

ASD and PFO closure

AEPC intervention WG
Teaching course

Linz, Austria
2014

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ASD closure

-A big deal
- 25% of interventions by volume
- Over your career you will probably have more difficulties and complications relating to ASD closure than any other single procedure you carry out.....

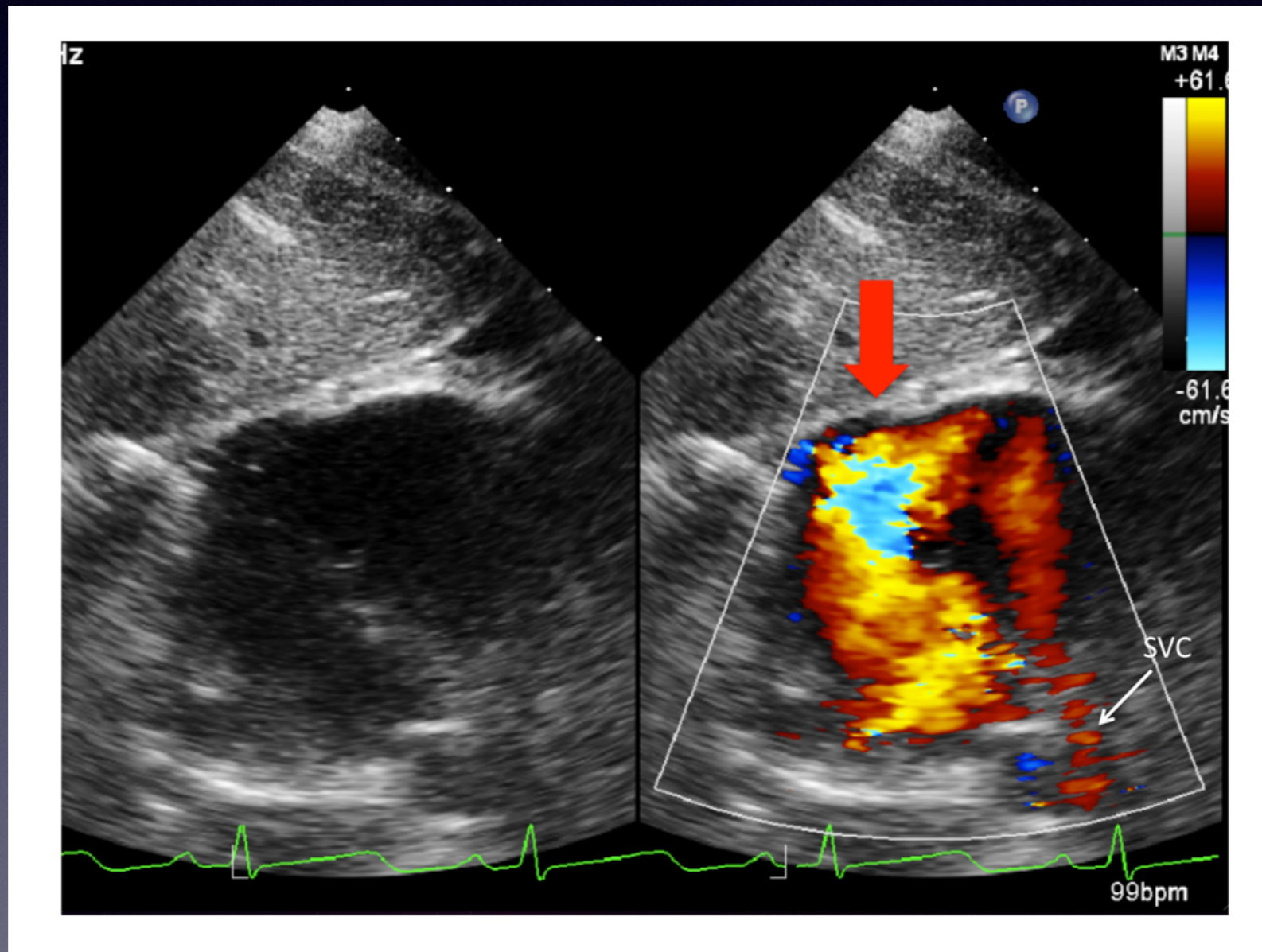
The basics: Patient selection

- Right heart dilation on TTE as a surrogate for a significant shunt
- Reject only those cases with unequivocally normal right hearts
- Physiology and complications progressive
- ASD's would fulfill ALL the criteria for a screening program

TTE: Children

- Defect size
 - For me in the under 8's maximum 1.25mm kg a good rule
- Margins (5mm)
- Pulmonary veins
- Associated defects

Pay particular attention to sub-costal views



Inferior ASD

Selection: Adults

- Much less certainty with regard to the “fine detail” on TTE
 - Overall feel for defect size and margins
 - Associated problems important
 - Pulmonary hypertension
 - Particular attention to LV dysfunction

Additional TOE/MRI if absolutely necessary

The basics: Before

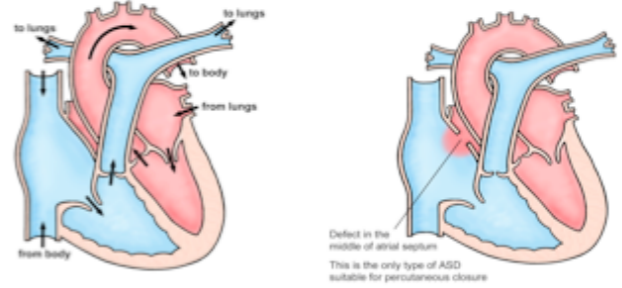
- Deal with these patients and families properly before the procedure

The Leeds Teaching Hospitals **NHS**
NHS TRUST

LEEDS ADULT CONGENITAL HEART UNIT –INFORMATION SHEET

ATRIAL SEPTAL DEFECT (ASD)

An atrial septal defect (or "ASD") is a hole between the two smaller pumping chambers of the heart. It allows blood to cross from the left chamber to the right leading to extra flow through the lung artery. Usually patients with ASD's have very few symptoms but eventually, during later adult life breathlessness and electrical instability of the heart can develop.



Will my defect need closing?

We would generally recommend closure of all but the smallest of ASD's, unless other problems are present that would make this unwise (for example damage to the lungs, which can occur in some patients with ASD's). Your cardiologist will make an assessment of the hole in your heart and discuss treatment with you.

Treatment

There are two options:

1) **Surgery.** ASD's were among the first heart abnormalities to be treated with an operation in the 1950's. Surgery involves opening the chest through the breast bone and taking over the function of the heart and lungs with a machine ("heart bypass") to allow the surgeon to stop the heart, and repair the hole with stitches and a patch. The procedure is very safe with a risk of dying of around 1 in 300. There is an even smaller risk of brain damage (stroke) related to the use of the bypass machine. Other minor problems can occur, such as fluid collecting around the heart or temporary electrical instability but these are rarely serious. After surgery a short stay on the intensive care

1.) The basics: Clinic

- See patients and families before in a calm environment
- Ideally an additional staff member present during discussions
- Record what is said-detail risks
 - Including long term erosion
- Consent
- NEVER CATHETERISE A PATIENT YOU HAVE NOT MET PERSONALLY

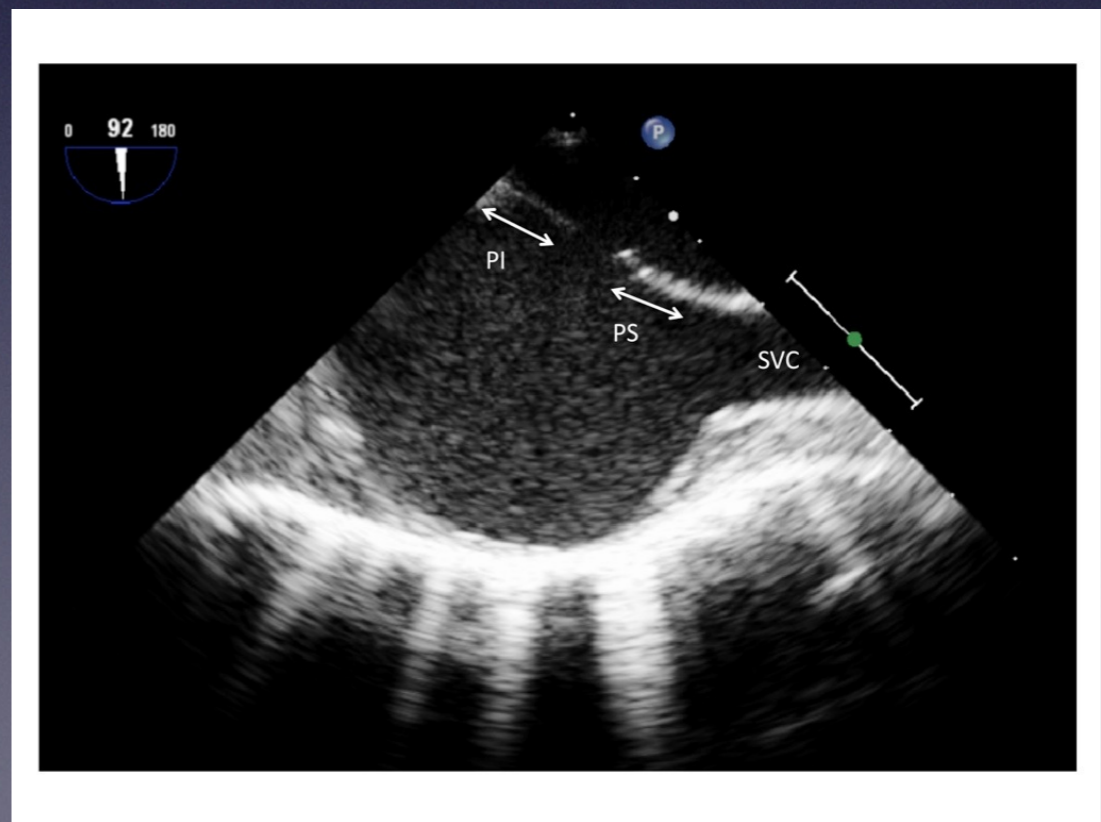
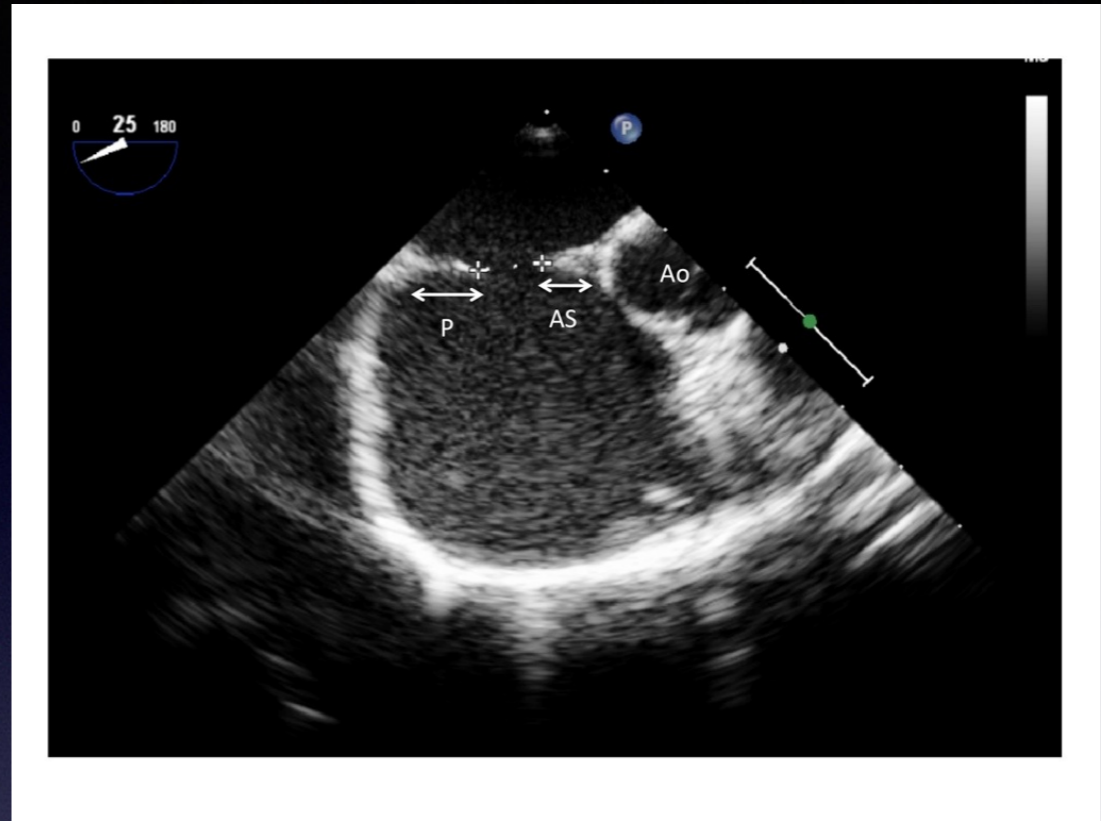
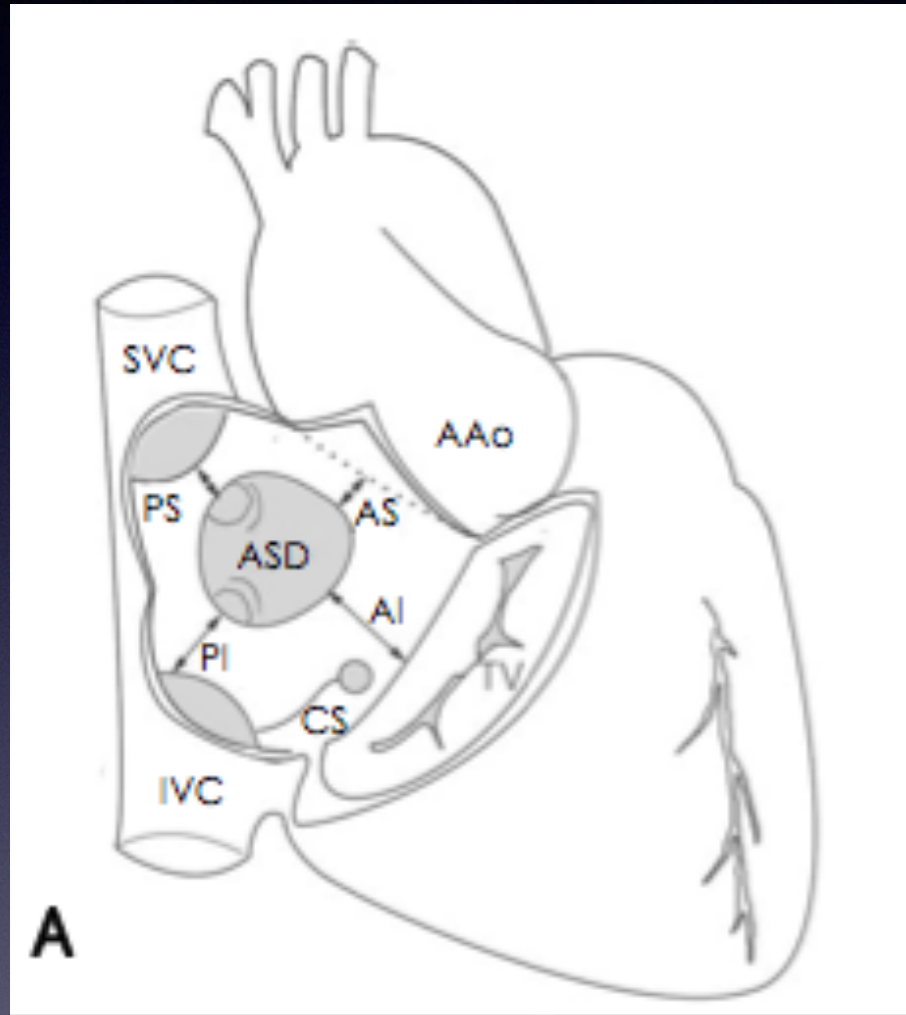
Basic procedure: preparation

- Single femoral venous access only
 - Ultrasound
- 100 iu/kg heparin after access secured
 - No ACT unless very prolonged procedure
- 5F MPA
 - Pre-determined diagnostic data
- Superstiff wire to left upper or middle lobe PV

2.) Understand the anatomy

Imaging and imagers are all important

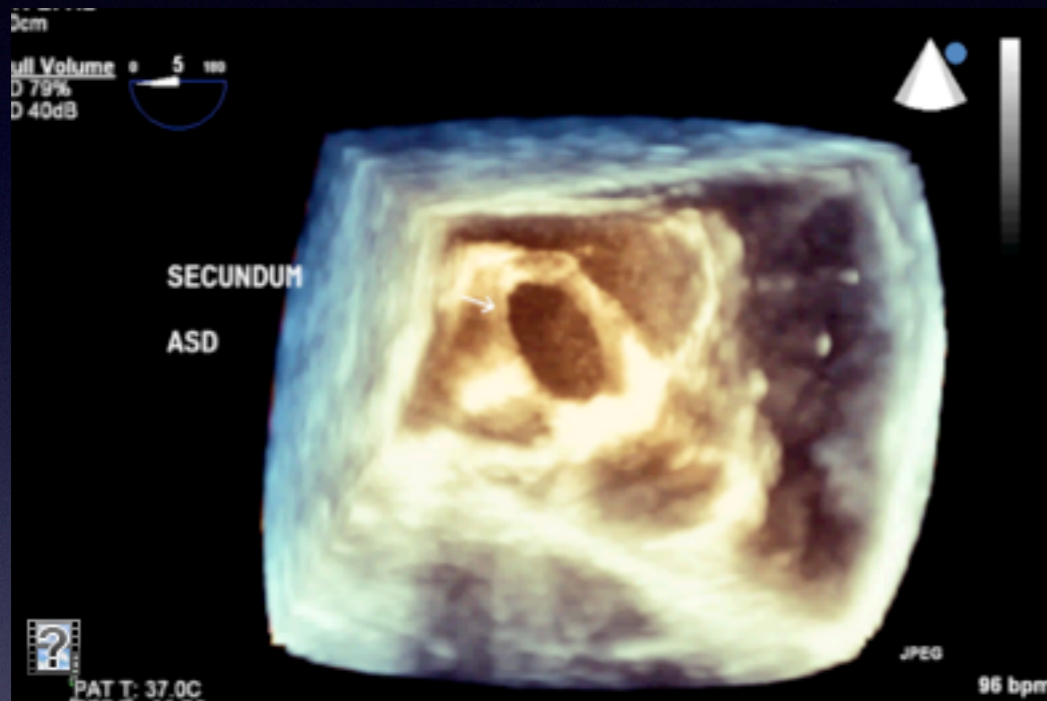




Systematic TOE

- Margins
- Recheck Pulmonary vein's
- Mitral valve
- Eustachian valve/ridge
- Length of the septum
- Size of the LA
- Multiple defects

3D TOE



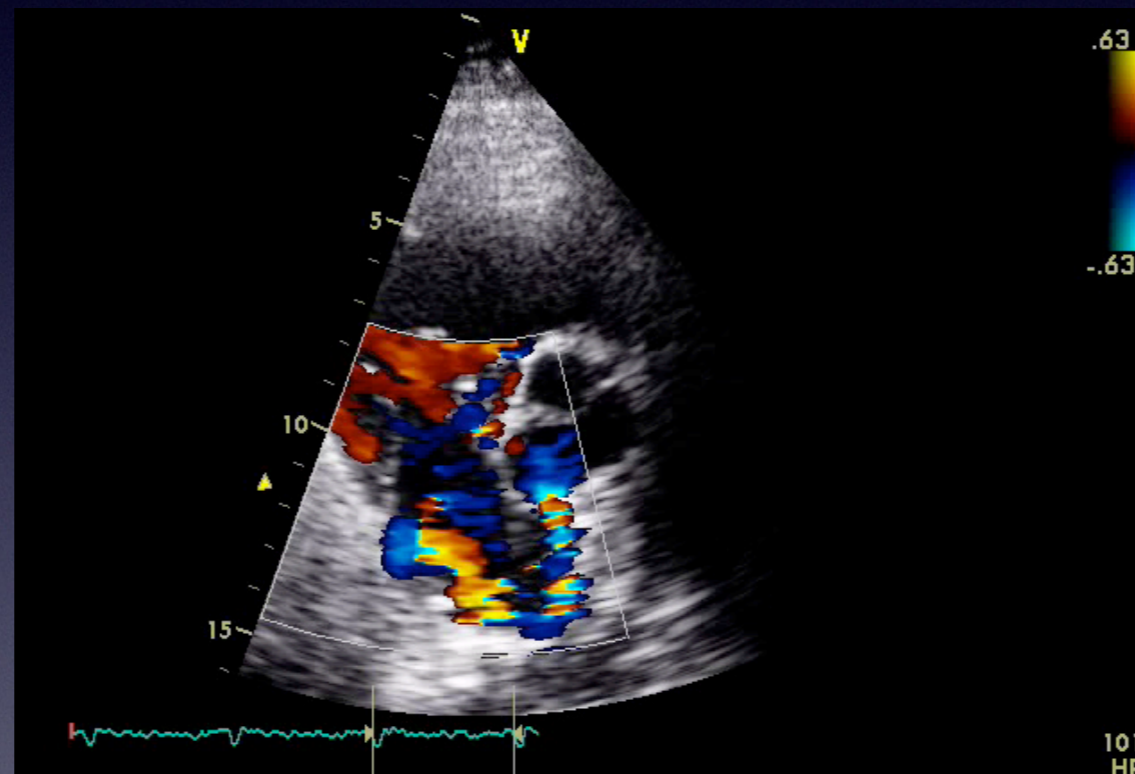
Sizing

- With consistent and systematic echo there is (virtually) no need for balloon sizing of ASD's
 - My last 150 cases without a balloon
 - 2 perpendicular measurements on TOE
 - Sense check with 3D TOE
 - Implant a device AT THAT SIZE

Why not balloon size?

- In our experience leads to the implantation of at least a 10-20% larger device
- Inaccurate at $>30\text{mm}$
 - In general ultrasound is the most accurate tool for measurement
- Balloon=Pressure on the septum

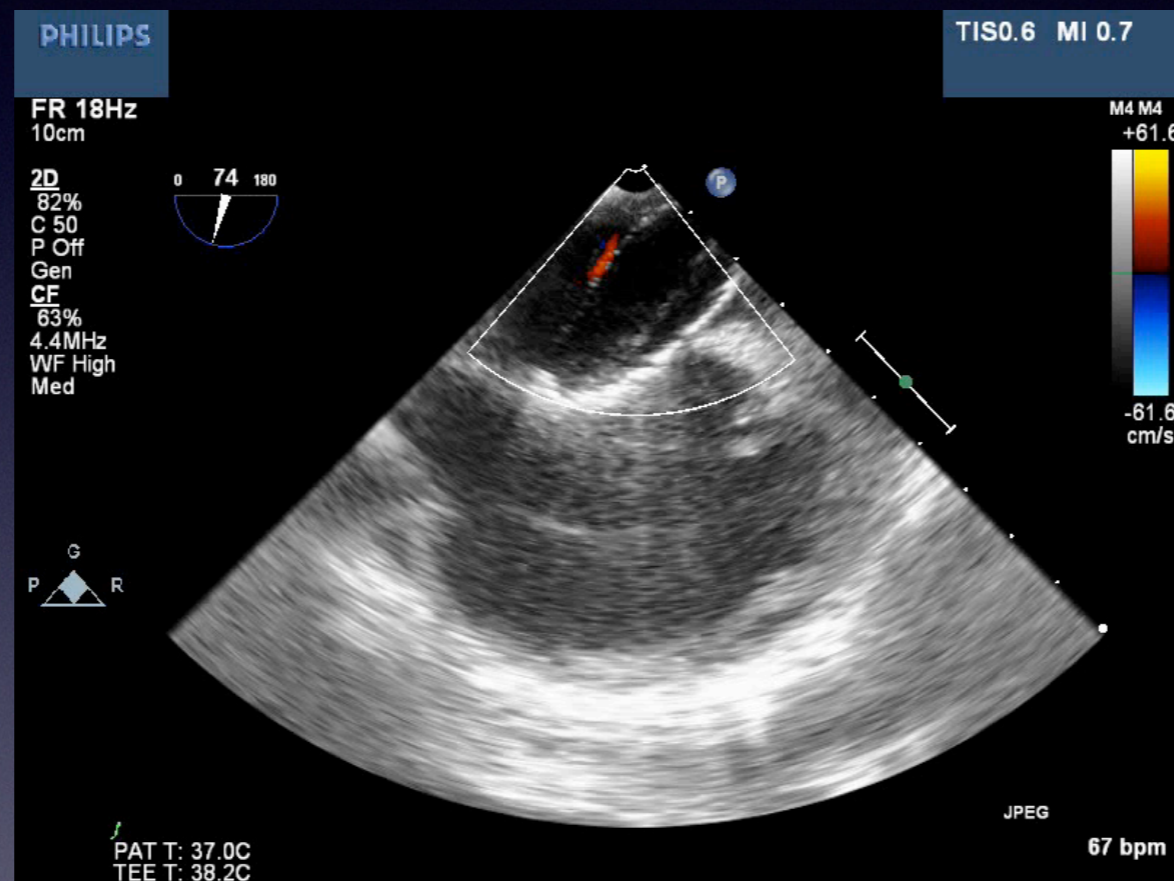
Avoiding oversizing



Thanks to
Paul Clift
Birmingham

Embolisation vs erosion?

Stop flow

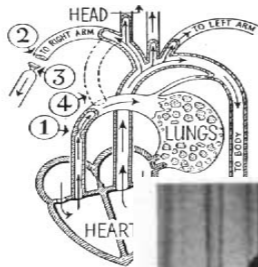


Devices

3.) Know your equipment

- These devices stay in patients for life
- Ultimately we choose what we implant
- Plenty of evidence that all devices are NOT equal
- Have a reason for using particular devices

Switching Arteries Sidetracks Blood and Oxygen to Otherwise Starved Lungs



The "Blue" Babies' Oxygen Because the Heart to the L. By Severing an A (2), Tying It Off to the Lung Constriction

By Robert

A SCIENCE WOMAN whose restless lion, and the world's great scientist lined to bring hope babies—hitherto to early death—now they are suffering oxygen in their blood. The condition known artery from their heart is so constricted that gets oxygen to them. Their lips are blue. Their toes are blue and they can walk only a few feet without exhausting themselves. Doctors used to give them only a few tured years to live. But now medicine can give hope. . . . more . . . for s Nov. 20, 1944, Blalock, Professor Surgery at Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, has conquered the "blue" baby malady by routing an artery from the arm and making it carry blood to lungs where it receive its oxygen.

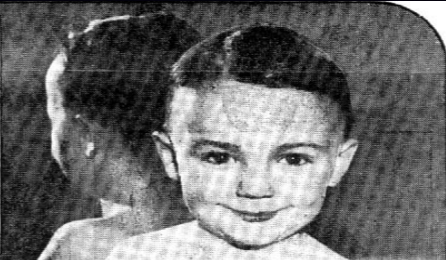
Nearly 70 operations have been performed on "blue" babies. In many cases a most miraculous recovery has come.

It is Dr. Blalock's fingers that wield the knife in the delicate operation that exposes the heart and transplants its vital arteries. But behind the brilliant operation he has perfected are years of painstaking research by Dr. Helen B. Taussig.

Daughter of the late Prof. F. W. Taussig, world-famous Harvard economist, Dr. Taussig had watched "blue" babies come to her heart clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

In many cases she discovered that the artery leading to the lung from the heart was narrowed so that an insufficient supply of blood was reaching the lungs to receive its vital oxygen. Dr. Taussig reasoned that a surgical operation might be able to short-circuit the constriction and sidetrack blood into the lungs. On paper, when the diagram of the art-

Saving our Doomed 'Blue' Babies



Six-Year-Old Mike Schirmer of Baltimore Could Walk Only Five Feet Without Resting Before the Operation. He Shows His "Itchy Zipper"—the Incision for the Operation.

Little Bonnie Stewart of Florida is Another of the 70 Children Saved by the New Johns Hopkins Surgery.

Mike's "itchy zipper" is the healing incision over his heart where Dr. Blalock went in to do the operation. But let his mother tell his story: "Michael could only walk five feet and then he'd have to squat down on the sidewalk and rest."

"I had to wheel him everywhere. Strangers would stop his carriage and

was no hope that Mike could grow up. But then came new hope, for Dr. Mandler told us about the operation of Dr. Blalock.

"They took him to the operating room and brought him back two hours later. It was a miracle.

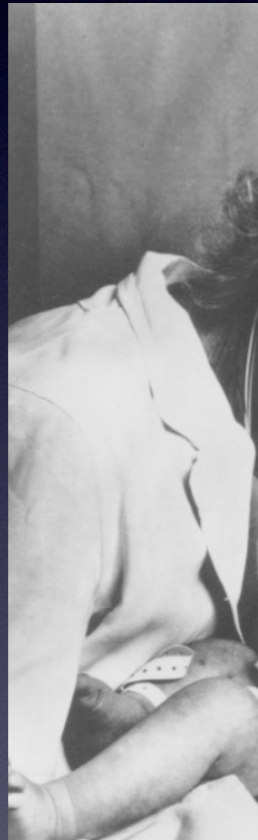
"After only two weeks of convalescence he came home and he has been on the go ever since. If anyone wants anything he'll run and get it. He's up and down stairs 75 times a day. He climbs on bureaus and tables just for the joy of jumping off. He wears me out. But I love it."

The Blalock-Taussig operation is not a simple one. It takes from an

branches of the pulmonary artery (to the lungs) are two large blood vessels. One connects the heart and the arm, the other the heart and the head. Dr. Blalock chooses the most convenient—usually the arm artery—and severs it. One end is clamped off and the other closed permanently.

The end nearest the heart is then spliced to the nearest branch of the pulmonary artery. The clamps are removed and the blood that would ordinarily flow to the arm goes into the lung. There it becomes enriched with vital oxygen and the baby's blue lips quickly begin to turn red.

What happens to the arm? Nature has provided other blood vessels which take up the blood load

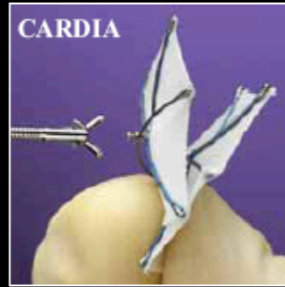


Innovation



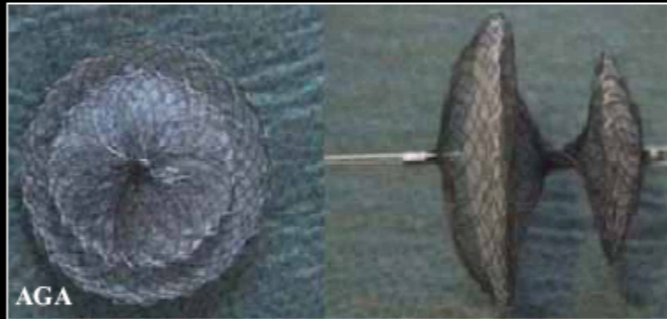
Sticking to
what is known

INTRASEPT



Solysafe

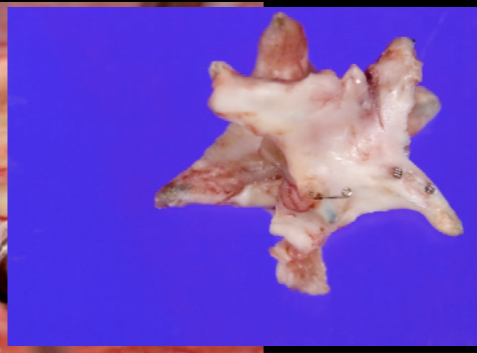
Amplatzer PFO Occluder



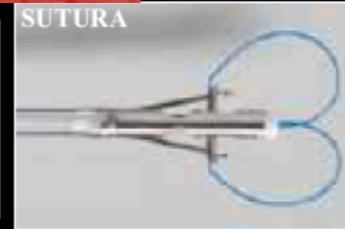
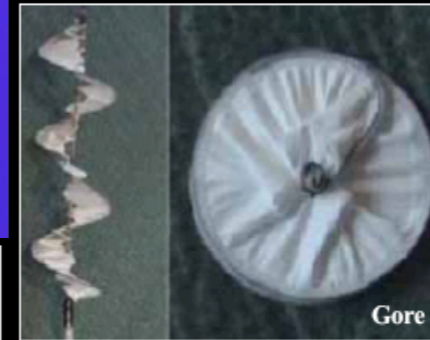
Figulla PFO Occluder



Figure 3. Picture of the resected device completely endothelialized, as well as the embolized wire rescued.



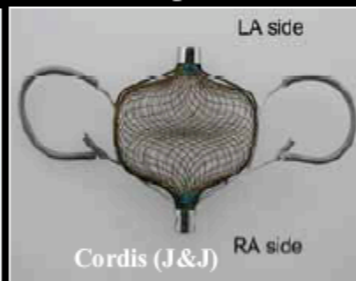
Helix Septal Occluder



PFx



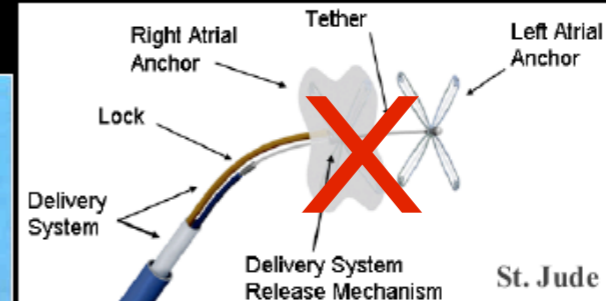
SeptRx



Buttressed Device



Premere



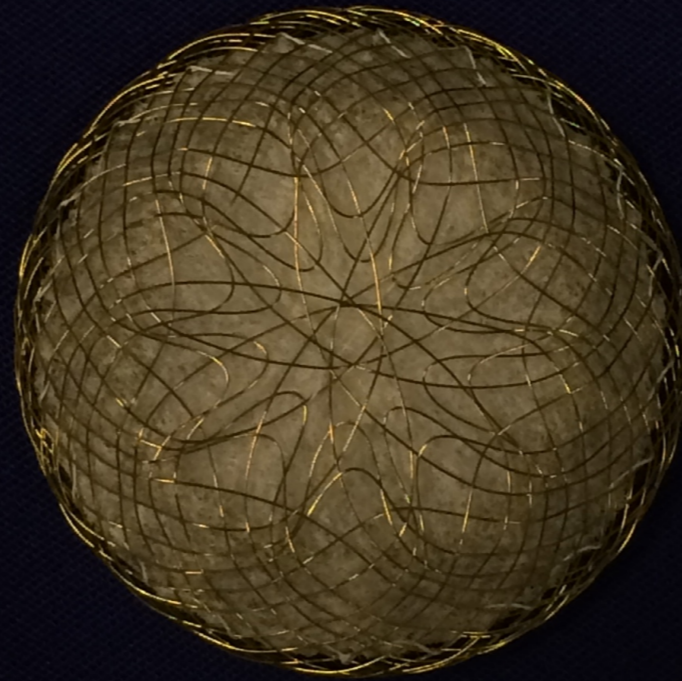
St. Jude

Familiarity with a few devices...

- My practice: About 70 atrial septal closure procedures per year
- I use 3 devices
- Developed a “deep(er) understanding” of how they work



AGA/St Jude



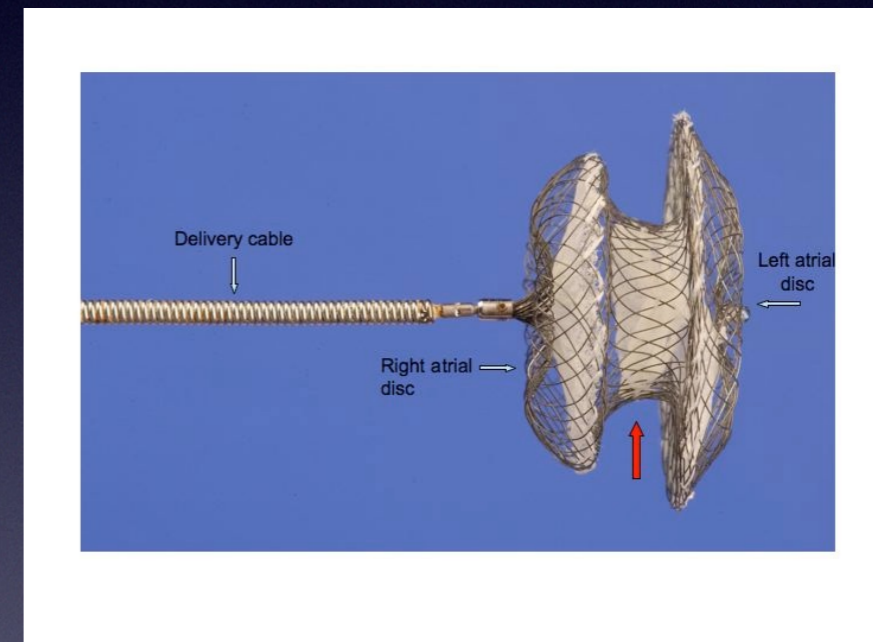
Occlutech

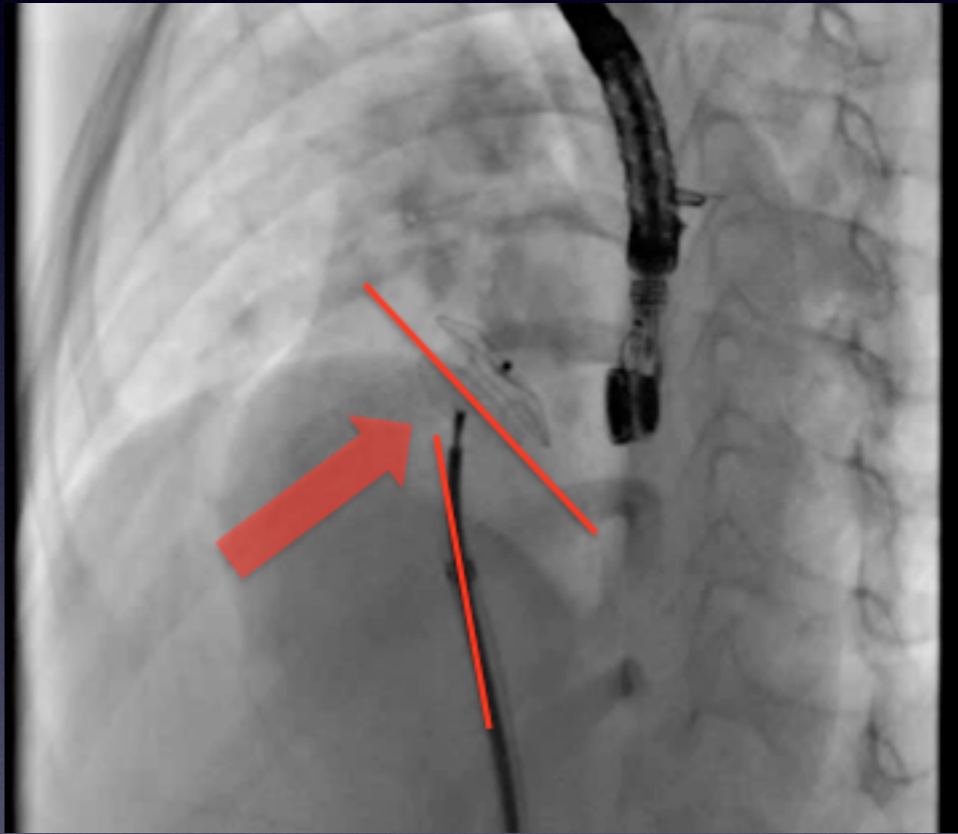
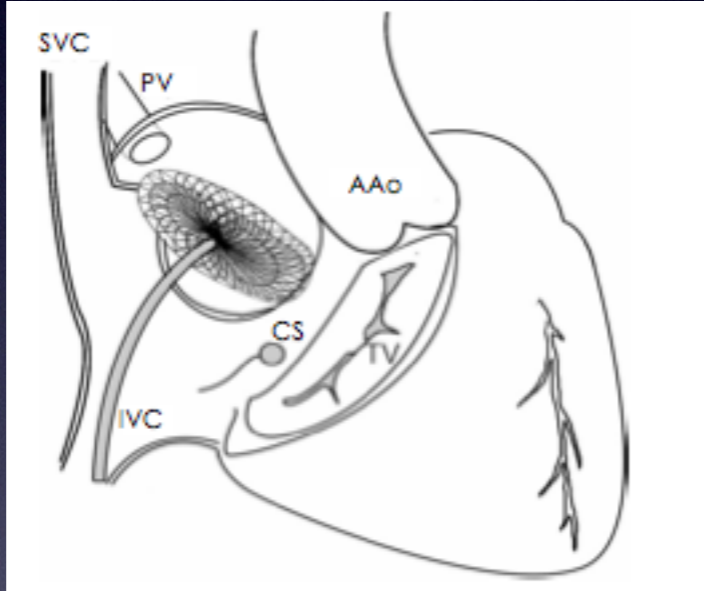


Gore
GSO

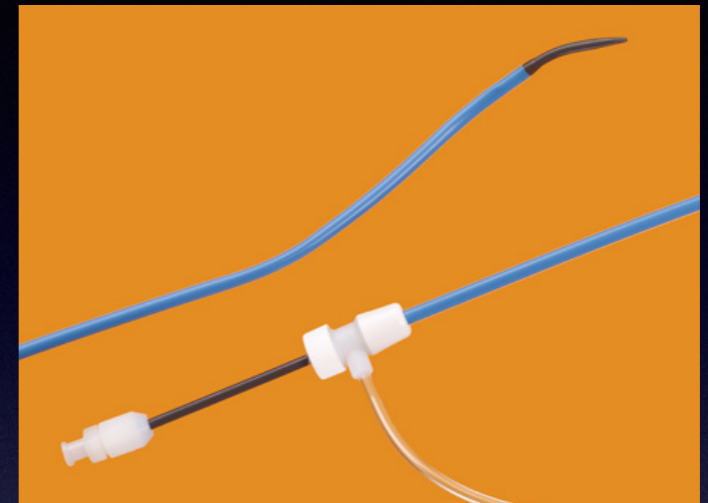
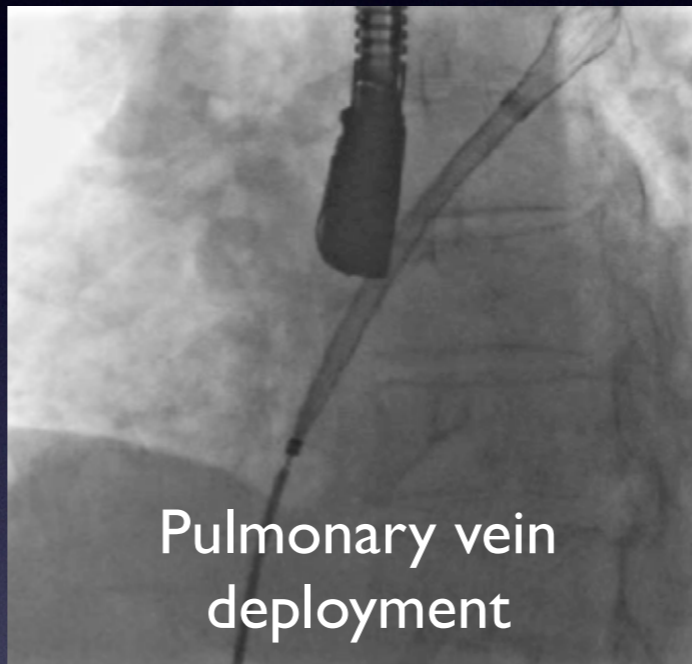
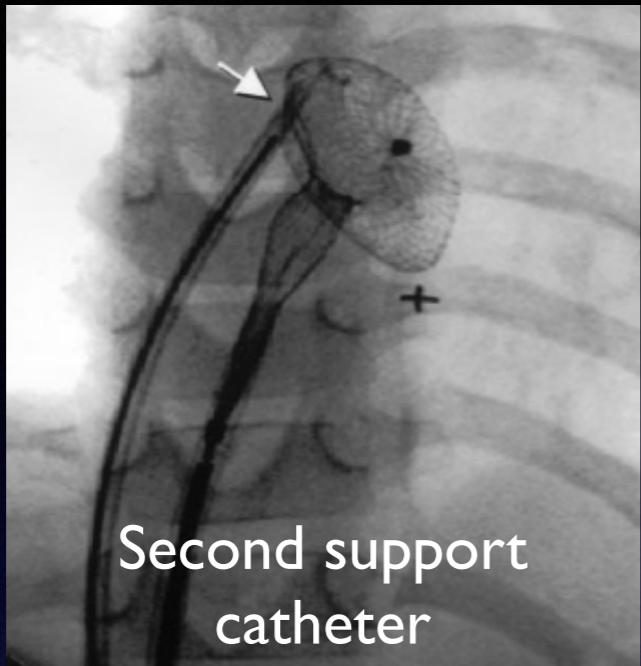
AGA/St Jude

- Since 1996-Huge world wide experience
- Works well and is reliable
 - Few “material” issues
 - Data++
- Erosion
 - UK: 8/7000 implants (0.1%)
- Bulky/Fairly stiff/inadequate delivery wire

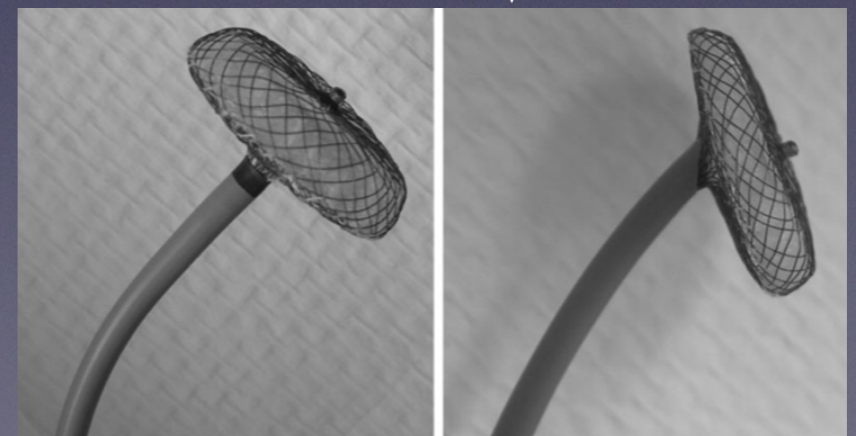




Tricks



Altered delivery sheaths



Occlutech

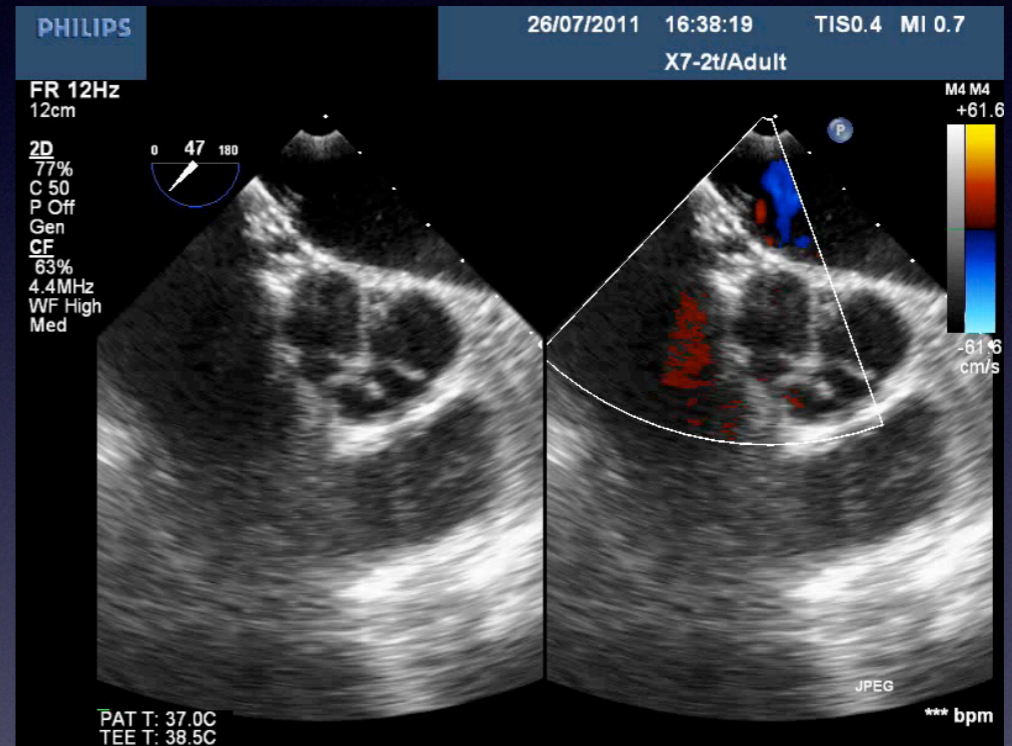
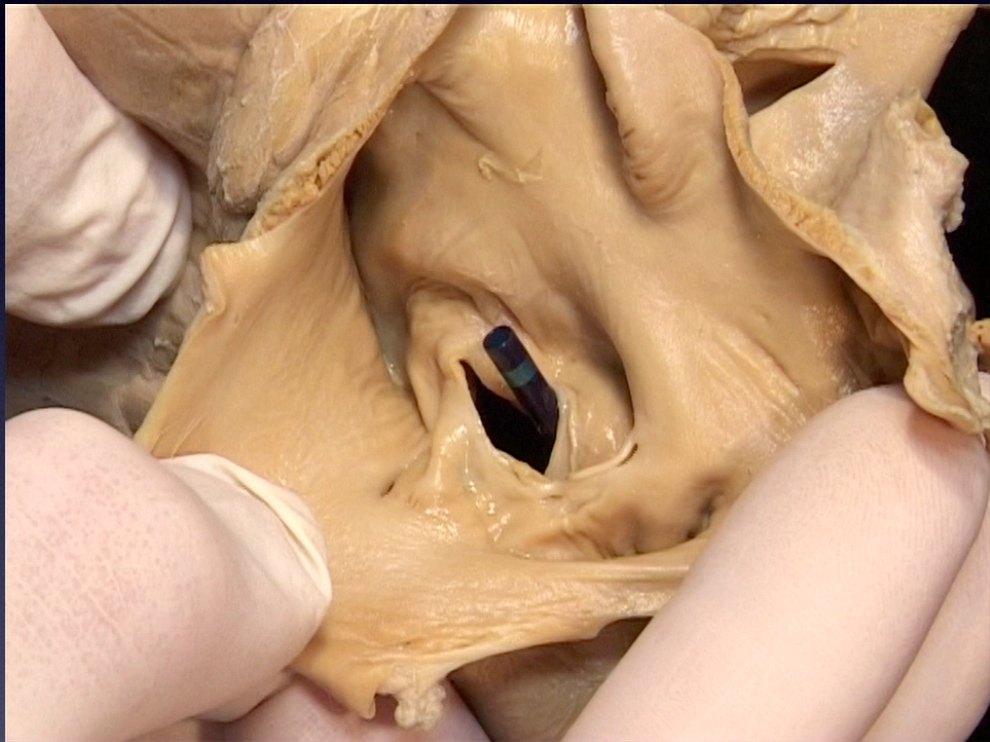
- Large(ish) numbers
- Seems to perform well
 - Less data
 - Erosion?
- Softer than ASO
- Articulated delivery wire
 - Particularly useful for Large defects/deficient aortic rim



GSO

- New (2011-)
 - Data limited
- Painstaking development
- Flexible, soft, low profile
- “Cribriform” type of occluder
 - Small ASD’s (<18mm), PFO





PFO

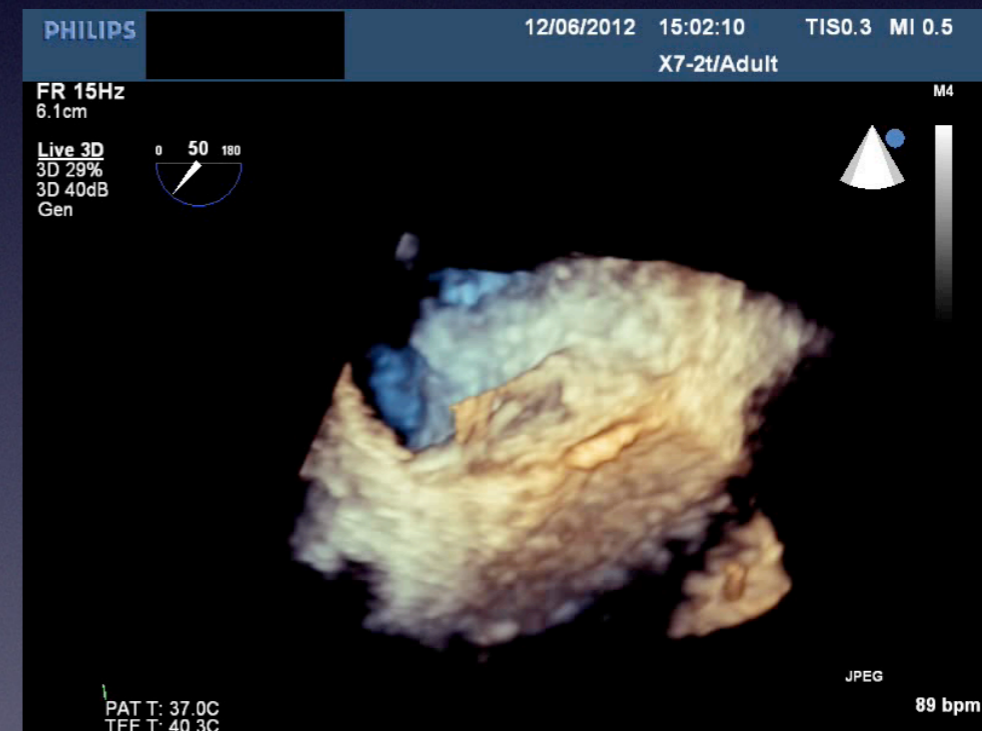
- Congenital interventionalists are very well placed to do this procedure
- Needs to be done with LOW COMPLICATION RATES
- Ability to deal with complications
 - Retrieval of embolised devices

Much in common with ASD closure

- Patient selection
 - Neurologists
 - Protocols (Anticoagulation etc)
- Patient preparation
- Procedure “set up”

PFO

- Flap not a hole
- Tunnel anatomy
- Aneurysmal septum

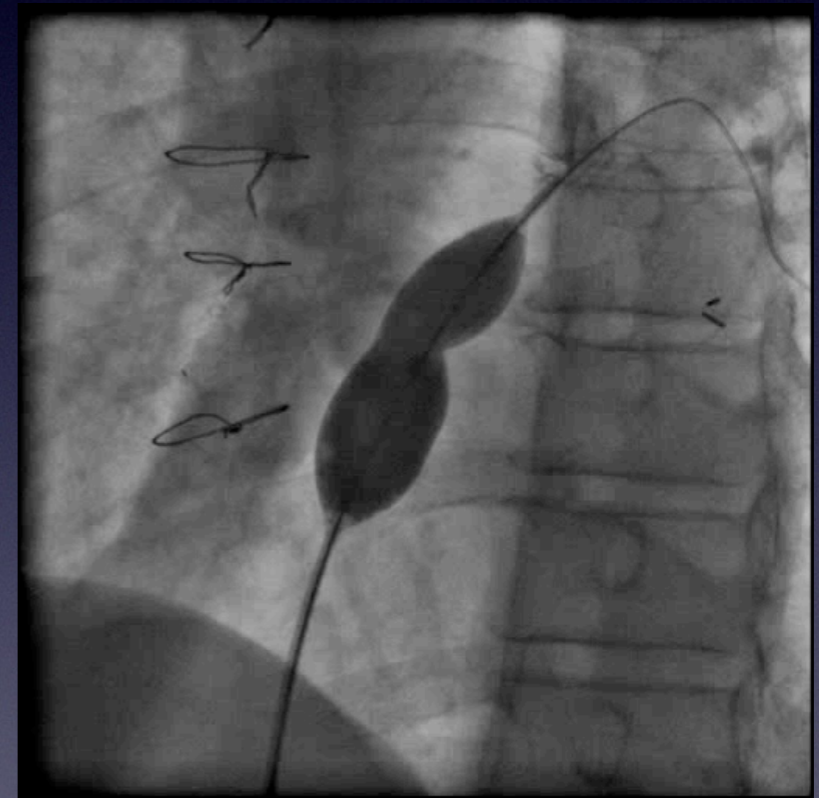


What is different about PFO?

- Patient selection
- Device performance-competent occlusion of the septum (bubble tightness) probably important
- Medical management more complex
- Issues relating to efficacy data

Procedure

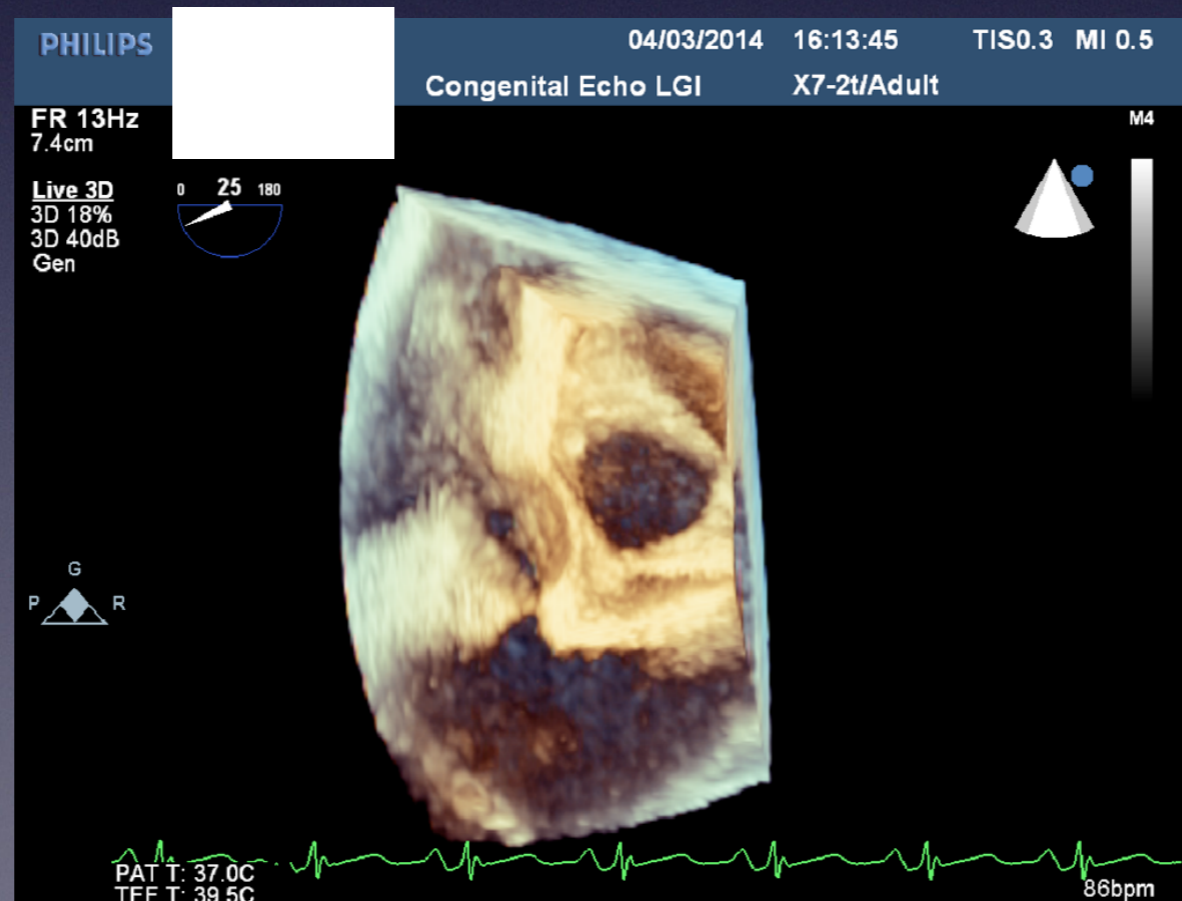
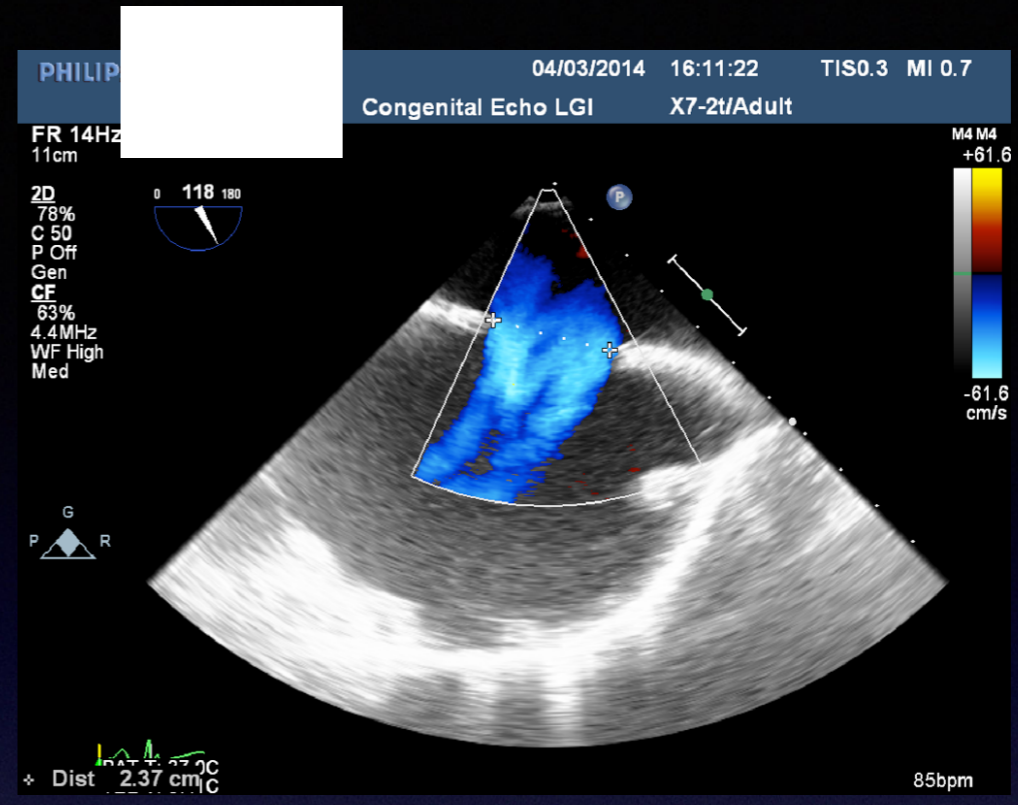
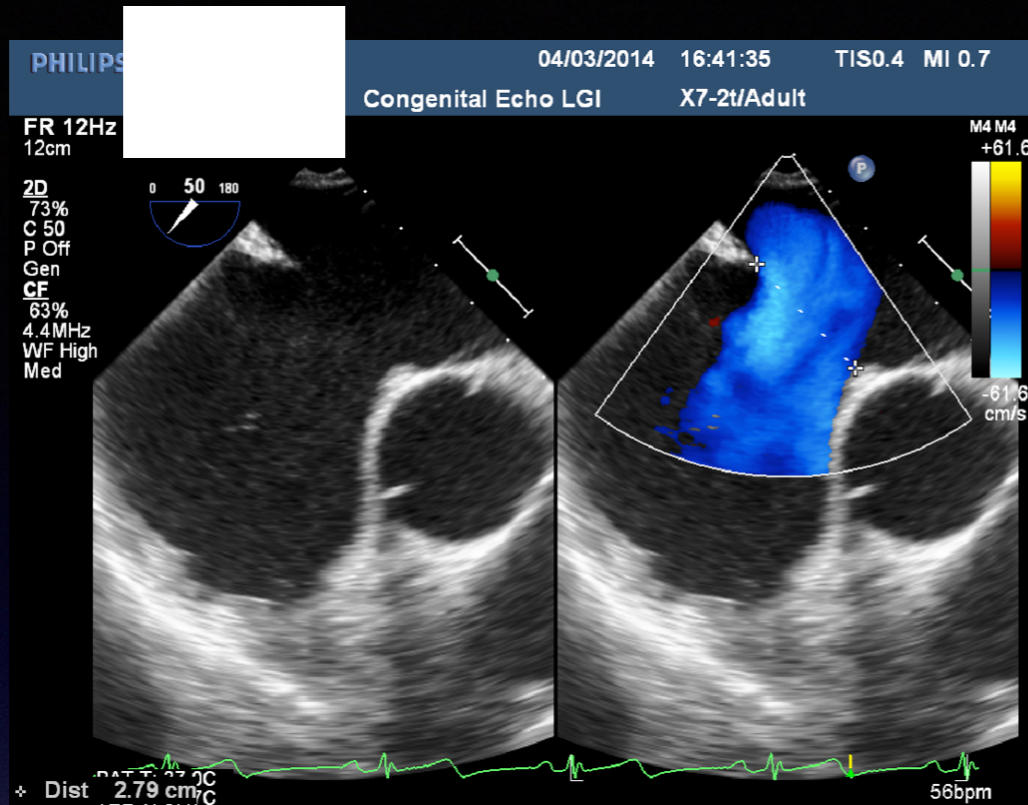
- Cribriform type occluder
 - AGA/GSO
- Generally 2:1 sizing



Conclusions

- Important topic
- Select and assess your patients well
- Talk to them and inform them properly
- Get the procedural imaging right
- Know your devices

Thank you



LV dysfunction

- Age related LV stiffness accentuates L-R shunt
- Safety margins for ASD closure with LV dysfunction unclear-Literature very limited
- Practically be wary of patients with moderate to severe LV dysfunction
- Optimise medical treatment prior to ASD closure

