



# Pregnancy and Heart Disease

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No disclosures





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**ESC GUIDELINES**



## **ESC Guidelines on the management of cardiovascular diseases during pregnancy**

**The Task Force on the Management of Cardiovascular Diseases during Pregnancy of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)**

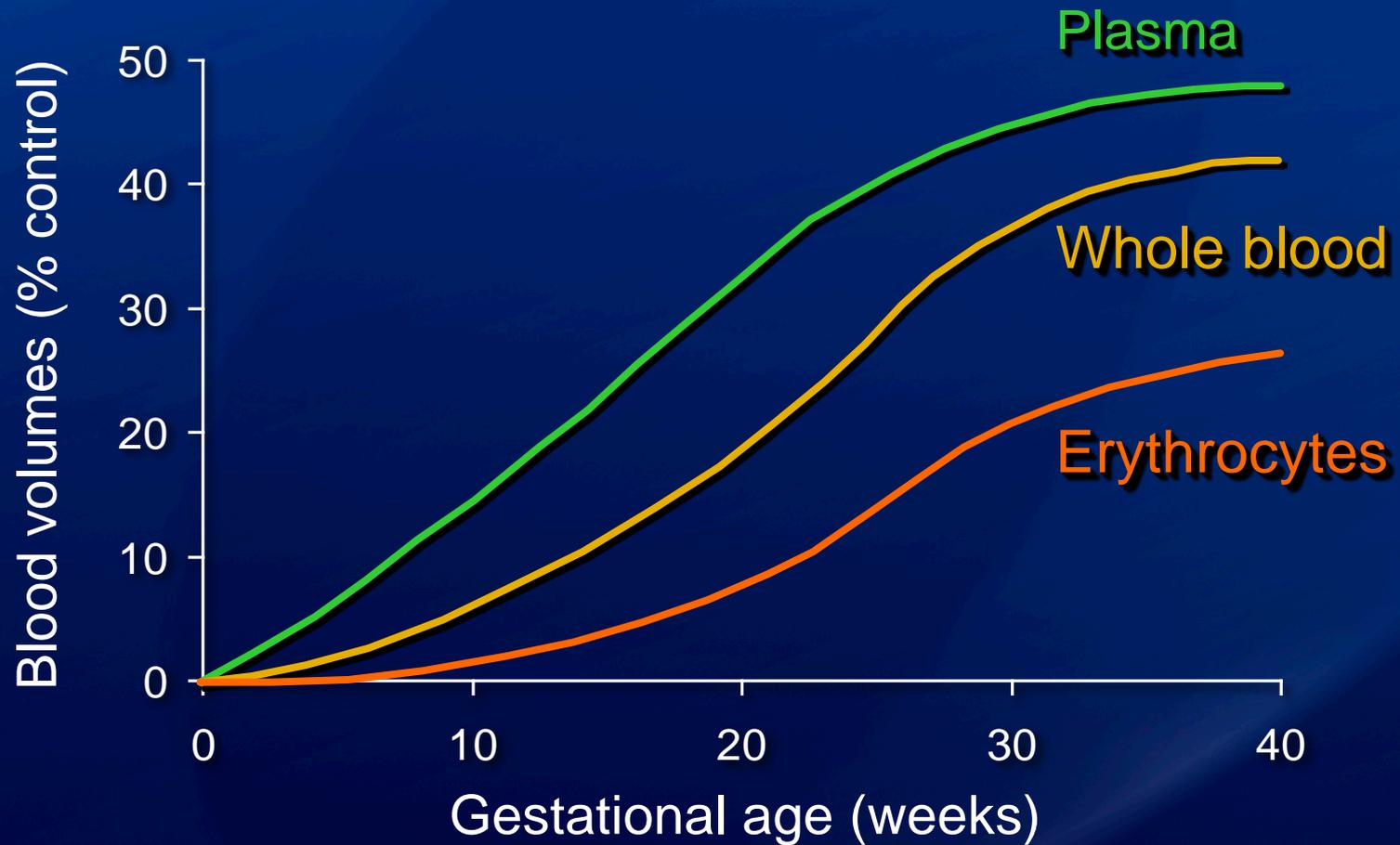
**Endorsed by the European Society of Gynecology (ESG), the Association for European Paediatric Cardiology (AEPC), and the German Society for Gender Medicine (DGesGM)**

**Regitz-Zagrosek V, Lundqvist C, Borghi C, et al.**

# Pregnancy and the Heart

- 2% of pregnancies involve maternal CV disease
- CV disease does not preclude pregnancy but poses ↑ risk to mother and fetus

# Pregnancy Physiologic Changes



# Hemodynamic Changes

- >40% ↑ in blood volume
  - ↓ in SVR and PVR
  - ↑ in HR
  - Little change in BP
- 30% ↑ 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

# Advise Against Pregnancy

- Severe pulmonary arterial HT
- Severe obstructive lesions  
AS, MS, PS, HCM, Coarct

# 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  $\geq 40$ -45 mm
- Severe cyanosis

# Heart Disease in Pregnancy

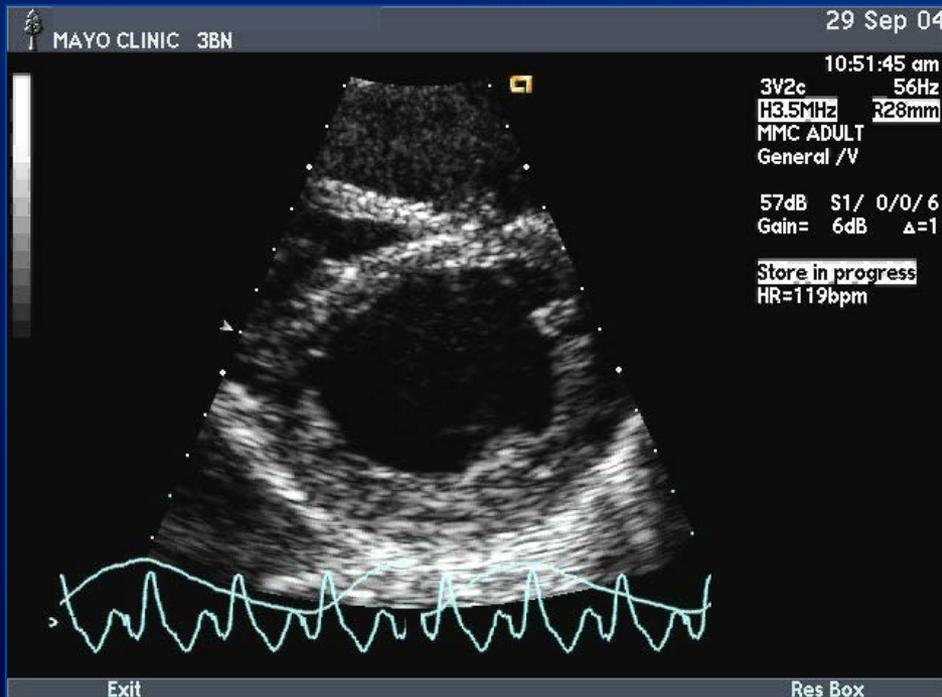
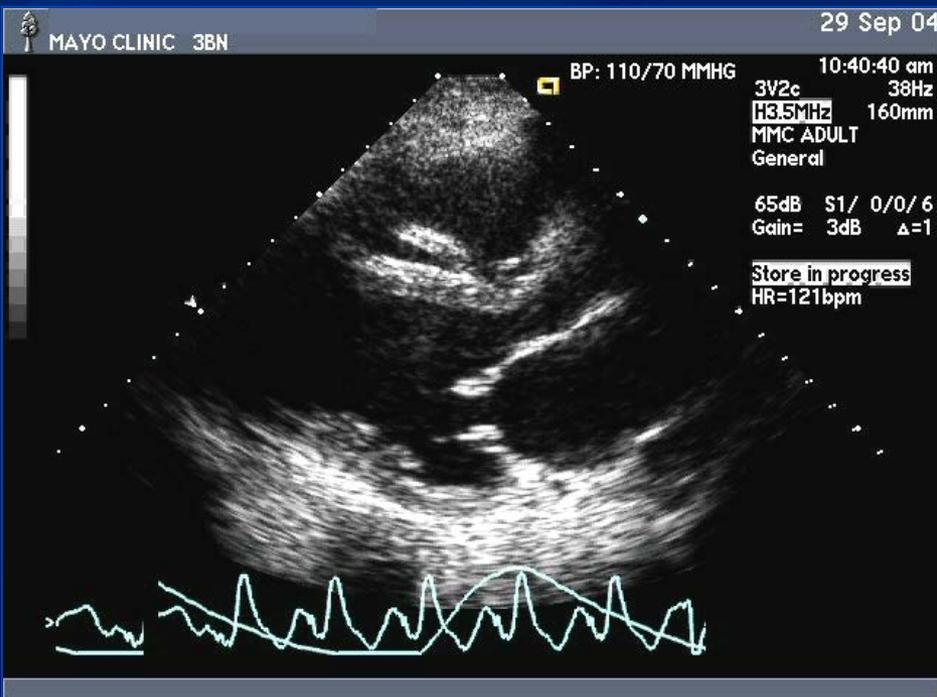
- Prepregnancy evaluation
- Pregnancy
  - Multidisciplinary care
- Peripartum
  - OB, anesthesia, IE prophylaxis
- Postpartum

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

# 35-Year-Old Female

- Progressive dyspnea 3 weeks post partum
- 1st pregnancy
- Previously asymptomatic – no CV history
- Exam – JVP of 13 cm
  - Diffuse apical impulse, gr 2 apical HSM
  - S3 and S4 at apex
  - Crackles both lung bases
- ECG – sinus tachycardia

# 35-Year-Old Female



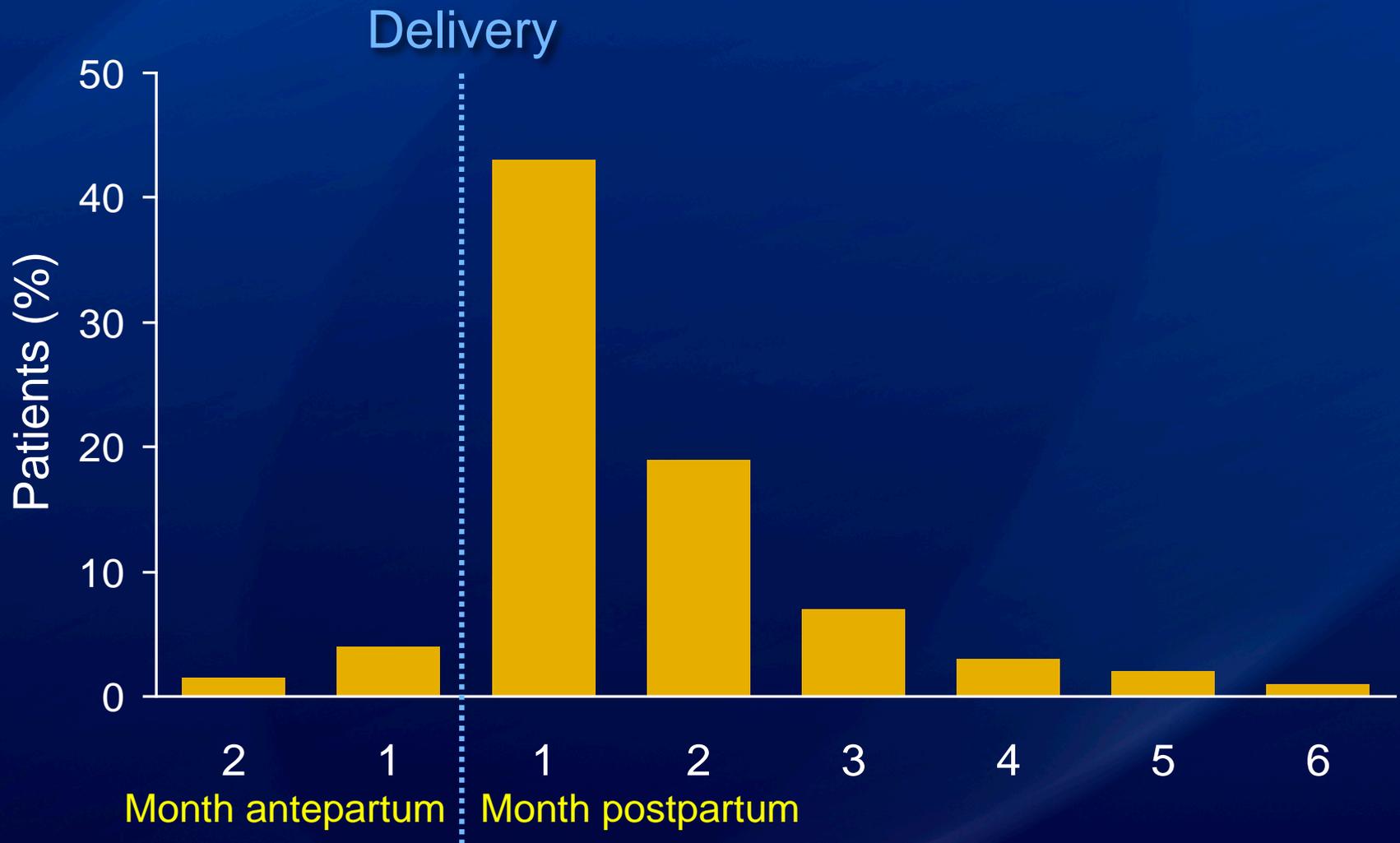
# 35-Year-Old Female

- Progressive CHF symptoms despite diuretics, digoxin, ACE inhibitor, beta-blocker, warfarin
- Echo – global LV dysfunction, EF 25%
- Symptoms persist, SBP 100 mmHg

# What would you suggest next?

## Bromocriptine

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy



NEJM 312:1432, 1985

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

- New diagnosis of HF due to LV dysfunction  
Last trimester → 6 mos postpartum  
Diagnosis of exclusion
- Incidence varies
  - U.S. 1 in 3200 deliveries (1350/year)
  - South Africa 1 in 1000
  - Haiti 1 in 300
- ↑ frequency
  - Age >30 yr
  - Multifetal pregnancy
  - Multiparity
  - Tocolytic
  - Black women
  - HT, DM, smoking

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

## Pathophysiology

- Defective antioxidant defense mechanism  
Prolactin/bromocriptine
- Viral infection
- Autoimmune response
- Genetic susceptibility

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

## Defective Antioxidant Defense Mechanism

- Due to oxidative stress
  - ↑ levels of activated cathepsin D
  - ↑ total prolactin and angiostatic 16 kDa prolactin
- Inhibits endothelial cell proliferation and migration, induces apoptosis, disrupts capillary structures, promotes vasoconstriction and impairs cardiomyocyte function
- Suppression of prolactin production by **bromocriptine**, prevents onset of PPCM in mouse

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Management

- Standard CHF Rx – O<sub>2</sub>, ACE, diuretic, iv NTG inotrope for ↓ CO
- Bromocriptine - blocks prolactin release  
↑ EF in PPCM vs standard Rx  
2.5 mg BID for 2 wk, then 2.5 mg QD for 6 wks with standard HF therapy
- Anticoagulation for EF <35%, or bromocriptine
- VAD or transplantation

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

## Prognosis

- Variable
- Major cause of preg related death in US
- Mortality 6 mos and 2 yr → 10 and 28%

# Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

## Prognosis

- Variable
- Major cause of preg related death in US
- Mortality 6 mos and 2 yr → 10 and 28%
- ↑ mortality with ↓ EF >6 mos postpartum
- ~50% improve in 6 months
- 20-40% normalize EF
- Recurrence with recurrent pregnancy

# CHF in Pregnancy

- Conservative – ↓ salt, bedrest
- Limited medical therapy
  - Digoxin, hydralazine
  - Diuretic if necessary
- Aldosterone antagonists
  - Antiandrogenic effect in first trimester

# Cardiac Drugs in Pregnancy

## ACE Inhibitors – contraindicated in pregnancy

- 30% fetal morbidity with administration after week 14  
Fetal renal tubular dysplasia, neonatal renal failure  
Oligohydramnios, ↓ cranial ossification, IUGR

## Cooper et al: N Engl J Med 2006

- 1st trimester ACE ↑ risk of congenital malformations  
↑ CV and CNS malformations
- AT II blocker – contraindicated
- Safe during lactation

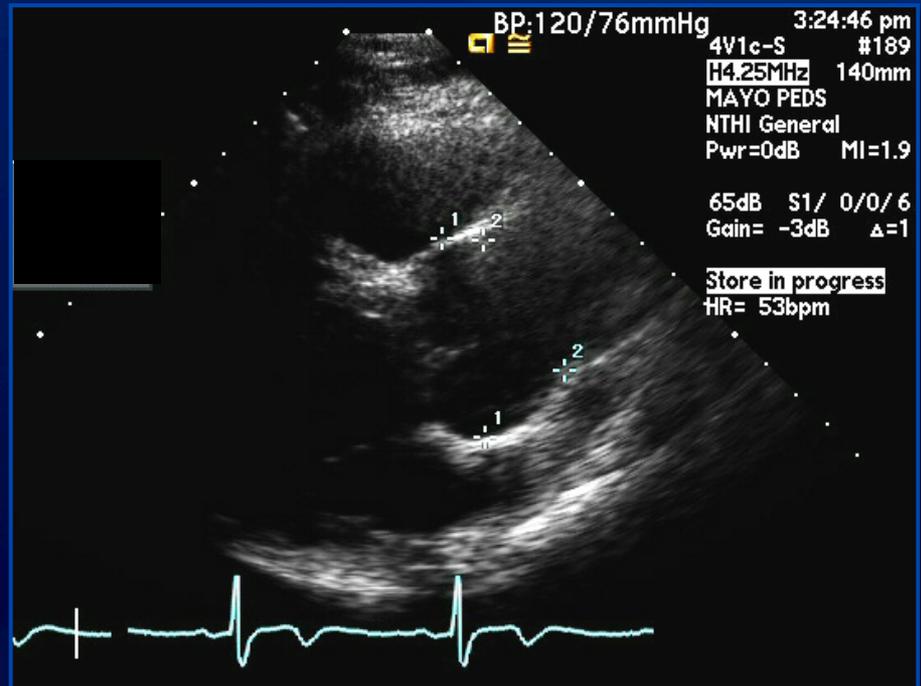


# Genetic/Aortic Disorders in Pregnancy

# 20-Year-Old Female

- Pre-pregnancy counseling
- FH of Marfan, dissection, ectopia lentis
- Asymptomatic

Ao root 41 mm



# What would you recommend?

Avoid pregnancy

# Pregnancy in Marfan



- Preexisting medial changes
- Changes with pregnancy  
    Physiologic, hormonal
- Unpredictable maternal risk  
    Dissection, rupture, IE, CHF
- Fetal - 50% inheritance (AD)
- Oxytocin – implicated in dissection

# Preconceptual Counseling

## In addition to routine obstetric screening

- Detailed CV history, FH, medications and exam
- Echo – aorta and valves
- Aortic imaging
  - Aorta  $>45$  mm  $\rightarrow$  no pregnancy
  - Aorta  $\leq 40$  mm  $\rightarrow$  reasonable if low risk
  - Aorta 40-45 mm  $\rightarrow$  individualize
- Genetics, prenatal diagnosis

# Pregnancy in Aortic Disorders

## Recommendations

- During pregnancy
  - Beta-blocker, regular ao imaging (individualize)
  - Fetal echo
- Peripartum
  - Facilitated vaginal delivery
  - C-section for ao >40 mm or ↑ size
  - IE prophylaxis
- Postpartum FU - dissection risk persists
  - Future eval of lactation risk

Management similar with other aortic disorders

# Arrhythmias in Pregnancy

# 29-Year-Old Female

29 weeks pregnant

- Presents to ED with palpitations and lightheadedness
- No past CV history
- BP 100/50, HR 160

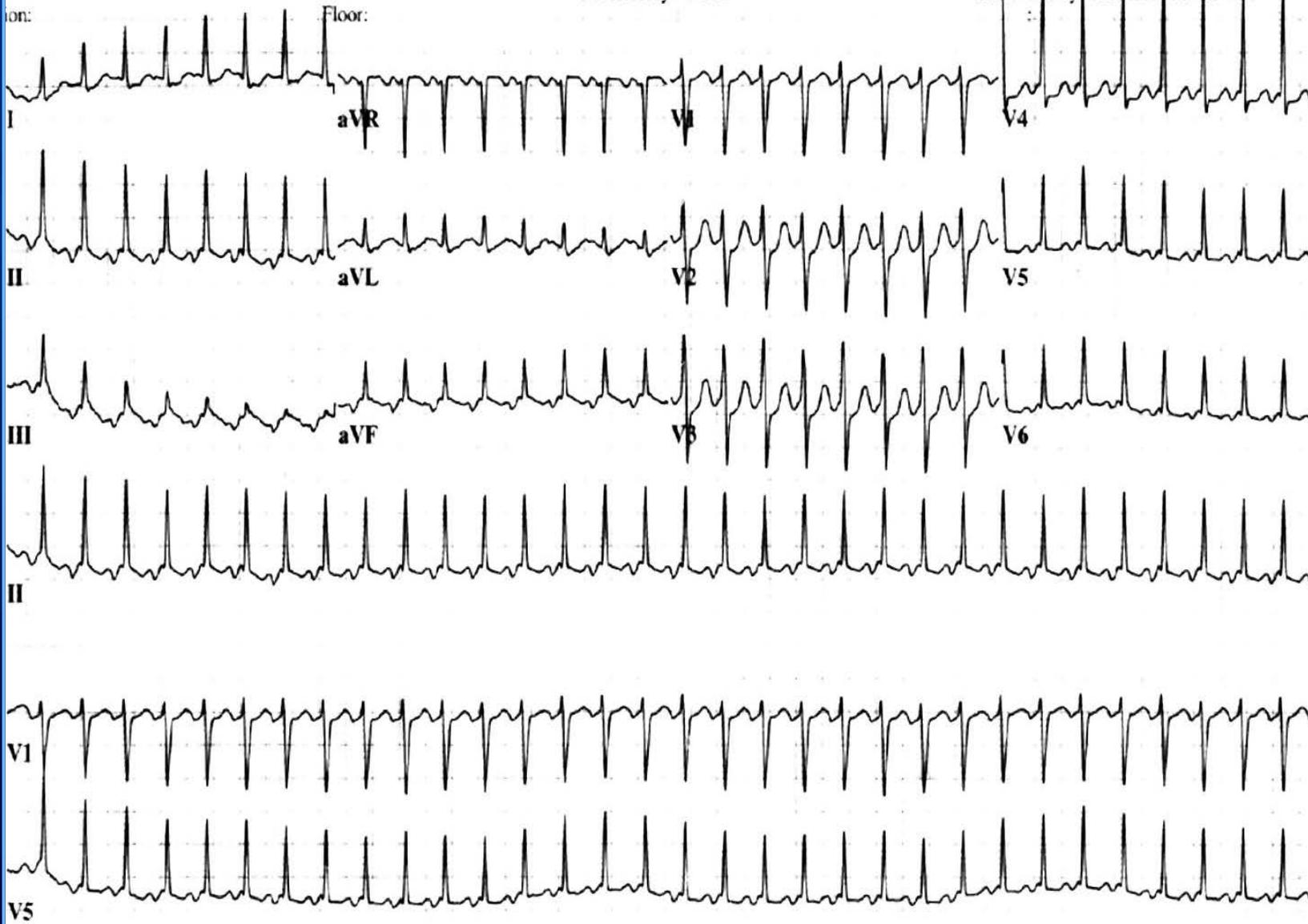
Alert

No murmurs

Lungs clear

Referred by: 47561

Confirmed by: ROBERT FRYE MD



# What would you recommend?

iv adenosine

# SVT in Pregnancy

- Hemodynamic compromise

DC cardioversion – fetal ↓ HR/mortality

- Acute symptoms

Adenosine - bradycardia

# Recurrent SVT in Pregnancy

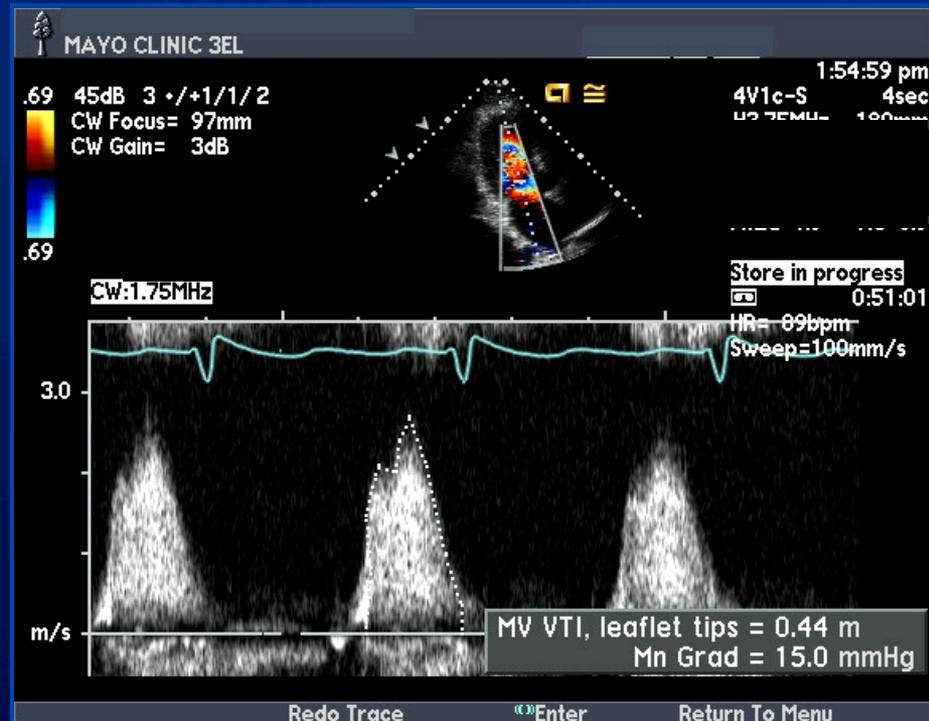
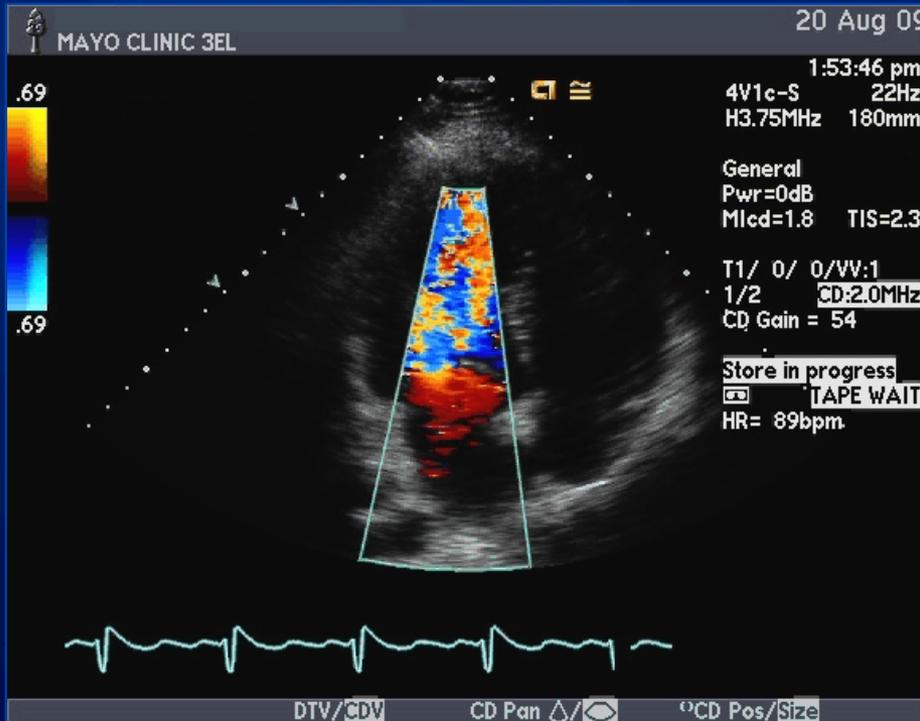
- Beta blocker
- Calcium channel blocker
- Sotalol
- Flecainide
- Amiodarone - CI by manufacturer  
Monitor neonatal ECG and thyroid  
Excreted in breast milk
- Ablation

# Valvular Heart Disease in Pregnancy



# 30-Year-Old Female

## 33 weeks pregnant, dyspnea

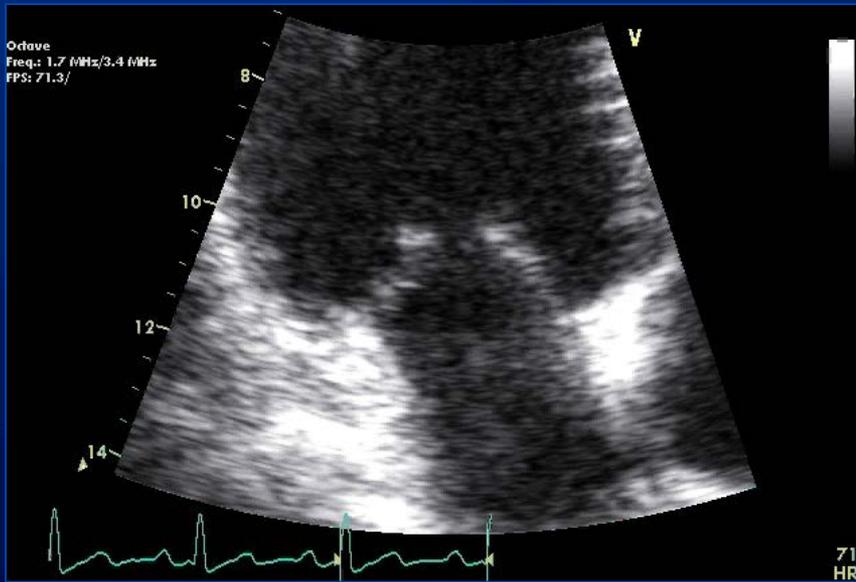
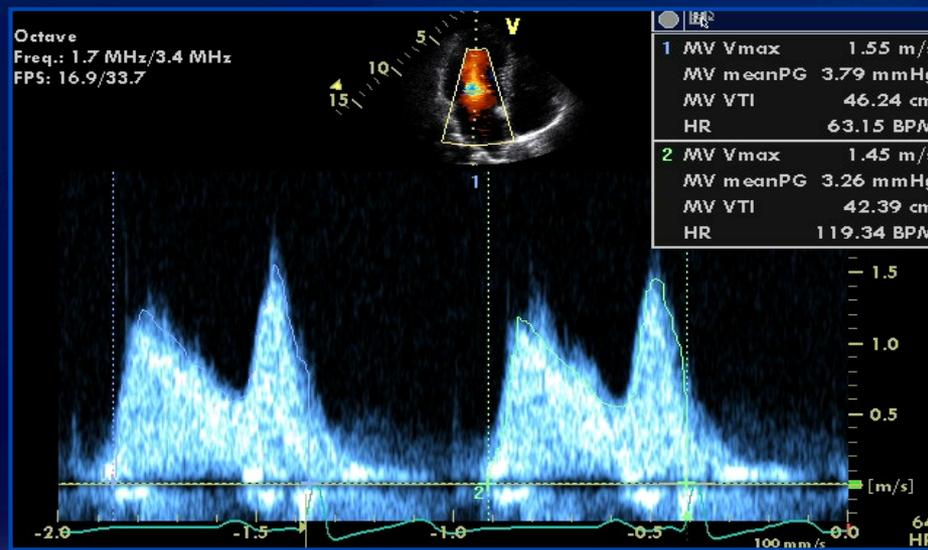


Mean gradient = 15 mmHg

# What would you do next?

# 30-Year-Old Female

## Beta-blocker



MG = 4 mmHg at HR 60

# Mitral Stenosis in Pregnancy



Further ↑ in LA pressure

AF → Pulmonary Edema

# Mitral Stenosis

## Management in Pregnancy

$\beta$  blockade, maintain NSR  
Anticoagulation, diuretics

Balloon valvotomy  
Surgical valvotomy or MVR

**Valve Surgery may be  
Required During Pregnancy**

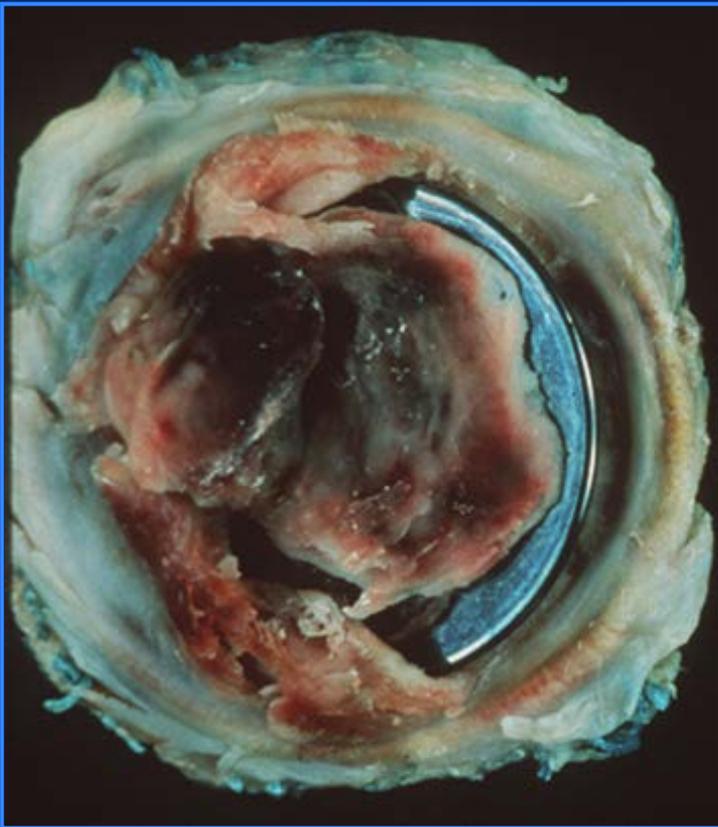
# VHD in Pregnancy Tissue Prosthesis



- ↑ degeneration in young
- Reoperation risk
- Possible accelerated degeneration in pregnancy

# Anticoagulation in Pregnancy

## Mechanical Prosthesis



- AC options suboptimal
- ↑ thrombosis risk
  - ↑ clotting factor, plt adhesion
  - ↓ fibrinolysis, prot S activity
- High mortality
- Limited options

# ESC VHD Guidelines

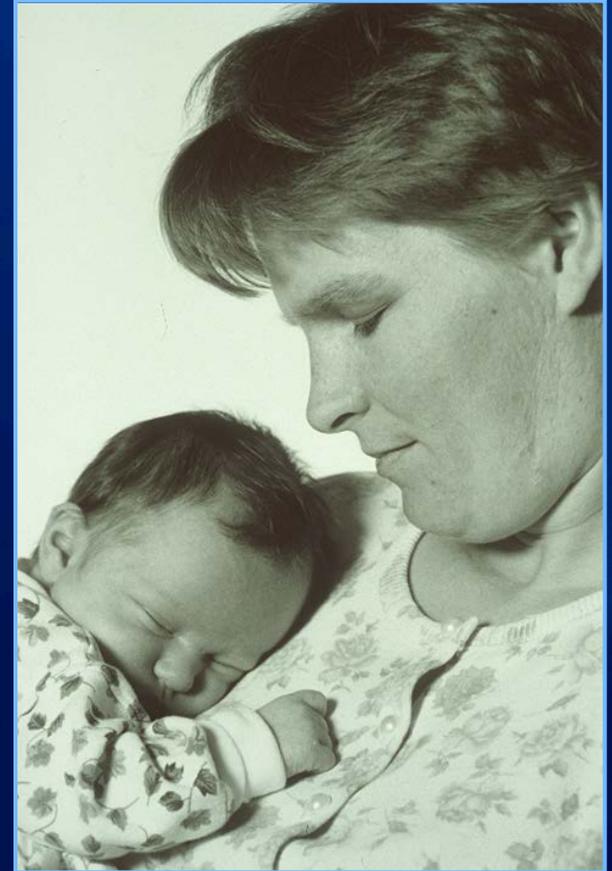
## European Heart Journal 2012

- Warfarin favored AC therapy during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trimesters until the 36th wk
- Warfarin is favored during the first trimester if dose is  $<5$  mg/24 hr, after patient approval
- Close AC monitoring advised when UFH used

# Pregnancy and the Heart

- CVD 1-2% of pregnancies
- CHD most common SHD
- Doesn't preclude pregnancy
- ↑ risk to mother and fetus
- Individual assessment

Preferably prior to  
conception





**Questions or Comments?**

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