



Activities of WG Cardiovascular Morphology 2009:
a report from Annalisa Angelini, chairperson of WG and Robert Anderson who
attended the World Congress in Cairns.

As morphologists/pathologists we took active part at the ESC Congress in Barcelona, Spain running the cardiac morphology session on Congenitally Corrected Transposition. The session, very well attended as usual, has been chaired by Yen Ho and André Bozio and had Annalisa Angelini as presenter. European morphologists made notable contributions at the recent World Congress held in Cairns, Australia. Morphological demonstrations were arranged to match symposiums organised within the overall programme of the meeting. Hearts had kindly been provided for live demonstrations by Richard Hawker, the specimens being drawn from the archive of Westmead Children's Hospital in Sydney. Richard, together with Bob Anderson, showed to a packed hall the anatomic lesions that nowadays are corrected by conversion to the Fontan circulation, Bob concentrating on the morphological variability, and Richard emphasising the features of surgical and postoperative significance. Andrew Cook, to an equally interested and fascinated audience, showed the essential anatomic features of the hypoplastic left heart syndrome, illustrating the findings of both diagnostic and surgical significance. The other presentations were provided by North American and Antipodean specialists, Dick Van Praagh combining with Louise Calder to show the essential features of congenitally corrected transposition, and Amy Juraszek illustrating the features of tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia. Bob Anderson was also privileged to be able to present the landmark lecture on cardiac morphology, in which he emphasised the recent renaissance in cardiac embryology, a topic also presented in a featured session with great elegance by Adri Gittenberger-de Groot. Bob was also delighted to be able to deliver the second Stella Van Praagh lecture, this being the inaugural presentation in the symposium organised by the World Society of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery. His chosen topic was the anatomic features of atrioventricular septal defect.