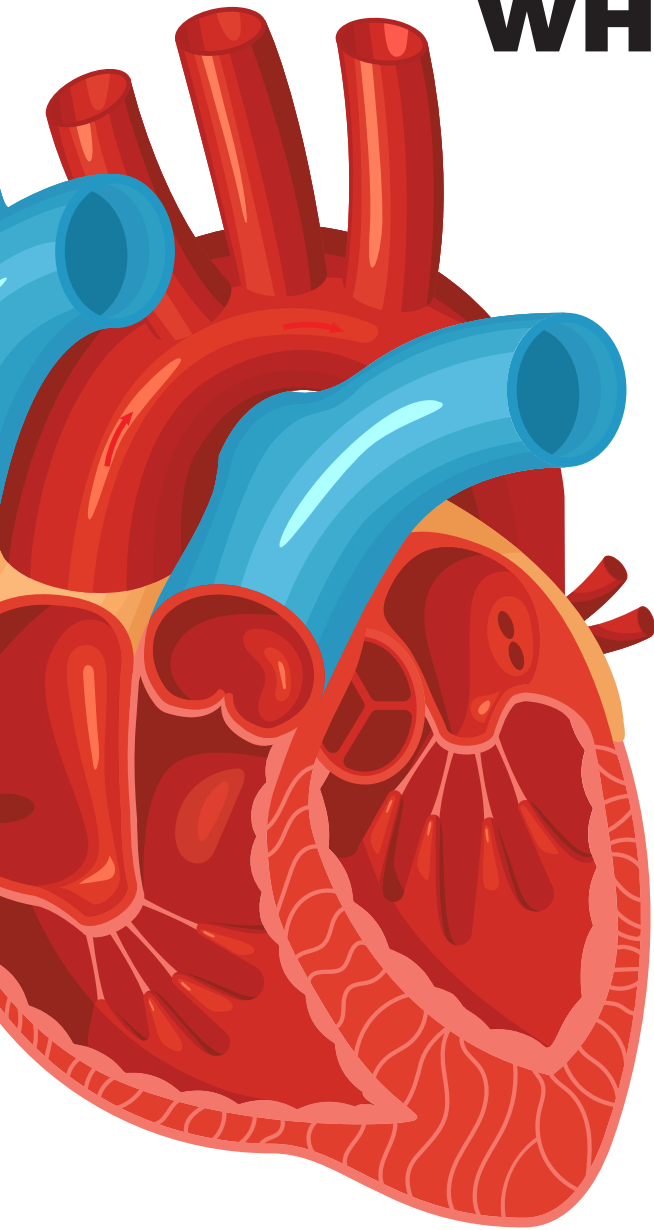


WHAT IS CONGENIT

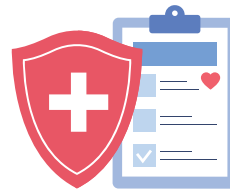


CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

Congenital heart disease (CHD) is the most common type of birth defect. It affects approximately:



1%
of live births
in Malaysia.



This translates to about
4000-5000
new cases a year.

CHD is present at birth and can affect the structure of a baby's heart and the way it works. Ultimately, it affects blood flows through the heart. CHD can vary from mild (such as a small hole in the heart) to severe.

As medical care and treatments have advanced babies with CHD are living longer and healthier lives.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

The presentation of CHD depends on the heart disease and its severity. In milder forms, a child with CHD may also have an incidental heart murmur.

In more severe cases, these symptoms may also be present:



Shortness of breath



Inability to feed well



Swelling of the body



Cyanosis or blue discoloration
of the skin



Poor weight gain

TAL HEART DISEASE?

TYPES OF CHD

CHD is classified as either cyanotic congenital heart disease or non-cyanotic congenital heart disease.

The main difference is that cyanotic congenital heart disease causes low levels of oxygen in the blood. Babies with reduced oxygen levels are tire easily and have a bluish tint to their skin.

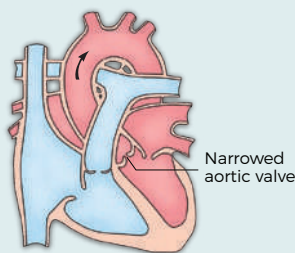
Cyanotic congenital heart disease includes:

- Ebstein anomaly
- Hypoplastic left heart
- Pulmonary atresia
- Tetralogy of Fallot
- Total anomalous pulmonary venous return
- Transposition of the great vessels
- Tricuspid atresia
- Truncus arteriosus

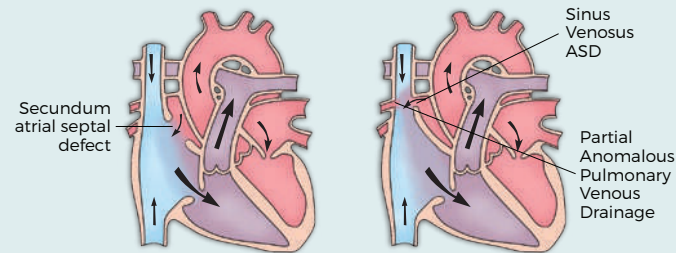
Babies with non-cyanotic congenital heart disease on the other hand have normal oxygen levels. But they may be symptomatic.

Non-cyanotic congenital heart disease includes:

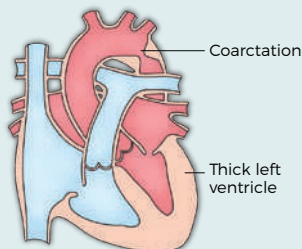
Aortic stenosis



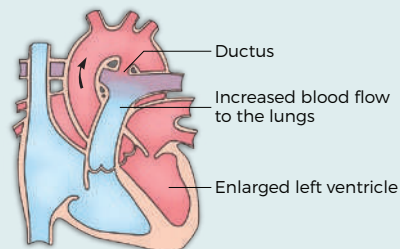
Atrial septal defect (ASD)



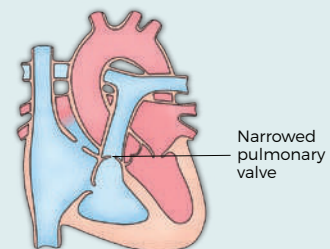
Coarctation of the aorta



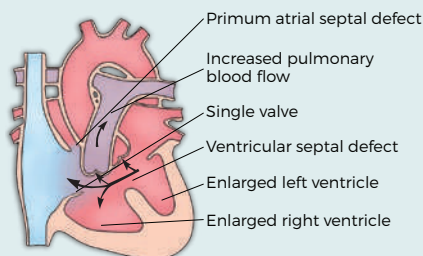
Patent ductus arteriosus (PDA)



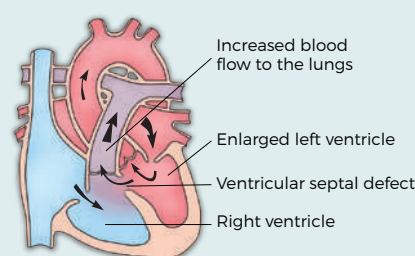
Pulmonic stenosis



Atrioventricular canal



Ventricular septal defect (VSD)



CAUSES OF CHD

CHD occurs as a result of an early developmental defect in the heart when the baby is in the mother's womb.. Although the common cause is still 'by chance', suspected causes include the following:

Chromosomal anomalies

CHD is associated with a decrease or excess of chromosomes



Genetic diseases

Presence of abnormal genes can lead to CHD



Maternal smoking or Alcohol consumption

Cigarette smoke and alcohol are known teratogens that can lead to defects in the heart



Uncontrolled maternal diabetes

High blood sugar during critical times of foetal development can lead to abnormalities of the heart



Intake of certain drugs by mother

Medications like lithium, thalidomide, ACE Inhibitors and Isotretinoin are known to cause CHD



Infection during pregnancy

Rubella, if contracted during early pregnancy can cause congenital rubella syndrome which can lead to CHD



If you suspect your child has CHD, contact our Paediatric & Congenital Heart Centre (PCHC) at **03-2617 8200** for an appointment. For more information, you can visit our website at **www.ijn.com.my**

Contact Us

