

**DU Reanimation Cardiopathie Congenitale et Pediatrique**  
Bordeaux, Dec 2023

# Imaging of coarctation and interrupted aortic arches

Olivier Villemain, MD, PhD  
Staff Pediatric Cardiology - CHU Haut-Leveque  
University of Bordeaux

No disclosures

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isolated

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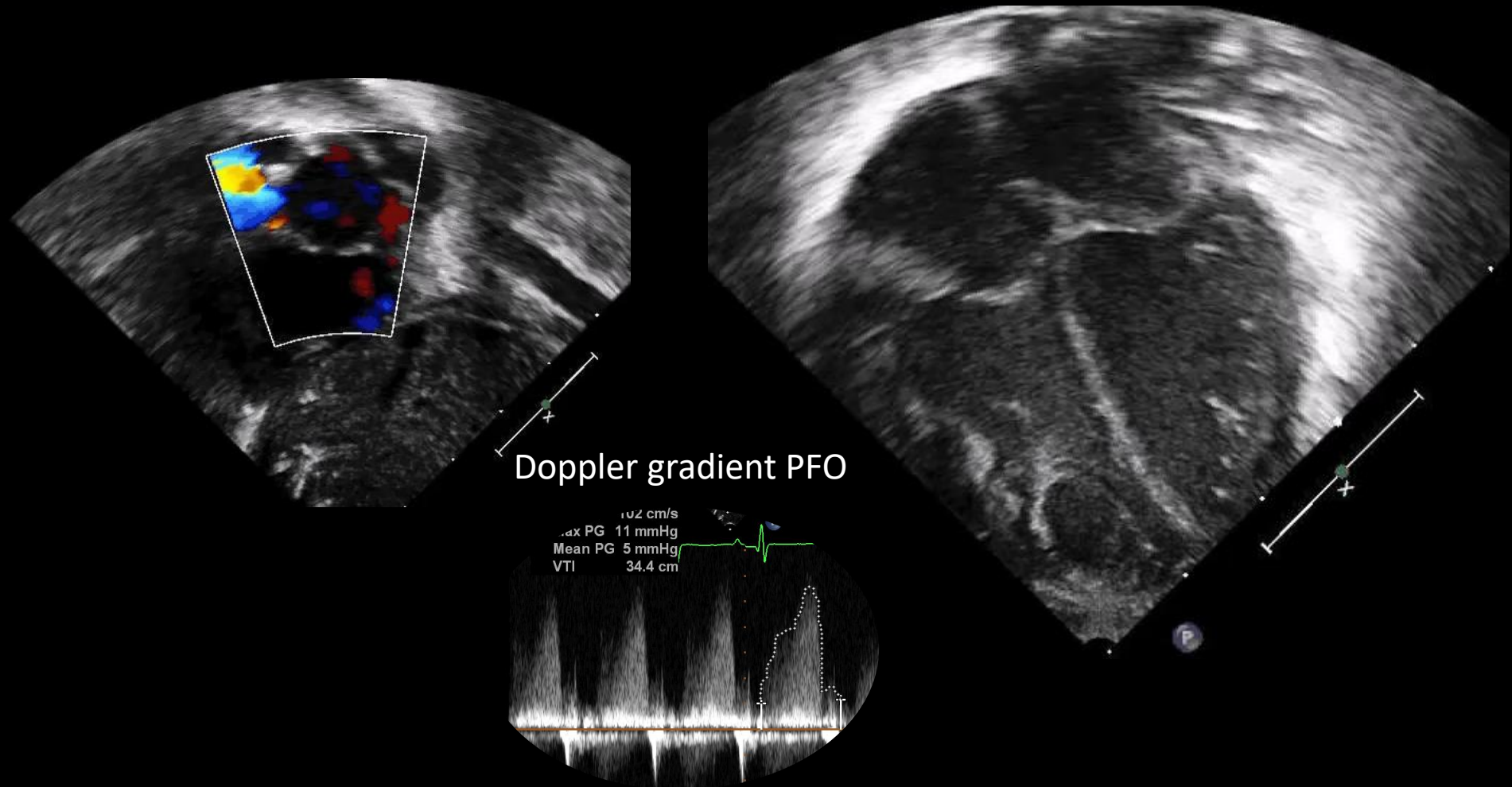
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No disclosures

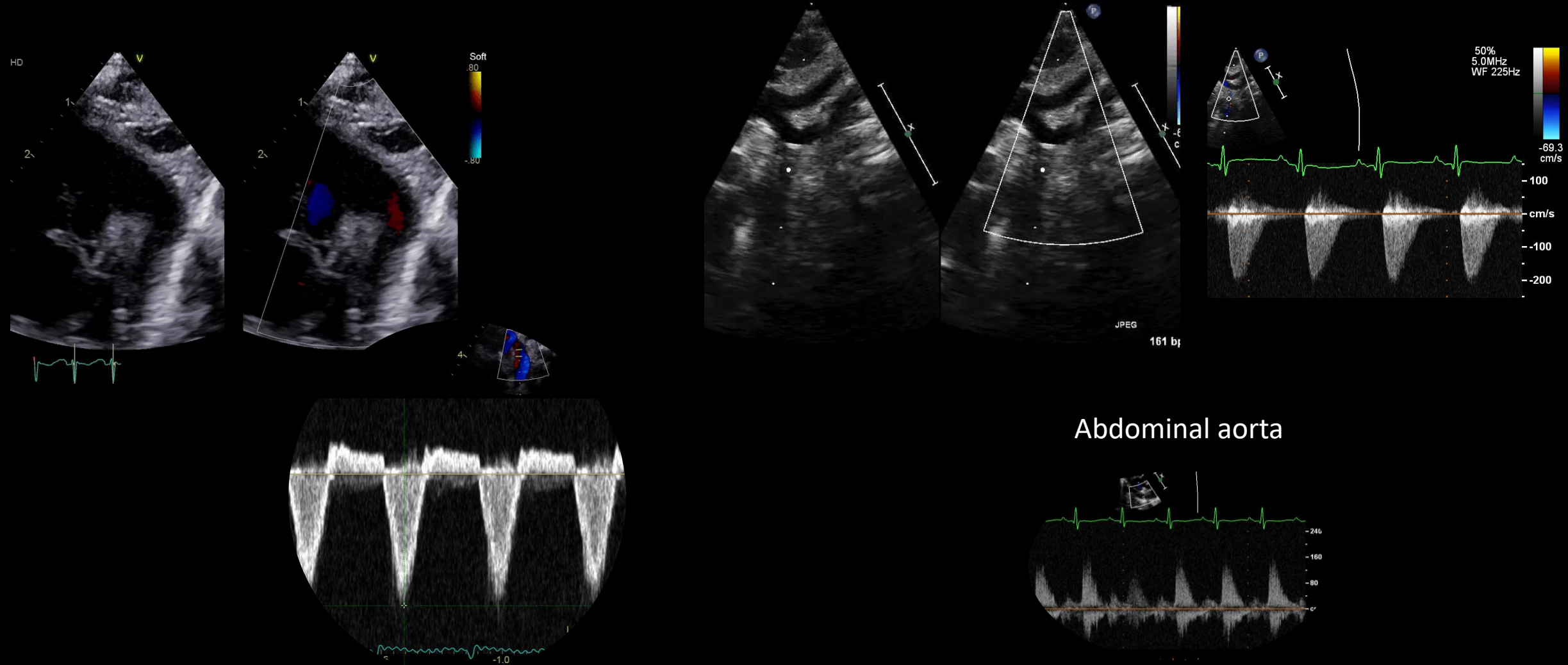
Case 1

2 days, poor perfusion, upper-lower BP 30 mmhg and pre and post ductal Sat difference of 10-15%... PGE started



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Case 1

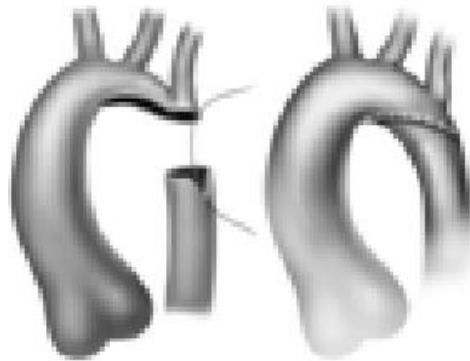
2 days, poor perfusion, upper-lower BP 30 mmhg and pre and post ductal Sat difference of 10-15%... PGE started



# CoA management – surgical options



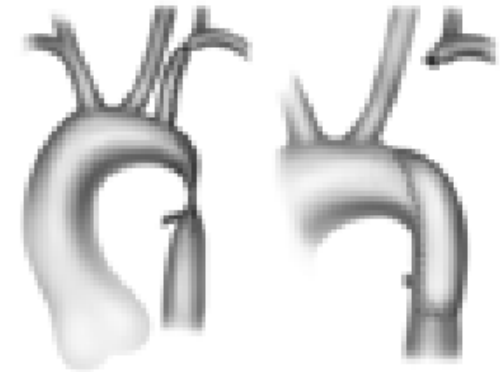
End to end  
anastomosis



Extended End to end  
anastomosis



Prosthetic patch  
aortoplasty

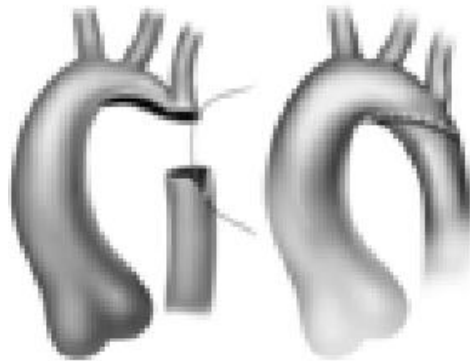


Flap of left subclavian  
artery

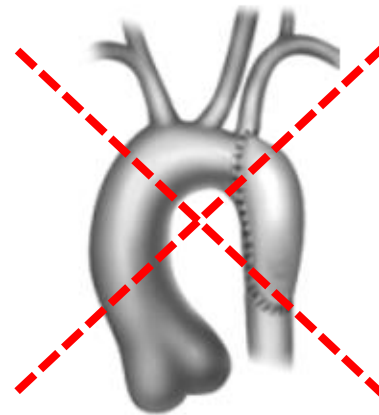
# CoA management – surgical options



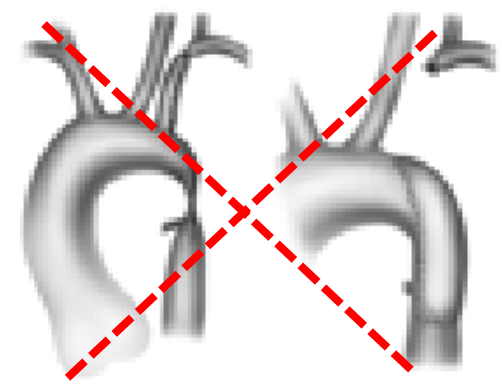
End to end  
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Extended End to end  
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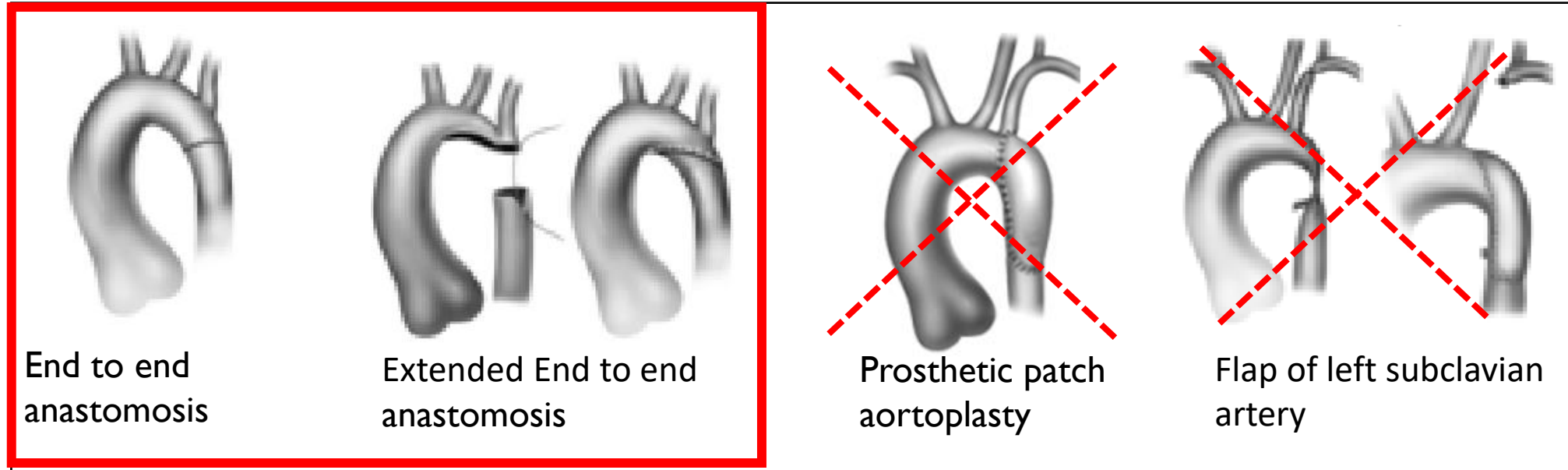


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# CoA management – surgical options

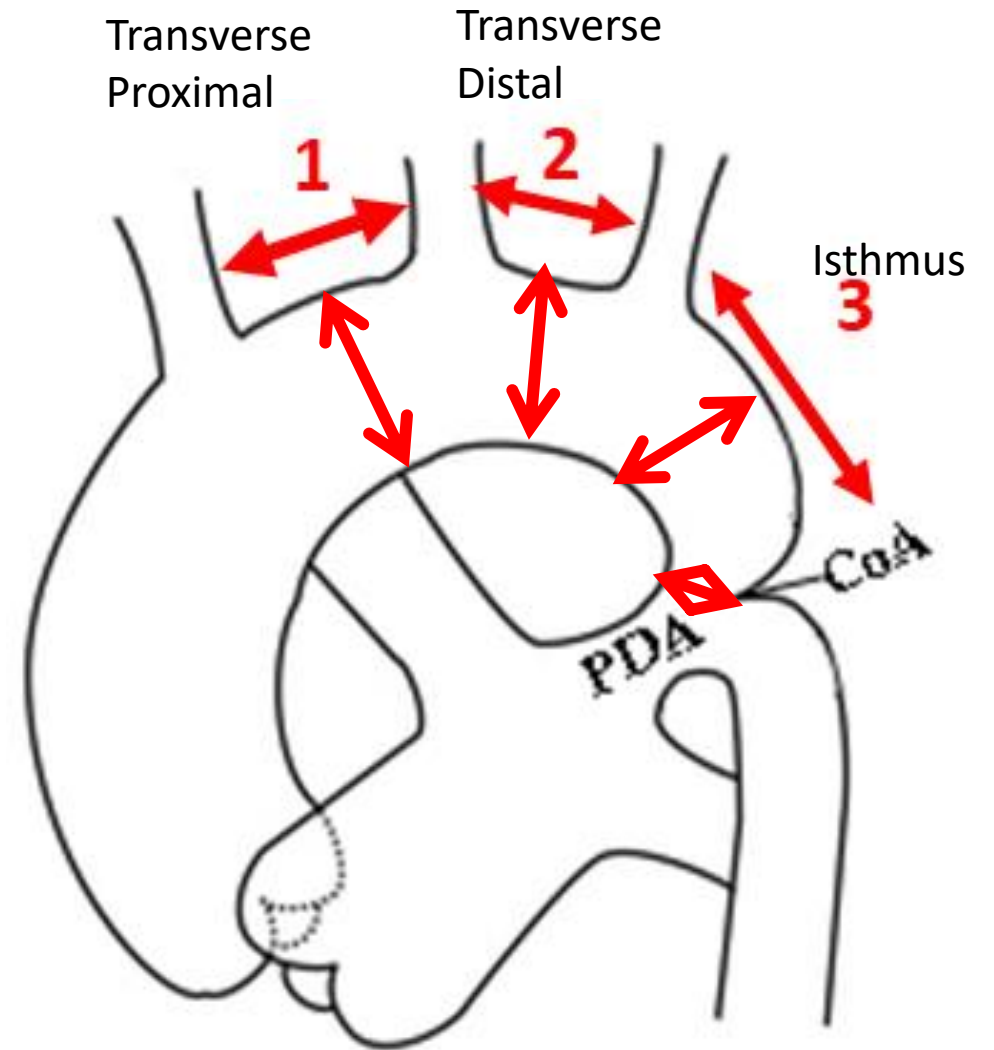


**Sternotomy or thoracotomy?**

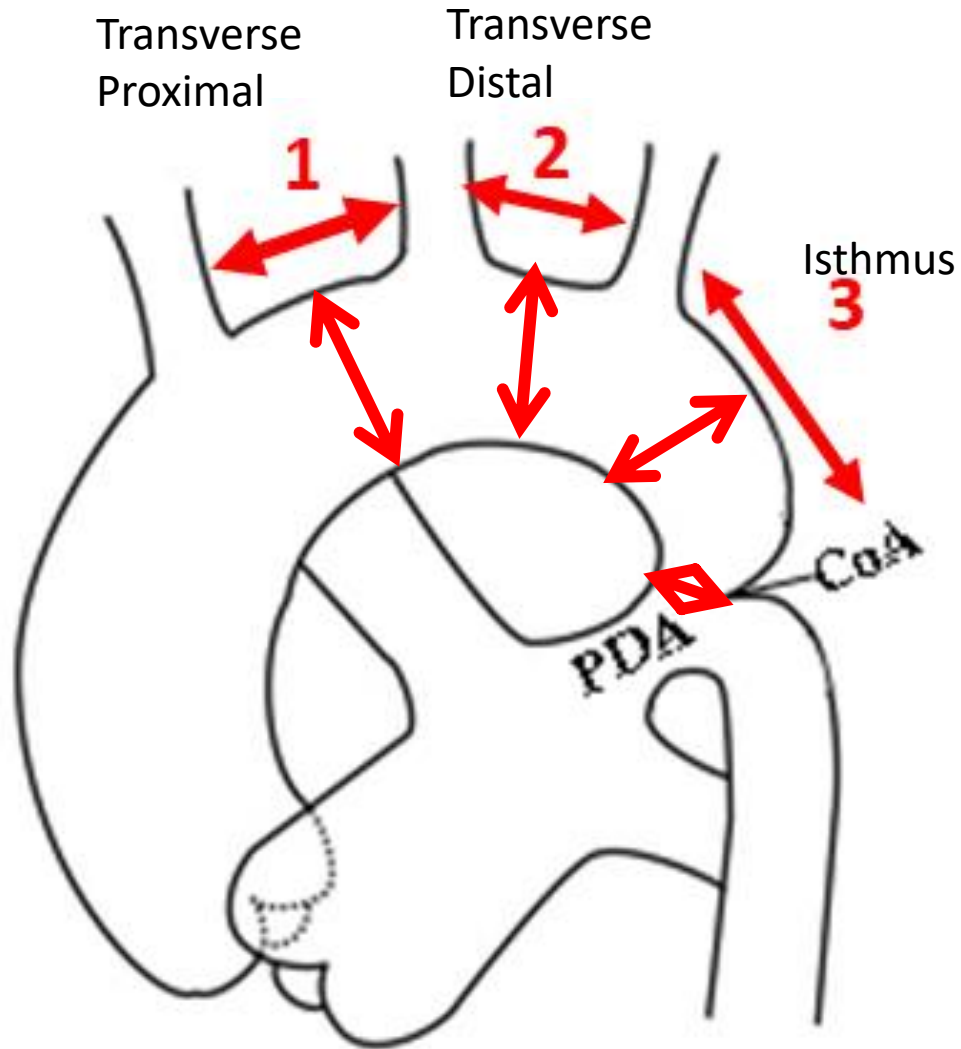


# Identify the location and severity of obstruction(s)

- ✓ Measure and calculate z-scores for **each segment** of the aortic arch in the sagittal view.
- ✓ Locate and measure the diameter of the narrowest part of the aorta



# Aortic Arch Hypoplasia



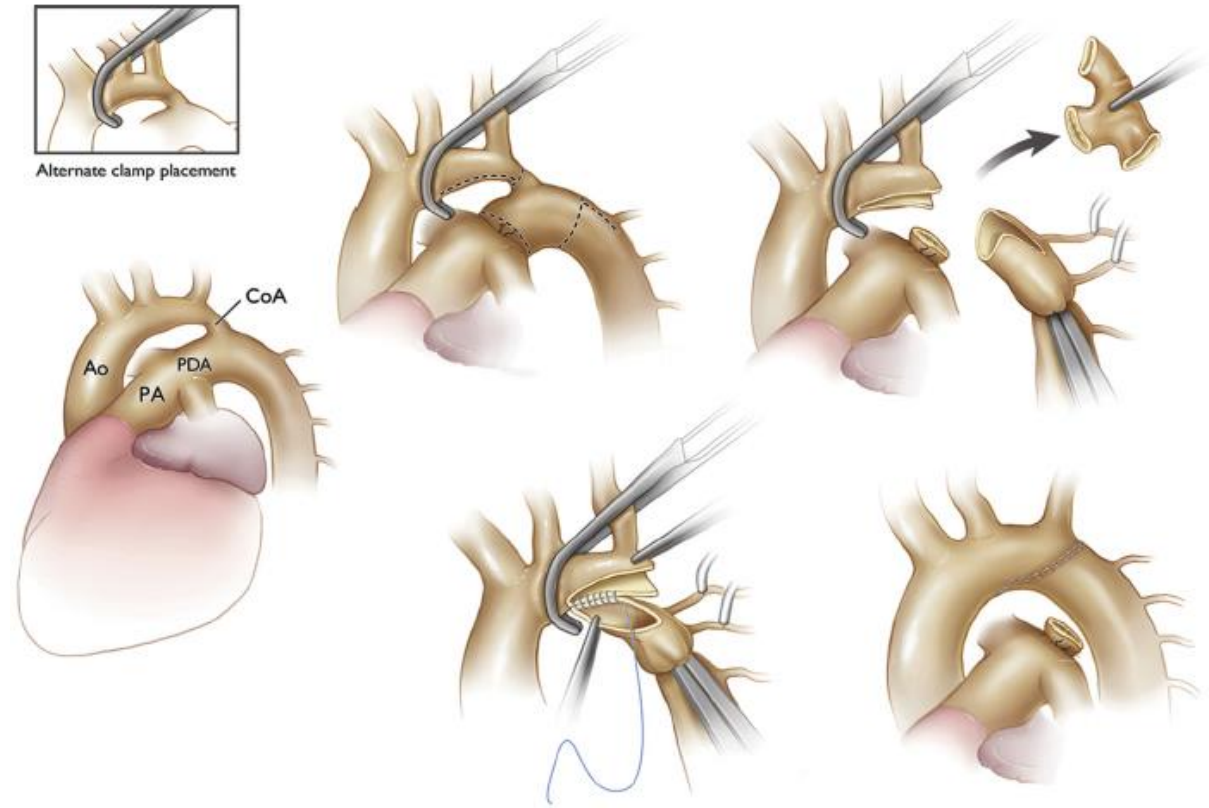
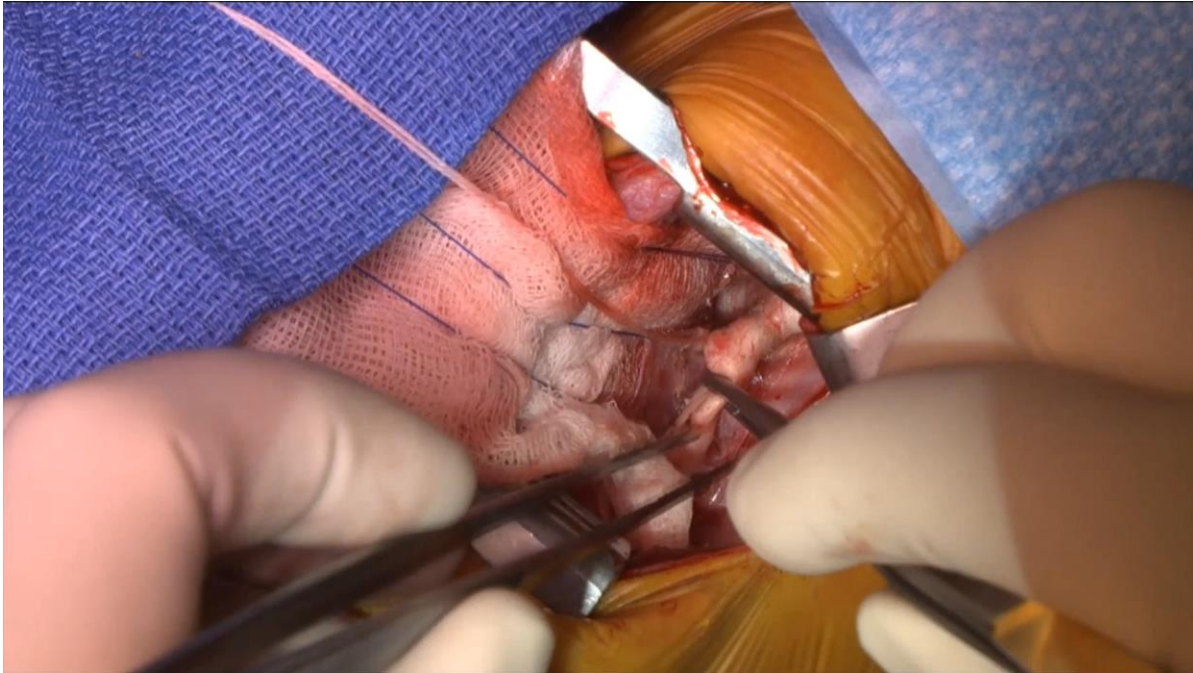
## Definition

- Transverse arch diameter mm  $<$  weight in Kg + 1
- Score  $z < -2$
- Ratio between transverse arch diameter/ descending  $< 50\%$

## Implications

- Key point for decision making & surgical approach

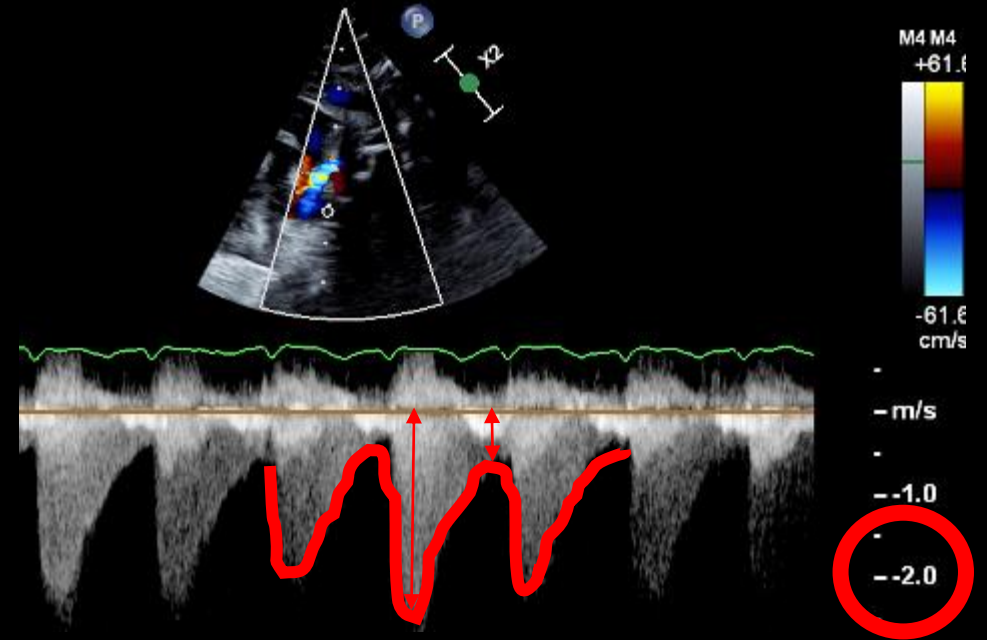
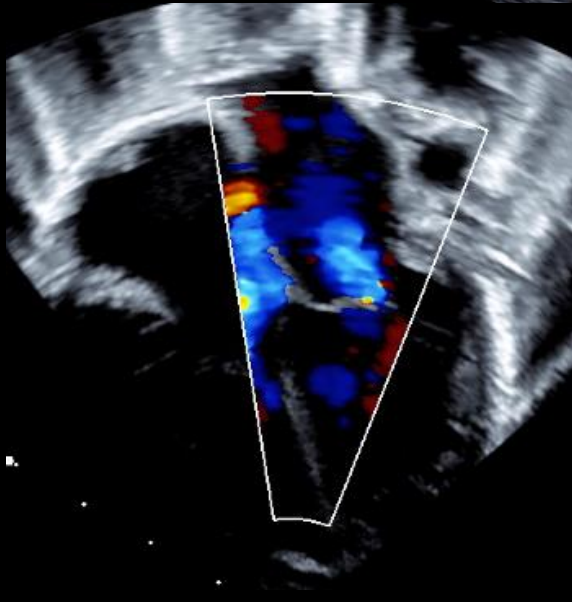
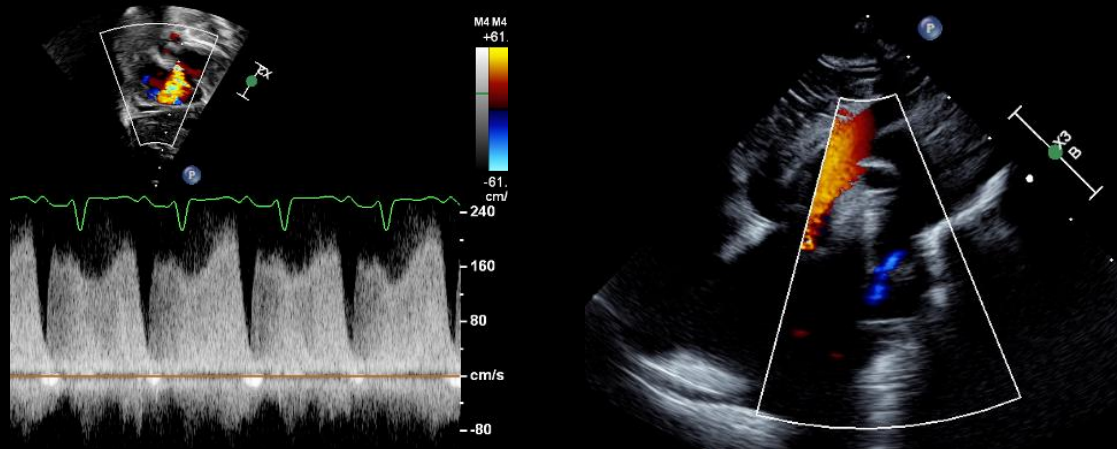
# Left posteriolateral thoracotomy



Courtesy of Dr Olivier Raisky (Paris)

## Case 2

HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction

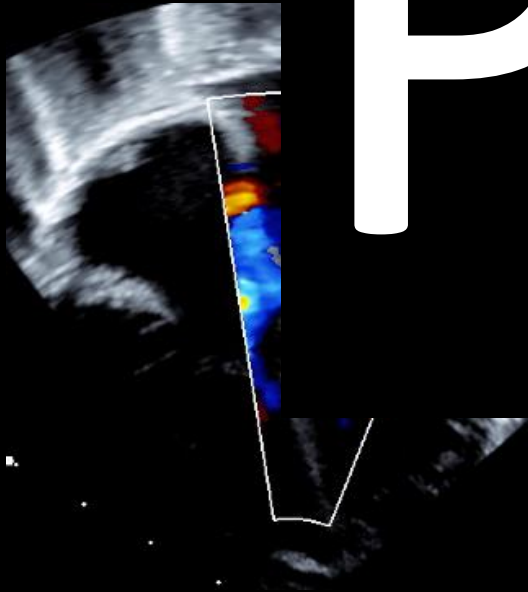
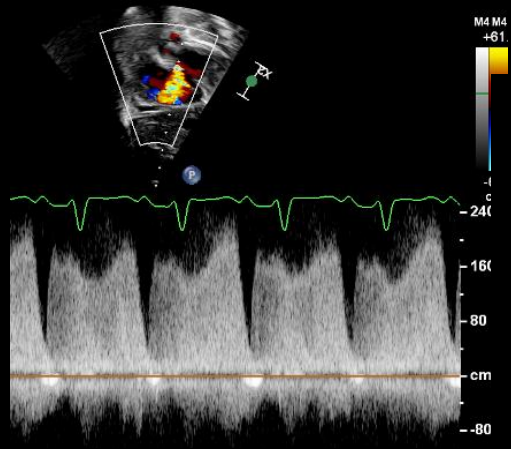


- Low velocity systolic-diastolic
- Systolic and diastolic gradient
- Antegrade flow and gradient during diastole: severity

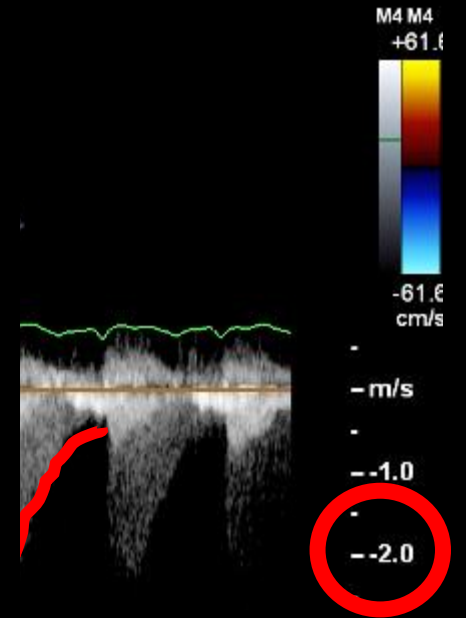


Case 2

HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction



# PGE



olic  
ent  
nt during diastole: severity

## Case 2

HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction

If PGE are not working...

## Case 2

HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction

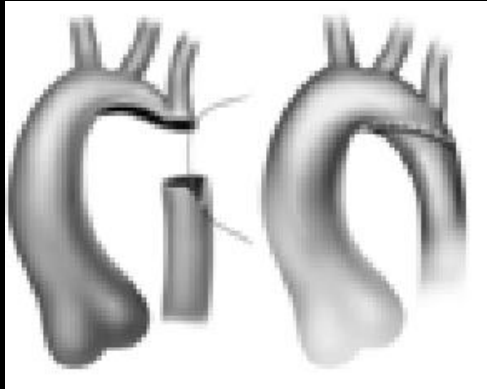
If PGE are not working... tricky (and high risk) situation...

## Case 2

HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction

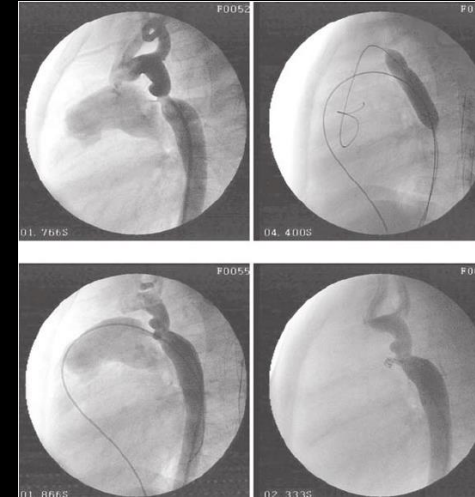
If PGE are not working... Two options:

### Surgery



Extended end to end anastomosis  
By sternotomy  
+/- ECMO after

### Balloon angioplasty



“Bridge to surgical repair”



HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction

*Cardiol Young* 2009; 19: 244–251  
© Cambridge University Press  
ISSN 1047-9511  
doi:10.1017/S1047951109003837  
First published online 3 April 2009

*Original Article*

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**Percutaneous treatment of neonatal aortic coarctation  
presenting with severe left ventricular dysfunction  
as a bridge to surgery**

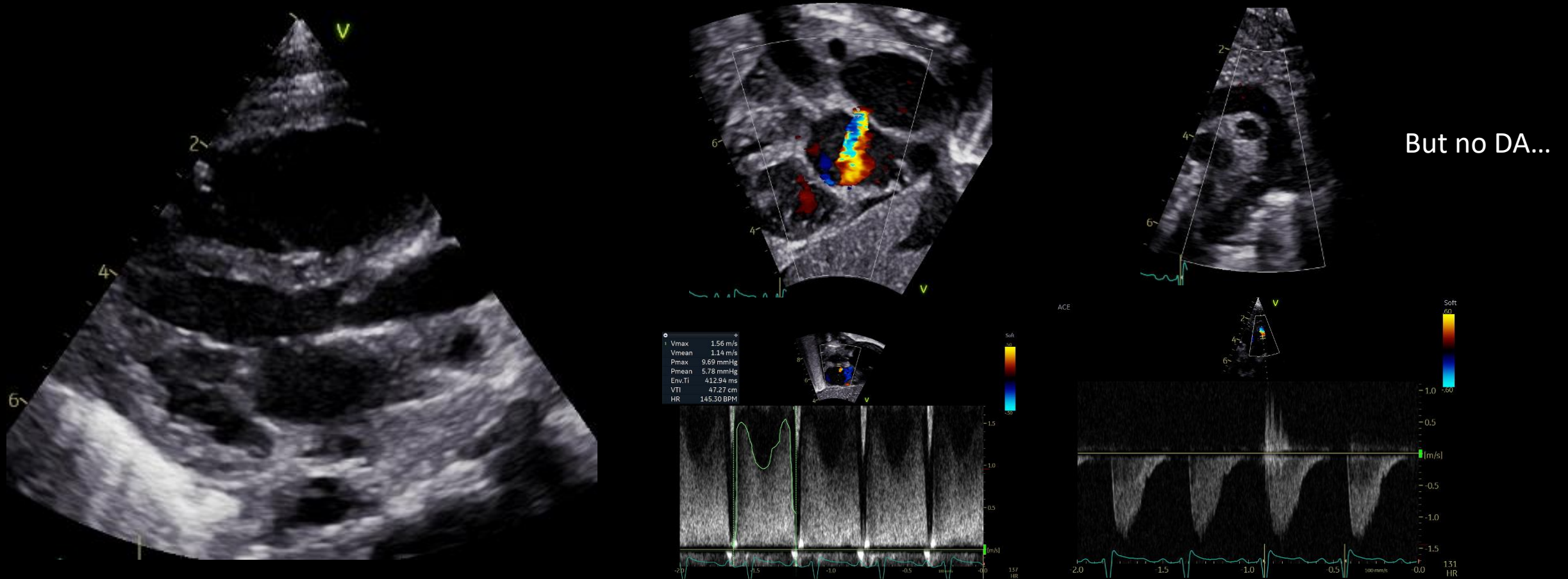
Ivan Bouzguenda, Davide Marini, Phalla Ou, Younes Boudjemline, Damien Bonnet, Gabriella Agnoletti

*Conclusions:* To the best of our knowledge, this is the first series of neonates with aortic coarctation and multiorgan failure receiving a palliative treatment by balloon dilation. Although the prognosis of this condition remains severe, emergency balloon dilation can diminish mortality, providing a bridge to surgery in severely ill patients.

## Case 2

HX: 14 days old – Cardiogenic shock, lactate=16 – CoA with severe LV dysfunction

PGE are “working”... after 12 hours: lactate=1.3 and better LV function

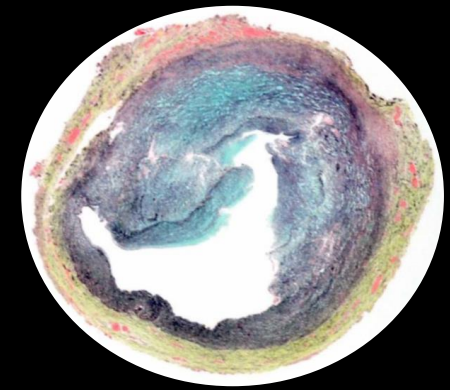


# PGE and CoA

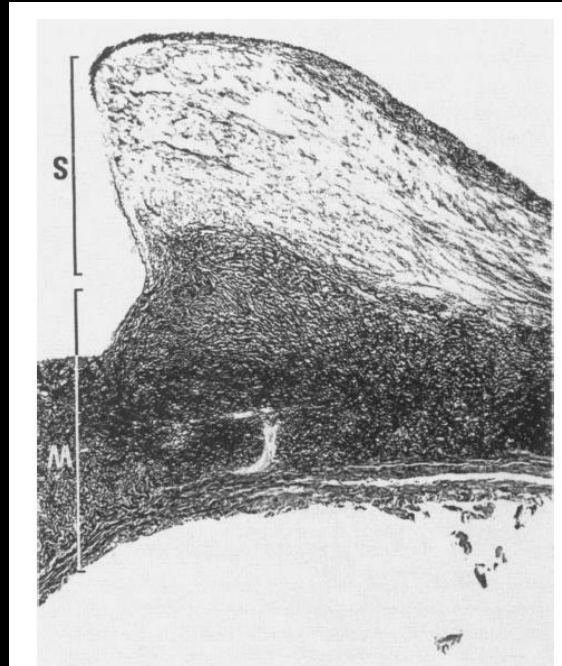
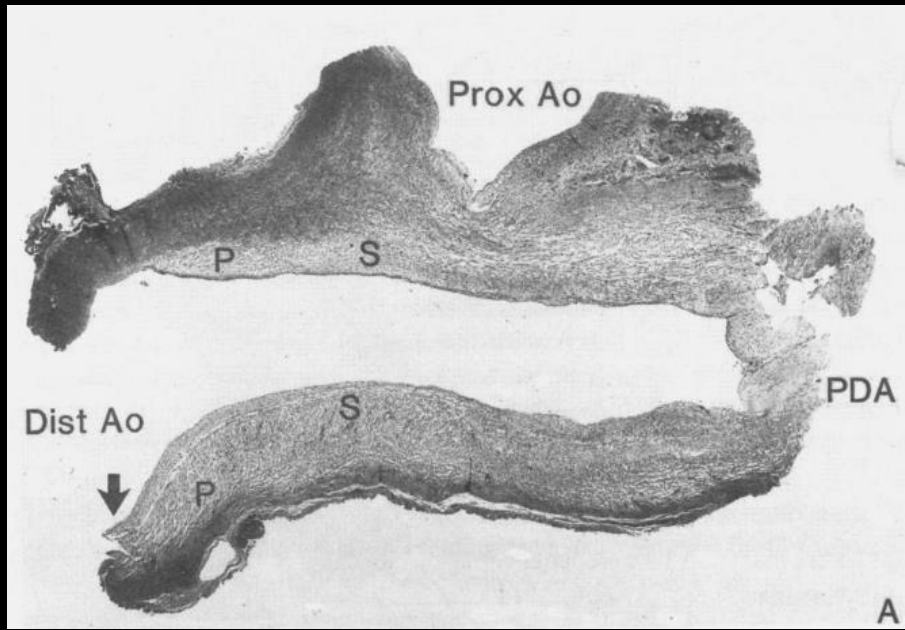
J THORAC CARDIOVASC SURG 1991;102:596-601

## Patterns of ductal tissue in coarctation of the aorta in the first three months of life

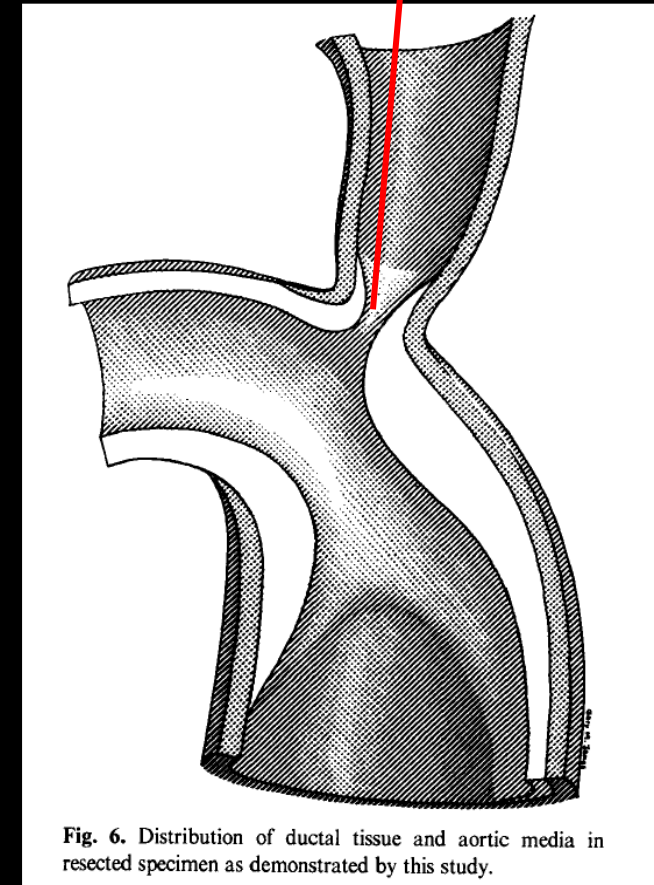
G. A. Russell, BSc, MRCPATH,<sup>a</sup> P. J. Berry, MA, MRCP, MRCPATH,<sup>a</sup> K. Watterson, FRACS,<sup>b</sup> J. P. Dhasmana, FRCS,<sup>b</sup> and J. D. Wisheart, MCh, FRCS,<sup>b</sup> *Bristol, United Kingdom*



Courtesy Dr David Chiasson Sickkids



**Fig. 3.** Coarctation shelf from a 2-week-old neonate. Note that the ductal sling forms the major obstruction (*S*), but the aortic media is also thickened (*M*). (Elastic van Gieson stain; original magnification  $\times 56$ .)



**Fig. 6.** Distribution of ductal tissue and aortic media in resected specimen as demonstrated by this study.



Interactive CardioVascular and Thoracic Surgery 29 (2019) 469–475  
doi:10.1093/icvts/ivz117 Advance Access publication 14 May 2019

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Cite this article as: Lehnert A, Villemain O, Gaudin R, Mèot M, Raisky O, Bonnet D. Risk factors of mortality and recoarctation after coarctation repair in infancy. Interact CardioVasc Thorac Surg 2019;29:469–75.

### Risk factors of mortality and recoarctation after coarctation repair in infancy

Amélia Lehnert <sup>a,†</sup>, Olivier Villemain <sup>a,b,†</sup>, Régis Gaudin <sup>a</sup>, Mathilde Mèot <sup>a,b</sup>,  
Olivier Raisky <sup>a,b</sup> and Damien Bonnet <sup>a,b,c</sup>

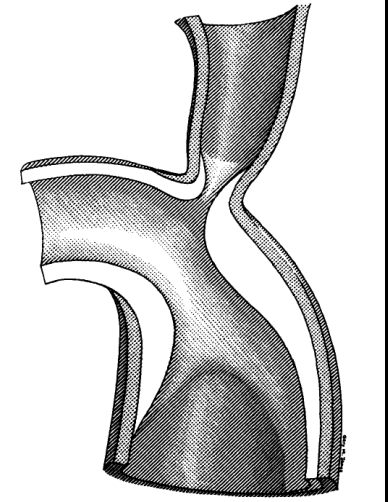


Fig. 6. Distribution of ductal tissue and aortic media in resected specimen as demonstrated by this study.

#### Key question

Are there any predictors of aortic arch reintervention after aortic coarctation repair?

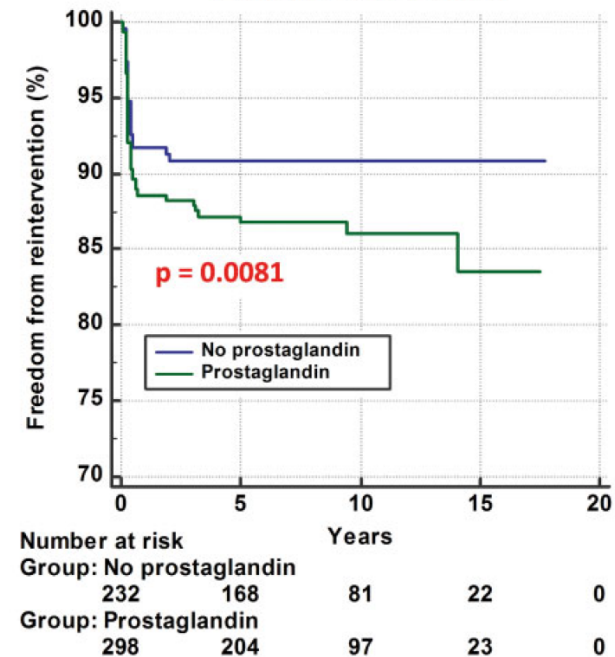
#### Key finding(s)

Both very young age and the need for prostaglandin infusion are risk factors for recoarctation.

#### Take-home message

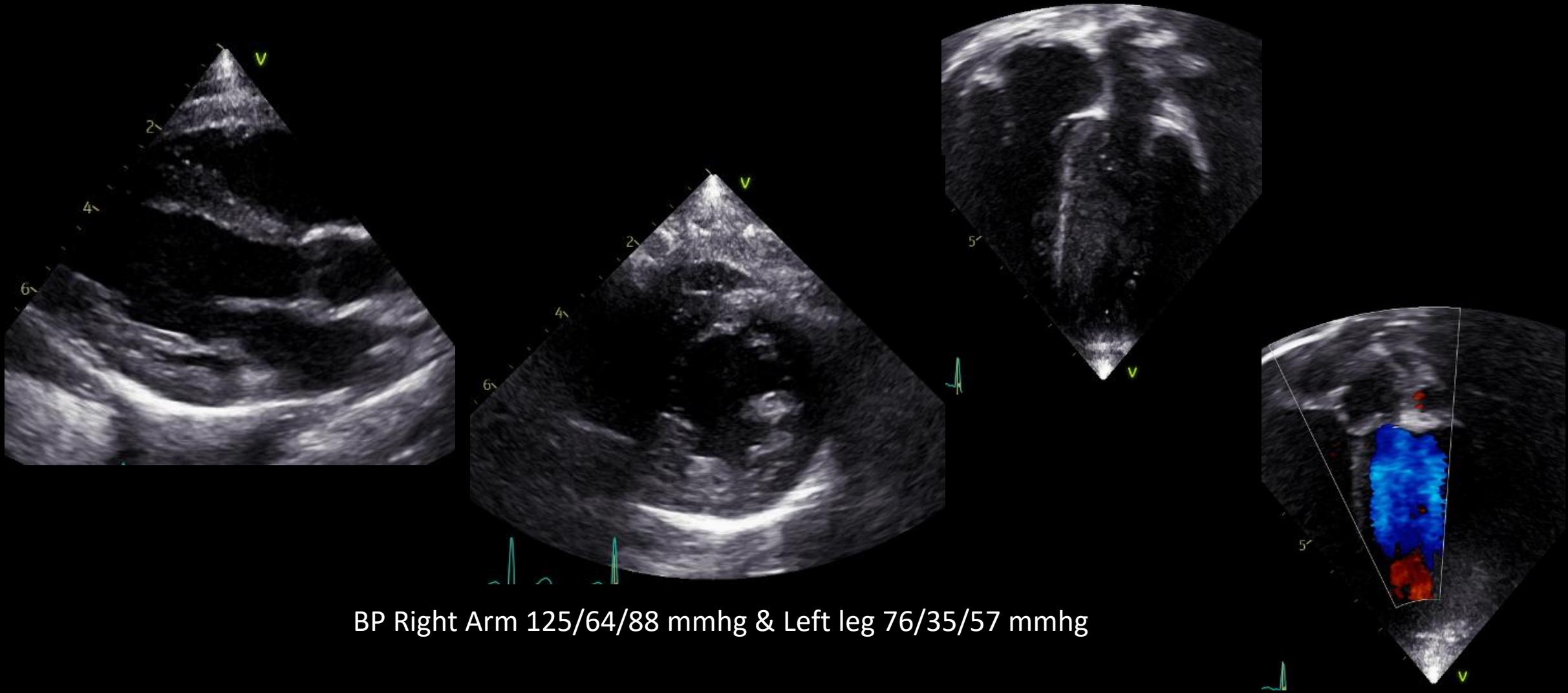
In cases of neonatal coarctation, indications of prostaglandin must be clarified and respected.

#### Aortic arch reintervention



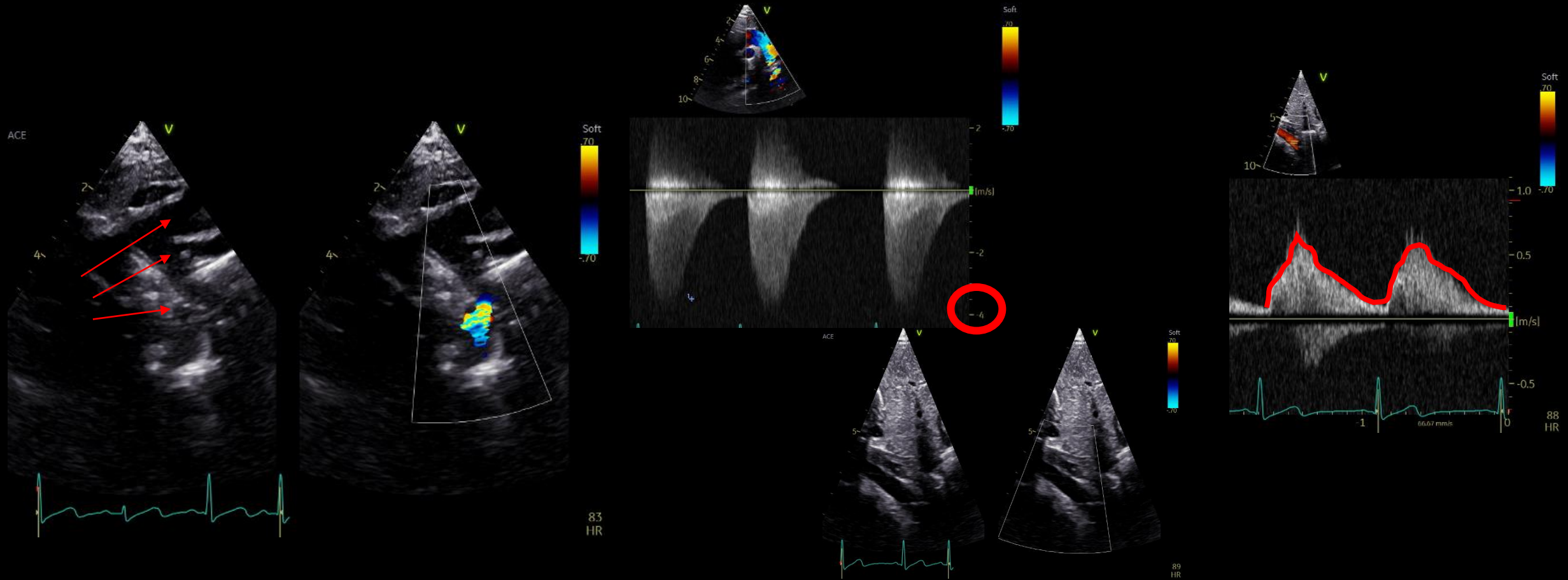
Case 3

11 month old, hypertension and diminished femoral pulses...



Case 3

11 month old, hypertension and diminished femoral pulses...



BP Right Arm 125/64/88 mmhg & Left leg 76/35/57 mmhg

## Arch Sidedness + Neck Vessel Sweep



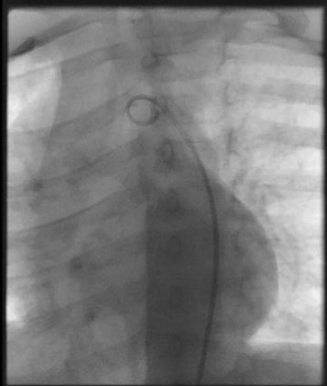


Case 3

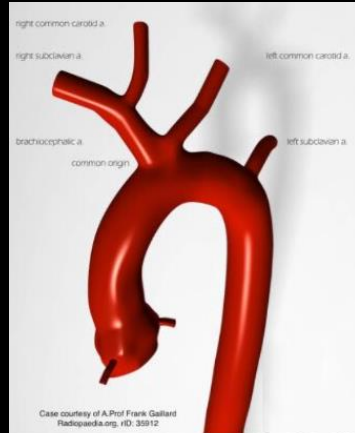
11 month old, hypertension and diminished femoral pulses...

BEFORE

BIPLANE A LAO 20 CAUD 23



LAO 20 CAUD 23



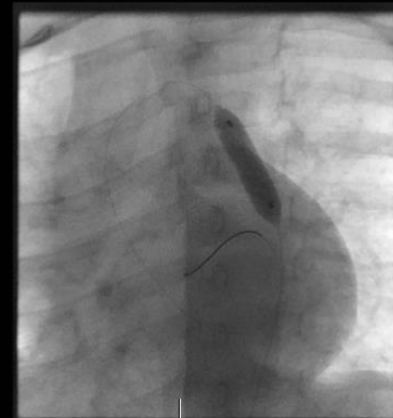
'Bovine arch'

DURING

BIPLANE A LAO 20 CAUD 23

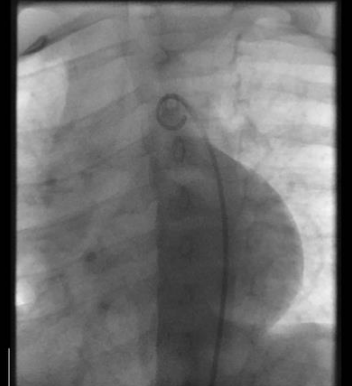


BIPLANE A LAO 20 CAUD 23



AFTER

BIPLANE A LAO 20 CAUD 23



LAO 20 CAUD 23





## Case 3

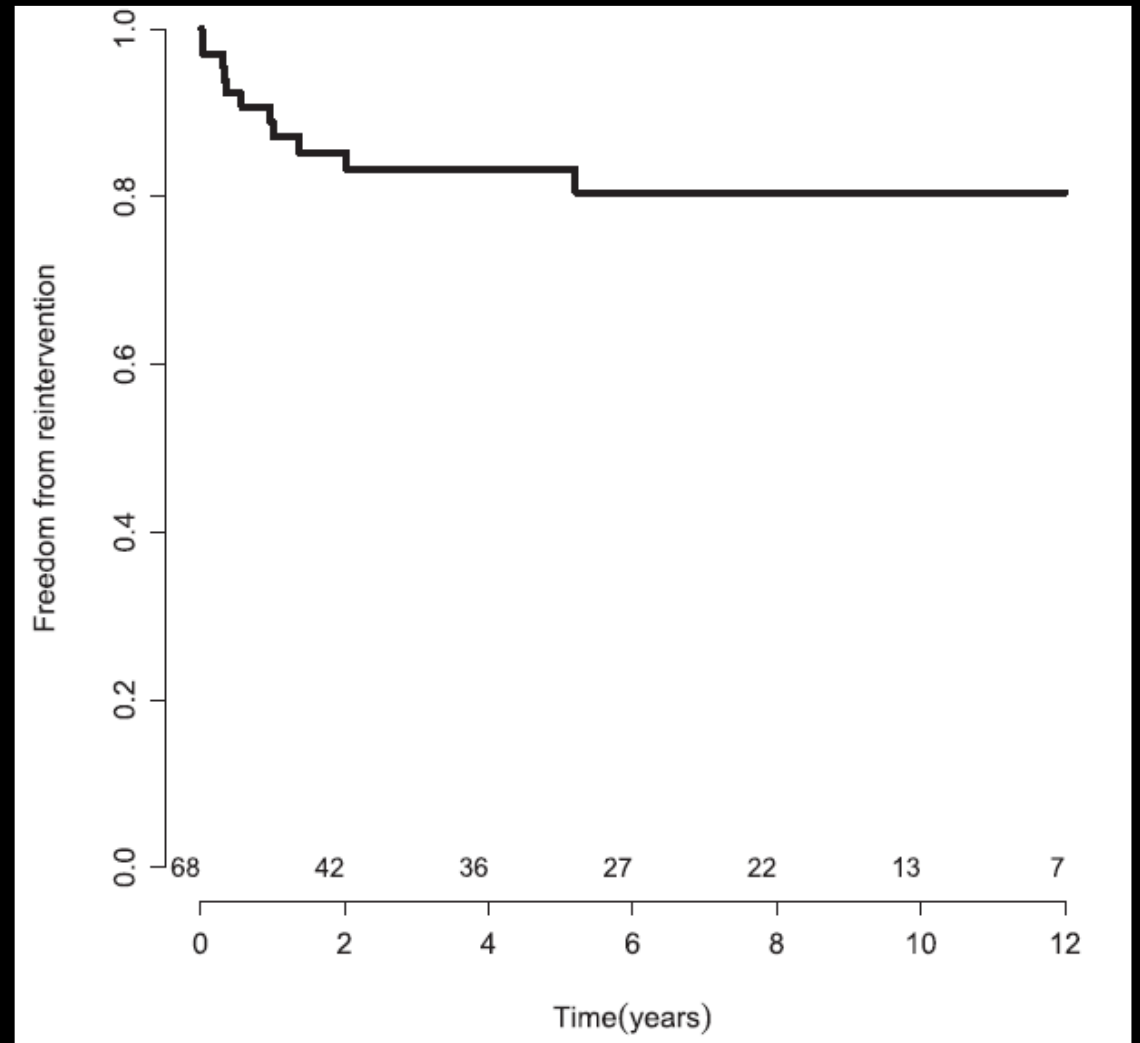
Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions

### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Balloon Angioplasty for Native Aortic Coarctation in 3- to 12-Month-Old Infants

Juan Pablo Sandoval<sup>1</sup>, MD<sup>\*</sup>; Sok-Leng Kang<sup>2</sup>, MBBS, MSc<sup>\*</sup>; Kyong-Jin Lee, MD; Lee Benson<sup>3</sup>, MD; Kentaro Asoh<sup>4</sup>, MD; Rajiv R. Chaturvedi<sup>5</sup>, MB BChir, MD, PhD

2021



## Case 3

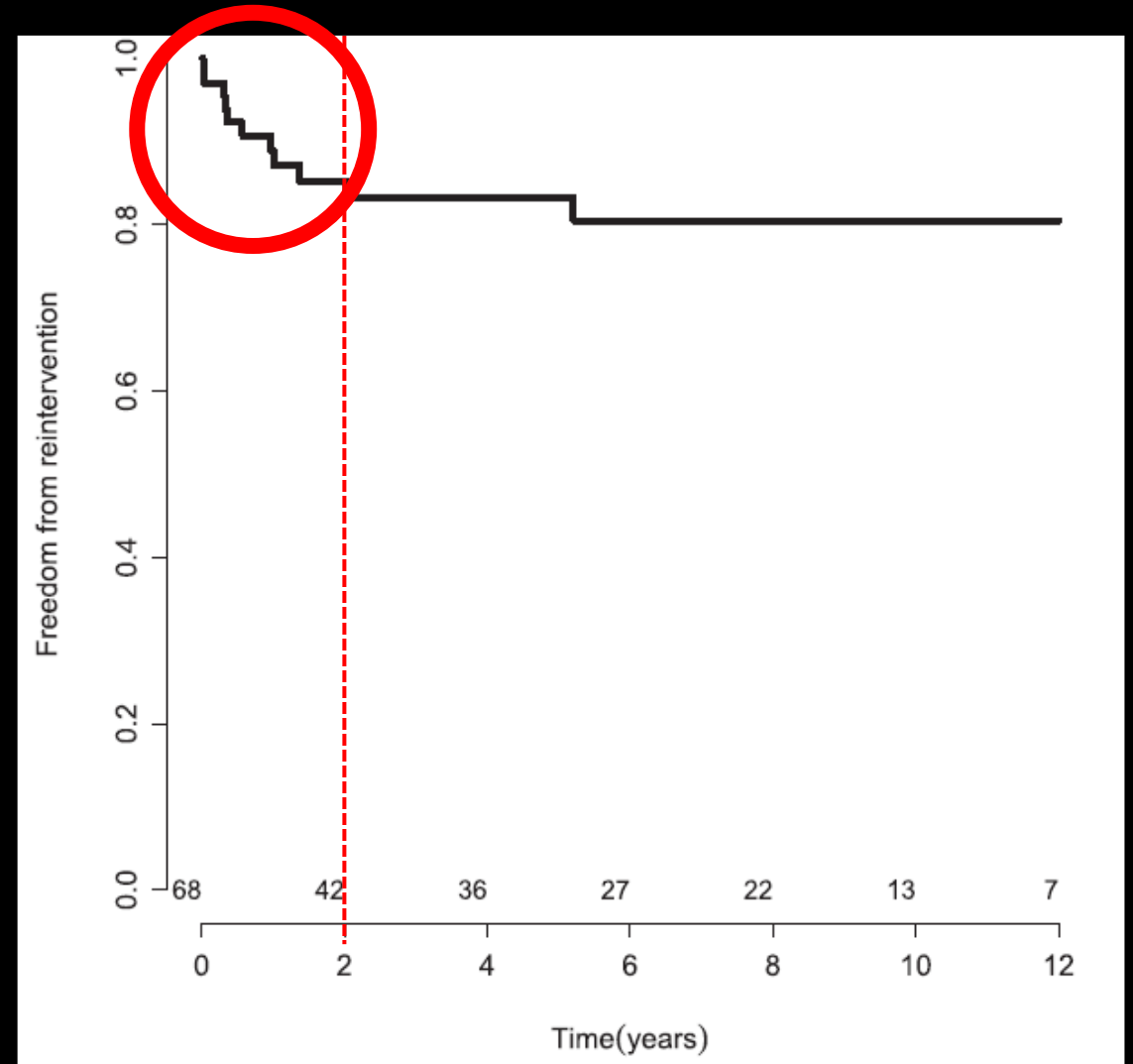
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### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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2021

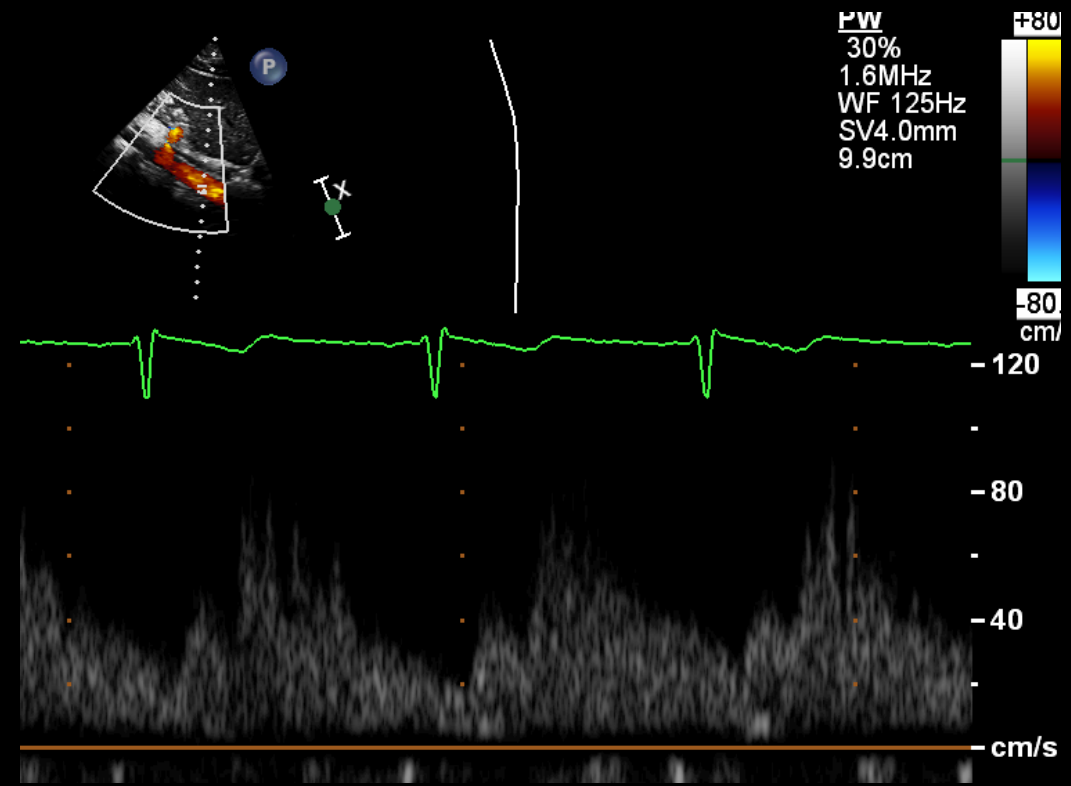
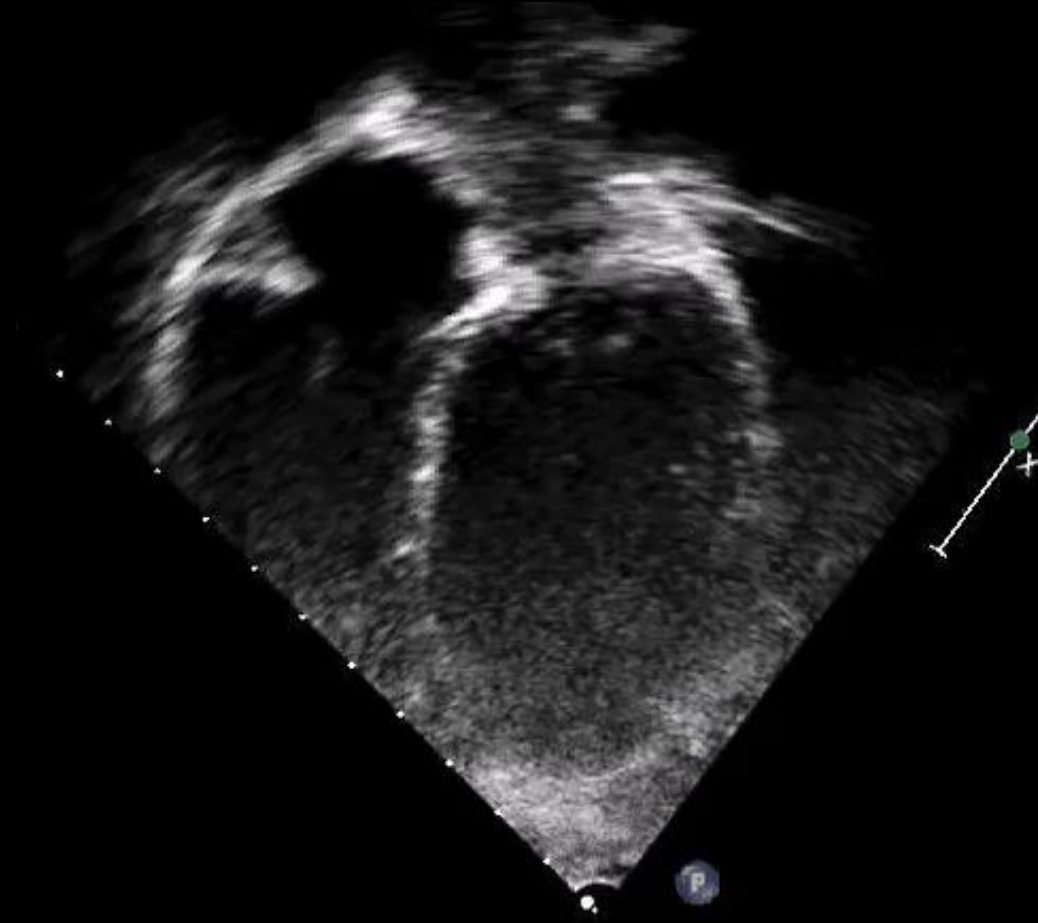


Case 4

8 y old, headaches and hypertension

Right Arm BP 123/83/96

Left Leg 91 mmhg



## Case 4

8 y old, headaches and hypertension

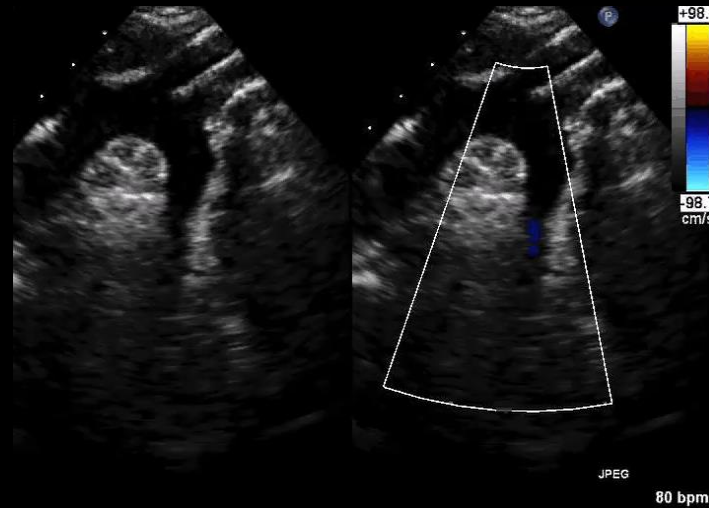
Right Arm BP 123/83/96

Left Leg 91 mmhg

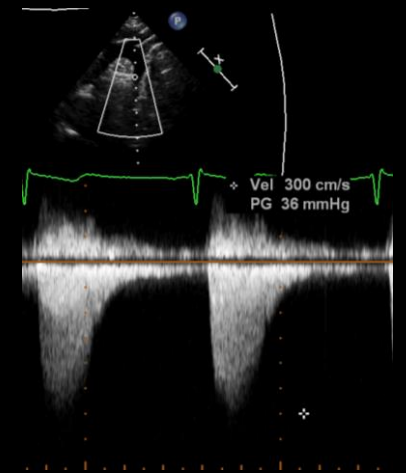
Supra sternal view : from short axis to long axis



Initial view  
*Not good!*



After optimization  
*Better!*

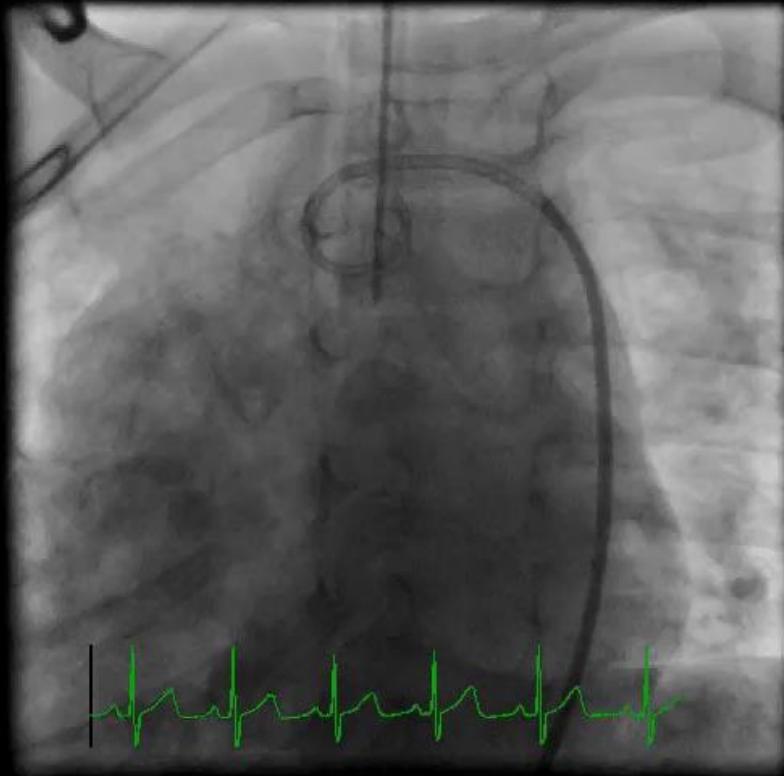


## Case 4

8 y old, headaches and hypertension

Right Arm BP 123/83/96

Left Leg 91 mmhg



Discrete coarctation

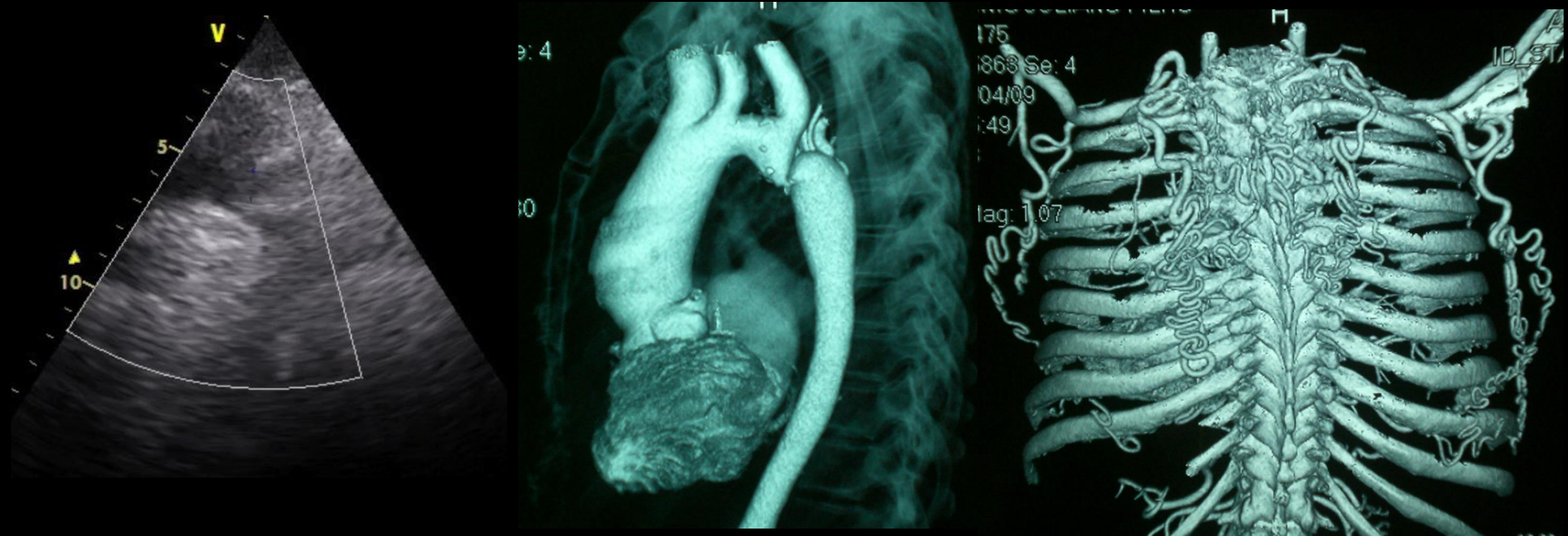


Stenting



Case 5

47 years old, Systemic hypertension untreatable



*Sometimes, echocardiography is not your best friend...!*

# Take home messages

## Coarctation of Aorta : Echo imaging goals pre-operatively

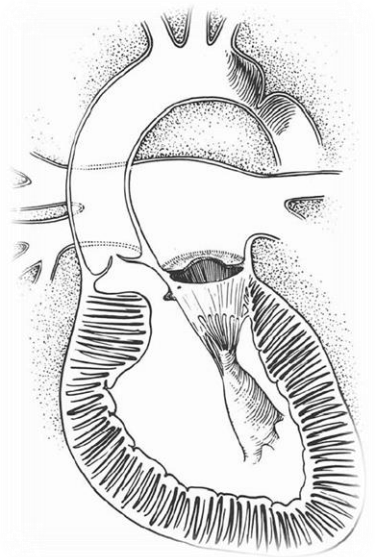
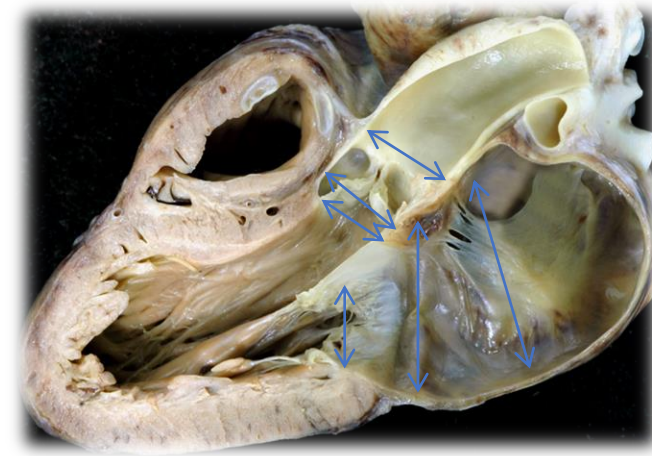
- ✓ Segmental cardiac anatomy
- ✓ Function and morphology, size of LV, inflow , outflow
- ✓ Arch anatomy: sidedness, origin and course of brachiocephalic vessels, aortic isthmus, and proximal descending aorta
- ✓ Identify the location and severity of obstruction of the aortic arch
- ✓ Flow gradient in the transverse arch and at obstruction site
- ✓ Flow in the arterial ductus
- ✓ Doppler evaluation / profile descending aorta
- ✓ Atrial communication (direction of flow)
- ✓ Degree of pulmonary hypertension

# Take home messages

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Isolated CoA?

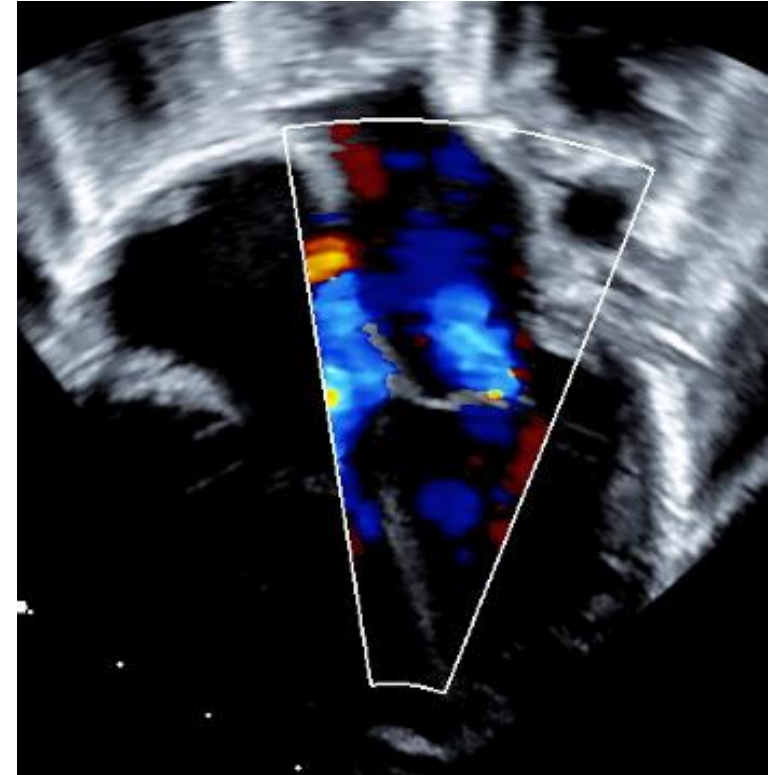




# Take home messages

## Coarctation of Aorta : Echo imaging goals pre-operatively

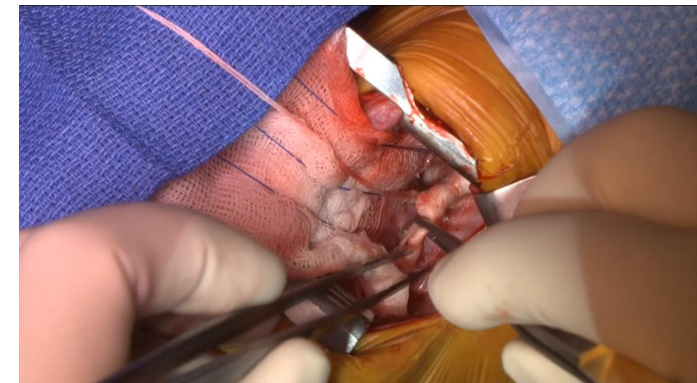
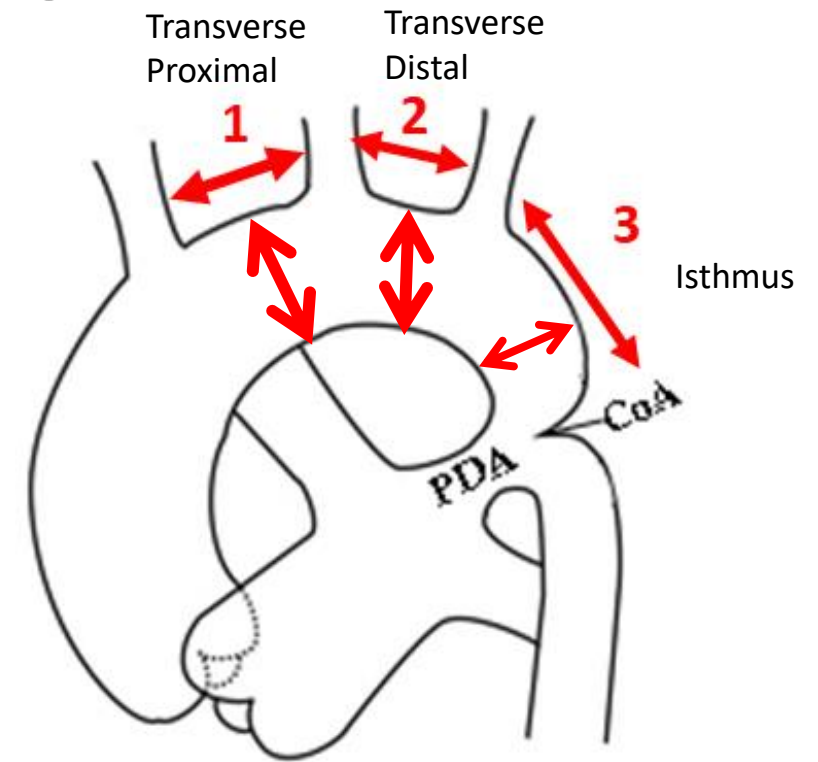
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- ✓ Degree of pulmonary hypertension

**“For neonates”**

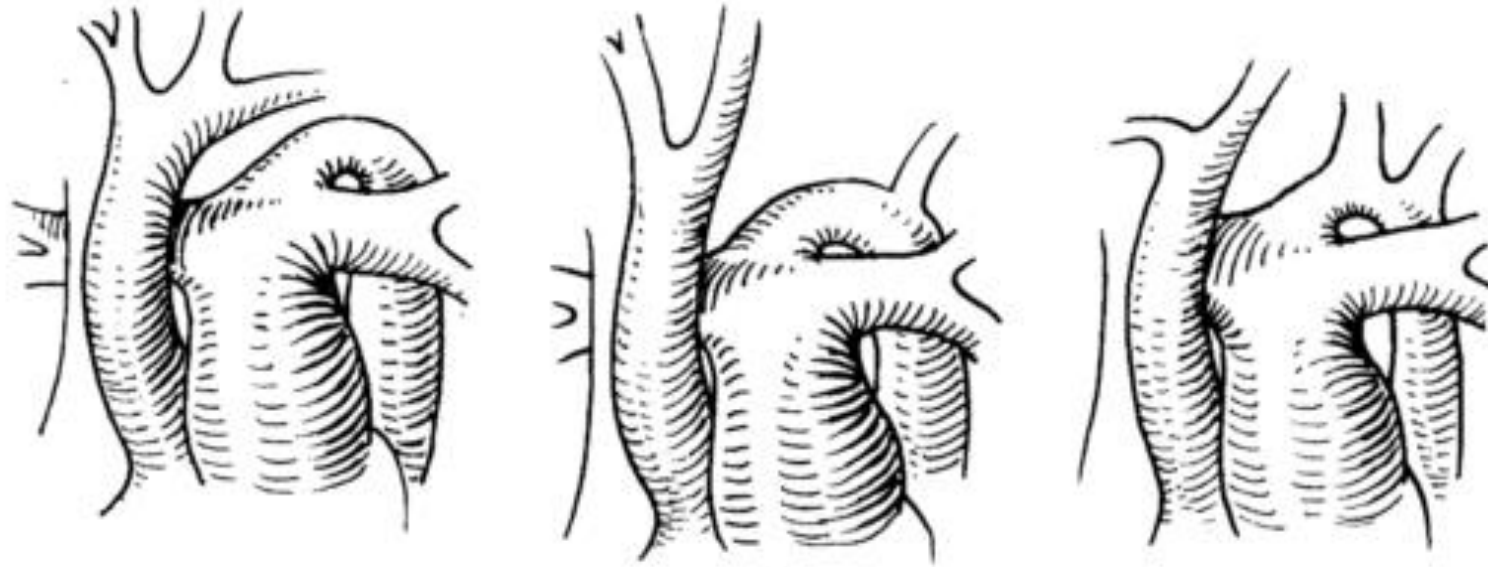
**Additional elements for the  
pre-interventional medical management**

- **PGE?**
- **ICU management?**
- **Timing for intervention?**

# Imaging of coarctation and interrupted aortic arch

- Introduction and pathophysiology
- imaging of coarctation
- Imaging of interrupted aortic arch

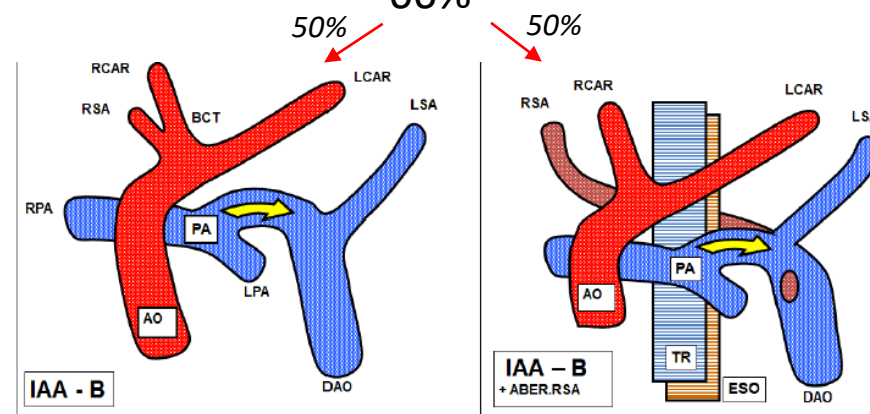
# Celoria and Patton classification

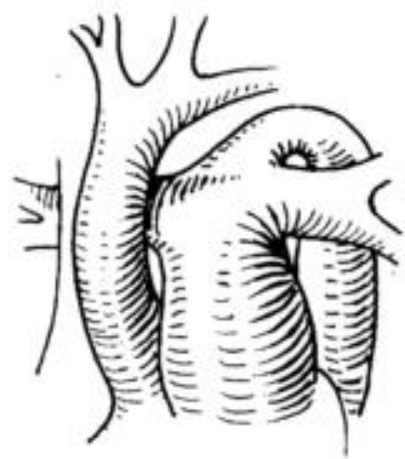


a  
33%

b  
66%

c  
1%





a

- site of interruption
- Ao arch diameter
- Distance IAA-DescAo

# Type A IAA

27/07/2019 14:27:24

0001

89

1/12

BCA

LCA

LSCA

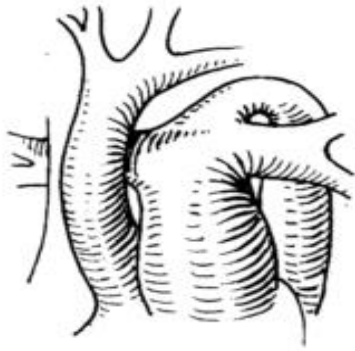
Desc Ao

Short atretic segment

157  
HR

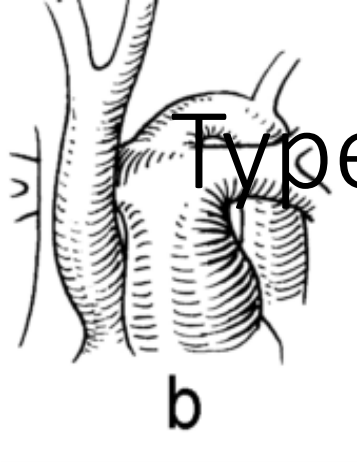


# Type A IAA



a



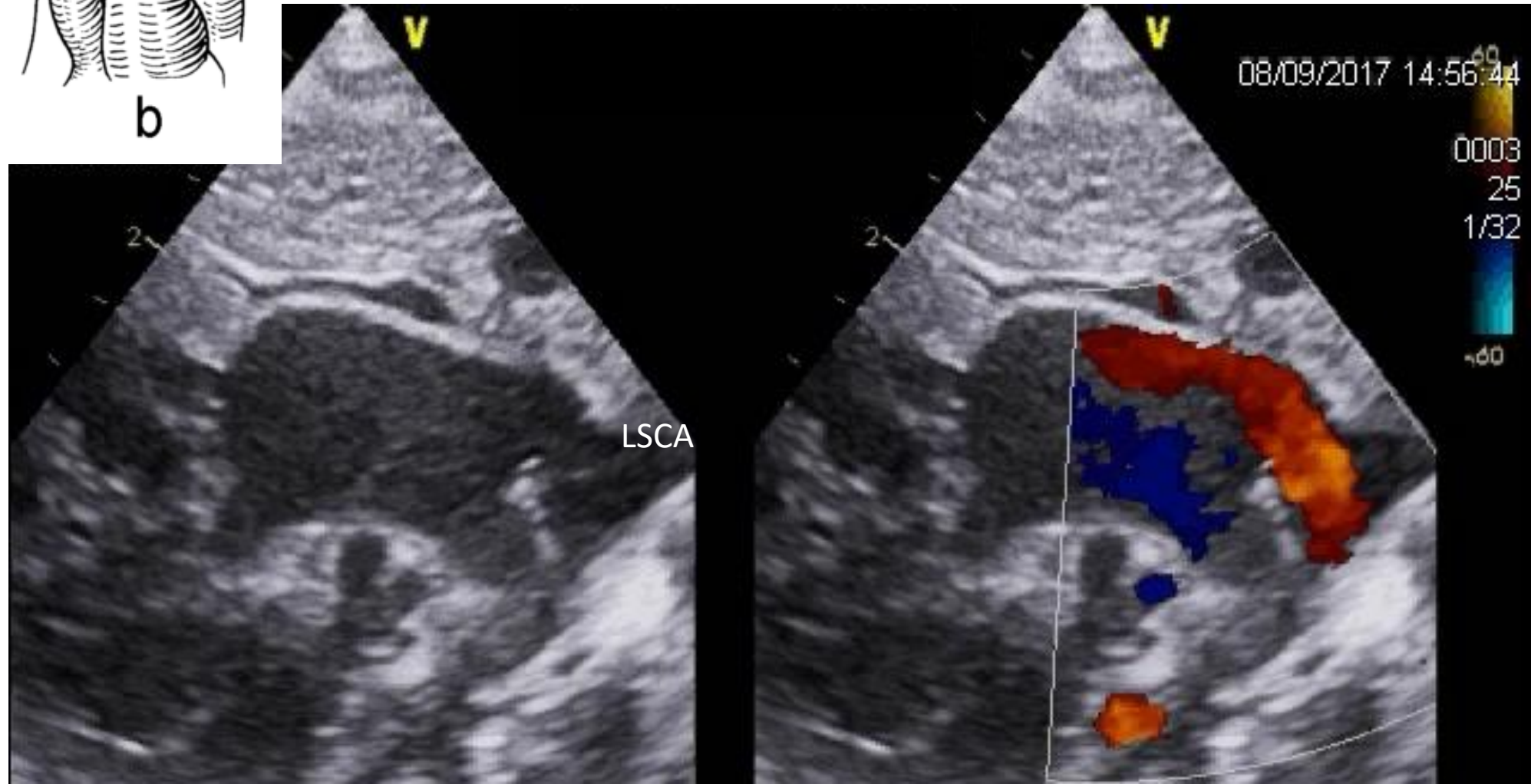


## Type B IAA



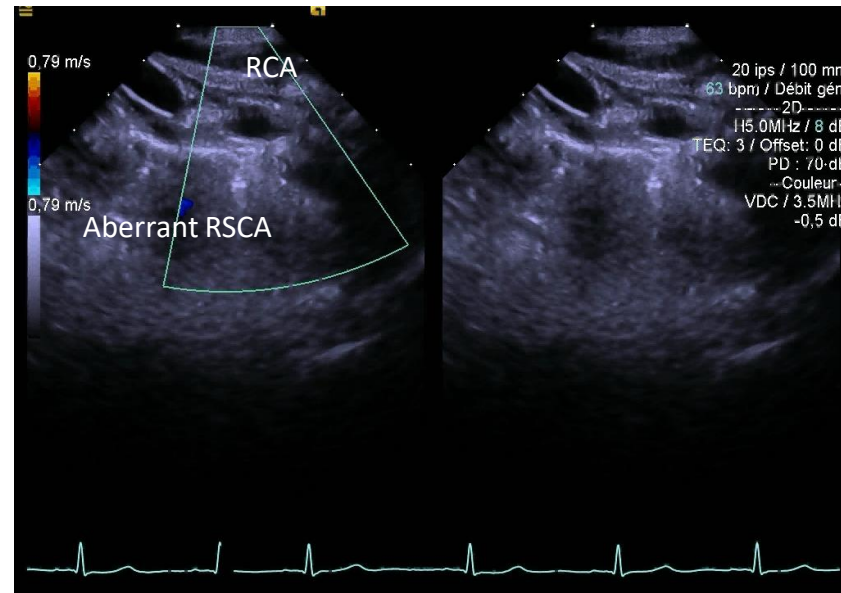
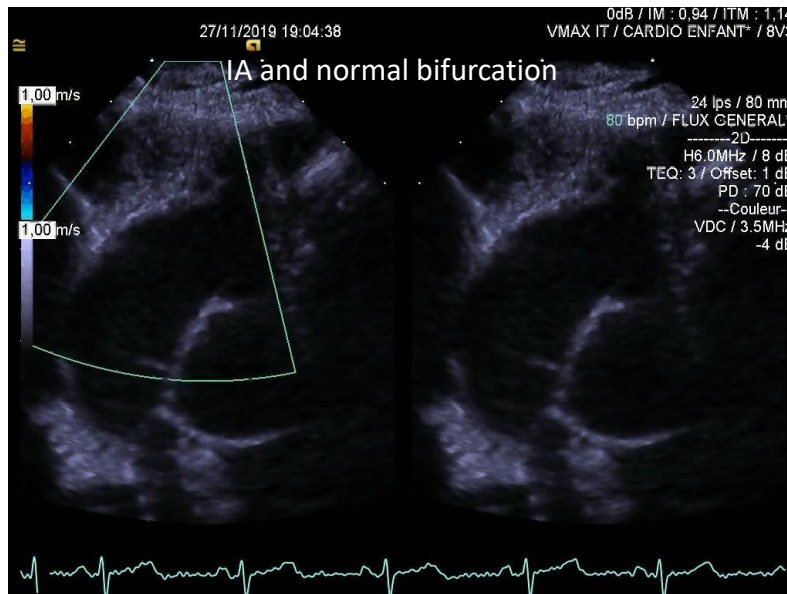


# Type B IAA

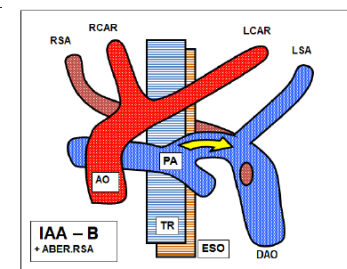
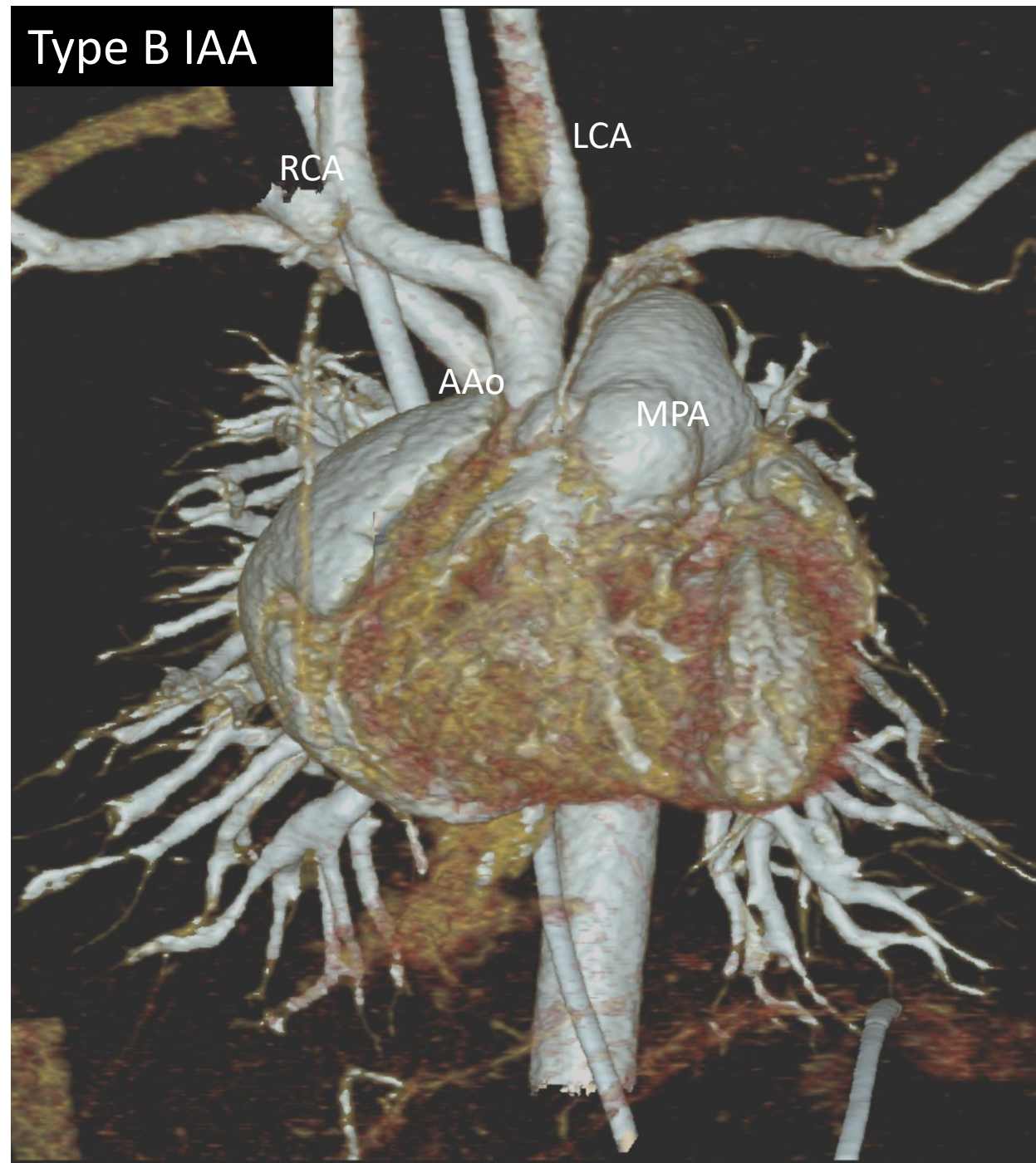


# Aberrant origin of the subclavian artery

- Identify the 1st brachiocephalic vessel (opposite to the arch side) and IA bifurcation (RCA +RSCA)
- Lower and posterior course of aberrant RSCA relative to RCA
- Can also be identified arising from Desc Ao (suprasternal coronal view/ subcostal view)

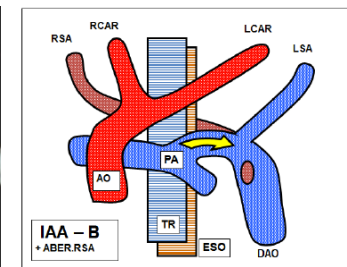
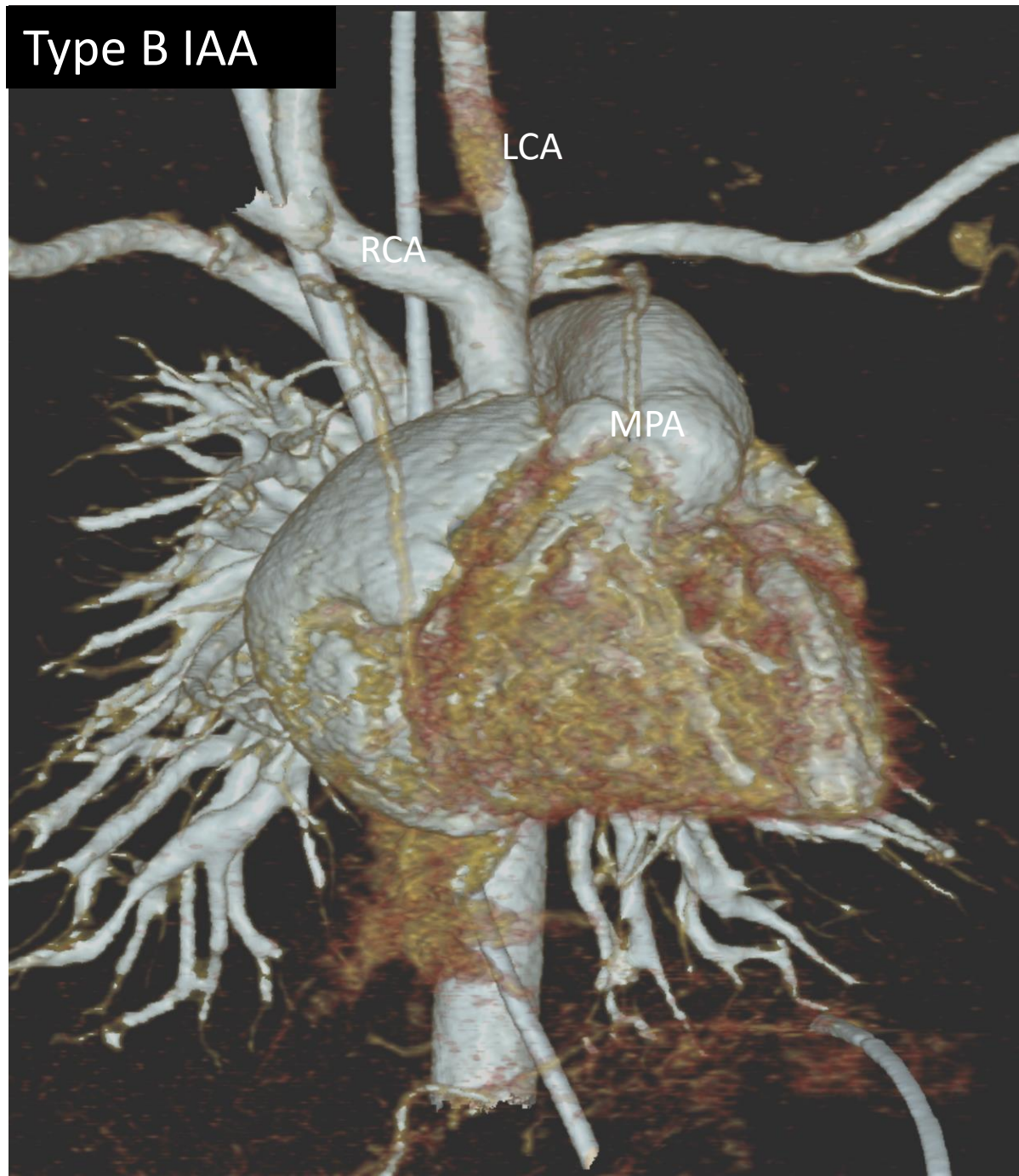


# Type B IAA

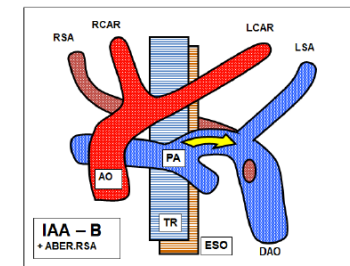
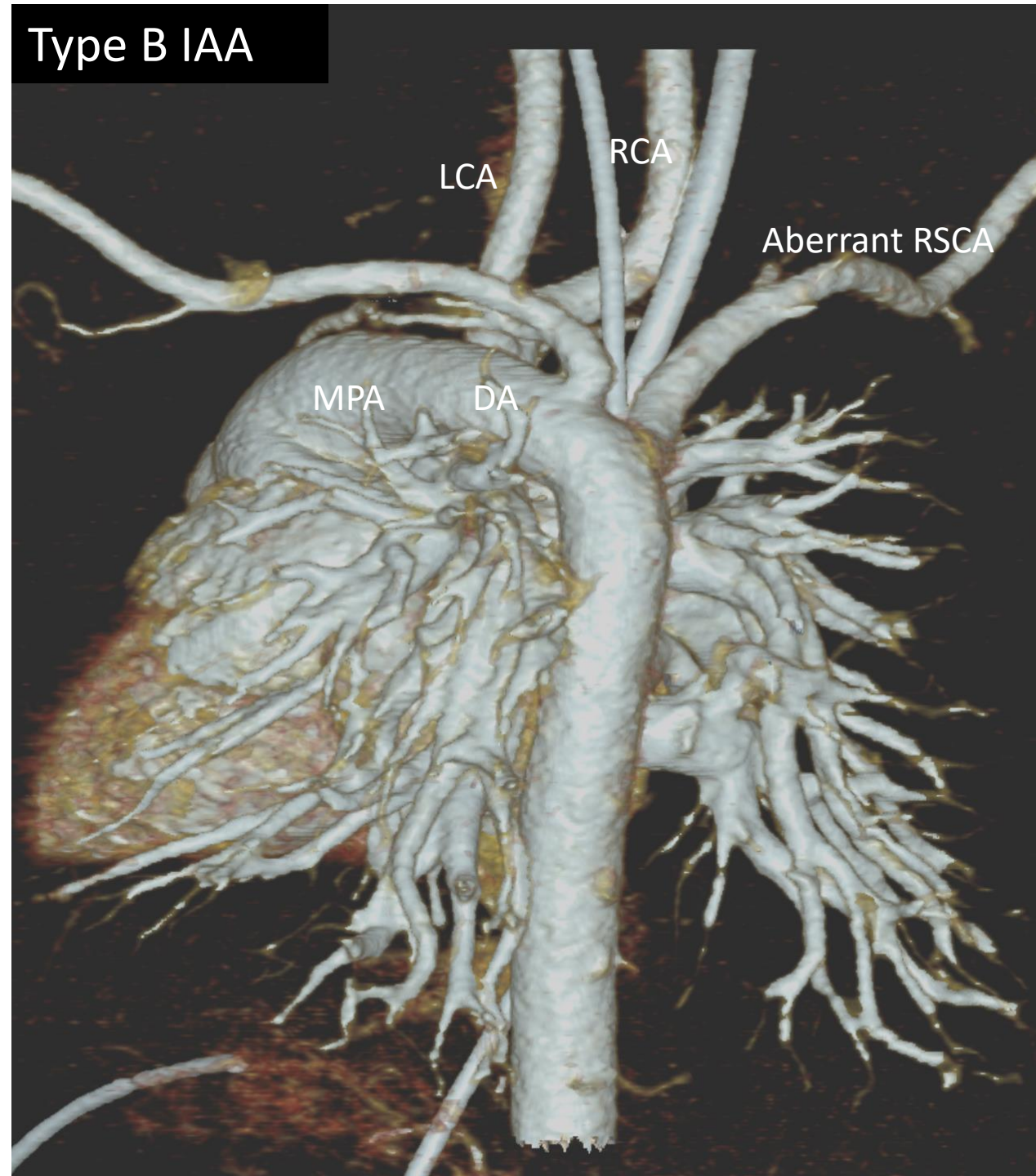




## Type B IAA

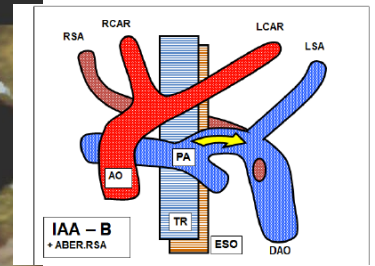
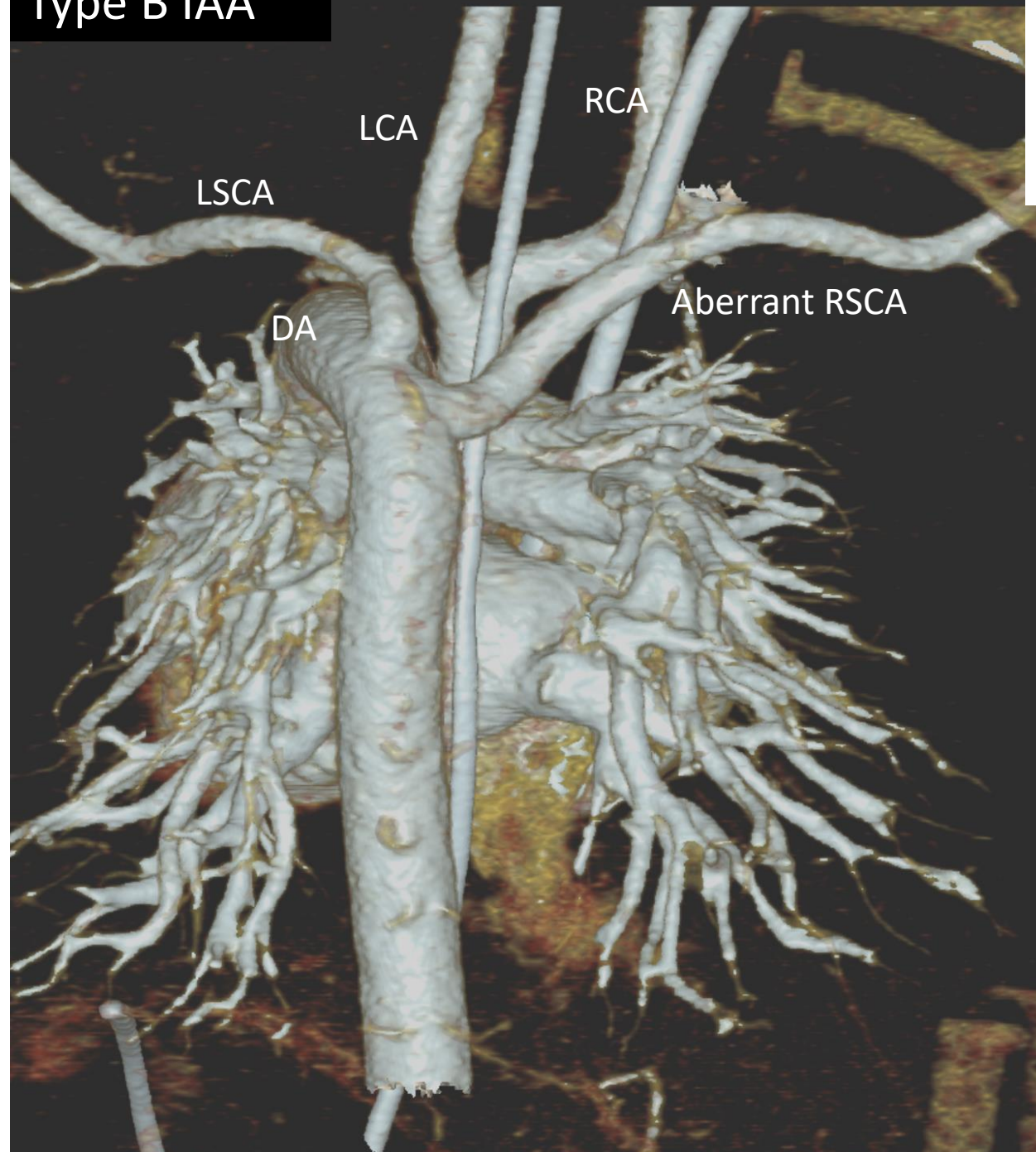


## Type B IAA

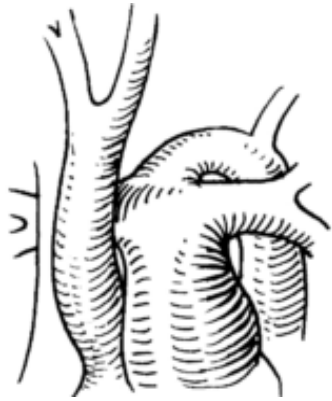




## Type B IAA







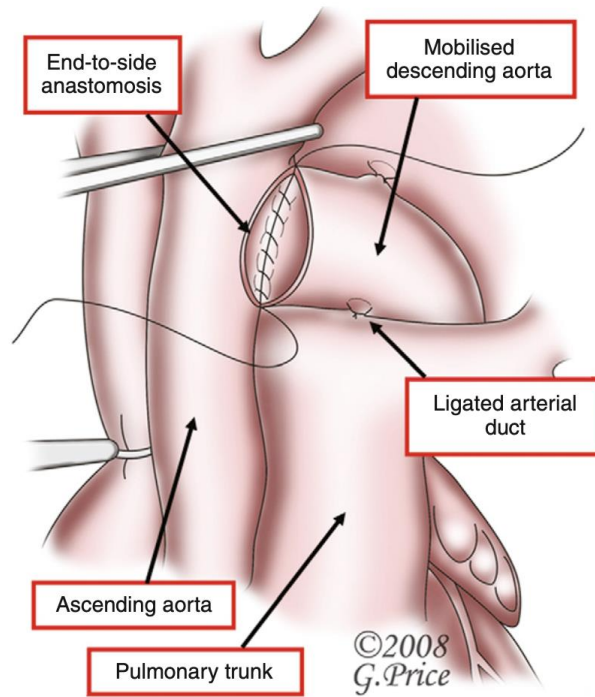
## Associated lesions: Conoventricular VSD

- Integral part of the type B IAA
- Posterior malalignment of conal septum
- Various degree of Subaortic stenosis
  - LVOT area  $< 0,7 \text{ cm}^2/\text{m}^2$ : predictive factor of post-op LVOTO

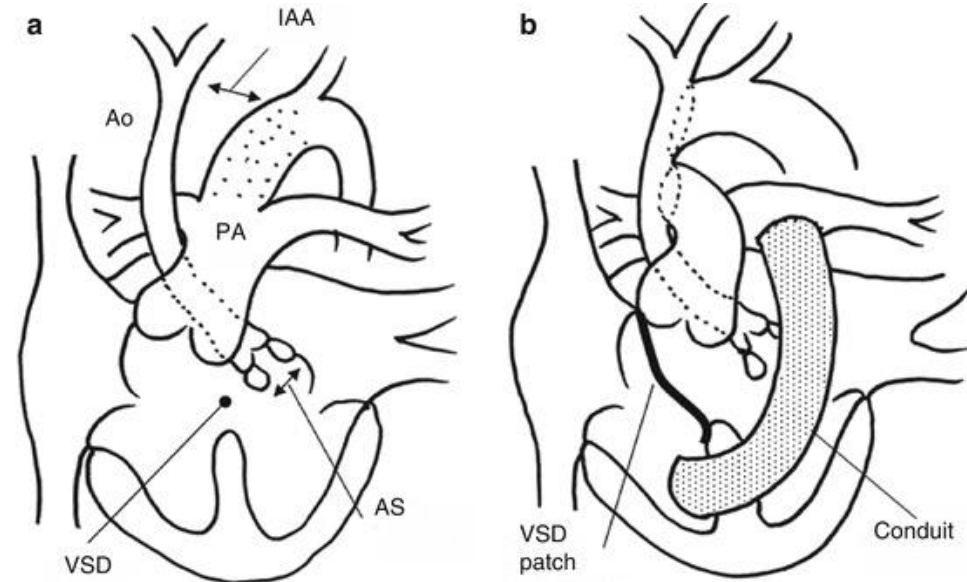


# Surgical repair

- Conventional technique includes
  - [VSD closure](#)
  - [End to side anastomosis](#)



- The Yasui procedure includes:
  - modified [DKS procedure](#) to bypass the LVOTO (connecting the [aortic](#) and [pulmonary roots](#))
  - Rastelli operation (RV to PA conduit)



# Conclusion - IAA

- Comprehensive assessment of Ao arch anatomy, origins of brachiocephalic vessels, isthmus, and prox desc Ao
- Assessment of flow gradients in transverse arch, arterial duct and at the coarctation site
- LV size and function – **LVOT and VSD**
- **Associated malformations; examples**
  - Truncus arteriosus type IV
  - TGA – malalignment VSD - IAA



If there is coarctation look for  
“something else ”

If there is “something else” always look  
for coarctation

Aknowledgements  
X Iriart



**Thank you for your attention**

Echocardiographic assessment of coarctation of the aorta –  
What is important for surgical/interventional decision-making?

**Thank you**

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