

3rd Edition

ANESTHESIA FOR CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE



Editor-in-Chief
Dean B Andropoulos

Editors
Stephen Stayer
Emad B Mossad
Wanda C Miller-Hance

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Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dean B. Andropoulos MD, MHCM

Anesthesiologist-in-Chief Texas Children's Hospital;
Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics;
Vice Chair, Department of Anesthesiology;
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

EDITORS

Stephen Stayer MD

Associate Chief of Anesthesiology and Medical Director of Perioperative
Services Texas Children's Hospital;
Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics;
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

Emad B. Mossad MD

Director, Arthur S. Keats Division of Pediatric Cardiovascular Anesthesiology
Texas Children's Hospital;
Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

Wanda C. Miller-Hance MD, FACC, FAAP, FASE

Associate Director, Arthur S. Keats Division of Pediatric Cardiovascular Anesthesiology
Director of Intraoperative Echocardiography, Texas Children's Hospital
Professor, Anesthesiology (Pediatric Anesthesiology) and Pediatrics (Cardiology)
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

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Cover design: From left to right: 1. (Left) Echocardiogram during fetal intervention for restrictive atrial septum in a fetus with hypoplastic left heart syndrome. Catheter with balloon can be visualized crossing atrial septum. Image courtesy of Shaine Morriss, M.D., Texas Children's Hospital. 2. (Top Center) Neonate with dextro transposition of the great arteries, after induction of anesthesia and placement of monitors and invasive catheters. Photo courtesy of Phillip Steffek, Texas Children's Hospital. 3. (Bottom Center) Surgical field during regional cerebral perfusion for aortic arch reconstruction for hypoplastic left heart syndrome. Aortic cannula is inserted into the distal end of a 3.5 mm polytetrafluoroethylene shunt anastomosed to the right innominate artery to provide cerebral blood flow. A bloodless surgical field is established by snaring brachiocephalic vessels and descending aorta. Photo courtesy Charles D. Fraser, MD, Texas Children's Hospital. 4. (Right) Three-dimensional reconstruction of a computed tomographic angiogram of a 12 year old with untreated coarctation of the aorta. Severe coarctation of the aortic isthmus, presumably at the site of ductal insertion, located 2.1-cm distal to the takeoff of the left subclavian artery, with minimum caliber of 5.6 × 5.1 mm. Bilobed ductal aneurysm protruding ventrally at the site of the coarctation. Associated hypoplasia, tortuosity, and mild kinking of the distal transverse arch. Mild stenosis of the origin of the left subclavian artery with poststenotic dilation. Significant dilation of the mammary and intercostal arteries, which provide collateral blood flow to the body

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List of Contributors

Dean B. Andropoulos MD, MHCM

Anesthesiologist-in-Chief
Texas Children's Hospital
Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
Vice Chair, Department of Anesthesiology
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

Philip Arnold BM, FRCA

Consultant Cardiac Anaesthetist
Alder Hey Hospital
Royal Liverpool Children's NHS Trust
Liverpool, United Kingdom

Catherine Ashes MBBS, FANZCA

Anaesthetist
Brian Dwyer Department of Anaesthetics
St Vincent's Hospital
Darlinghurst
New South Wales, Australia

Rahul Bajjal MD

Staff Pediatric Anesthesiologist, Texas Children's Hospital; and
Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics, Baylor College of
Medicine, Houston, TX, USA

Mirela Bojan MD, PhD

Consultant Pediatric Anesthesiologist, Department of Anesthesiology
and Critical Care, Necker-Enfants Malades University Hospital, Paris,
France

Ken Brady MD

Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Anesthesia, and Critical Care, Texas
Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA

Lisa Caplan MD

Staff Pediatric Cardiovascular Anesthesiologist, Texas Children's
Hospital; and Assistant Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology
and Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA

Rahul Dasgupta MD

Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Arkansas Children's Hospital/University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
Little Rock, AR, USA

Suanne Daves MD

Associate Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics, Vanderbilt
University School of Medicine; Anesthesiologist in Chief, Monroe
Carell Jr. Children's Hospital; and Medical Director, Perioperative
Services, Pediatric Heart Institute, Nashville, TN, USA

Laura K. Diaz MD

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology and Critical Care
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia PA, USA

James A. DiNardo MD, FAAP

Chief, Division of Cardiac Anesthesia
Senior Associate in Cardiac Anesthesia
Boston Children's Hospital
Professor of Anaesthesia Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA, USA

Brian Donahue MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Anesthesiology, Division of Pediatric Cardiac
Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville,
TN, USA

R. Blaine Easley MD

Associate Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics, Baylor College of
Medicine; Fellowship Director, Pediatric Anesthesiology; and
Director of Education, Department of Pediatric Anesthesiology, Texas
Children's Hospital, Houston, TX, USA

Robert H. Friesen MD

Professor of Anesthesiology,
University of Colorado School of Medicine Vice Chair, Department of
Anesthesiology,
Children's Hospital Colorado
Aurora, CO, USA

Ralph Gertler MD

Consultant Anesthesiologist
Institute of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care
German Heart Centre of the State of Bavaria
Technical University Munich
Munich, Germany

Erin A. Gottlieb MD

Staff Cardiovascular Anesthesiologist
Texas Children's Hospital
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

Nina A. Guzzetta MD

Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics,
Emory University School of Medicine, Children's Healthcare of
Atlanta, Atlanta, GA, USA

Gregory B. Hammer MD

Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
Stanford University School of Medicine Attending Pediatric Cardiac
Anesthesiologist Associate Director, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
Lucille Salter Packard Children's Hospital
Palo Alto CA, USA

Dolly D. Hansen MD

Emeritus Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesia, Boston
Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston,
MA, USA

Jane Heggie MD, FRCP

Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesia and Pain
Management, University of Toronto and Toronto General Hospital,
Toronto, ON, Canada

Paul A. Hickey MD

Anesthesiologist-in-Chief and Professor of Anaesthesia, Boston
Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

Stephen B. Horton PhD, CCP(Aus), CCP(USA), FACBS

Associate Professor /Director of Perfusion
Faculty of Medicine, Department of Paediatrics – The University of
Melbourne
Honorary Research Fellow, Murdoch Children's Research Institute
Cardiac Surgery Royal Children's Hospital
Melbourne, Australia

Kenji Kayashima MD

Chief, Department of Anesthesiology, Japan Community Health Care
Organization, Kyushu Hospital, Kitakyushu, Japan

Jeffrey J. Kim MD

Director, Electrophysiology and Pacing, Texas Children's Hospital;
and Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Section of
Cardiology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA

Raj Krishnamurthy MD

Section Chief, Radiology Research and Cardiac Imaging, Texas
Children's Hospital; and Associate Professor, Radiology, Baylor
College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA

Barry D. Kussman FFA(SA), FAAP

Associate Professor of Anaesthesia, Harvard Medical School; and
Senior Associate in Cardiac Anesthesia, Department of
Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain Medicine, Boston Children's
Hospital, Boston, MA, USA

Peter C. Laussen MBBS, FCIM

Chief, Department of Critical Care Medicine, Hospital for Sick
Children; and Professor, Department of Anaesthesia, University of
Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Richard J. Levy MD, FAAP

Vice Chair for Pediatric Laboratory Research, Department of
Anesthesiology
Division of Pediatric Anesthesia Professor of Anesthesiology
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, NY, USA

Andreas W. Loepke MD, PhD

Staff Anesthesiologist, Division of Cardiac Anesthesia
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Professor of Clinical Anesthesia and Pediatrics
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Cincinnati, OH, USA

Mariepi Manolis MA MB BChir (Cantab) FRCA

Clinical Fellow in Anaesthesia, Great Ormond Street Hospital for
Children NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK

Ian McKenzie MBBS, DipRACOG, FANZCA

Director, Department of Anaesthesia & Pain Management
The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
Melbourne, Australia

Angus McEwan FRCA

Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist, Great Ormond Street Hospital for
Children NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK

Bruce E. Miller MD

Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics,
Emory University School of Medicine; and Director of Pediatric
Cardiac Anesthesiology, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta,
GA, USA

Wanda C. Miller-Hance MD, FACC, FASE

Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics, Baylor College of
Medicine;
Associate Director Division of Pediatric Cardiovascular,
Anesthesiology and Director of Intraoperative, Echocardiography
Texas Children's Hospital
Houston, TX, USA

Alexander Mittnacht MD

Professor of Anesthesiology Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Director Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesia
Department of Anesthesiology The Mount Sinai Medical Center
New York, NY, USA

Emad B. Mossad MD

Director, Arthur S. Keats Division of Pediatric Cardiovascular
Anesthesiology
Texas Children's Hospital;
Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

Pablo Motta MD

Staff Cardiovascular Anesthesiologist
Texas Children's Hospital Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX USA

Viviane G. Nasr MD

Assistant in Anesthesia
Boston Children's Hospital
Assistant Professor in Anesthesia
Harvard Medical School

Lori Newman M.Ed

Principal Associate in Medical Education, Harvard Medical School
Director of the Office for Professional, Development, Center for Education
Co-Director of the Rabkin Fellowship in Medical, Education, and Co-Chair of the Academy of Medical Educators
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, MA, USA

Susan C. Nicolson MD

Medical Director, Cardiac Center Operations, The Cardiac Center
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Professor of Anesthesia Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia PA, USA

Kirsten C. Odegard MD

Senior Associate in Anesthesia, Boston Children's Hospital; and Associate Professor in Anaesthesia, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

Philippe Pouard MD

Head of Intensive Care, Anaesthesia and Perfusion Unit, Reference Center for Complex Congenital Heart Disease, University Hospital Necker Enfants Malades, René Descartes University, Paris, France

Chandra Ramamoorthy MB BS, FFA (UK)

Professor of Anesthesiology, Stanford University School of Medicine; and Director, Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesia, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Stanford, CA, USA

Stephen J. Roth MD, MPH

Professor of Pediatrics (Cardiology) Chief, Division of Pediatric Cardiology
Stanford University School of Medicine
Director, Children's Heart Center
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford
Palo Alto, CA, USA

V. Ben Sivarajan MD MS FRCPC

Assistant Professor of Critical Care Medicine & Paediatrics
Departments of Critical Care Medicine & Paediatrics
Medical Director, Organ & Tissue Donation
The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto
Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Ehrenfried Schindler MD

Medical Director, German Pediatric Heart Center, Department of Pediatric Anesthesiology, Asklepios Klinik Sankt Augustin, Sankt Augustin, Germany

Annette Y. Schure MD, DEAA

Senior Associate in Anesthesia, Boston Children's Hospital and Instructor in Anaesthesia, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

Michael L. Schmitz MD

Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
Arkansas Children's Hospital
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Little Rock, AR, USA

Aarti Shah MB ChB FCARCSI

Cardiac Anaesthetist
Alder Hey Hospital Royal Liverpool Children's NHS Trust
Liverpool, United Kingdom

Anshuman Sharma MD, MBA

Professor, Department of Anesthesiology
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO, USA

Adam Skinner BSC, MBChB, MRCP, FRCA

Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist
Department of Anaesthesia Royal Children's Hospital
Melbourne, Australia

James P. Spaeth MD

Director of Cardiac Anesthesia
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesia and Pediatrics
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Cincinnati, OH, USA

Stephen A. Stayer MD

Professor, Anesthesiology and Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine; and Medical Director of Perioperative Services, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX, USA

James M. Steven MD, SM

Chief, Division of Cardiac Anesthesia
The Cardiac Center
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Associate Professor of Anesthesia Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia PA, USA

Sugantha Sundar MB, BS

Program Director, Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesia Fellowship Program
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Assistant Professor of Anaesthesia
Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA, USA

Lorraine L. Thompson MD

Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Arkansas Children's Hospital/University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
Little Rock, AR, USA

Mark D. Twite MB BChir

Associate Professor of Anesthesiology
University of Colorado School of Medicine Director, Cardiac
Anesthesiology, Children's Hospital Colorado
Aurora, CO, USA

Shoichi Uezono MD

Professor and Chair, Department of Anesthesiology, Jikei University,
Tokyo, Japan

Sana Ullah MB, ChB

Associate Professor of Anesthesiology University of Texas
Southwestern Children's Medical Center of Dallas
Dallas, TX, USA

Santiago O. Valdes MD

Attending Physician, Electrophysiology and Pacing, Texas Children's
Hospital; and Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Section
of Cardiology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA

Annette Vegas MD, FRCPC, FASE

Staff Anesthesiologist and Director of Perioperative TEE, Department
of Anesthesia and Pain Management, Toronto General Hospital and
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology, University of Toronto,
Toronto, USA

David F. Vener MD

Staff Pediatric Cardiovascular Anesthesiologist, Texas Children's
Hospital; and Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology
and Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX, USA

Scott G. Walker MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesia
Gopal Krishna Scholar in Pediatric Anesthesiology, Indiana
University School of Medicine
Director, Division of Pediatric Anesthesiology, Chief of Pediatric
Anesthesia
Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health
Indianapolis, IN, USA

Gina Whitney MD

Associate Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Podiatric Cardiovascular Anesthesiologist
Children's Hospital, Colorado
Aurora CO, USA

Glyn D. Williams MBChB, FFA

Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain
Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine and Lucile Packard
Children's Hospital, Stanford, CA, USA

Lisa Wise-Faberowski MD

Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain
Medicine, Stanford University Medical Center, Stanford,
CA, USA

Justin C. Yeh MD

Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Cardiology)
Stanford University School of Medicine
Director, Cardiac ECMO Program
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford
Palo Alto, CA, USA

Maria Markakis Zestos MD

Chief of Anesthesiology
Children's Hospital of Michigan
Associate Professor Wayne State University
Detroit, MI, USA

Preface

The third edition of *Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease* is a major update and expansion of the textbook that reflects the ongoing development of the practice of pediatric and congenital cardiac anesthesia, and the burgeoning knowledge base in this exciting field. All chapters have been thoroughly revised and updated with new sections and numerous recent references. Additional chapters have been included in two important areas of critical knowledge and practice, addressing anesthetic and sedative neurotoxicity in the patient with congenital heart disease (Chapter 9) and anesthesia in the patient with pulmonary hypertension (Chapter 28). Both of these chapters are written by true experts in these fields and are worthy of their own separate treatment. Also, for the first time, this edition of the textbook is in color, and numerous new illustrations and figures have been added to present a vibrant representation of cardiovascular anatomy and surgical approaches that are essential to the knowledge base for the congenital cardiac anesthesiologist. In addition, after each major section in every chapter, key learning points are presented to highlight important concepts and enhance knowledge retention. Each chapter is accompanied by five multiple-choice questions covering the most crucial learning points in each chapter, to optimize the learning experience for readers at all levels of training and clinical experience. These questions can be found in the on-line book supplement at <http://www.wiley.com/go/andropoulos/congenitalheart>.

We are pleased to welcome our Texas Children's Hospital colleague, Wanda C. Miller-Hance, MD, as Co-Editor of this text. Dr. Miller-Hance is a fully trained pediatric and congenital cardiac anesthesiologist, pediatric cardiologist, and recognized authority in intraoperative

echocardiography for congenital heart surgery. Reflecting the international scope of anesthesia for congenital heart disease and the many outstanding practitioners all over the world, a number of new international authors have been added from Germany, the United Kingdom, Australia, France, Japan, and Canada.

Finally, caring for patients with congenital heart disease requires a team of dedicated professionals that include congenital cardiac anesthesiologists, congenital heart surgeons, pediatric and adult congenital cardiologists, cardiac intensivists, cardiac interventionalists and imaging specialists, nurses, perfusionists, respiratory therapists, technicians, child life and social workers, and interpreters, among many others. We greatly appreciate the passion and commitment of the people in these disciplines, without whom we could not do our work. Finally, the patient and family are the focus of the team, and their courage and goodwill in the face of serious and complex illness always amaze and inspire us. It is to our patients and their families that *Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease*, third edition, is dedicated, in the hope that the knowledge contained in these pages will contribute to better outcomes for them.

It is the purpose of this, our third edition of *Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease*, to contribute to the fund of knowledge in our field and to enhance the care of children with heart disease by individuals from various disciplines worldwide.

Dean B. Andropoulos, MD, MHCM (Editor-in-Chief)
Stephen A. Stayer, MD
Emad B. Mossad, MD
Wanda C. Miller-Hance, MD

List of Abbreviations

α_2 M	α_2 -macroglobulin	AVNRT	atrioventricular nodal re-entry tachycardia
AA	aortic atresia	AVSD	atrioventricular septal defect
ABC	Aristotle Basic Complexity	BAV	bicuspid aortic valve
ABO-C	ABO-compatible	Bax	B-cell lymphoma-2-associated X protein
ABO-I	ABO-incompatible	BCAS	The Boston Circulatory Arrest Study
ACE	angiotensin-converting enzyme	BCL-2	B-cell lymphoma-2
ACGME	Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education	BCL-xL	B-cell lymphoma-extra large
ACHD	adult congenital heart disease	BCPC	bi-directional cavopulmonary connection
ACT	activated clotting time	BDNF	Brain-derived neurotrophic factor
ACTH	adrenocorticotrophic hormone	BiVAD	biventricular ventricular assist device
AEG	atrial electrogram	BNP	brain natriuretic peptide
AI	aortic insufficiency	BOS	bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome
AICD	automatic internal cardiac defibrillator	BPA	branch pulmonary artery
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	BPD	bronchopulmonary dysplasia
AKI	acute kidney injury	BSA	body surface area
Akt	protein kinase B	BSID	Bayley Scales of Infant Development
ALCAPA	anomalous left coronary artery arising from the pulmonary artery	BUN	blood urea nitrogen
		C3PO	Congenital Cardiac Catheterization Project on Outcomes
ALI	acute lung injury	CABG	coronary artery bypass grafting
ANF	atrial natriuretic factor	CALM	congenital atresia of the left main coronary artery
ANH	Acute normovolemic hemodilution		
APAF-1	apoptotic protease activating factor 1	cAMP	cyclic adenosine monophosphate
APERP	accessory pathway effective refractory period	CAV	coronary artery vasculopathy
		CAVC	complete atrioventricular canal
APOE	apolipoprotein E	CAVF	coronary arteriovenous fistula
APRV	airway pressure release ventilation	CBF	cerebral blood flow
aPTT	activated partial thromboplastin time	CBG	corticosteroid-binding globulin
APW	aortopulmonary window	CCA	common carotid artery
AR	adrenergic receptor	CCAN	Congenital Cardiac Anesthesia Network
ARCAPA	anomalous right coronary artery from the pulmonary artery	CCAS	Congenital Cardiac Anesthesia Society
		CCB	calcium channel blocker
ARDS	acute respiratory distress syndrome	CCTGA	congenitally corrected transposition of the great arteries
ARF	acute renal failure		
ASD	atrial septal defect	CF	cystic fibrosis
ASE	American Society of Echocardiography	cGMP	cyclic guanosine monophosphate
ASO	arterial switch operation	CHARM	Catheterization for Congenital Heart Disease Adjustment for Risk Method
AT	atrial tachycardia		
ATIII	antithrombin III	CHD	congenital heart disease
ATP	adenosine triphosphate	CHF	congestive heart failure
AUC	area under the curve	CICU	cardiac intensive care unit
AV	atrioventricular	CIED	cardiovascular implantable electronic device
AVC	atrioventricular canal		

CIRCI	critical illness-related corticosteroid insufficiency	EFE	endocardial fibroelastosis
CL	cardiolipin	EJV	external jugular vein
CLAD	chronic lung allograft dysfunction	ELSO	Extracorporeal Life Support Organization
CMR	cardiac magnetic resonance	EMA	European Medicines Agency
CMRO ₂	cerebral metabolic rate for oxygen consumption	EMI	electromagnetic interference
CMV	cytomegalovirus	EP	electrophysiological
CO	carbon monoxide	EPDCs	epicardially derived cells
CO	cardiac output	EPO	recombinant human erythropoietin alpha
CoA	coarctation of the aorta	ERA	endothelin receptor antagonist
COP	colloid osmotic pressure	ERK	extracellular signal-regulated protein kinase
COx	cerebral oximetry index	ESA	end-systolic area
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure	ESV	end-systolic volume
CPB	cardiopulmonary bypass	ET-1	endothelin-1
CPVT	catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia	EtCO ₂	end-tidal CO ₂
CRBSIs	catheter-related bloodstream infections	ETT	endotracheal tube
CRMDs	cardiac rhythm management devices	FAC	fractional area change
CSA	cross-sectional area	FDA	Food and Drug Administration
CSOR	cerebral–splanchnic oxygen ratio	FEV ₁	forced expiratory volume in 1 second
CT	computed tomography	FFP	fresh frozen plasma
CUF	conventional ultrafiltration	FHF	first heart field
CVC	central venous catheter	FiO ₂	fraction of inspired oxygen
CVVH	continuous veno-venous hemofiltration	FOB	fiberoptic bronchoscope
CVVH/D	continuous veno-venous hemofiltration and dialysis	FRC	functional residual capacity
dATP	deoxyadenosine triphosphate	FTR	failure to resuscitate
DBD	donation after brain death	FV	femoral vein
DCD	donation after cardiac death	FVC	forced vital capacity
DCM	dilated cardiomyopathy	FVL	FV Leiden
DCRV	double-chambered right ventricle	GABA	γ-aminobutyric acid
DHCA	deep hypothermic circulatory arrest	GDP	guanosine diphosphate
DIC	diffuse intravascular coagulation	GFR	glomerular filtration rate
DIVA	difficult intravenous access	GI	gastrointestinal
DLCO	diffusing capacity for carbon monoxide	GLUTs	glucose transporters
DLT	double-lumen tube	Gp	glycoprotein
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid	GSK-3β	glycogen synthase kinase-3β
DO ₂	oxygen delivery	GTP	guanosine triphosphate
DORV	double outlet right ventricle	HAT	heparin-associated thrombocytopenia
D-TGA	dextro-transposition of the great arteries	HCII	heparin cofactor II
DVT	deep vein thrombosis	Hct	hematocrit
EA	Ebstein's anomaly	HEAL	Health Education Assets Library
EACA	ε-aminocaproic acid	HFOV	high-frequency oscillatory ventilation
EACTS	European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery	HIT	heparin-induced thrombocytopenia
EAT	ectopic atrial tachycardia	HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
EBV	estimated blood volume	HLA	human leukocyte antigens
ECG	electrocardiogram	HLHS	hypoplastic left heart syndrome
ECMO	extracorporeal membrane oxygenation	HPA	hypothalamic–pituitary–adrenal axis
ECPR	extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation	HPAH	heritable pulmonary artery hypertension
ECPR	extracorporeal membrane oxygenation as part of cardiopulmonary resuscitation	HPV	hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction
EDA	end-diastolic area	HR	heart rate
EDV	end-diastolic volume	HTK	histidine-tryptophan-ketoglutarate
EEG	electroencephalogram	HUS	head ultrasound
EF	ejection fraction	IAA	interrupted aortic arch
		IABP	intra-arterial blood pressure
		IAS	interatrial septum
		ICE	Intracardiac echocardiography
		ICH	intracranial hemorrhage
		ICU	intensive care unit
		IE	infective endocarditis

IgG	immunoglobulin G	MSOF	multisystem organ failure
IJV	internal jugular vein	mTOR	mammalian target of rapamycin
IM	intramuscular	MUF	modified ultrafiltration
iNO	inhaled nitric oxide	MV	mechanical ventilation
INR	international normalized ratio	NAC	N-acetylcysteine
IO	inflow occlusion	NEC	necrotizing enterocolitis
IPAH	idiopathic pulmonary artery hypertension	NGAL	neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin
IPCCC	International Pediatric and Congenital Cardiac Code	NICU	neonatal intensive care unit
ISHLT	Scientific Registry of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation	NIRS	near-infrared spectroscopy
IU	international unit	NMDA	N-methyl-D-aspartate
IV	intravenous	NOS	nitric oxide synthase
IVC	inferior vena cava	OB	obliterative bronchitis
IVH	intraventricular hemorrhage	OEF	oxygen excess factor
JCAHO	Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Hospital Organizations	OER	oxygen extraction rate
JET	junctional ectopic tachycardia	OHT	orthotopic heart transplantation
KIM-1	kidney injury molecule-1	OPTN	Organ Procurement and Transplant Network
LA	left atrium	OR	operating room
LAA	left aortic arch	p75 ^{NTR}	p75 neurotrophic receptor
LAA	left atrial appendage	PA	pulmonary artery
LAP	left atrial pressure	PA	pulmonary atresia
LAS	lung allocation score	PA/IVS	pulmonary atresia with intact ventricular septum
LBBB	left bundle branch block	PAA	pharyngeal arch arteries
LBW	low birth weight	PAC	premature atrial contraction
LBWN	low-birth-weight neonate	PaCO ₂	partial pressure of carbon dioxide in arterial blood
LCOS	low cardiac output syndrome	PAD	preoperative autologous donation
LDLLT	living donor lobar lung transplant	PAH	pulmonary artery hypertension
LE	lower esophageal	PAH-CHD	pulmonary artery hypertension associated with congenital heart disease
L-FABP	liver fatty acid-binding protein	PAI	plasminogen activator inhibitor
LiDCO	lithium dilution CO	PAO ₂	alveolar oxygen tension
LMA	laryngeal mask airway	PaO ₂	partial pressure of oxygen in arterial blood
LMWH	low-molecular-weight heparin	PAPVC	partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection
LPA	left pulmonary artery	PAPVD	partial anomalous pulmonary venous drainage
LQTS	long QT syndrome	PAPVR	partial anomalous pulmonary venous return
LSVC	persistent left superior vena cava	PASP	pulmonary artery systolic pressure
L-TGA	levo-transposition of the great arteries	PBF	pulmonary blood flow
LV	left ventricle, left ventricular	PC	protein C
LVEDP	left ventricular end-diastolic pressure	pCAS	pediatric cardiopulmonary assist system
LVEDV	left ventricular end-diastolic volume	PCC	prothrombin complex concentrate
LVNC	left ventricular non-compaction	PCWP	pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
LVOT	left ventricular outflow tract	PD	peritoneal dialysis
MAC	minimum alveolar concentration	PDA	patent ductus arteriosus
MAP	mean arterial pressure	PDC	peritoneal drainage catheter
MAS	meconium aspiration syndrome	PDE	phosphodiesterase
MAT	multifocal atrial tachycardia	PDE-5	phosphodiesterase-5
mBTS	modified Blalock–Taussig shunt	PDEIs	phosphodiesterase inhibitors
MCS	mechanical circulatory support	PEEP	positive end-expiratory pressure
MDI	Mental Development Index	PEO	proepicardial organ
MMF	mycophenolate mofetil	PF4	platelet factor 4
MOD	method of discs	PFO	patent foramen ovale
MPA	main pulmonary artery	PG	pressure gradient
mPAP	mean pulmonary artery pressure	PGE ₁	prostaglandin E ₁
MPTP	mitochondrial permeability transition pore		
MR	mitral regurgitation		
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging		
MRSA	methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>		

PH	pulmonary hypertension	SCA	Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists
PHT	pulmonary hypertension	SCPA	superior cavopulmonary anastomosis
PI	pulmonary insufficiency	SCV	subclavian vein
PICC	peripherally inserted central catheter	ScvO ₂	central venous oxygen saturation
PIP	peak inspiratory measurement	SERCA	sarcoplasmic reticulum Ca ²⁺ -ATPase
PI-PLC	phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase C	SF	shortening fraction
PKA	protein kinase A	SGOT	serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
PKC	protein kinase C	SHF	second heart field
PLC	phospholipase C	SIRS	systemic inflammatory response syndrome
PMP	poly-(4-methyl-1-pentene)	SjvO ₂	jugular bulb venous oximetry
POCA	Pediatric Perioperative Cardiac Arrest Registry	SLV	single-lung ventilation
PPL	polypropylene	SPA	Society for Pediatric Anesthesia
PPS	postpericardiotomy syndrome	SpO ₂	pulse oximeter saturation
PPV	positive pressure ventilation	SR	sarcoplasmic reticulum
PRA	panel reactive antibody	SSI	surgical site infection
pRIFLE	pediatric modification of the RIFLE score	STAT	Society of Thoracic Surgeons–European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
PRISM	Pediatric Risk of Mortality		Congenital Heart Surgery mortality score
PS	protein S		Society of Thoracic Surgeons
PS	pulmonary stenosis	STS	Society of Thoracic Surgeons
PS/IVS	pulmonary stenosis with intact ventricular septum	STS-CHSD	Society of Thoracic Surgeons Congenital Heart Surgery Database
PT	prothrombin time	subAS	subvalvular aortic stenosis
PTLD	post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder	SV	stroke volume
PTT	partial thromboplastin time	SVAS	congenital supravalvular aortic stenosis
PV	pulmonary valve	SVC	superior vena cava
PVCs	premature ventricular contractions	SvO ₂	percentage of oxygen saturation of mixed venous blood
PVD	pulmonary vascular disease	SVR	systemic vascular resistance
PVP	pulmonary valve perforation	SVRI	systemic vascular resistance index
PVR	pulmonary vascular resistance	SVT	supraventricular tachycardia
PVRI	pulmonary vascular resistance index	T3	triiodothyronine
Qp	pulmonary blood flow	T4	thyroxine
Qs	systemic blood flow	TA	tranexamic acid
RA	right atrium	TA	tricuspid atresia
RAA	right aortic arch	TAFI	thrombin-activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor
RACHS-1	Risk Adjustment for Congenital Heart Surgery	TAPVC	total anomalous pulmonary venous connection
RAP	right atrial pressure	TAPVR	total anomalous pulmonary venous return
RBBB	right bundle branch block	TCAD	transplant coronary artery disease
RBC	red blood cell	TDI	tissue Doppler imaging
RCP	regional cerebral perfusion	TEE	transesophageal echocardiography
RDS	respiratory distress syndrome	TEG	thromboelastography
rFVIIa	recombinant activated factor VIIa	TF	tissue factor
RIFLE	risk, injury, failure, loss and end-stage renal disease	TFPI	tissue factor pathway inhibitor
RIPC	remote ischemic preconditioning	TGA	transposition of the great arteries
ROS	reactive oxygen species	TGC	tight glycemic control
RPA	right pulmonary artery	TI	tricuspid valve (TV) insufficiency
RV	right ventricle, right ventricular	TLC	total lung capacity
RVDCC	right ventricle-dependent coronary circulation	TNF-alpha	tumor necrosis factor-alpha
RVOT	right ventricular outflow tract	TOF	tetralogy of Fallot
RVOTO	right ventricular outflow tract obstruction	TOR	target of rapamycin protein
RVSP	right ventricular systolic pressure	tPA	tissue plasminogen activator
SAN	sinoatrial node	TPTD	transpulmonary thermodilution
SaO ₂	arterial oxygen saturation	TR	tricuspid regurgitation
		TRALI	transfusion-related acute lung injury
		TTE	transthoracic echocardiography

TV	tricuspid valve	VMI	visual-motor integration
UFH	unfractionated heparin	VO ₂	oxygen consumption
UNOS	United Network for Organ Sharing	vPEO	venous proepicardial organ
URI	upper respiratory tract infection	VSD	ventricular septal defect
V/Q	ventilation/perfusion	VT	ventricular tachycardia
VA	ventriculoarterial	VTI	velocity time integral
VAA	volatile anesthetic agent	vWF	von Willebrand factor
VAC	video-assisted cardioscopy	WHO	World Health Organization
VAD	ventricular assist device	WMI	white matter injury
VATS	video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery	WS	Williams syndrome
VF	ventricular fibrillation	WUS	Wake Up Safe Database

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Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease: Companion Website

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Included on the site:

MCQ questions to accompany each chapter

Full reference lists

CHAPTER 1

History of Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease

Viviane G. Nasr, Paul A. Hickey and Dolly D. Hansen

Department of Anesthesia, Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

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Introduction

Over the last 70 years, pediatric cardiac anesthesia has developed as a subspecialty of pediatric anesthesia, or a subspecialty of cardiac anesthesia, depending on one's perspective. It is impossible to describe the evolution of pediatric cardiac anesthesia without constantly referring to developments in the surgical treatment of congenital heart disease (CHD) because of the great interdependency of the two fields. As pediatric anesthesia developed, surgical treatments of children with CHD began to be invented, starting with the simple surgical ligation of a patent ductus arteriosus (PDA), moving on to sophisticated, staged repair of complex intracardiac lesions in low-birth-weight neonates requiring cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) and circulatory arrest and then on to the most recent complex biventricular repair. Practically every advance in the surgical treatment of CHD had to be accompanied by changes in anesthetic management to overcome the challenges that impeded successful surgical treatment or mitigated morbidity associated with surgical treatment.

This history will mostly be organized around the theme of how anesthesiologists met these new challenges using the anesthetic armamentarium that was available to them at the time. The second theme running through this story is the gradual change of interest and focus from events in the operating room (OR) to perioperative care in its broadest sense, including perioperative morbidity. The last theme

is the progressive expansion in the age range of patients routinely presenting for anesthesia and surgery, from the 9-year-old undergoing the first PDA ligation in 1938 [1] to the first fetus to have an intervention for critical aortic stenosis *in utero*, as reported in *The New York Times* in 2002 [2], and, more recently, to the adult with CHD.

This story will be told working through the different time frames – the first years (1938–1954); CPB and early repair (1954–1970); deep hypothermic circulatory arrest (DHCA) and introduction of prostaglandin E₁ (PGE₁) for PDA (1970–1980); hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS) (1980–1990); refinement and improvement in mortality/morbidity (1990–2000); introduction of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and increased emphasis on interventional cardiology and imaging modalities (2000–2010); expansion to the fetus and adult with CHD (2011); and on to the present time.

The first years: 1938–1954

This period began with the ligation of the PDA and continued with palliative operations. The first successful operation for CHD occurred in August 1938 when Robert E. Gross ligated the PDA of a 9-year-old girl. The operation and the postoperative course were smooth, but because of the interest in the case, the child was kept in the hospital until the 13th day. In the report of the case, Gross mentions

that the operation was done under cyclopropane anesthesia, and continues: “The chest was closed, the lung being re-expanded with positive pressure anesthesia just prior to placing the last stitch in the intercostal muscles.”

A nurse using a “tight-fitting” mask gave the anesthetic. There was no intubation and, of course, no postoperative ventilation. The paper does not mention any particular pulmonary complications, so it cannot have been much different from the ordinary postoperative course of the day [1].

In 1952, Dr. Gross published a review of 525 PDA ligations where many, if not all, of the anesthetics were administered by the same nurse anesthetist, under surgical direction [3]. Here he states: “Formerly we employed cyclopropane anesthesia for these cases, but since about half of the fatalities seemed to have been attributable to cardiac arrest or irregularities under this anesthetic, we have now completely abandoned cyclopropane and employ ether and oxygen as a routine.” It is probably correct that cyclopropane under these circumstances with insufficient airway control was more likely to cause cardiac arrhythmias than ether. An intralaryngeal airway was used, which also served “to facilitate suction removal of any secretions from the lower airway” (and, we may add, the stomach). Dr. Gross claims that the use of this airway reduced the incidence of postoperative pulmonary complications. Without having a modern, rigorous review of this series, it is hard to know what particular anesthetic challenges other than these were confronted by the anesthetist, but we may assume that intraoperative desaturation from the collapsed left lung, postoperative pulmonary complications, and occasional major blood loss from an uncontrolled, ruptured ductus arteriosus were high on the list.

The next operation to be introduced was billed as “corrective” for the child with cyanotic CHD and was the systemic to pulmonary artery (PA) shunt. The procedure was proposed by Helen Taussig as an “artificial ductus arteriosus” and was first performed by Albert Blalock at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1944. In a very detailed paper, Drs. Blalock and Taussig described the first three patients to undergo the Blalock–Taussig shunt operation. Dr. Harmel anesthetized the first and third patients, using ether and oxygen in an open drop method for the first patient and cyclopropane through an endotracheal tube for the third patient. The second patient was given cyclopropane through an endotracheal tube by Dr. Lamont. Whether the first patient was intubated is unclear, but it is noted that in all three cases, positive pressure ventilation was used to reinflate the lung [4]. Interestingly, in this early kinder and gentler time, the surgical and pediatric authors reporting the Blalock–Taussig operation acknowledged by name the pediatricians and house officers who took such good care of the children postoperatively, but still did not acknowledge in their paper the contribution of the anesthesiologists Lamont and Harmel. Although intubation of infants was described by Gillespie as early as 1939, it is difficult to say when precisely intubations became routine [5].

Drs. Harmel and Lamont reported in 1946 on their anesthetic experience of 100 operations for congenital malformations of the heart “in which there is pulmonary artery stenosis or atresia.” They reported 10 anesthetic-related deaths in the series, so it is certain that they encountered formidable anesthetic problems in these surgical procedures [6]. This is the first paper we know of published in the field of pediatric cardiac anesthesia.

In 1952, Damman and Muller reported a successful operation in which the main PA was reduced in size and a band was placed around the artery in a 6-month-old infant with a single ventricle (SV). They state that morphine and atropine were given preoperatively, but no further anesthetic agents are mentioned. At that time infants were assumed to be oblivious to pain, so we can only speculate on what was used beyond oxygen and restraint [7].

Over the next 20 years, many palliative operations for CHD were added and a number of papers appeared describing the procedures and the anesthetic management. In 1948 McQuiston described the anesthetic technique used at the Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago [8]. This is an excellent paper for its time, but a number of the author’s conclusions are erroneous, although they were the results of astute clinical observations and the knowledge at the time. The anesthetic technique for shunt operations (mostly Potts’ anastomosis) is discussed in some detail, but is mostly of historical interest today. McQuiston explained that he had no experience of anesthetic management used in other centers, such as the pentothal–N₂O–curare used at Minnesota or the ether technique used at the Mayo Clinic. McQuiston used heavy premedication with morphine, pentobarbital and atropine, and/or scopolamine; this is emphasized because it was important “to render the child sleepy and not anxious.” The effect of sedation with regard to a decrease in cyanosis (resulting in making the child look pinker) is noted by the authors. They also noted that children with severe pulmonic stenosis or atresia do not decrease their cyanosis “because of very little blood flow,” and these children have the highest mortality.

McQuiston pointed out that body temperature control was an important factor in predicting mortality and advocated the use of moderate hypothermia (i.e., “refrigeration” with ice bags), because of a frequently seen syndrome of hyperthermia. McQuiston worked from the assumption that hyperthermia is a disease in itself, but did not explore the idea that the rise in central temperature might be a symptom of low cardiac output with peripheral vasoconstriction. Given what we now know about shunt physiology, it is interesting to speculate that this “disease” was caused by pulmonary hyperperfusion after the opening of what would now be considered as an excessively large shunt, stealing a large portion of systemic blood flow.

In 1950 Harris described the anesthetic technique used at Mount Zion Hospital in San Francisco. He emphasized the use of quite heavy premedication with morphine, atropine, and scopolamine. The “basal anesthetic agent” was Avertin (tribromoethanol). It was given rectally and supplemented with N₂O/O₂ and very low doses of curare.

Intubation was facilitated by cyclopropane. The FiO_2 was changed according to cyanosis; and bucking or attempts at respiration were thought to be due to stimulation of the hilus of the lung. This was treated with “cocainization” of the hilus [9].

In 1952 Dr. Robert M. Smith discussed the circulatory factors involved in the anesthetic management of patients with CHD. He pointed out the necessity of understanding the pathophysiology of the lesion and also “the expected effect of the operation upon this unnatural physiology.” That is, he recognized that the operations are not curative. The anesthetic agents recommended were mostly ether following premedication.

While most of these previous papers had been about tetralogy of Fallot (TOF), Dr. Smith also described the anesthetic challenges of surgery for coarctation of the aorta, that was introduced by Dr. Gross in the U.S. and Dr. Craaford in Sweden simultaneously in the year 1945. He emphasized the hypertension following clamping of the aorta and warned against excessive bleeding in children operated on at older ages using ganglionic blocking agents. This bleeding was far beyond what anesthesiologists now see in patients operated on at younger ages, before development of substantial collateral arterial vessels [10].

The heart–lung machine: 1954–1970

From 1954 to 1970 the development of what was then called the “heart–lung machine” opened the heart to surgical repair of complex intracardiac congenital heart defects. At the time, the initial high morbidity of early CPB technology seen in adults was even worse in children, particularly smaller children weighing less than 10 kg. Anesthetic challenges multiplied rapidly in association with CPB, coupled with early attempts at complete intracardiac repair. The lung as well as the heart received a large share of the bypass-related injuries, leading to increased postoperative pulmonary complications. Brain injury began to be seen and was occasionally reported, in conjunction with CPB operations, particularly when extreme levels of hypothermia were used in an attempt to mitigate the morbidity seen in various organ systems after CPB.

In Kirklin’s initial groundbreaking report of intracardiac surgery with the aid of a mechanical pump–oxygenator system at the Mayo Clinic, the only reference to anesthetic management was a brief remark that ether and oxygen were given [11]. In Lillehei’s description of direct vision intracardiac surgery in humans using a simple, disposable artificial oxygenator, there was no mention of anesthetic management [12]. What strikes a “modern” cardiac anesthesiologist in these two reports is the high mortality: 50% in Kirklin’s series and 14% in Lillehei’s series. All of these patients were children with CHD ranging in age from 1 month to 11 years. Clearly, such mortality and the associated patient care expense would not be tolerated today.

At that time, pediatric anesthesia was performed with open drop ether administration and later with ether using different non-rebreathing systems. Most anesthetics were given by nurses under the supervision of the surgeon. The first physician anesthesiologist to be employed by a children’s hospital was Robert M. Smith in Boston in 1946.

The anesthetic agent that came into widespread use after ether was cyclopropane; in most of the early textbooks, it was the recommended drug for pediatric anesthesia. Quite apart from being explosive, cyclopropane was difficult to use. It was obvious that CO_2 absorption was necessary with cyclopropane to avoid hypercarbia and acidosis, which might precipitate ventricular arrhythmias. However, administration with a Waters’ absorber could be technically difficult, especially as tracheal intubation was considered dangerous to the child’s “small, delicate airway.”

In all the early reports, it is noted or implied that the patients were awake (more or less) and extubated at the end of the operation. In the description of the postoperative course, respiratory complications were frequent, in the form of either pulmonary respiratory insufficiency or airway obstruction. This latter problem was probably because “the largest tube which would fit through the larynx” was used. Another reason may have been that the red rubber tube was not tissue-tested. The former problem was probably often related to the morbidity of early bypass technology on the lung.

Arthur S. Keats, working at the Texas Heart Institute and Texas Children’s Hospital with Denton A. Cooley, had much experience with congenital heart surgery and anesthesia from 1955 to 1960, and provided the most extensive description of the anesthetic techniques used in this era [13,14]. He described anesthesia for congenital heart surgery without bypass in 150 patients, the most common operations being PDA ligation, Potts’ operation, atrial septectomy (Blalock–Hanlon operation), and pulmonary valvotomy. Premedication was with oral or rectal pentobarbital, chloral hydrate per rectum, intramuscular meperidine, and intramuscular scopolamine or atropine. Endotracheal intubation was utilized, and ventilation was assisted using an Ayres T-piece, to-and-fro absorption system, or a circle system. Cyclopropane was used for induction, and a venous cutdown provided vascular access. Succinylcholine bolus and infusion were used to maintain muscle relaxation. Light ether anesthesia was used for maintenance until the start of chest closure, and then 50% N_2O was used as needed during chest closure. Of note is the fact that the electrocardiogram (ECG), ear oximeter, and intra-arterial blood pressure (IABP) recordings were used for monitoring during this period, as well as arterial blood gases and measurements of electrolytes and hemoglobin. The following year he published his experiences with 200 patients undergoing surgery for CHD with CPB, almost all of whom were children. Ventricular septal defect (VSD), atrial septal defect (ASD), TOF, and aortic stenosis were the most common indications for surgery. The anesthetic techniques were

the same as described earlier, except that d-tubocurarine was given to maintain apnea during the bypass. In 1957, in addition to ECG, IABP, and oximeter, Dr. Digby Leigh noted the importance of capnography in cardiac surgery. He described the effect of pulmonary blood flow on end-tidal CO₂ (EtCO₂) and the decrease in EtCO₂ after partial clamping of the PA during the Blalock–Taussig shunt procedure. However, it was not until 1995 that Smolinsky et al. reported the importance of EtCO₂ during PA banding [15–17].

Perfusion rates of 40–50 mL/kg/min were used in infants and children, and lactic acidemia after bypass (average 4 mmol/L) was described. No anesthetic agent was added during the bypass procedure, and “patients tended to awaken during the period of bypass,” but apparently without recall or awareness. Arrhythmias noted ranged from frequent bradycardia with cyclopropane and succinylcholine to junctional or ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation (VF), heart block, and rapid atrial arrhythmias. Treatments included defibrillation, procainamide, digitalis, phenylephrine, ephedrine, isoproterenol, and atropine. Eleven out of 102 patients with VSD experienced atrioventricular block. Epicardial pacing was attempted in some of these patients but was never successful. Fresh citrated whole blood was used for small children throughout the case, and the transfusion of large amounts of blood was frequently necessary in small infants. The mortality rate was 13% in the first series (36% in the 42 patients less than 1 year old) and 22.5% in the second series (47.5% in the 40 patients less than 1 year old). Causes of death included low cardiac output after ventriculotomy, irreversible VF, coronary air emboli, postoperative atrioventricular block, hemorrhage, pulmonary hypertension, diffuse atelectasis, and aspiration of vomitus. No death was attributed to the anesthetic alone. Reading these reports provides an appreciation of the daunting task of giving anesthesia during these pioneering times.

Tracheostomy after cardiac operations was not unusual and in some centers was done “prophylactically” a week before the scheduled operation. These practices were certainly related to primitive (relative to the present) techniques and equipment used for both endotracheal intubation and CPB. Postoperative ventilatory support did not become routine until later when neonatologists and other intensive care specialists had proved it could be done successfully. Successful management of prolonged respiratory support was first demonstrated in the great poliomyelitis epidemics in Europe and the USA in 1952–1954 [18].

Halothane was introduced in clinical practice in the mid-1950s and it rapidly became the most popular agent in pediatric anesthesia, mostly because of the smooth induction compared with the older agents. Halothane was also widely used for pediatric cardiac anesthesia in spite of its depressive effect on the myocardium and the significant risk of arrhythmias. Halothane is no longer available, and the newer inhalational agents, isoflurane and sevoflurane,

are now the mainstays of pediatric cardiac cases in US academic centers.

During this period, adult cardiac anesthesiologists, following the practice reported by Edward Lowenstein in 1970 [19], began to use intravenous anesthesia based on opiates. Initially, morphine in doses up to 1 mg/kg was given with 100% oxygen and this technique became the anesthetic of choice for adult cardiac patients, but vasodilation and hypotension associated with its use slowed the incorporation of this technique into pediatric cardiac anesthesia until the synthetic opiates became available.

Before CPB was developed, or when it still carried high morbidity and mortality, a number of modalities were used to improve the outcome for infants. One was inflow occlusion (IO) and another was the hyperbaric chamber. IO was useful and, if well managed, an elegant technique. The secret was the organization of the efforts of the entire operative team, and the technique required the closest cooperation between surgeons and anesthesiologists. The technique was as follows.

The chest was opened in the midline. After pericardiotomy, a side clamp was placed on the right atrial (RA) free wall and an incision made in the RA, or proximal on the PA, prior to placing the vascular clamps used to occlude caval return. Before application of the clamps, patients were hyperventilated with 100% O₂. During IO, the superior vena cava (SVC) and inferior vena cava (IVC) inflow were occluded, ventilation held, and the RA or PA clamp released; the heart was allowed to empty and the septum primum was excised or the pulmonic valve dilated. After excision of the septum or valvotomy, one caval clamp was released initially to de-air the atrium. The RA side clamp or the PA clamp was then reapplied and the other caval clamp released. The heart was resuscitated with bolus calcium gluconate (range 30–150 mg/kg) and bicarbonate (range 0.3–3 mEq/kg). Occasionally, inotropes were administered, most often dopamine. It was important to titrate the inotropes so as not to aggravate rebound hypertension caused by endogenous catecholamines. The duration of the IO was between 1 and 3 minutes – terrifying minutes for the anesthesiologist, but quickly over.

Another modality used to improve the survival after shunt operations, PA banding, and atrial septectomy was to operate in the hyperbaric chamber, thereby benefiting from the increased amount of physically dissolved oxygen. It was a cumbersome affair operating in crowded and closed quarters. There was room for only two surgeons, two nurses, one anesthesiologist, and one baby, as the number of emergency oxygen units limited access. Retired navy divers ran the chamber and kept track of how many minutes the personnel had been in the hyperbaric chamber in the previous week. Help was not readily available because the chamber was buried in a sub-basement and people had to be sluiced in through a side arm that could be pressurized. The chamber was pressurized to 2–3 atmospheres so it was unpleasantly hot while increasing the O₂ pressure and cold while decreasing the pressure;

people with glasses were at a disadvantage. It did not seem to add to survival and was abandoned around 1974.

Anesthesia was a challenge in the hyperbaric chamber. The infants were anesthetized with ketamine and nitrous oxide. As the pressure in the chamber increased, the concentrations of N_2O had to be decreased to avoid the hypotension and bradycardia that occurred rapidly.

Also in this era, the first infant cardiac transplant was performed by Kantrowitz in 1967 [20]. The recipient was an 18-day-old, 2.6 kg patient with severe Ebstein's anomaly, who had undergone a Potts' shunt on day 3 of life. The donor was an anencephalic newborn. The anesthetic technique is not described, and the infant died of pulmonary dysfunction 7 hours postoperatively.

The era of deep hypothermic circulatory arrest and the introduction of PGE_1 : 1970–1980

Sometime around 1970 physiological repair of CHD, or "correction," had begun to come of age. In the adult world, coronary bypass operations and valve replacement spurred interest in cardiac anesthesia, which centered increasingly on use of high-dose narcotics and other pharmacological interventions. As synthetic opiates with fewer hypotensive side-effects became available, their use spread into pediatric cardiac anesthesia in the late 1970s and 1980s.

Children were still treated as "small adults" because major physiological differences were not yet well appreciated, particularly as they related to CPB morbidity. CPB was rarely employed during surgery on children weighing less than 9 kg because of the very high mortality and morbidity that had been experienced in the early years. The notion of repairing complex CHD in infancy was getting attention but was hindered by technical limitations of surgical techniques, CPB techniques, and anesthetic challenges in infants. Theoretically, physiological repair early in life provides a more normal development of the cardiovascular and pulmonary systems and might avoid palliation altogether. The advantage of this was that the sequelae after palliation, for instance distorted pulmonary arteries after shunts and PA banding, might be avoided. Pulmonary artery hypertension following Waterston and Potts' shunts occurred as a result of increased pulmonary blood flow and resulted in pulmonary vascular obstructive disease. This would not develop if the defect were physiologically repaired at an early age. Furthermore, parents could be spared the anxiety of repeated operations and the difficulties of trying to raise a child with a heart that continued to be impaired.

The perceived need for early repair, together with the high mortality of bypass procedures, in infants and small children led to the introduction of DHCA. It was first practiced in Kyoto, Japan, but spread rapidly to Russia, the west coast of the US at Seattle, Washington, and from there to Midwestern and other US pediatric

centers. One example of the difficulties this presented to anesthesiologists was the introduction of DHCA in practice at Boston Children's Hospital. The newly appointed chief of cardiovascular surgery at the Boston Children's Hospital was Aldo R. Castaneda, MD, PhD, one of the first supporters of early total correction of CHD, who quickly embraced DHCA as a tool to accomplish his goals for repair in infants. In 1972, he immediately introduced DHCA into practice at Boston Children's Hospital and the rather shocked anesthesia department had to devise an anesthetic technique to meet this challenge, aided only by a couple of surgical papers in Japanese that Dr. Castaneda kindly supplied. Of course, these papers made little reference to anesthesia.

The first description of the techniques of DHCA from Japan in the English literature was by Horiuchi in 1963 [21]. This involved a simple technique with surface cooling and rewarming during resuscitation, using ether as the anesthetic agent, without intubation. In 1972 Mori et al. reported details of a technique for cardiac surgery in neonates and infants using deep hypothermia, again in a surgical publication [22]. Their anesthetic technique was halothane/ N_2O combined with muscle relaxant; CO_2 was added to the anesthetic gas during cooling and rewarming (pH-stat) to improve brain blood flow. The infants were surface-cooled with ice bags and rewarmed on CPB.

Surprisingly, given the enormity of the physiological disturbances and challenges presented by DHCA, very few articles describing an anesthetic technique for DHCA were published, perhaps because DHCA and early correction were not widely accepted. A paper from Toronto described an anesthetic regime with atropine premedication occasionally combined with morphine [23]. Halothane and 50% N_2O were used, combined with d-tubocurarine or pancuronium. CO_2 was added to "improve tissue oxygenation by maintaining peripheral and cerebral perfusion." The infants were cooled with surface cooling (plastic bags with melting ice) and rewarmed on CPB. It was noted that six of the 25 infants had VF when cooled to below 30 °C.

Given the lack of any scientific data or studies to guide anesthetic management of such cases, a very simple technique with ketamine- O_2 - N_2O and curare supplemented by small amounts of morphine (0.1–0.3 mg/kg) was used at Boston Children's Hospital. This was the way in which infants were anesthetized for palliative cardiac surgical procedures in the hyperbaric chamber at Boston Children's Hospital. The infants were surface-cooled in a bathtub filled with ice water to a core temperature of approximately 30 °C. The bathtub consisted of a green plastic bucket (for dishwashing) bought at a Sears-Roebuck surplus store, keeping things as simple as possible (Figure 1.1). This method was used in hundreds of infants over the next couple of years and only one infant developed VF in the ice water bathtub. This was an infant with TOF who suffered a coronary air embolus either from a peripheral IV or during an attempted placement of a central venous line. In retrospect, it is amazing that so few

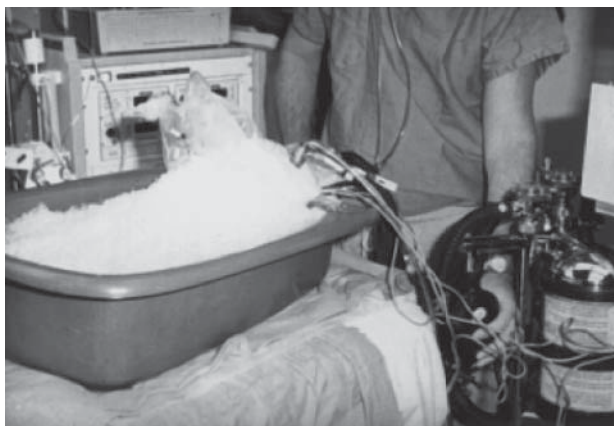


Figure 1.1 Infant submerged in ice water.

papers were published about the anesthetic management of this procedure, which was rapidly seen to be life-saving. The material that was published about these techniques was restricted to surgical journals and did not describe or make any attempt to study the anesthetic techniques used for DHCA. The published surgical articles were largely unknown to cardiac and pediatric anesthesiologists.

It was during this decade that the “team concept” developed, with cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, and anesthesiologists working together in the OR and the intensive care unit (ICU) in the larger centers. These teams were facilitated by the anesthesiologists’ “invasion” of weekly cardiology–cardiac surgeons’ conferences where the scheduled operations for the week were discussed. Dr. Castaneda, chief surgeon at Boston’s Children’s Hospital, was a leader in the creation of the cardiac team concept for pediatric cardiac surgery.

During the first year of using DHCA in Boston, it was noticed that a number of the infants had “funny, jerky” movements of the face and tongue. A few also had transient seizures during the postoperative period, but as they had normal electroencephalograms (EEGs) at 1-year follow-up, it was felt that significant cerebral complications were not a problem. In view of the knowledge developed subsequently, these clues to neurological damage occurring during and after pediatric cardiac surgery involving DHCA were overlooked. In hindsight, it is perhaps more accurate to say these clues were ignored, and as a result a great opportunity to study this problem was delayed for almost two decades. The issue of neurological damage with DHCA was raised repeatedly by surgeons such as John Kirklin, but was not really studied until the group at Boston Children’s Hospital led by Jane Newburger and Richard Jonas systematically followed a cohort of infants who had the arterial switch operation in the late 1980s using DHCA techniques [24]. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Greeley and co-workers at Duke performed a series of human studies delineating the neurophysiological response to deep hypothermia and circulatory arrest [25]. These studies provided the crucial data in patients from which strategies for cooling and rewarming, length of

safe DHCA, blood gas management, and perfusion were devised to maximize cerebral protection.

Those ongoing studies were followed by a number of other studies comparing DHCA with hypothermic low-flow perfusion, with different hematocrit in the perfusate and with different pH strategies during hypothermic CPB, pH-stat versus alpha-stat.

During those years, the ketamine-morphine anesthetic technique had been supplanted by fentanyl-based high-dose narcotic techniques. For the neurological outcome studies, the anesthetic technique was very tightly controlled, using fentanyl doses of 25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ at induction, incision, onset of bypass and on rewarming, in addition to pancuronium. From the beginning of this period, surgical results as measured by mortality alone were excellent, with steady increases in raw survival statistics. Because anesthetic techniques were evolving over this period of time, it was difficult to definitely ascribe any outcome differences to different anesthetic agents. A 1984 study of 500 consecutive cases of cardiac surgery in infants and children looked at anesthetic mortality and morbidity. Both were very low – so low in fact that they were probably not universally believed [26].

As the new synthetic opioids such as fentanyl and sufentanil were developed, they replaced morphine to provide more hemodynamic stability in opiate-based anesthetic techniques for cardiac patients. In 1981 Gregory and his associates first described the use of “high-dose” fentanyl 30–50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ combined with pancuronium in 10 infants undergoing PDA ligation. It is noteworthy that transcutaneous oxygen tension was measured as part of this study. This paper was, in fact, the introduction of high-dose narcotics in pediatric cardiac anesthesia [27]. The technique was a great success; one potential reason for this was demonstrated 10 years later in Anand’s paper showing attenuation of stress responses in infants undergoing PDA ligation who were given lesser doses of fentanyl in a randomized, controlled study [28].

During this same period, synthetic opioids were replacing morphine in adult cardiac surgery. This technique slowly and somewhat reluctantly made its way into pediatric anesthesia [29], replacing halothane and morphine, which had previously been the predominant choice of pediatric anesthesiologists dealing with patients with CHD. In the years from 1983 to 1995, a number of papers were published showing the effect of different anesthetic agents on the cardiovascular system in children with CHD. Ketamine, nitrous oxide, fentanyl, and sufentanil were systematically studied. Some misconceptions stemming from studies of adult patients were corrected, such as the notion that N_2O combined with ketamine raises PA pressure and pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR) [30]. On the other hand, the role of increased PaCO_2 or lower pH in causing higher PVR was also demonstrated and that subsequently became important in another connection [31]. A number of studies done at this time demonstrated in a controlled fashion the earlier clinical observation (Harmel and McQuiston in the late 1940s) [6,32] that in

cyanotic patients the O₂ saturation would rise during induction of anesthesia, almost irrespective of the agent used [33]. These events only serve to reinforce the value of acute clinical observation and provide an example of how the interpretation of such observations may well change as new knowledge is discovered.

PDA and the introduction of PGE₁

In the mid-1970s, several discoveries were made and introduced into clinical practice that turned out to be of great importance to the pediatric cardiac anesthesiologist and the rest of the cardiac team, the most important being the discovery that PGE₁ infused intravenously prevented the normal ductal closure [34]. These developments revolved around the role of the PDA in the pathophysiology of both cyanotic and acyanotic CHD. The critical role of PDA closing and opening in allowing early neonatal survival of infants with critical CHD began to be appreciated and clinicians sought methods of either keeping the PDA open or closing it, depending on what type of critical CHD the neonate was born with and the role of patency of the ductus arteriosus in the CHD pathophysiology. In some cases, particularly in very small neonates, the importance of closing the PDA was increasingly appreciated and, in other cases, the critical importance of maintaining the patency of a PDA was appreciated.

As the survival of very small premature infants (“preemies”) began to improve, mostly because of technical improvements with the use of a warmed isolette and improved mechanical ventilation, it became apparent that in many of these infants the PDA would not undergo the normal closure over time. As the understanding of these infants’ physiological problems improved and more infants survived, the role of continued patency of the PDA in neonates needing mechanical ventilation was appreciated. This led to medical therapy directed at promoting ductal closure using aspirin and indomethacin.

When such attempts failed, it was increasingly understood that necrotizing enterocolitis in the preemie was associated with decreased mesenteric blood flow secondary to the “steal” of systemic blood flow into the pulmonary circulation through a PDA. Thus, in cases when the PDA failed to close in premature infants, the need for operative treatment of the PDA in preemies arose as prophylaxis for necrotizing enterocolitis.

Pediatric and cardiac anesthesiologists were now faced with the task of anesthetizing these tiny preemies safely. This involved maintaining body temperature in infants of 1 kg or less with very large surface area/volume ratios. Intraoperative fluid restriction was important and low levels of FiO₂ were used to decrease the risk of retinopathy of prematurity. As the decade progressed, these issues emerged and were addressed. In 1980, Neuman [35] described the anesthetic management of 70 such infants using an O₂/N₂O muscle relaxant anesthesia technique with no mortality. Low FiO₂ was used to reduce the risk of retrolental fibroplasia and precautions were taken to

prevent heat loss. In those days before human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) became a wide concern, 40% of the infants received blood transfusion. Interestingly, the question of whether to operate in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) or the OR for closure of the PDA in the preemie was debated at that time and remains unsettled today.

The PDA lesion presents an interesting story. In 1938 it was the first of the CHD lesions to be successfully treated surgically [1]. In the mid-1970s it was closed with medical therapy, first with aspirin and later with indomethacin. It was the first CHD lesion to be treated in the catheterization laboratory using different umbrella devices or coils [36]. Presently, if surgical closure is necessary, it is often done using a minimally invasive, thoracoscopic video-assisted technique [37]. Thoracoscopy has the benefit of using four tiny incisions to insert the instruments, avoiding an open thoracotomy and limiting dissection and trauma to the left lung. At the same time, this latest development of surgical technique required the anesthesiologist once again to change the anesthetic approach to these patients. Unlike adult anesthesiologists, who can use double-lumen endotracheal tubes for thoracoscopic procedures, pediatric anesthesiologists caring for 1–3 kg infants undergoing PDA ligation do not have the luxury of managing the left lung [37]. Another problem posed by thoracoscopic PDA ligation in the infant is the emerging need for neurophysiological monitoring of the recurrent laryngeal nerve’s innervation of the muscles of the larynx to avoid injury, a known complication of PDA surgery [38]. The last issue is tailoring the anesthetic so that the children are awake at the end of the operation, extubated, and spend an hour or so in the post-anesthesia care unit, bypassing the cardiac ICU. In fact, in 2001, a group led by Hammer at Stanford published the first description of true outpatient PDA ligation in two infants aged 17 days and 8 months [39]. These patients were managed with epidural analgesia, extubated in the OR, and discharged home 10 hours postoperatively. This report brings PDA closure full circle from a 13-day hospital stay following an ether mask anesthetic for an open thoracotomy to a day surgery procedure in an infant undergoing an endotracheal anesthetic for a thoracoscopic PDA ligation.

Maintaining patency of the PDA using PGE₁ is probably now of considerably greater importance than its closure both numerically and in terms of being life-sustaining in neonates with critical CHD. The introduction of PGE₁ suddenly improved the survival rate of a large number of neonates, with CHD having ductal-dependent lesions to improve pulmonary blood flow, or to improve systemic blood flow distal to a critical coarctation of the aorta. The introduction of PGE₁ into clinical practice for therapy of neonatal CHD substantially changed the lives of pediatric cardiac surgeons and anesthesiologists, as frequent middle-of-the-night shunt operations with extremely cyanotic infants almost immediately became a thing of the past. These operations were particularly daunting when one realizes that these procedures were most common before the availability of pulse oximetry; the only warning

signs of impending cardiovascular collapse were the very dark color of the blood and preterminal bradycardia. To get an arterial blood gas with a PaO₂ in the low teens was not uncommon and PaO₂ measurements in single digits in arterial blood samples from live neonates during such surgical procedures were recorded. Even more dramatic was the disappearance of the child with critical post-ductal coarctation. These infants were extremely acidotic, with a pH of 7.0 or less at the start of the procedure (if it was possible to obtain an arterial puncture); they looked mottled and almost dead below the nipples. With the advent of PGE₁ therapy, they were resuscitated medically in the ICU and could be operated on the following day in substantially better condition than was previously the case.

But the introduction of PGE₁ had an effect that was not clearly foreseen except possibly by some astute cardiologists. Survival of a number of these neonates presented pediatric cardiologists and cardiac surgeons (and then anesthesiologists) with rare and severe forms of CHD that had hitherto been considered a “rare” pathological diagnosis. Foremost among these were the infants with HLHS and some forms of interrupted aortic arch. As further experience was gained, it became obvious that these forms of disease were not so rare, but infants who had survived with those forms of CHD were very rare.

The story of HLHS: 1980–1990

As mentioned in the previous section, the introduction of PGE₁ brought major changes to pediatric cardiac anesthesia, solving some problems and at the same time bringing new challenges for the cardiac team. New diagnoses of CHD presented for treatment and were recognized; some had been known previously but had until then presented insurmountable obstacles to any effective therapy.

One of these was HLHS. It had been accurately described in 1958 by Noonan and Nadas but only as a pathological diagnosis [40]. The syndrome is a ductus lesion, with 100% mortality within a few days to weeks when the ductus underwent physiological closure. HLHS was therefore of no practical interest from a therapeutic standpoint until ductal patency could be maintained. When it became possible to keep the ductus arteriosus patent with PGE₁, these neonates rapidly became a problem that could not easily be ignored. In the beginning, most of the infants were misdiagnosed as having sepsis and being in septic shock, and few babies reached the tertiary center without a telltale Band-Aid, indicating a lumbar puncture to rule out sepsis.

But even with the ability to diagnose the defect in a live neonate temporarily kept alive with a PGE₁ infusion, the outlook was not much better. There was no operation devised, and in some centers such neonates were kept viable on a PGE₁ infusion for weeks and even months in the (usually) vain attempt to get them to grow large enough for some surgical procedure to

be attempted. In subsequent years, several centers tried different approaches with ingenious conduits, attempting to create an outlet from the right ventricle to the aorta and the systemic circulation.

Those were also the years during which President Ronald Reagan’s Baby Doe regulations were in effect. Anyone who thought an infant was being mistreated (i.e., not operated upon) could call a “hotline number” which was posted in all neonatal ICUs to report the physicians’ “mistreatment” of the infant. Fortunately, these regulations died a quiet death after a few chaotic years [41].

In the meantime, the search for a palliative operation went on, also spurred by the increasing success of the Fontan operation, which had been introduced in 1970 [42]. This meant that there now was a theoretical endpoint for HLHS as well as for other forms of SV physiology. It was William Norwood at Boston Children’s Hospital who was the first person to devise a viable palliation and also to complete the repair with a Fontan operation the following year [43]. The publication of this landmark paper spurred considerable discussion. Many cardiologists and surgeons took the position that this operative procedure represented experimental and unethical surgery and that these infants “were better off dead.”

The current approach to these infants varies from multistage physiological repair with palliation followed by Fontan operation. Another alternative is neonatal transplantation as proposed by the group at Loma Linda in California [44]. Some cardiologists are still advocates of conservative “comfort care” for neonates with HLHS. With eventual survival of about 70% being achieved in many centers, these infants can no longer be written off as untreatable. Now the question is more about quality of survival, especially intellectual development. It is also recognized that many have both chromosomal and non-chromosomal anomalies that affect the cerebral and gastrointestinal systems [45].

As was the case from the beginnings of pediatric cardiac surgery, this new patient population presented a management dilemma for the anesthesiologists; they posed a new set of problems that required a solution before acceptable operative results could be achieved. It was obvious that patients with HLHS were hemodynamically unstable before CPB because of the large volume load on the heart coupled with coronary artery supply insufficiency. The coronary arteries in HLHS are supplied from the PDA retrograde through a hypoplastic ascending and transverse aorta that terminates as a single “main” coronary artery. A common event at sternotomy and exposure of the heart was VF secondary to mechanical stimulation. This fibrillation was sometimes intractable, necessitating emergent CPB during internal cardiac massage. This was not an auspicious beginning to a major experimental open heart procedure.

It was during these years that there was a transition from morphine–halothane–N₂O to a high-dose narcotic technique with fentanyl or sufentanil combined with 100%