

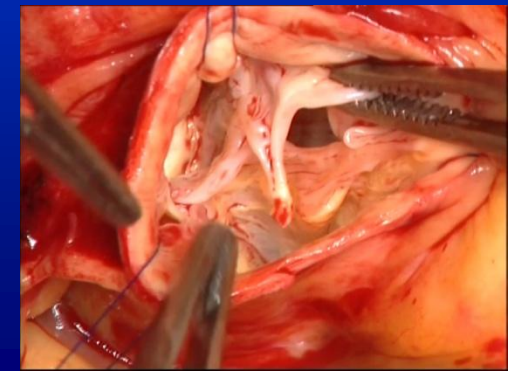
# Towards a standardized and physiological approach to aortic valve repair

Emmanuel Lansac MD PhD

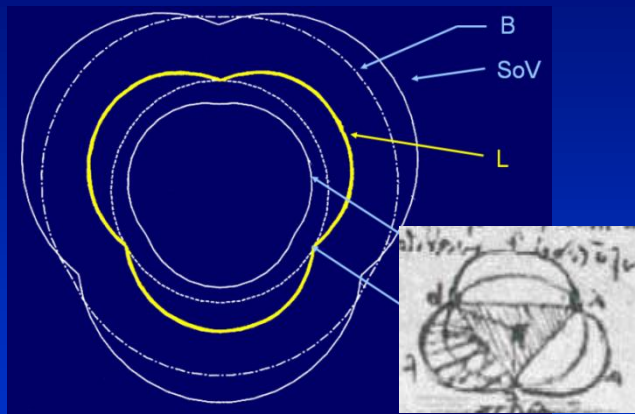
Cardiac Surgery  
Institut Mutualiste Montsouris  
Paris, France



AVIATOR



# Dynamic anatomy of the aortic root



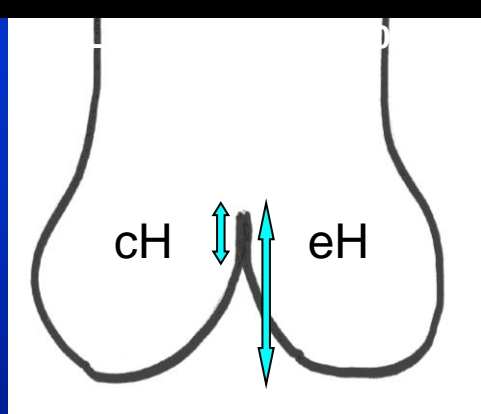
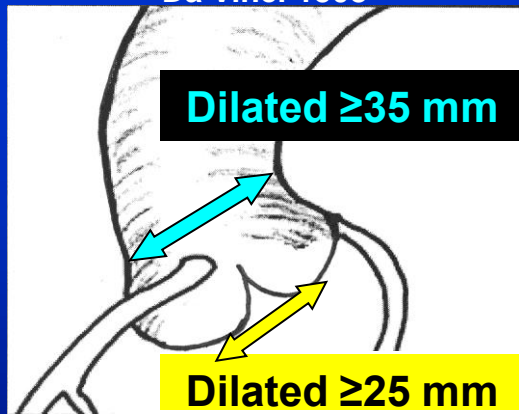
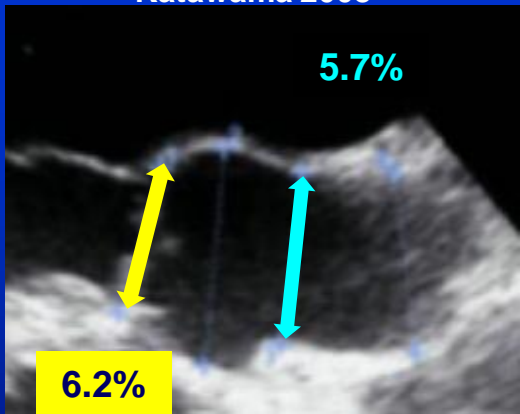
**Vortices = stressless valve closure**

**Clover shaped aortic valve orifice**

**Systolic expansion of root volume + 37.7 2.7%**

Katawama 2008

Da Vinci 1508



**Aortic annulus and STJ expansion**

**STJ > Annulus Ratio = 1.2 (1.1-1.3)**

**cH= 4-5 mm eH= 9-10 mm**

7 series, 1999-2007: 183 patients

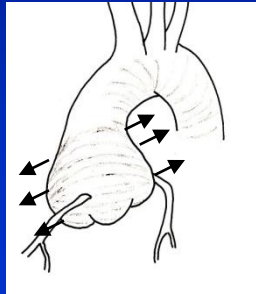
10 series, 1987-2009: 717 patients

Schäfers JTCVS 2006  
Tamas JHVD 2007

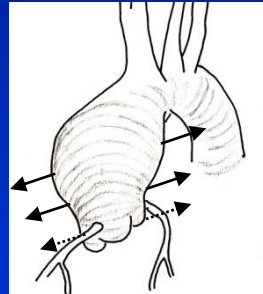
# Guidelines 2012 / AHA 2014

## Aneurysm

### Aortic root



### Supra-coronary



## Symptoms

$\varnothing \geq 55$  mm tricuspid or bicuspid valves

$\varnothing \geq 50$  mm bicuspid,

If risk factors: coarctation, HTA, family history

$\varnothing \geq 50$  mm Marfan

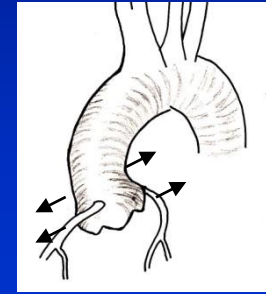
45 mm if high risk or pregnancy

$\uparrow \geq 2$  mm/yr

$\varnothing \geq 45$  mm aortic valvulopathy

$\varnothing \geq 25$  mm/m<sup>2</sup> Turner syndrom

## Isolated AI



## Symptoms

Asymptomatic

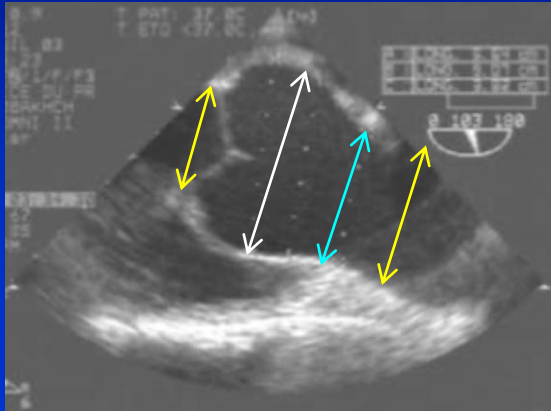
and  $EF < 50\%$

and/or  $LVSD > 50$  mm (25 mm/m<sup>2</sup>)

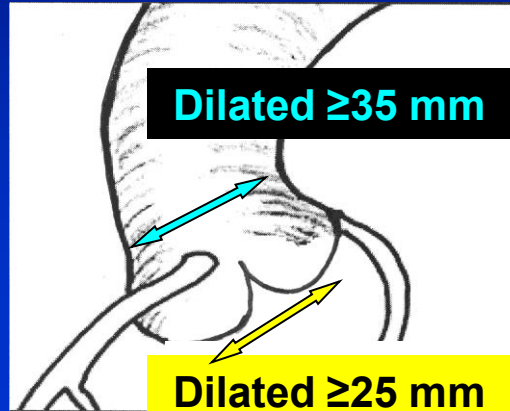
et/ou  $LVDD > 70$  mm

# Pre operative TEE

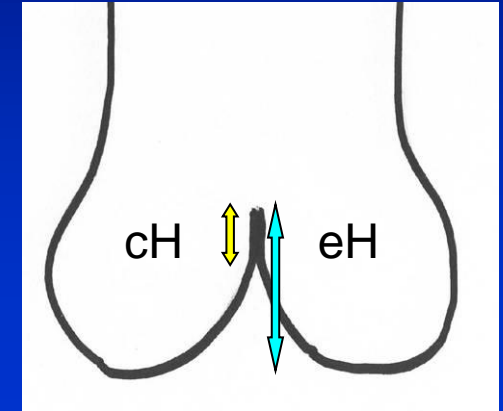
**4 diameters**



**STJ > Annulus**  
Ratio = 1.2 (1.1-1.3)



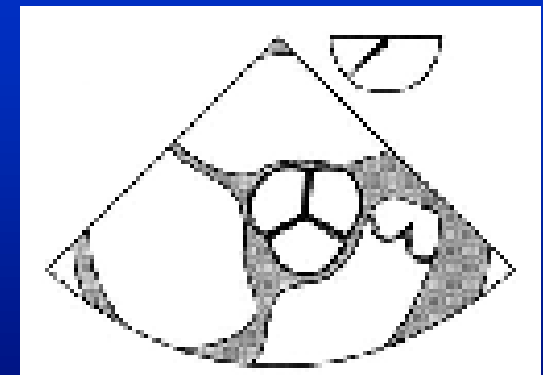
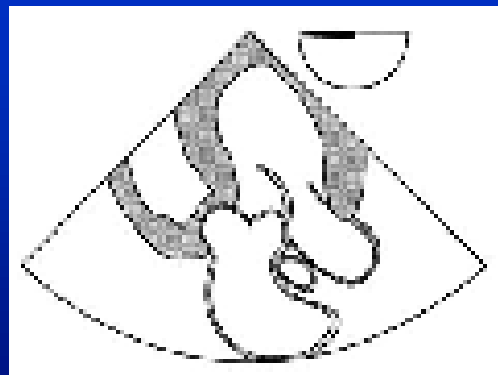
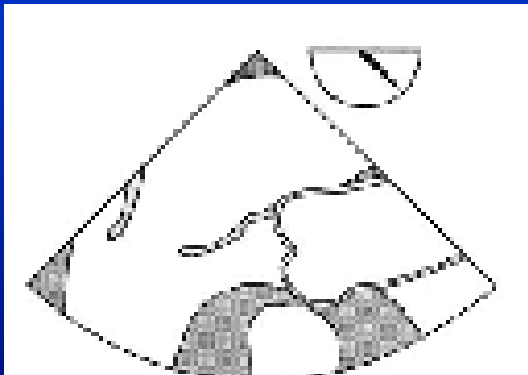
**cH= 4-5 mm**  
**eH= 9-10 mm**



**Long axis**  
**120-140**

**Deep transgastric view**  
**0 et 120**

**Short axis**  
**45**



**4 diameters**

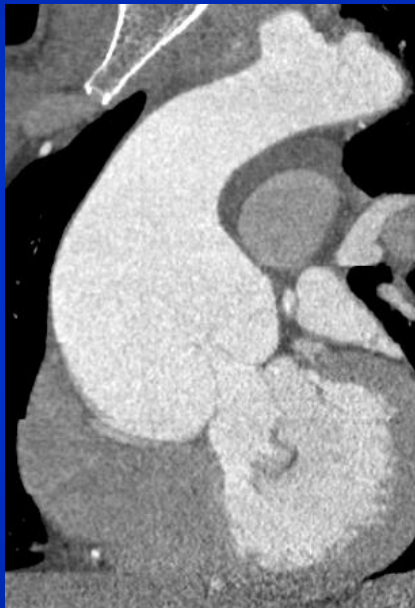
**Coaptation**

**Direction of the jet**

**Number of cusps**  
**Origin of the jet**  
**Commissural analysis**

# Gated CT scan

Precise aortic measurement  
Coronary analysis and ostia implantation  
coaptation analysis, interleaflets triangles and bicuspid

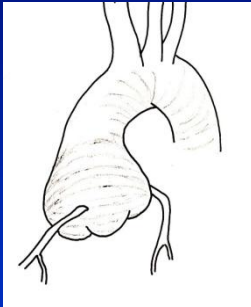


# MRI

Not precise for aortic measurement  
AI quantification  
LV fonction and dilation  
Bicuspid

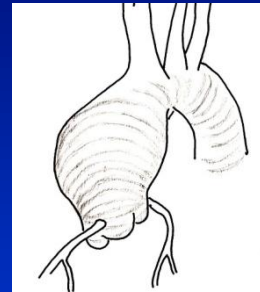
# Root phenotype

**Root aneurysm**



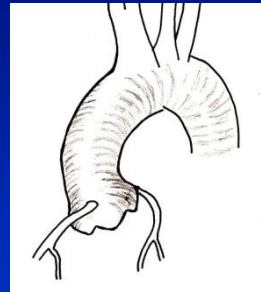
Valsalva  $\geq 45$  mm

**Supra coronary aneurysm**



Valsalva  $\leq 40$  mm

**Isolated AI**

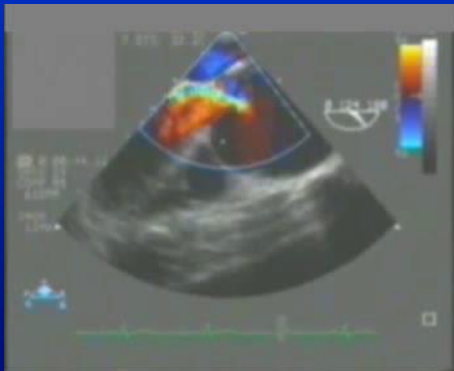


All  $\varnothing \leq 40$  mm

# Cusp motion

**Normal (I)**

**AI zero  
Central jet**



**Prolaps (II)**

**Eccentric jet**

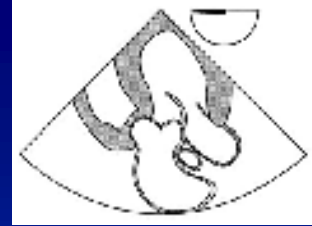


**Retracted (III)**





# Prolapsus



## Direction du jet

**Excentré vers le septum**

**Prolapsus NC ou CG**



**Excentré vers la valve mitrale**

**Prolaps CD**



# Current knowledge

9 cohort studies 1999-2010

4713 patients (mean age 50 years)

Langley 1999	Aomi 2002	Byrne 2003	Pacini 2003	Settepani 2005	Radu 2007	Kalkat 2007	Mataraci 2009	Etz 2010
-----------------	--------------	---------------	----------------	-------------------	--------------	----------------	------------------	-------------

**Survival 62 to 84.5% at 10 years**

## Bentall versus réparation

7 études de cohorte 2001-2010

930 patients (âge moyen 43 ans)

Bassano 2001	de Oliveira 2003	Karck 2004	Zehr 2004	Patel 2008	Volguina 2009	Franke 2010
-----------------	---------------------	---------------	--------------	---------------	------------------	----------------

	Valve repair	Mechanical Bentall
Reoperation	2.4%/an	1.7%/an
TE	1.0%/an	5.4%/an
Hemoragic	Only 2 patients	1.4%/an



# Quality of life: Bentall vs repair

**Incidences of serious adverse events (Death, stroke, TE, Reop) :  
Bentall 28.3% vs repair 10.8% ( $p$  0.008)**

**Quality of live (SF 36) compromise in relation  
to all criteria outlined in the 36 items  
Bentall vs Plastic  $p < 0.007$**

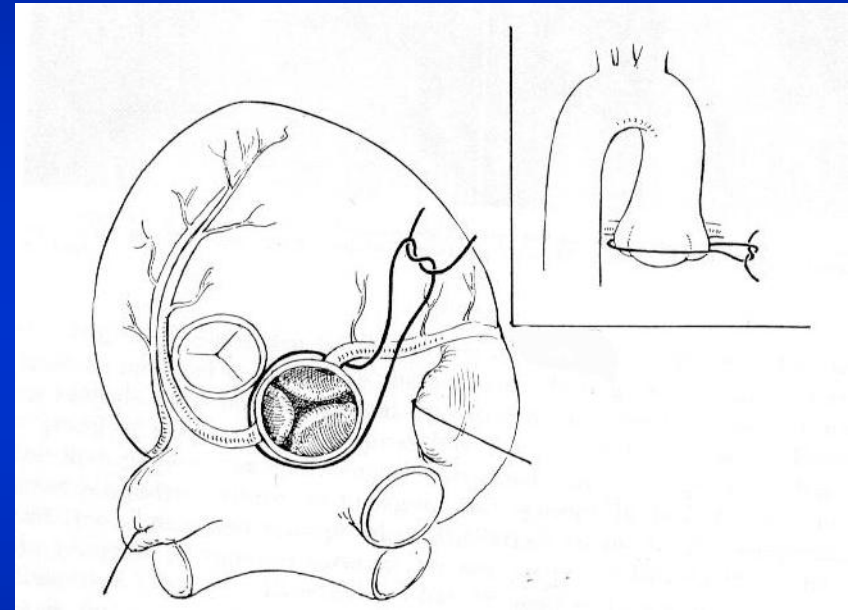
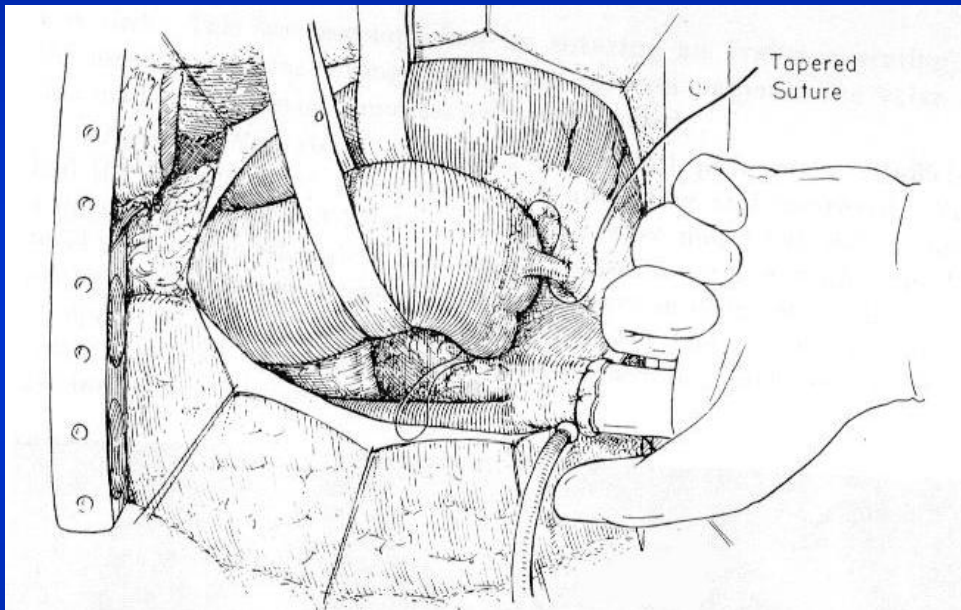
**Patients severely disturbed by valve noise  
Bentall 40% vs repair 4.9%**

**Patients afraid of valve failure  
Bentall 50% vs repair 22.4%**

**Self evaluation of patient overall conditions  
Bentall 5.8/10 vs repair 7.8/10**

# The surgical correction of aortic insufficiency by circumclusion

Taylor WJ, et al. JTCVS 1958;35:192-231



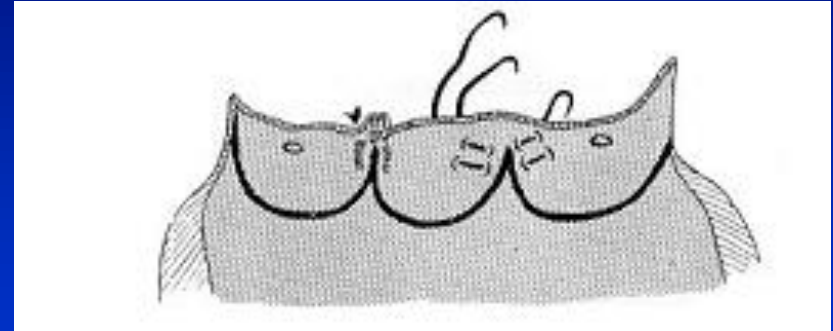
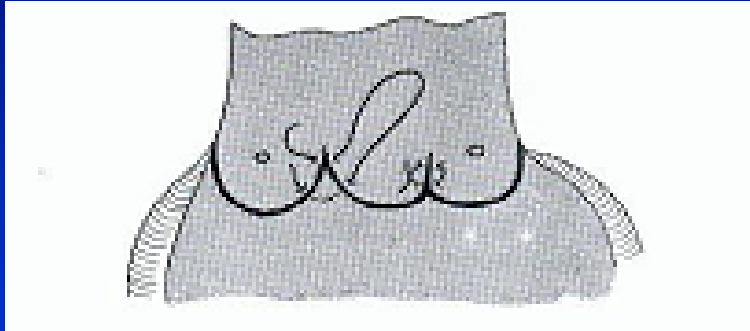
**First subvalvular aortic annuloplasty**

Beating Heart Right thoracotomy

11 patients, rheumatic disease (8/11)

# Subcommissural plication stitches

(Cabrol stitches-1966)



Plicating U stitches at the base of the interleaflet triangles

Plicating U stitches at the commissures

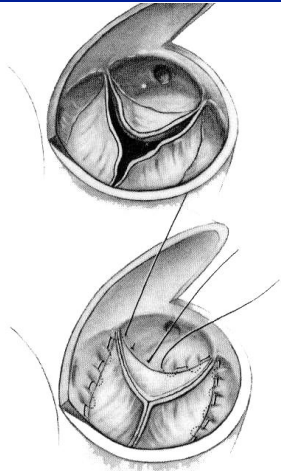
= partial subvalvular annuloplasty

= partial supra-valvular annuloplasty

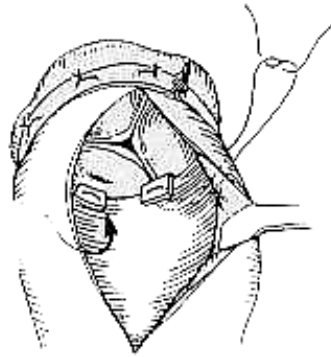
Plication of the interleaflet triangles impairing valve dynamics especially for bicuspid valves  $\Rightarrow$  significant gradient  
minimal reduction in aortic annular base diameter

Useful to protect a commissural repair or as a bailout technique

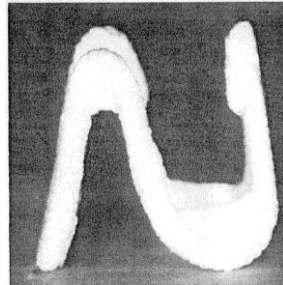
# Aortic annuloplasty devices and techniques



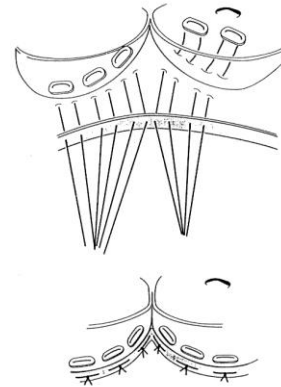
**Carpentier  
1983**



**Frater  
1986**



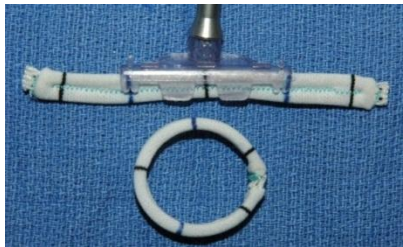
**Duran  
1986**



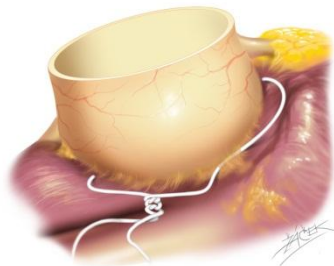
**Izumoto  
2002**



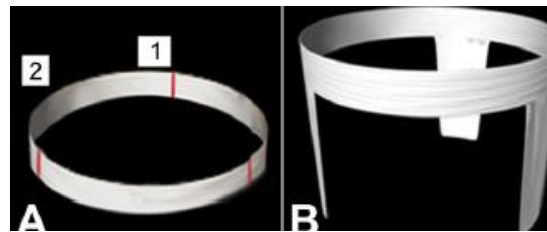
**Hahm  
2006**



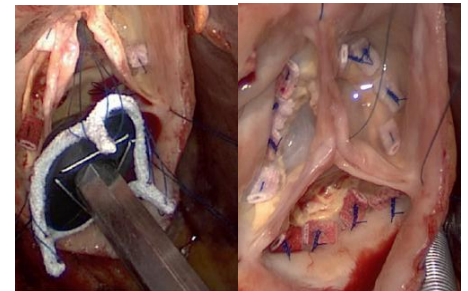
**Lansac  
2007**



**Schäfers  
2009**



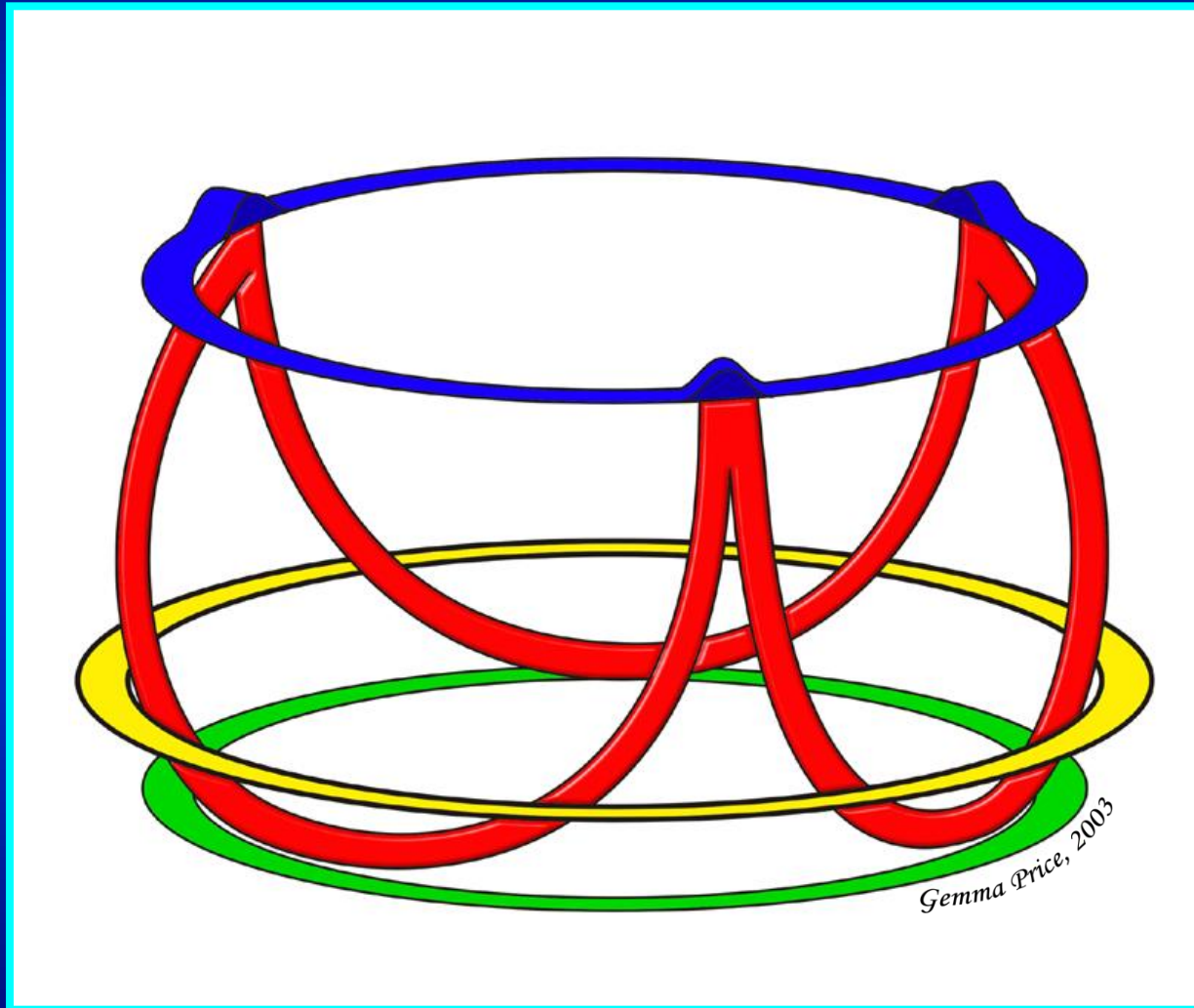
**Fattouch  
2011**



**Rankin  
2011**

**Need for standardization**

# What is the aortic annulus from a surgical point of view ?



STJ

Ventriculo-aortic  
junction

Virtual ring

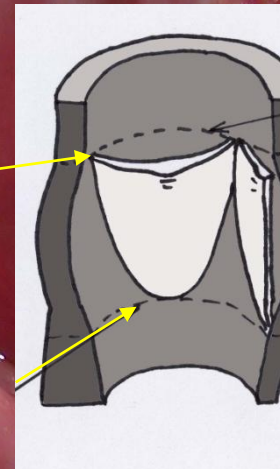
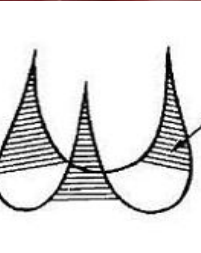
**Sino-tubular junction**

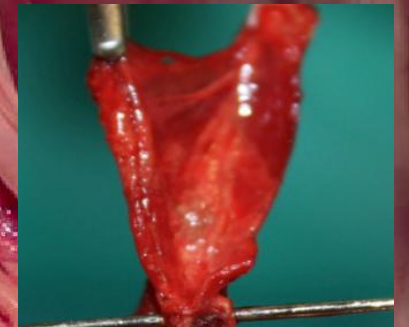
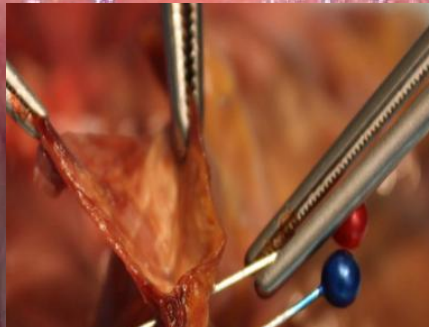
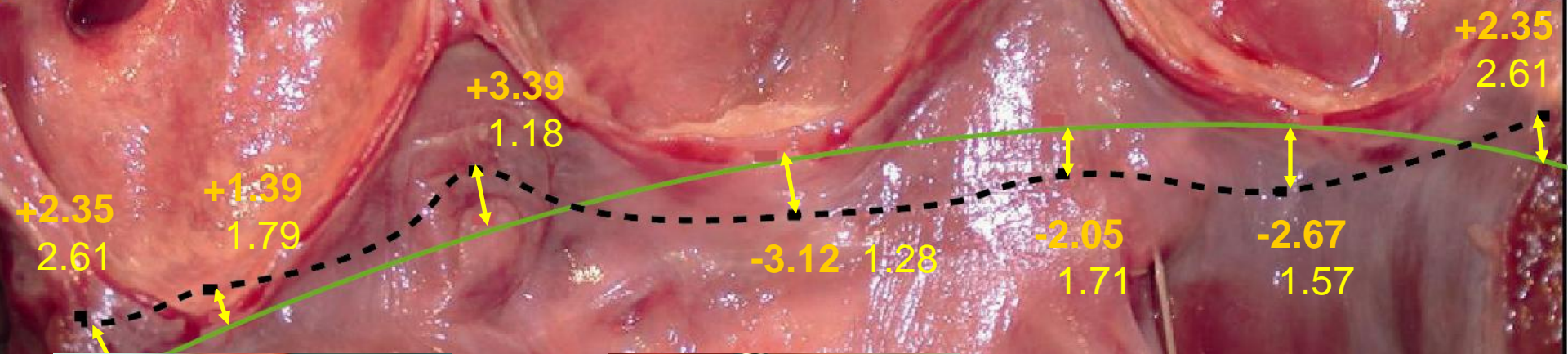
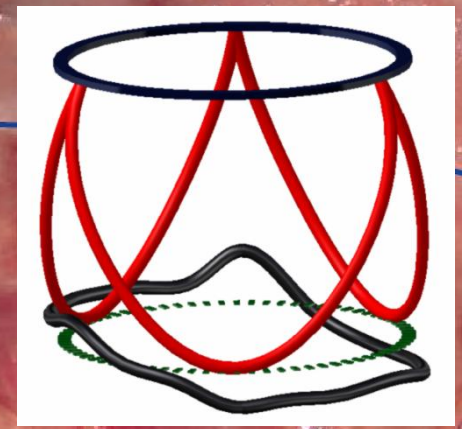
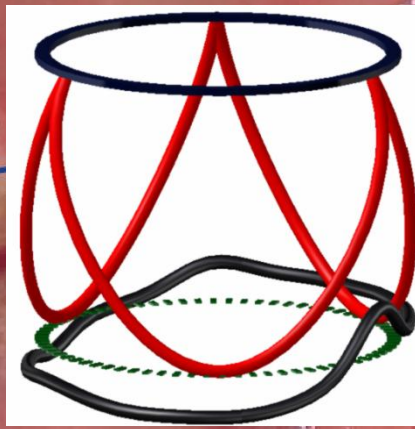
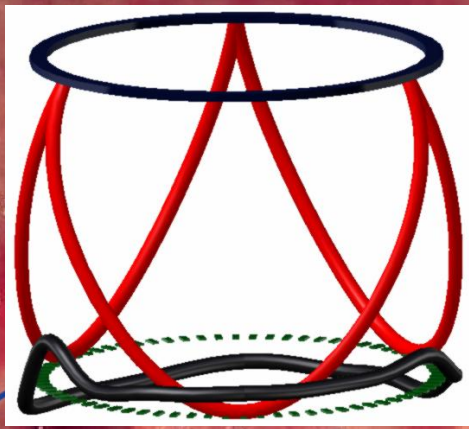
**Aortic annular base**

**2D**

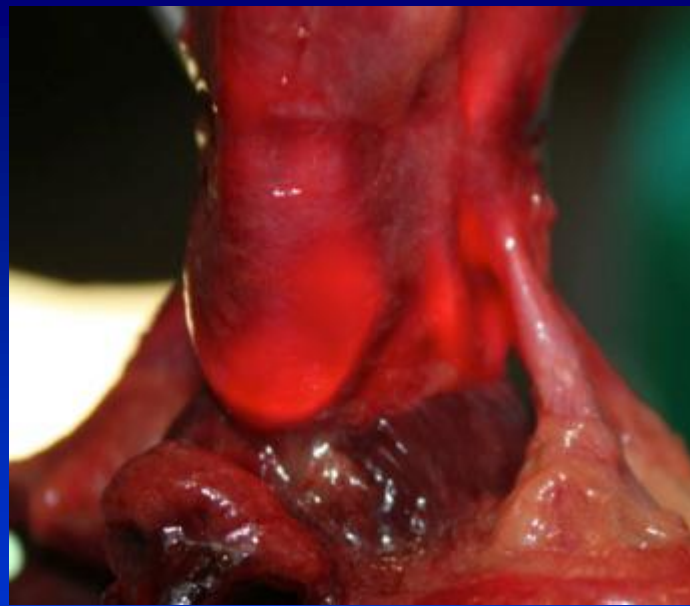
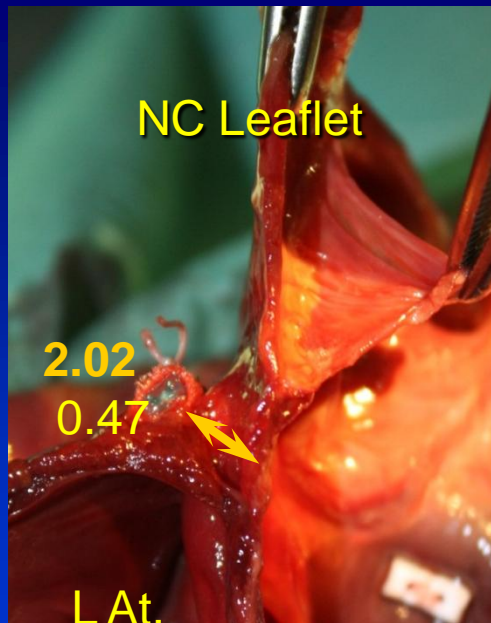
**2D**

**3D**

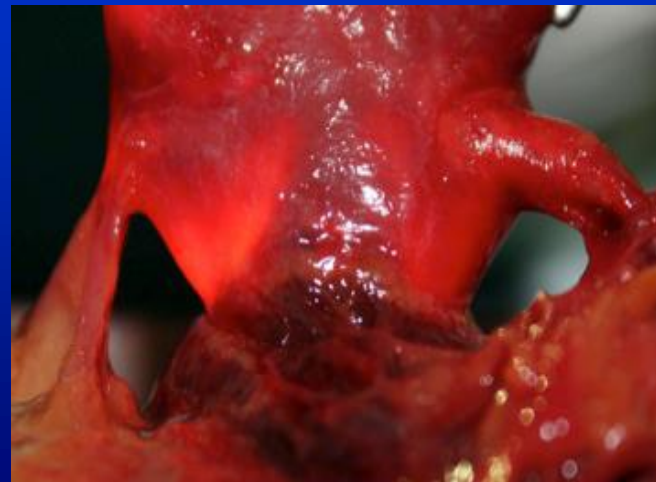




**Aortic annuloplasty can be performed in the subvalvular plan, except at the level of the infundibulum where the dissection stops 1,4 1,8 mm above the nadir of the right coronary sinus**



**External aortic annuloplasty induces a minimum of 5 mm reduction of aortic annular base diameter, corresponding to tissue thickness**

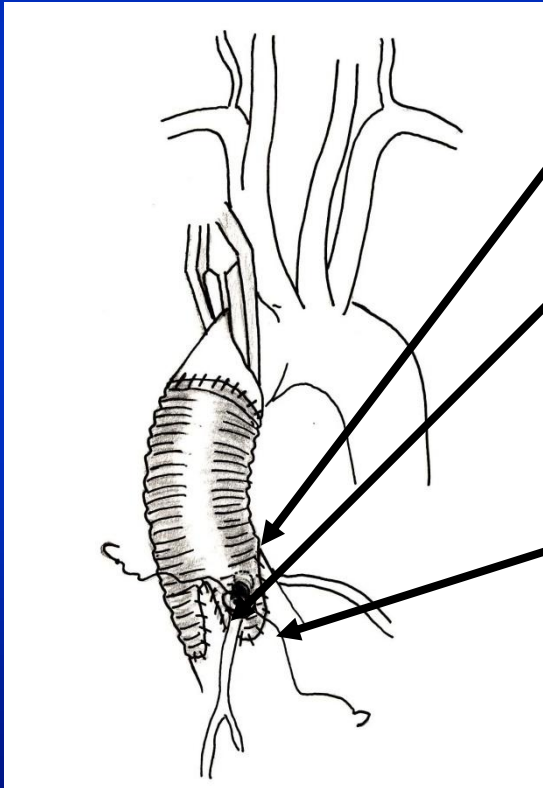




# Aortic root aneurysm

## Remodeling of the aortic root

Yacoub 1983



+ Treatment of STJ dilation +

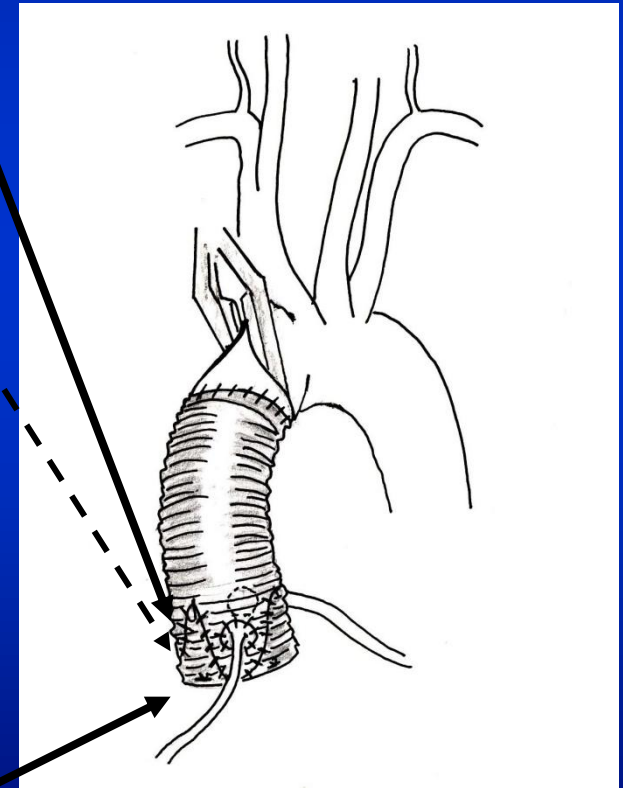
+ Sinuses of Valsalva

+ Aortic Root expansibility (interleaflet triangles) -

- Treatment of aortic annular base dilation +

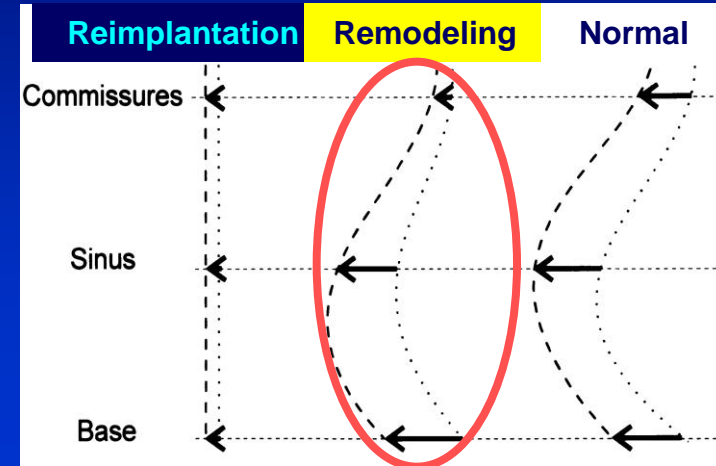
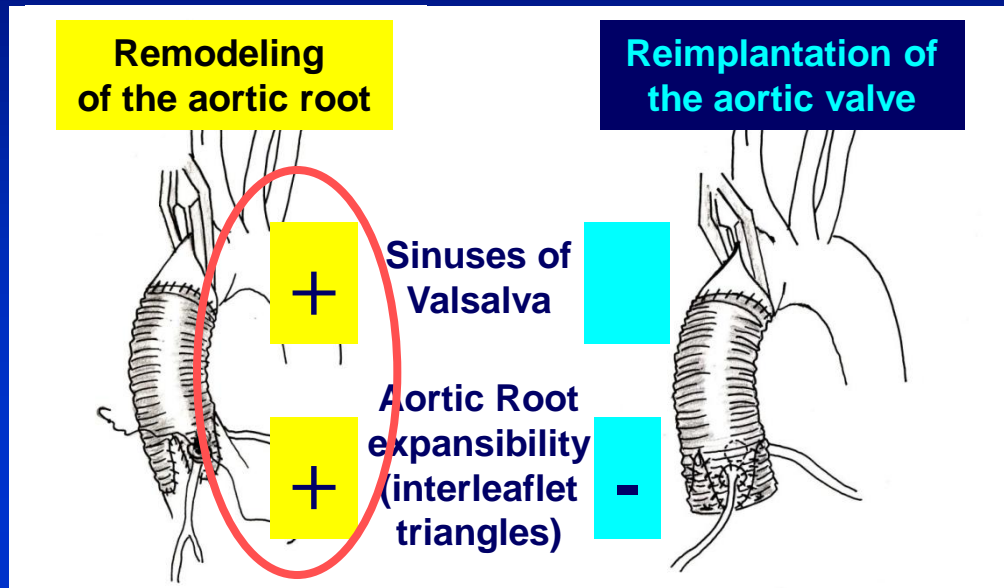
## Reimplantation of the aortic valve

David 1992



external aortic annuloplasty

# Aortic root dynamics after valve sparing



Leyh RG. Circulation 1999

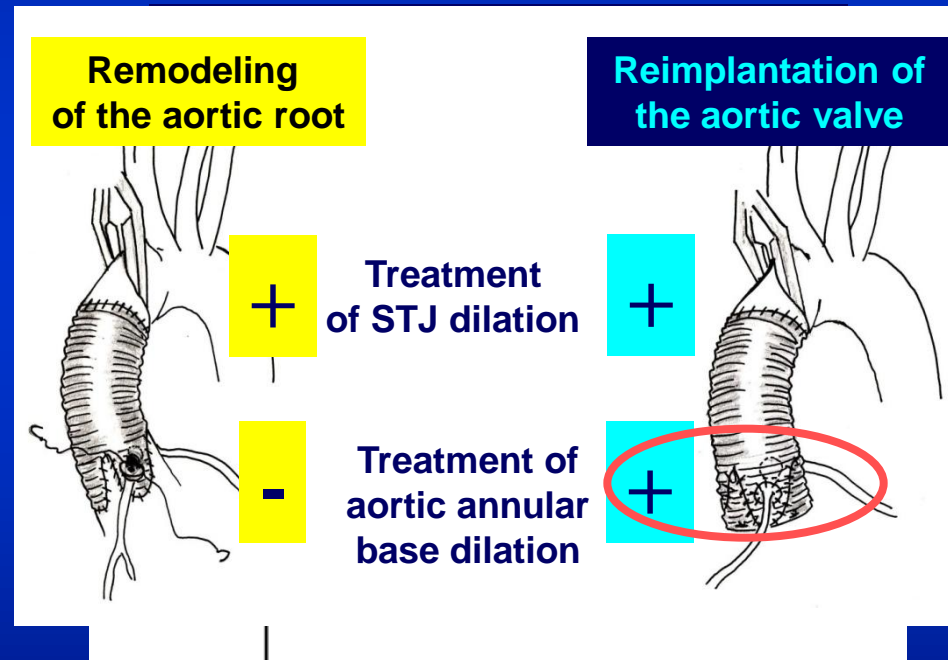
**Cusp motion and expansibility of the aortic root are best preserved**

- 1) after Remodeling than after Reimplantation
- 2) with graft with neo- sinuses of Valsalva than without

**Remodeling provides the most physiological root reconstruction**

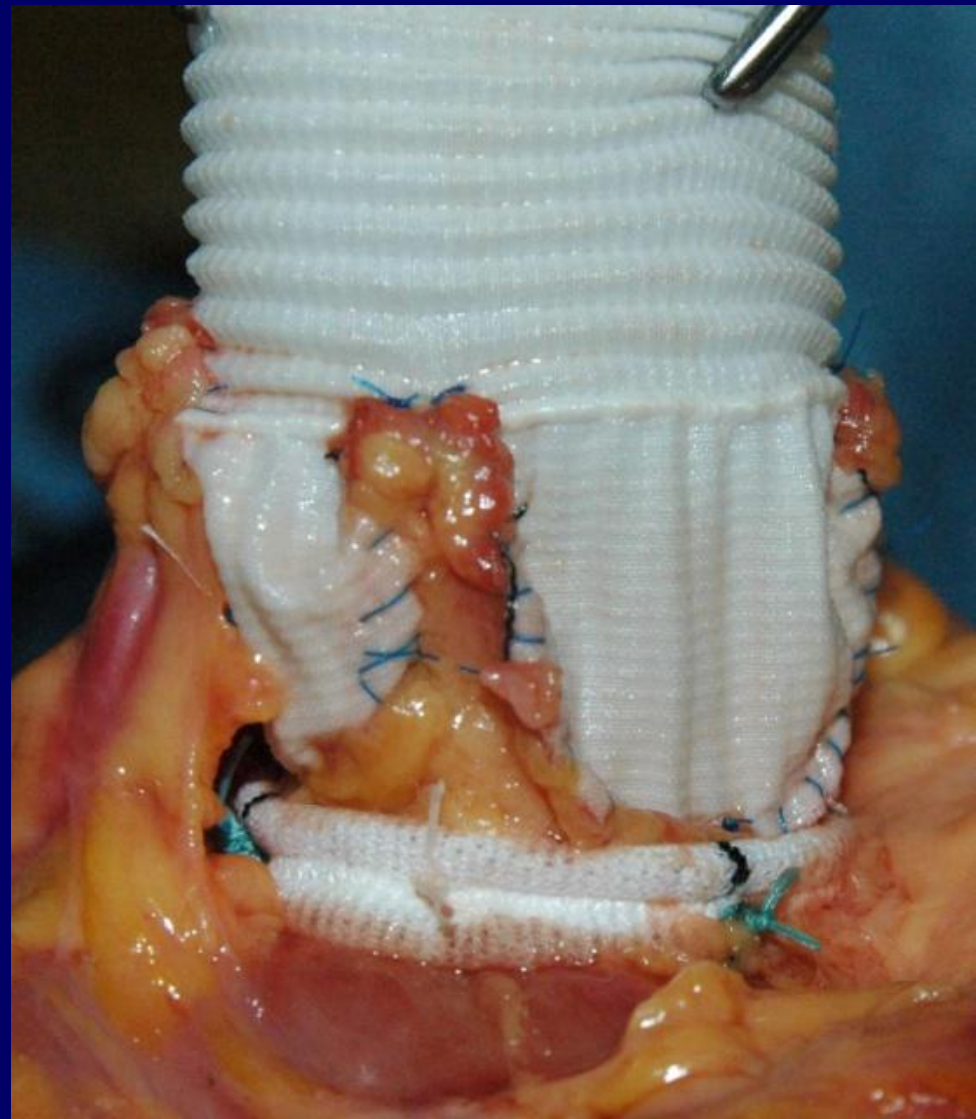
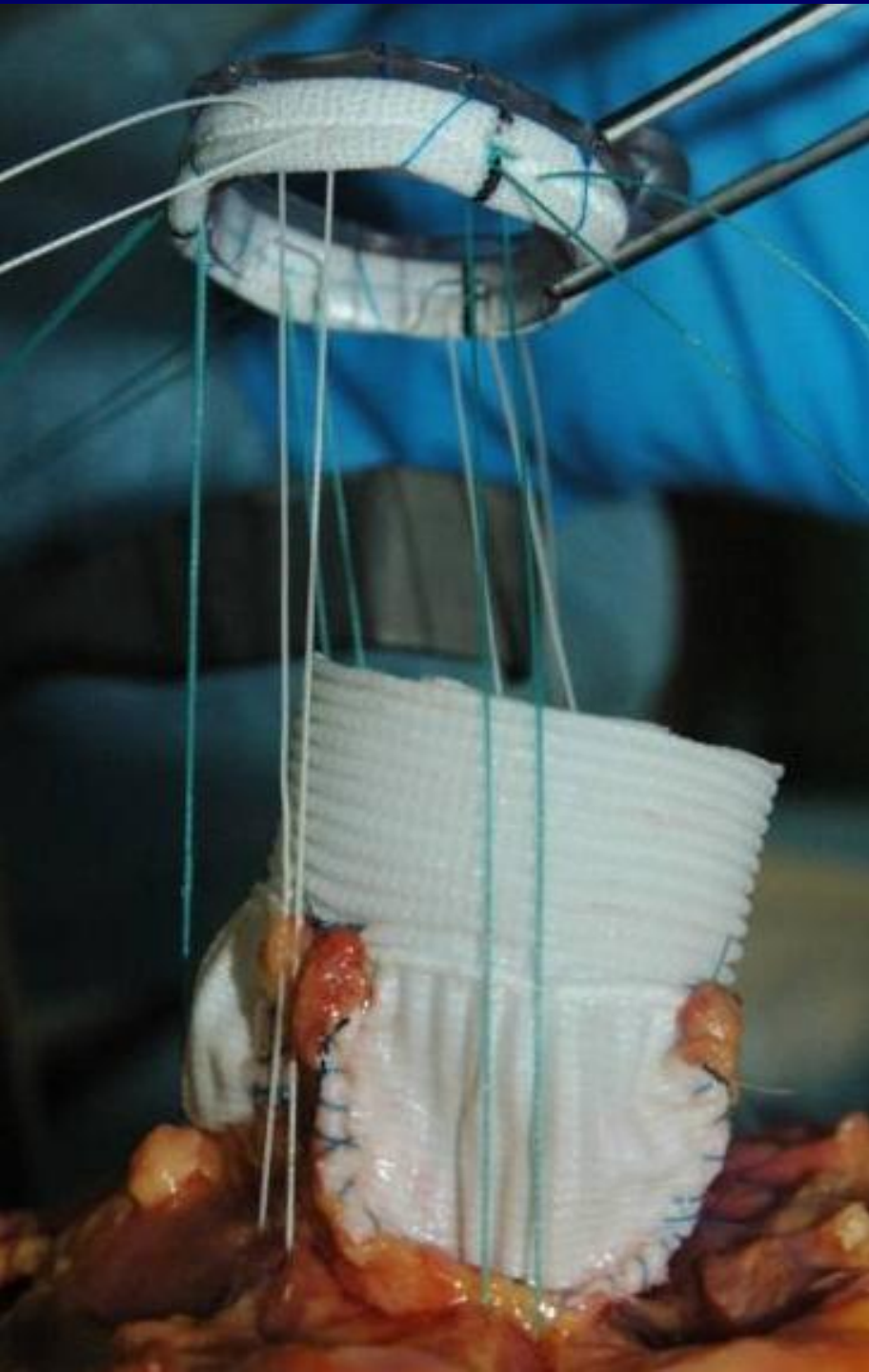
# Aortic annuloplasty and valve sparing root replacement ?

**Risk factor for failure of the Remodeling :  
Annulus dilation >25-28 mm**



**Reimplantation performs a subvalvular annuloplasty**

**Remodeling alone is a contraindication if annulus >25 mm**



# Reasons for valve sparing failures

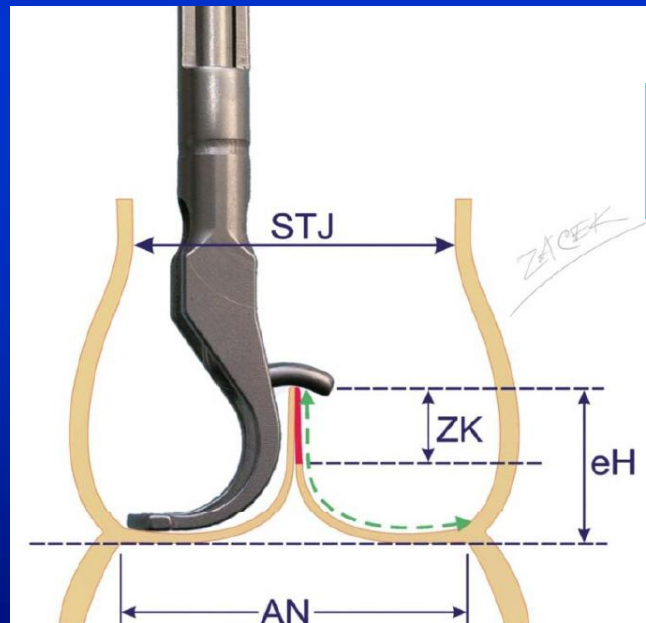
## Cusp prolapse

Remodeling /  
Reimplantation

Reduction  
of the STJ

Symmetrical  
prolapse

↓ eH : - 3 to - 4 mm

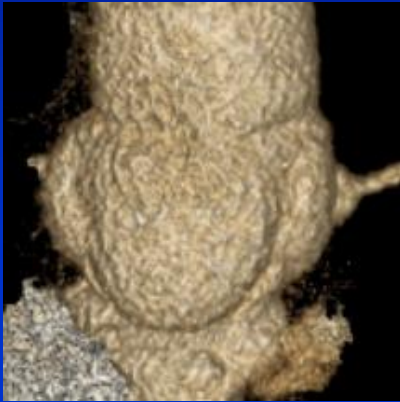


Absence of eH resuspension  
(Eye balling repair)

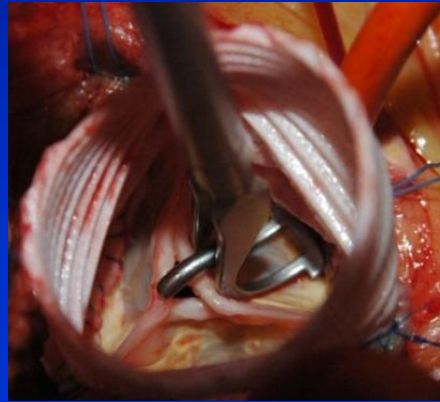
Risk factor for  
AI recurrence  
Reoperation

Lansac JTCVS 2010

# Physiological and standardized aortic valve repair



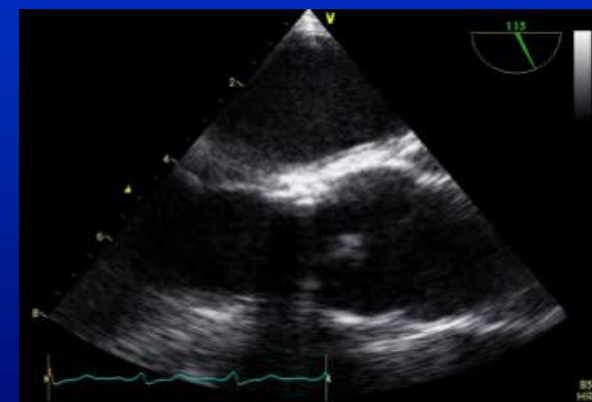
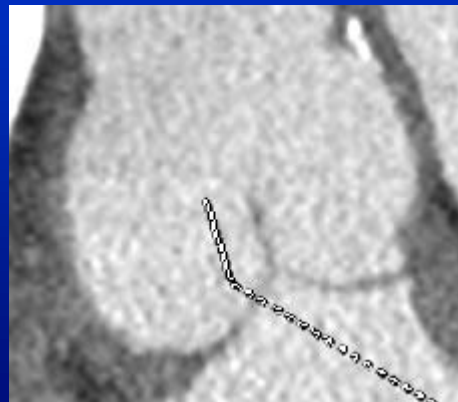
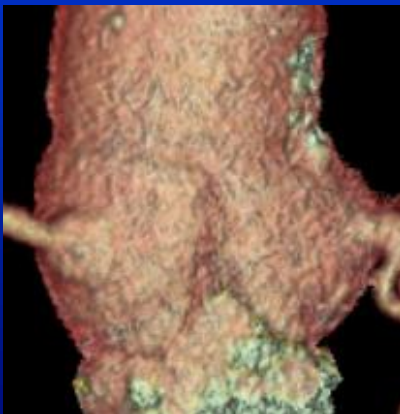
**Physiological root reconstruction**



**Resuspension of cusp effective height**



**Subvalvular aortic annuloplasty**



# valve repair and annuloplasty

## Mitral valve repair

1) Leaflet repair



2) Annuloplasty

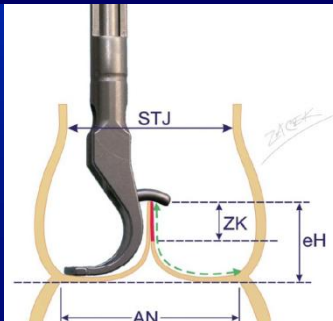


## Aortic valve repair

1) Resuspension of cusp effective height



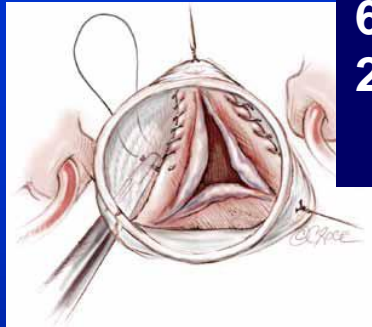
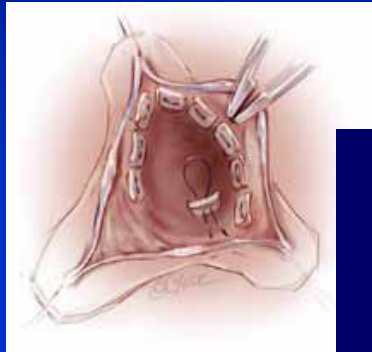
2) Annuloplasty



# Moving from Valve Sparing to Valve repair

## Reimplantation

## Remodeling + Ring



Eye Balling  
valve repair

Selected cases  
(AI  $\leq$  Grade II)

6% of high risk patients  
20 % of low risk patients

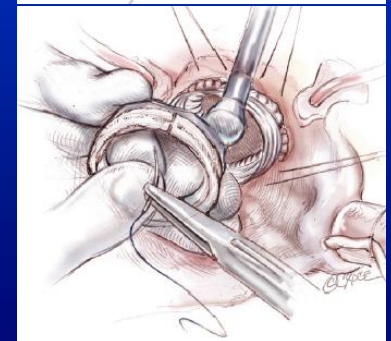
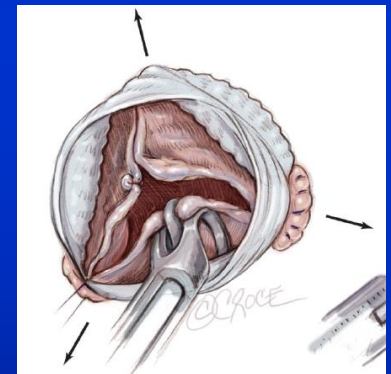
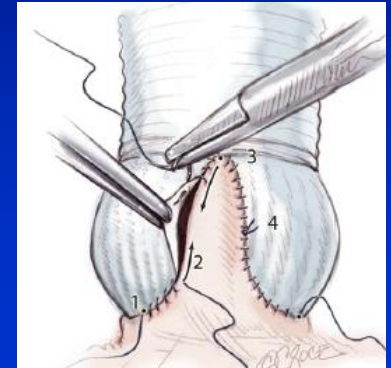
STS Database, EACTS 2013

3) Leaflets

1) Root

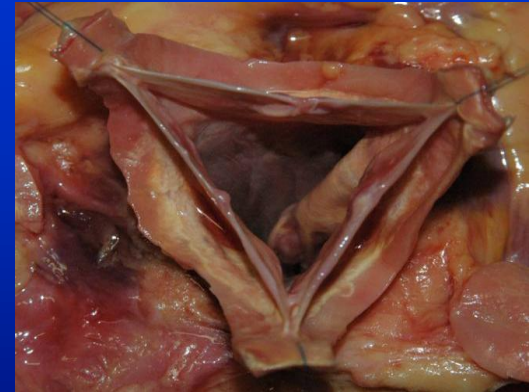
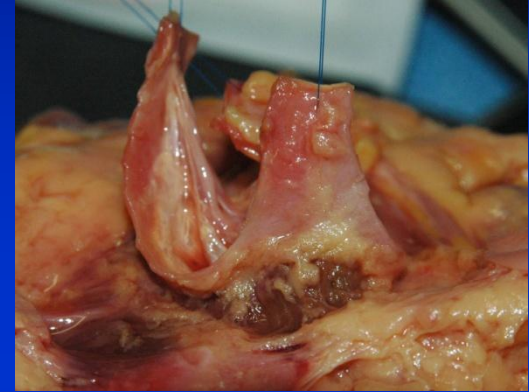
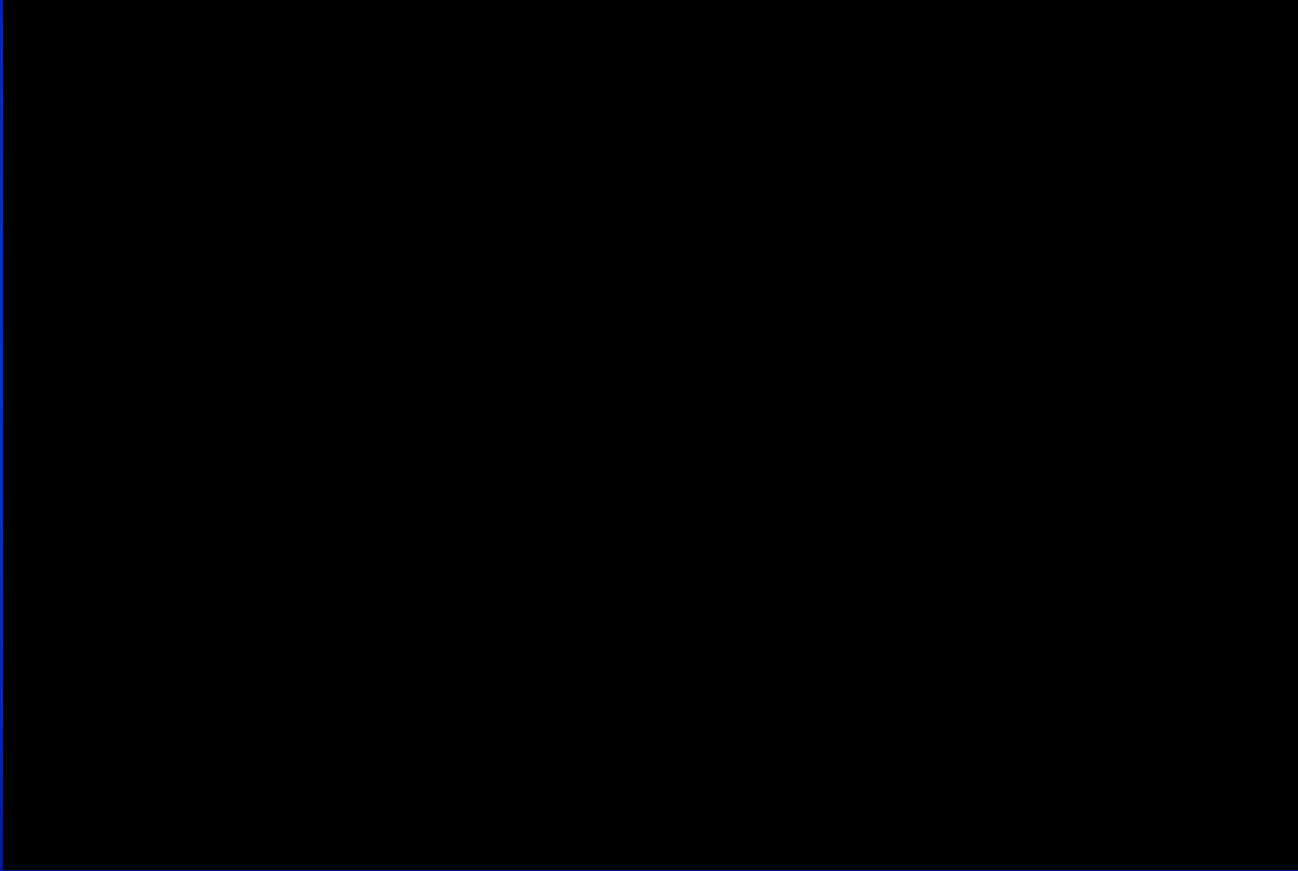
2) Leaflets  
(eH caliper)

3) Annuloplasty

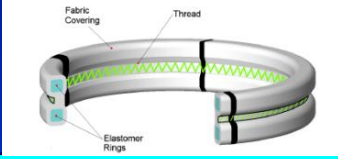





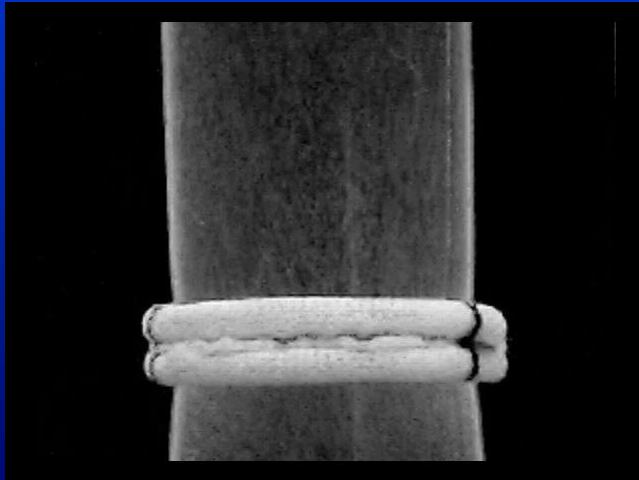
# 1. Dissection of the subvalvular plane



# Standardization based on aortic annulus Ø

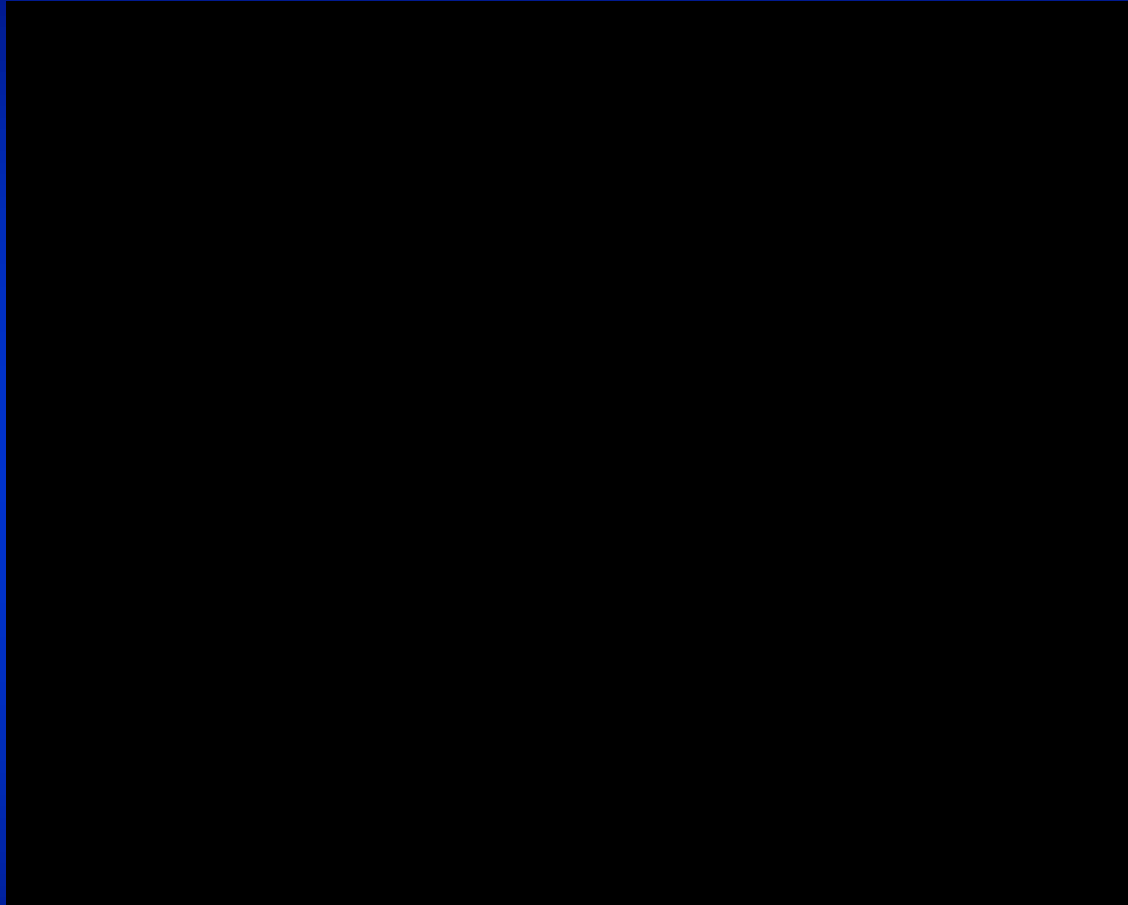
 	Aortic annular base Ø (Hegar dilators, mm)				
	25-27	28-30	31-35	36-40	> 40
<b>Valsalva graft® Ø (mm)</b>	26	28	30	32	34
<b>Extra aortic ring® Ø (mm)</b>	25	27	29	31	33

**Subvalvular ring = down size from one size**



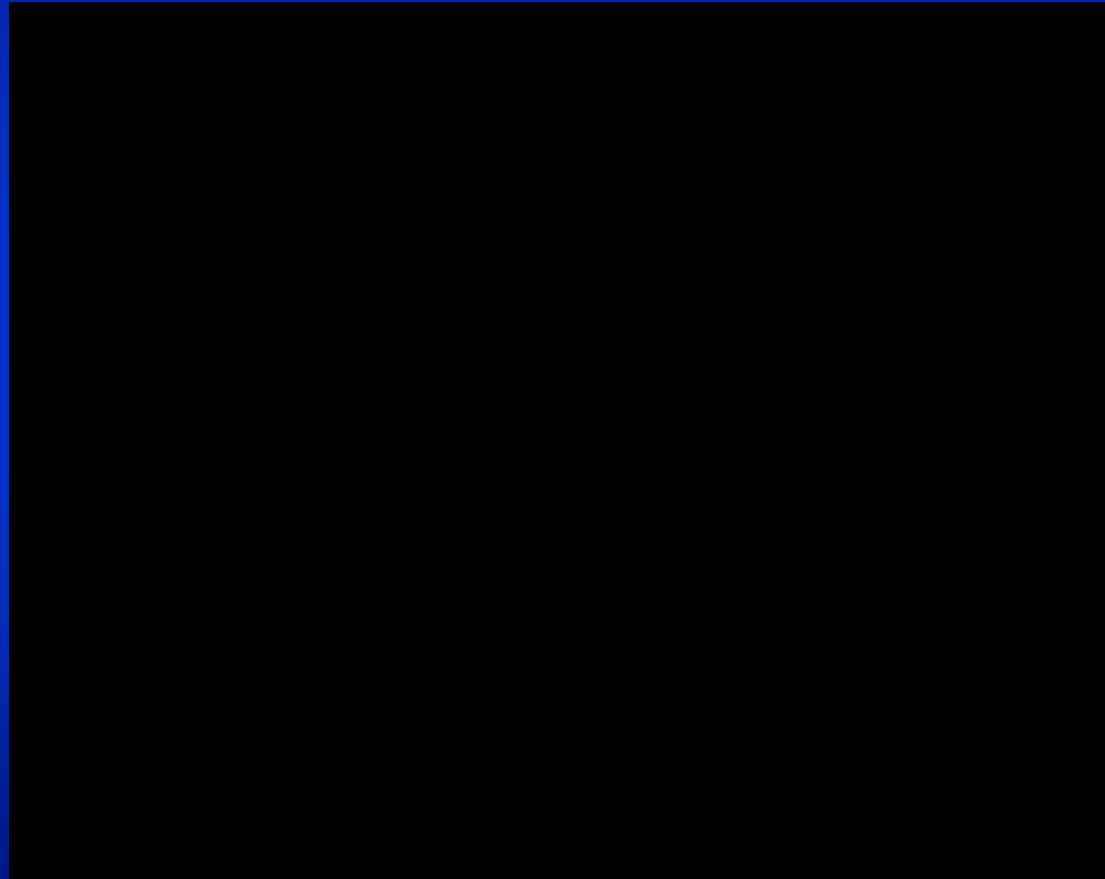
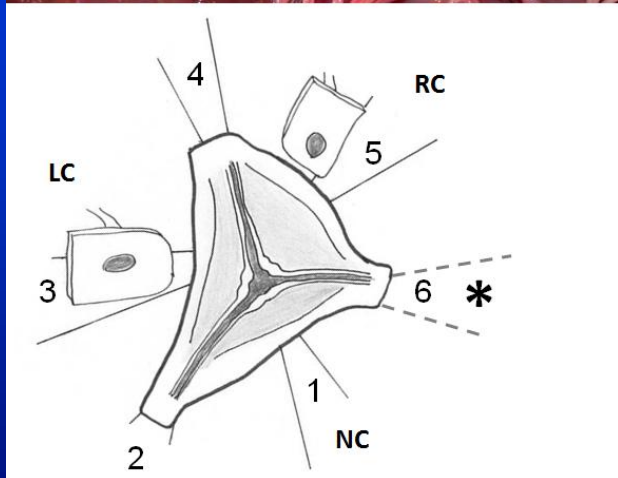
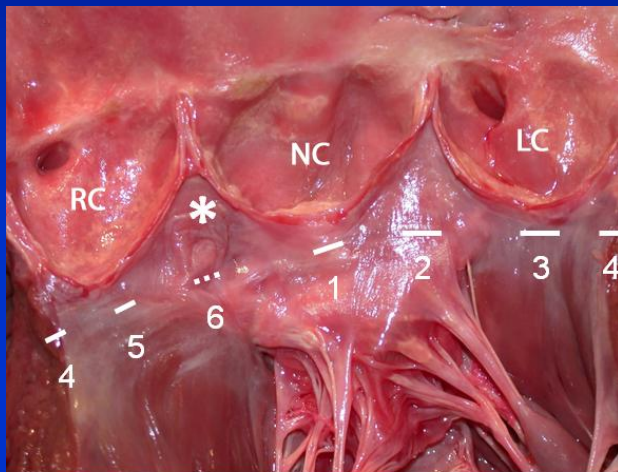
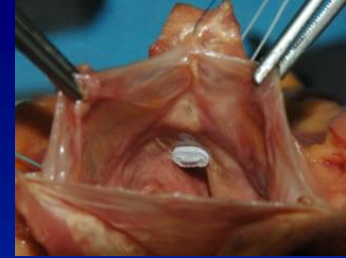
## 2. Inspection of cusp lesions

### Geometric height

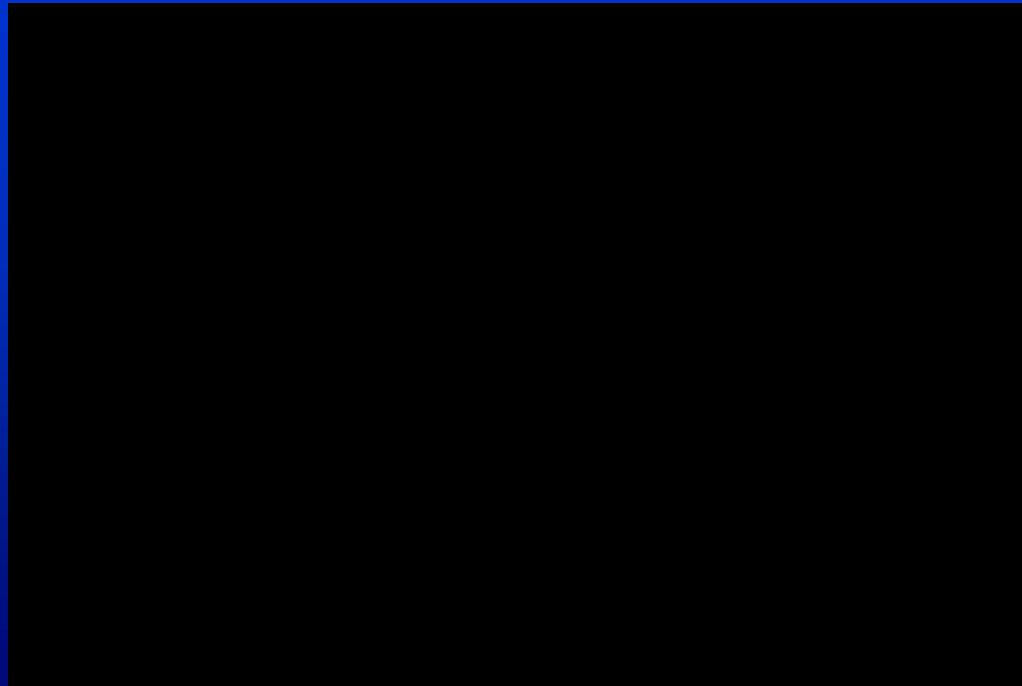
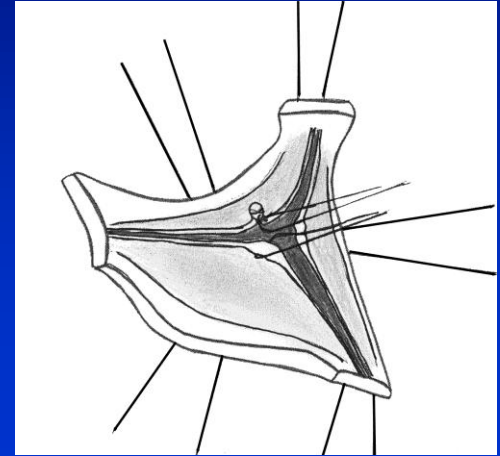
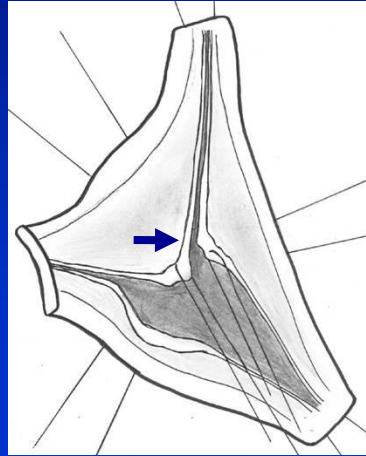
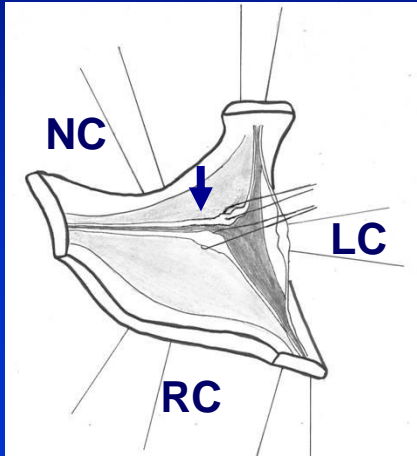


**Retracted if <16 mm in tricuspid  
and <19 mm in bicupid**

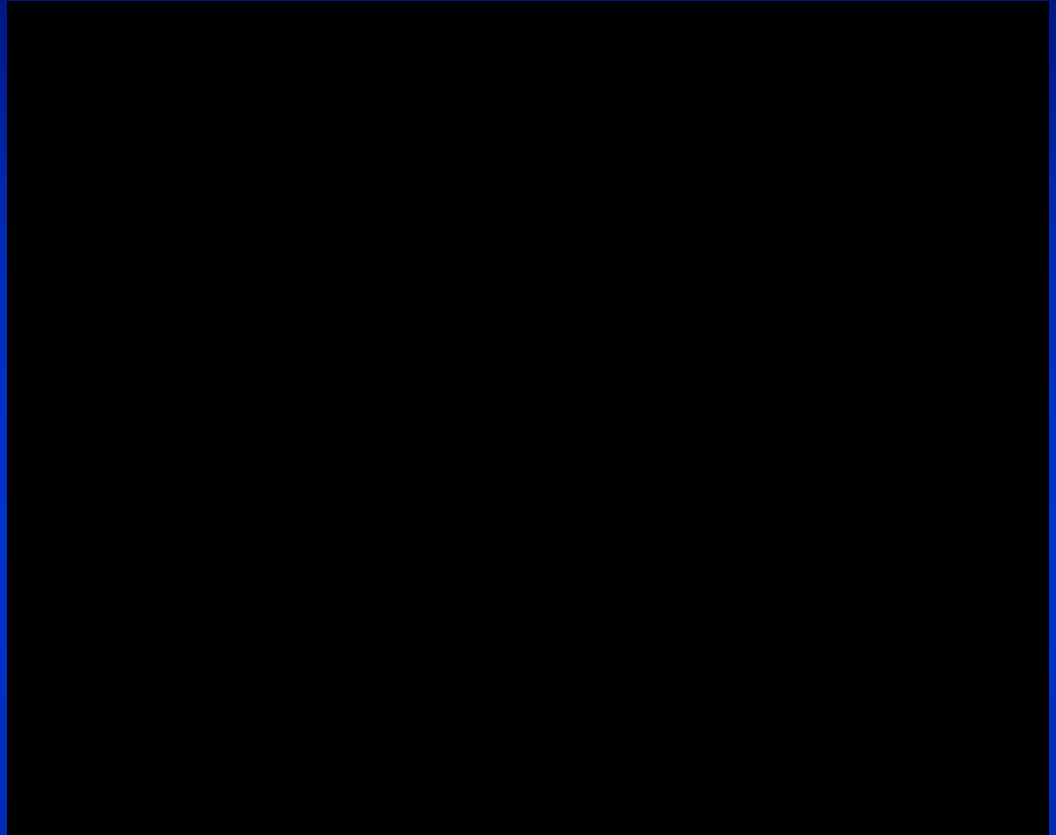
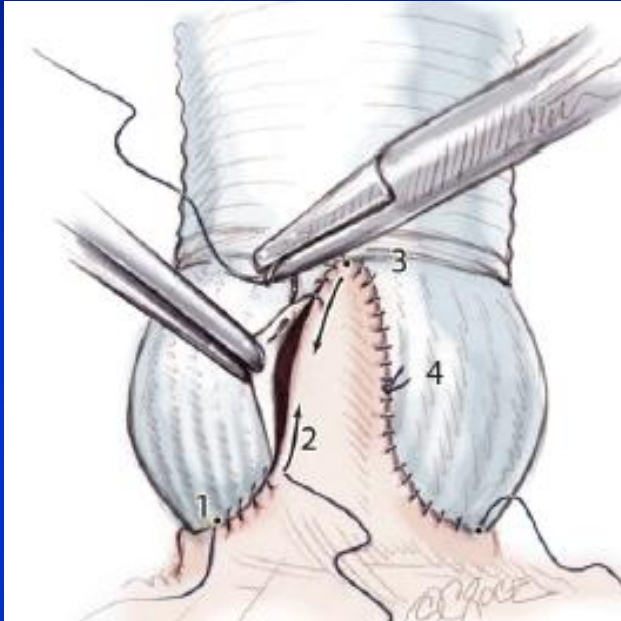
# 3. 6 subvalvular « U » stitches



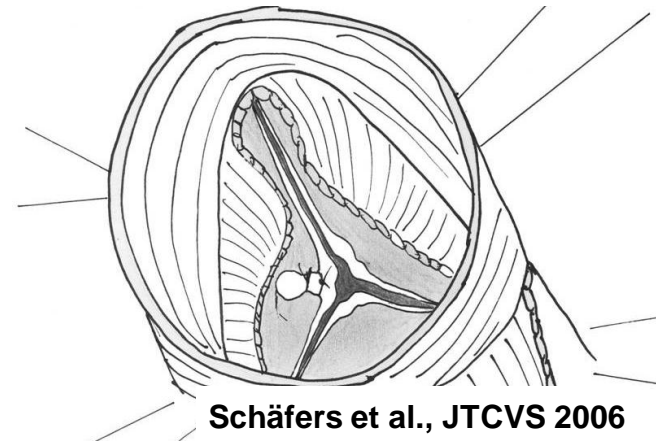
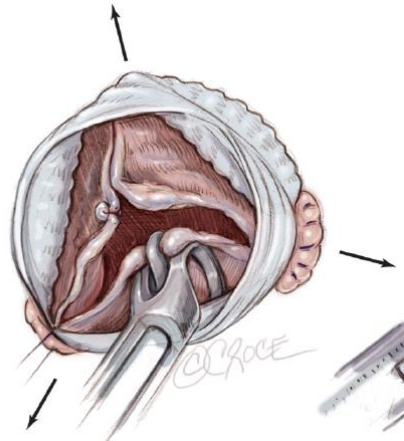
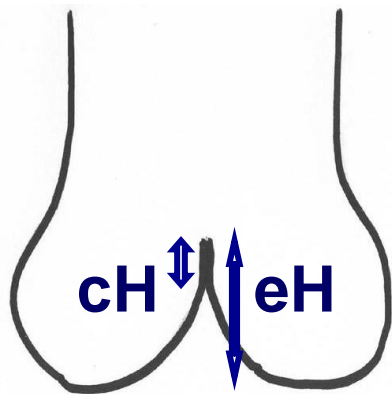
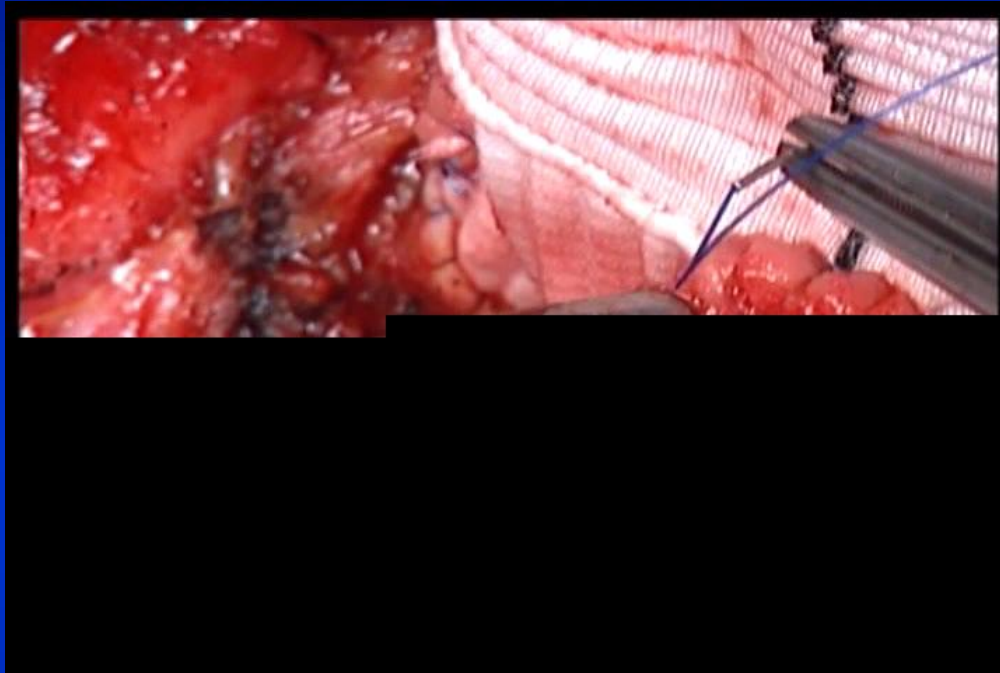
# 4. Alignment of cusp free edges prior Remodeling



# 5. Suture of the Remodeling



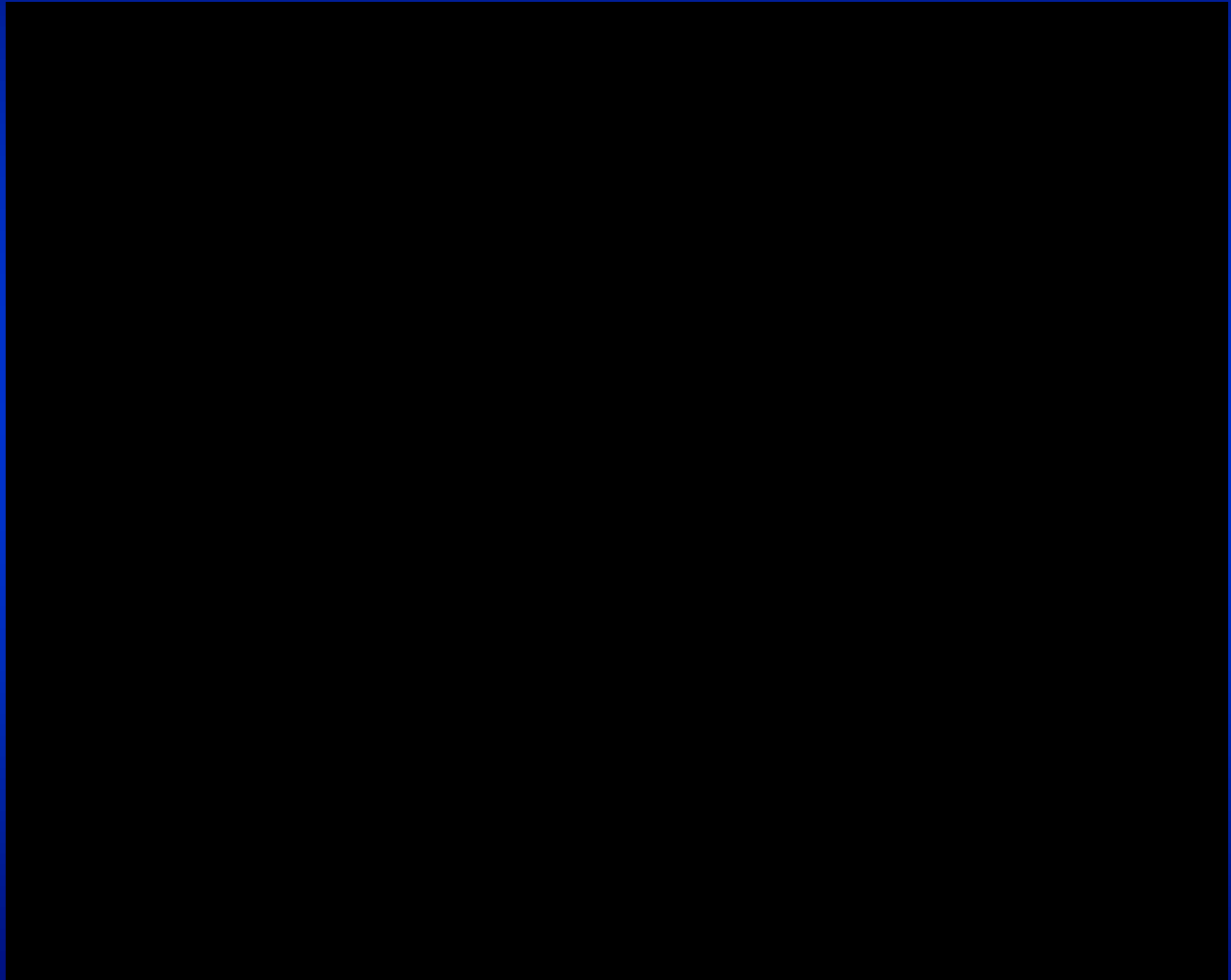
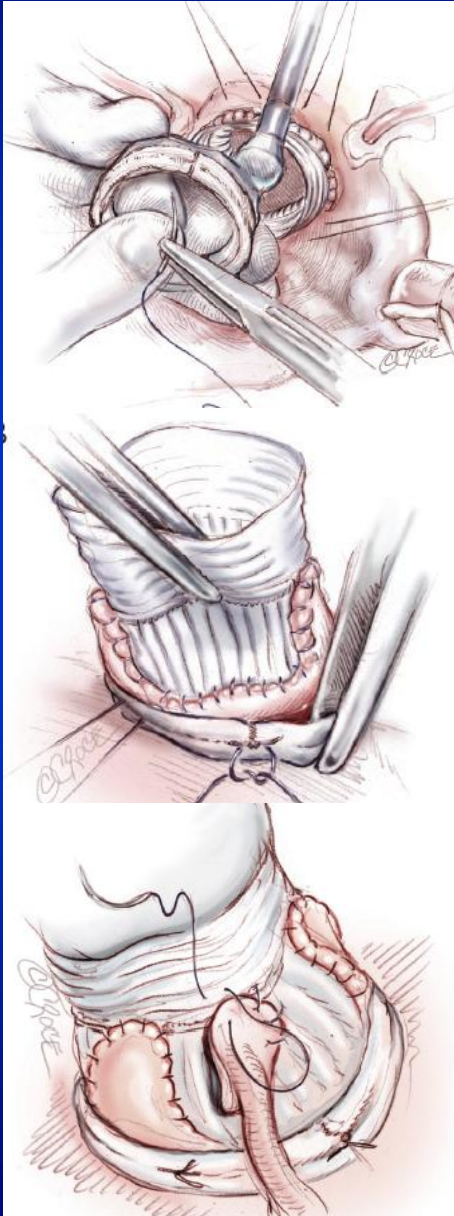
# 6. Cusp resuspension after the Remodeling (effective height 9 mm)



Schäfers et al., JTCVS 2006



# 7. Subvalvular ring implantation







# 700 Aortic valve repair using an external aortic ring

Operative mortality 2%

Pre

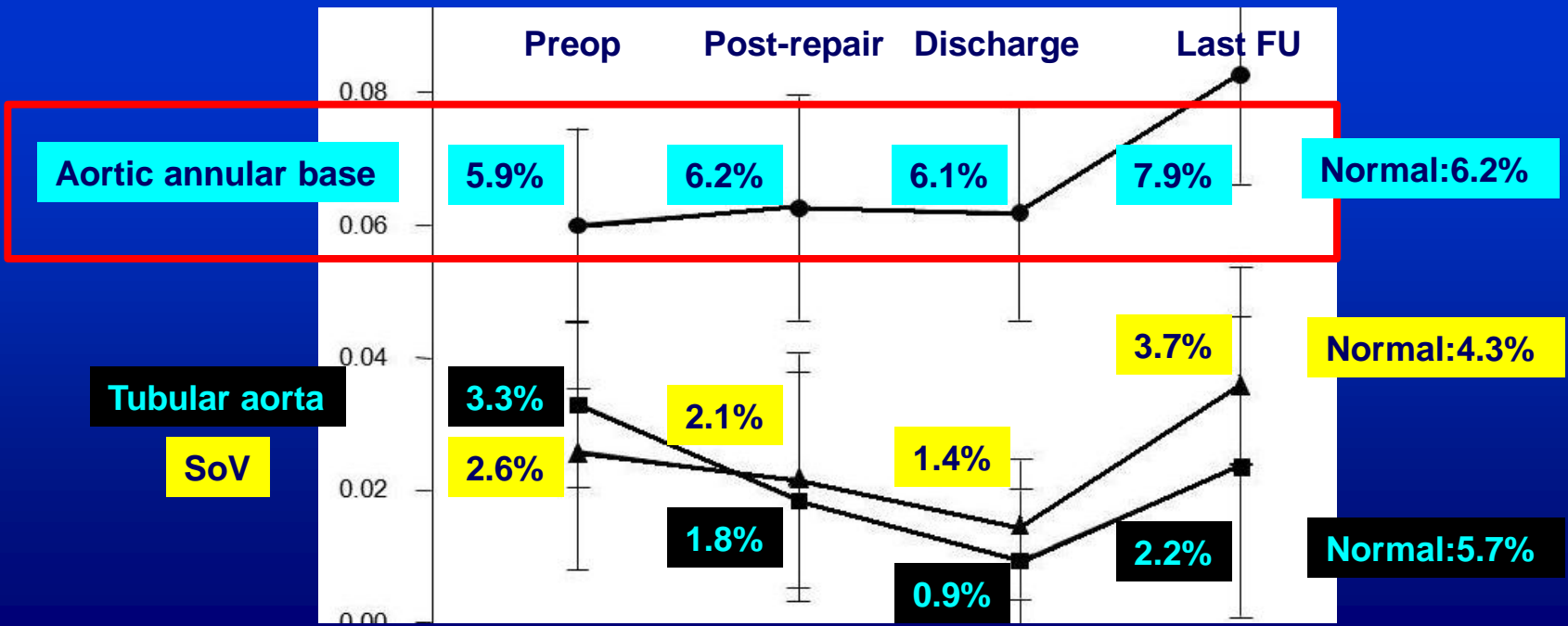
Expansibility is preserved at the aortic annular base and SoV levels up to 22 3.7 months (1-64)

CAVIAA Trial

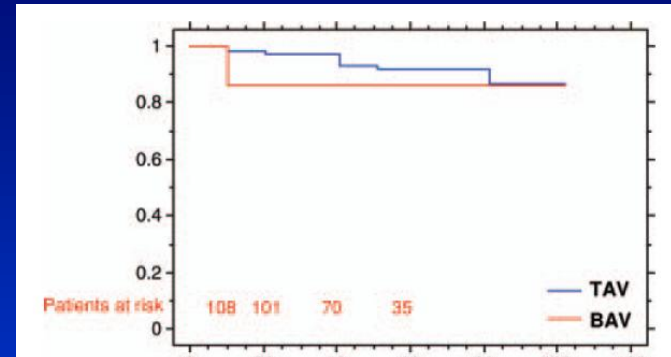
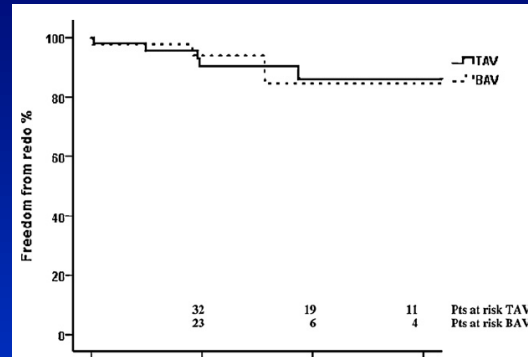
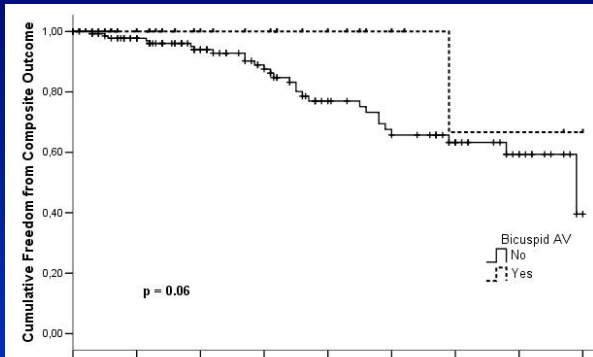
Independent of age and bicuspid valve

vs 130 Bentall

In process for analysis and 10 years follow-up



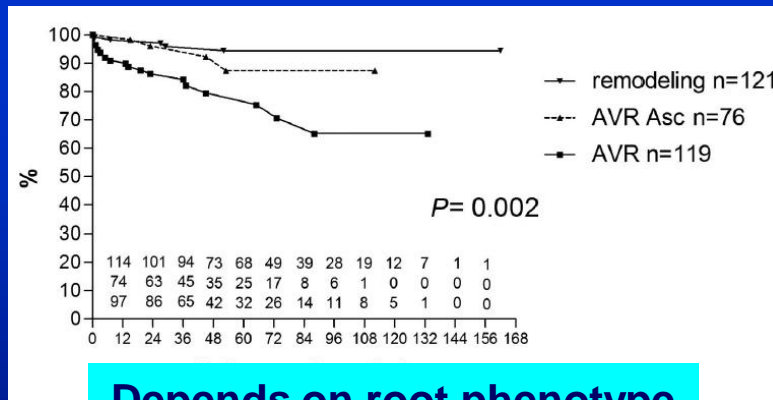
# Should we repair bicuspid valves?



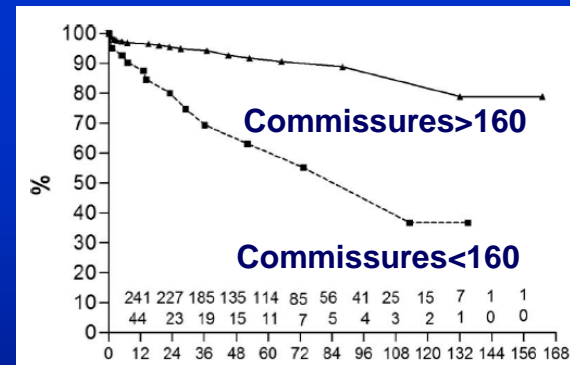
**Results of aortic valve repair are equivalent for bicuspid and tricuspid valves**

**Survival 99% at 5 years and 92% at 10 years**

**Freedom from reoperation 95 % at 10 years for aortic root aneurysm**



**Depends on root phenotype**



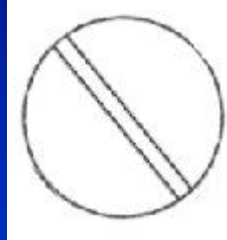
**Commissural orientation**

**Risk factors for reoperation:  $\emptyset$  annulus >28mm, eH <9 mm, Sub commissural annuloplasty**

# Aortic valve Tricuspid



Type 0  
0 raphe

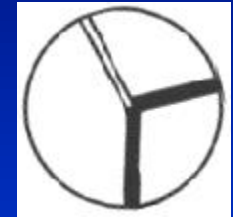


# Bicuspid valve

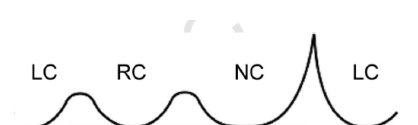
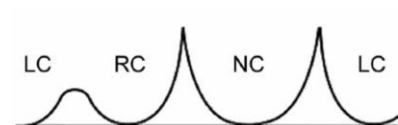
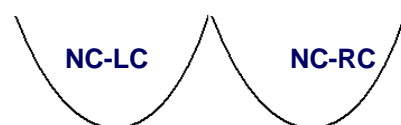
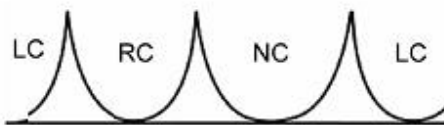
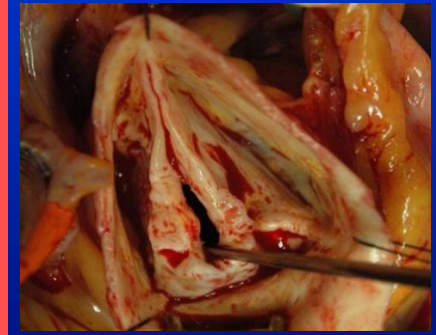
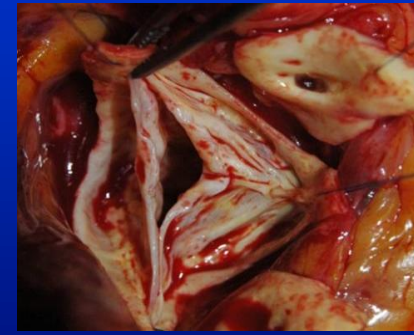
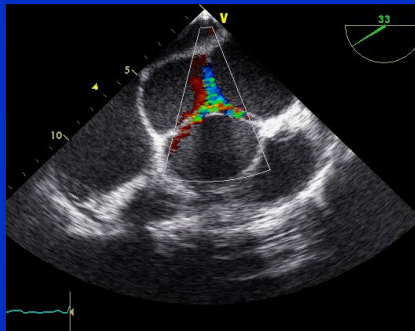
Type 1  
1 raphe



Type 2  
2 raphes



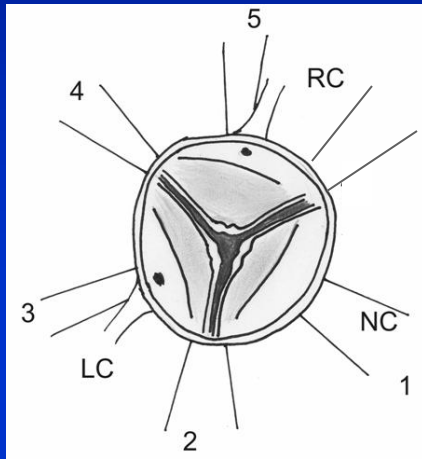
## Valves amenable to repair



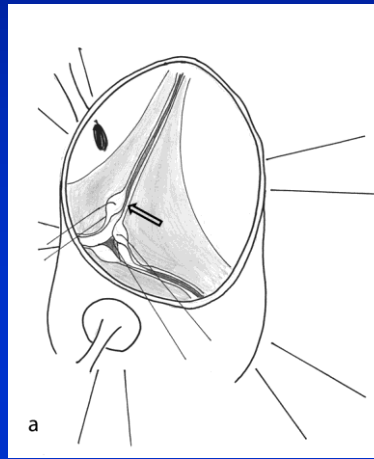
## Unicuspid

# Repair for isolated aortic insufficiency

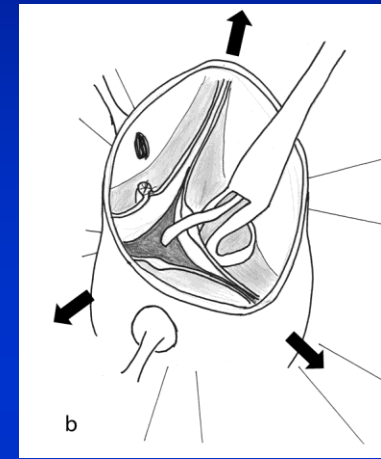
6 subvalvular « U »  
stitches



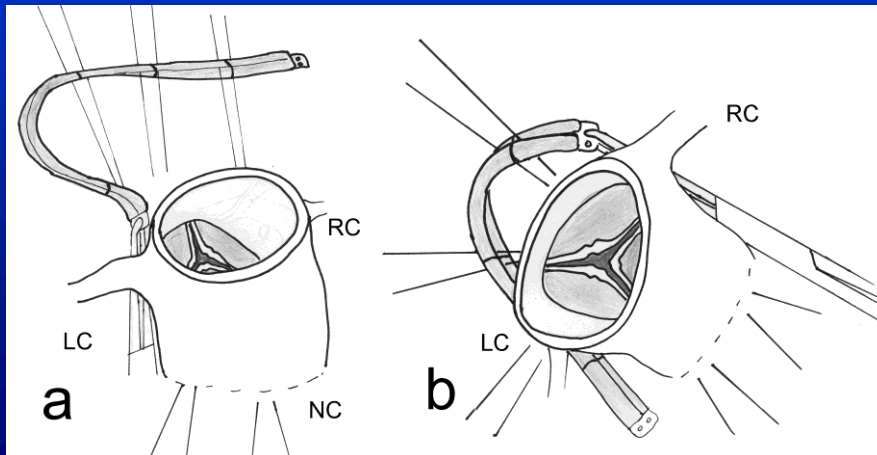
Alignment of cusp free  
edges



Cusp resuspension  
(effective height  $\geq 9$  mm)

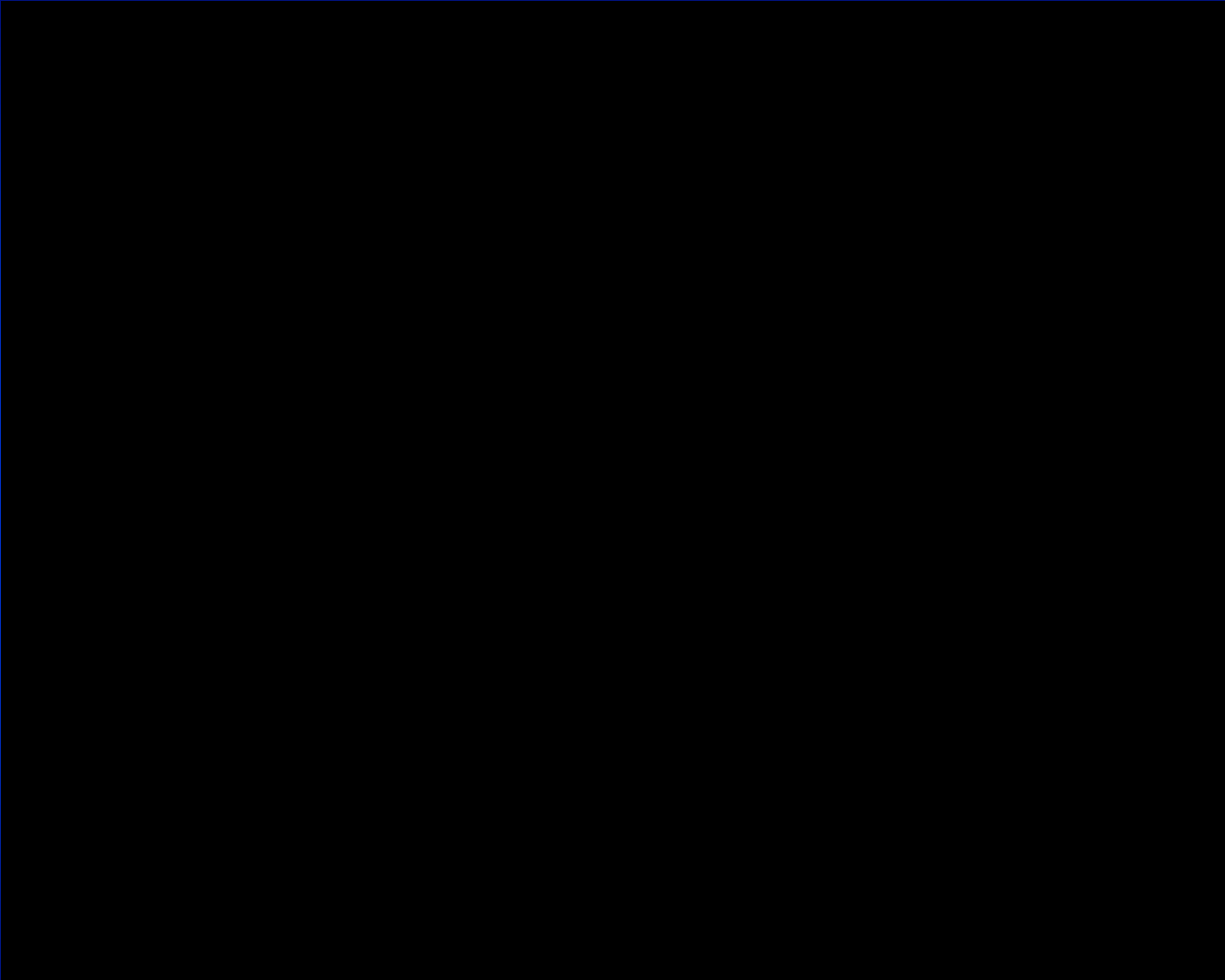


Placement of the open subvalvular ring  
below the coronaries

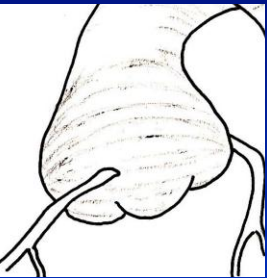


Final aspect





# Dystrophy of the ascending aorta pliable bicuspid and tricuspid valves



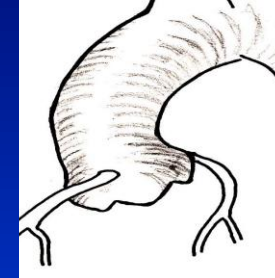
**Aortic root aneurysm**

Valsalva  $\geq 45$  mm



**Supra-coronary aneurysm**

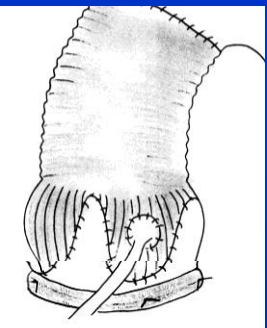
Valsalva  $< 40$  mm



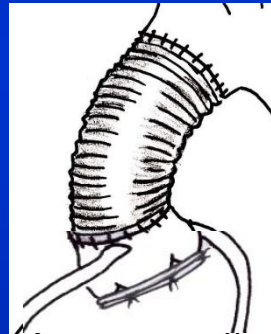
**Isolated AI**

all  $\emptyset < 40$  mm

## Standardized approach according to phenotypes



**Remodeling  
+ subvalvular annuloplasty**



**Supra-coronary graft  
+ subvalvular annuloplasty  
(annulus  $> 25$  mm)**



**Subvalvular annuloplasty  
(annulus  $> 25$  mm)**

### Cusp repair



**Alignment of the cusp free edges**



**Resuspension of cusp effective height**

+



**Subvalvular external aortic annuloplasty**





## International Multicenter Registry

**AI  $\geq$  2 and/or ascending aorta aneurysm**

**Isolated AI**

**Root aneurysms**

**Supracoronary aneurysm**

**Medical  
Registry**

**Surgical Registry**  
**Aortic valve Repair and Replacement**

**Join us now!**

**[aviator.registry@orange.fr](mailto:aviator.registry@orange.fr)**