. This paper documents the processes required by the EUROCAT study investigators to research the health and survival of children with congenital anomalies in Europe.

**Methods:** Eighteen congenital anomaly registries in 14 countries provided information on all the permissions required to perform surveillance of congenital anomalies and to link their data on live births with available vital statistics and healthcare databases for research. Small number restrictions imposed by data providers were also documented.

**Results:** The permissions requirements varied substantially, with certain registries able to conduct congenital anomaly surveillance as part of national or regional healthcare provision, while others were required to obtain ethics approvals or informed consent. Data linkage and analysis for research purposes added additional layers of complexity for registries, with some required to obtain several permissions, including ethics approvals to link the data. Restrictions relating to small numbers often resulted in a registry's data on specific congenital anomalies being unusable.

**Conclusion:** The permissions required to obtain and link data on children with congenital anomalies varied greatly across Europe. The variation and complexity present a significant obstacle to the use of such data, especially in large data linkage projects. Furthermore, small number restrictions severely limited the research that could be performed for children with specific rare congenital anomalies.

**INTRODUCTION** The EUROinCAT study aimed to support 22 congenital anomaly registries in 14 countries to link their data on live births with congenital anomalies to other regional or national electronic healthcare databases, to investigate the survival of children up to 10 years of age, and to briefly summarise governance and data linkage requirements for data linkage in 14 European countries for children with congenital anomalies. BMJ Open 2023;13:e0271687. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2023-0271687

Check for updates

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For numbered affiliations see end of article.

Correspondence to: Joan K Morris; jmorris@sgul.ac.uk

Claridge H, et al. *BMJ Open* 2023;13:e0271687. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2023-0271687

Received: 24 January 2022 | Revised: 17 October 2022 | Accepted: 24 October 2022  
DOI: 10.1093/bjopen/2022.13.0271687

### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### Prevalence of vascular disruption anomalies and association with young maternal age: A EUROCAT study to compare the United Kingdom with other European countries

Joan K. Morris<sup>1</sup>, Diana Wellesley<sup>2</sup>, Elizabeth Limb<sup>1</sup>, Jorieke E. H. Bergman<sup>3</sup>, Agnieszka Kinsner-Ovaskainen<sup>4</sup>, Marie Claude Addor<sup>5</sup>, Jennifer M. Broughan<sup>6</sup>, Clara Caverro-Carbonell<sup>7</sup>, Carlos M. Dias<sup>8</sup>, Luis-Javier Echevarria-Gonzalez-de-Garibay<sup>9</sup>, Miriam Gatt<sup>10</sup>, Martin Haeusler<sup>11</sup>, Ingeborg Barisic<sup>12</sup>, Kari Klungsoy<sup>13,14</sup>, Nathalie Lelong<sup>15</sup>, Anna Materna-Kiryluk<sup>16</sup>, Amanda Neville<sup>17</sup>, Vera Nelen<sup>18</sup>, Mary T. O'Mahony<sup>19</sup>, Isabelle Perthus<sup>20</sup>, Anna Pierini<sup>21,22</sup>, Judith Rankin<sup>23</sup>, Anke Rissmann<sup>24</sup>, Florence Rouget<sup>25</sup>, Geraldine Sayers<sup>26</sup>, Sarah Stevens<sup>27</sup>, David Tucker<sup>28</sup>, Ester Garne<sup>29</sup>

Correspondence: Joan K. Morris, St George's, University of London, London, United Kingdom. Email: jmorris@sgul.ac.uk

Funding information: European Commission

[Corrections added after online publication, 16 November 2022: The last name of Dr. Jennifer M. Broughan was incorrectly spelled in the initial publication. It has been corrected.]

For affiliations refer to page 1424

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© 2023 The Author(s). *Birth Defects Research* published by Wiley Periodicals, LLC.

*Birth Defects Research*. 2022;114:1417–1426.

[onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bdr.14817](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bdr.14817)

### Original research

#### Ten-year survival of children with trisomy 13 or trisomy 18: a multi-registry European cohort study

Svetlana V Glinianaia<sup>1</sup>, Judith Rankin<sup>1</sup>, Joachim Tan<sup>2</sup>, Maria Loane<sup>3</sup>, Ester Garne<sup>4</sup>, Clara Caverro-Carbonell<sup>5</sup>, Hermien E K de Walle<sup>6</sup>, Miriam Gatt<sup>7</sup>, Mika Gissler<sup>8,9</sup>, Kari Klungsoy<sup>10,11</sup>, Natalie Lelong<sup>12</sup>, Amanda Neville<sup>13</sup>, Anna Pierini<sup>14</sup>, David F Tucker<sup>15</sup>, Stine Kjaer Urhoj<sup>16</sup>, Diana Gay Wellesley<sup>17</sup>, Joan K Morris<sup>18</sup>

### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** To investigate the survival to 10 years of age of children with trisomy 13 (T13) and children with trisomy 18 (T18), born 1995–2014.

**Design:** Population-based cohort study that linked mortality data to data on children born with T13 or T18, including translocations and mosaicism, from 13 member registries of EUROCAT, a European network for the surveillance of congenital anomalies.

**Setting:** 13 regions in nine Western European countries.

**Patients:** 252 live births with T13 and 602 with T18.

**Main outcome measures:** Survival at 1 week, 4 weeks and 1, 5 and 10 years of age estimated by random-effects meta-analysis of registry-specific Kaplan-Meier survival estimates.

**Results:** Survival estimates of children with T13 were 4% (95% CI 2% to 6%), 17% (95% CI 11% to 24%) and 11% (95% CI 6% to 18%) at 4 weeks, 1 and 10 years, respectively. The corresponding survival estimates were 38% (95% CI 31% to 45%), 13% (95% CI 10% to 17%) and 8% (95% CI 5% to 13%) for children with T18. The 10-year survival conditional on surviving to 4 weeks was 32% (95% CI 23% to 41%) and 21% (95% CI 15% to 28%) for children with T13 and T18, respectively.

**Conclusions:** This multi-registry European study found that despite extremely high neonatal mortality in children with T13 and T18, 27% and 21%, respectively, of those who survived to 4 weeks were likely to survive to age 10 years. These reliable survival estimates are useful to inform counselling of parents after prenatal diagnosis.

### INTRODUCTION

Congenital anomalies (CAs), including structural effects, chromosomal and genetic syndromes, affect about 2%–3% of births in Europe<sup>1</sup> and in the USA,<sup>2</sup> and are a leading cause of infant mortality.<sup>3–6</sup> They are also a growing contributor to mortality of children under 5 years of age<sup>7</sup> and of older children.<sup>8</sup> Survival of children with major CAs beyond 1 year has substantially improved during the last few decades due to advances in neonatal care and surgical interventions.<sup>9–11</sup> As shown in our recent multi-centre European study, 10-year survival exceeded 90% for most major structural anomalies and the most common chromosomal anomaly, Down syndrome (trisomy 21).<sup>12</sup> Trisomy 13 (T13) (Patau syndrome) and trisomy 18 (T18) Edwards syndrome) are the most common

### WHAT IS ALREADY KNOWN ON THIS TOPIC

- Children with trisomy 13 or trisomy 18 have extremely high neonatal and infant mortality.
- A recent Canadian population-based study reported that about 13% of children with trisomy 13 and 10% with trisomy 18 may survive to age 10 years.
- Long-term follow-up population-based studies of survival in children with trisomy 13 or trisomy 18 are lacking.

### WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS

- The majority of children born alive with trisomy 13 or trisomy 18 between 1995 and 2014 in 13 Western European regions died during the first 28 days of life: 66% of children with trisomy 13 and 62% with trisomy 18.
- Survival at age 5 and 10 years was 16% (95% CI 10% to 26%) and 11% (95% CI 6% to 18%), respectively, for children with trisomy 13, and 10% (95% CI 7% to 14%) and 8% (95% CI 5% to 12%), respectively, for children with trisomy 18.
- Ten-year survival conditional on surviving the first 28 days of life was 32% (95% CI 23% to 41%) and 21% (95% CI 15% to 28%) for trisomy 13 and trisomy 18, respectively.

### HOW THIS STUDY MIGHT AFFECT RESEARCH, PRACTICE OR POLICY

- This study demonstrates that reliable survival estimates can be obtained for children with rare anomalies by linking administrative mortality data to data on live births from European population-based congenital anomaly registries and combining results across registries. The results are important for counselling parents after prenatal diagnosis of these conditions.

autosomal trisomies after Down syndrome and are characterised by multiple structural anomalies and intellectual disability in survivors. The combined total prevalence including pregnancies resulting in a termination of pregnancy for fetal anomaly (TOPFA), stillbirths and live births varies from 5 to 10 per 10 000 births.<sup>10–12</sup> Children with T13 or T18 have a high mortality risk during the first weeks of life and the majority die during the first year.<sup>11,13–15</sup> Recent population-based US and Canadian studies

Glinianaia S, et al. *Arch Dis Child* 2023;108:461–467. doi:10.1136/archdischild-2022-320588

Arch Dis Child: first published as 10.1136/archdischild-2022-320588 on 7 March 2023. Downloaded from <https://academic.oup.com/adc> on November 17, 2024 at Public Health Wales NHS Trust. Protected by copyright, including for uses related to text and data mining, AI training, and similar technologies.

Received: 12 June 2022 | Revised: 29 August 2022 | Accepted: 19 September 2022  
DOI: 10.1111/jcpp.15020

### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Risk factors for mortality in infancy and childhood in children with major congenital anomalies: A European population-based cohort study

Joachim Tan<sup>1</sup>, Svetlana V Glinianaia<sup>2</sup>, Judith Rankin<sup>3</sup>, Anna Pierini<sup>4</sup>, Michele Santoro<sup>5</sup>, Alessio Col<sup>6</sup>, Ester Garne<sup>4</sup>, Maria Loane<sup>5</sup>, Joanne E. Given<sup>5</sup>, Joanna Bridgen<sup>7</sup>, Elisa Ballardini<sup>8</sup>, Clara Caverro-Carbonell<sup>7</sup>, Hermien E. K. de Walle<sup>9</sup>, Laura Garcia-Villodre<sup>7</sup>, Miriam Gatt<sup>7</sup>, Mika Gissler<sup>10,11,12</sup>, Anna Heino<sup>10</sup>, Sue Jordan<sup>13</sup>, Babak Khoshnood<sup>14</sup>, Kari Klungsoy<sup>15,16</sup>, Nathalie Lelong<sup>14</sup>, Renée L. Lutke<sup>9</sup>, Amanda J. Neville<sup>17</sup>, David Tucker<sup>18</sup>, Stine K. Urhoj<sup>4,19</sup>, Diana Wellesley<sup>20</sup>, Joan K. Morris<sup>5</sup>

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- <sup>2</sup>Population Health Research Institute, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- <sup>3</sup>Unit of Epidemiology of Rare Diseases and Congenital Anomalies, Institute of Clinical Physiology, National Research Council, Pisa, Italy
- <sup>4</sup>Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, Lillebaelt Hospital, University Hospital of Southern Denmark, Kolding, Denmark
- <sup>5</sup>Faculty of Life and Health Sciences, Aston University, Coventry, UK
- <sup>6</sup>Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Paediatric Section, IBER Registry, Emilia Romagna Registry of Birth Defects, Department of Medical Sciences, University of Ferrara, Ferrara, Italy
- <sup>7</sup>Rare Diseases Research Unit, Foundation for the Promotion of Health and Biomedical Research in the Valencian Region, Valencia, Spain
- <sup>8</sup>Department of Genetics, University of Groningen, University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
- <sup>9</sup>Viecha Congenital Anomalies Registry, Directorate for Health Information and Research, Tallinn, Estonia
- <sup>10</sup>Department of Knowledge Enrichment, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Helsinki, Finland
- <sup>11</sup>Region Stockholm, Academic Primary Health Care Centre, Stockholm, Sweden
- <sup>12</sup>Department of Molecular Medicine and Surgery, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden
- <sup>13</sup>Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Science, Södertörn University, Södertörn, UK
- <sup>14</sup>Université Paris Cité, Centre of Research in Epidemiology and Statistics (CREDES), Obstetrical Perinatal and Paediatric Epidemiology Research Team (EPOR), Paris, France
- <sup>15</sup>Department of Social Public Health and Primary Care, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway
- <sup>16</sup>Division of Mental and Physical Health, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Bergen, Norway
- <sup>17</sup>Viecha Registry (Viecha Romagna Registry of Birth Defects), Center for Clinical and Epidemiological Research, University of Ferrara and Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria di Ferrara, Ferrara, Italy
- <sup>18</sup>Congenital Anomaly Register & Information Service for Wales (CARIS), Public Health Knowledge and Research, Public Health Wales, Swansea, UK
- <sup>19</sup>Section of Epidemiology, Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
- <sup>20</sup>University of Southampton and Wessex Clinical Genetics Service, Princess Anne Hospital, Southampton, UK

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© 2023 The Author(s). *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology* published by John Wiley & Sons Ltd.  
Register: Perinatal Epidemiol. 2023;37:479–500. [onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ppe.14817](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ppe.14817)



# CARIS ACTIVE PROJECTS

## Academic

- Gastroschisis paper with Cardiff University



**eurolinkcat**  
*Establishing a linked European Cohort of  
Children with Congenital Anomalies*



## Health Protection

- Maternal Covid-19 and congenital anomalies
- Parvovirus

## Improvement Work

- HIV and Syphilis – Microbiology, CARIS, CDSC

4 Nations - Newborn blood spot screening engagement

# PARVOVIRUS IN WALES

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PRESENTED BY: SAMANTHA FISHER –  
CARIS SENIOR REGISTRATION OFFICER



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WALES

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Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

# Parvovirus

## Infection

---



- Also known as slapped cheek syndrome/fifth disease and is common in children
- General infection signs like fever and headache 7-10 days before classic rash. Generally non-infectious once rash appears.
- 50% adults have already had parvovirus infection and have immunity against it.

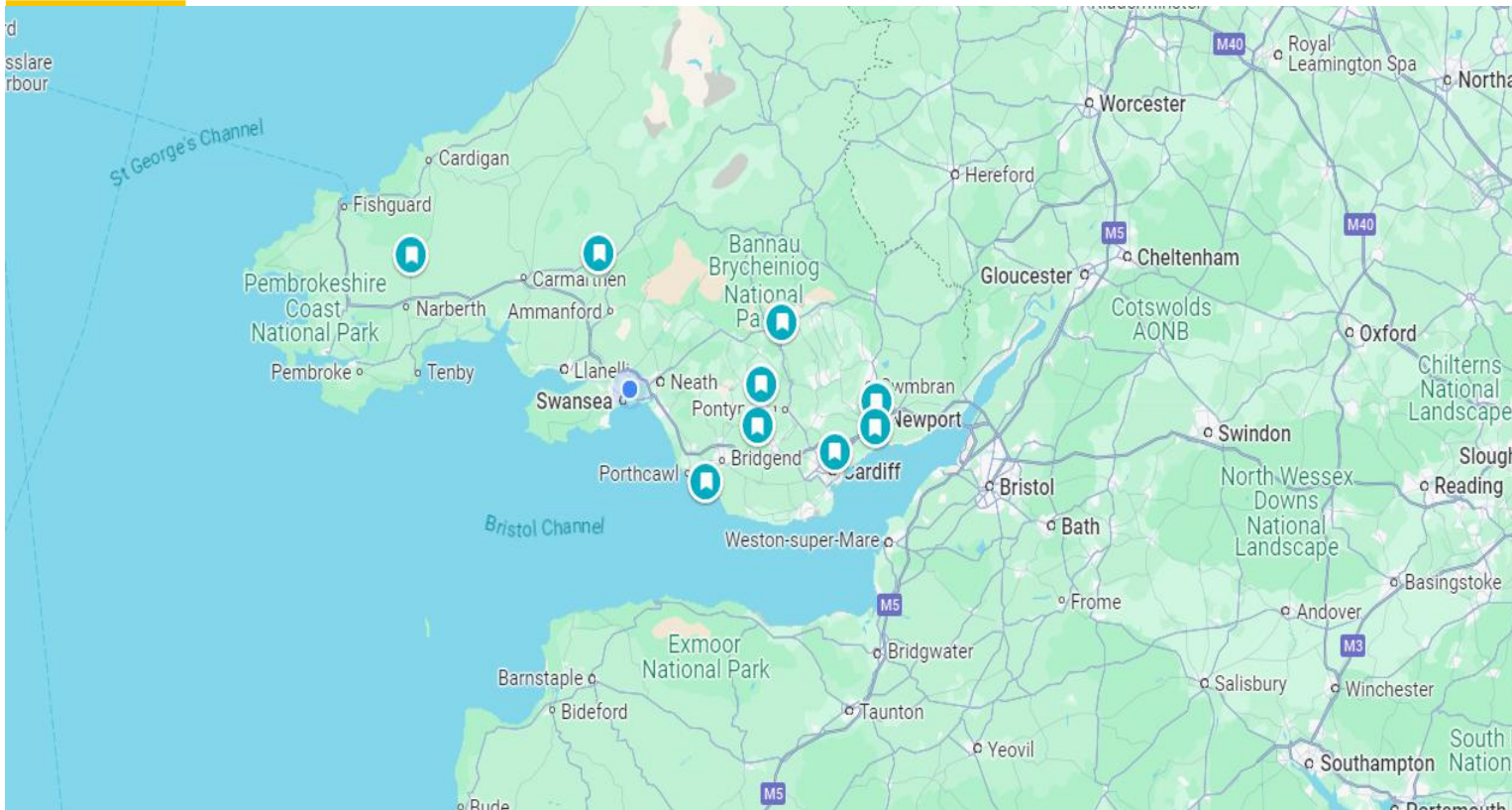
**If a pregnant woman is infected there is a 30% risk of transmission to foetus**

Infection in pregnancy is of most concern **before 26 weeks**, where it can be associated with:

- Fetal hydrops, congenital anaemia, pleural/pericardial effusions, intrauterine growth restriction
- Miscarriage or still birth

# Parvovirus in Wales

## Case monitoring

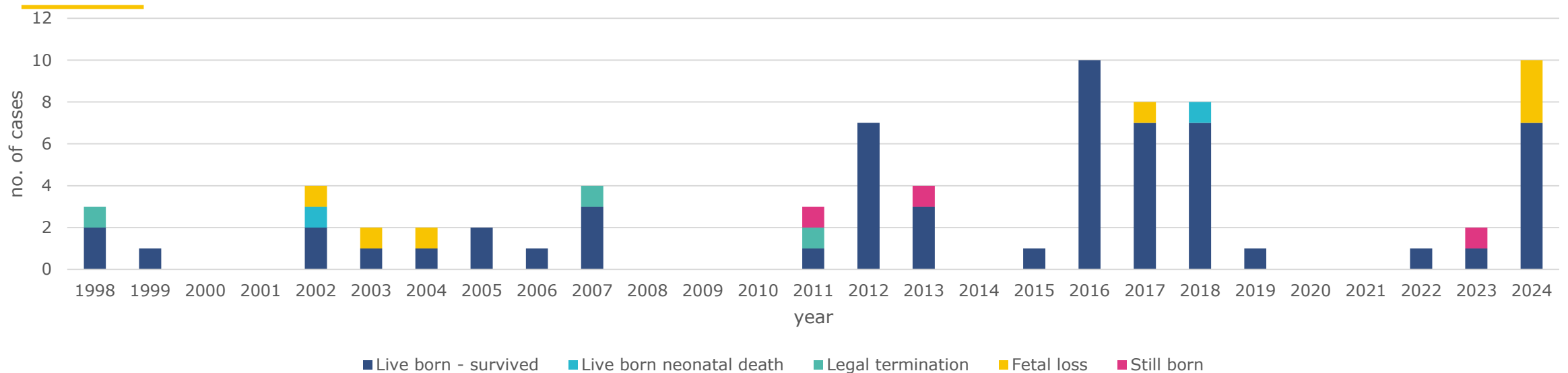


- We recognized an increase in Parvovirus cases during pregnancy in 2024, including some instances of spontaneous fetal loss.
- The geographic locations were plotted to see if a cluster emerged.
- The cases are distributed, however, are all in South Wales.
- We needed to check previous years data to confirm if cases were higher than usual

# Parvovirus in Wales

## Case numbers and outcomes

Pregnancy outcomes for parvovirus cases in Wales, 1998-2024



- 74 cases since CARIS began in 1998, 10 of these were in 2024
- The increase in cases over recent years could be due to improved reporting and recording in CARIS
- No cases in 2020 and 2021 but this is likely due to pandemic shielding and a natural decline in transmission
- Three spontaneous fetal losses reported in 2024 to date, which is higher than data from previous years

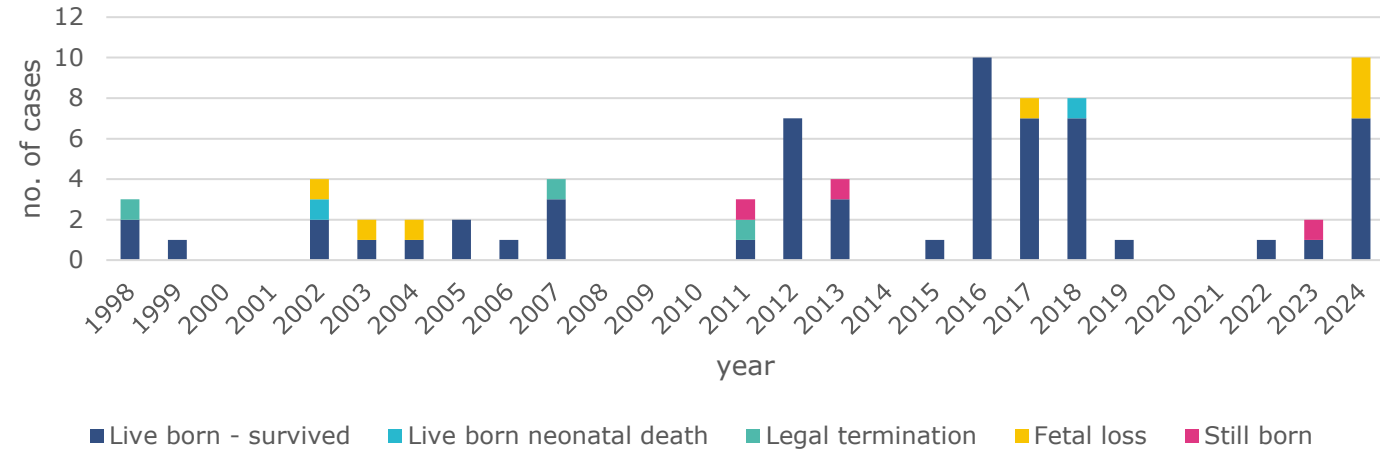
# Parvovirus in Wales

## 3-year rolling rate

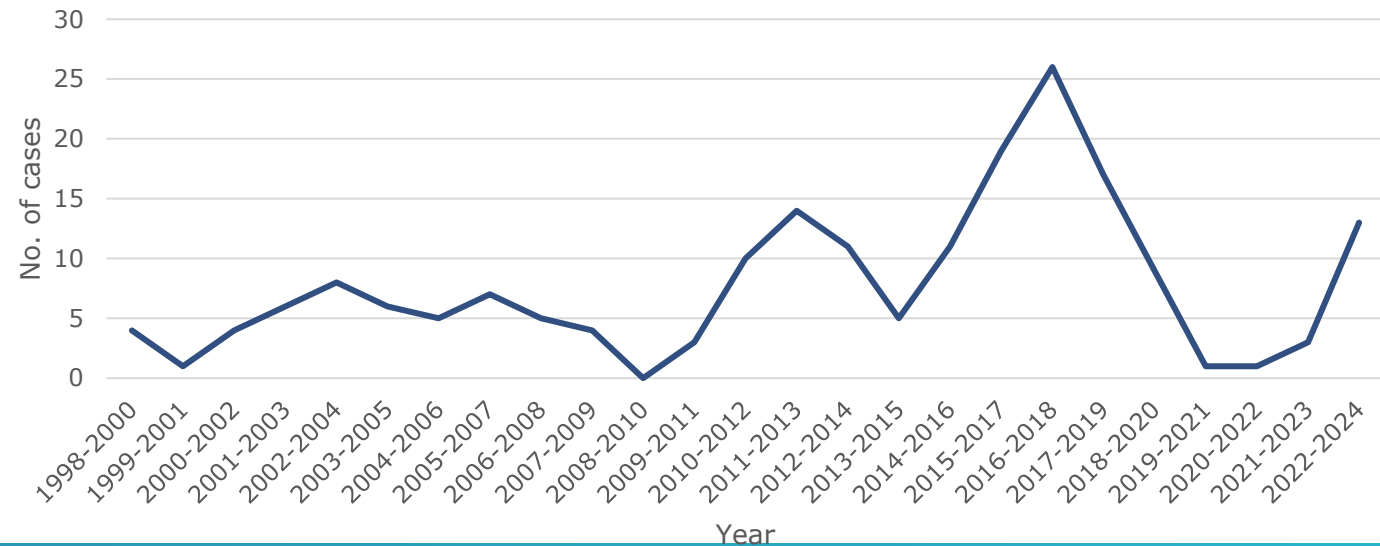
The 3-year rolling rate shows a trend where cases spike around every 4 years. This coincides with evidence found globally.

Pandemic shielding meant no cases in 2020-21, but a rebound of higher case numbers in 2024 has been noticed globally. Meaning we could see high case numbers again this spring before they decline again

Pregnancy outcomes for parvovirus cases in Wales, 1998-2024



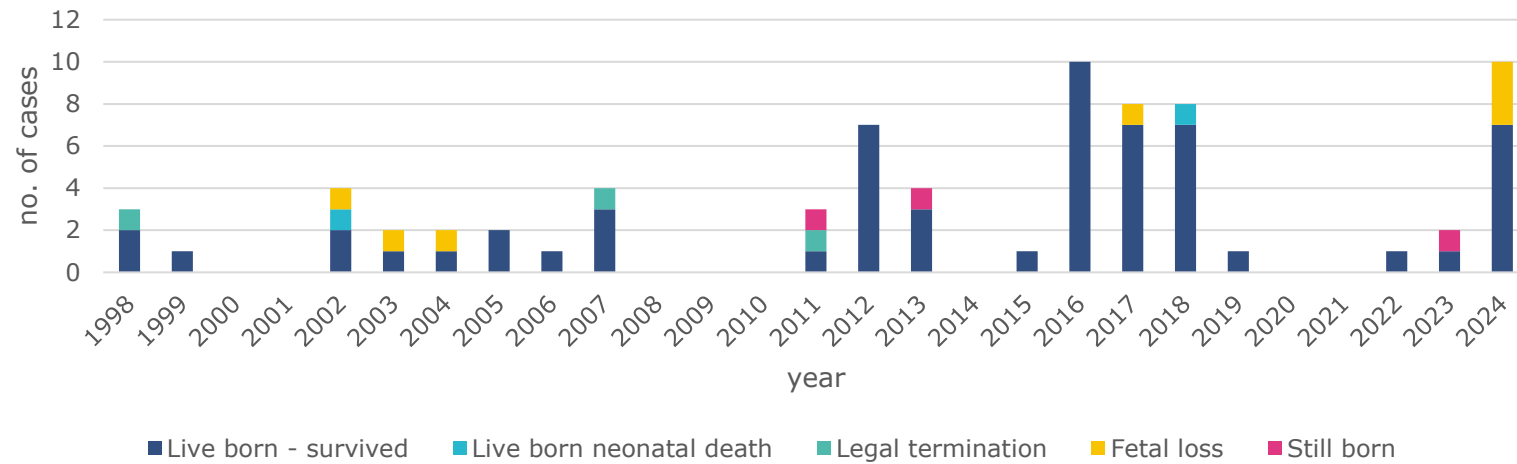
3 year rolling rate of parvovirus in pregnant women in Wales, 1998-2024



# Parvovirus in Wales

## Summary of findings

Pregnancy outcomes for parvovirus cases in Wales, 1998-2024



- Contact with young children who are susceptible to contracting Parvovirus is a risk factor pregnant women
- 49/74 had another child
- 18 had a job that involved contact with children
- Health Protection advice should be to remind pregnant women to avoid contact with parvovirus if possible and be vigilant of symptoms.
- Only 4 of the 74 cases were in North Wales and none from Mid Wales. We need to find a way of accessing Mid and North Wales data
- Welsh Clinical Portal enables us to see lab results for Parvovirus testing which could be increasing our case numbers.

# ASSESSING THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND CARDIAC AND GASTROINTESTINAL CONGENITAL ANOMALIES

AUTHOR: ASHA MAHAMED – TRAINEE IN PUBLIC HEALTH,  
CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

PRESENTED BY: PROF. KINZA YOUNAS



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**ASSESSING THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ARTIFICIAL  
REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND CARDIAC AND  
GASTROINTESTINAL CONGENITAL ANOMALIES IN  
WALES BETWEEN 1998 AND 2023: A RETROSPECTIVE  
COHORT STUDY**

**Authors : Mahamed, A. , Tucker, D. , Hurt, L., Davies, L., Younas, K.**

# BACKGROUND

1

Subfertility affects 1 in 6 couples in the UK (Harris 2023)

2

6,700 IVF cycles were recorded in 1991 while in 2022, 77,000 cycles + 6,000 DI (Thornton 2024)

3

21% of IVF user are 40 years old and over in 2019 while in 1991 it is only 10% (HFEA 2021)

4

2019 the multiple birth rate reached 6%, falling from 28% in the 1990s (HFEA 2021)

# CONGENITAL ANOMALIES AND ART

Research shows congenital anomaly risks are higher in ART pregnancies than conventional conception (Hoorsan et al. 2017)

In the UK, about 2 % or 1 in 59 live births have a congenital anomaly (NCARDRS 2021)

In Wales, 4.9% of both live and still births had at least one congenital anomaly (CARIS 2022)

**Congenital anomalies have immediate, long term and wide-reaching impacts:**

Trauma for both parents and child

Physical, Developmental, Social

Economic

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Population</b>            | Women in Wales who used ART to conceive a pregnancy that resulted in a congenital anomaly that was reported to CARIS between 1998 and 2023   |
| <b>Intervention/exposure</b> | ART focusing on risk factors including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Age (mother and father): under 35 years old and 35 years old and over</li> <li>▪ Deprivation: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)</li> </ul>                                 |
| <b>Comparison/control</b>    | Comparing between ART and non-ART cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IUI- Intrauterine insemination</li> <li>▪ GIFT- Gamete intrafallopian transfer</li> <li>▪ IVF- invitro fertilisation</li> <li>▪ ICSI- Intra cytoplasmic sperm injection</li> </ul> |
| <b>Outcomes</b>              | Congenital anomalies classified by ICD-10  |

## METHODOLOGY

Baseline- Women in Wales who didn't use ART but had a pregnancy that resulted in a congenital anomaly that was reported to CARIS between 1998 and 2023

# METHODOLOGY

## RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

Maternal and paternal age and level of deprivation



Data from CARIS was anonymised



Ethical approval was not required under CARIS governance permissions



Exclusion criteria used to reduce bias



IBM SPSS Version 29.0.2.0

Descriptive

Logistic Regression

Unadjusted and adjusted

# RESULTS

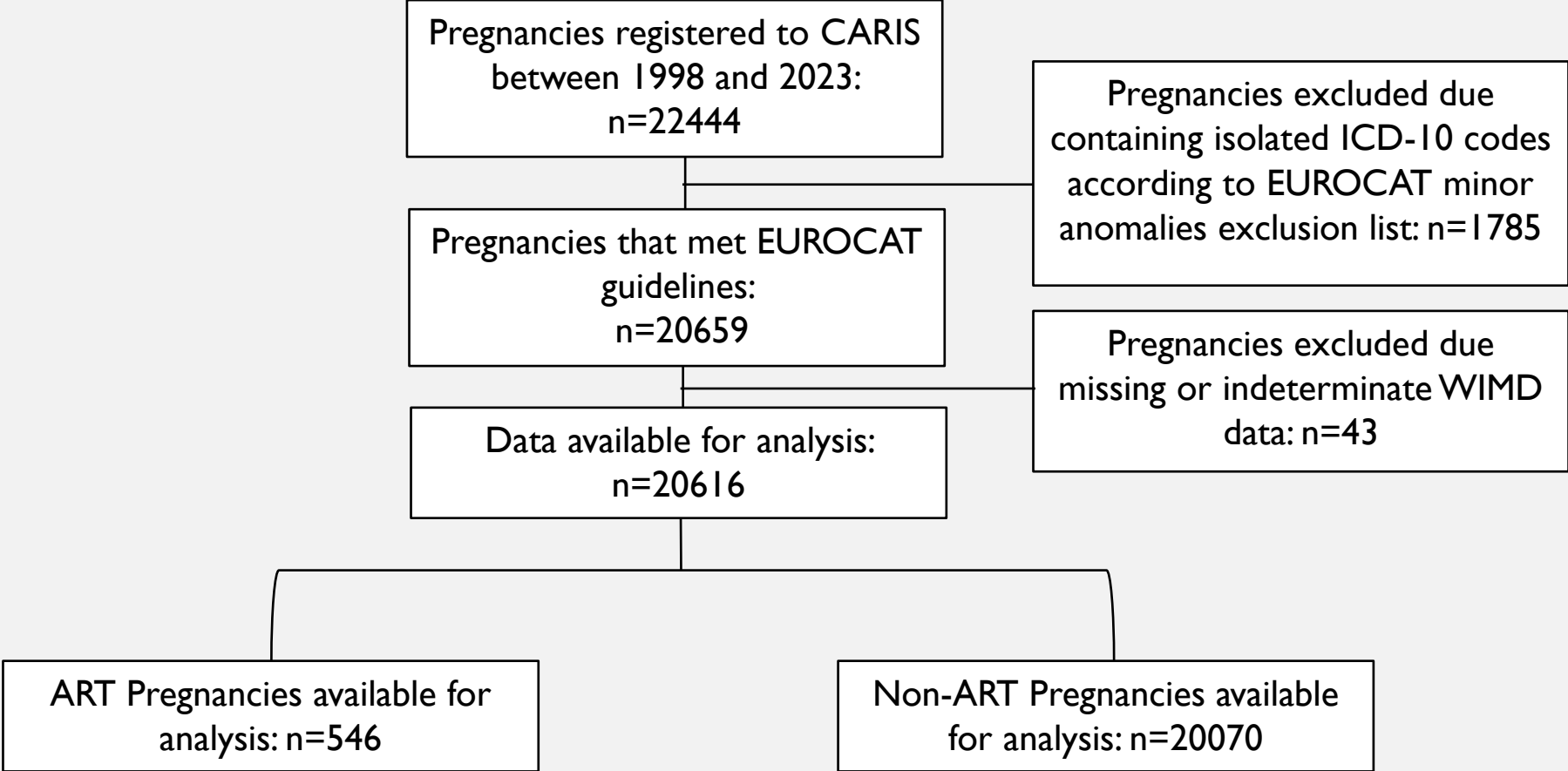
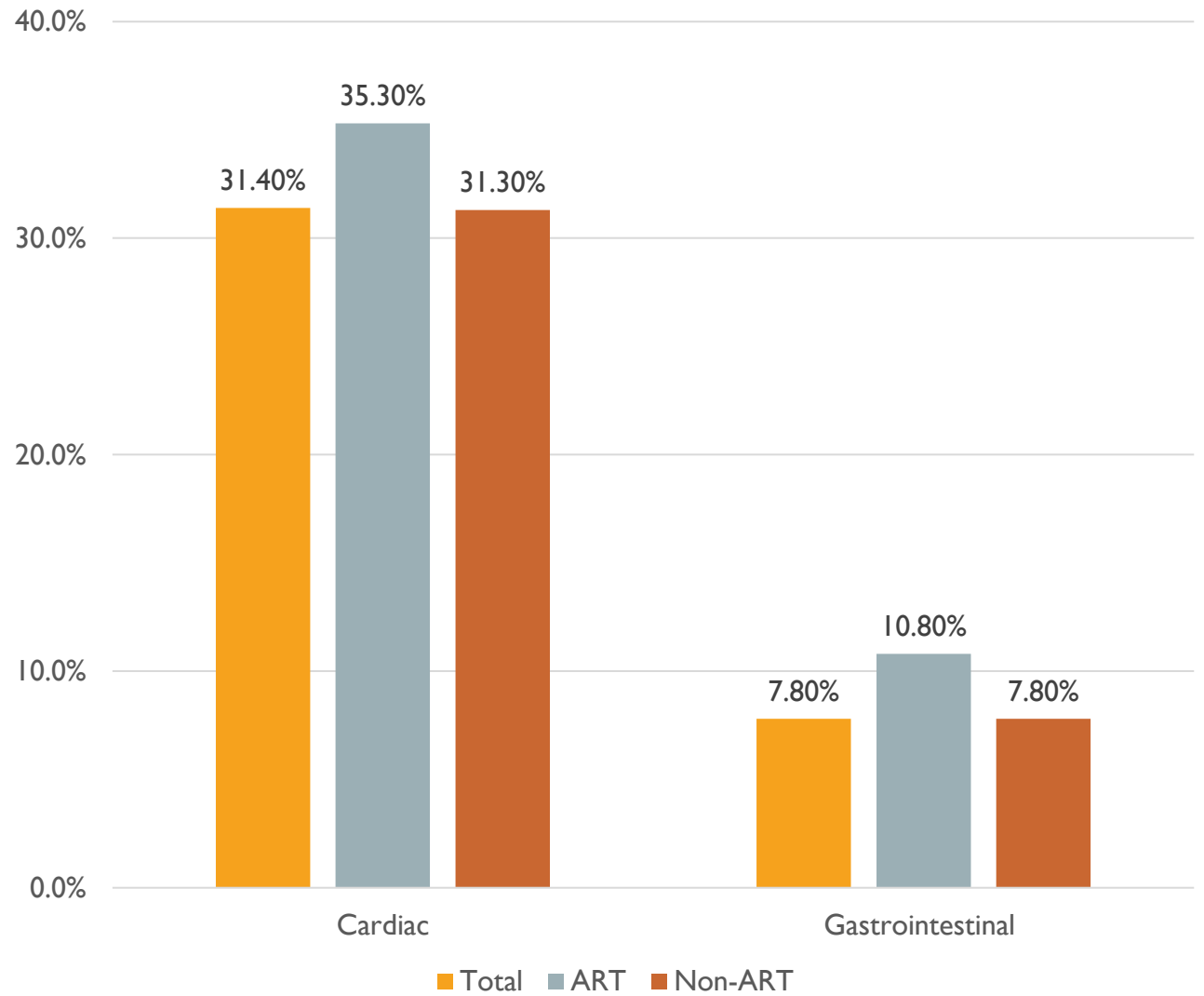
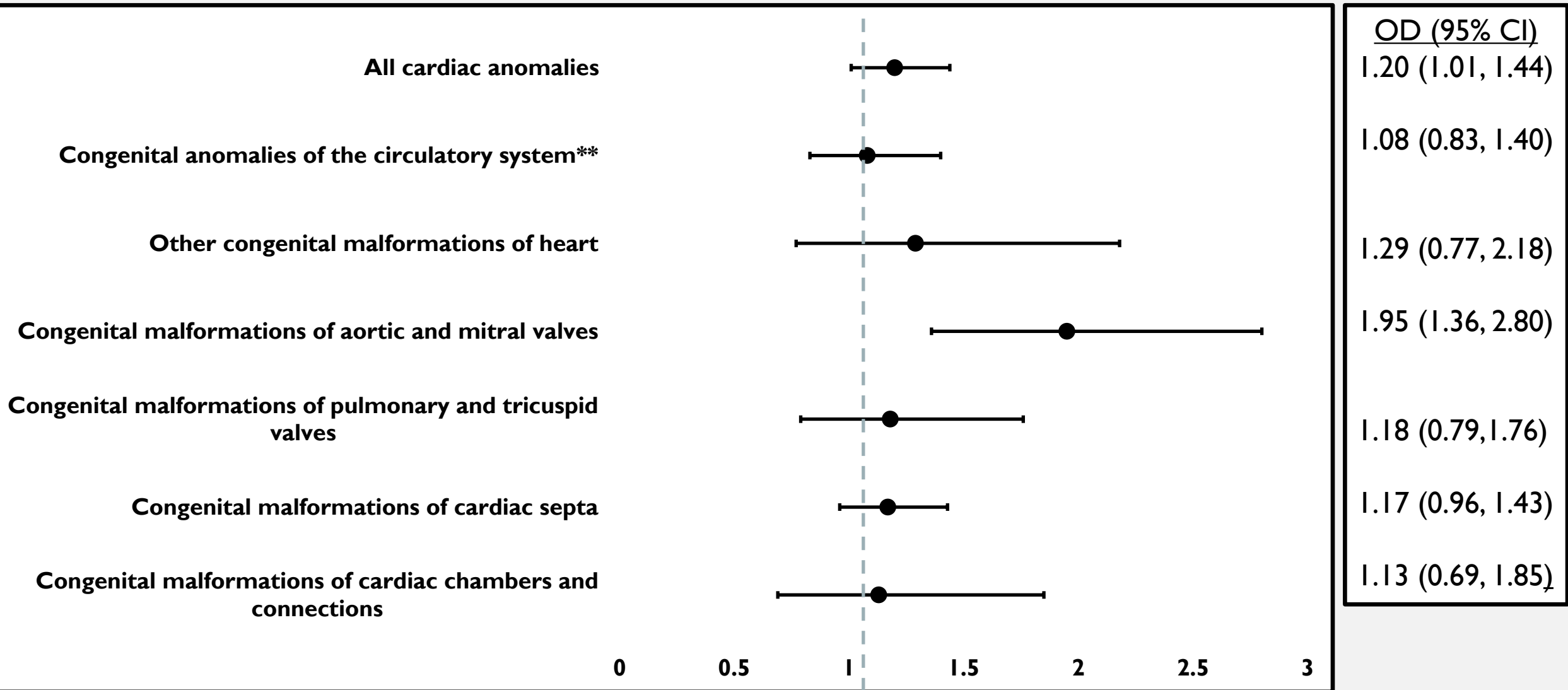


Figure 1- Cohort flow diagram.

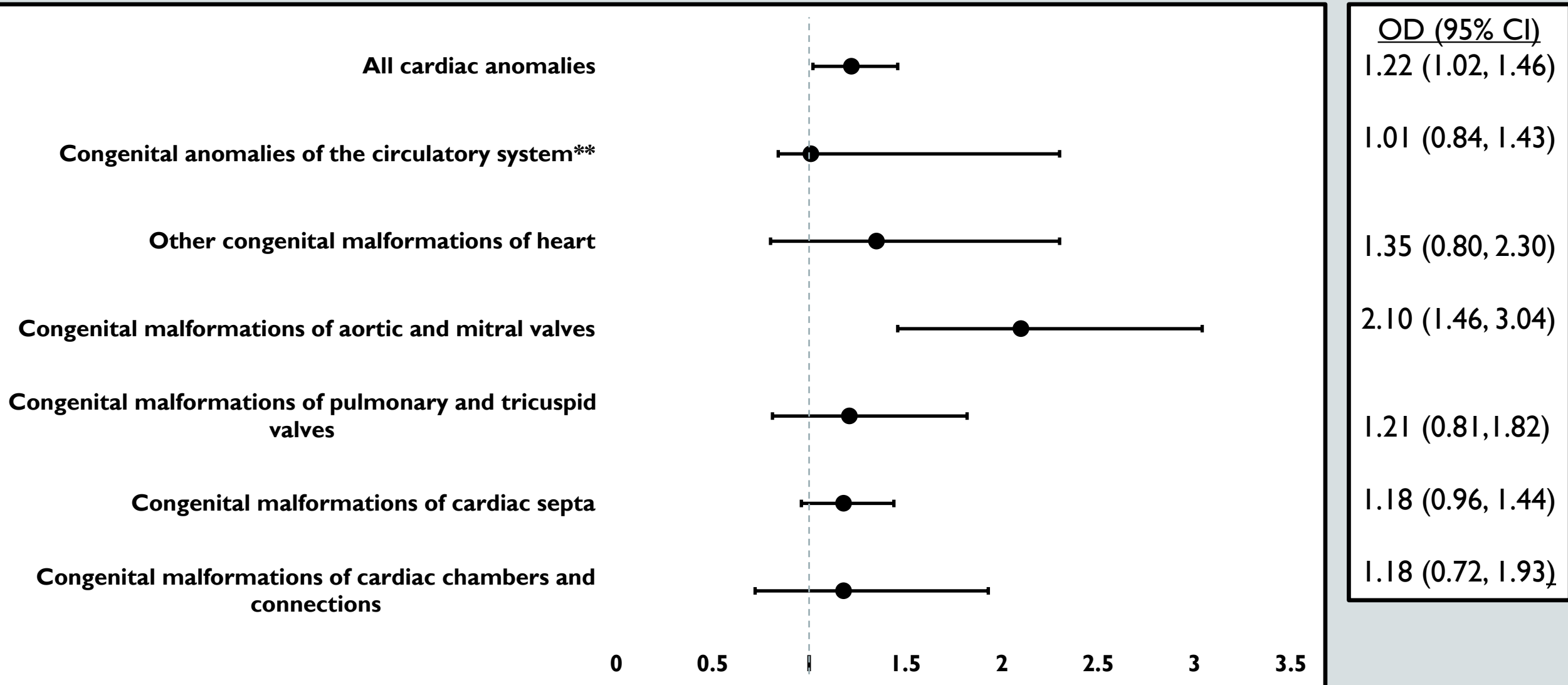
# CARDIAC AND GASTROINTESTINAL ANOMALY PREVALENCE



# UNADJUSTED ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN ART USE AND CARDIAC ANOMALIES



# ADJUSTED ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN ART USE AND CARDIAC ANOMALIES



# UNADJUSTED ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN ART USE AND GASTROINTESTINAL ANOMALIES

**All gastrointestinal anomalies**

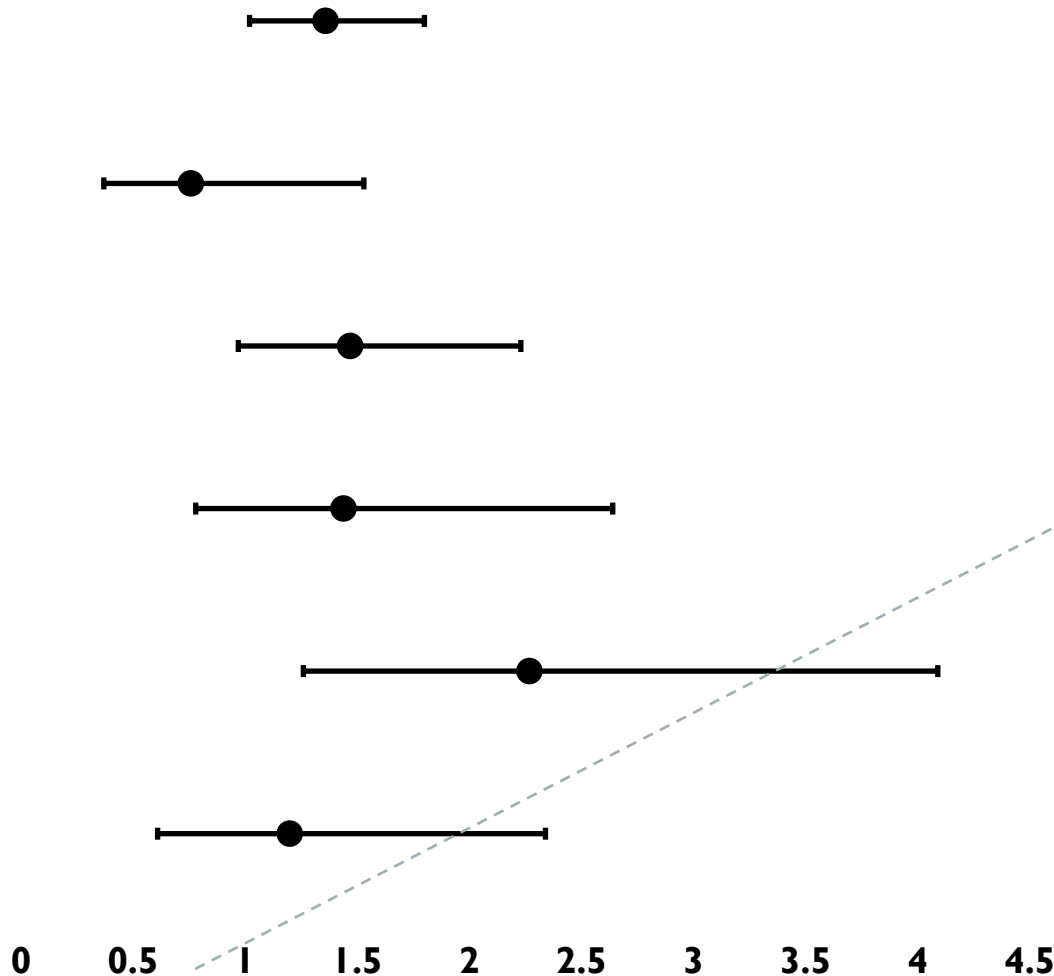
**Other congenital anomalies of the digestive system\*\***

**Other congenital malformations of intestine**

**Congenital absence, atresia and stenosis of large intestine**

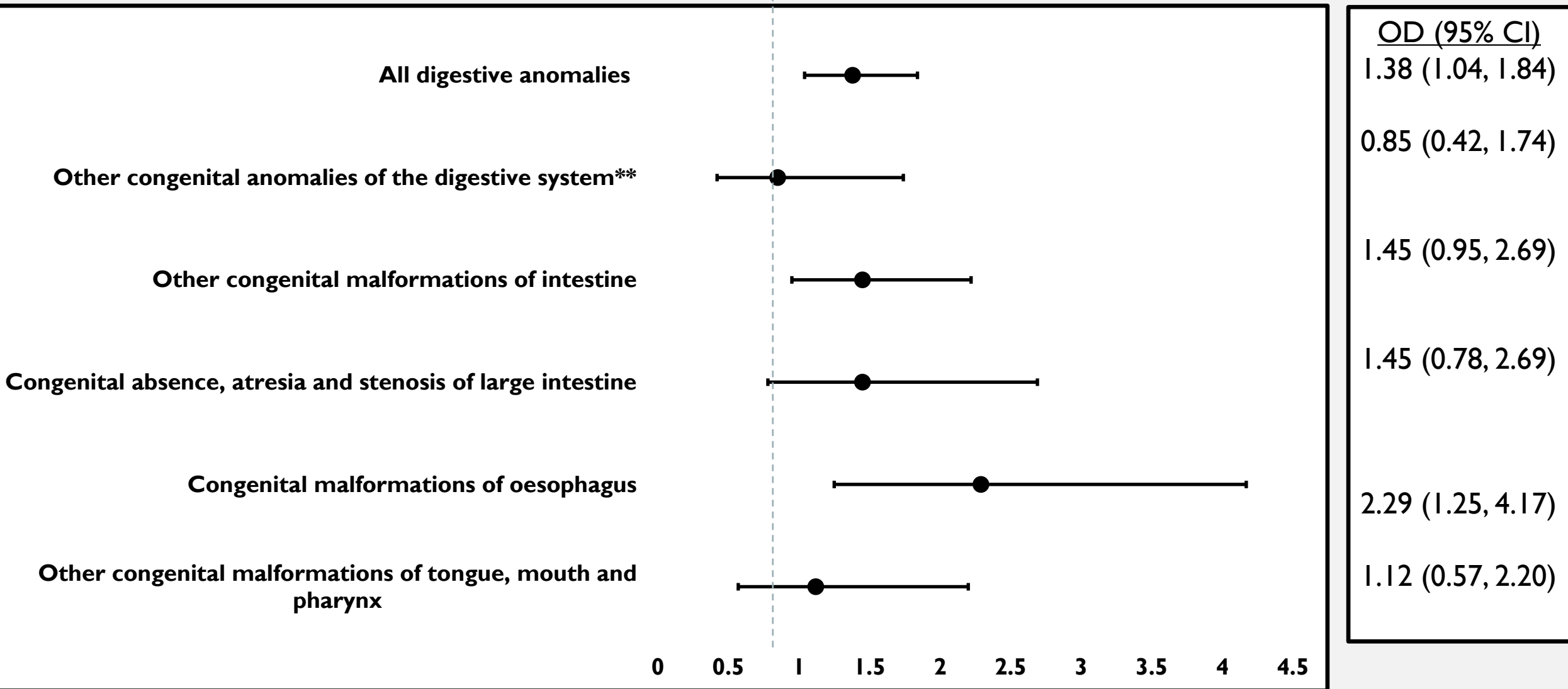
**Congenital malformations of oesophagus**

**Other congenital malformations of tongue, mouth and pharynx**



OD (95% CI)  
1.36 (1.02, 1.80)  
0.76 (0.37, 1.53)  
1.47 (0.97, 2.23)  
1.44 (0.78, 2.64)  
2.27 (1.26, 4.09)  
1.20 (0.91, 2.34)

# ADJUSTED ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN ART USE AND GASTROINTESTINAL ANOMALIES



# CONCLUSIONS

01

ART use and cardiac and gastrointestinal anomalies appear to be associated in Wales

02

Parental age and deprivation do not appear to influence risk

03

The associations within different types of ART such as IVF and ICSI need to be researched further in Wales

04

To allow clinicians and patients to make more informed decisions

## REFERENCES

Adamson, G. D. et al. 2023. Global fertility care with assisted reproductive technology. *Fertility and Sterility* 120(3, Part 1), pp. 473-482. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fertnstert.2023.01.013>

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HFEA, H. F. a. E. A. 2021. *Fertility treatment 2019: trends and figures*. Available at: <https://www.hfea.gov.uk/about-us/publications/research-and-data/fertility-treatment-2019-trends-and-figures/#:~:text=In%201991%20there%20were%20around,progress%20that%20has%20been%20made>. [Accessed: 02/11/2024].

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NCARDRS, N. C. A. a. R. D. R. S. 2021. *NCARDRS Congenital Anomaly Official Statistics Report, 2021*. Available at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/ncardrs-congenital-anomaly-statistics-annual-data/ncardrs-congenital-anomaly-statistics-report-2021/prevalence-of-congenital-anomalies#:~:text=Live%20birth%20prevalence%20is%20the,%25%20CI%20165.9%2D172.5>). [Accessed: 02/11/2024].

Thornton, J. 2024. The Warnock Report: 40 years on. *The Lancet* 404(10471), pp. 2501-2502. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(24)02787-9

# FOCUS SESSION

## CHAIR – KINZA YOUNAS



# LINKING ANTENATAL DETECTION AND CARIS DATA FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE

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LAURA MACDERMOTT – Programme Coordinator –  
Antenatal Screening Wales.



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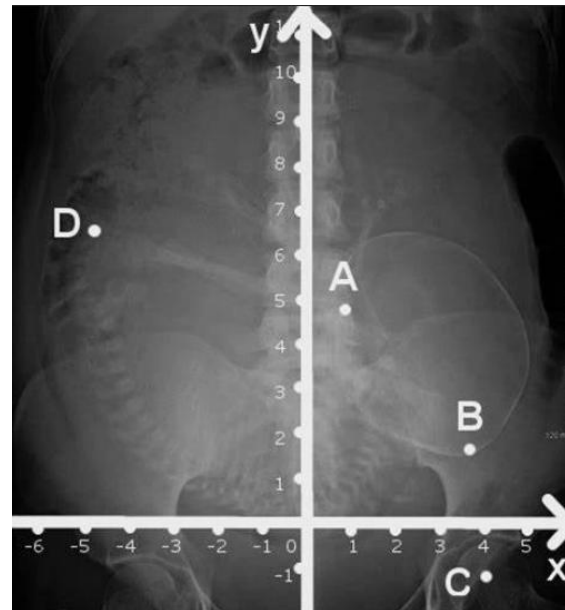
# Looking back

## Where were we?

1970s

- AFP
- Rubella
- X-ray

1970s



# Looking back

## Where were we?

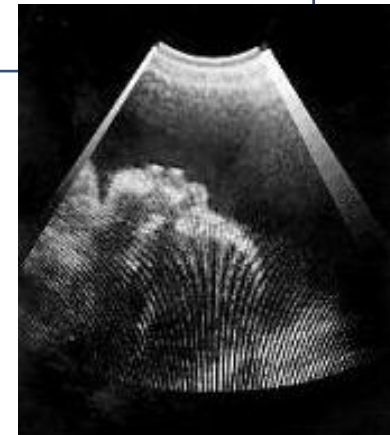
1970s

- AFP
- Rubella
- X-ray

1980s

- Blood Group and Antibodies
- Ultrasound

1980s



# Looking back

## Where were we?

1970s

- AFP
- Rubella
- X-ray

1980s

- Blood Group and Antibodies
- Ultrasound

1990s

- Hepatitis B and Syphilis
- Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia

1990s



# Looking back

## UKNSC recommendation

- UK NSC est. 1996

*"Screening is the process of identifying apparently healthy people who may have an increased chance of a disease or condition.*

*Individuals can then be offered more information, further tests or treatment as appropriate."*

National Screening Committee

### UK NSC screening recommendation

Based on the last UK NSC review of this condition that occurred in March 2017.

**Screening is not currently recommended for this condition.**

Screening pregnant women for GBS is not recommended by the UK NSC because:

- a woman may have a positive result a few weeks before labour and a negative result when she gives birth
- GBS does not cause an infection in every baby- there is no way of telling which babies will be affected
- screening may result in giving many women antibiotics when they do not need them
- it is not known if the benefits of screening outweigh the harms for most of the population
- the proportion of babies affected by disease in countries where screening is carried out is similar to that in the UK

#### Supporting documents from the 2017 review

[Evidence summary Group B Streptococcus \(2017\) compressed](#)

This document provides the evidence on which the current UK NSC recommendation is based.

[UK NSC coversheet and consultation responses GBS \(2017\)](#)

This document summarises the review process including the public consultation comments.



# Looking back

## The start of change

- Wales Antenatal Screening Project 2002
  - Absent policies and protocols
  - Inequality
  - Lack of audit mechanisms
  - Recommended screening not implemented
  - Invalid consent
  - Ad hoc training

| Screening Test                 | Early pregnancy scan |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Trust Name                     |                      |
| Bro Morgannwg Trust            | Yellow               |
| Cardiff and Vale Trust         | Green                |
| Carmarthenshire Trust          | Green                |
| Ceredigion and Mid Wales Trust | Yellow               |
| Conwy and Denbighshire Trust   | Green                |
| Gwent Trust                    | Green                |
| North East Wales Trust         | Yellow               |
| North Glamorgan Trust          | Green                |
| North West Wales Trust         | White                |
| Pembrokeshire and Derwen Trust | Green                |
| Pontypridd and Rhondda Trust   | Green                |
| Powys Healthcare Trust         | Green                |
| Swansea Trust                  | Red                  |

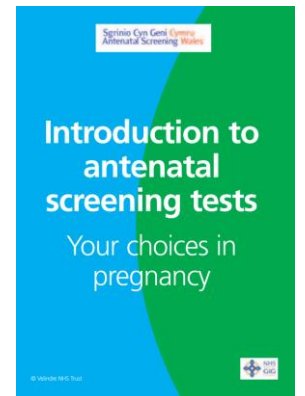
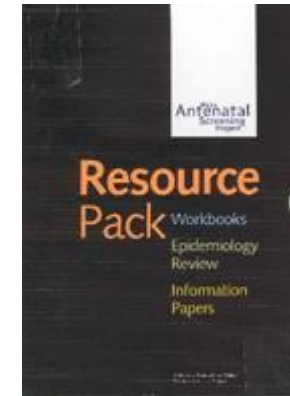
| Screening Test                 | HIV    |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Trust Name                     |        |
| Bro Morgannwg Trust            | Red    |
| Cardiff and Vale Trust         | Yellow |
| Carmarthenshire Trust          | Yellow |
| Ceredigion and Mid Wales Trust | Red    |
| Conwy and Denbighshire Trust   | Yellow |
| Gwent Trust                    | Yellow |
| North East Wales Trust         | Green  |
| North Glamorgan Trust          | Yellow |
| North West Wales Trust         | Yellow |
| Pembrokeshire and Derwen Trust | Green  |
| Pontypridd and Rhondda Trust   | Green  |
| Powys Healthcare Trust         | White  |
| Swansea Trust                  | Yellow |



# Looking back

## Working towards equality

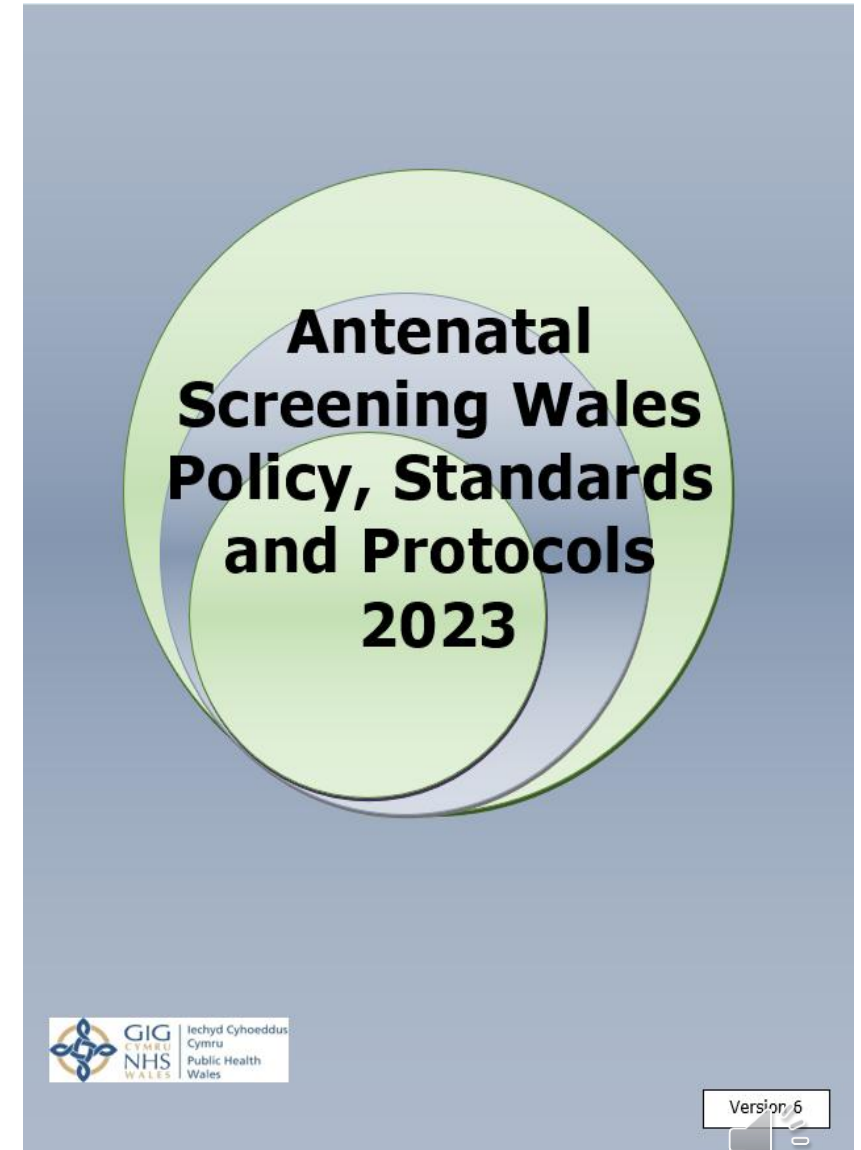
- Agreed All Wales Policy, Standards and Protocols
- All Wales education strategy
- All Wales Information for women



# Where are we today?

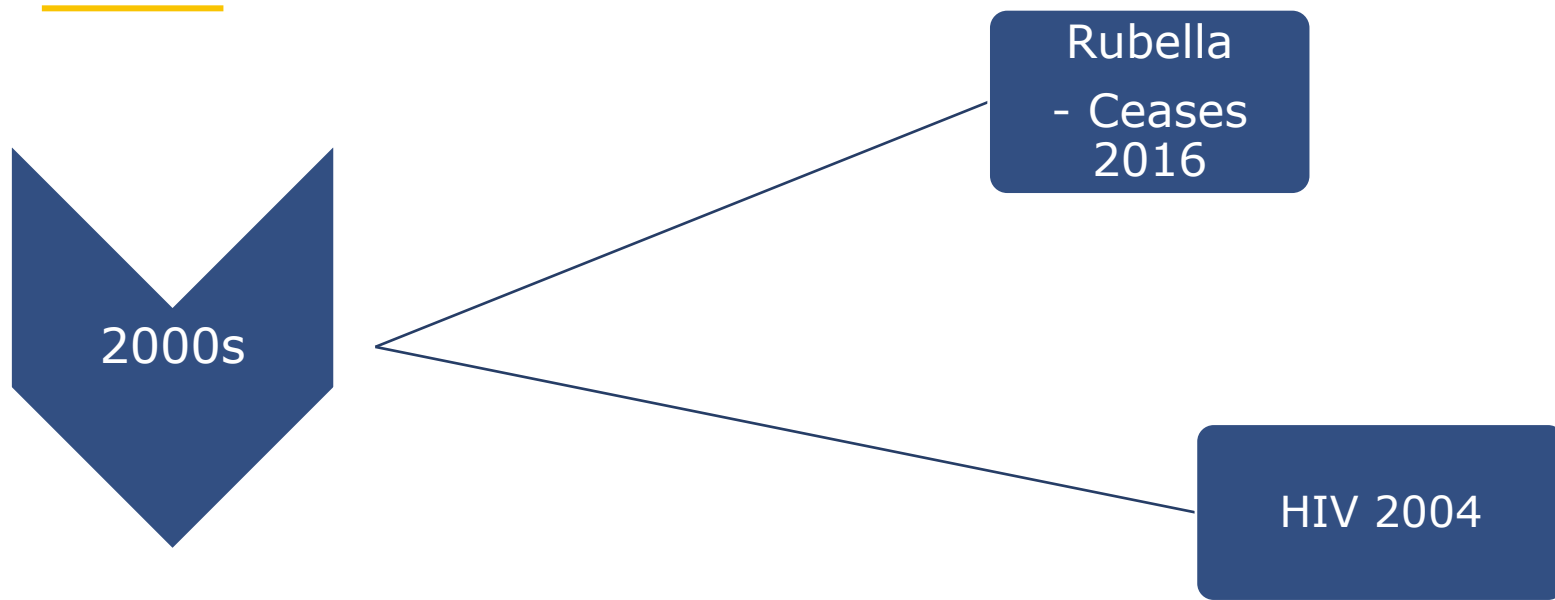
## Current practice

- Policy, Standards and Protocols Version 6
- The ASW Programmes are:
  - Blood group and antibody screening
  - HIV screening
  - Hepatitis B screening
  - Syphilis screening
  - Down's syndrome, Edwards' syndrome and Patau's syndrome screening
  - Sickle cell and thalassaemia screening
  - Early pregnancy dating scan
  - Fetal anomaly ultrasound scan.



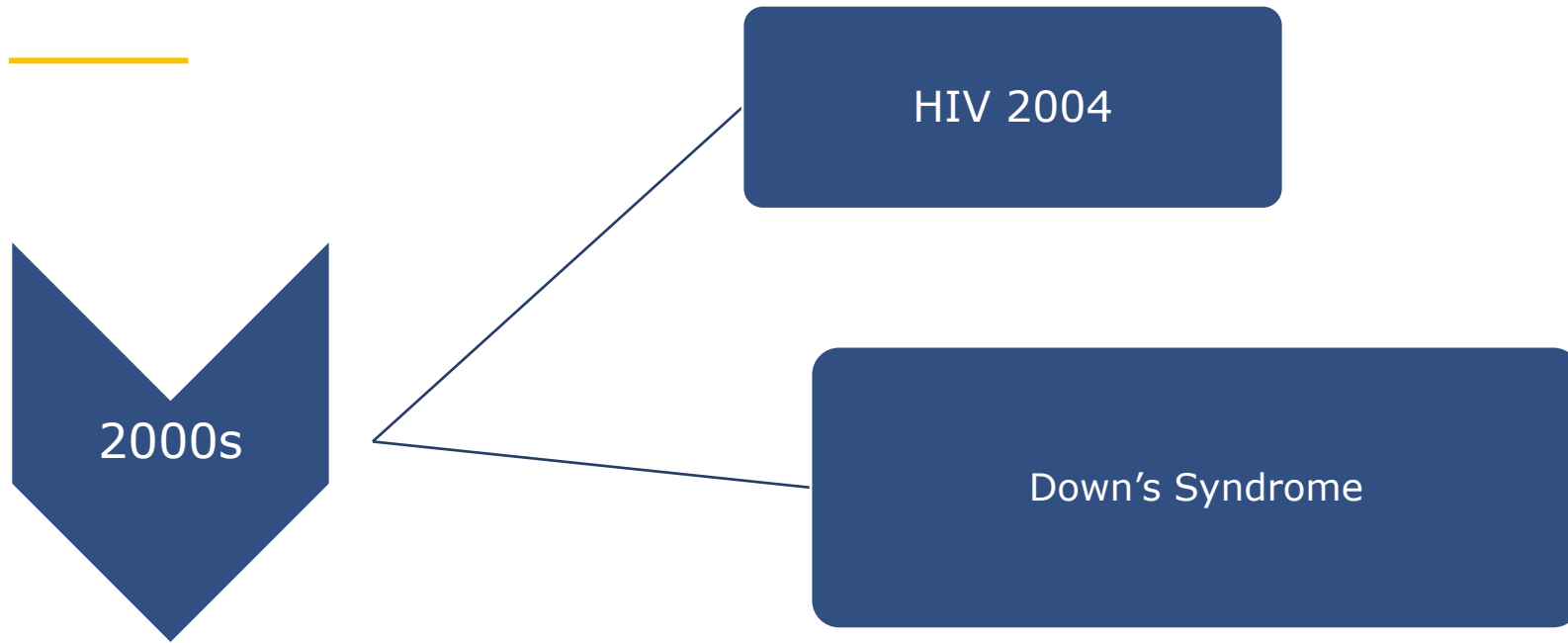
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



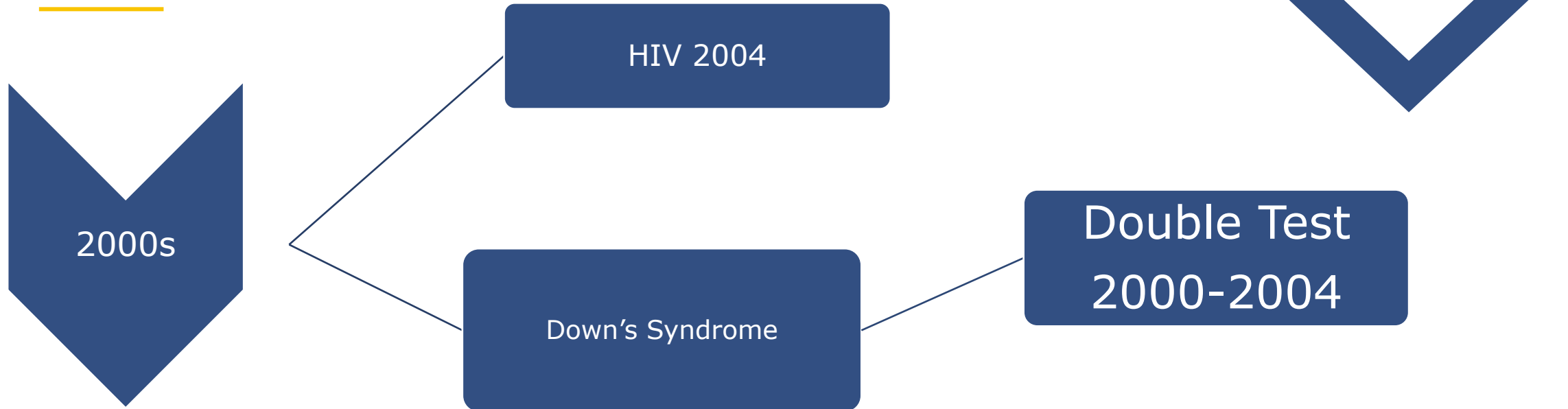
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



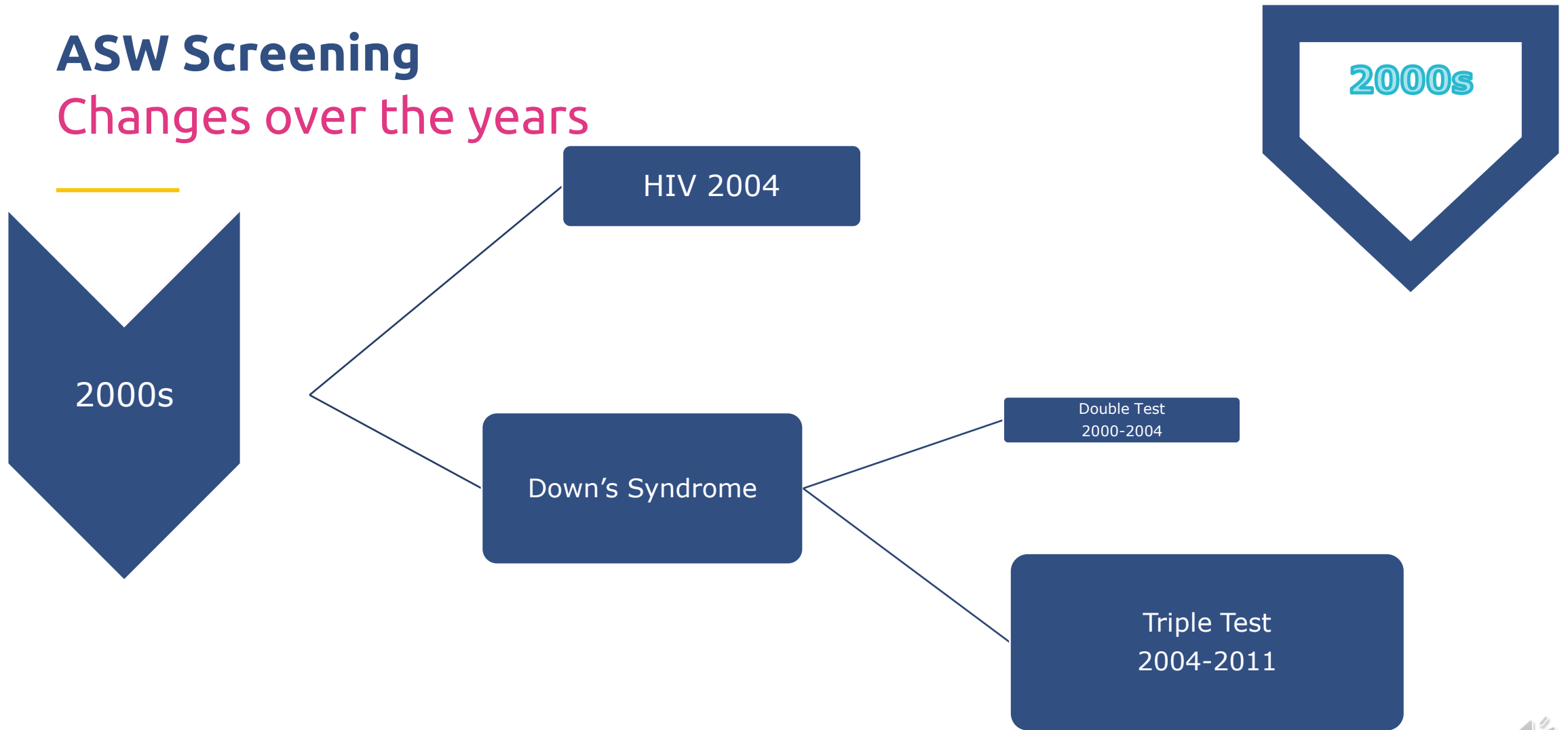
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



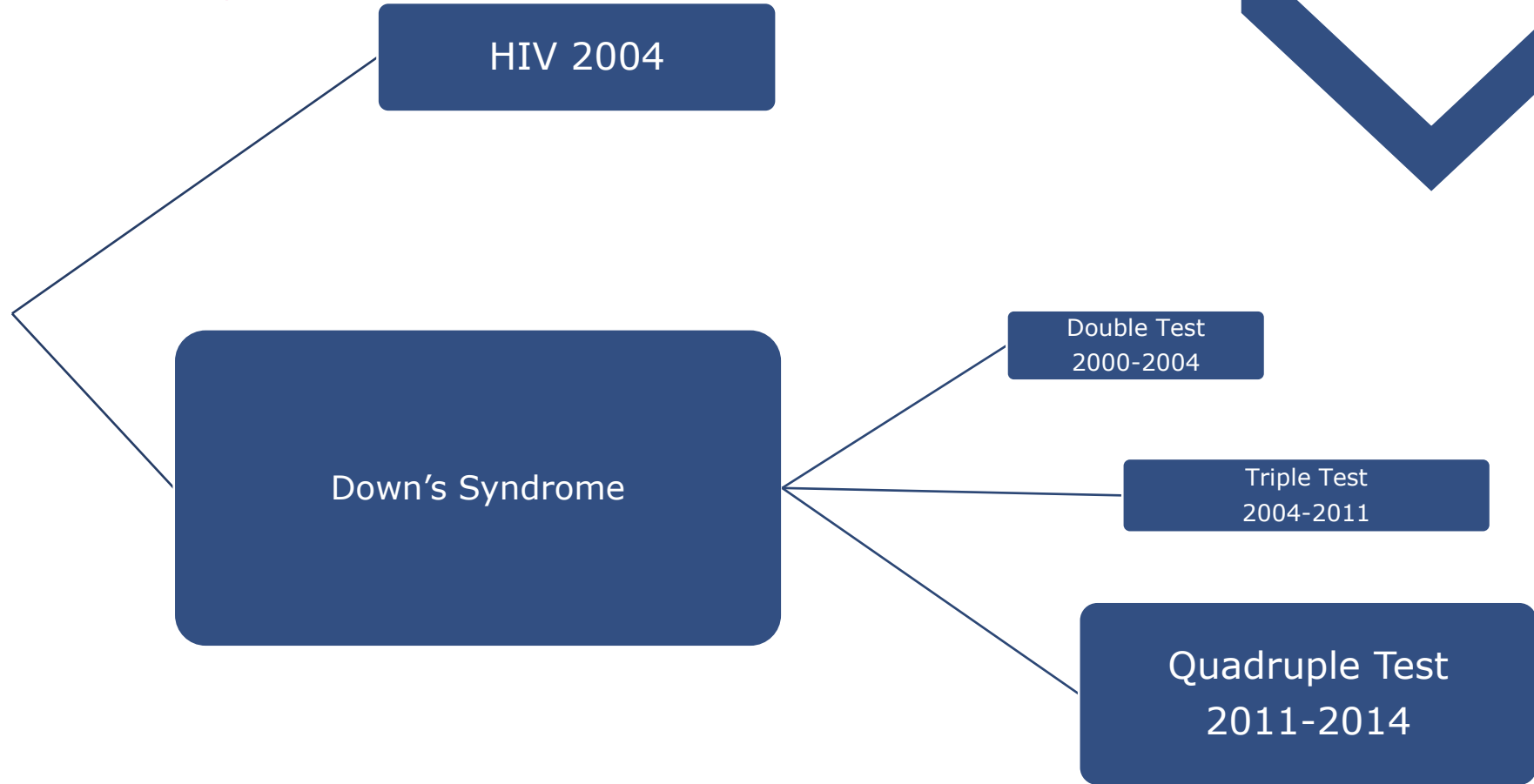
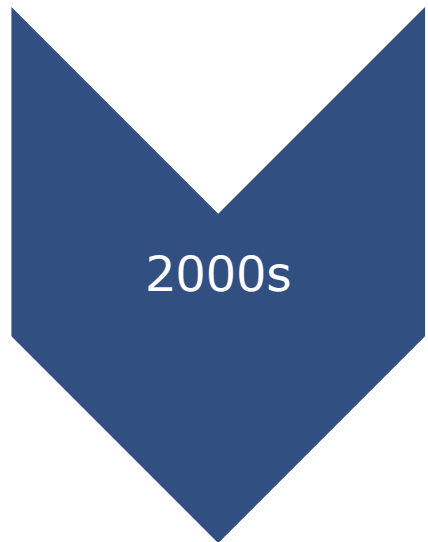
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



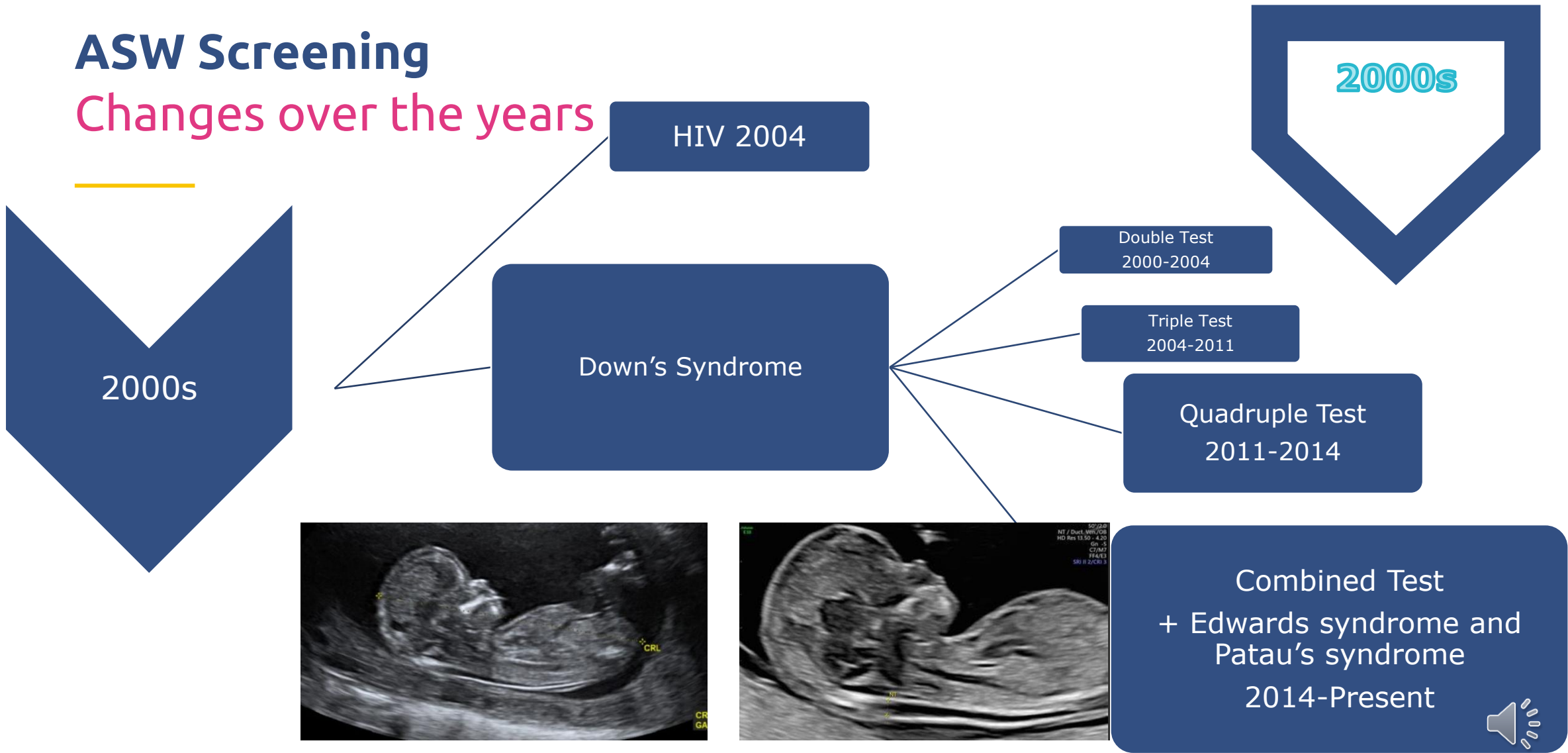
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



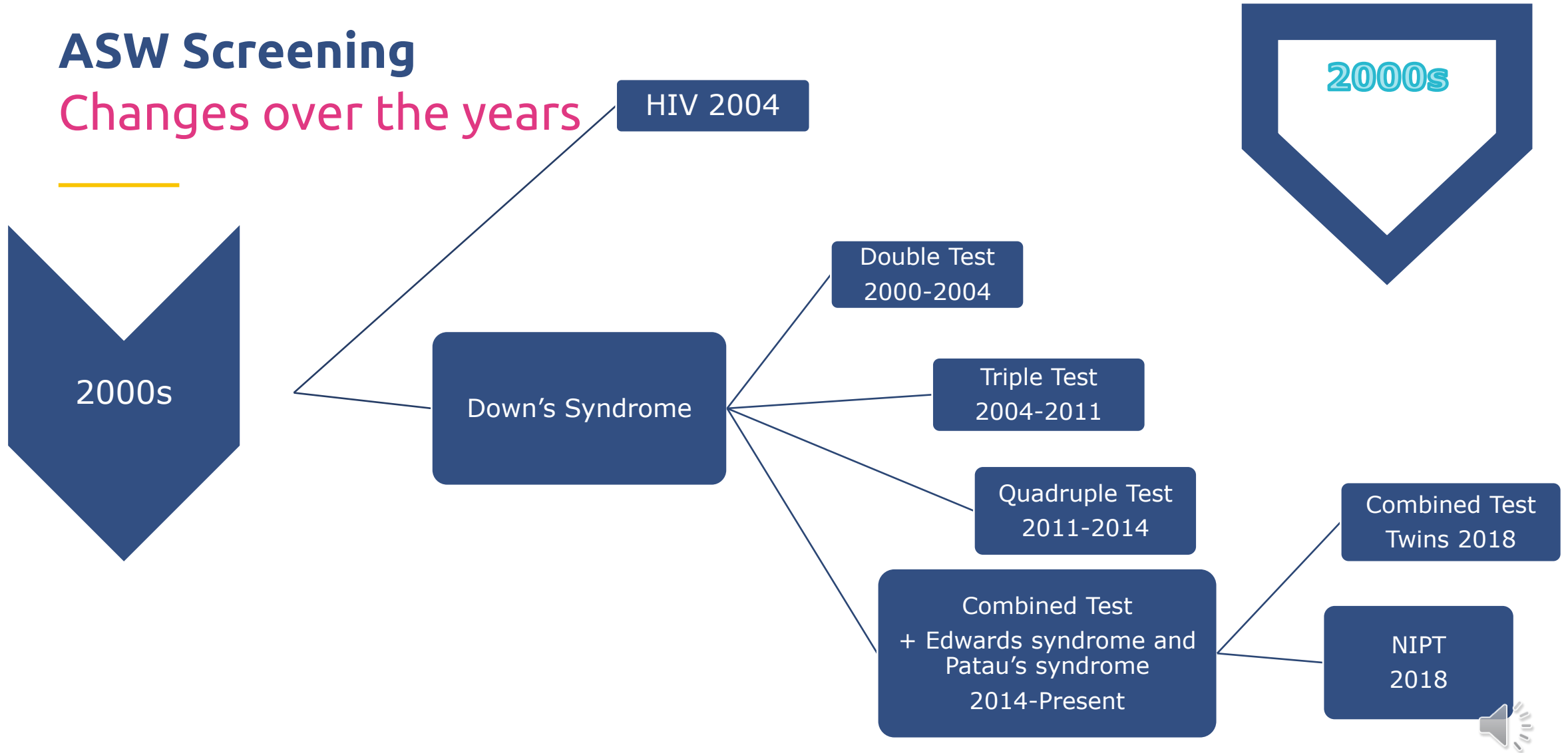
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



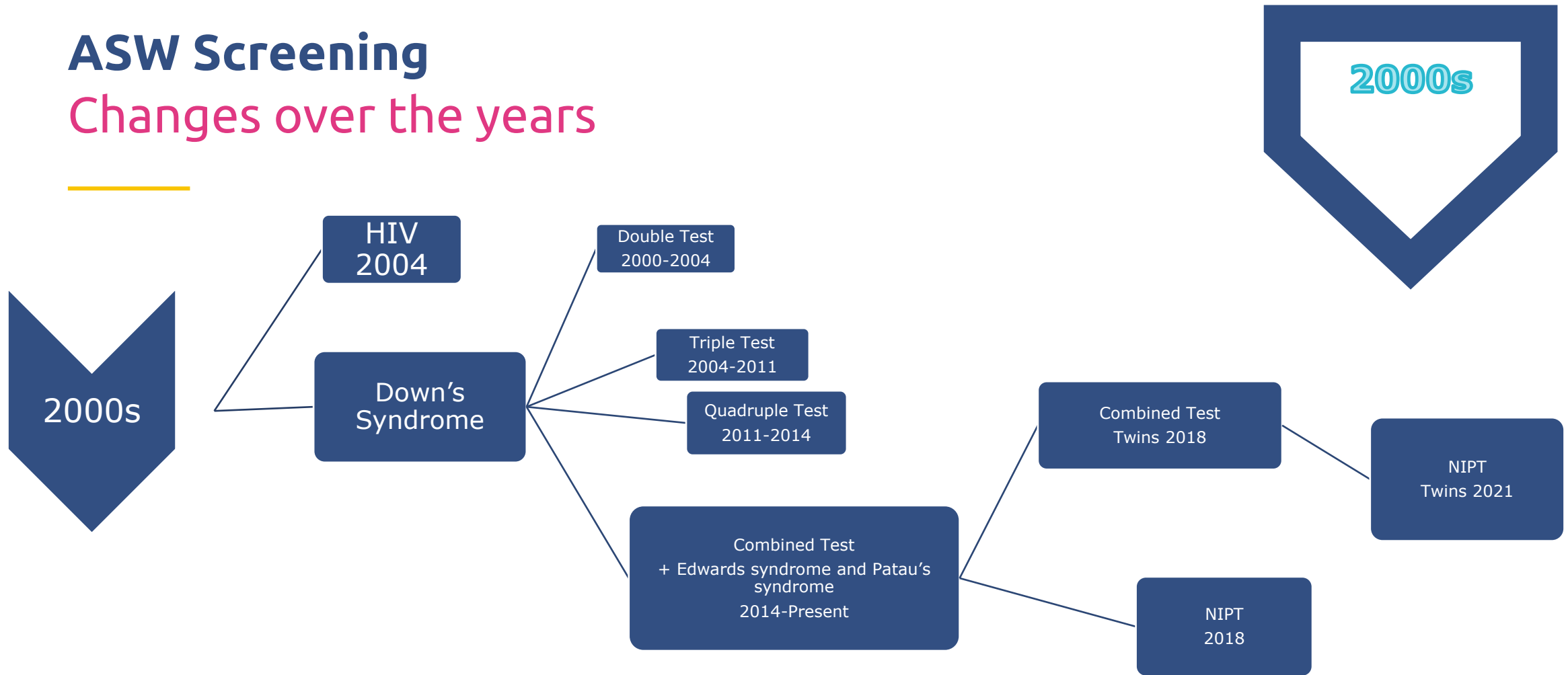
# ASW Screening

## Changes over the years



# ASW Screening

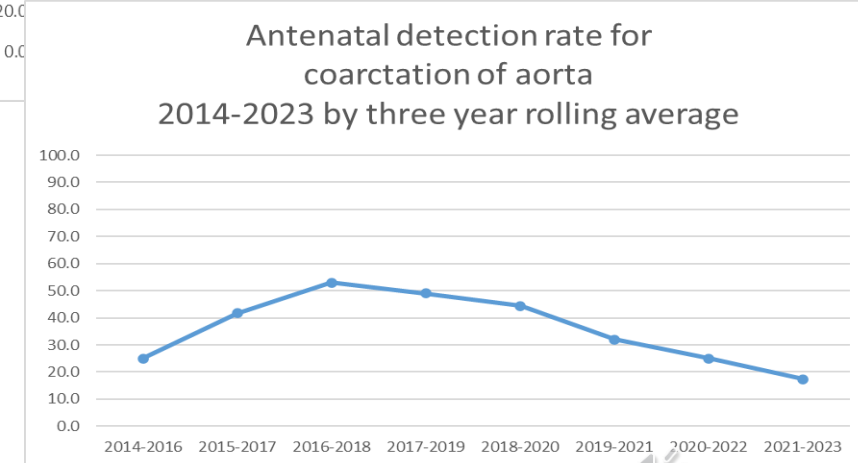
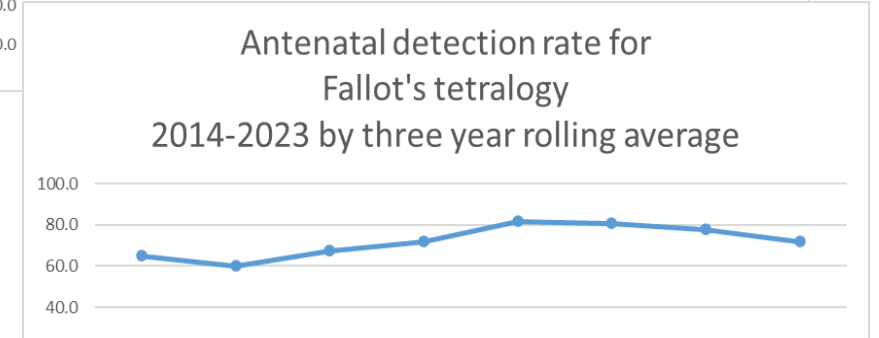
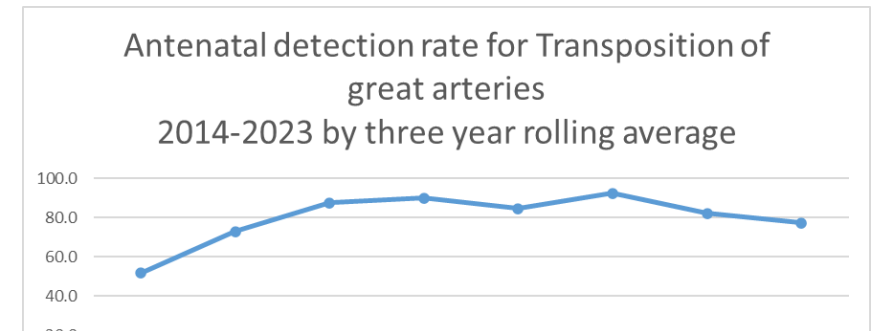
## Changes over the years



# Programme Quality Assurance

## Monitoring and Quality Assurance

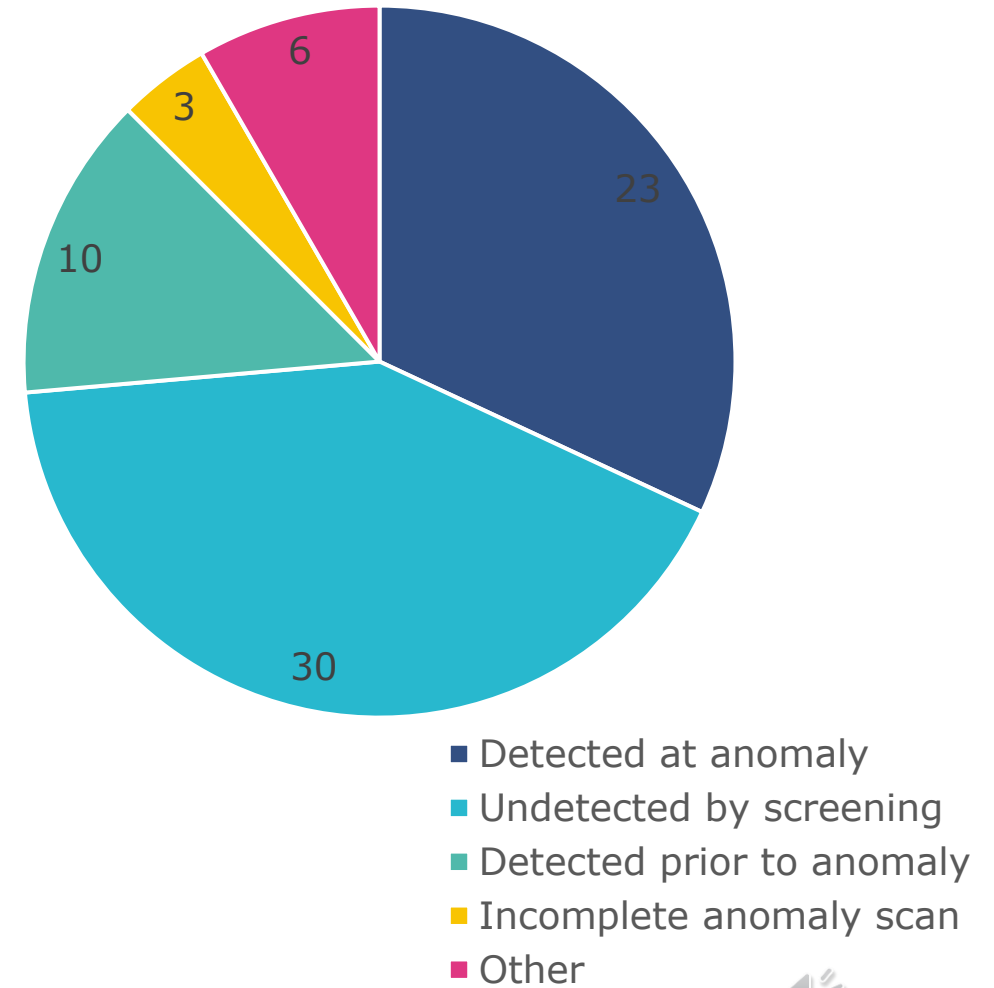
- CARIS, DQASS, clinical experts & stakeholders
- CARIS annual report 2024 suggest a downward trend in antenatal detection
- CARIS & ASW to investigate detection rates
  - Detected at anomaly = sonographer suspicion of any type of cardiac anomaly at the anomaly scan
  - Undetected by screening = cases that would not have been detected without growth scans



# Programme Quality Assurance CARIS Report

- 72 cases examined
  - 33 were detected by screening
    - 23 at the anomaly scan – 5 of these were reclassified as normal on tertiary scan
    - 10 prior to the anomaly scan – mostly because of findings on the dating scan
  - 3 from 'other' category detected because of non-cardiac anomalies instigating tertiary referral

Total cases

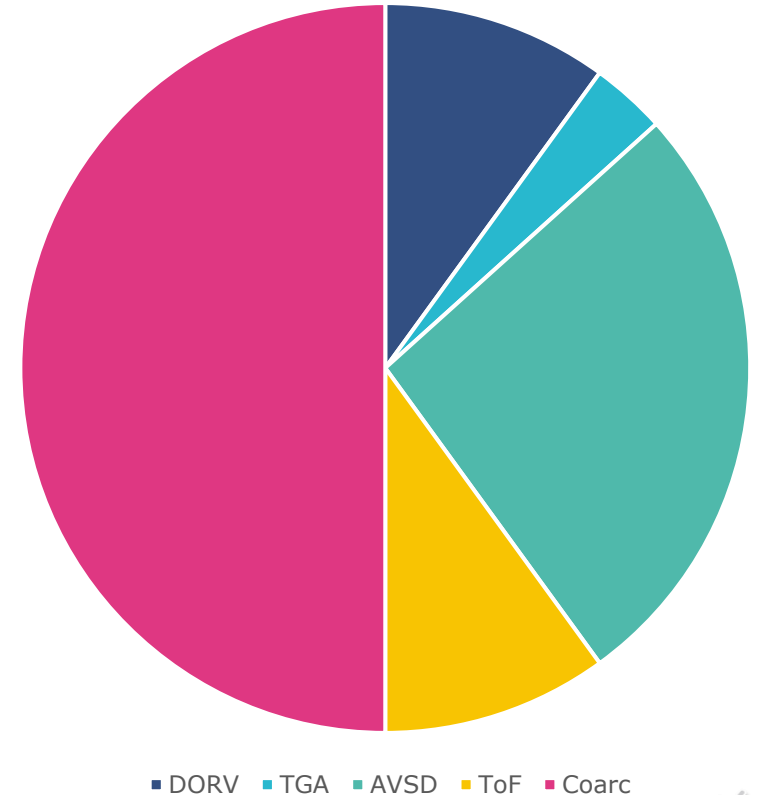


# Programme Quality Assurance

## CARIS Report

- 72 cases examined
  - 30 cases undetected by screening
    - 50% Coarctation of the aorta
  - No obvious correlation between undetected cases and maternal BMI, however data is limited
  - 6 cases not detected by screening were seen on growth scans

Undetected cases by condition



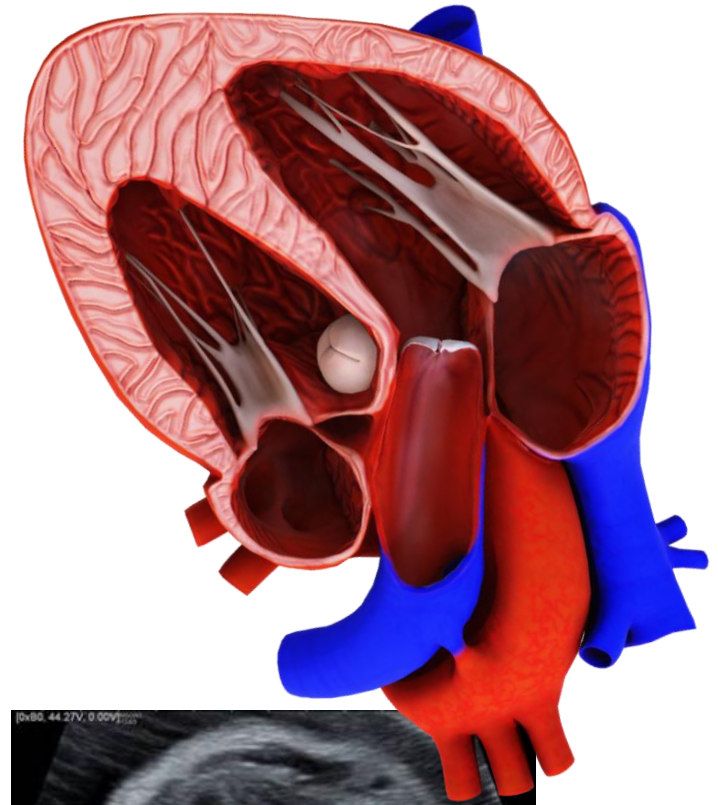
■ DORV ■ TGA ■ AVSD ■ ToF ■ Coarc



# Programme Quality Assurance

## CARIS report - outcomes

- Reassured by findings
- Of the cases undetected by screening, 50% were coarctation
- Remind professionals of pathways
  - NT  $\geq 3.5$ mm at dating - cardiology referral
  - Incomplete anomaly checklist
    - Offer rescan prior to 22w+6d
    - Incomplete checklist not to be referred to FMU unless anomaly suspected
- Findings discussed with WFCVN representatives for consideration at future training events



# ASW & CARIS Final Thoughts

## Strengthening quality through collaborative leadership

- Midwifery
  - Governance lead
  - Screening coordinator
- Ultrasound
  - Obstetric lead
  - NT lead
  - Cardiac lead
- Obstetricians
- DQASS
- CARIS



# ANTENATAL DETECTION AND IN-UTERO TREATMENT

**PROF. ASMA KHALIL**

**MD, MBBCh, FRCOG, MSc.(Epi), DFSRH, Dip.(GUM)**

Prof. of Fetal Medicine at St. George's University of London

Director of Fetal Medicine Unit

Liverpool Women's Hospital.



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Wales

**NHS**

St George's University Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

St George's University Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Liverpool Women's**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Liverpool Women's  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Please see the recorded  
version of this presentation  
Thank You**

# THE FETAL MEDICINE PATHWAY

---

DR. ARMIN VANDEPERRE – Consultant in Obstetrics and Fetal Medicine, UHW.



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Cymru  
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Wales

# Fetal Medicine Department C+V: Who, What, Where?



- **Consultants:** Dr Bryan Beattie, Dr Mark Denbow, Dr Armin Vandeperre
- **Midwives:** Judith, Jacqui, Jayne, Denise, Carole-Ann
- UHW, Antenatal clinic, Ground floor Women's Unit
  - Women's unit entrance turn right in front of the lifts



# Pathway

- Start
- Referral
- FMU appointment
- First time in FMU
- Ultrasound
- Counselling
- Options



# How does it start?

## Pregnancy stages

Keep track of your pregnancy by weeks, months and trimesters.



  
pregnancybirth&baby

BOOKING YOUR PREGNANCY WITH  
CARDIFF AND VALE UHB  
MATERNITY

ATGYFEIRIAD BEICHIOWRHYDD I'R  
GWASANAETHAU MAMOLAETH  
BWRDD IECHYD PRIFYSGOL  
CAERDYDD A'R FRO



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Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board



# Screening ultrasounds

- Performed in the local unit:

- Dating 11-14w:

- Increased NT
- cystic hygroma
- Gastroschisis
- Acrania

- Anomaly 19-22w:

- Cardiac anomalies
- Open spina bifida
- Talipes
- Echogenic bowel
- Renal anomalies

- Growth 24-42w:

- Hydrops
- Dilated bowel
- Ventriculomegaly
- Polyhydramnios
- Arrhythmias
- SGA

Sgrinio Cyn Geni Cymru  
Antenatal Screening Wales

# Other reasons for referral

- **Previous anomalies:**
  - Open spina bifida
  - Previous hydrops
- **Infections:**
  - Varicella
  - Syphilis
  - CMV
- **Antibodies:**
  - D
  - Kell
  - C
  - NAIT
- **Genetics:**
  - Balanced translocations
  - Sickle cell
  - Monogenetic syndromes
- **Test:**
  - Combined screening
  - NIPT
- **Procedures:**
  - Selective fetal reduction
  - Amniocentesis
  - CVS

# Referral to fetal medicine

- BOOKED
- No written, ONLY TYPED
- Demographics
- Referring consultant
- Blood group
- First trimester screening result
- Social issues
- Interpreter needed?
- Reason for referral
- Fetal medicine and/or fetal cardiology

FETAL MEDICINE / CARDIOLOGY REFERRAL May 2021

|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Referral Date:   | Referring Hospital:  | Health Board:                                  | Hospital Number         | NHS number                        |   |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Patient Name:  | DOB  | Patients Address:                              | Postcode                | Telephone numbers (2 if possible) |   |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| GP Practitioner + Address  | Consultant <i>(NB: All referred patients must have a named Consultant)</i> |  | Community Midwife       | Refers name and telephone number  |   |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Please confirm that the referral is approved + copied to the named Consultant and a local appt made: <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Language Spoken:   | Interpreter Required   | Height   | Weight                  | BMI                               |   |                        |
| Yes / No   |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| EDD by USS   | Current gestation  | Number of fetus                                | Chorionicity            | Blood Group                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> trimester screen result | NIPT                   |
|  |  |  |                         | NB: Please attach copy            | NB: Please attach copy                  | NB: Please attach copy |
| Are there any Vulnerable Adult / Child protection / Social Issues?   |  |  |                         |                                   | Yes/ No                                 |                        |
| Details:   |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Any Relevant Medical Issues? Yes / No  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Details:   |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Reason for referral:   |  |  | Fetal Medicine Yes / No |                                   | Fetal Echo Yes / No                     |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| <b>For Fetal Medicine use only:</b>  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Date received:   | Date reviewed:   | Accepted / Declined FMU Yes / No Echo Yes / No |                         | Emergency / Urgent / Routine      |   |                        |
| Comment:   |  |  |                         | Reviewed by:                      |   |                        |
|  |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |
| Please supply all relevant clinical data and send images to UHW PACS, laboratory test results etc. so that we can deal with your referral as speedily & efficiently as possible. Failure or incomplete supply of details may lead to delay in allocating an appointment.<br>Tick Referral Criteria Category/ies below on next page which apply.<br>Referrals can be discussed by telephone, but this form MUST be typed and emailed to us and copied to referring consultant<br>Telephone: 02920 742279 / 5230 Fax: 02920 746606 |  |  |                         |                                   |   |                        |

# Referral form - Page 1



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Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board



## Cardiff & Vale University Health Board

### FETAL MEDICINE / CARDIOLOGY REFERRAL May 2021

|                           |                   |   |                         |                               |                   |   |                                  |                                   |     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Referral Date:            |                   | Referring Hospital:   |                         | Health Board:                 |                   | Hospital Number                         |                                  | NHS number                        |     |
| Patient Name:             |                   | DOB   | Patients Address:       |                               |                   | Postcode                                |                                  | Telephone numbers (2 if possible) |     |
| GP Practitioner + Address |                   | Consultant <i>(NB: All referred patients must have a named Consultant)</i>  |                         |                               | Community Midwife |   | Refers name and telephone number |                                   |     |
|                           |                   | Please confirm that the referral is approved + copied to the named Consultant and a local appt made: <input type="checkbox"/> |                         |                               |                   |   |                                  |                                   |     |
| Language Spoken:          |                   |   | Interpreter Required    |                               | Height            |   | Weight                           |                                   | BMI |
|                           |                   |   | <u>Yes</u> / No         |                               |                   |   |                                  |                                   |     |
| EDD by USS                | Current gestation | Number of fetus   | <u>Chorionicit</u><br>x | Blood Group                   |                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> trimester screen result |                                  | NIPT                              |     |
|                           |                   |   |                         | <i>NB: Please attach copy</i> |                   | <i>NB: Please attach copy</i>           |                                  | <i>NB: Please attach copy</i>     |     |

# Referral form - page 1 continued

Are there any Vulnerable Adult / Child protection / Social Issues? Yes/ No

Details:

Any Relevant Medical Issues? Yes / No

Details:

Reason for referral: Fetal Medicine Yes / No Fetal Echo Yes / No

**For Fetal Medicine use only:**

|                |                |  |                              |
|----------------|----------------|--|------------------------------|
| Date received: | Date reviewed: | Accepted / Declined<br>FMU Yes / No <u>Echo</u> Yes / No | Emergency / Urgent / Routine |
|----------------|----------------|--|------------------------------|

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Comment: | Reviewed by: |
|----------|--------------|

Please supply all relevant clinical data and send images to UHW PACS, laboratory test results etc. so that we can deal with your referral as speedily & efficiently as possible. Failure or incomplete supply of details may lead to delay in allocating an appointment.  
**Tick Referal Criteria Category/ ies below on next page which apply.**  
**Referrals can be discussed by telephone, but this form MUST be typed and emailed to us and copied to referring consultant**  
**Telephone: 02920 742279 / 5230 Fax: 02920 746606**  
**Email: fetal.med@ wales.nhs.uk (Secure NHS Email)**  
**Address: Fetal Medicine Unit, Maternity Unit, University Hospital of Wales, Heath Park, Cardiff, CF14 4XW**

# Referral form - Page 2

## FETAL MEDICINE / CARDIOLOGY REFERRAL CRITERIA Nov 2020

### Fetal Medicine Referral Criteria Nov 2020

Please tick All that apply

Patients in these groups are eligible for a Fetal Medicine Referral

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Specialised ultrasound examination and subsequent care of <u>fetuses</u> at risk of or with suspected malformations, dysmorphic or genetic syndromes   |  |
| 2) Relevant family history of chromosomal or genetic disorders  |  |
| 3) Relevant chromosomal or genetic disorder - <i>will be assessed on individual basis</i>   |  |
| 4) Previous relevant structural <u>anomaly</u> - <i>will be assessed on individual basis.</i>   |  |
| 5) Ultrasound guided Invasive testing – <u>i.e</u> Chorionic villus sampling, amniocentesis, <u>fetal</u> blood sampling<br><i>(excludes amniocentesis for maternal age and increased Downs Risk on Combined Screening)</i> |  |
| 6) Ultrasound guided therapies – <u>i.e</u> Amniotic fluid, drainage, transfusion therapy, <u>feto</u> -amniotic shunting,  |  |
| 7) Procedures for the selective reduction of high multiple pregnancies ( <i>Triplets or greater</i> )   |  |
| 8) Complicated multiple pregnancies - <i>TTTS and growth discrepancy</i>  |  |
| 9) Feticide in pregnancies more than 21+6 weeks   |  |
| 10) Pregnancies at risk of <u>Iso-immunisation</u> and <u>allo</u> -immune thrombocytopaenia ( <i>NAIT</i> )  |  |
| 11) <u>Fetal</u> Infection – <i>Toxoplasmosis, CMV, Parvovirus, Varicella, Rubella and Syphilis</i>   |  |
| 12) Cardiac arrhythmias – <u>Fetal</u> SVT, Heart block ( <i>also see <u>Fetal</u> Echo Criteria below</i> )  |  |
| 13) Exposure to Teratogens  |  |
| 14) IUGR – <i>severe early onset in current pregnancy (growth below 3rd centile, prior to 32/40 and AREDV (see RCOG: “The management of the Small for Dates <u>Fetus</u> GTG 31”)</i>                                       |  |

**Exclusion:** *Preterm Premature Rupture of the Membranes (PPROM) is an obstetric complication to be managed locally*

# Referral form - page 2 cont.: Fetal cardiology

## Fetal Echo Referral Welsh Criteria Nov 2020:

Patients in these groups are eligible for a Fetal Echo

Please tick All that apply

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Suspicion of fetal cardiac abnormality during an obstetric scan<br>i. Most cases of fetal congenital heart disease will occur in this group<br>ii. Pericardial effusion > 3mm.   |  |
| 2) Fetal arrhythmias<br>i. Sustained bradycardia - heart rate <110 beats per minute<br>ii. Tachycardia – heart rate >180 beats per minute   |  |
| 4) Paternal congenital heart disease (risk 2-6%)  |  |
| 5) Maternal congenital heart disease  |  |
| 6) Previous child or fetus with congenital heart disease or congenital heart block<br>a. 1 affected child (risk 2-3%, though higher for some lesions, e.g. isomerism)<br>b. 2 affected children (risk 10%)<br>c. 3 affected children (risk 50%) |  |
| 7) Previous child with congenital complete heart block with maternal auto antibodies (risk CHB 20%)   |  |
| 8) Chromosomal anomalies, gene disorders or syndromes associated with congenital heart disease or cardiomyopathy (risk will depend on individual disorder)  |  |
| 9) Nuchal translucency under 14 weeks gestation measuring $\geq 3.5$ mm   |  |

**Exclusion:** Irregular heart rhythms 120-180bpm can be managed in conjunction with the local obstetric teams and referral to tertiary centre should be avoided and agreed local management protocols should be in place.

## Fetal Echo Exclusion Welsh Criteria Oct 2019:

Patients in these groups have an increased risk of fetal cardiac anomalies but are currently NOT commissioned for fetal echo in Wales – consider local scan at 24 weeks to recheck cardiac views.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) Maternal exposure to cardiac teratogens:<br>i. Anticonvulsant, retinoic acid, lithium (risk 2%)<br>ii. Viral infection (rubella, CMV, coxsackie, parvovirus and toxoplasma) |  |
| 2) Maternal collagen disease with anti Ro/SSA and/or anti La/SSB (risk 2-3%)   |  |
| 3) Maternal medication with <u>Non Steroidal</u> Anti-Inflammatory (NSAID) drugs   |  |

# Fetal Medicine Department C+V: Who, What, Where?



- **Consultants:** Dr Bryan Beattie, Dr Mark Denbow, Dr Armin Vandeperre
- **Midwives:** Judith, Jacqui, Jayne, Denise, Carole-Ann
- UHW, Antenatal clinic, Ground floor Women's Unit
  - Women's unit entrance turn right in front of the lifts



# Pathway

- Start
- Referral
- FMU appointment
- First time in FMU
- Ultrasound
- Counselling
- Options



# How does it start?

## Pregnancy stages

Keep track of your pregnancy by weeks, months and trimesters.



  
pregnancybirth&baby

BOOKING YOUR PREGNANCY WITH  
CARDIFF AND VALE UHB  
MATERNITY

ATGYFEIRIAD BEICHIOWRHYDD I'R  
GWASANAETHAU MAMOLAETH  
BWRDD IECHYD PRIFYSGOL  
CAERDYDD A'R FRO



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board



# Screening ultrasounds

- Performed in the local unit:

- Dating 11-14w:

- Increased NT
- cystic hygroma
- Gastroschisis
- Acrania

- Anomaly 19-22w:

- Cardiac anomalies
- Open spina bifida
- Talipes
- Echogenic bowel
- Renal anomalies

- Growth 24-42w:

- Hydrops
- Dilated bowel
- Ventriculomegaly
- Polyhydramnios
- Arrhythmias
- SGA

Sgrinio Cyn Geni Cymru  
Antenatal Screening Wales

# Other reasons for referral

- **Previous anomalies:**
  - Open spina bifida
  - Previous hydrops
- **Infections:**
  - Varicella
  - Syphilis
  - CMV
- **Antibodies:**
  - D
  - Kell
  - C
  - NAIT
- **Genetics:**
  - Balanced translocations
  - Sickle cell
  - Monogenetic syndromes
- **Test:**
  - Combined screening
  - NIPT
- **Procedures:**
  - Selective fetal reduction
  - Amniocentesis
  - CVS

# Referral to fetal medicine

- BOOKED
- No written, ONLY TYPED
- Demographics
- Referring consultant
- Blood group
- First trimester screening result
- Social issues
- Interpreter needed?
- Reason for referral
- Fetal medicine and/or fetal cardiology

## FETAL MEDICINE / CARDIOLOGY REFERRAL May 2021

|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
|--|--|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Referral Date:   | Referring Hospital:  | Health Board:   | Hospital Number         | NHS number                        |   |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Patient Name:  | DOB  | Patients Address:                                     | Postcode                | Telephone numbers (2 if possible) |   |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| GP Practitioner + Address  | Consultant <i>(NB: All referred patients must have a named Consultant)</i> |   | Community Midwife       | Refers name and telephone number  |   |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Please confirm that the referral is approved + copied to the named Consultant and a local appt made: <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Language Spoken:   | Interpreter Required   | Height  | Weight                  | BMI                               |   |                        |                        |
| Yes / No   |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| EDD by USS   | Current gestation  | Number of fetus                                       | Chorionicity            | Blood Group                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> trimester screen result | NIPT                   |                        |
|  |  |   |                         | NB: Please attach copy            |   | NB: Please attach copy | NB: Please attach copy |
| Are there any Vulnerable Adult / Child protection / Social Issues?   |  |   |                         |                                   | Yes/ No                                 |                        |                        |
| Details:   |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Any Relevant Medical Issues? Yes / No  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Details:   |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Reason for referral:   |  |   | Fetal Medicine Yes / No |                                   | Fetal Echo Yes / No                     |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| <b>For Fetal Medicine use only:</b>  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Date received:   | Date reviewed:   | Accepted / Declined FMU Yes / No <u>Echo Yes / No</u> |                         | Emergency / Urgent / Routine      |   |                        |                        |
| Comment:   |  |   |                         | Reviewed by:                      |   |                        |                        |
|  |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |
| Please supply all relevant clinical data and send images to UHW PACS, laboratory test results etc. so that we can deal with your referral as speedily & efficiently as possible. Failure or incomplete supply of details may lead to delay in allocating an appointment.<br>Tick Referral Criteria Category/ies below on next page which apply.<br>Referrals can be discussed by telephone, but this form MUST be typed and emailed to us and copied to referring consultant<br>Telephone: <u>02920 742279 / 5230</u> Fax: <u>02920 746606</u> |  |   |                         |                                   |   |                        |                        |

# Referral form - Page 1



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff and Vale  
University Health Board



## Cardiff & Vale University Health Board

### FETAL MEDICINE / CARDIOLOGY REFERRAL May 2021

|                           |                   |   |                          |                               |                   |   |                                  |                                   |     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Referral Date:            |                   | Referring Hospital:   |                          | Health Board:                 |                   | Hospital Number                         |                                  | NHS number                        |     |
| Patient Name:             |                   | DOB   | Patients Address:        |                               |                   | Postcode                                |                                  | Telephone numbers (2 if possible) |     |
| GP Practitioner + Address |                   | Consultant <i>(NB: All referred patients must have a named Consultant)</i>  |                          |                               | Community Midwife |   | Refers name and telephone number |                                   |     |
|                           |                   | Please confirm that the referral is approved + copied to the named Consultant and a local appt made: <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |                               |                   |   |                                  |                                   |     |
| Language Spoken:          |                   |   | Interpreter Required     |                               | Height            |   | Weight                           |                                   | BMI |
|                           |                   |   | <u>Yes</u> / No          |                               |                   |   |                                  |                                   |     |
| EDD by USS                | Current gestation | Number of fetus   | <u>Chorionicity</u><br>x | Blood Group                   |                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> trimester screen result |                                  | NIPT                              |     |
|                           |                   |   |                          | <i>NB: Please attach copy</i> |                   | <i>NB: Please attach copy</i>           |                                  | <i>NB: Please attach copy</i>     |     |

# Referral form - page 1 continued

Are there any Vulnerable Adult / Child protection / Social Issues? Yes/ No

Details:

Any Relevant Medical Issues? Yes / No

Details:

Reason for referral: Fetal Medicine Yes / No Fetal Echo Yes / No

**For Fetal Medicine use only:**

|                |                |  |                              |
|----------------|----------------|--|------------------------------|
| Date received: | Date reviewed: | Accepted / Declined<br>FMU Yes / No <u>Echo Yes</u> / No | Emergency / Urgent / Routine |
|----------------|----------------|--|------------------------------|

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Comment: | Reviewed by: |
|----------|--------------|

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**Email: fetal.med@ wales.nhs.uk (Secure NHS Email)**  
**Address: Fetal Medicine Unit, Maternity Unit, University Hospital of Wales, Heath Park, Cardiff, CF14 4XW**

# Referral form - Page 2

## FETAL MEDICINE / CARDIOLOGY REFERRAL CRITERIA Nov 2020

### Fetal Medicine Referral Criteria Nov 2020

Please tick All that apply

Patients in these groups are eligible for a Fetal Medicine Referral

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Specialised ultrasound examination and subsequent care of <u>fetuses</u> at risk of or with suspected malformations, dysmorphic or genetic syndromes   |  |
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| 10) Pregnancies at risk of <u>Iso-immunisation</u> and <u>allo</u> -immune thrombocytopaenia ( <i>NAIT</i> )  |  |
| 11) <u>Fetal</u> Infection – <i>Toxoplasmosis, CMV, Parvovirus, Varicella, Rubella and Syphilis</i>   |  |
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| 13) Exposure to Teratogens  |  |
| 14) IUGR – <i>severe early onset in current pregnancy (growth below 3rd centile, prior to 32/40 and AREDV (see RCOG: “The management of the Small for Dates <u>Fetus</u> GTG 31”)</i>                                       |  |

**Exclusion:** *Preterm Premature Rupture of the Membranes (PPROM) is an obstetric complication to be managed locally*

# Referral form - page 2 cont.: Fetal cardiology

## Fetal Echo Referral Welsh Criteria Nov 2020:

Patients in these groups are eligible for a Fetal Echo

Please tick All that apply

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Suspicion of fetal cardiac abnormality during an obstetric scan<br>i. Most cases of fetal congenital heart disease will occur in this group<br>ii. Pericardial effusion > 3mm.   |  |
| 2) Fetal arrhythmias<br>i. Sustained bradycardia - heart rate <110 beats per minute<br>ii. Tachycardia – heart rate >180 beats per minute   |  |
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| 5) Maternal congenital heart disease  |  |
| 6) Previous child or fetus with congenital heart disease or congenital heart block<br>a. 1 affected child (risk 2-3%, though higher for some lesions, e.g. isomerism)<br>b. 2 affected children (risk 10%)<br>c. 3 affected children (risk 50%) |  |
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| 8) Chromosomal anomalies, gene disorders or syndromes associated with congenital heart disease or cardiomyopathy (risk will depend on individual disorder)  |  |
| 9) Nuchal translucency under 14 weeks gestation measuring $\geq 3.5$ mm   |  |

**Exclusion:** Irregular heart rhythms 120-180bpm can be managed in conjunction with the local obstetric teams and referral to tertiary centre should be avoided and agreed local management protocols should be in place.

## Fetal Echo Exclusion Welsh Criteria Oct 2019:

Patients in these groups have an increased risk of fetal cardiac anomalies but are currently NOT commissioned for fetal echo in Wales – consider local scan at 24 weeks to recheck cardiac views.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) Maternal exposure to cardiac teratogens:<br>i. Anticonvulsant, retinoic acid, lithium (risk 2%)<br>ii. Viral infection (rubella, CMV, coxsackie, parvovirus and toxoplasma) |  |
| 2) Maternal collagen disease with anti Ro/SSA and/or anti La/SSB (risk 2-3%)   |  |
| 3) Maternal medication with <u>Non Steroidal</u> Anti-Inflammatory (NSAID) drugs   |  |

# Appointment timing in FMU

- Emergency: 24h (only after consultant-to-consultant referral)
- Urgent: within 5 working days
- Routine: when appropriate



# First time in FMU

- **Personal History**

- Medical
- Obstetric
  - EDD
  - Previous screening
- Drugs

- **Results**

- FTS/NIPT
- Serology

- **Family History**

- Congenital anomalies
- Genetic conditions
- Consanguinity

- **Fetal Medicine Sieve**

- Normal
- Aneuploidy
- Syndromes
- Isolated structural
- Infection
- Haematological tests
- Neoplasia
- Toxic
- Maternal/placental

# FMU ultrasound

- Detailed anomaly or dating scan
- Situational extra images:
  - Facial profile
  - Eyes
  - Neck
  - Long bones
- Situational measurements:
  - Long bones
  - Chest circumference
  - Uterine arteries
  - Ductus Venosus
- 3/4D:
  - Face: nose, lip, ...
  - Skeleton



# Counselling about the anomaly

- What is the problem?
- How mild or severe?
- Isolated or multiple anomalies?
- Risk of underlying reason:
  - Normal variant
  - Placenta
  - Infectious
  - syndromes or genetic conditions
- Prognosis in pregnancy and after birth?
- Morbidity?

## • Fetal Medicine Sieve

- Normal
- Aneuploidy
- Syndromes
- Isolated structural
- Infection
- Haematological
- Neoplasia
- Toxic
- Maternal/placental

# Options

○ Conservative (Do nothing)

○ Investigate

- Invasive testing:
  - CVS
  - Amniocentesis
  - Thoracocentesis
- NIPT (if high chance FTS)
- Fetal Cardiac echo
- Fetal brain MRI

○ Monitor

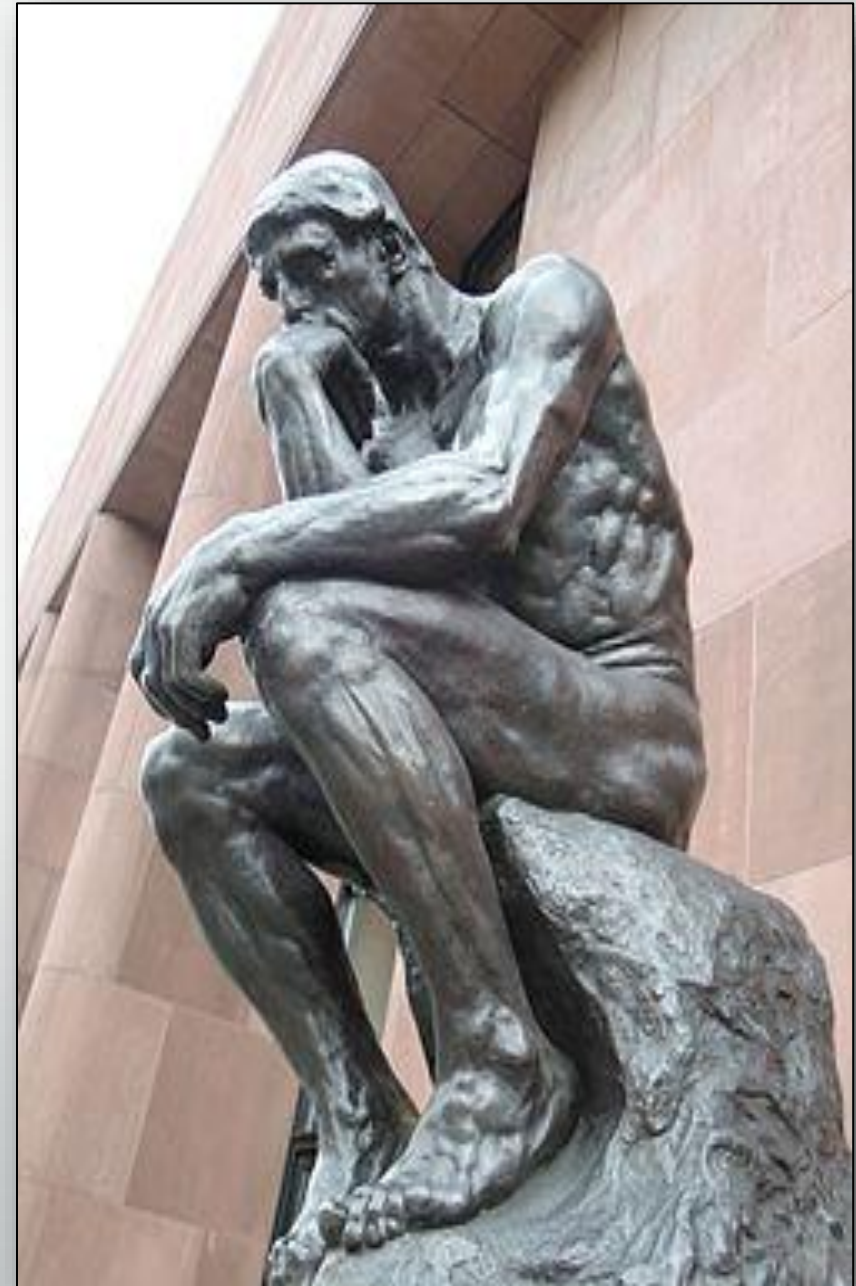
- Serial ultrasound
- Growth
- Dopplers
- Structures

○ Deliver/TOP

- <24W
- >24W

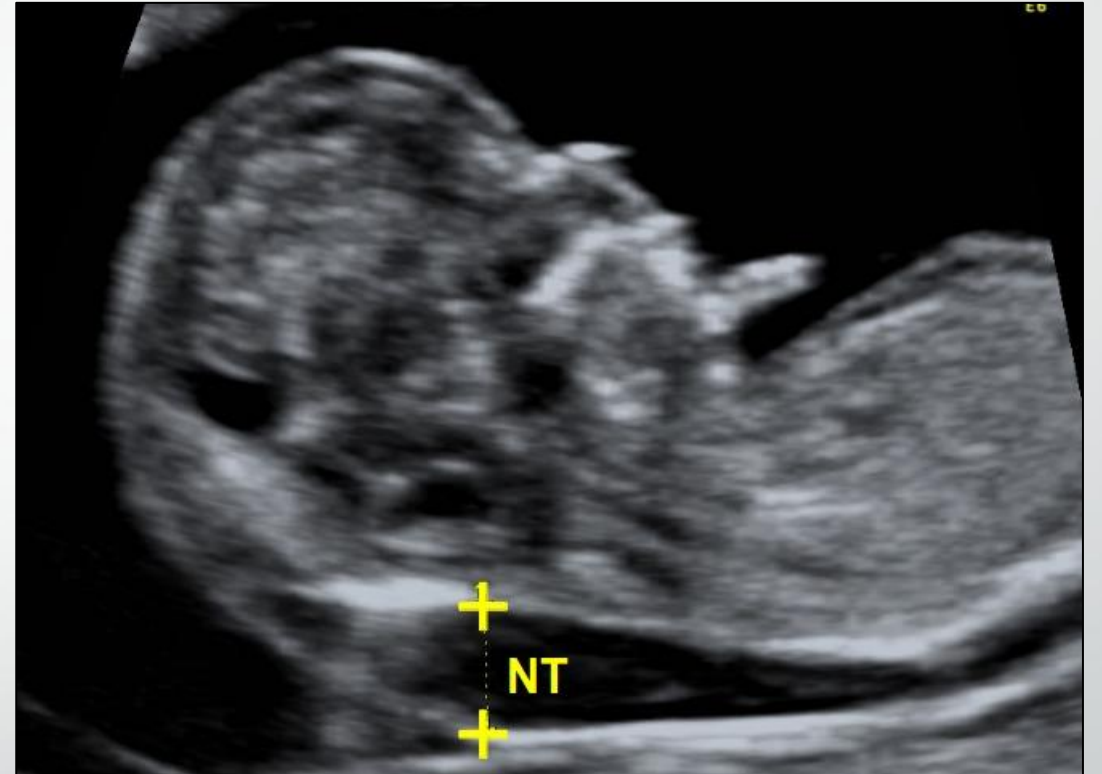
○ In utero therapy

- Open spina bifida
- IUT
- CDH
- Laser



# Example: Increased NT

- Referred after dating scan:
  - Include blood group
  - First trimester screening result
- Should be seen within 5 working days
  - Sometimes delayed if patient wants to wait for FTS or NIPT result



# First

- **Personal History**

- Medical
- Obstetric
  - EDD
  - Previous screening
- Drugs

- **Results**

- FTS/NIPT

- **Family History**

- Congenital anomalies
- Genetic conditions
- consanguinity

- **Fetal Medicine Sieve**

- Normal
- Aneuploidy
- Syndromes
- Isolated structural
- Infection
- Haematological
- Neoplasia
- Toxic
- Maternal/placental

# FMU ultrasound

- **Detailed dating scan:**

- Midline in the brain
- Normal shape of the skull
- Car crash sign?
- 2 arms/2 legs
- Abdomen closed?
- NT?
- Heart
- 2 kidneys
- Bladder and stomach filled
- Hydrops?

- **Fetal Medicine Sieve**

- Normal
- Aneuploidy
- Syndromes
- Isolated structural
- Infection
- Haematological
- Neoplasia
- Toxic
- Maternal/placental

# Increased NT counselling

| Nuchal translucency | Chromosomal defects | Fetal death | Major fetal abnormalities | Alive and well |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| <95th centile       | 0.2%                | 1.3%        | 1.6%                      | 97%            |
| 95th-99th centiles  | 3.7%                | 1.3%        | 2.5%                      | 93%            |
| 3.5-4.4 mm          | 21.1%               | 2.7%        | 10.0%                     | 70%            |
| 4.5-5.4 mm          | 33.3%               | 3.4%        | 18.5%                     | 50%            |
| 5.5-6.4 mm          | 50.5%               | 10.1%       | 24.2%                     | 30%            |
| >6.5 mm             | 64.5%               | 19.0%       | 46.2%                     | 15%            |

# Options Monitor + Investigate

- Now: CVS
- 16w: amniocentesis
- **20 week:**
  - Detailed anomaly scan
  - Fetal Cardiac echo
- **Serial ultrasound:**
  - 28, 32, 36, 39
  - More if further concerns
  - Local vs FMU



# Options in detail: invasive

| CVS   | Amniocentesis  |
|---|--|
| 11-14 weeks   | From 15+3 weeks (? to avoid 24-32w?)   |
| 0.5% risk miscarriage   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0.1-0.5% risk miscarriage</li> <li>- 1-3% risk of preterm birth if late</li> </ul>  |
| ~1% risk of confined placental mosaicism  | Fetal DNA  |
| 3-5 days PCR<br>~14 days SNP array<br>14-21 days FAGP<br>Specific testing (BW, sickle cell, ...)  | 3-5 days PCR<br>~14 days SNP array<br>14-21 days FAGP<br>Specific testing (BW, sickle cell, ...)   |
| Local to the skin offered   | No local anesthetic offered  |
| Not possible or advisable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overlying bowel</li> <li>- Placenta low posterior</li> <li>- Placenta posterior and retroverted uterus</li> </ul> | Not possible or advisable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overlying bowel</li> <li>- Chorioamniotic membrane separation</li> <li>- Anhydramnios</li> </ul> |
|   |  |

# Options in detail: TOP

| <24 weeks  | >24 weeks  |
|--|--|
| <p>Indication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Social (clause D)</li><li>- Maternal (clause A, B,C)</li><li>- Fetal (clause E)</li></ul>   | <p>Indication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fetal (clause E)</li></ul>  |
| <p>1st line: medical termination of pregnancy<br/>If patient wants surgical can go to BPAS,<br/>?surgical available in South Wales</p>   | <p>1st line: medical termination of pregnancy<br/>Discourage surgical but in rare cases possible:<br/>hysterotomy</p>  |
| <p>Risk: bleeding, infection, incomplete procedure,<br/>evacuation of the uterus</p>   | <p>Risk: bleeding, infection, incomplete procedure,<br/>evacuation of the uterus</p>   |
| <p>up to 21+6: feticide can be offered<br/>from 22 week: feticide recommended</p>  | <p>Feticide recommended</p>  |
| <p>If no genetic test done yet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- If feticide is performed: Offer FBS for genetic testing</li><li>- Offer postnatal genetic test (higher failure rate)</li></ul> | <p>If no genetic test done yet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Offer FBS for genetic testing</li><li>- Offer postnatal genetic test (higher failure rate)</li></ul> |

# Options in detail: M TOP

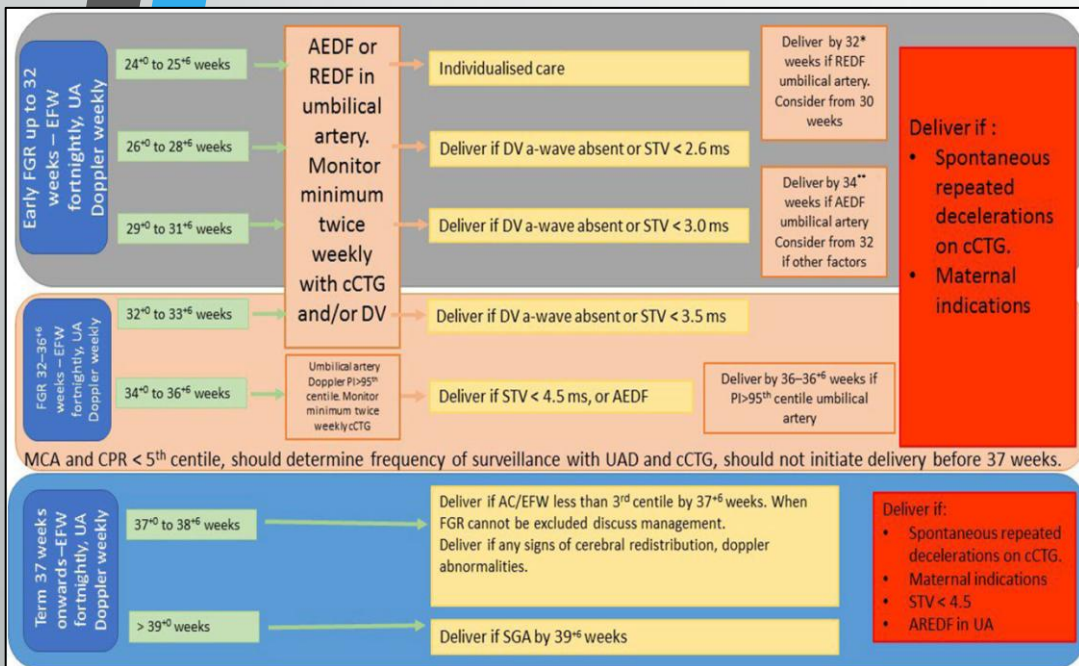
- M TOP medication protocol in C+V:
  - No previous C-section:
    - Day 1: Mifepristone 200mcg
    - Day 3: Misoprostol dosing depends on gestation
  - Previous C-section:
    - Day 1: Mifepristone 600mcg
    - Day 2: Mifepristone 600mcg
    - Day 3: Misoprostol reduced dosing depends on gestation

|   |  |                          |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <u>IN CONFIDENCE</u>  | <b>ABORTION ACT 1967</b>   | <u>CERTIFICATE A</u>     |
| <p><b>Not to be destroyed within three years of the date of operation</b></p> <p><b>Certificate to be completed before an abortion is performed under Section 1(1) of the Act</b></p>                                     |  |                          |
| <p>I, .....<br/><small>(Name and qualifications of practitioner in block capitals)</small></p>  |  |                          |
| <p>of .....<br/><small>(Full address of practitioner)</small></p>   |  |                          |
| <p><b>Have/have not* seen/and examined* the pregnant woman to whom this certificate relates at</b></p> <p>.....<br/><small>(full address of place at which patient was seen or examined)</small></p>                      |  |                          |
| <p><b>on</b> .....</p>  |  |                          |
| <p><b>and I</b> .....<br/><small>(Name and qualifications of practitioner in block capitals)</small></p>  |  |                          |
| <p><b>of</b> .....<br/><small>(Full address of practitioner)</small></p>  |  |                          |
| <p><b>Have/have not* seen/and examined* the pregnant woman to whom this certificate relates at</b></p> <p>.....<br/><small>(Full address of place at which patient was seen or examined)</small></p>                      |  |                          |
| <p><b>on</b> .....</p>  |  |                          |
| <p><b>We hereby certify that we are of the opinion, formed in good faith, that in the case</b></p>  |  |                          |
| <p><b>of</b> .....<br/><small>(Full name of pregnant woman in block capitals)</small></p>   |  |                          |
| <p><b>of</b> .....<br/><small>(Usual place of residence of pregnant woman in block capitals)</small></p>  |  |                          |
| <p>(Ring appropriate letter(s))</p>   | <p>A the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk to the life of the pregnant woman greater than if the pregnancy were terminated;</p> <p>B the termination is necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman;</p> <p>C the pregnancy has NOT exceeded its 24th week and that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman;</p> <p>D the pregnancy has NOT exceeded its 24th week and that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of any existing child(ren) of the family of the pregnant woman;</p> <p>E there is a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped.</p> |                          |
| <p><b>This certificate of opinion is given before the commencement of the treatment for the termination of pregnancy to which it refers and relates to the circumstances of the pregnant woman's individual case.</b></p> |  |                          |
| <p><b>Signed</b> .....</p>  |  | <p><b>Date</b> .....</p> |
| <p><b>Signed</b> .....</p>  |  | <p><b>Date</b> .....</p> |
| <p><small>* Delete as appropriate</small></p>   |  |                          |
| <p><small>Form HSA1 (revised 1991)</small></p>  |  |                          |

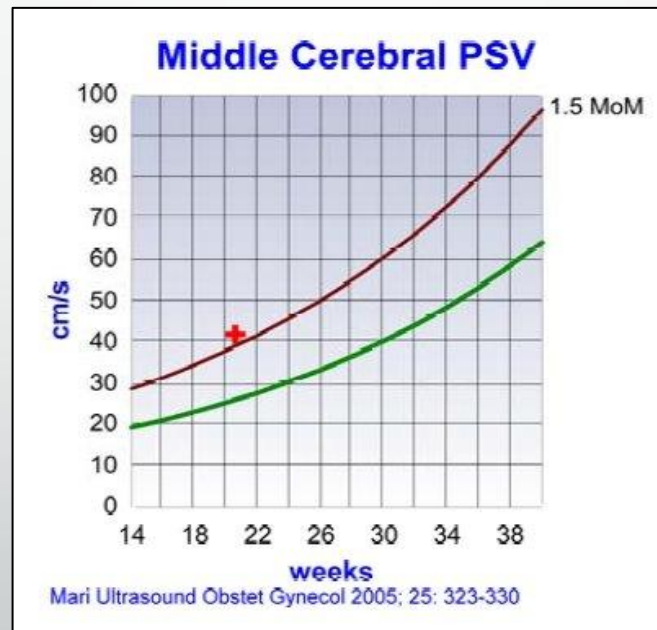
# Options in detail: deliver

- If all test normal at Term: good prognosis: 90-95%
- Earlier depending on gestation and pathology:

## ○ SGA



## Fetal anaemia



## Hydrops



# Sources:

- <https://fetalmedicine.org/nuchal-translucency-scan>
- Souka AP, Von Kaisenberg CS, Hyett JA, Sonek JD, Nicolaides KH. Increased nuchal translucency with normal karyotype. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2005 Apr;192(4):1005-21. Doi: 10.1016/j.ajog.2004.12.093.
- Morris RK, Johnstone E, Lees C, Morton V, Smith G; the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Investigation and Care of a Small-for-Gestational-Age Fetus and a Growth Restricted Fetus (Green-top Guideline No. 31). *BJOG*. 2024; 131(9): e31–e80.
- Mari G, Deter RL, Carpenter RL, Rahman F, Zimmerman R, Moise KJ Jr, Dorman KF, Ludomirsky A, Gonzalez R, Gomez R, Oz U, Detti L, Copel JA, Bahado-Singh R, Berry S, Martinez-Poyer J, Blackwell SC. Non-invasive diagnosis by Doppler ultrasonography of fetal anaemia due to maternal red-cell alloimmunization. Collaborative Group for Doppler Assessment of the Blood Velocity in Anaemic Fetuses. *N Engl J Med*. 2000 Jan 6;342(1):9-14.

# HYPOPLASTIC LEFT HEART - PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS AND POSTNATAL MANAGEMENT PATHWAY

---

DR ALAN PATEMAN – Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist,  
UHW.

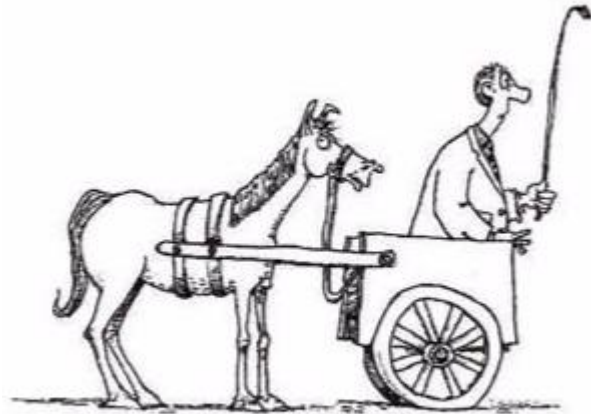


GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

# CONTENTS

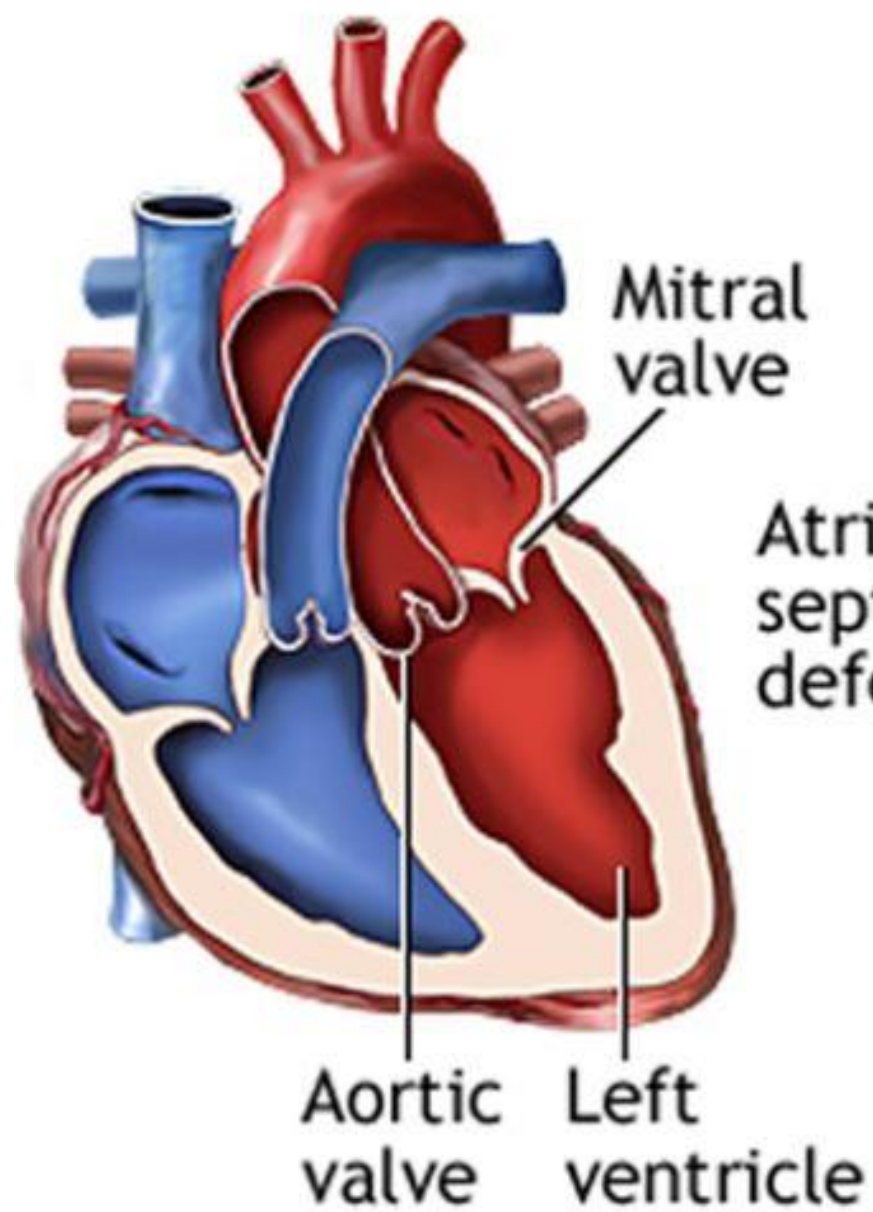
- What is Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome?
- Postnatal management – a chronologic walk through



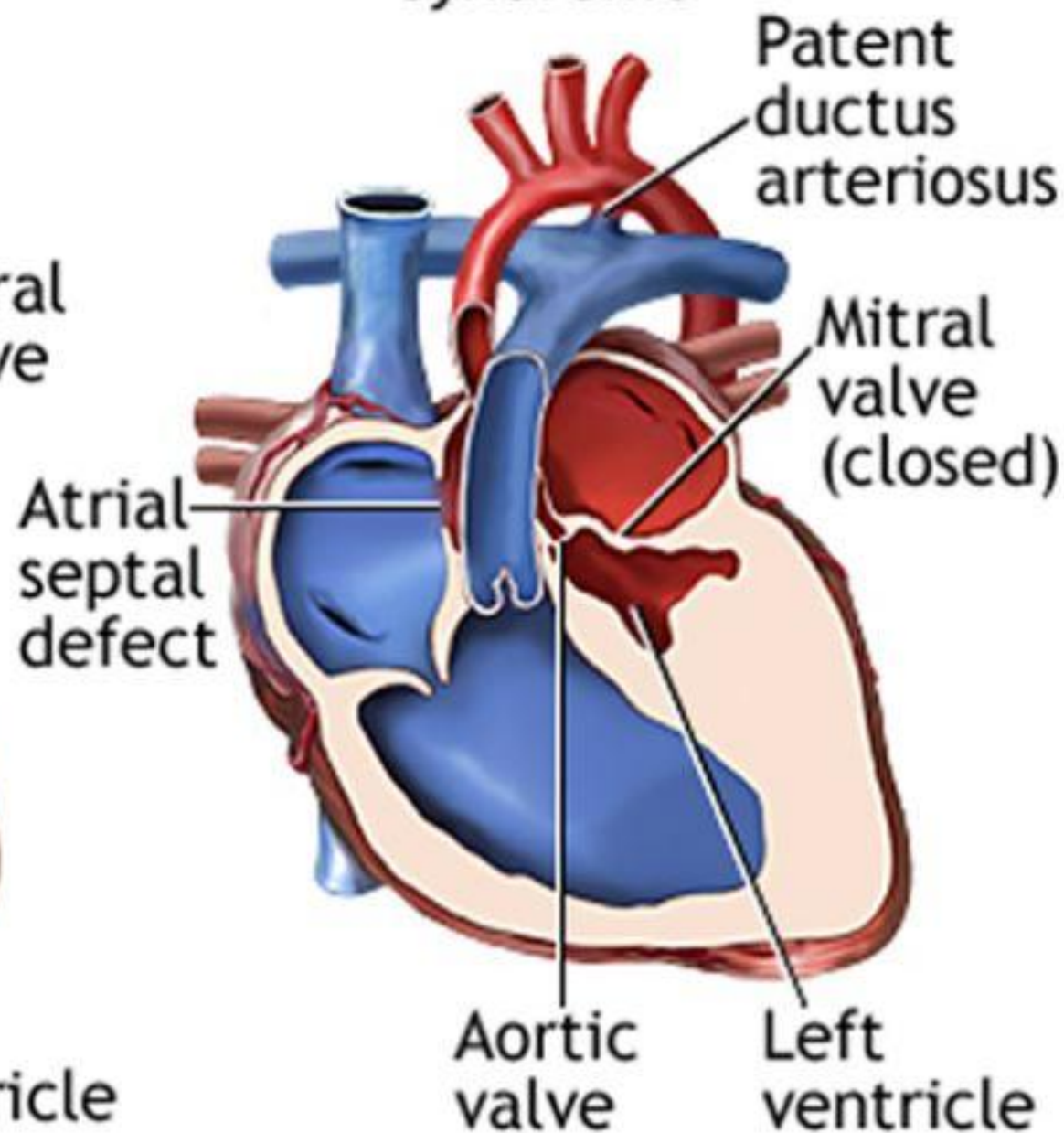
- Fetal Diagnosis

# Hypoplastic Left Heart

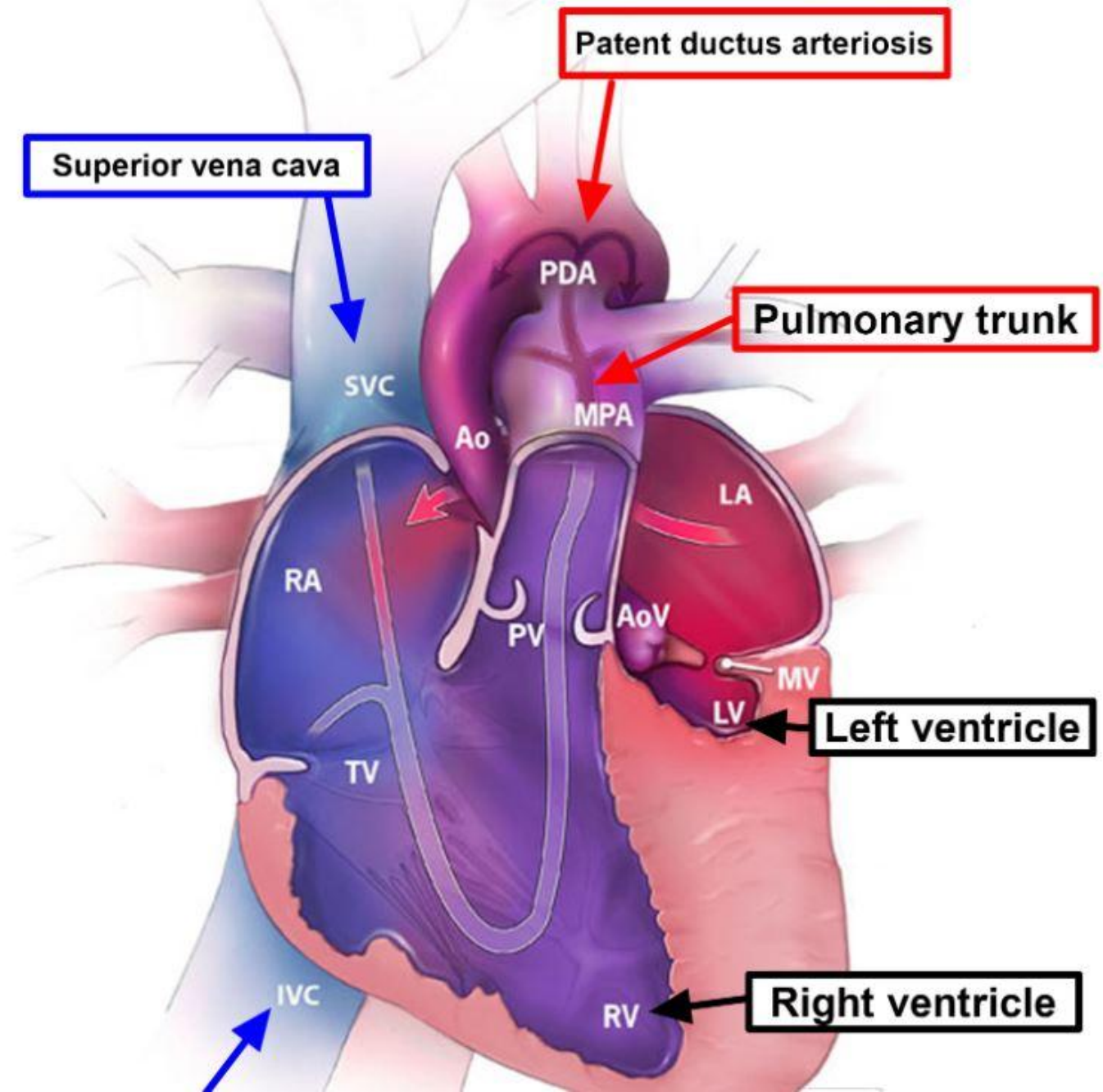
Normal heart



Hypoplastic left heart syndrome



Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS)



# **Immediate management after birth**

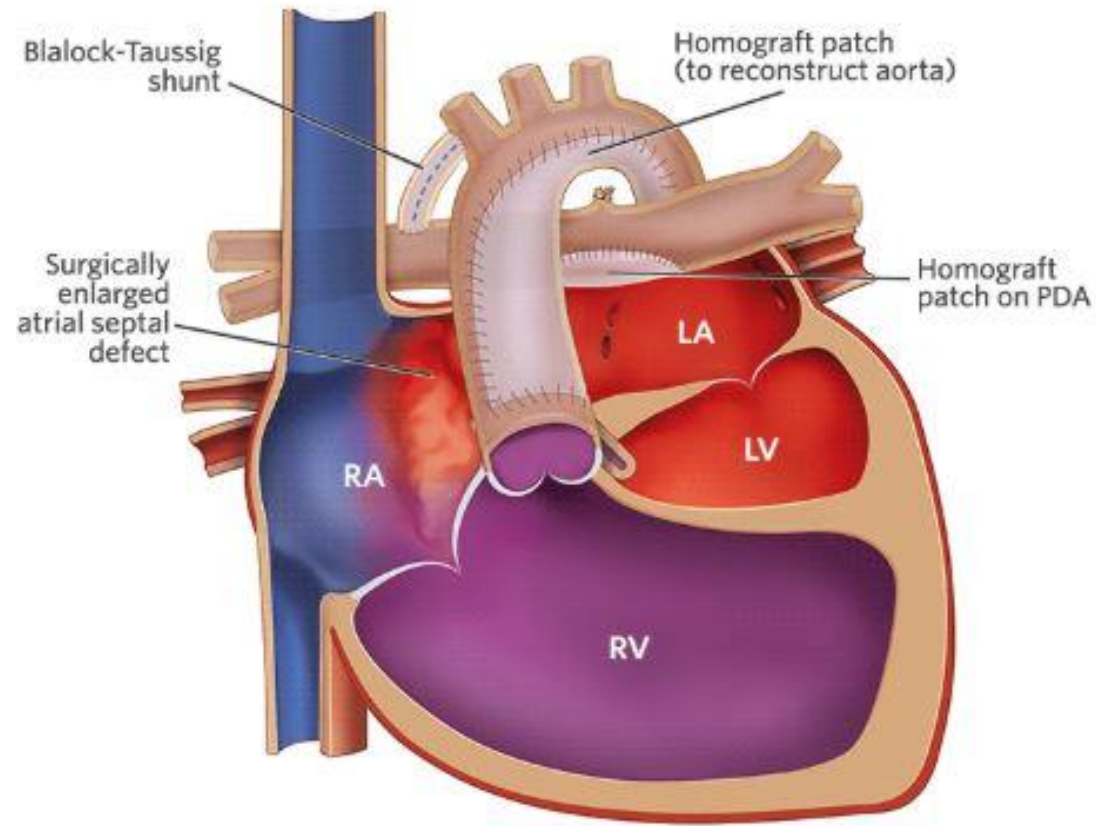
- Delivery in surgical centre
- Prostin after birth
- ICU management
  
- Possibly:
  - Balloon Atrial Septostomy – if restrictive atrial septum
  - Hybrid procedure if small and unwell – PDA stent plus bilateral PA bands



# Norwood procedure

First week of life

# Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS) Stage 1 - Norwood



- Oxygen-rich blood
- Oxygen-poor blood
- Mixed blood
- Mixed blood

AO: Aorta

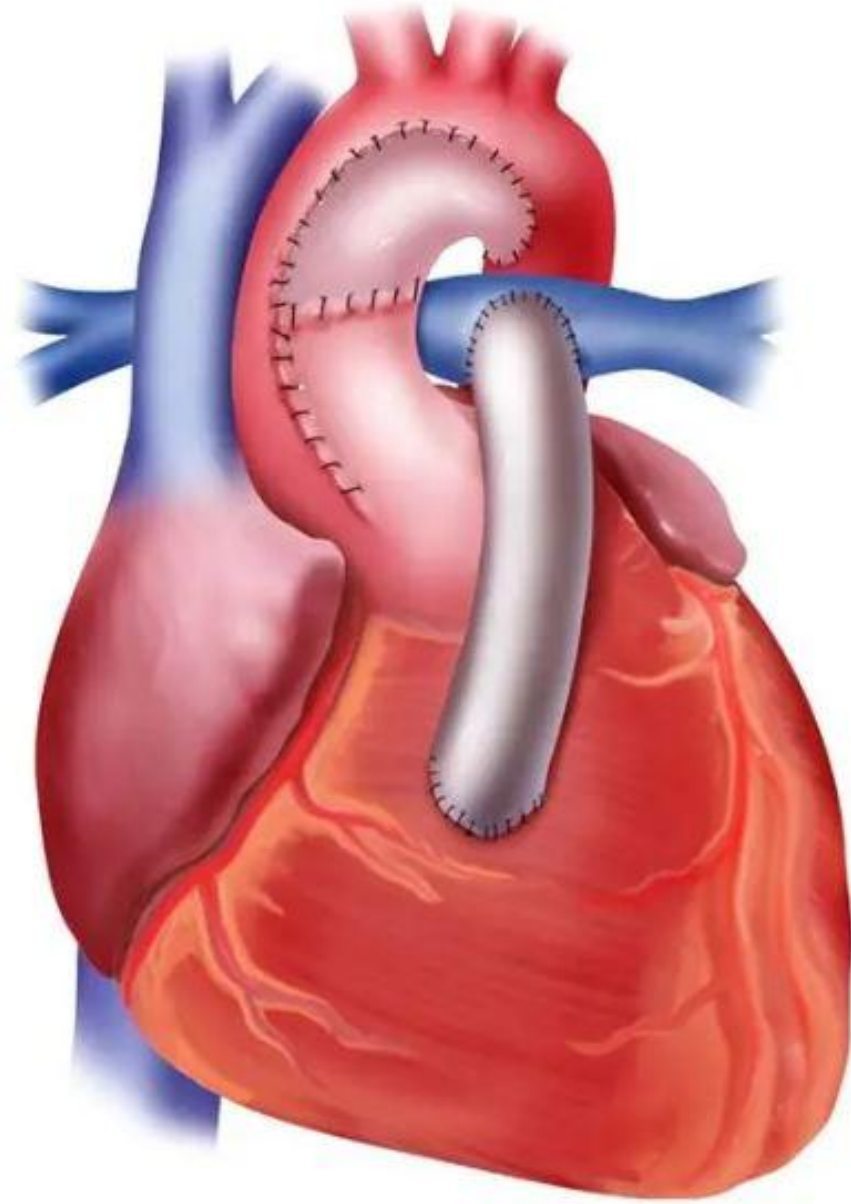
LA: Left atrium

RA: Right atrium

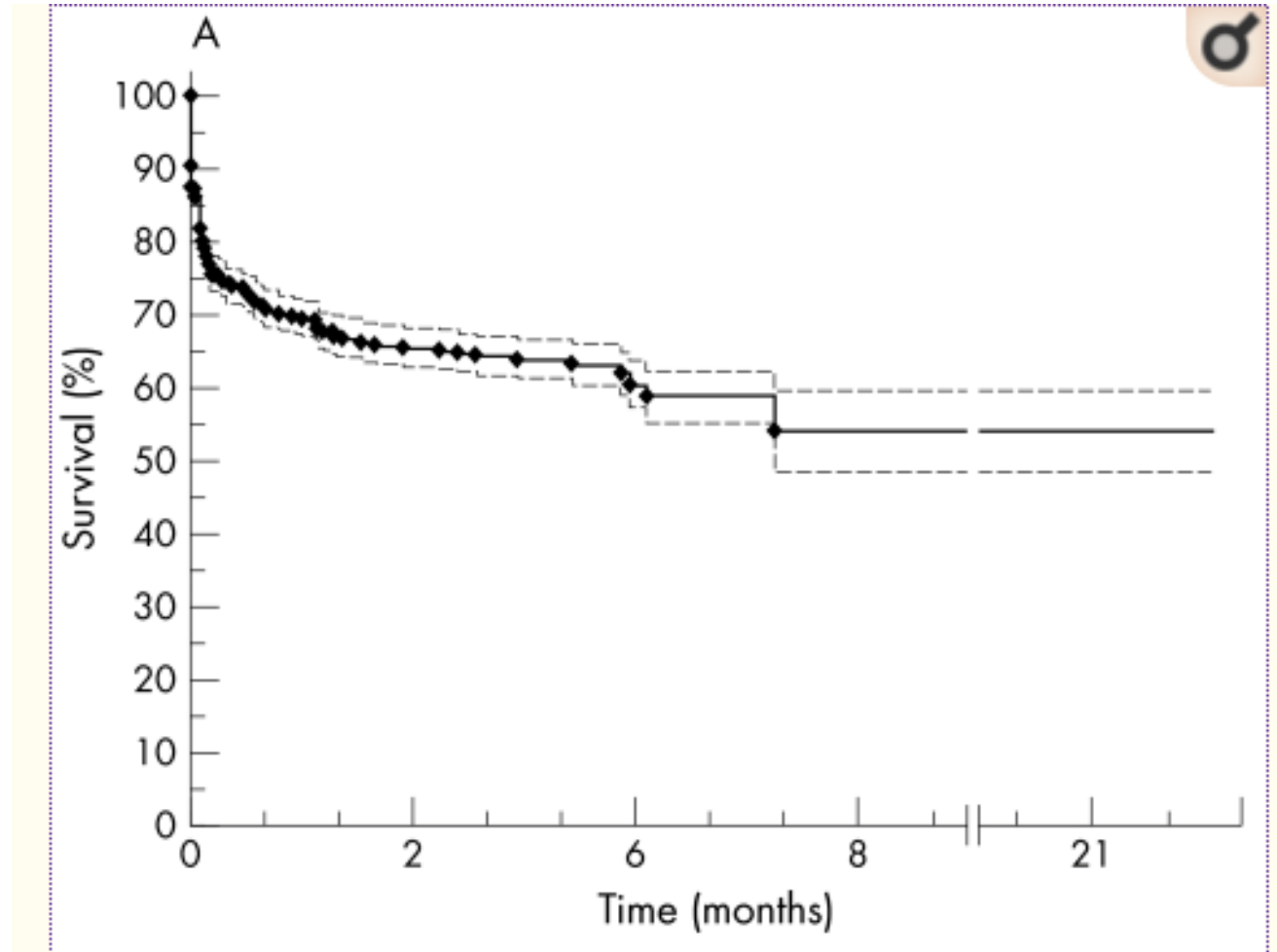
PA: Pulmonary artery

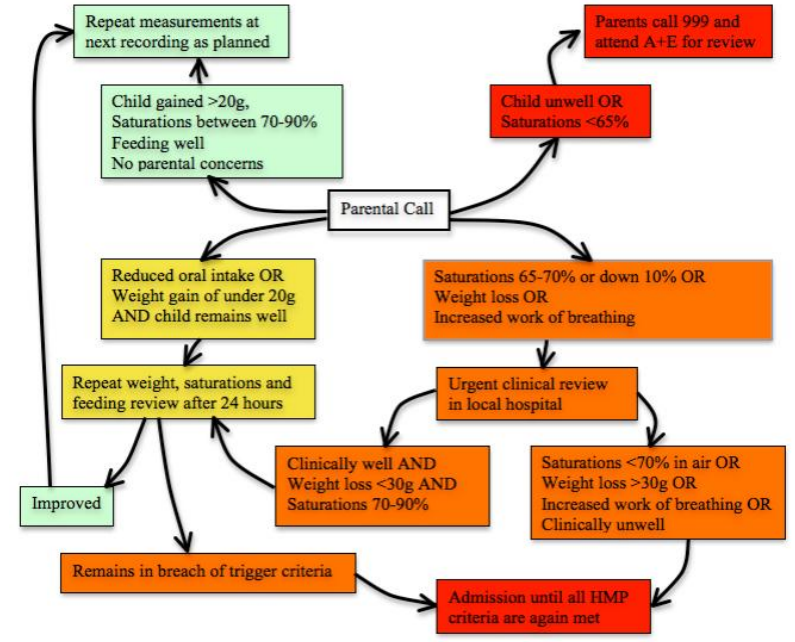
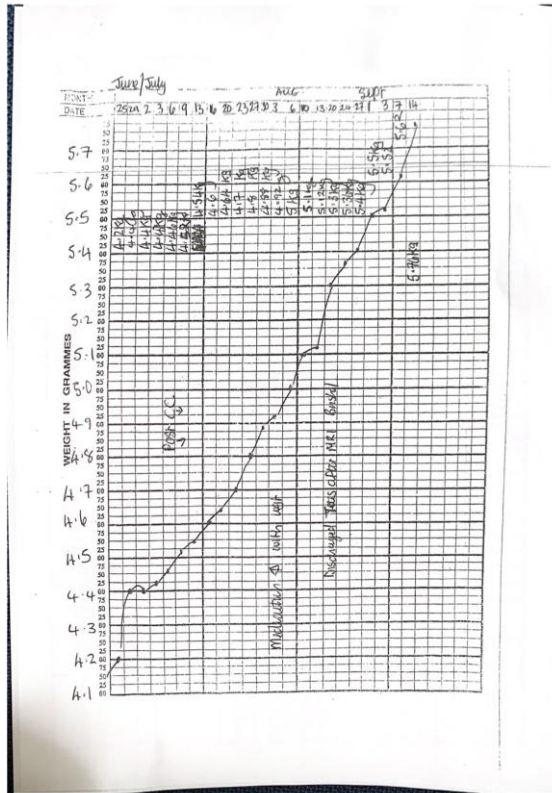
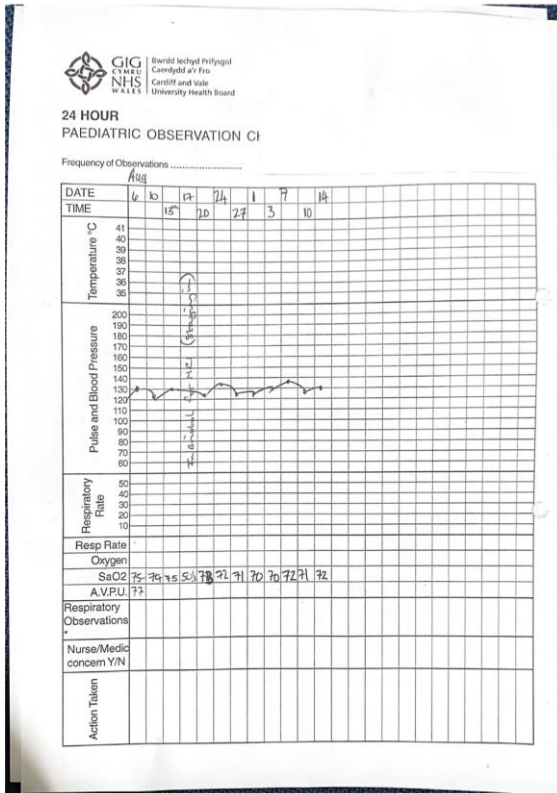
LV: Left ventricle

RV: Right ventricle



# Norwood actuarial survival





# Home Monitoring Programme

designed to detect problems early

- Regular OPD with cardiologist
- Often have additional dietary support requirements eg NG tube
- Saturations ideally 85% often lower
- Medications:
  - Aspirin (and clopidogrel if BT shunt) + PPI
  - Diuretics
  - Possibly ACEi
  - Anti GORD

# Cardiac catheter 2-3 months old

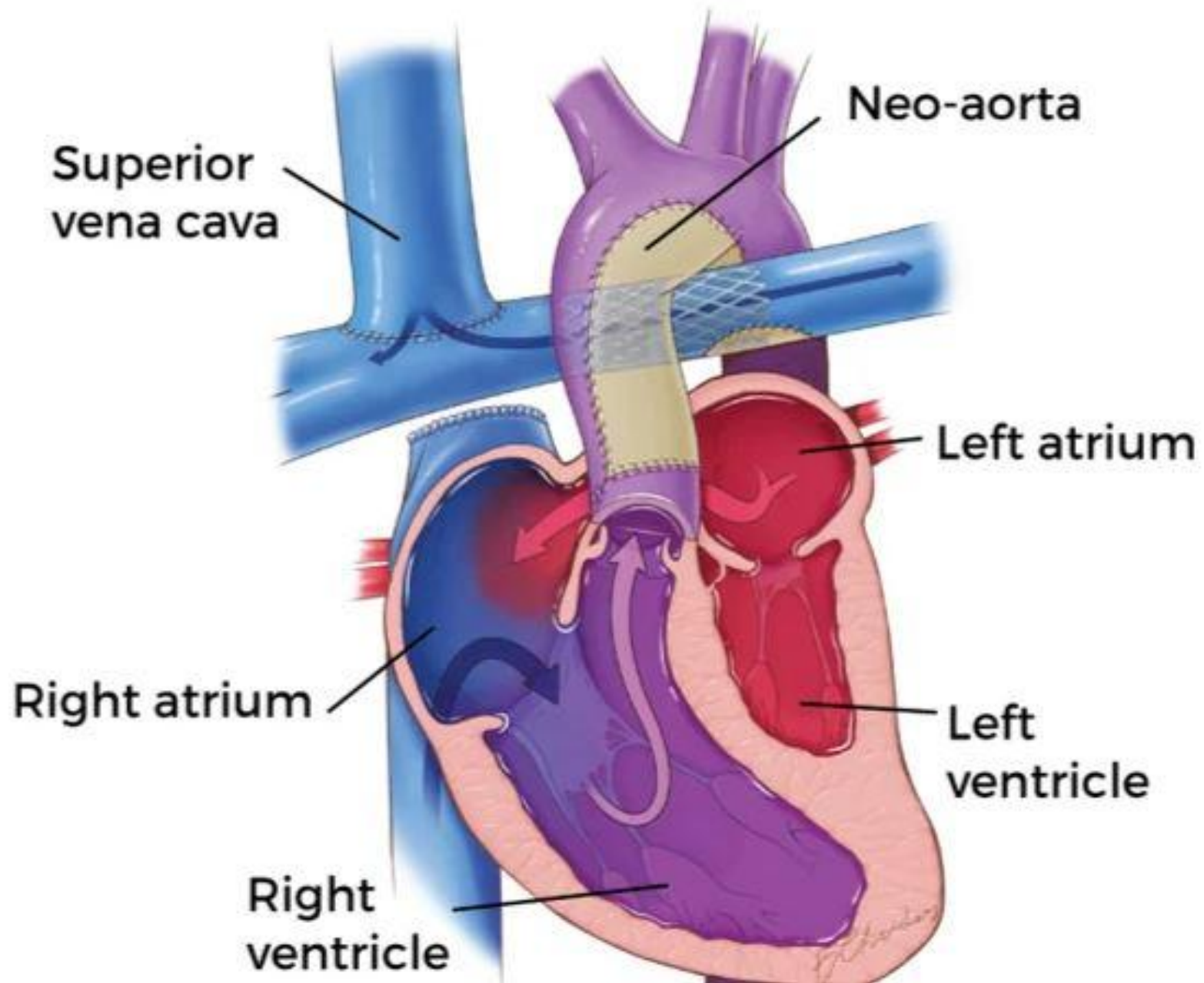




# Glenn Procedure

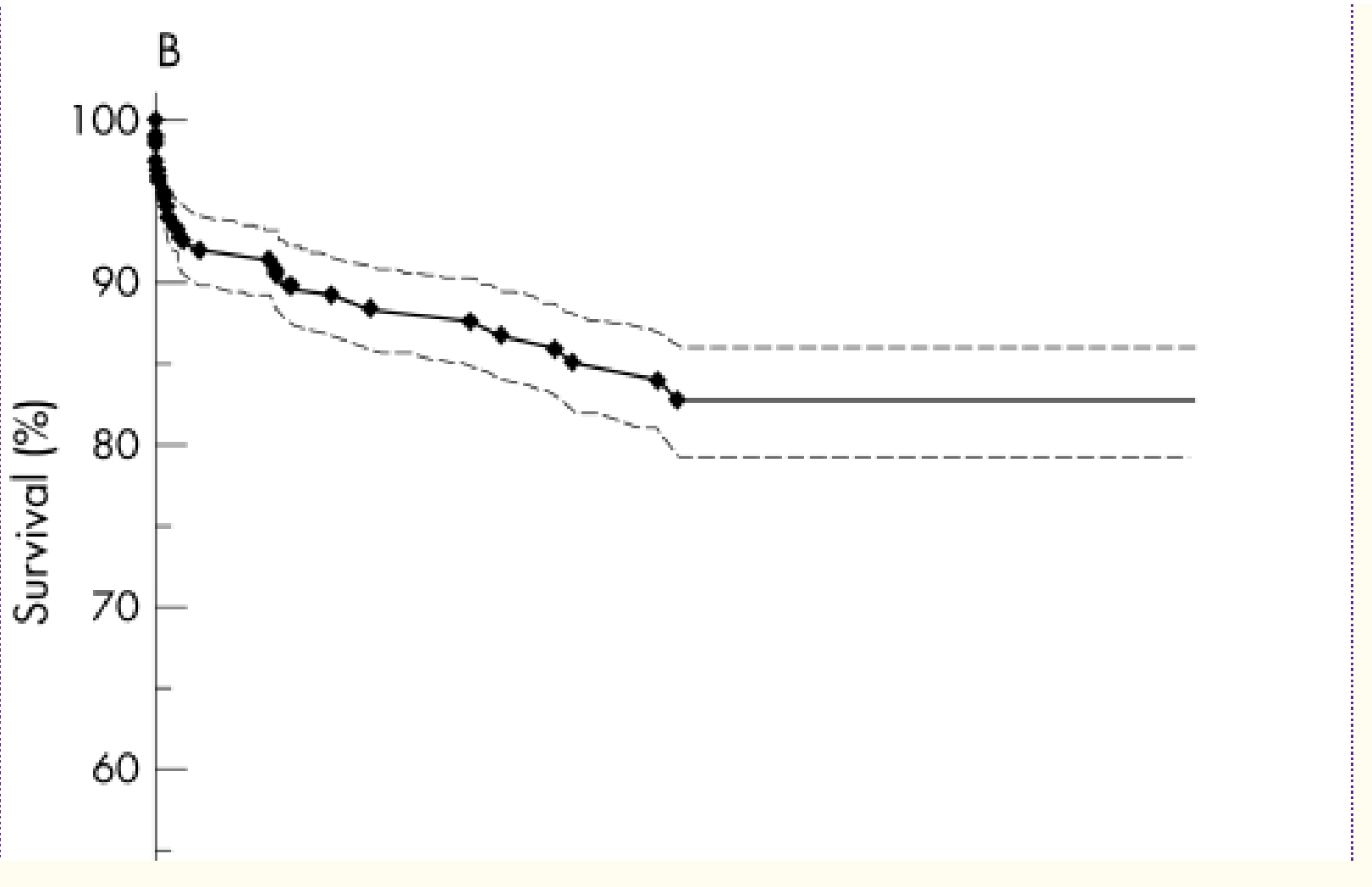
Superior cavopulmonary connection (SCVC)

3-4 months age



- More stable so home monitoring programme is stopped
- OPD follow up
- Saturations – ideally 85% (often lower)
- Medications:
  - Diuretics
  - ACEi – possibly
  - Aspirin Plus PPI
  - Anti GORD

# Glenn actuarial survival



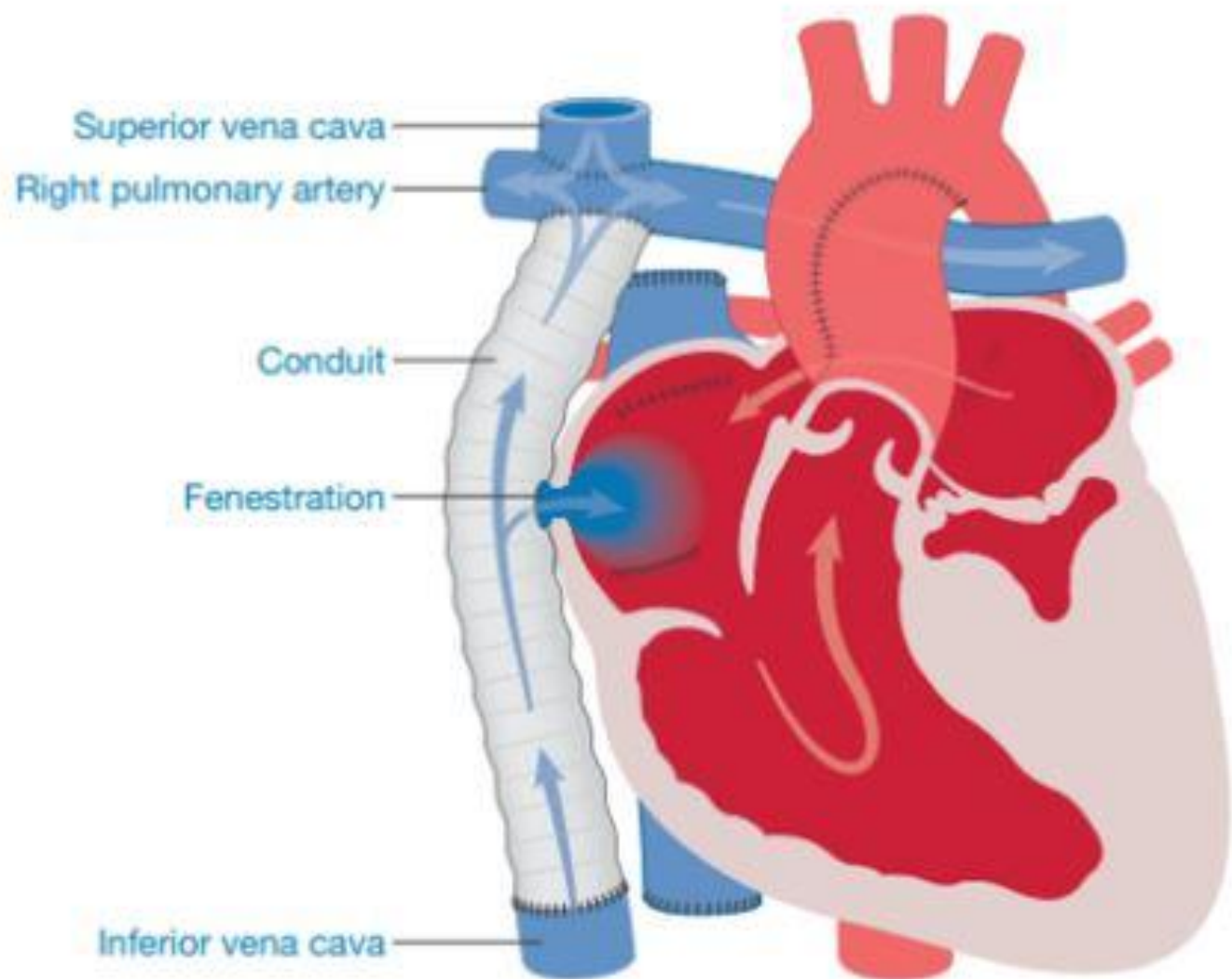
# Cardiac catheter – 15kg 4-5 years approx.



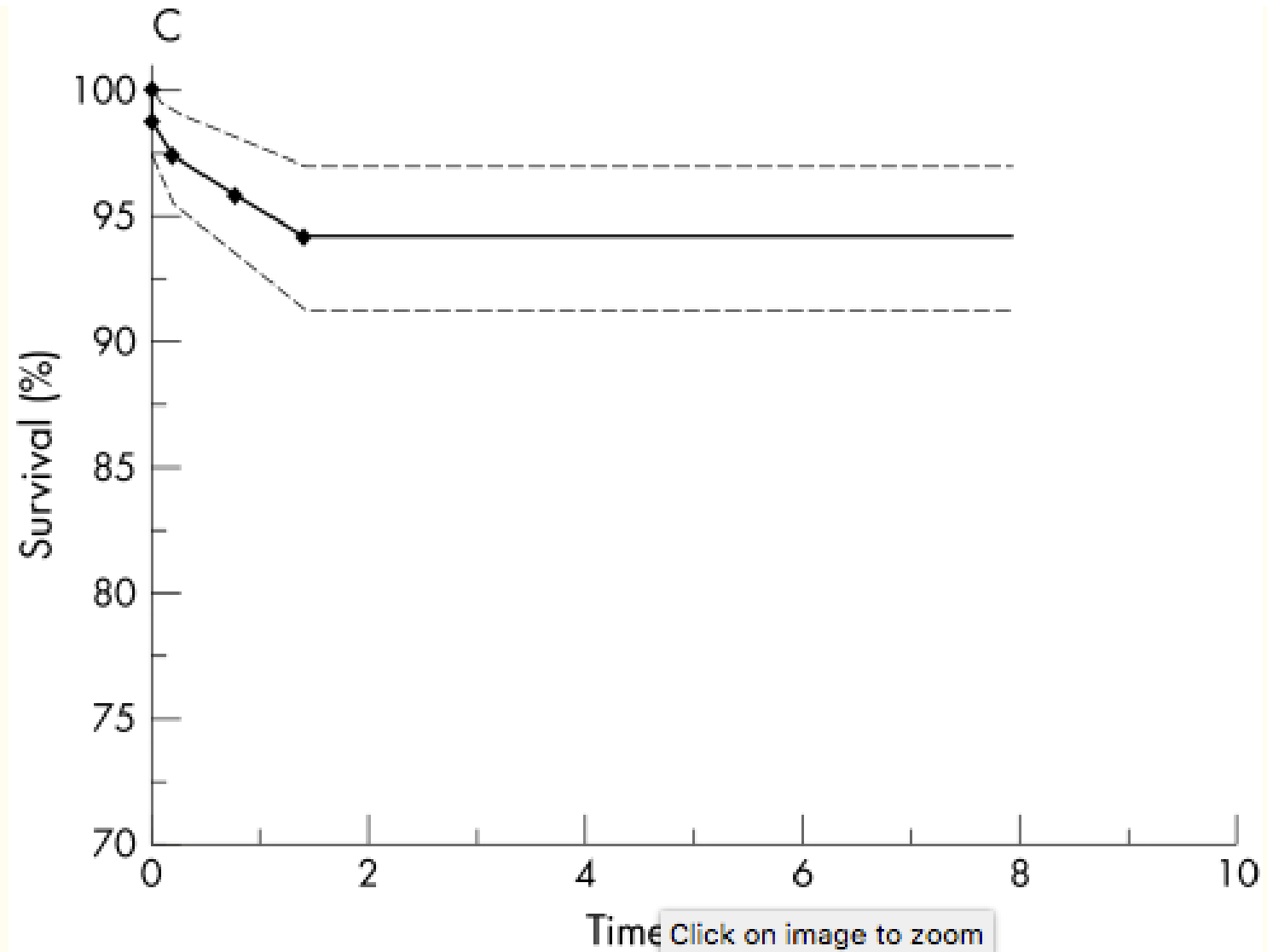


# Total Cavopulmonary connection (TCPC) - Fontan

4-5 years age or approx. 15kg



# Fontan actuarial survival

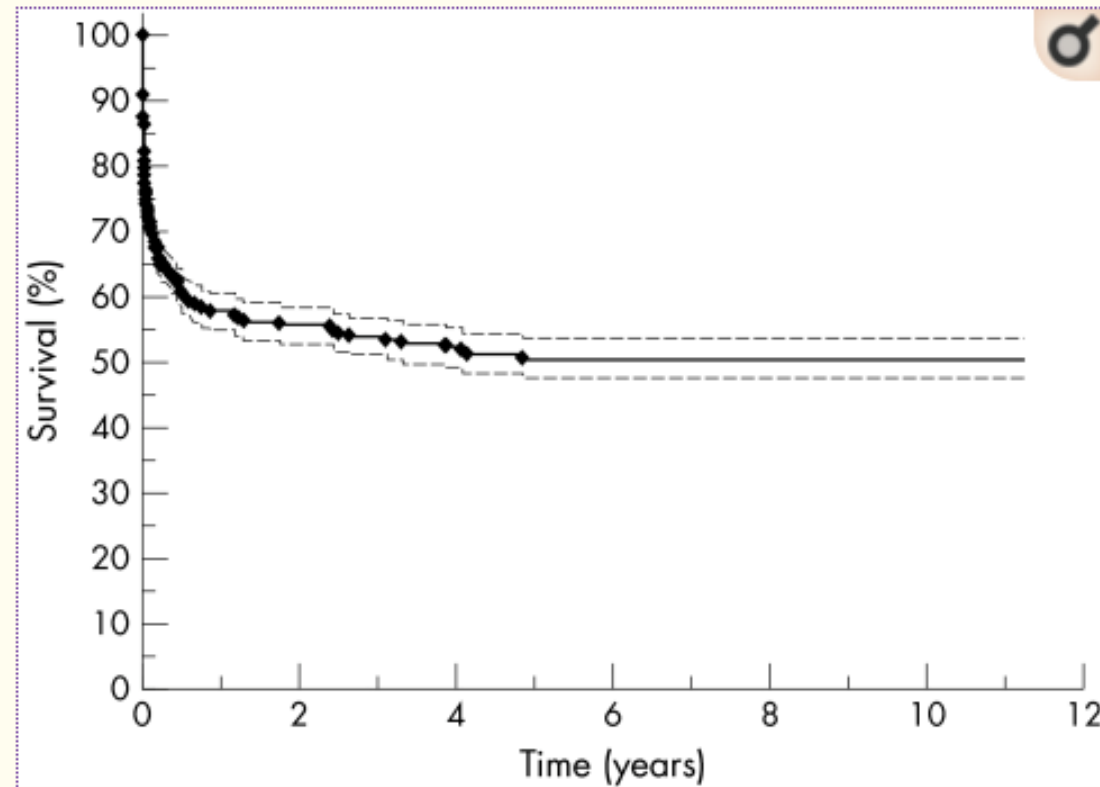


- Annual follow up with Echo, bloods, Holter
- Saturations over 90% (may still be lower)
- ‘MOT’ every five years – liver USS, 6MWT, possibly MRI in addition to annual investigations
- Medications:
  - Diuretics – possibly
  - Anticoagulation (centre dependant) Warfarin Rivaroxaban
  - ACEi – possibly

**After surgery – the long term?**

# Staged surgical management of hypoplastic left heart syndrome: a single institution 12 year experience

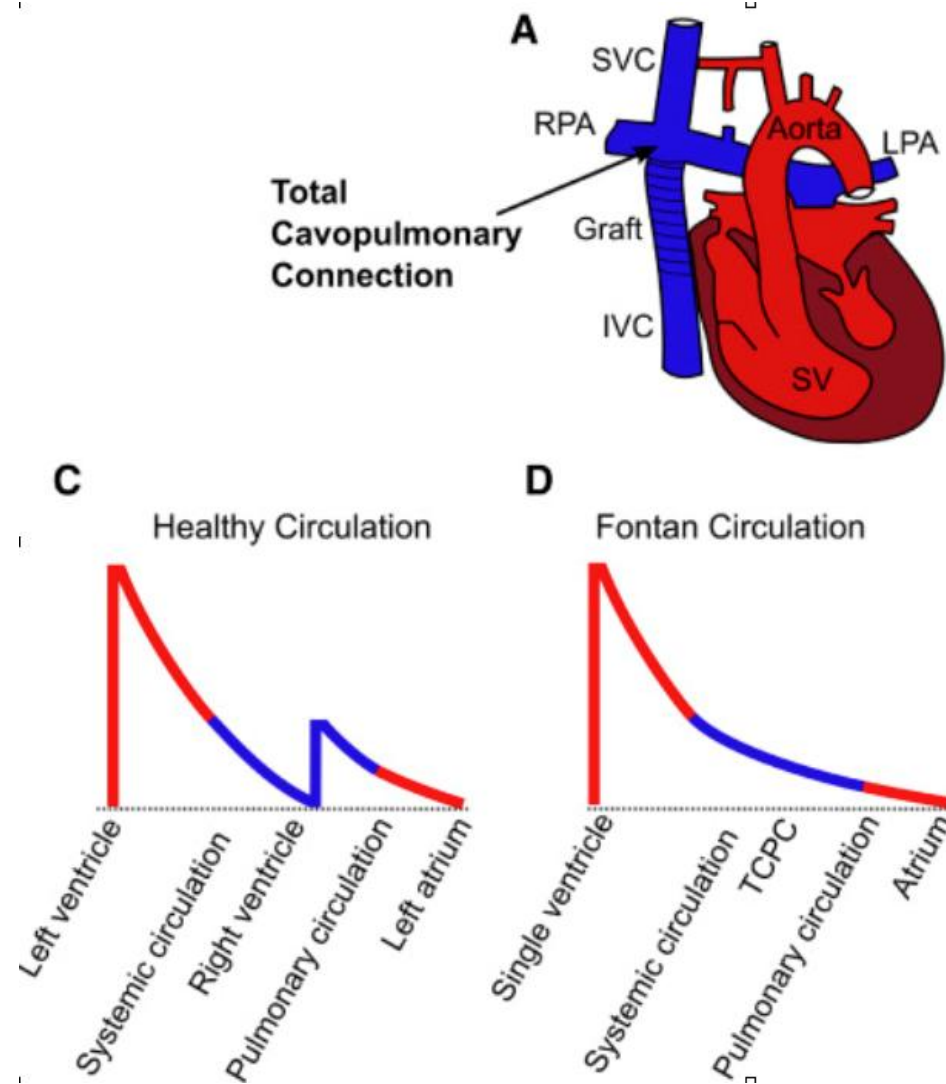
[S P McGuirk](#), [M Griselli](#), [O F Stumper](#), [E M Rumball](#), [P Miller](#), [R Dhillon](#), [J V de Giovanni](#), [J G Wright](#), [D J Barron](#), and [W J Brawn](#)



**Figure 1** Actuarial survival after staged surgical management of the hypoplastic left heart syndrome. Data are mean (SD).

- 50% in mainstream education
- 50% adults need further intervention minor tweaks up to transplant (if candidate)
- Arrhythmias, Ventricular dysfunction
- Fontan Failure, PLE, Plastic bronchitis

# Univentricular Physiology is different!

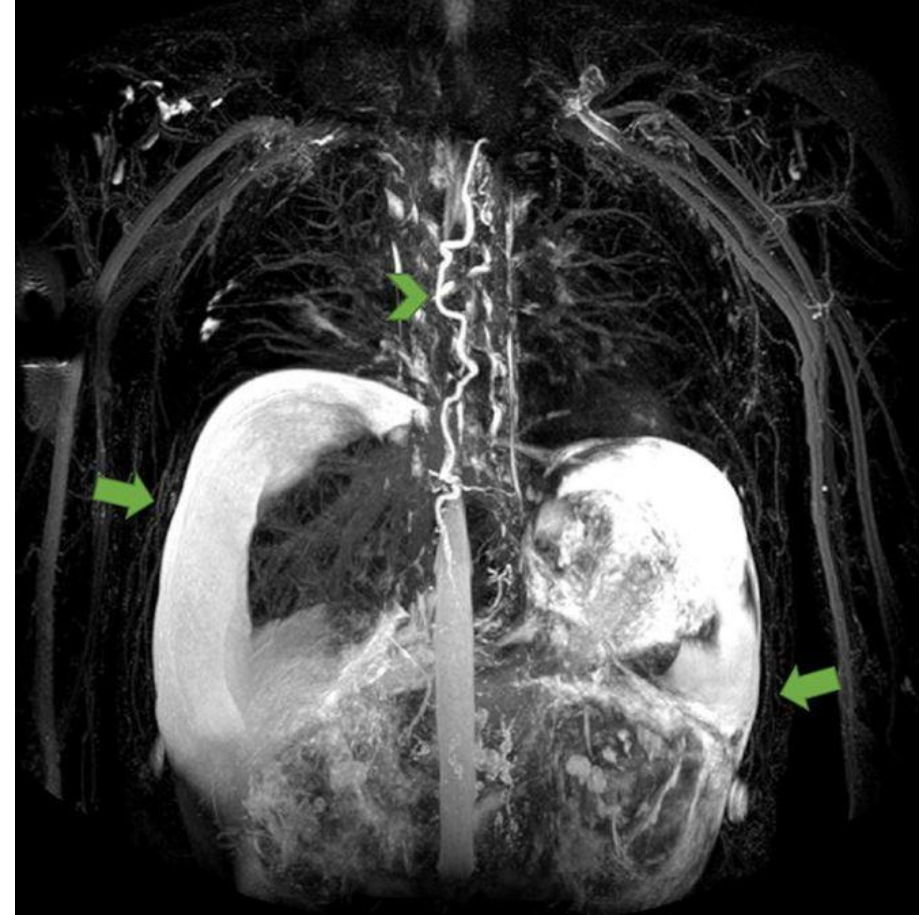


- Mobility is an important contributor to Fontan circulation
- Limited tolerance compared to peers
- Pushchair - Wheelchair

# Plastic Bronchitis



# PLE



# Fetal Diagnosis

Case examples

Appendix 1 Checklist for cardiac screening

| Upper abdomen  |   |                              |                             |
|--|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|  | Stomach on left   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Four-chamber view                                      |   |                              |                             |
| General  | Heart on left, axis -45°  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Heart area ≤ ½ chest area   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Regular rhythm, rate 120–160 bpm  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Atria  | Approximately equal in size   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Patent foramen ovale; foramen ovale flap valve in left atrium           | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | At least one pulmonary vein entering left atrium                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Atrioventricular junction                              | Two separate valves that open and close freely                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Tricuspid valve more apical than mitral valve (normal valve offset)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ventricles   | Approximately equal in size   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Moderator band at apex of right ventricle                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Septum appears intact   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Left ventricular outflow-tract view                    |   |                              |                             |
|  | Vessel in continuity with ventricular septum and does not bifurcate     | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Aortic valve leaflets not thickened, open and close freely              | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Right ventricular outflow-tract view/three-vessel view |   |                              |                             |
|  | Vessel arising from right ventricle is anterior to aorta and bifurcates | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Great arteries crossover  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Pulmonary valve leaflets are not thickened, open and close freely       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Three-vessel-and-trachea view                          |   |                              |                             |
|  | V-sign (ductal and aortic arches to left of trachea)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|  | Ductal and aortic arches similar in size                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

- ISUOG Practice Guidelines fetal cardiac screening 2023

| Anatomy                          | Present/absent: comments. (HLHS Example)                            |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Stomach position                 | Left abdomen  |
| Heart position and Size and Axis | Left thorax apex left, normal size and axis                         |
| Rate and Rhythm                  | SR 140bpm   |
| Heart Function                   | Visually good contraction   |
| IVC (ductus venosus)             | Connects to RA, systemic venous Doppler trace                       |
| SVC                              | Rt side to RA systemic venous Doppler trace                         |
| RA                               | Usual position and size, connects via TV to RV                      |
| TV                               | Normal size no stenosis , may have regurgitation                    |
| RV                               | Good size and function, connects via PV to MPA                      |
| PV                               | No stenosis or regurgitation, Normal size                           |
| MPA                              | Good sized with confluent BPA                                       |
| BPA                              | Laminar flow LPA and RPA good size                                  |
| Pulmonary veins                  | Connect to LA, Doppler pattern (normal or reversed flow pattern)    |
| LA                               | Small connects to LV via MV   |
| MV                               | Small, stenotic or atretic, ? regurgitation if patent               |
| LV                               | Small or absent, non-apex forming may show EFE and poor contraction |
| AoV                              | Small, atretic or stenotic, AAO can be difficult to see             |
| Aorta                            | Small, antegrade or retrograde flow? Left arch – hypoplastic.       |
| PFO                              | Left to right, restrictive?   |
| Interventricular septum          | Intact  |

# Case 1

'full' study

## Initial sweep

- Initial Sweep
- Establish situs
- Pass through 4CV
- Up to 3VT



- Initial sweep
- 3VT better imaged



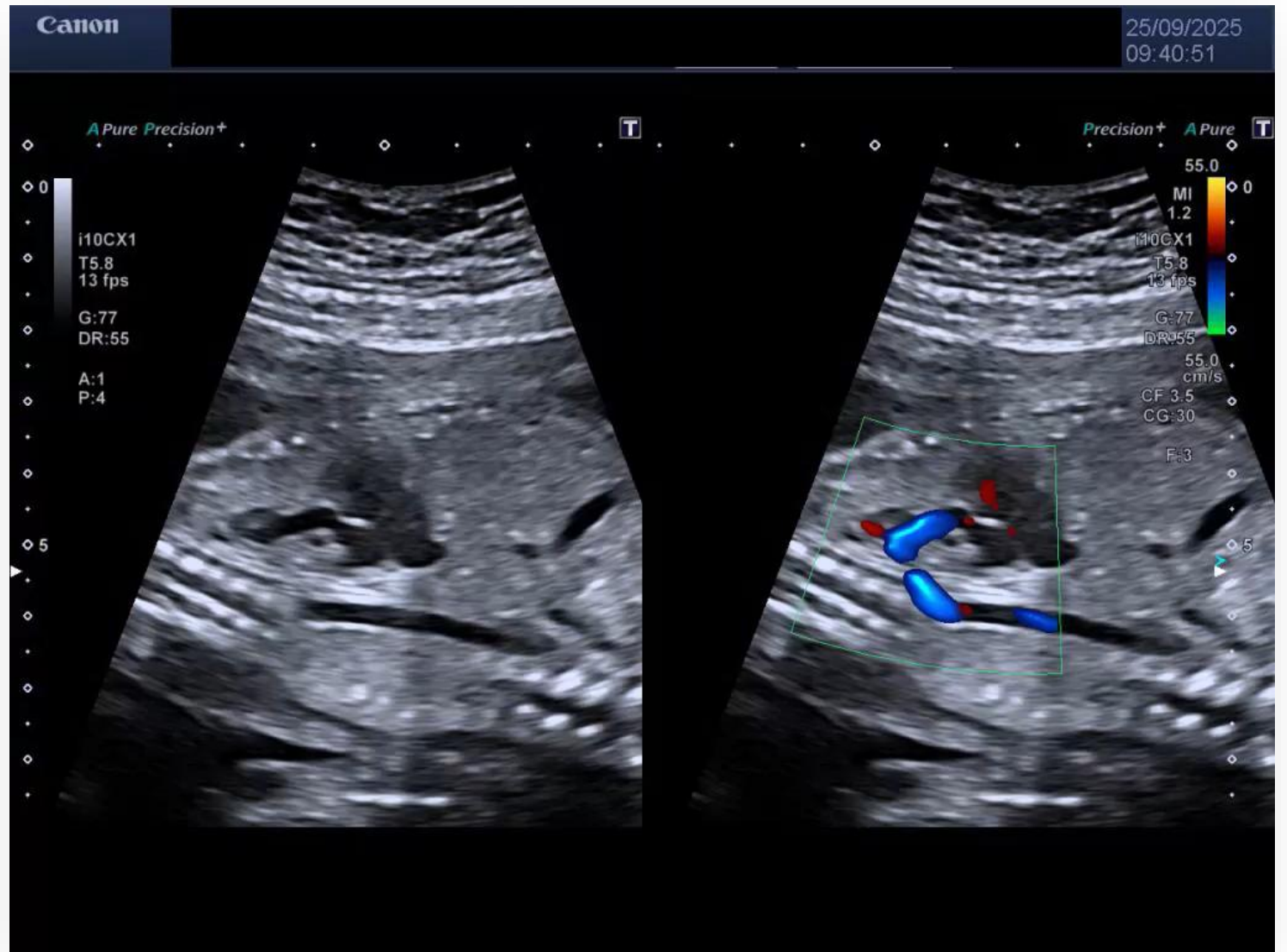
- Zoomed and optimized
- 4CV
- No obvious LV



- Sweep to try and find LV
- AAO and LVOT but no obvious LV cavity
- GA relationship



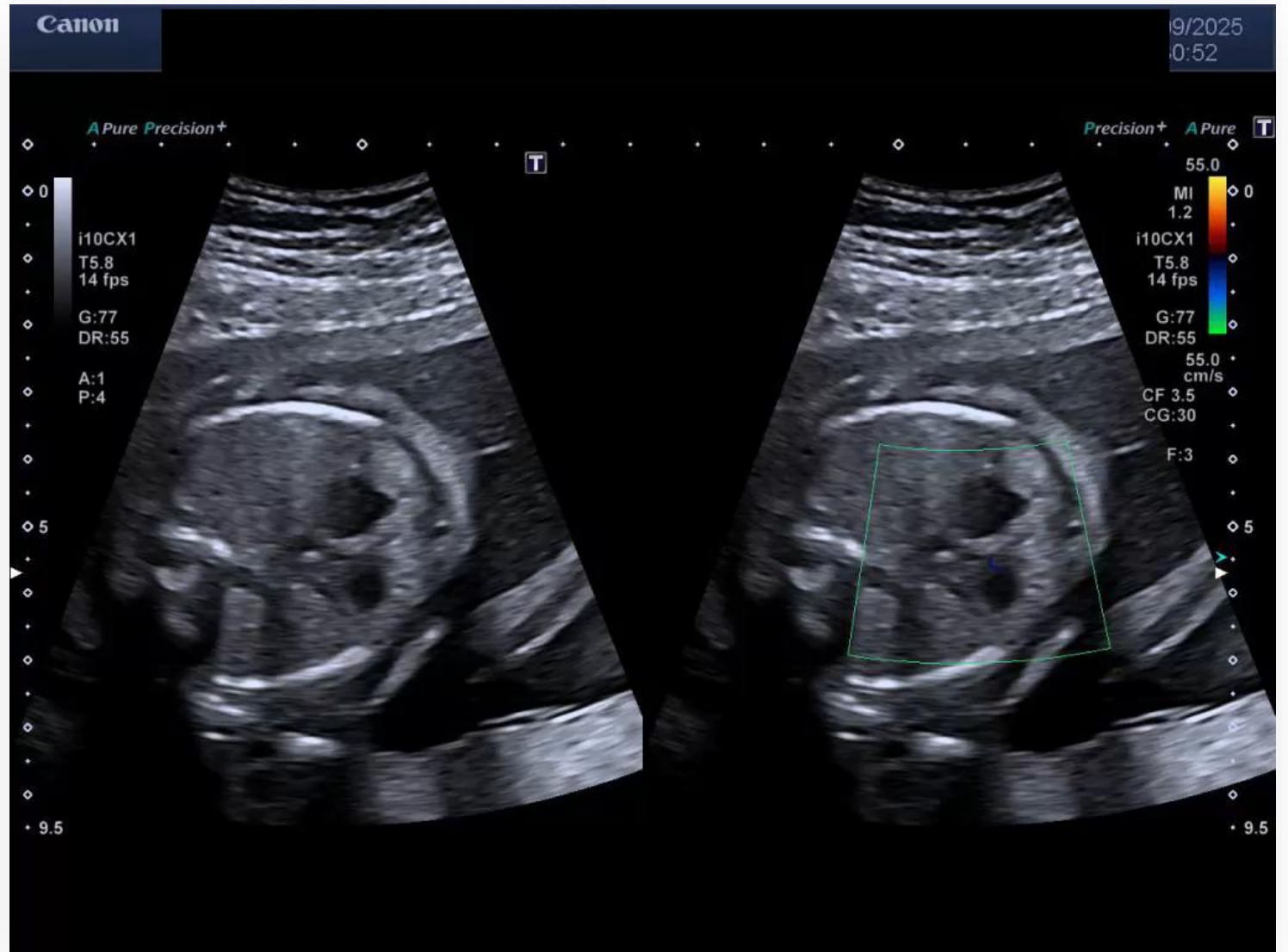
- Sagittal plane true arch antegrade flow
- Sweep to ductal arch



- 3VT
- Small Ao vs PA
- Left arch
- Antegrade flow



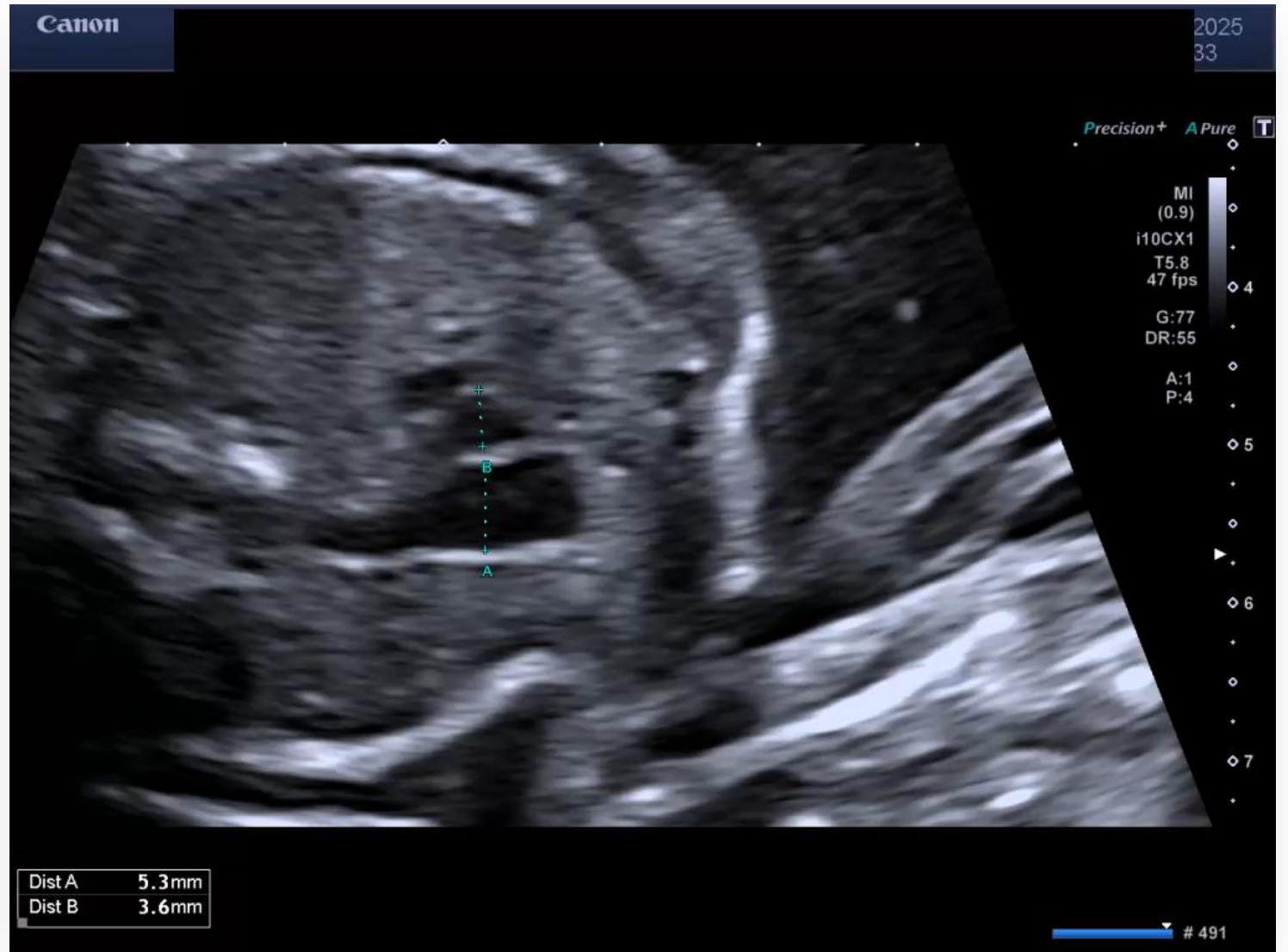
- BPA
- Ductal arch
- Sweep to true arch and AAO



- TV inflow
- No significant TR
- Red flow of Aao but no obvious LV



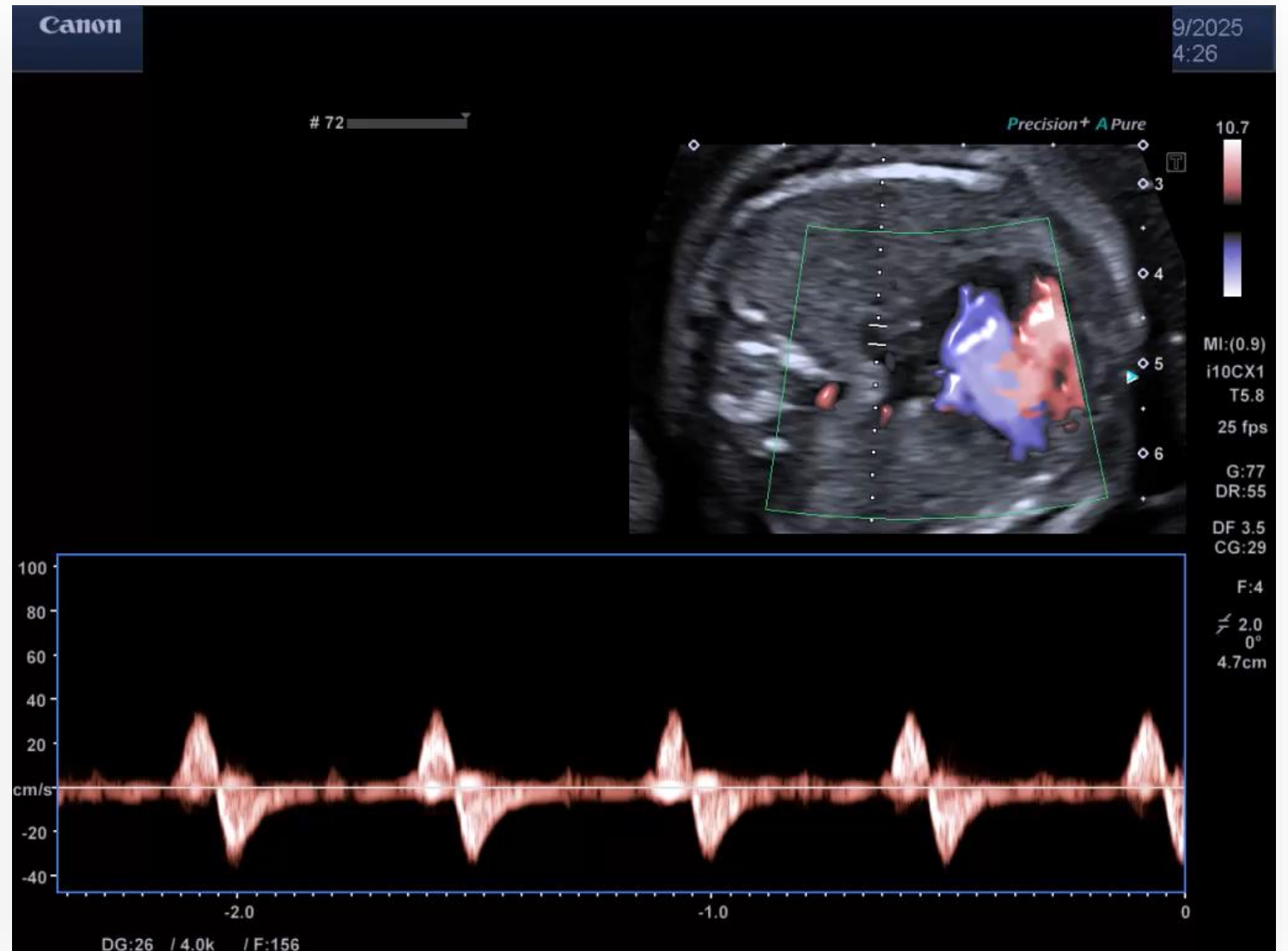
- Size discrepancy of 3VT



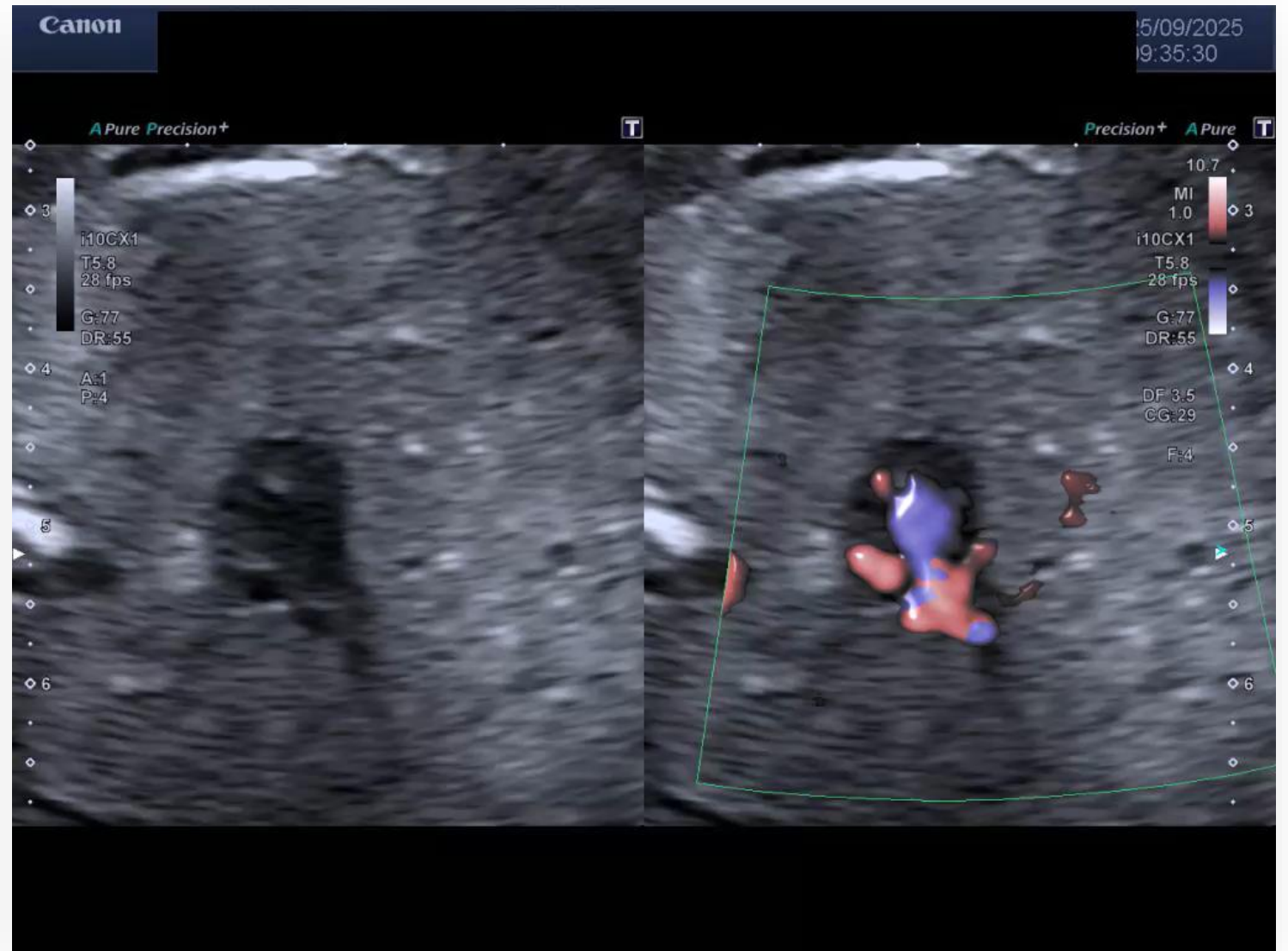
- Pulmonary venous return to LA
- Reversed flow



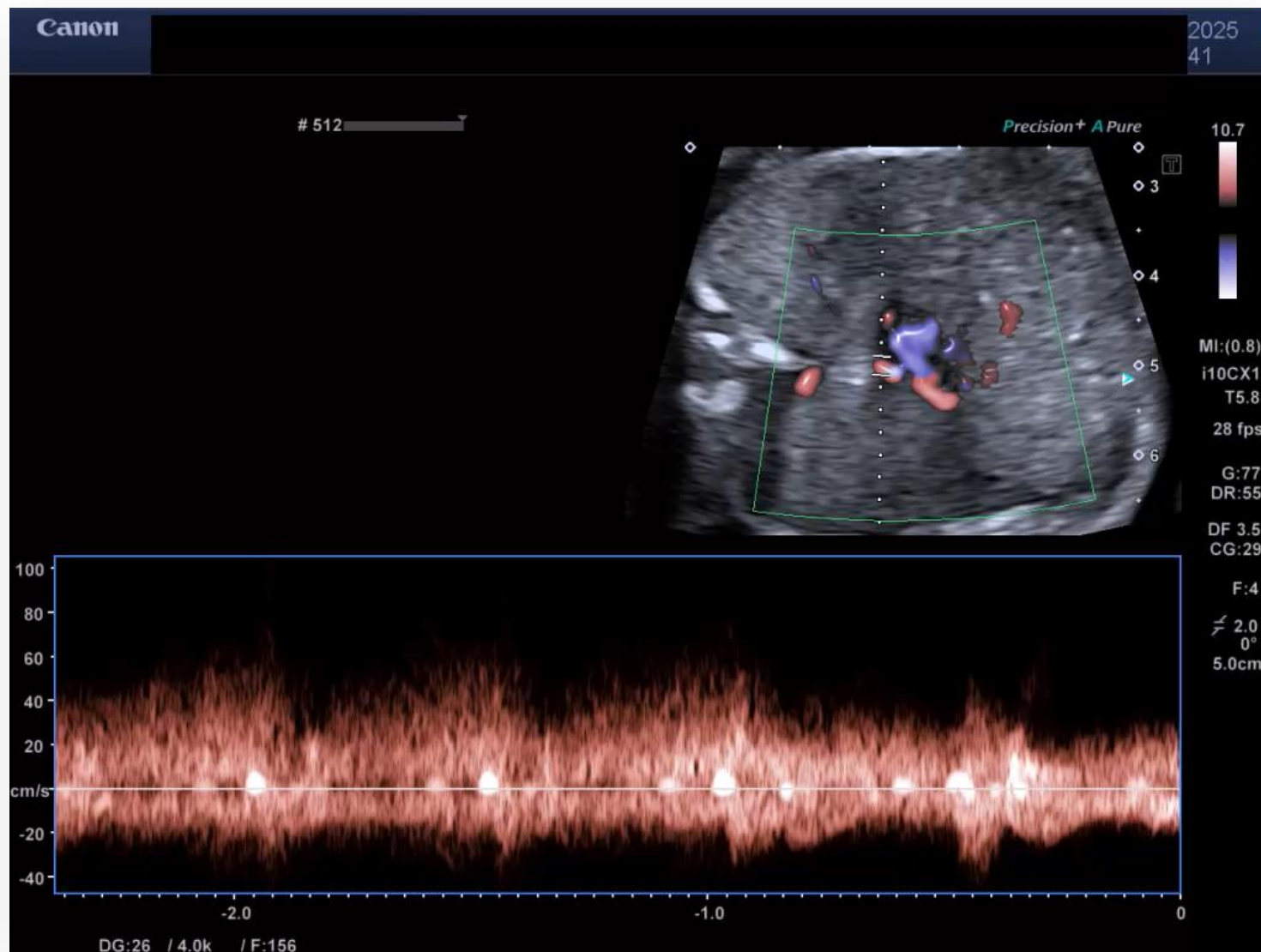
- Doppler of reversed flow
- Restrictive Atrial septum – poor prognostic feature



- Small atrial communication



- Continuous trace across IAS



- Sagittal sweep ductal arch

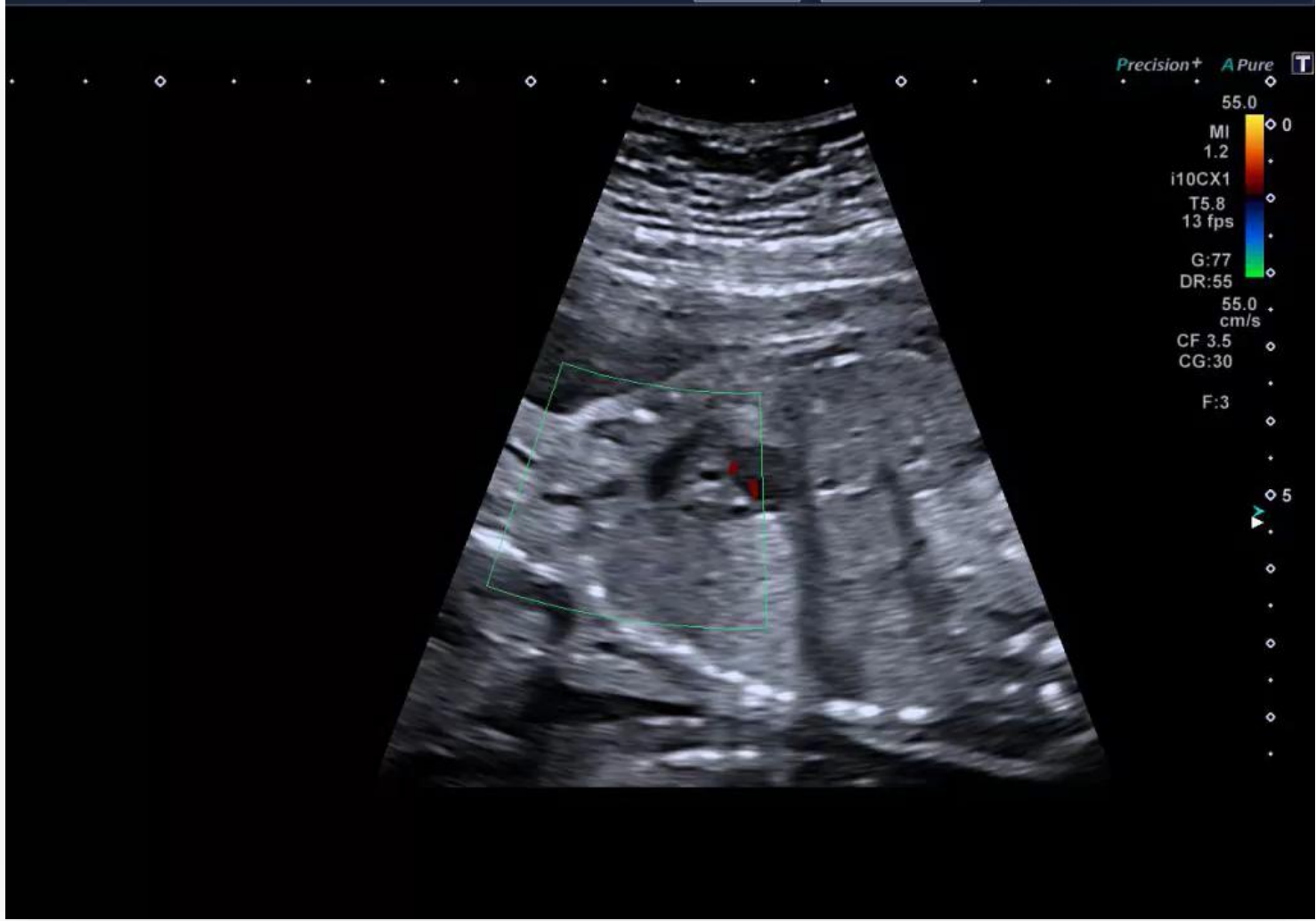


- Measurements on true arch



- Measurements extended distally to give picture of hypoplastic arch





# Case 2

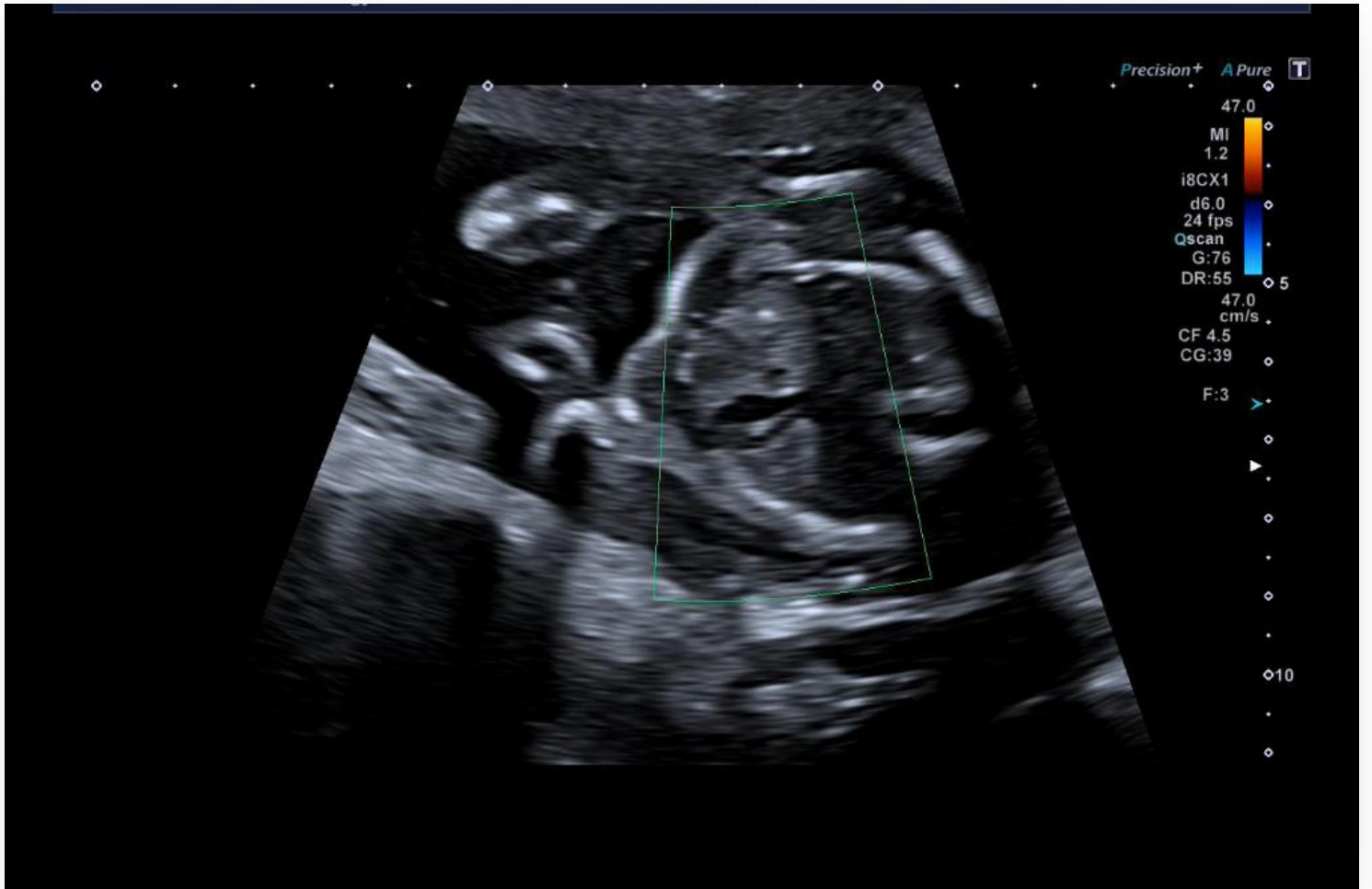
- 4CV
- Small LV cavity seen



- Sweep to GA
- PA seen but Ao/LVOT not identified



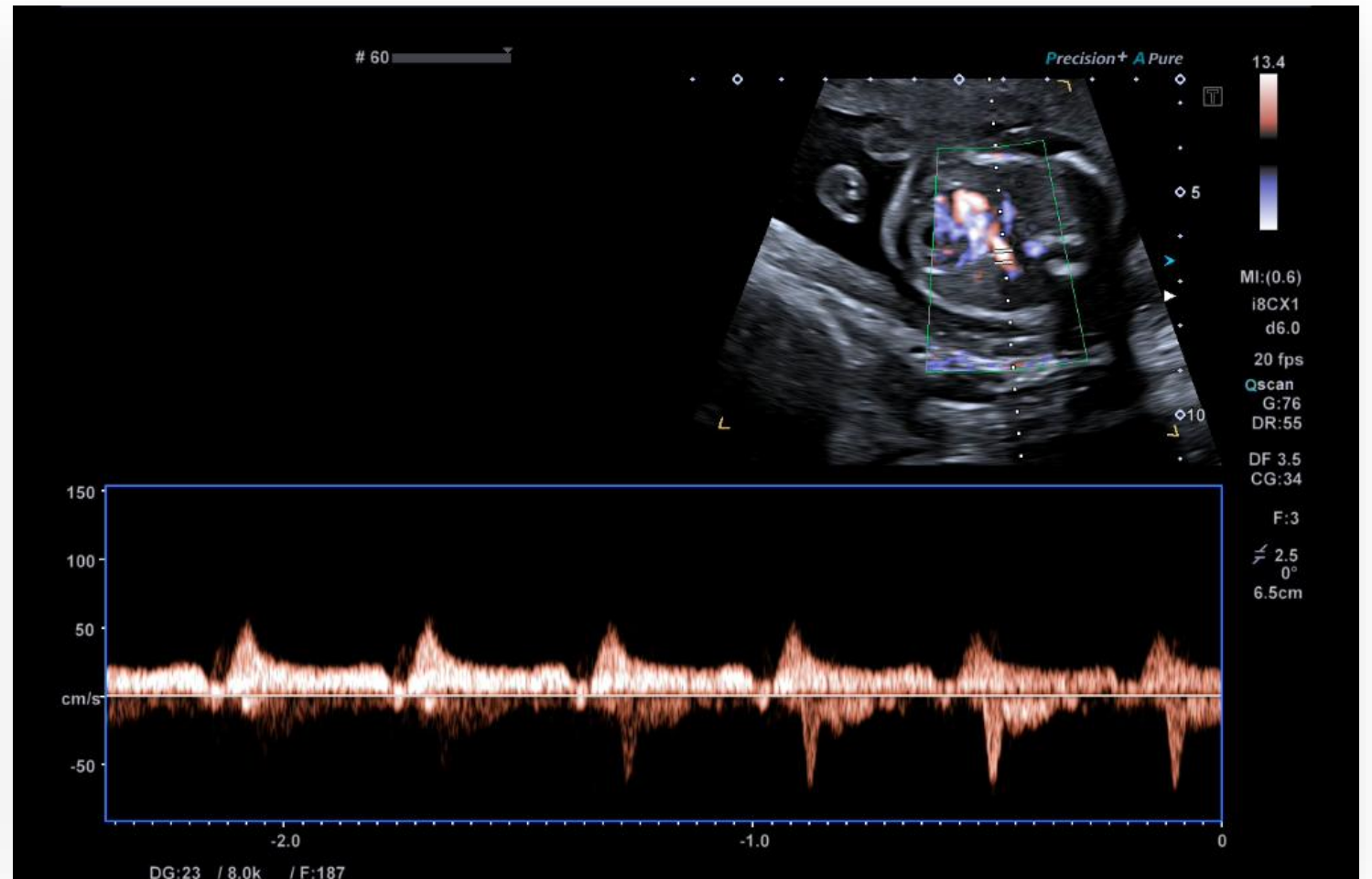
- 3VT CFM
- Retrograde flow in true arch



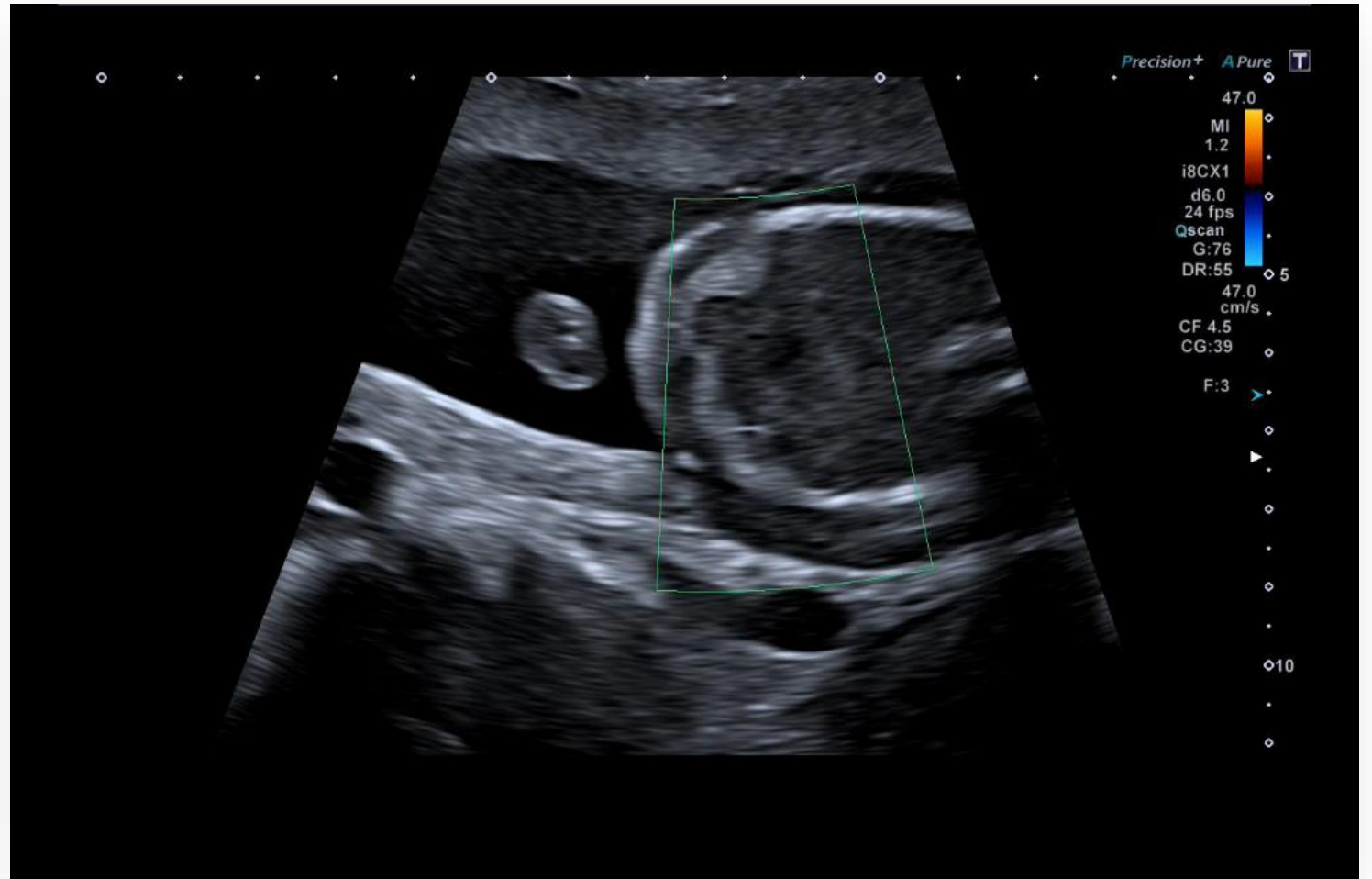
- Pulmonary veins
- Continuous flow to LA



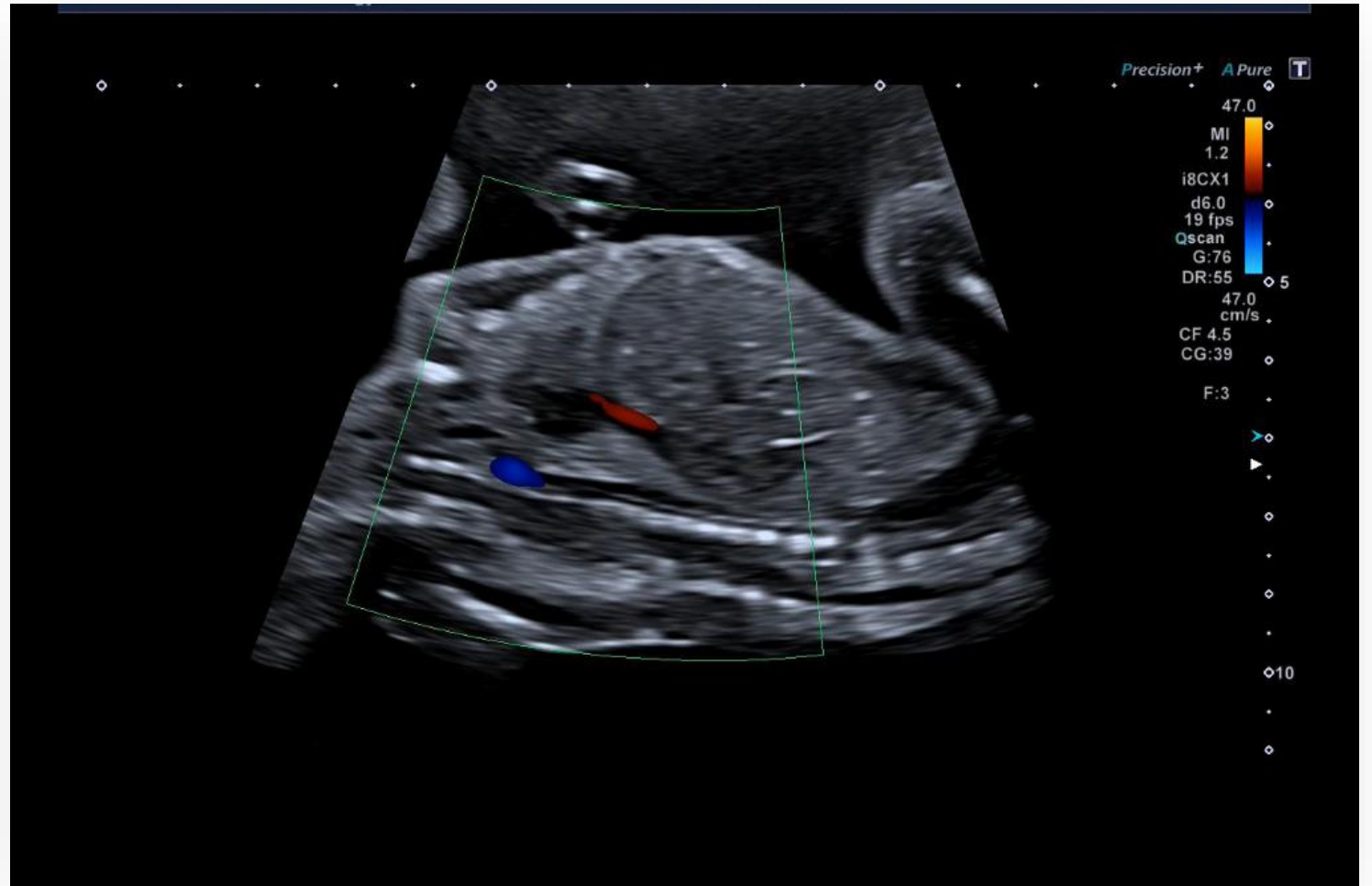
- Normal Pulmonary venous pattern - no reversal



- No TR
- IAS widely patent



- Sagittal sweep
- IVC SVC to RA
- Antegrade Ductal arch
- Retrograde true arch

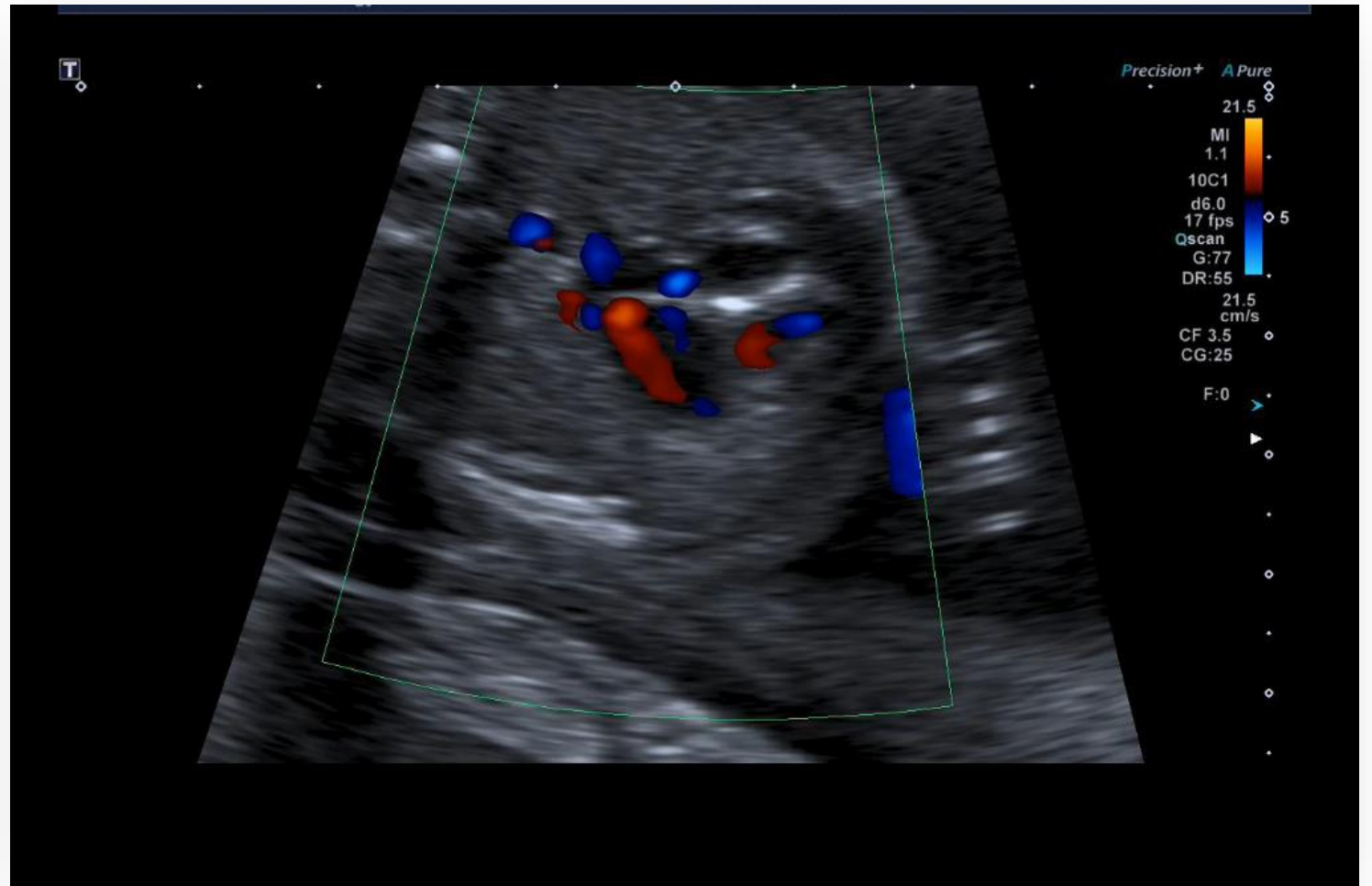


# Case 3

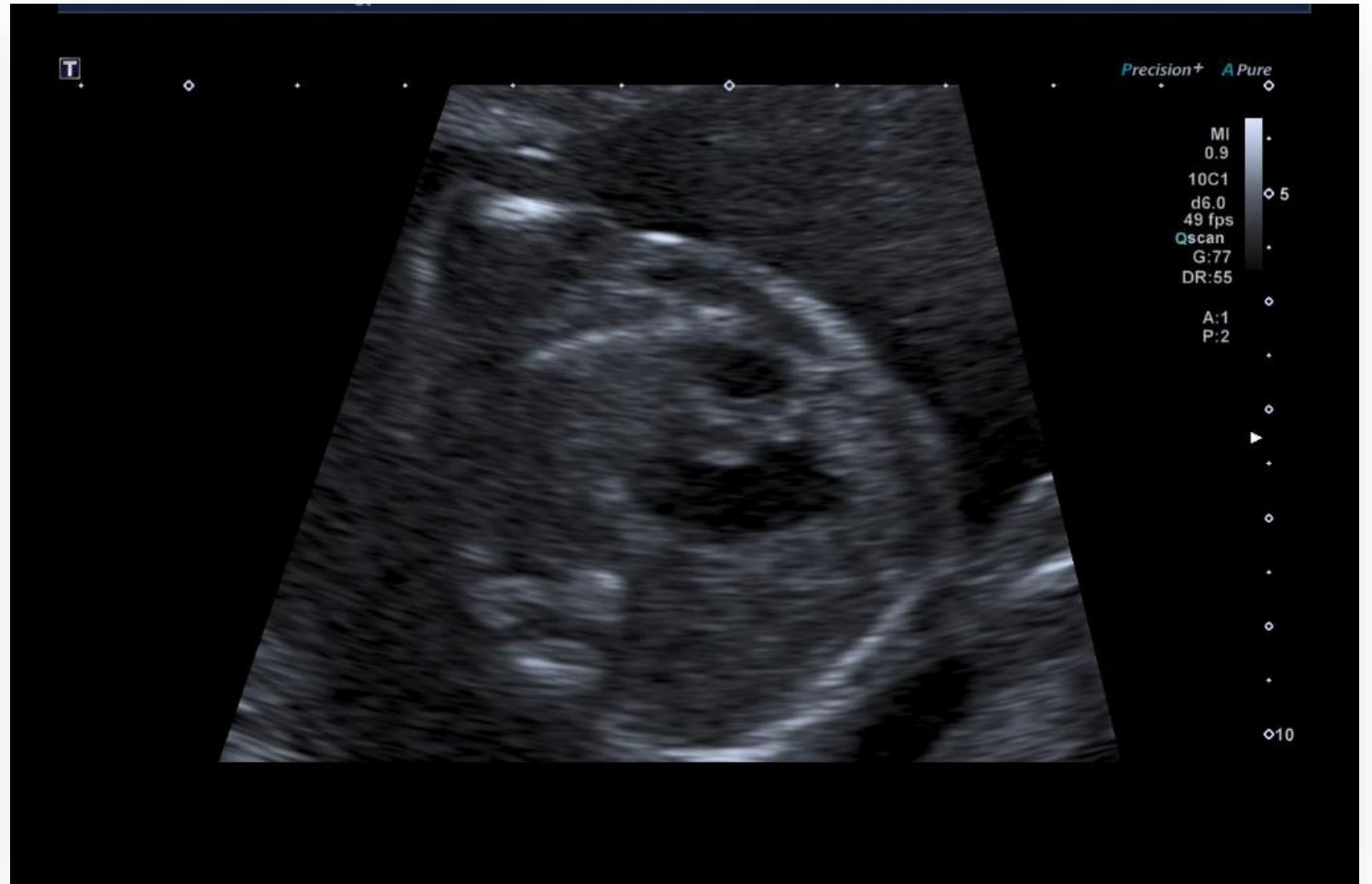
- Endocardial fibroelastosis EFE



- No CFM 'fill' in LV cavity
- Possible MS MR



- RV forms apex
- LV does not



# INCREASED NUCHAL THICKNESS .v. CYSTIC HYGROMA

---

DR. MARK DENBOW – Consultant in Obstetrics and  
Fetal Medicine, UHW.



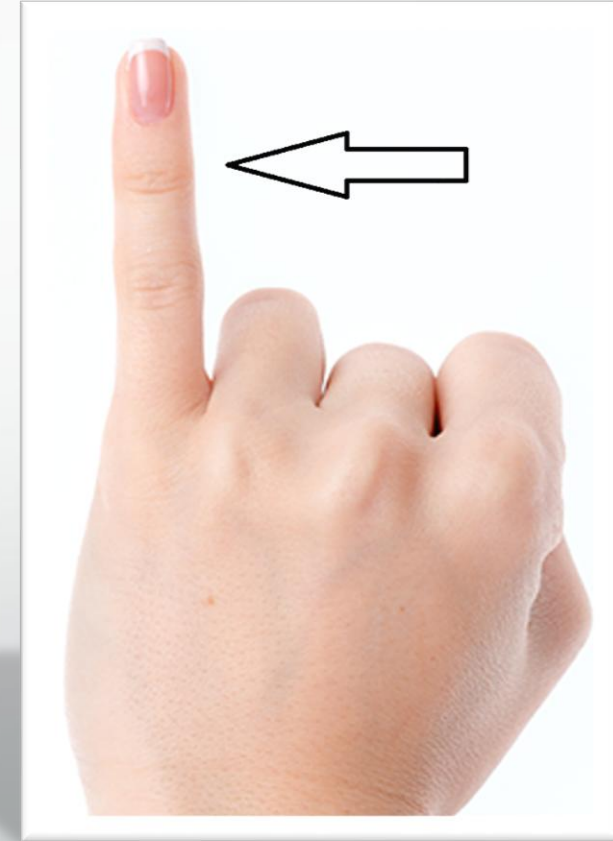
GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

# Are they the same?



VS



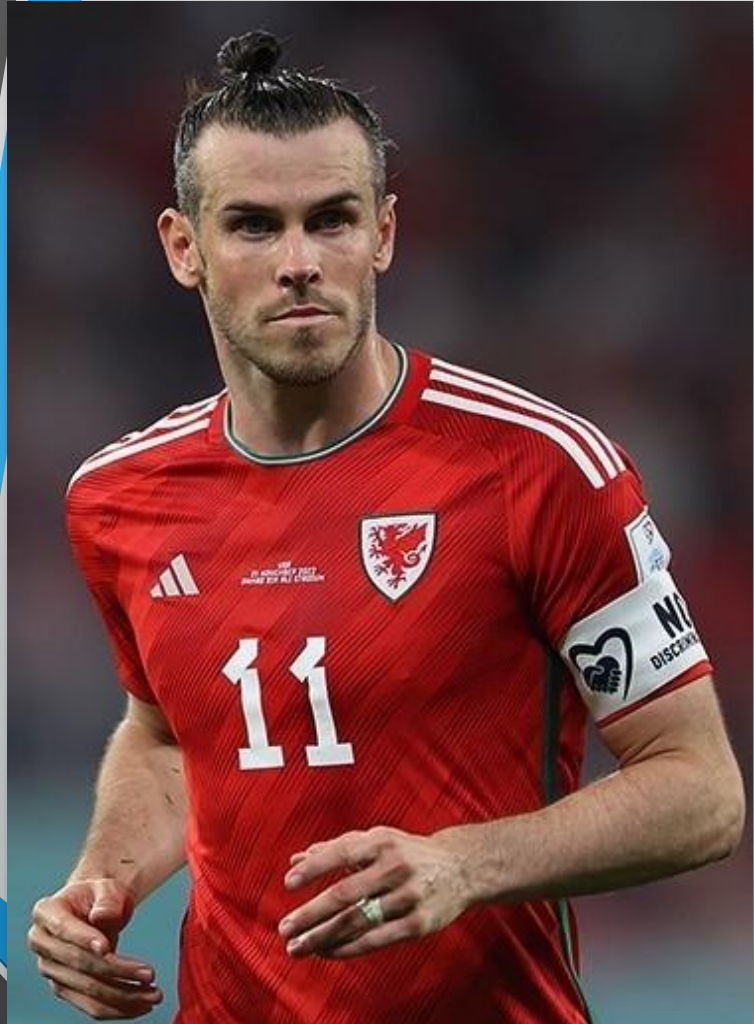
# Are they the same?



VS



# Are they the same?

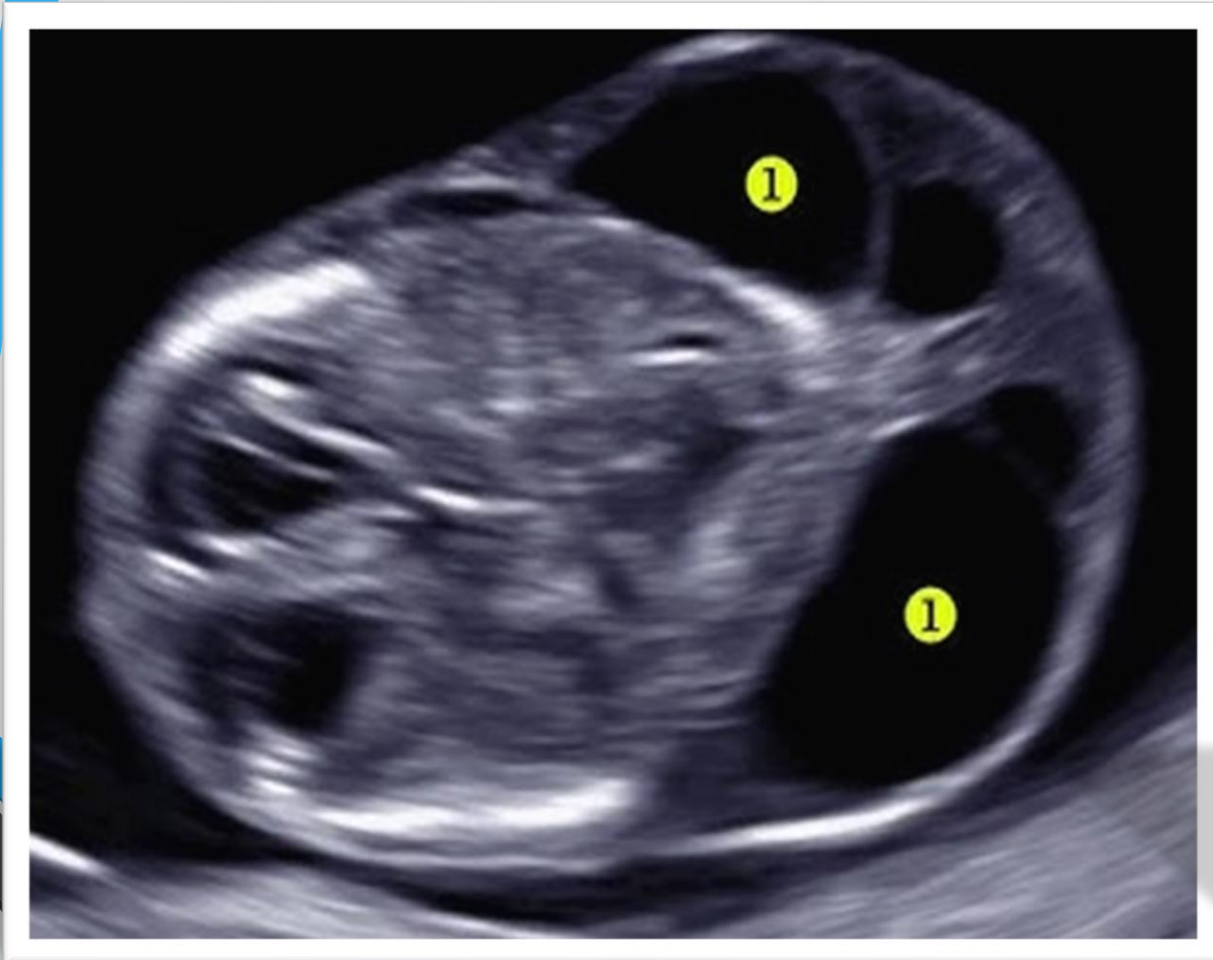


VS



# They are **not** the same

Cystic Hygroma



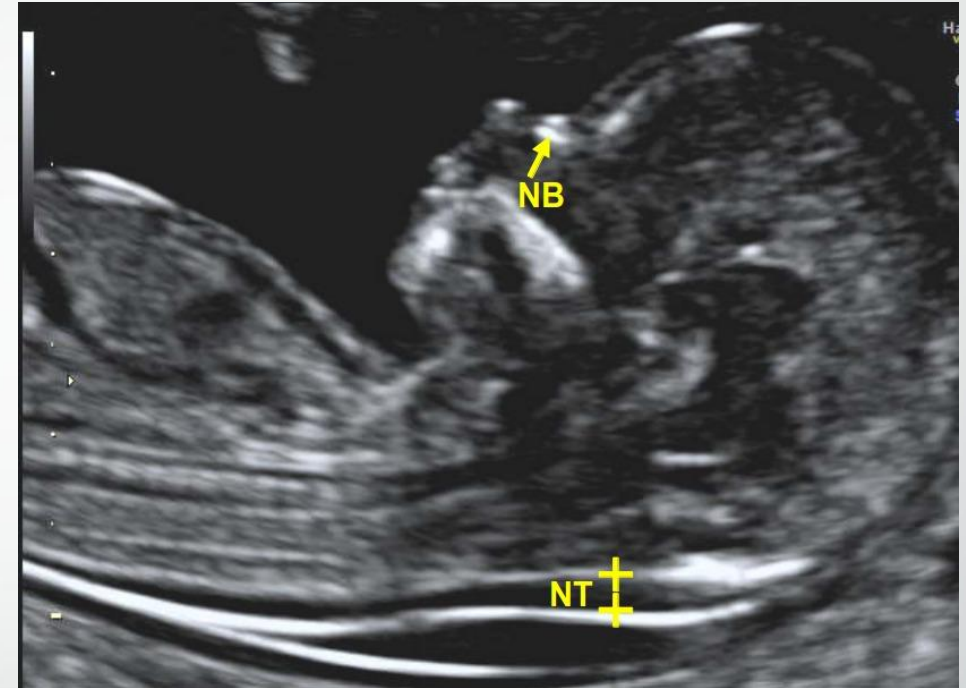
Increased NT





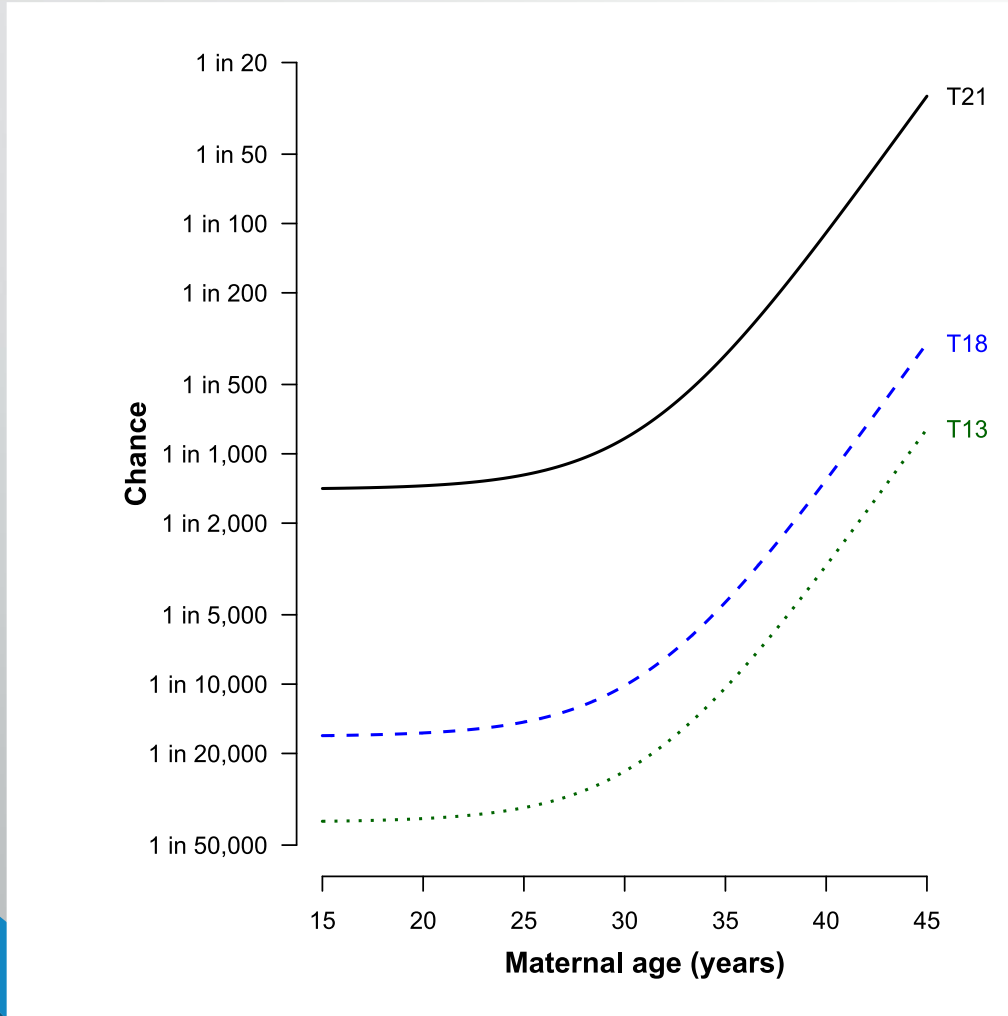
# Nuchal Translucency: Ultrasound

- 11 - 13+6 weeks and CRL 45 to 84mm.
- Magnify till fetal head and thorax occupy the whole screen.
- **Mid-sagittal view of the face with:**
  - echogenic tip of the nose
  - rectangular shape of the palate anteriorly
  - the translucent diencephalon centrally
  - nuchal membrane posteriorly.
- **Neutral position:**
  - Neck hyperextended falsely increased
  - neck is flexed falsely decreased.
- **Distinguish between fetal skin and amnion.**
- The widest part of translucency must **always** be measured.
- Measurements from inner border of the horizontal line of the calipers placed ON the line that defines the nuchal translucency thickness - the crossbar of the caliper should be such that it is hardly visible as it merges with the white line of the border, not in the nuchal fluid.
- The umbilical cord around the fetal neck: measurements of NT above and below the cord , use the average of the two measurements.

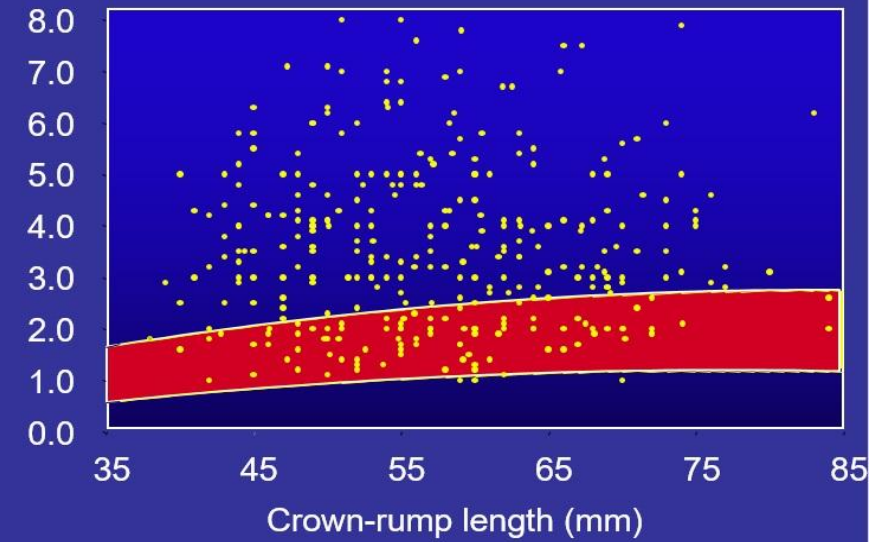


# Nuchal Translucency: Results

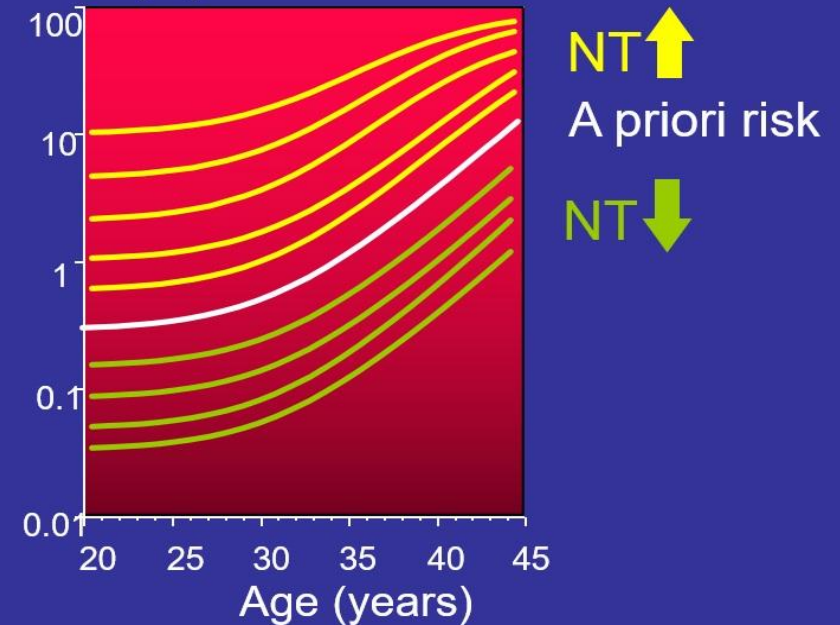
- NT used for First Trimester Screening



Nuchal translucency (mm)



Risk (%)

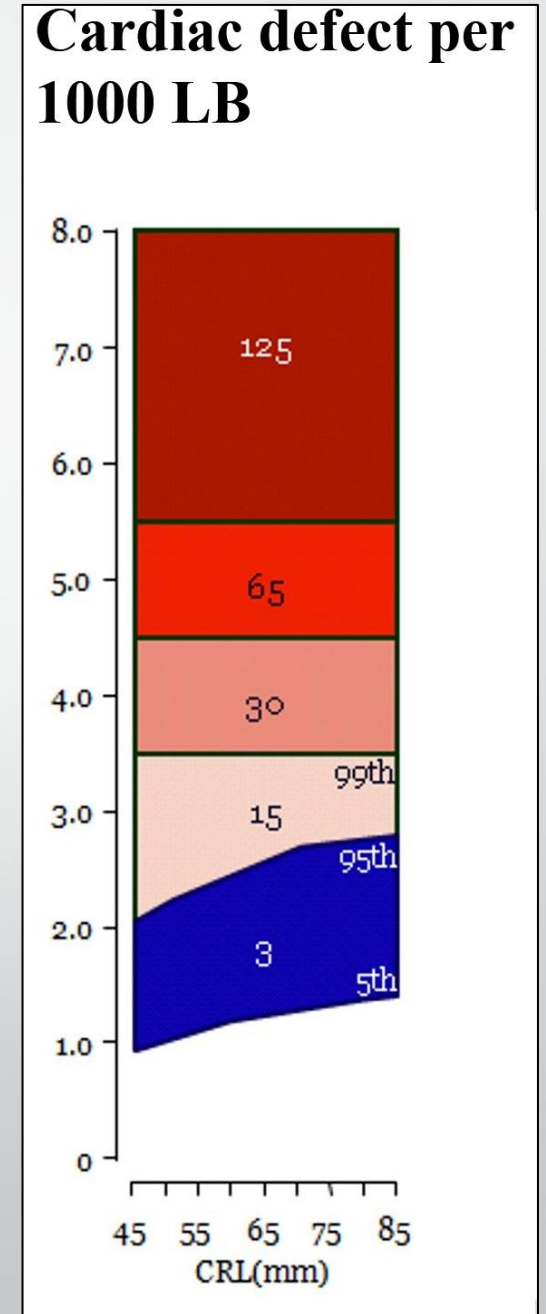
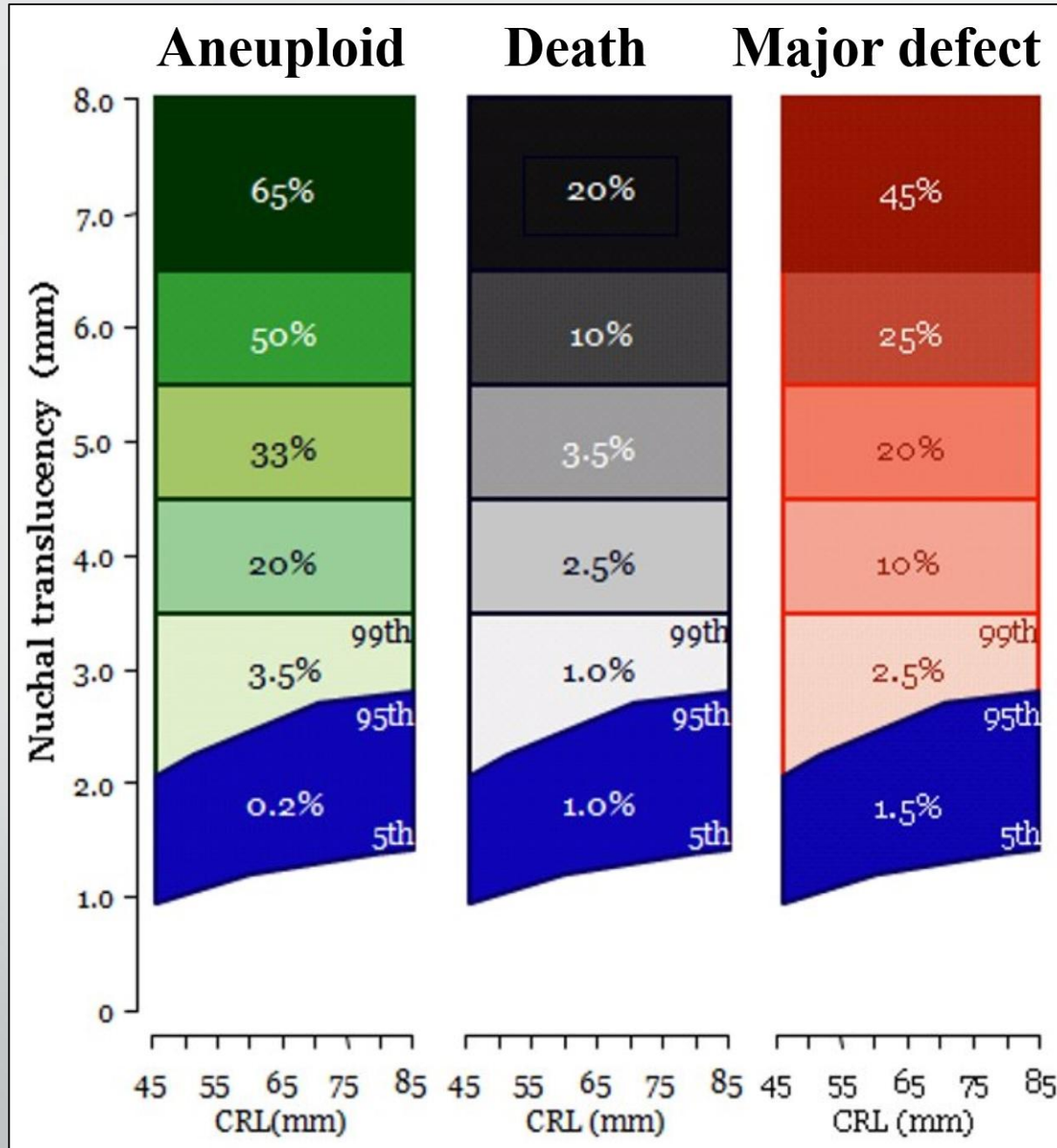


# Nuchal Translucency: Increased

- If NT increased ( $\geq 3.5$ mm):
  - Offer referral to FMU
  - Still send FTS if consented

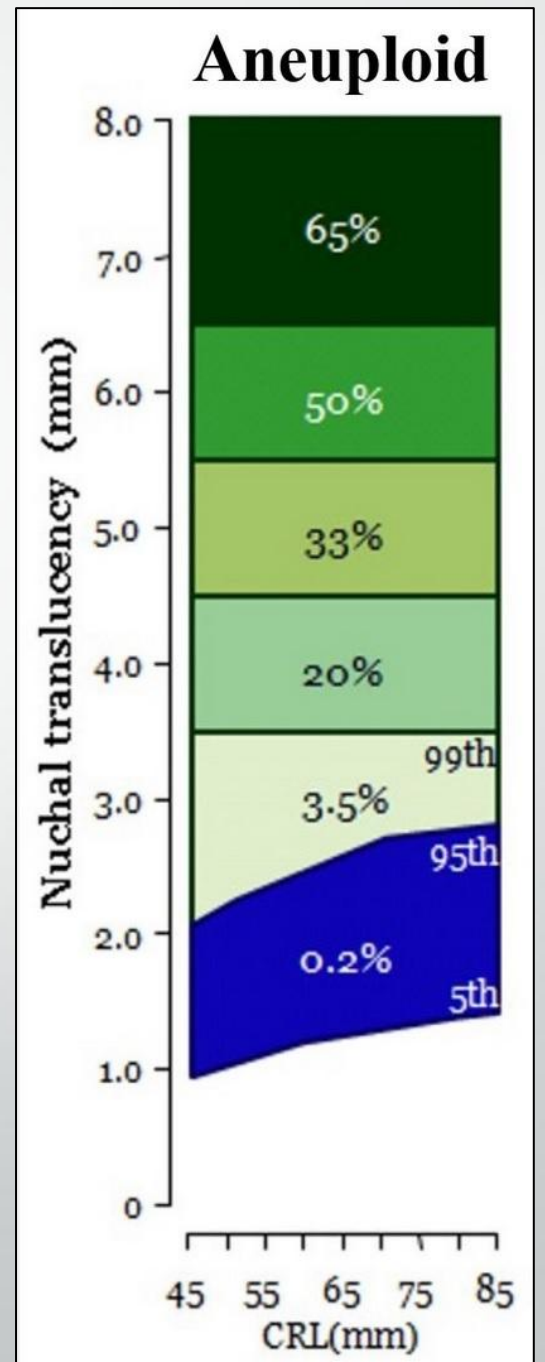
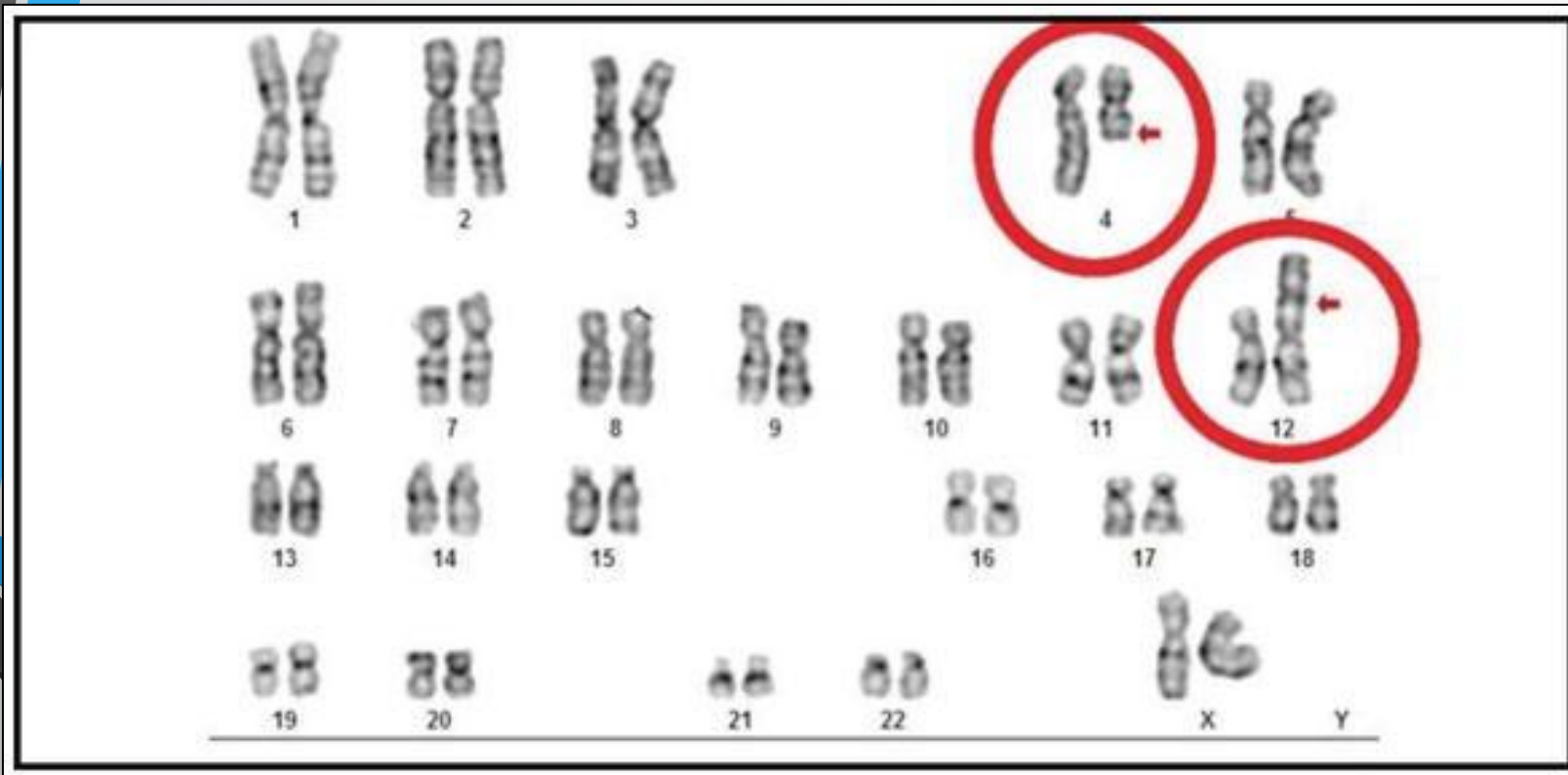
| Nuchal translucency | Chromosomal defects | Fetal death | Major fetal abnormalities | Alive and well |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| <95th centile       | 0.2%                | 1.3%        | 1.6%                      | 97%            |
| 95th-99th centiles  | 3.7%                | 1.3%        | 2.5%                      | 93%            |
| 3.5-4.4 mm          | 21.1%               | 2.7%        | 10.0%                     | 70%            |
| 4.5-5.4 mm          | 33.3%               | 3.4%        | 18.5%                     | 50%            |
| 5.5-6.4 mm          | 50.5%               | 10.1%       | 24.2%                     | 30%            |
| >6.5 mm             | 64.5%               | 19.0%       | 46.2%                     | 15%            |

**NT:**



# Increased NT:

- Risk aneuploidy:
  - not only T<sub>13</sub>/18/21
  - NIPT not reassuring

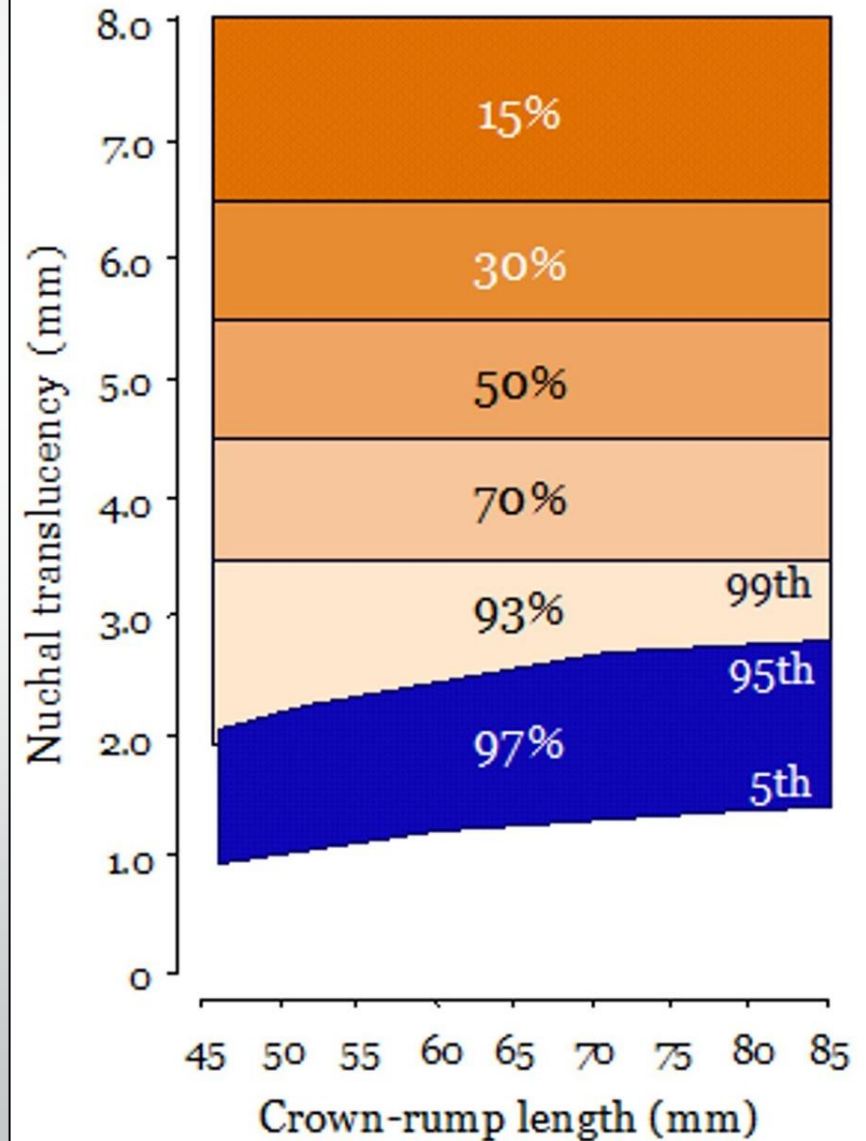


# Increased NT:

- Other reasons:
  - Genetic syndromes
  - Infection
  - TTTS
  - Normal



## Chance of healthy live birth



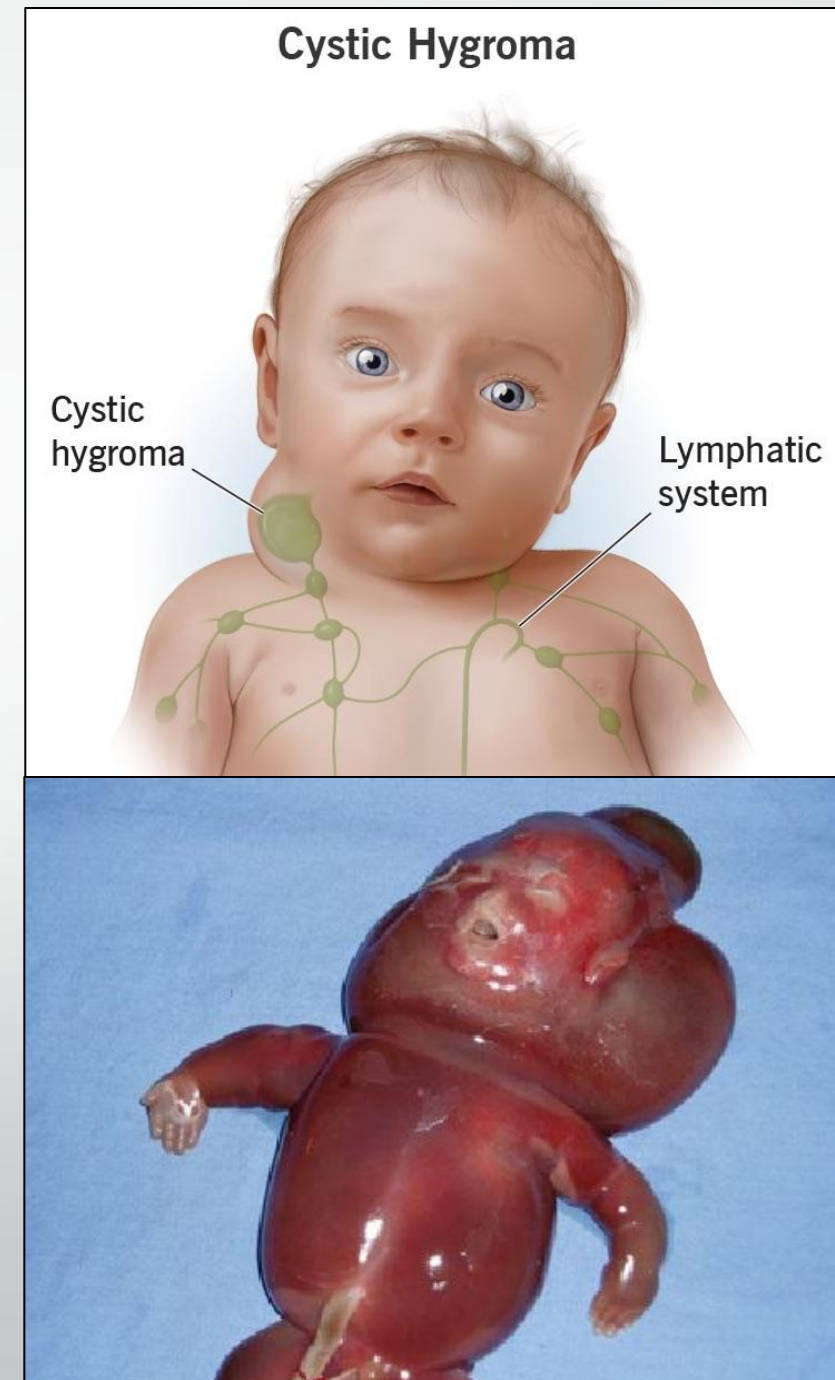
# Cystic Hygroma

- **Prevalence**

- 1 in 800 Pregnancies
- 1 in 8000 live births

- **Associated abnormalities**

- Chromosomal abnormalities ~50% (Turner Syn.)
- Genetic syndromes in ~40%:
  - Noonan Syn.
  - Multiple-pterygium S
  - Fryns Syn
  - Neu-Laxova S
- **Hydrops in 60-80%**



# Cystic Hygroma: ultrasound

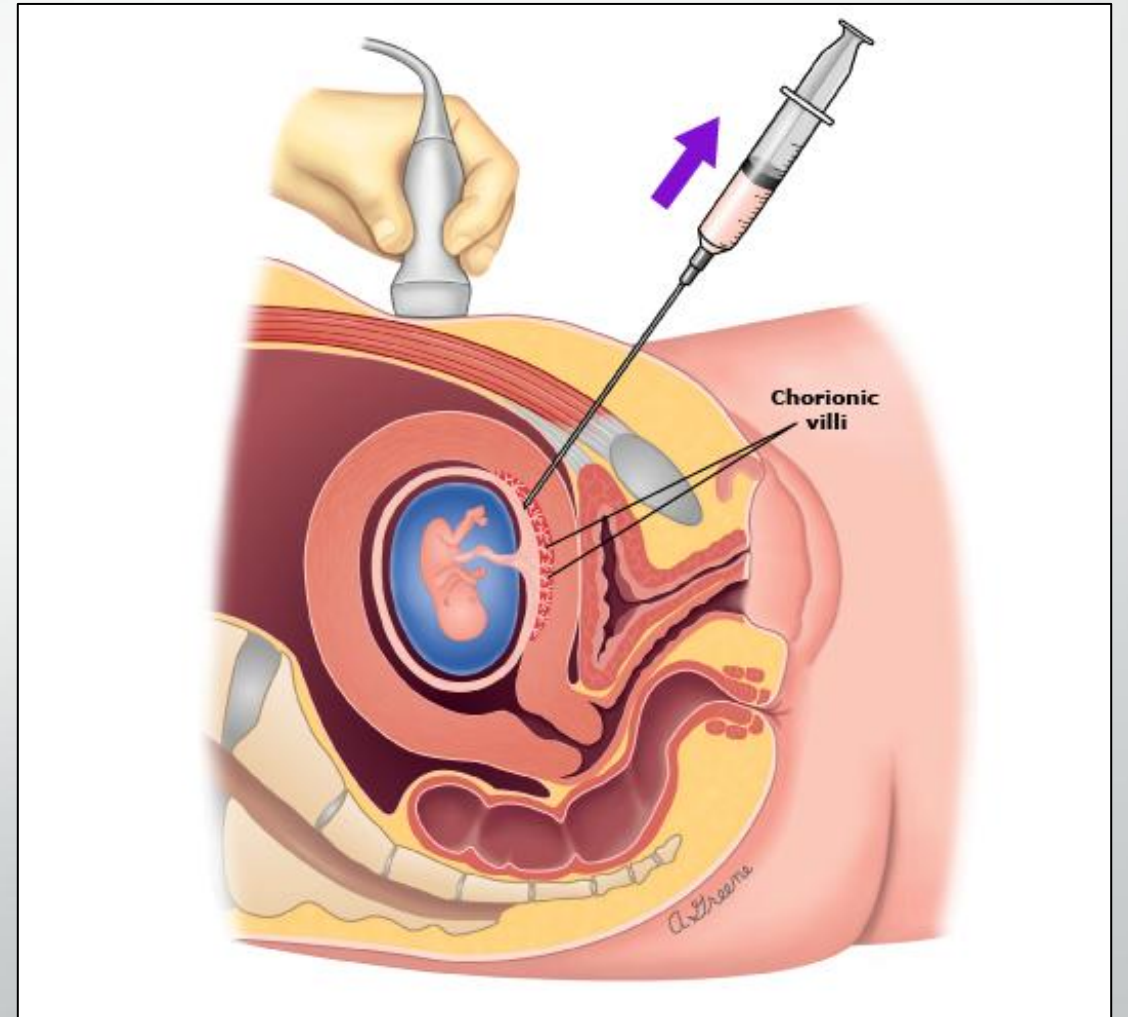
- Bilateral cystic structures in occipital-cervical region of the neck.
- Nuchal ligament (midline septum) is visible
- Caused by defect in neck lymphatics



# Cystic Hygroma:

## Investigation + Prognosis

- Detailed ultrasound
- Offer:
  - Fetal cardiac echo
  - Invasive testing for SNP array +/- FAGP
- Fetal death in ~90%
- Good prognosis if:
  - Genetic testing normal
  - No associated anomalies
  - CH resolves



# First trimester ultrasound scan

- 11 - 13+6 weeks
- Dating
- Early detection anomalies
- Multiple pregnancies:
  - Chorionicity
- Measure NT and first trimester combined screening



# EUROCAT

**DAVID TUCKER**  
**CARIS Team Manager**

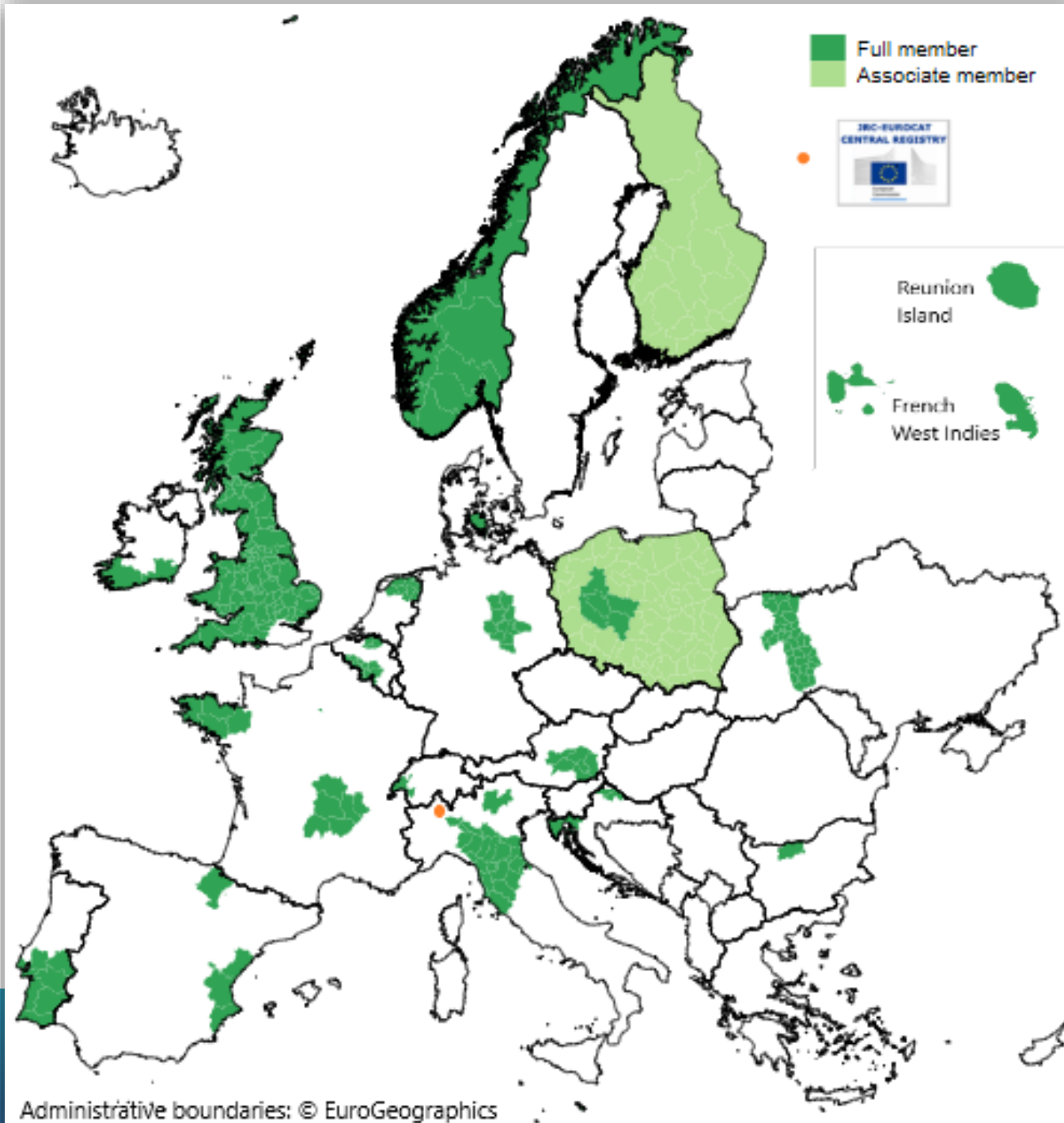


# EUROCAT

## NEWS

European network of population – based registries for the epidemiological surveillance of congenital anomalies.

[EUROCAT | European Platform on Rare Disease Registration](#)



# GOOD ASCERTAINMENT OF DATA



**CARIS can't  
magically make  
registrations from  
the clinical portal..**

**We need YOU.**



# PLEASE REMEMBER TO...

## Continue reporting cases to CARIS

**CONFIDENTIAL - CARIS - Full case reporting**

Please complete with as much detail as possible. This form will take approx. 20 minutes to complete. We especially require information that is not available on WCP or within WBNS i.e. for infants born outside of Wales. There are more generalised text boxes available for addition information should you require them.

Hi, When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address.

\* Required

- MOTHER - Surname \*
- MOTHER - Forename(s) \*
- MOTHER - Address - 1st Line
- MOTHER - Address - 2nd line (Optional)

**CARIS - Case Reporting - Alert - 2025**

This is the Forms version of the CARIS warning card. Please complete with as much detail as possible. Please complete with Mother or baby details - ideally both. If the NHS number for mother is not known please supply the full address including post code along with the date of birth. Please note that this does NOT replace the full reporting form. A full reporting form should be supplied where possible at the end of pregnancy.

Hi, Saranne, When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address.

\* Required

- Mother - Surname \*
- Mother - first name / names \*
- Mother - Address 1st line (Optional)
- Mother - Address 2nd line (Optional)

**CARIS CARD**  
**CONGENITAL ANOMALY REGISTRATION INFORMATION SERVICE WARNING CARD**

Fill in this warning card for any suspected or confirmed congenital problem found. Do not wait until confirmation before completing and sending this card. The full registration form will need to be completed at the end of the pregnancy. You may fax this card to: (01792) 265242 (WHTN: 0-1903 6123)

Mother's Details (or use hospital label)      Baby's Details (if liveborn) (or use hospital label)

Surname, Forenames, Address, Postcode, NHS Number, Hospital, Date of Birth, Sex, Address, Postcode, NHS Number, Hospital, Date of Birth, Birth weight

How many fetuses in this pregnancy?      Expected delivery date

Pregnancy status at time of notification?      1. Continuing Pregnancy    2. TOP    3. IUD    4. Delivered

Details of Anomaly and Diagnosis

Name, Position, Tel. No., Postcode, Paediatrician, Other and title

Office 310 Level 3, West Wing, Singleton Hospital, Swansea SA2 8QA. Tel: 01792 265241 Fax: 01792 265242 (WHTN: 0-1903) TEL 6122 / FAX 6125

**Page 1 CONFIDENTIAL CARIS: Details of Mother, Pregnancy and Fetus/Infant**

**MOTHER'S DETAILS**

Surname, Forename(s), Address, Postcode, GP Name, GP Practice, Mother's NHS Number

Hospital in which pregnancy: BOCKED, ENDED, Mother's DoB, Occupation

**OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS**

Father's DoB, Family History of Anomalies - Mother

**RELEVANT MATERNAL FACTS**

Number of previous Livebirths, History of Anomalies in previous pregnancies, Alcohol abuse, Drug, Folic acid taken, Smoker, Maternal illness before or during pregnancy, Other exposure or significant risk factor, Prescribed drugs taken in FIRST trimester

**DETAILS OF CURRENT PREGNANCY**

Last Menstrual Period, Assisted conception

**FETUS / INFANT DETAILS**

Outcome of Pregnancy, Sex, Baby Surname, Forename(s), Delivery Hospital, Hospital No

**Page 2 CONFIDENTIAL CARIS: Details of Congenital Anomalies**

**DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUES USED TO DETECT ANOMALY**

| any Test performed                               | Date of Test | Details of Results |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Antenatal Ultrasound                             |              |                    |
| Serum Screening (triple test, combined test etc) |              |                    |
| Karyotype  |              |                    |

Technique used: Lab (if not Cardiff): 1. Amniocentesis 2. CVS 3. Cordocentesis 4. Infant Blood Lab No (if known)

Examination of Newborn, Heel Prick Test, X-Ray / CT / MRI, Cardiac Studies (incl Fetal ECGs), Postnatal Ultrasound, Other Test / Procedures

Surgery has been performed or is anticipated: Yes / No / NK      Is surgery planned during first year of life: Yes / No / NK

Where has surgery been performed or anticipated to be done: Post Mortem? 1. Yes 2. Not requested 3. Not permitted 4. Requested but not done 5. NK

**ANOMALIES FOUND IN INFANT / FETUS**      Further describe Anomalies or use this space for Text

| Details of Anomaly | diagnosis suspected (S) or confirmed (C) |
|--------------------|--|
| 1.                 |  |
| 2.                 |  |
| 3.                 |  |
| 4.                 |  |
| 5.                 |  |
| 6.                 |  |
| 7.                 |  |
| 8.                 |  |

Are any of the anomalies thought to be part of a syndrome? Y / N / NK  
If Yes, give details:

**CONSULTANTS FROM WHOM FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE AVAILABLE**

Obstetrician, Paediatrician, Surgeon or other Consultant

Form completed by (PRINT NAME)      Position, Hospital & Contact Details (PRINT please)

[Caris.SafehavenMailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Caris.SafehavenMailbox@wales.nhs.uk)



**Fetal Cardiac  
clinic letters**

**Blood Spot  
results**

**NIPE  
Findings**

**Ophthalmology  
clinic letters**

**Newborn Hearing  
test**

**Newborn Eye  
test**

**Maternal  
Infections**

**Hip USS  
Results**

**Antenatal  
Scan Results**

**Genetics testing  
results**

**PM Report  
Results**

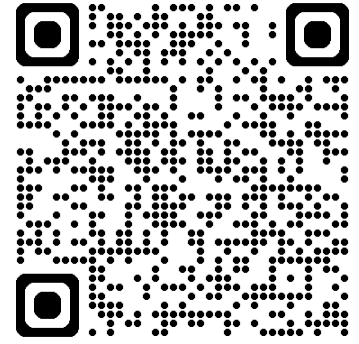
**Maternal  
Syphilis / HIV**

**[Caris.SafehavenMailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Caris.SafehavenMailbox@wales.nhs.uk)**

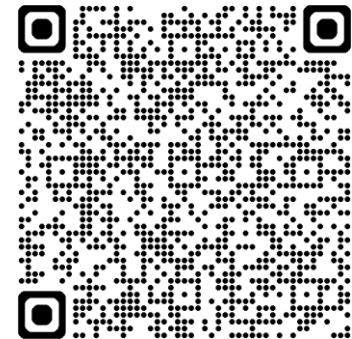
# PLEASE REMEMBER TO...

## Continue reporting cases to CARIS

- By email to: [caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk)
- **Digitally: by visiting our report to CARIS QR links OR page**
- <https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/caris/contact-caris/>
- [Reporting to CARIS - Public Health Wales](#)
- Traditional mail (Full case data) with downloadable forms
- E-Forms – for quick flagging of cases or full case reports
- Maternal infections – HIV and Syphilis case reporting.



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[Caris.SafehavenMailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Caris.SafehavenMailbox@wales.nhs.uk)

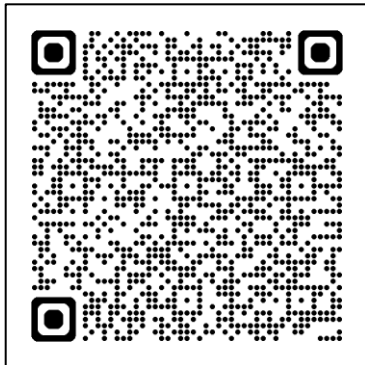
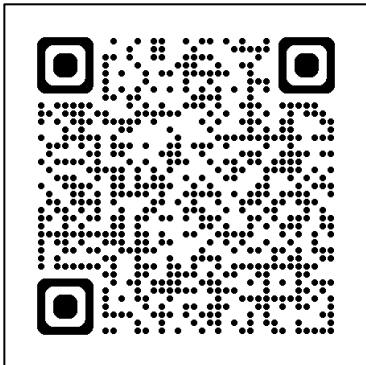


GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES | Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

# CARIS Links

Visit our website: <https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/caris/>

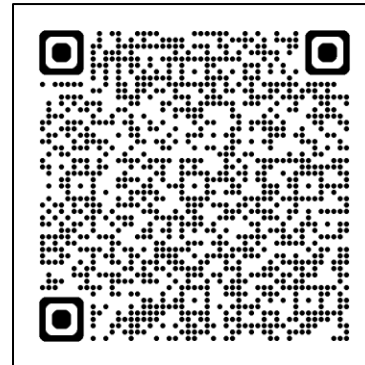
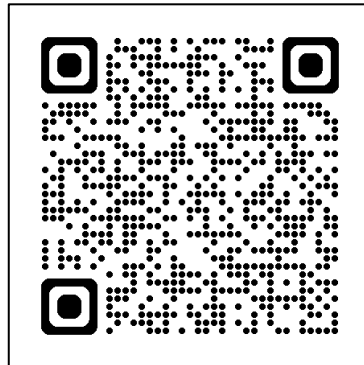
Annual Report and  
Data 2025



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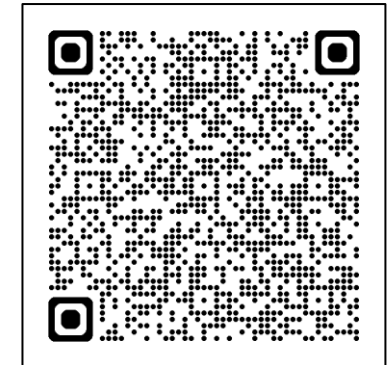
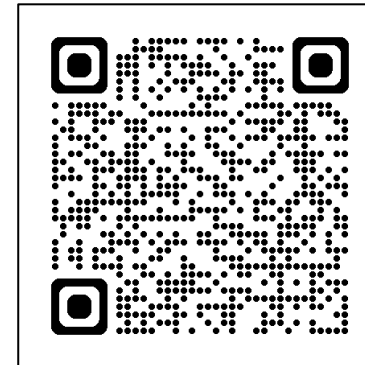
Rare Disease Data  
2025



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Antenatal Screening  
2025



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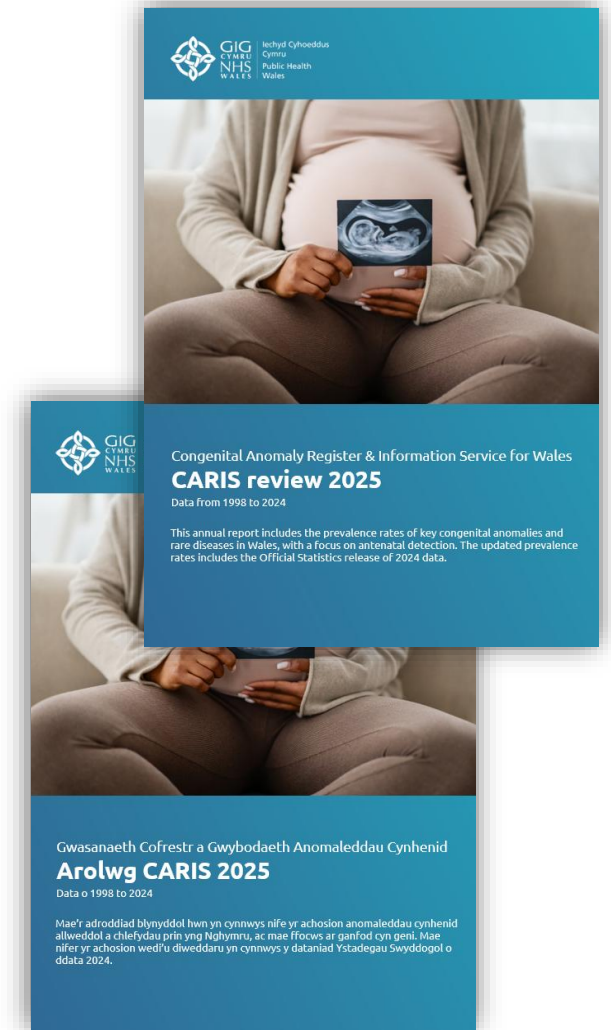
Report to CARIS – [caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk)

General communications – [caris@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris@wales.nhs.uk)

# AND FINALLY....

We will provide CPD certificates upon receipt of completed feedback, so if you are viewing as part of a single login (i.e. room viewers) please contact us with your NHS emails!

We design our reports and presentations with **YOU** in mind, so every bit of feedback helps shape CARIS future content.



Report to CARIS – [caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris.safehavenmailbox@wales.nhs.uk)

General communications – [caris@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris@wales.nhs.uk)

# FEEDBACK

CARIS Annual Meeting -  
November 2025 Evaluation and  
Feedback Form



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Cyfarfod Blynyddol CARIS  
Tachwedd 2025 - Ffurflen  
Werthuso ac Adborth



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[caris@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris@wales.nhs.uk)

**Thank you for attending today**  
**Diolch am fod yn bresennol heddiw.**

**caris**

Gwasanaeth Cofrestr a Gwybodaeth  
Anomaleddau Cynhenid Cymru  
Congenital Anomaly Register  
& Information Service for Wales

**[caris@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caris@wales.nhs.uk)**



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Public Health  
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