

# A Cause

## DID YOU KNOW?

Patients with ASDs can remain asymptomatic in early stages of life. The undiagnosed defect can carry on until adulthood, which can cause other complications. If the hole is large and untreated the increased blood flow to the lungs can also raise the blood pressure within the lungs' arteries. This can develop into pulmonary hypertension, a severe complication which is thankfully not too common for ASD sufferers.

**A hole in the heart is a disease that develops in foetal life, but may not manifest itself until later in life. While it may sound scary to patients and parents, the good news is that knowledge will make the fight against it easier. And that is what we give to you here - everything you need to know about the symptoms, causes and risks of this congenital heart defect.**



**PAEDIATRIC & CONGENITAL HEART CENTRE**  
Institut Jantung Negara

**You are Here**  
Anda di Sini



## Registration & Deposit

Pendaftaran  
& Pembayaran

01

## Screening

Pemeriksaan Awal

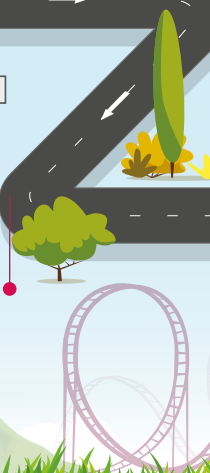
02



## Consultation

Perundingan

03



# for Concern

## Symptoms

### Atrial Septal Defect (ASD) later stages of life



Palpitation



Reduced Effort Tolerance



Fainting Episode

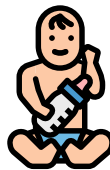


Breathlessness

### Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD), Atrio-Ventricular Septal Defect (AVSD) and Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA) early stages of life



Breathing Difficulty



Trouble Feeding

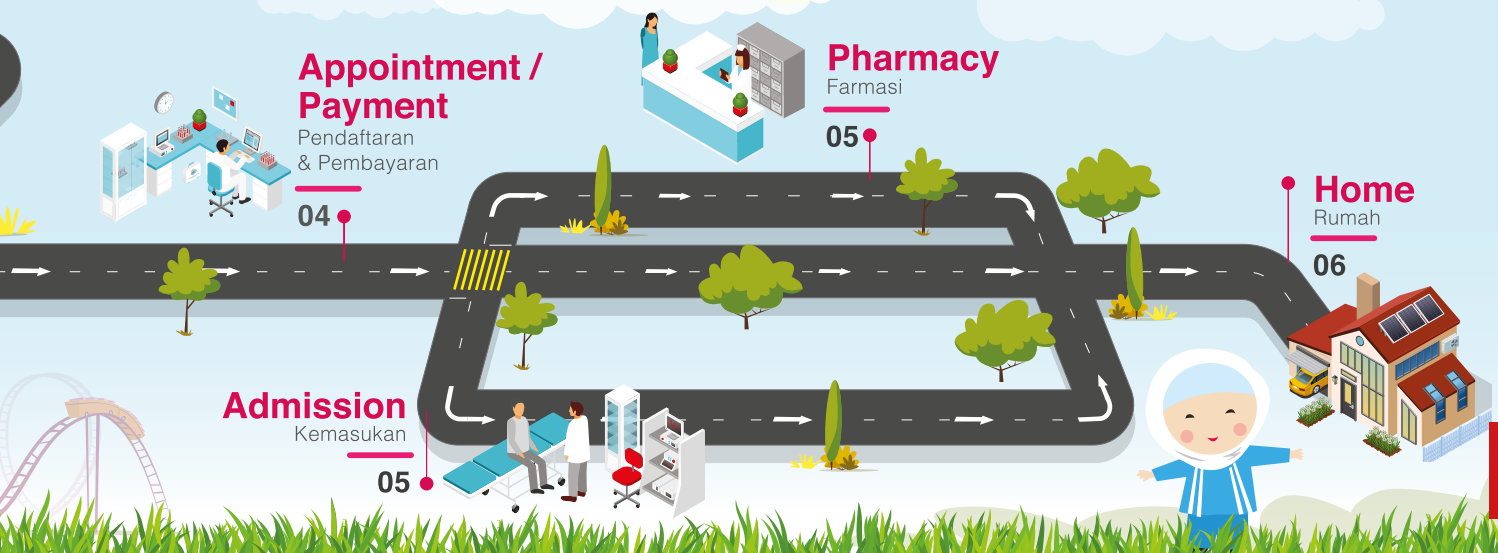


Poor Weight Gain

## Patient Flow

At Our Clinics

Aliran Pesakit di Klinik kami.



## Causes

There is still no conclusive answer for the development of congenital heart defects. Heredity may contribute to the cause of a heart defect such as Atrial Septal Defect (ASD) and Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD) as a parent with a congenital heart defect has a small risk to give birth to a child with the same problem.

Children with genetic disorders such as Down syndrome often have congenital heart defects and almost half of all babies with Down syndrome have it. Smoking during pregnancy is also a concern as it has been linked to several heart defects.

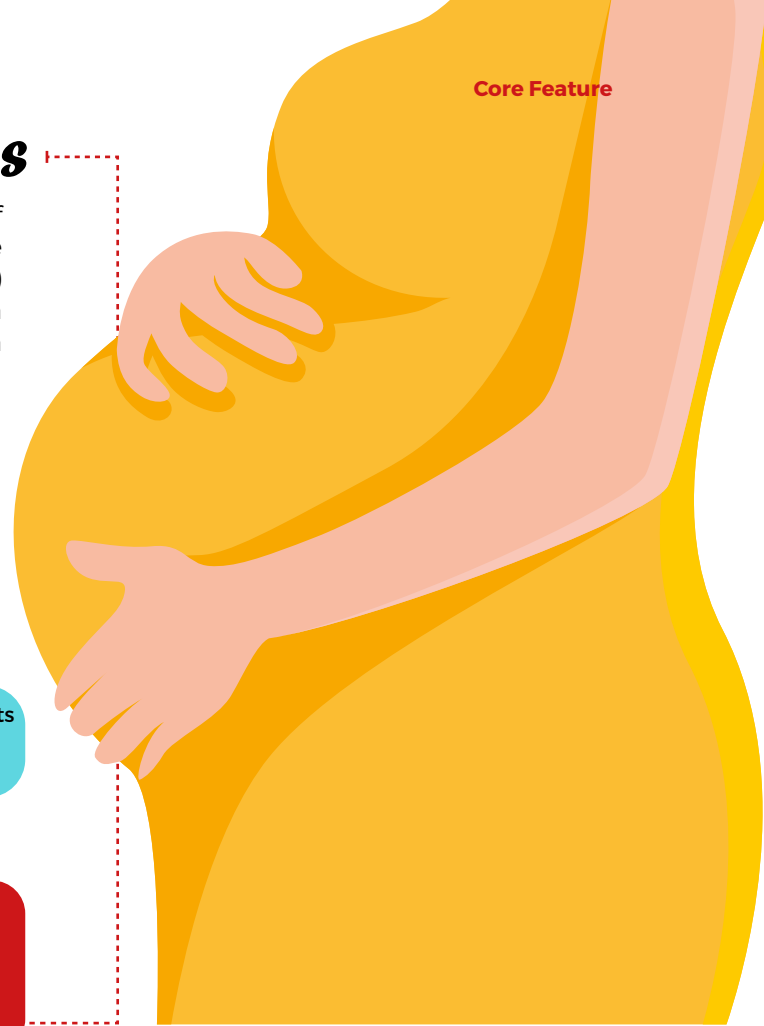
### MYTH

Mothers of children who are born with congenital heart defects often think they did something wrong during the pregnancy that could have caused the problem

### FACT

Even doctors don't have a conclusive reason why CHD may develop in a person

Atrio-ventricular septal defects (AVSD) is more common in patients with Down's Syndrome



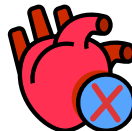
## Risks

### Atrial Septal Defect (ASD)

If the hole is large, your child could face the following problems in adulthood:



Heart Rhythm Problem



Right Heart Failure



High Lung Pressure With Permanent Damage Of Blood Vessels in Lungs

### Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD) & Atrio-Ventricular Septal Defect (AVSD)



Heart Failure



Irregular Heart Rhythms



Heart Valve Problems



Poor Growth And Development



Permanent Damage To The Lung Blood Vessels

### Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA)

A baby may not have symptoms if a small PDA remains open. However, babies with larger PDA may develop heart failure.

#### Large PDA



Persistent Heart Failure



High lung pressure due to excessive blood flow to the lungs (permanent damage to the lung vessels) i.e. pulmonary arterial hypertension



Risk of infective endocarditis (infection in valves of the heart)