


MAYO CLINIC



## Bloom

Heidi M. Connolly  
Advanced Echocardiography 2017

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Echo in pregnancy for patients with CHD

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Advanced Echocardiography 2017

## Background

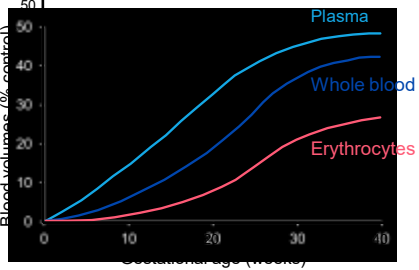
- 2% pregnancies involve maternal CV disease
- CHD is the most common form of HD to affect women of childbearing age
- CV disease does not preclude pregnancy but poses  $\uparrow$  risk to mother and fetus
- Informed CV evaluation ideal pre-pregnancy

## Echo During Pregnancy

- Prepregnancy – establish baseline
- During pregnancy
  - Structure and anatomy
  - Chamber dimension, function, hemodynamics
  - Valve function and vessel dimension
- Strain – no change
- TOE is safe during pregnancy with airway protection
- Agitated saline is generally safe to use during pregnancy
- IV contrast agents have not been studied in pregnancy

## Pregnancy

### Physiologic Changes



Am J Physiol 1983

## Hemodynamic Changes

- $>40\%$   $\uparrow$  in blood volume
- $\downarrow$  in SVR and PVR
- $\uparrow$  in HR
- Little change in BP

30%  $\uparrow$  CO

Usually well tolerated

## Hemodynamic Changes Labor and Delivery

- CO ↑ 60-80%
  - HR and BP changes
- Volume changes
  - ↑ blood volume with uterine contraction
  - ↑ venous return
  - Volume loss during delivery



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## Advise Against Pregnancy

- Severe pulmonary arterial HT
- Severe obstructive lesions
  - AS, MS, PS, HCM, Coarct
- Ventricular dysfunction
  - Class III or IV CHF, EF <40%
  - Prior peripartum cardiomyopathy
- Dilated or unstable aorta
  - Marfan with aorta ≥40-45 mm
- Severe cyanosis



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## Pregnancy Risk

### Regurgitant valve lesions

- Generally well tolerated

### Complex lesions

- Assess on case by case basis

### Risk of inheritance

- 3-5% with most CHD
- Genetic disorders



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## Pre-pregnancy Evaluation

- History, exam, ECG, CXR, med review
- Echo, exercise test, additional imaging
- Cardiac cath – evaluate possible PH
- Genetic considerations



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## 33-Year-Old Female Repaired TOF Asymptomatic, Wants Pregnancy



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## Genetic/Aortic Disorders

## Marfan Syndrome

- Unpredictable maternal risk  
Dissection, rupture, IE, CHF
- Risk based on
  - Preexisting medial changes
  - Changes with pregnancy-  
Physiologic, hormonal
- Fetal risks - 50% inheritance  
Autosomal dominant



## 25-Year-Old Female with Marfan Pregnancy Counseling



Aortic root = 41 mm

## What would you suggest?

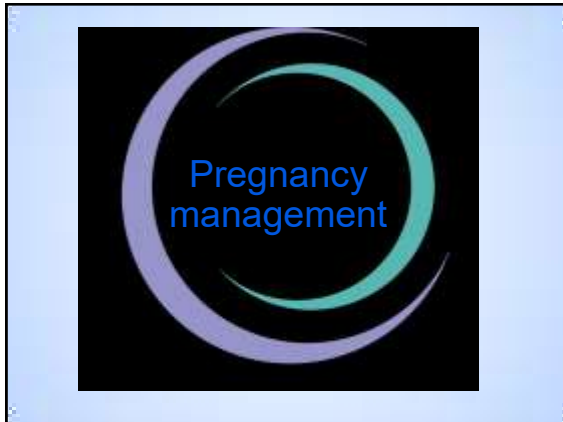
1. Operation prior to pregnancy
2. OK to proceed with pregnancy
3. Not sure

## Preconception Counseling

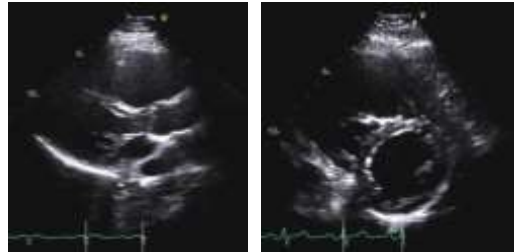
- In addition to routine obstetric screening  
Detailed CV history, FH, medications and exam  
Echo – aorta and valves
- Aortic imaging  
Aorta >45 mm → no pregnancy  
Aorta ≤40 mm → reasonable if low risk  
Aorta 40-45 mm → individualize
- Genetics, prenatal diagnosis

## Pregnancy Management

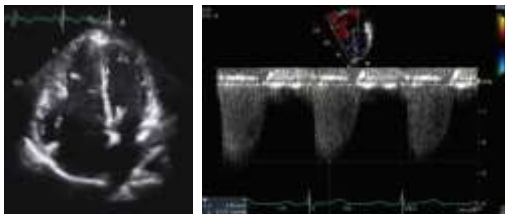
- During pregnancy  
Beta-blocker  
Regular aortic imaging (individualize), fetal echo
- Peripartum  
Facilitated vaginal delivery  
C-section for aorta >40 mm or increasing size  
Endocarditis prophylaxis
- Postpartum  
FU - dissection risk persists  
Future evaluation of lactation risk
- Similar for other aortic disorders



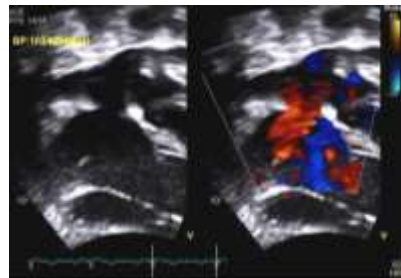
### 35-Year Old Female with Murmur Asymptomatic – 18 Weeks Pregnant



### 35-Year Old Female with Murmur Asymptomatic – 18 Weeks Pregnant



### 35-Year Old Female with Murmur Asymptomatic – 18 Weeks Pregnant



### What would you suggest?

1. OK to continue pregnancy
2. Need more information
3. Not sure

### Evaluation During Pregnancy

- History, exam, ECG, CXR, med review
- Echo, additional imaging, rare exercise test
- Cardiac cath (rare) – evaluate possible PH
- Genetic considerations
- Follow-up frequency depends on type of CHD


# Management of shunt lesions in pregnancy

## ASD and Pregnancy

- Unrepaired ASD
  - ↑ neonatal risk
  - ↑ pre-eclampsia risk, SGA births
  - ↑ fetal mortality
- L to R shunt may ↑ with CO change during pregnancy, counterbalanced by ↓ PVR
- Paradoxical embolism risk
- Familial types – consider screening

Warnes et al: JACC 2008

## ASD – Familial



Holt-Oram Syndrome  
Familial ASD with AV conduction defect

# Congenital Valve and Stenotic Lesions

## 29-Year-Old Female, 10 Weeks Pregnant


Murmur, Dyspnea



Peak gradient 88 mmHg  
Mean gradient 51 mmHg

## Pulmonic Stenosis

- Pregnancy tolerated unless severe
- No maternal CV events >100 preg
- Outcome
  - Preterm delivery 14.5%
  - Fetal mortality 0.8%
  - Perinatal mortality 4%
  - Recurrent CHD 3%, Noonan
- Percutaneous valvotomy option

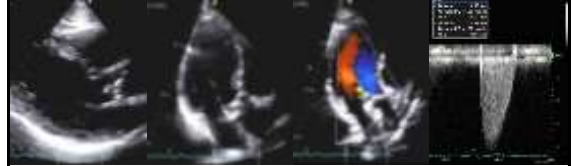


Drenthen et al: JACC 2007

## Aortic Stenosis



## 22-Year Old Female Dyspnea and Murmur Positive Pregnancy Test



MG 40 mmHg

## One More Thing... Mid-ascending Aorta 46 mm



## Aortic Stenosis Pregnant Patient

Unable to  
augment CO

Preload and  
hypotension  
sensitive

CHF and ischemia

↓ placental perfusion  
IUGR, preterm labor

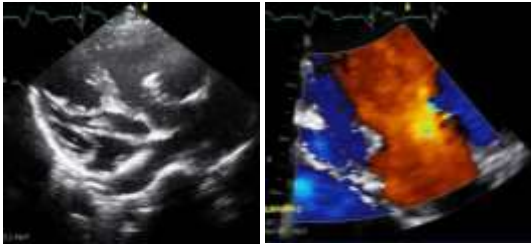
## What would you suggest?

1. Operation during pregnancy
2. Monitor during pregnancy
3. Not sure

15 weeks pregnant – treated anemia, monitored closely  
AS and aorta stable – tolerated pregnancy well

Complex  
CHD

42-Year-Old Female Complex CHD  
PPM/PFO Closure 3 Years Ago  
Presents 20 Weeks Pregnant



Now with atrial flutter and dyspnea

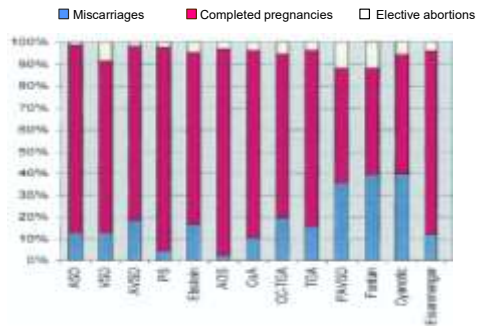
Patient Course

- Anticoagulation with LMWH
- Close OB and CV follow-up
- Heart failure near term
  - Uncomplicated delivery
  - Diuresis
- Transitioned to warfarin post-partum

Complex CHD

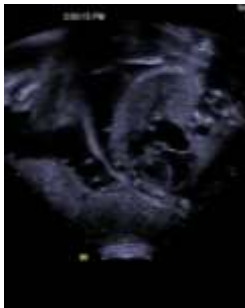
- All patients require
  - Specialized CV consultation prior to pregnancy
  - Close follow-up during pregnancy
- Uncertainty regarding
  - Pregnancy outcome
  - Effect of CHD on mother and fetus

Pregnancy Outcomes



Drenthen et al: JACC 2007

Fetal Echo

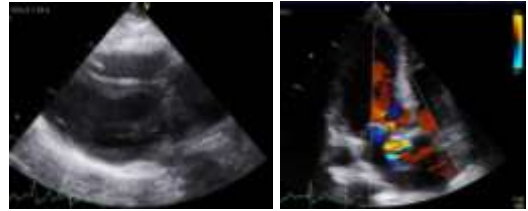


Postpartum Care



33-Year-Old with BAV and Aortopathy  
 Prior AVR and Aorta Replacement  
 Preterm Labor at 32 Weeks

33-Year-Old with BAV and Aortopathy  
 Prior AVR and Aorta Replacement  
 Preterm Labor at 32 Weeks



What next?

33-Year-Old – Preterm Labor at 32 Weeks  
 BAV with Aortopathy – Prior AVR and Aorta



Summary

- CVD 1-2% of all pregnancies
  - CHD most common
- ↑ risk to mother and fetus
- Individual assessment
- Multidisciplinary care
- Echo is mainstay in CV evaluation and FU



Questions and Discussion  
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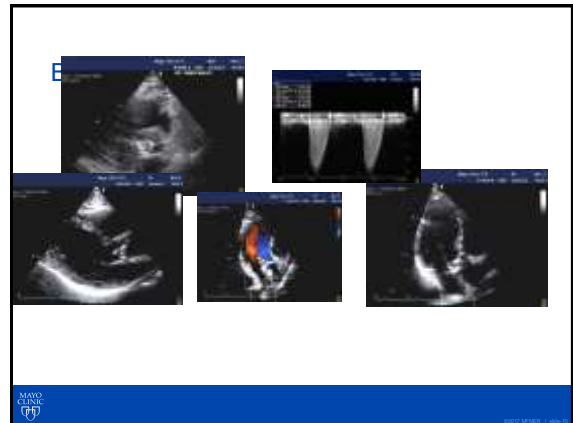
## Valve Surgery May be Required During Pregnancy

## Endocarditis Prophylaxis

- Follow AHA guidelines
  - IE prophylaxis generally not required during uncomplicated delivery
- Not required
  - Isolated ASD
  - 6 months after PDA or VSD closure
- Reasonable in high-risk patients
  - Marfan, cyanotic/complex CHD, valve prosthesis

## CV Surgery During Pregnancy

- 21 CV operations during pregnancy (1976 – 2009)
  - Mortality - 3% maternal, 19% fetal
  - Fetal prematurity and death associated with urgent, high-risk surgery, maternal comorbidity, and early GA
  - Emergent surgery confers higher risk of maternal death
- If intervention required
  - 24-28 weeks best
  - Monitor fetus
  - High flow CPB; MAP >60 mm Hg; maintain normothermia
- CT surgery can be performed with relative safety



John et al: Ann Thorac Surg 2011

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## Cyanotic CHD

- 44 patients - 96 pregnancies
- Adverse fetal outcome associated with ↑ Hb, ↓ O<sub>2</sub>, type of CHD, functional class
- Fetal outcomes
  - ↑ fetal loss (57%)
  - ↑ Premature birth (37%)
  - ↑ LBW infants
  - ↑ CHD in offspring (5%)
- Maternal outcomes
  - 32% pt CV complications
  - 1 death from endocarditis



Presbitero et al: Circulation 1994

## O<sub>2</sub> Saturation and Outcome

Adverse fetal outcomes associated with ↓ O<sub>2</sub>

O <sub>2</sub> sat (%)	≤85	85-89	≥90
Pregnancies (number)	17	22	13
Live Born (number)	2	10	12
Live Born %	12	45	92

Presbitero et al: Circulation 1994

## Outline

- Intro regarding pregnancy
  - Normal echo findings
- Pre-pregnancy screening
  - TOF
  - Marfan
- Management during pregnancy
  - ASD
  - AS/PS
  - Complex CHD
  - Fetal echo