

# 6pm - On call shift

## Trauma SHO pops into theatre

- Booking form for a 3 year old who has a fractured distal radius
- He is starved
- The registrar saw him but didn't mention any specifics
- SHO heard mum mention a Glenn shunt
- They would like to proceed with an MUA and possible K-wire as soon as possible.



# Alarm Bells

**What else do you need to know?**

- Glenn Shunt?
- Urgency of Surgery?
- Are we able to do the surgery?

# Glenn Shunt

## What is it?

- Second stage of palliation surgery for a single ventricle patient heading towards a Fontan circulation.
- Aim to divert systemic venous return via pulmonary vasculature without overloading it.
- Balanced circulation requires complex knowledge of physiology of defect and effects of anaesthetic.
- Requires discussion with Paediatric specialist centre.
- Will likely require transfer for surgery

# Paediatric cardiac disease in non-cardiac surgery.

A basic approach

Richard Hayes



# Aims

## **NOT A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO ALL CARDIAC DISEASE**

- How to classify and Grade Heart disease
- Who to call for advice
- When to cancel
- Case based discussions

# Where to Start?

## Background figures for CHD.

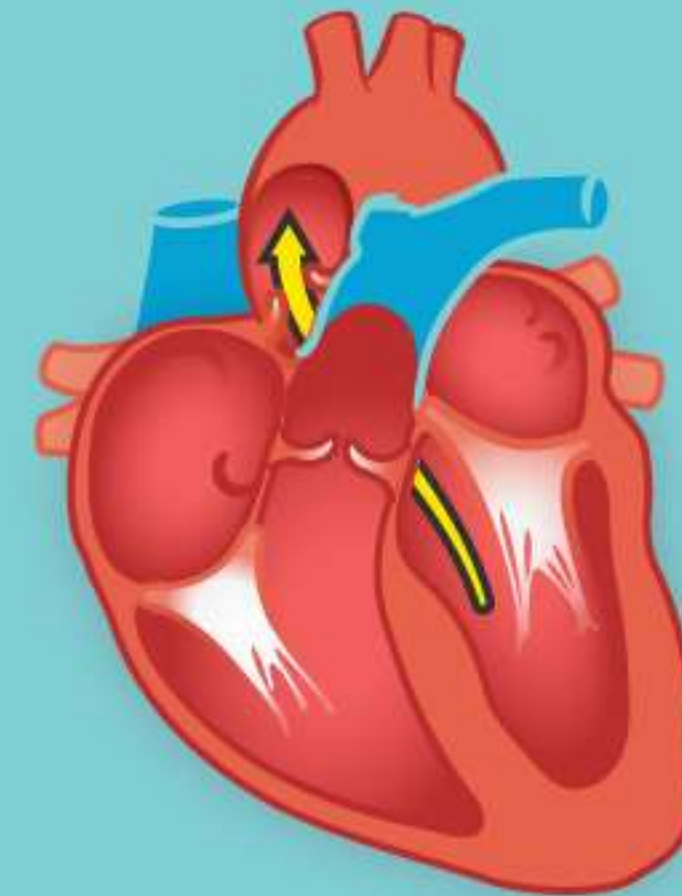
- 1 in 125 live births
- 90% survival to adulthood
- Present for elective and emergency surgery
- Higher risk of peri-operative cardiac arrest and Higher 30 day mortality
- Variety and complexity of defects and risk require a case by case assessment



# Different Types of Circulation

How does blood flow and mix?

- Normal or 'series' circulation
- Balanced Circulation
- Single ventricle circulation



# The Normal “Series” Circulation

**Separate systemic and pulmonary circulations working in series**

- Most types of repairs CHD
- Some types of unprepared CHD have this circulation but with holes allowing mixing of blood eg. ASD or VSD
- Blood flows through the hole down a pressure gradient
- Left to right shunts result in increased pulmonary blood flow and potentially decreased systemic blood flow.
- Right to left shunts lead to deoxygenated blood bypassing the pulmonary circulation and therefore decreased pulmonary blood flow and cyanosis.



# The Normal “Series” Circulation

**Separate systemic and pulmonary circulations working in series**

- Amount of shunting depends on pressure gradient
- Changes in PVR and SVR from anaesthesia and administration of oxygen has greatest effect on large unrestricted defects.
- Infants with large unrestricted defects can exhibit “Balanced” Circulation physiology

# Parallel or “Balanced” Circulation

Pulmonary and systemic circulations communicate with each other and function as being parallel

- Anatomical abnormalities cause blood flow to systemic and pulmonary circulation to vary depending on the relative resistances in each circuit.
- Blood flow to lungs and body is a balance of PVR and SVR
- Excessive PBF causes Oedema and decreased systemic perfusion which can profoundly affect coronary and splanchnic perfusion.
- Insufficient pulmonary blood flow leads to profound cyanosis

# Parallel or “Balanced” Circulation

Pulmonary and systemic circulations communicate with each other and function as being parallel

- A local hospital may see infants with large unrepaired AVSD or VSD.
- Predominantly L-R shunt
- High O<sub>2</sub> conc can increase pulmonary blood flow and reduce systemic perfusion.
- High dose induction agent may decrease SVR to the point of shunt flow reversal causing desaturation
- Excessive Pulmonary blood flow leads to risk of pulmonary hypertension.

# Parallel or “Balanced” Circulation

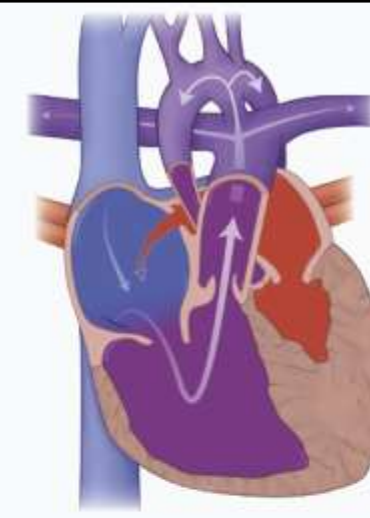
Pulmonary and systemic circulations communicate with each other and function as being parallel

- Other examples
- Modified Blalock-Tausig shunt
- Truncus arteriosus
- And hypoplastic left heart syndrome
- Can be difficult to manage and require discussion with regional paediatric cardiac centre

# Single-ventricle Circulation

**Not amenable to biventricular repair resulting in series circulation**

- Single ventricle pumps blood to systemic circulation.
- Blood flows passively down a pressure gradient from venous system through pulmonary circulation
- There are three stages to formation of a single ventricle circulation
- 1. Formation of a Blalock-Taussig Shunt - small tube connecting arterial to pulmonary circulation to allow a small amount of extra blood into pulmonary circulation.
- 2. Glenn shunt - SVC connected to pulmonary artery
- 3. Fontan procedure - IVC also connected to pulmonary artery - the venous return goes straight to lungs bypassing the heart and the single ventricle pumps blood purely to the systemic circulation.



Transplant      Palliation      Corrective surgery

STAGE 1

### Norwood

- Ligation of PDA
- DKS anastomosis & arch reconstruction
- Atrial septectomy
- Systemic to pulmonary synthetic shunt:
  - a) Sano shunt
  - b) Modified-BT shunt

a)

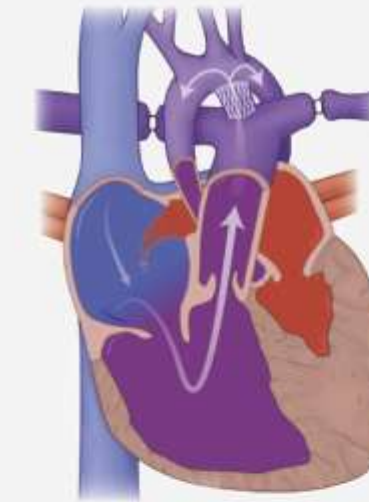


b)



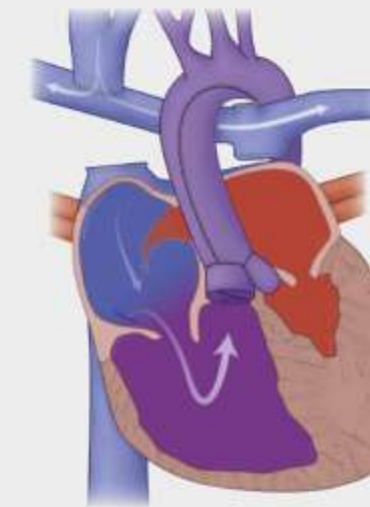
### Hybrid

- Percutaneous stenting of ductus arteriosus
- Bilateral PA banding



### Bidirectional Glenn

- Takedown systemic to pulmonary shunt
- SVC to RPA anastomosis

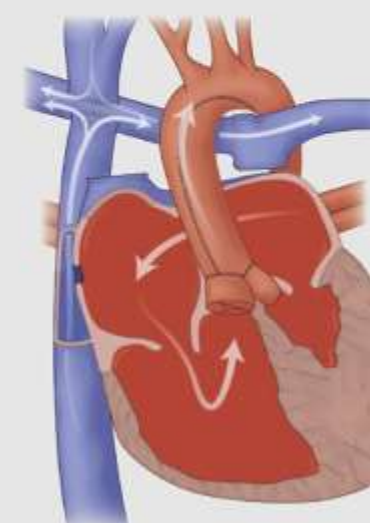


### Comprehensive stage 2

- Removal of PDA stent and PDA ligation
- Branch PA debanding
- DKS anastomosis & arch reconstruction
- Atrial septectomy
- SVC to RPA anastomosis

### Fontan/total Cavopulmonary correction

- Intra or extracardiac IVC to RPA anastomosis



STAGE 3

# Single-ventricle Circulation

**Not amenable to biventricular repair resulting in series circulation**

- Pressure gradient from pulmonary artery to Left atrium is the sole determinant of pulmonary blood flow.
- Increases in PVR and Intrathoracic pressure can compromise Pulmonary blood flow.
- Spont ventilation causes negative intrathoracic pressure and thus can increase pulmonary blood flow.
- Conversely PPV can give greater control of oxygenation and minute ventilation thus avoiding hypoxia and hypercapnia.



# Assessment of Risk

## No simple algorithm

- Combination of
  - Age
  - Complexity of disease
  - Physiological Status
  - Type of Surgery
- A physiologically well compensated child with CHD undergoing elective surgery can be low risk
- Poorly compensated patients undergoing urgent or emergency surgery carry high risk



# Physiological status

## 4 major risk factors

- Cardiac Failure
- Pulmonary Hypertension
- Arrhythmias
- Cyanosis



# Cardiac Failure

## Signs differ across ages

- Common - Tachypnoea, tachycardia, sweating and cool peripheries
- In Infancy - poor feeding, failure to thrive and hepatomegaly
  - The heart can be volume overloaded, pressure overloaded or a combination.
  - Severe cardiac failure carries very high Risk.
  - In emergency situation retrieval may be required
  - If very mild and asymptomatic could use gas induction or ketamine with second experienced anaesthetist.

# Pulmonary Hypertension

**PA Pressure > 25 mmHg at rest and >30mmHg during exercise**

- Documented PHT is a clear predictor of perioperative morbidity
- 8 x more likely to suffer a major complication
- Rx with 100% O<sub>2</sub>, nitric oxide, I.v. prostacyclin, inotropes to support right heart and other measures may be needed.
- Needs transfer to tertiary unit with PICU



# Arrhythmias

## A different story in children

- All children with CHD need ECG pre-op
- RBBB common, unlikely to deteriorate into CHB
- VE's are a red flag - 30% children with VEs die suddenly - need tertiary centre
- 30% patients with single ventricle will suffer a fatal arrhythmia



# Cyanosis

## Common feature of unprepared or partially palliated CHD

- Usually concurrent cardiac failure, PHT and arrhythmia - very high risk group
- Paper states that could have minor procedures locally if disease well understood by all staff - likely not feasible.
- Chronic cyanosis leads to polycythaemia and coagulopathy
- Under 5s can get cerebral vein and sinus thrombosis
- Dehydration and iron deficiency anaemia add to risk
- Aspirin should continue if they are on it

# Complexity of disease

## Complex disease increases risk

- Single ventricle physiology
- Balanced circulation physiology
- Cardiomyopathy
- Aortic stenosis
- Long term sequelae - cardiac failure, PHT, arrhythmia and cyanosis



# Type of surgery

## More invasive - more risk

- Mortality in major surgery 16% minor surgery 3%
- Major = intraperitoneal, intrathoracic or vascular reconstructive surgery, any surgery where blood transfusion may be required.
- Surgery with prolonged hospital stay also carries high risk

# Risk Management

High Risk	Intermediate Risk	Low Risk
<p>Physiologically poorly compensated and/or presence of major complications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cardiac Failure</li> <li>Pulmonary Hypertension</li> <li>Arrhythmias</li> <li>Cyanosis</li> </ul> <p>Complex lesions (Single ventricle or balanced circulation physiology, cardiomyopathy, aortic stenosis)</p> <p>Major Surgery (Intraperitoneal, intrathoracic, anticipated major blood loss)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under 2 years old</li> <li>Emergency Surgery</li> <li>Preoperative hospital stay &gt;10 days</li> <li>ASA IV or V</li> </ul>	<p>Physiologically normal or well compensated</p> <p>Simple Lesions</p> <p>Major Surgery (Intraperitoneal, intrathoracic, anticipated major blood loss)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under 2 years old</li> <li>Emergency Surgery</li> <li>Preoperative hospital stay &gt;10 days</li> <li>ASA IV or V</li> </ul>	<p>Physiologically normal or well compensated</p> <p>Simple lesions</p> <p>Minor or body surface surgery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 2 years old</li> <li>Elective surgery</li> <li>Pre-operative hospital stay &lt;10 days</li> <li>ASA= I - III</li> </ul>

# Risk Management

## Elective procedures

- High risk - transfer to specialist centre
- Intermediate risk - discuss with specialist centre and consider transfer
- Low risk - could be managed at local hospital

# Risk Management

## Emergency procedures

- High risk and Intermediate risk - discuss with specialist centre and consider transfer
- Low risk - could be managed at local hospital with input from specialist team.

# Case Studies

Time for some discussion!!



# 9 Year Old

## RIF Pain and Vomiting

- VSD repair as Infant
- Sent home from mainstream school after games lesson where he was playing football and then developed abdominal pain and vomited, he has had fevers since.
- Surgeon has diagnosed appendicitis and would like to operate that evening
- Is it safe to proceed?
- What do we need to know? What sources of information are there?

# 3 year old

## Trisomy 21

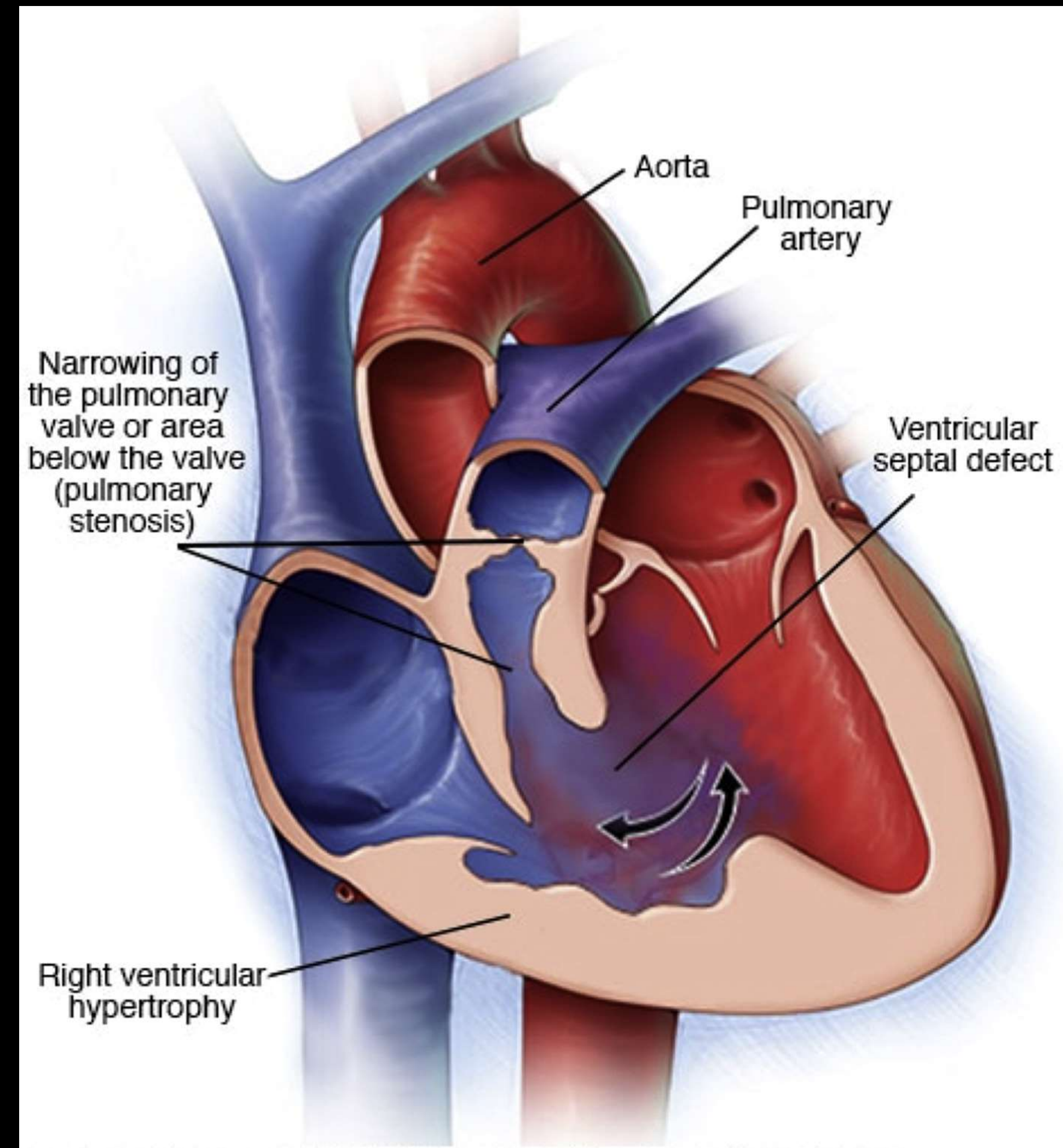
- Scalp laceration after falling into a coffee table - full thickness requiring washout and suturing.
- Mum mentions Tetralogy of fallout
- What is this?
- Where can you get information?
- What features may you see?



# Tetralogy of Fallot

## Common cyanotic congenital heart malformations

- Cardinal features are VSD, RVOTO, Overriding Aorta and RV hypertrophy
- Anatomy allows blood mixing between pulmonary and systemic circulations - R-L shunt - deoxygenated blood mixes with oxygenated blood.
- If RVOTO increases due to muscle spasm in times of stress R-L shunt flow increases in a cyanotic spell
- Drops in SVR also increase R-L shunt
- Older Children Squat in knee to chest position to Increase SVR





Increasing hypoxia  
Increased degree of RVOTO  
Increasing amount of aortic override  
Increasing right-to-left shunt

Sao<sub>2</sub>  
100%



Sao<sub>2</sub>  
30%

**'Pink'**  
**Tetralogy of Fallot**

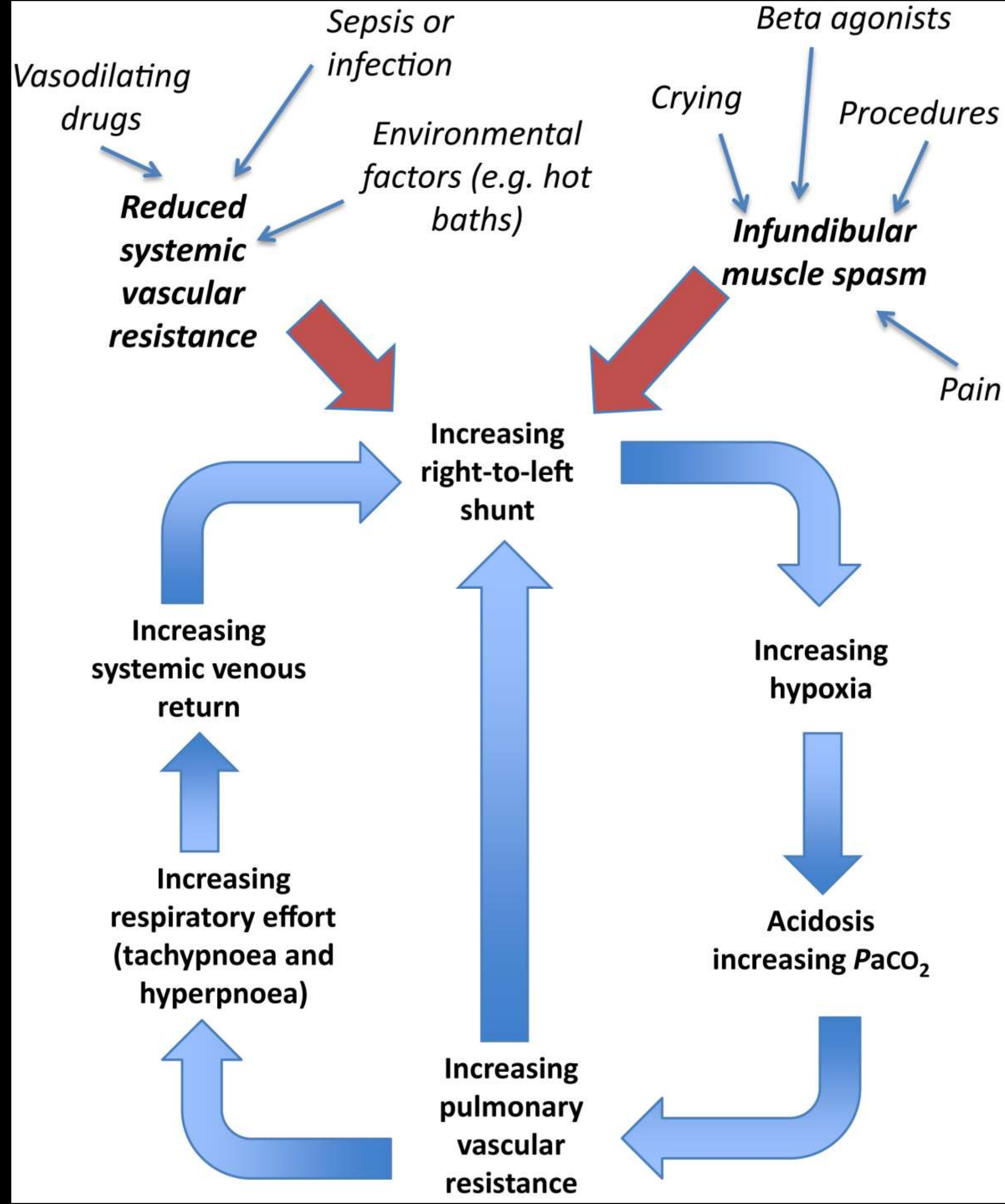
**'Blue'**  
**Tetralogy of Fallot**

**'Profound  
cyanosis'**  
**Tetralogy of Fallot**

No or minimal  
RVOTO with little  
aortic override.  
Behaves like a  
VSD with left-to-  
right shunt

Classic ToF has a  
degree of RVOTO  
and aortic  
override

Severe or  
complete RVOTO





# 2 Year old

## Incarcerated inguinal hernia

- Pale and sweaty, tachypnoeic, hepatomegaly on abdominal examination, not mobilising yet.
- Has neonatal marfans syndrome
- Multiple hospital admissions with Chest infections
- Mum brings a lever arch file with notes from multiple different hospital admissions
- Came to nearest hospital as child distressed and had breathing difficulty
- What do you do?

# Summary

- The CHD child presenting for non cardiac surgery poses many challenges
- Information is key
- Parents usually well informed
- Anaesthesia poses great risk as disrupts the balance of systemic and pulmonary vascular resistance along with myocardial contractility
- Assessment of risk will guide where surgery should happen
- If in doubt discuss with hospital paediatric lead or local paediatric centre

# References

- White M and Peyton J. Anaesthetic management of children with congenital heart disease for non cardiac surgery. Continuing education in anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain. 2012 Volume 12 Number 1 PP 17-22
- Greaney D, Honjo O and O'Leary J.D. The single ventricle pathway in paediatrics for anaesthetists. BJA Education 2019 19(5):144-150
- Wilson R. Ross O. And Griksaits M.J. Tetralogy of Fallot. BJA Education 2019 19(11) 362-369