

# Experimental Mechanical Assist for the Fontan Circulation

## Leigh Christopher Reardon, MD, FACC

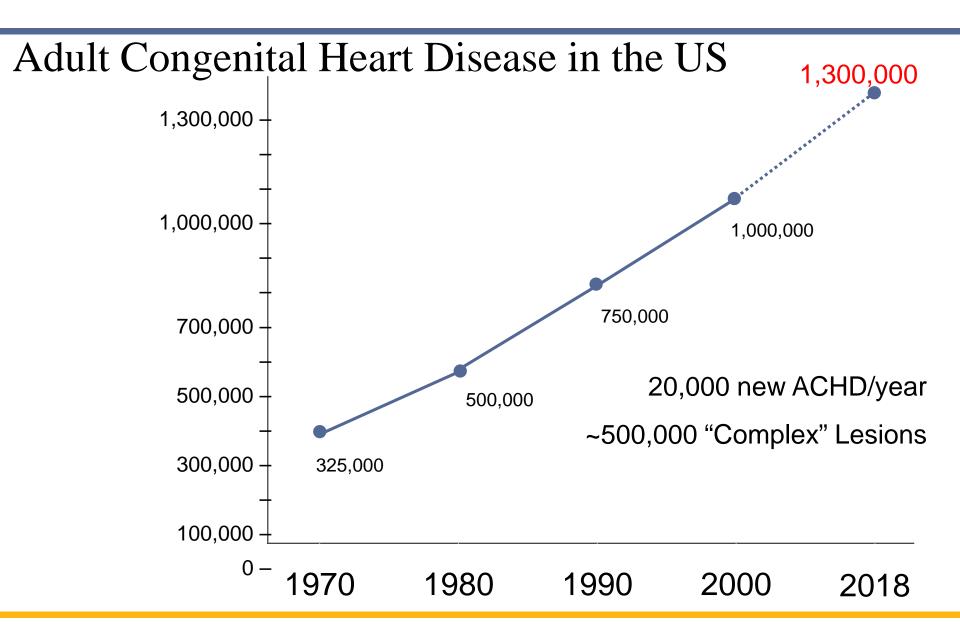
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Portions of the work described in this talk were supported by the O.H. Fraiser Award for Translational Research in MCS from the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation. This award was supported by a grant from Medtronic/HeartWare.

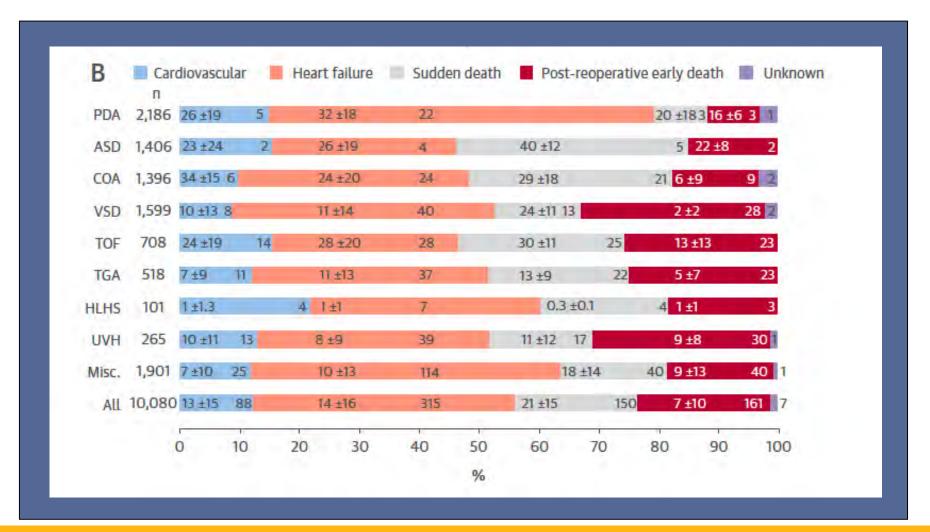








## #1 Cause of Death in ACHD is Heart Failure





## Proportion of Patients Transplanted for CHD Has Increased Over Time

	1992-2000 (N = 37,146)	2001-2005 (N = 17,183)	2006-2012 (N = 22,318)	p-value	
Cardiomyopathy	46.2%	48.2%	54.0%		
Coronary artery disease	45.8%	42.7%	36.8%		
Valvular	3.9%	3.5%	2.8%	<0.0001	
Retransplant	1.9%	2.2%	2.5%	<0.0001	
Congenital	1.8%	2.7%	2.9%		
Other causes	0.4%	0.6%	0.9%		

Burchill et al: 85647 patients 2005-2010 3.2% of patients ACHD

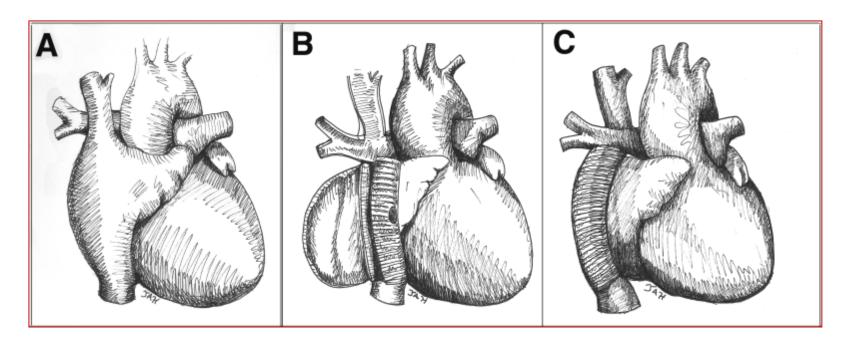


## 10% of Transplant Recipients Aged 18-39 Have Congenital Heart Disease

	N = 4,053
Recipient previous malignancy	4.3%
Creatinine at time of transplant	1.0 (0.6 - 2.1)
PVR (Wood units)	2.0 (0.2 - 5.6)
Diagnosis	
Cardiomyopathy	74.3%
Coronary artery disease	7.3%
Valvular	1.7%
Retransplant	5.3%
Congenital	9.9%
Other causes	1.4%

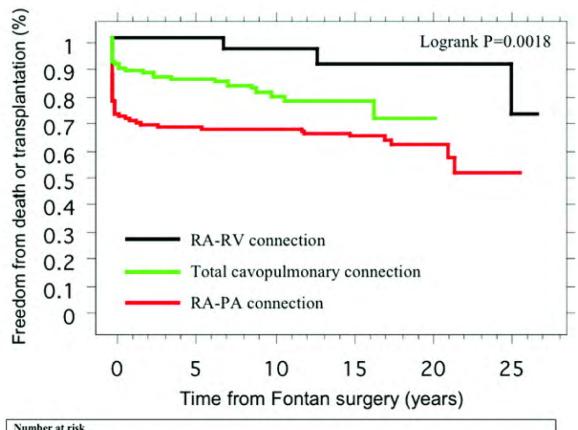


## The Fontan Procedure



- A) RA-PA Fontan- 1971-1988
- B) Lateral tunnel Fontan +/- fenestration- 1988- present
- C) Extracardiac Fontan- 1990-present





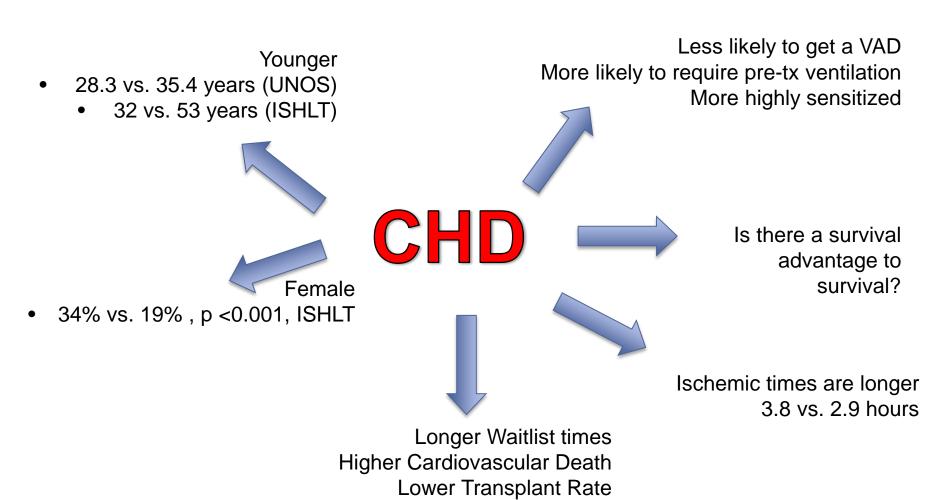
Freedom from death or transplantation according to type of Fontan

Number at risk						
RA-RV	25	25	20	14	10	6
TCPC	122	77	57	27	1	0
RA-PA	135	85	77	61	23	3
TOTAL	282	187	154	102	34	9

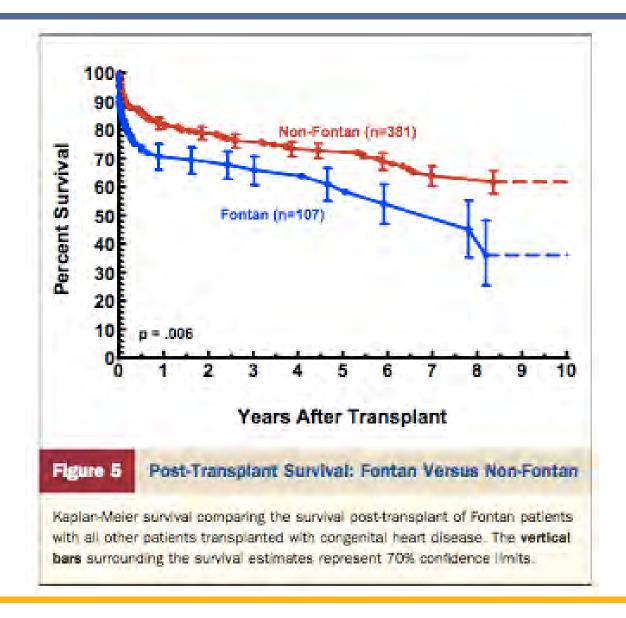
Survival 80.1% 77.5% 74.8% 72.2% 68.3% 53.6%



## Congenital Heart Failure and Transplant Patients







DOI: 10.1111/ctr.13329

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE



### Heart and heart-liver transplantation in adults with failing Fontan physiology

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#### Abstract

**Background**: As the population of patients with a Fontan palliation grows so does, the number of patients with cardiac failure necessitating orthotopic heart transplant (OHT) and combined heart-liver transplant (CHLT). There is recent evidence that current era cardiac transplant in Fontan patients has improved outcomes, but most studies have a preponderance of pediatrics patients in their cohorts. We examine our institutional experience with adult OHT and CHLT transplantation for failed Fontan physiology.



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DOI: 10.1111/ctr.13540

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE



## Short-term outcomes of en bloc combined heart and liver transplantation in the failing Fontan

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#### Abstract

Patients with failing Fontan physiology and liver cirrhosis are being considered for combined heart and liver transplantation. We performed a retrospective review of our experience with *en bloc* combined heart and liver transplantation in Fontan patients > 10 years old from 2006 to 18 per Institutional Review Board approval. Six females and 3 males (median age 20.7, range 14.2-41.3 years) underwent *en bloc* combined heart and liver transplantation. Indications for heart transplant included ventricular dysfunction, atrioventricular valve regurgitation, arrhythmia, and/or lymphatic abnormalities. Indication for liver transplant included portal hypertension and cirrhosis. Median Fontan/single ventricular end-diastolic pressure was 18/12 mm Hg.



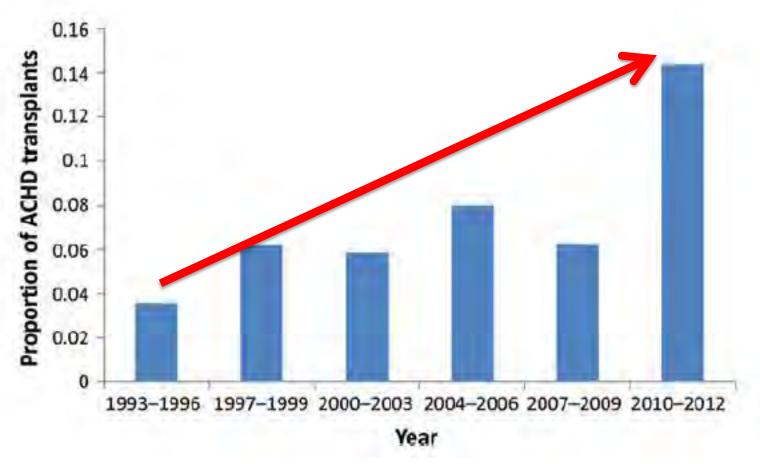
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## Proportion of ACHD Transplants Supported with MCS



LVAD 81%, RVAD 6%, BIVAD 7%, TAH 6%





The Journal of
Heart and Lung
Transplantation
http://www.jhltonline.org

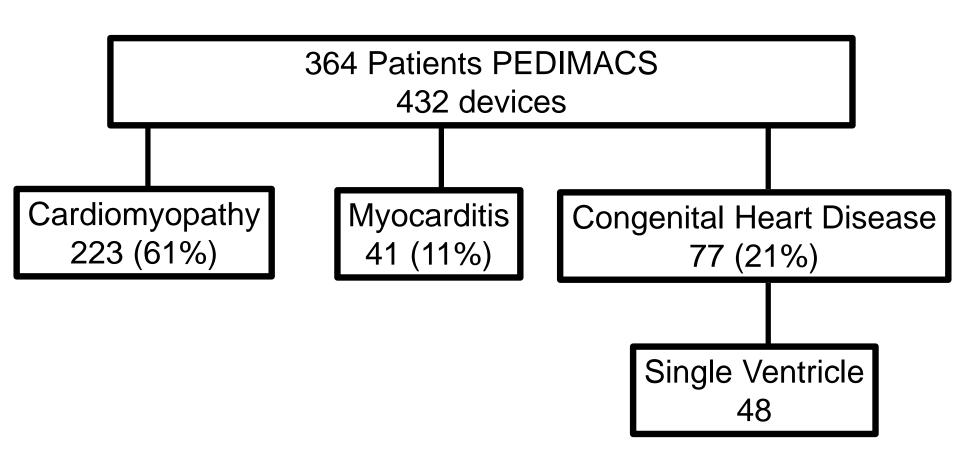
MCS REGISTRY IN CHILDREN - PEDIMACS

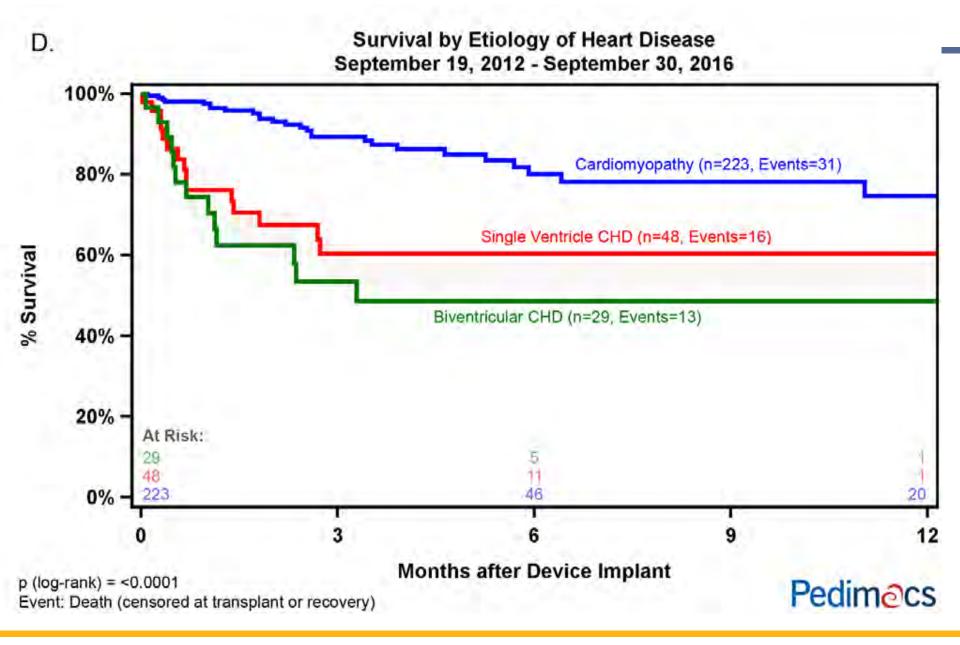
## Second annual Pediatric Interagency Registry for Mechanical Circulatory Support (Pedimacs) report: Pre-implant characteristics and outcomes



Elizabeth D. Blume, MD,<sup>a</sup> Christina VanderPluym, MD,<sup>a</sup> Angela Lorts, MD,<sup>b</sup> J. Timothy Baldwin, PhD,<sup>c</sup> Joseph W. Rossano, MD,<sup>d</sup> David L.S. Morales, MD,<sup>b</sup> Ryan S. Cantor, MSPH,<sup>e</sup> Marissa A. Miller, DVM, MPH,<sup>c</sup> James D. St. Louis, MD,<sup>f</sup> Devin Koehl, BS,<sup>e</sup> David L. Sutcliffe, MD,<sup>g</sup> Pirooz Eghtesady, MD, PhD,<sup>h</sup> James K. Kirklin, MD,<sup>e</sup> and David N. Rosenthal, MD<sup>i</sup> for the Pedimacs Investigators











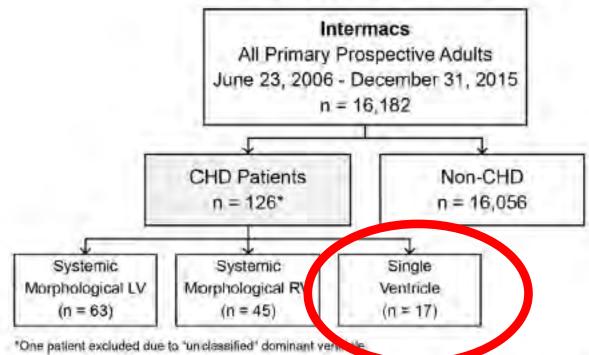
Outcomes following implantation of mechanical circulatory support in adults with congenital heart disease: An analysis of the Interagency Registry for Mechanically Assisted Circulatory Support (INTERMACS)



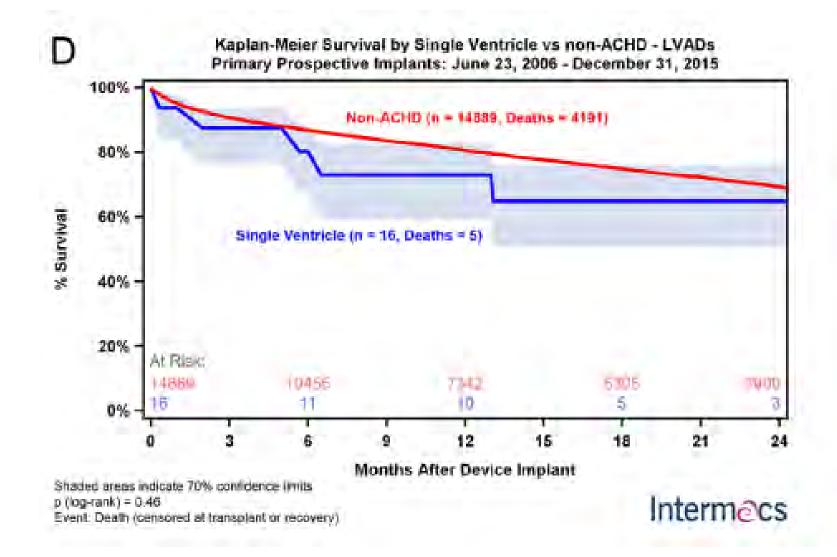
Christina J. VanderPluym, MD, a,1 Ari Cedars, MD, b,1 Pirooz Eghtesady, MD, PhD, Bryan G. Maxwell, MD, MPH, Jill M. Gelow, MD, MPH, Luke J. Burchill, MMBS, PhD, Simon Maltais, MD, PhD, Devin A. Koehl, BS, Ryan S. Cantor, MSPH, and Elizabeth D. Blume, MD



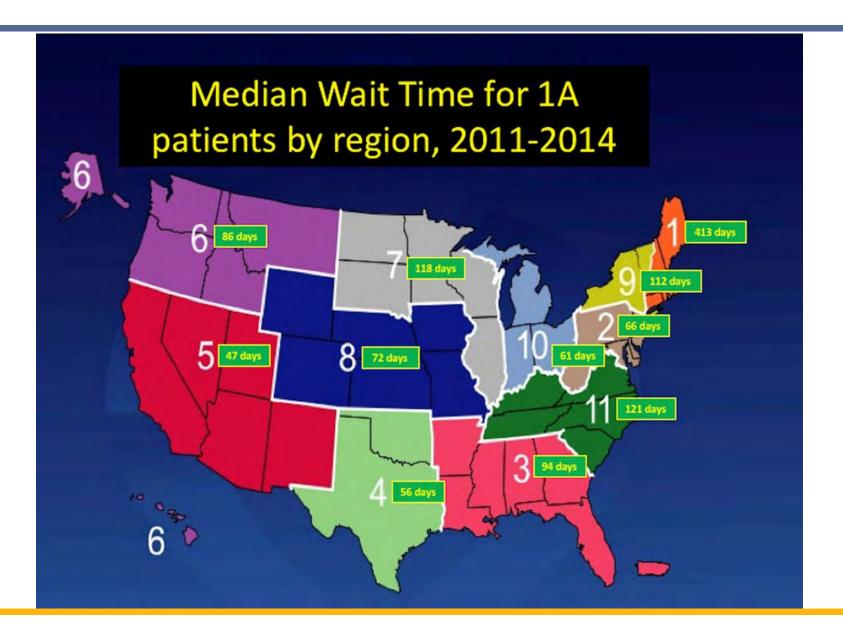
#### **ACHD Study Cohort Selection**



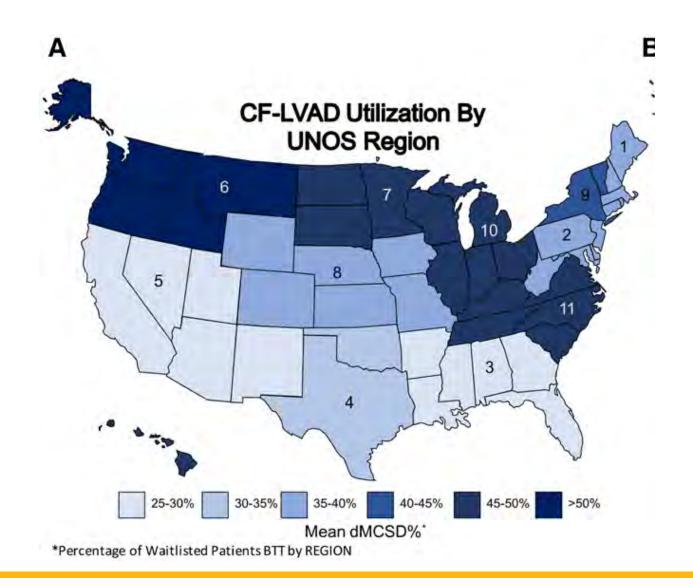
Graphic representation of patient selection and Figure 1 categorization into groups.













## Pediatric Heart Transplant Criteria July 2016

## Continuous mechanical ventilation 1A Intraortic balloon pump Ductal dependent pulmonary or systemic circulation Congenital heart disease with multiple low dose inotropes or 1 high dose Mechanical circulatory support (does not require hospitalization) Continuous infusion of 1 or more **1B** inotropes and does not qualify for 1A All Others

#### Adult Heart Allocation Criteria for Medical Urgency Status

The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network announced that a new, six-tier adult heart allocation system will be implemented this year.

#### Status 1

- VA ECMO
- Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted, non-endovascular biventricular support device
- MCSD with life-threatening ventricular arrhythmia

#### Status 2

- Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted, non-endovascular LVAD
- IABP
- · V-tach / V-fib, mechanical support not required
- · MCSD with device malfunction/mechanical failure
- · TAH, BiVAD, RVAD, or VAD for single ventricle patients
- Percutaneous endovascular MCSD
- · Dischargeable LVAD for discretionary 30 days
- Multiple inotropes or single high-dose inotrope with continuous hemodynamic monitoring

#### Status 3

- VA ECMO after 7 days; percutaneous endovascular circulatory support device or IABP after 14 days
- Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted, non-endovascular LVAD after 14 days
- MCSD with one of the following: device infection, hemolysis, pump thrombosis, right heart failure, mucosal bleeding, aortic insufficiency

#### Status 4

- Dischargeable LVAD without discretionary 30 days
- Inotropes without hemodynamic monitoring
- Retransplant
- Diagnosis of one of the following: congenital heart disease (CHD), ischemic heart disease with intractable angina, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, restrictive cardiomyopathy, amyloidosis
- Status 5
- · On the waitlist for at least one other organ at the same hospital
- Status 6
- All remaining active candidates



## OPTN UNOS

#### Review Board (RB) Guidance for Adult Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) Exception Requests

The OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors recently approved the Thoracic Organ Transplantation Committee's Modification to the Adult Heart Allocation proposal during their December 2016 meeting in St. Louis, MO. One of the major components of the new allocation system was the creation of three additional medical urgency statuses, for a new total of six. This new six-status system stratifies heart transplant candidates according to waiting list mortality.

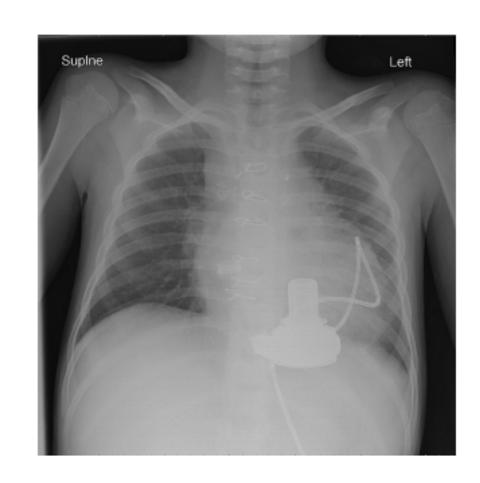
During the development of the adult heart allocation policy, the Committee received feedback from the heart transplant community that adult congenital heart disease (ACHD) candidates may be disadvantaged by the new system, as they are a very heterogeneous candidate group and they may not always be optimal candidates for devices or inotropes.

The Committee acknowledged that some ACHD candidates may have higher waiting list mortality. The new allocation policy includes hemodynamic criteria in addition to criteria based on levels of support. Measurement of hemodynamics among patients with CHD can be complicated by altered anatomy and rendered meaningless. In addition, ACHD patients may not be candidates for the inotropic or mechanical support options. Thus CHD candidates may have difficulty meeting criteria for higher status according to policy, despite waitlist mortality equivalent to other candidates at higher status. Instead, the exception and review process will continue to accommodate these candidates, who can still apply for an exception at any status as their medical urgency and potential for benefit would warrant, including status 1, short-term. The Committee drafted this guidance with the goal of helping review board (RBs) standardize decision-making for ACHD exception requests.



## Fontan VAD Support

- Single ventricular "systolic" failure.
- 11 year old patient supported with an HVAD for 148 days until he underwent OHT.



## HeartWare Ventricular Assist Device Implantation in Patients With Fontan Physiology

\*Bartlomiej R. Imielski, †Robert A. Niebler, ‡Steven J. Kindel, and §Ronald K. Woods

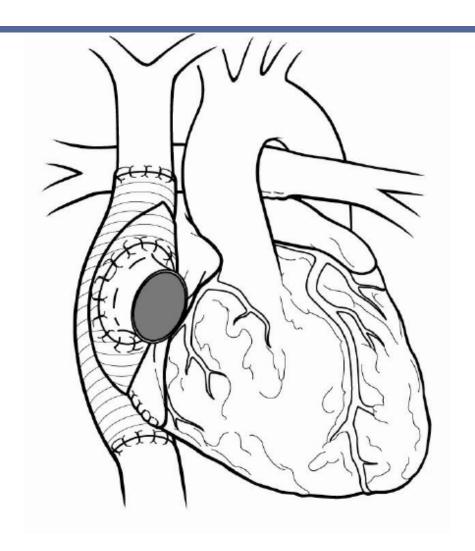
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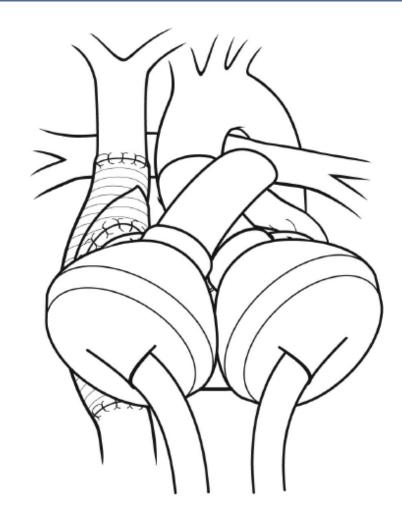
Artif Organs, Vol. 41, No. 1, 2017

TABLE 1. Patient characteristics at implant

	Patient 1	Patient 2	Patient 3
Age (years)	11.7	13.5	17.5
Weight (kg)	33.1	35.6	68.3
BSA (m <sup>2</sup> )	1.13	1.22	1.92
Gender	Male	Male	Male
Primary anatomic diagnosis	HLHS	HLHS	HLHS
Fontan Type	Fenestrated Extracardiac	Fenestrated Extracardiac	Lateral Tunnel (device
	Fontan	Fontan	fenestration closure at 5 yrs, lateral tunnel stent placement in 12/2014 for narrowing)
Duration Fontan stage prior to HVAD implant (years)	9	11	16

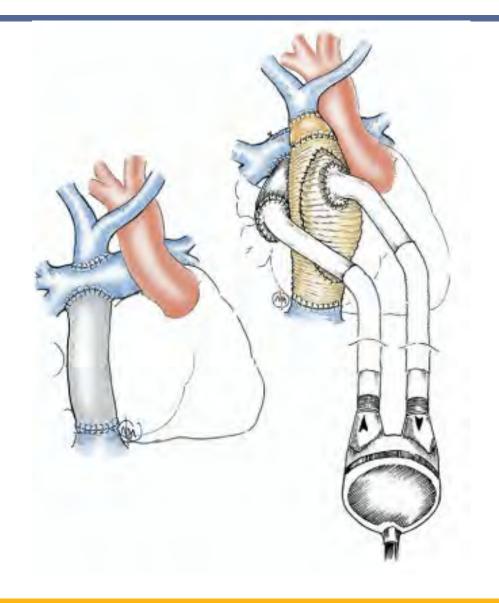
BSA, body surface area; HVAD, HeartWare ventricular assist device.





## Fontan VAD Support

- 27-year-old male with Tricuspid atresia and a Björk Fontan underwent placement of a Berlin right sided device.
- Patient was transplanted after 13 months of support.



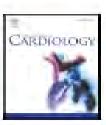




Contents lists available at Science Direct

#### International Journal of Cardiology





## Novel techniques of mechanical circulatory support for the right heart and Fontan circulation



Gwendolyn Derk ab, Hillel Laks b, Reshma Biniwale b, Sanjeet Patel b, Kim De LaCruz e, Einat Mazor d, Ryan Williams a, John Valdovinos c, Daniel S, Levi f, Leigh Reardon and Jamil Aboulhosn af

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#### ARTICLE INFO

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Keywords: Ventricular assist device Congenital Heart failure

#### ABSTRACT

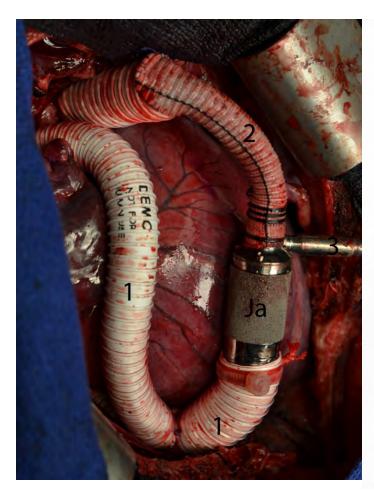
Background: Currently available ventricular assist devices are designed primarily for use in patients with left sided heart failure. This study evaluated the efficacy of the Jarvik 2000 ventricular assist device (VAD) as a pulmonary pump to power a fontan circuit in a large animal model.

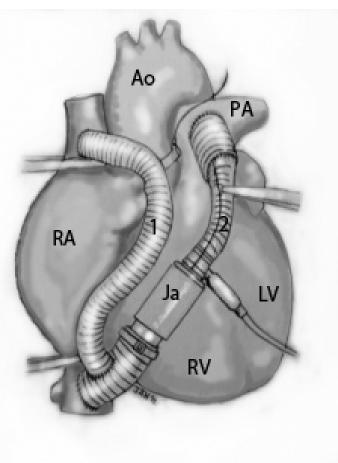
Methods: Without the use of cardio pulmonary bypass, Fontan circulations were surgically created in 4 pigs (50 kg) using synthetic grafts from the inferior and superior vena cavas to the main pulmonary artery. Subsequently, the VAD was implanted within the common Fontan graft to provide a pulmonary pump. Direct chamber pressures and epicardial Doppler images were taken during the various phases of the experiment. Heart rate, femoral artery blood pressure, oxygen saturation, and aortic flow rate were continuously recorded. The outflow cannula of the VAD was then partially banded by 50% and then 75% to mimic increased afterload.

Results: Fontan and VAD implantation was successfully performed in all 4 animals. Anterial pressure and antic flow decreased dramatically with institution of the Fontan but were restored to baseline upon activation of the VAD. The pressure within the systemic venous circulation rose precipitously with institution of the Fontan circulation and improved appropriately with activation of the VAD. Adequate perfusion was maintained during increased afterload. Condusions: An axial flow VAD can restore normal hemodynamics and cardiac output when used as a pulmonary pump in a Fontan circulation. A VAD can rescue a failing Fontan as a bridge to transplant or recovery, even in the setting of high pulmonary resistance.

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## Creation of a Surgical Fontan Animal Model and the Use of a Ventricular Assist Device to Restore Cardiac Output

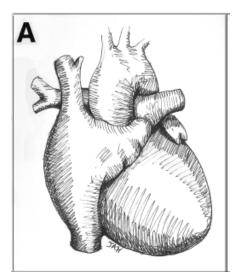


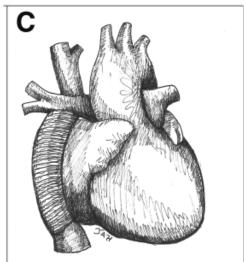


Extracardiac
Fontan model
with the Jarvik
2000 VAD

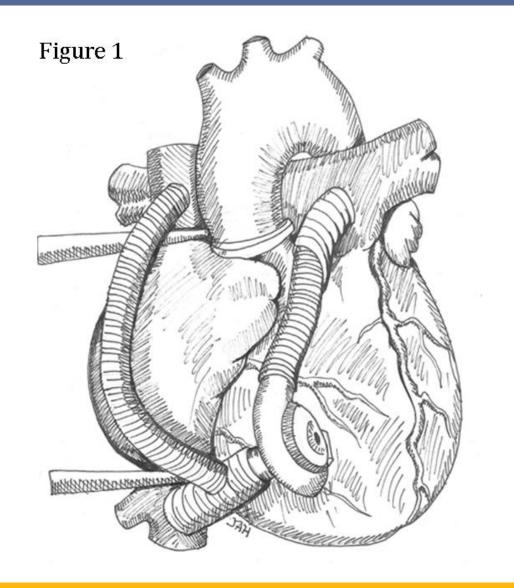
### Heartware HVAD Model

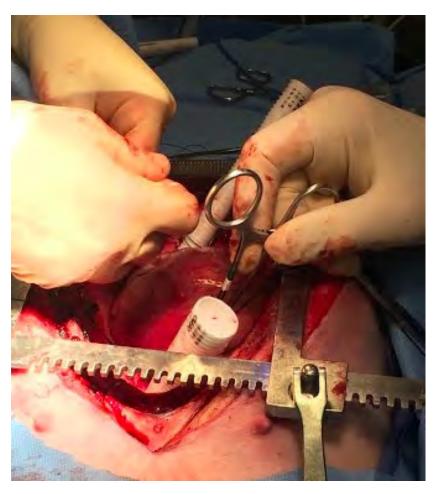
- Developed 2 models for right-sided Fontan support:
  - Extra-cardiac Fontan Model
  - RA-PA Fontan Model



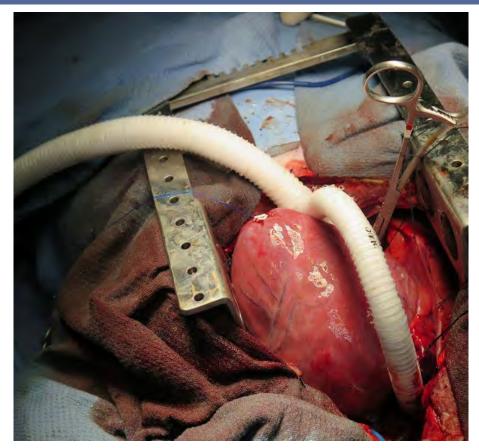


#### **Extracardiac Fontan Model**



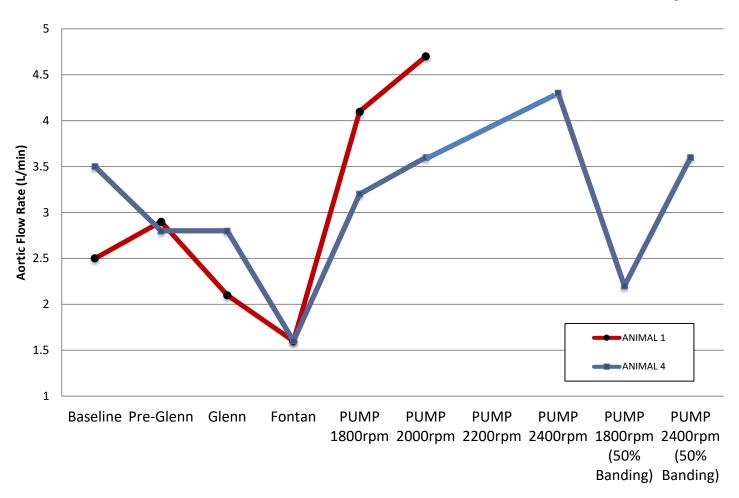






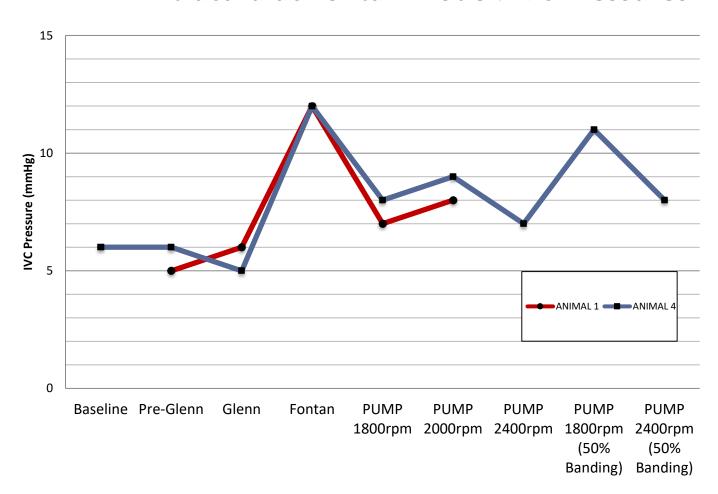


#### **Extracardiac Fontan Model: Cardiac Output**

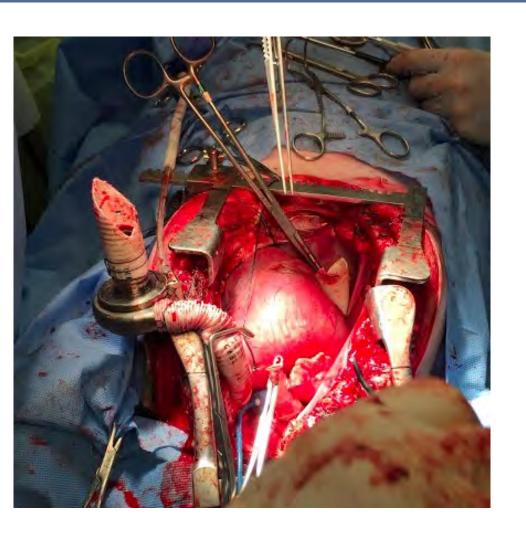


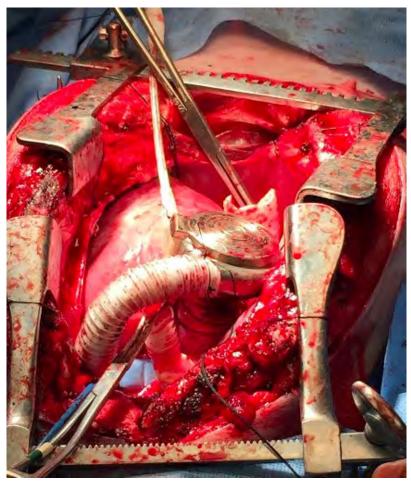


#### **Extracardiac Fontan Model: IVC Pressures**





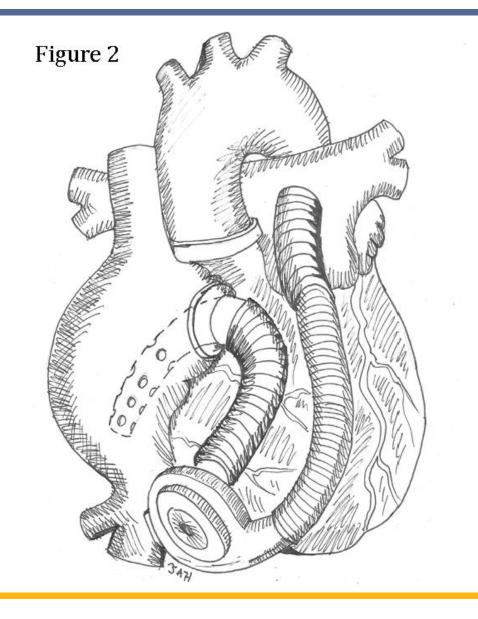






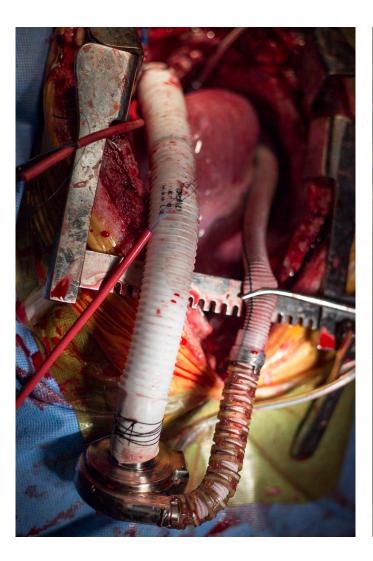


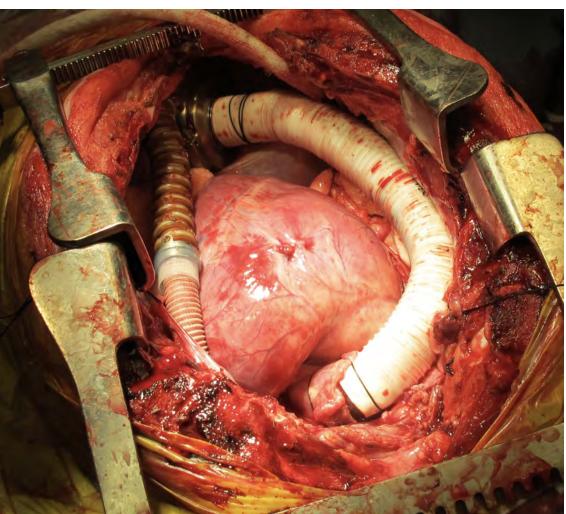
## **RA-PA Fontan Model**



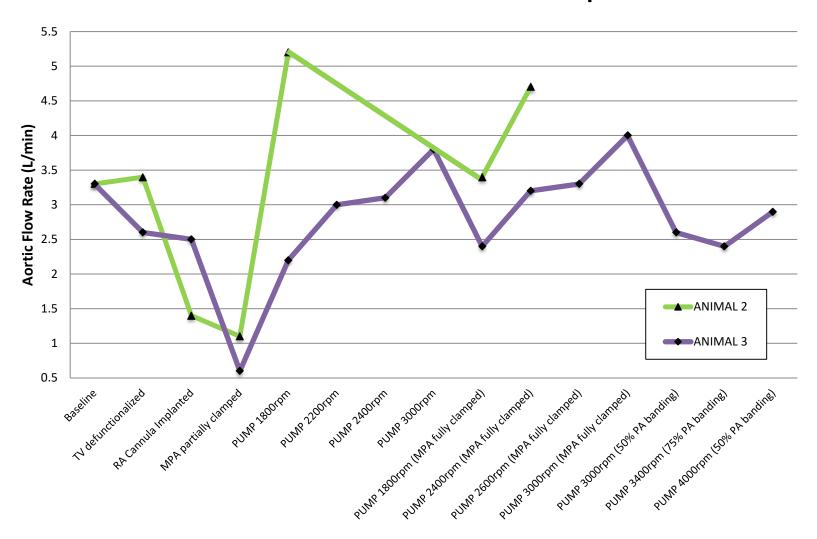




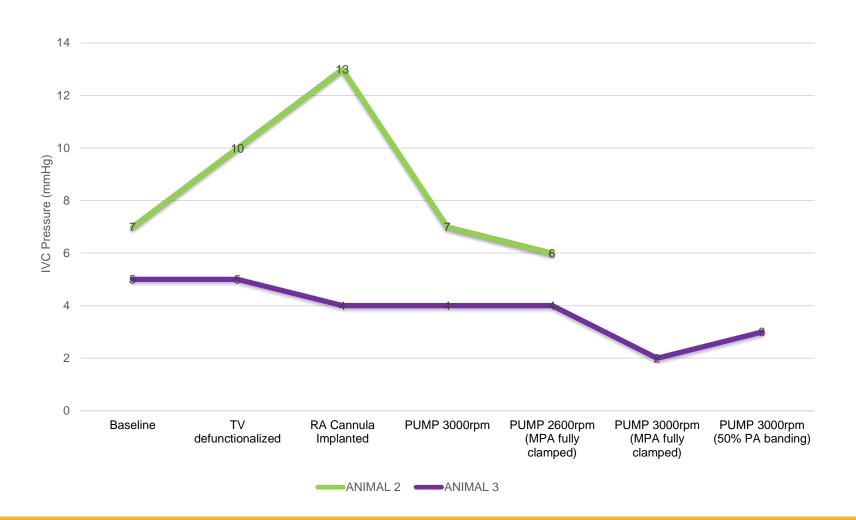




## **RA-PA Fontan Model: Cardiac Output**



## **RA-PA Fontan Model: IVC Pressures**







# Mechanical Circulatory Support for the Failing Fontan: Conversion to Assisted Single Ventricle Circulation—Preliminary Observations

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#### Abstract

Background: Mechanical circulatory support (MCS) of a failing Fontan circulation remains challenging. We hypothesized that MCS can be provided by converting the Fontan circulation into a mechanically assisted single ventricle parallel circulation (MASVC). Methods: A porcine model of functionally univentricular circulation was created under cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) by performing an atrial septectomy, tricuspid valvectomy, and interrupting antegrade pulmonary blood flow. A centrifugal flow pump was placed with inflow from the common atrium. Eight millimeter Dacron grafts anastomosed to the ascending aorta and main pulmonary artery supplied systemic (Qs) and pulmonary (Qp) blood flow. Ultrasonic flow probes were used to measure Qs and Qp after weaning from CPB. The Qp/Qs ratio was regulated using an adjustable clamp. Hemodynamic and laboratory data were recorded. Results: All four animals were successfully weaned from CPB onto the MASVC for a duration of two hours. Mechanically assisted single ventricle parallel circulation achieved satisfactory hemodynamics. As anticipated, the arterial oxygen saturation and partial pressure of oxygen in arterial blood were lower in the MASVC compared to baseline biventricular circulation. At the conclusion of the study, there was a trend towards a decrease in the mixed venous saturation with increasing oxygen extraction compared to the baseline. Serum lactate levels increased after weaning from CPB and did not return to baseline after two hours of support. Condusion: Mechanically assisted single ventricle parallel circulation can be established in a single ventricle animal model. This strategy could potentially provide MCS of a single ventricle circulation. Studies with longer duration



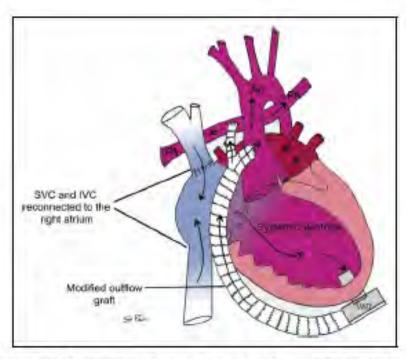


Figure 1. Proposed mechanically assisted single ventricle circulation. Ao indicates aorta; IVC, inferior vena cava; PA, pulmonary artery; SVC, superior vena cava; VAD, ventricular assist device.

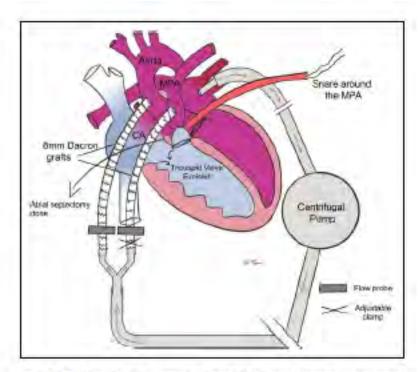


Figure 2. Porcine single ventricle model created by performing atrial septectomy, tricuspid valvectomy and interrupting antegrade pulmonary blood flow. CA indicates common atrium; MPA, main pulmonary artery.



### Artificial Organs



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# In Vitro Examination of the VentriFlo True Pulse Pump for Failing Fontan Support

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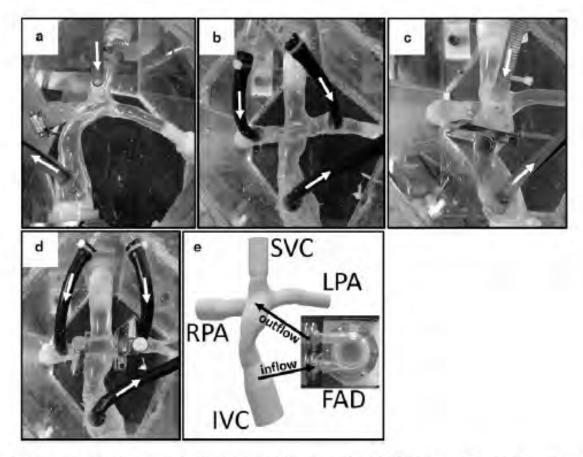


FIG. 2. Cannulation strategies. (a) FAD in parallel with single outflow cannula. (b) FAD in parallel with Y-graft outflow cannula. (c) FAD in series (complete Fontan baffle restriction). (d) Fontan takedown configuration (vena cava separated from pulmonary arteries). (e) Schematic of TCPC and FAD with vessels and cannula labeled. Outflow cannula will vary based on cannulation strategy.

Artificial Organs, Vol. 43, No. 2, 2019

## What next?

- Initial proof of concept for right sided support
- Innovative approach to future development
- Use of 3D modeling and VR to determine fit



Figure 7. Transapical MVAD.

Reprinted with permission from HeartWare Inc. Intraventricular MVAD across aortic valve configuration.



Figure 4. Jarvik 2000.
Reprinted with permission. Adult, child and infant Jarvik 2000.

