

INTERMEDIATE OR GREATER RISK

# Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement

with the Edwards SAPIEN 3  
Transcatheter Heart Valve

*For Patients & Caregivers*



Edwards Lifesciences v. Boston Scientific Scimed

This patient booklet is for those who are suffering from severe aortic stenosis and are at intermediate or greater risk for surgical aortic valve replacement. This information will help you learn more about your heart, aortic stenosis and your treatment options, including a less invasive procedure called transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR).

Be sure to ask your specialized Heart Team to explain all of your treatment options and the possible risks and benefits of each.



NewHeartValve.com





## YOUR HEART VALVES

The heart is a muscular organ in your chest that is about the size of your fist. The heart's main function is to pump blood to the rest of your body. Each valve usually has two or three leaflets (flaps of tissue) that open and close like gates to regulate the one-way flow of blood through the heart.

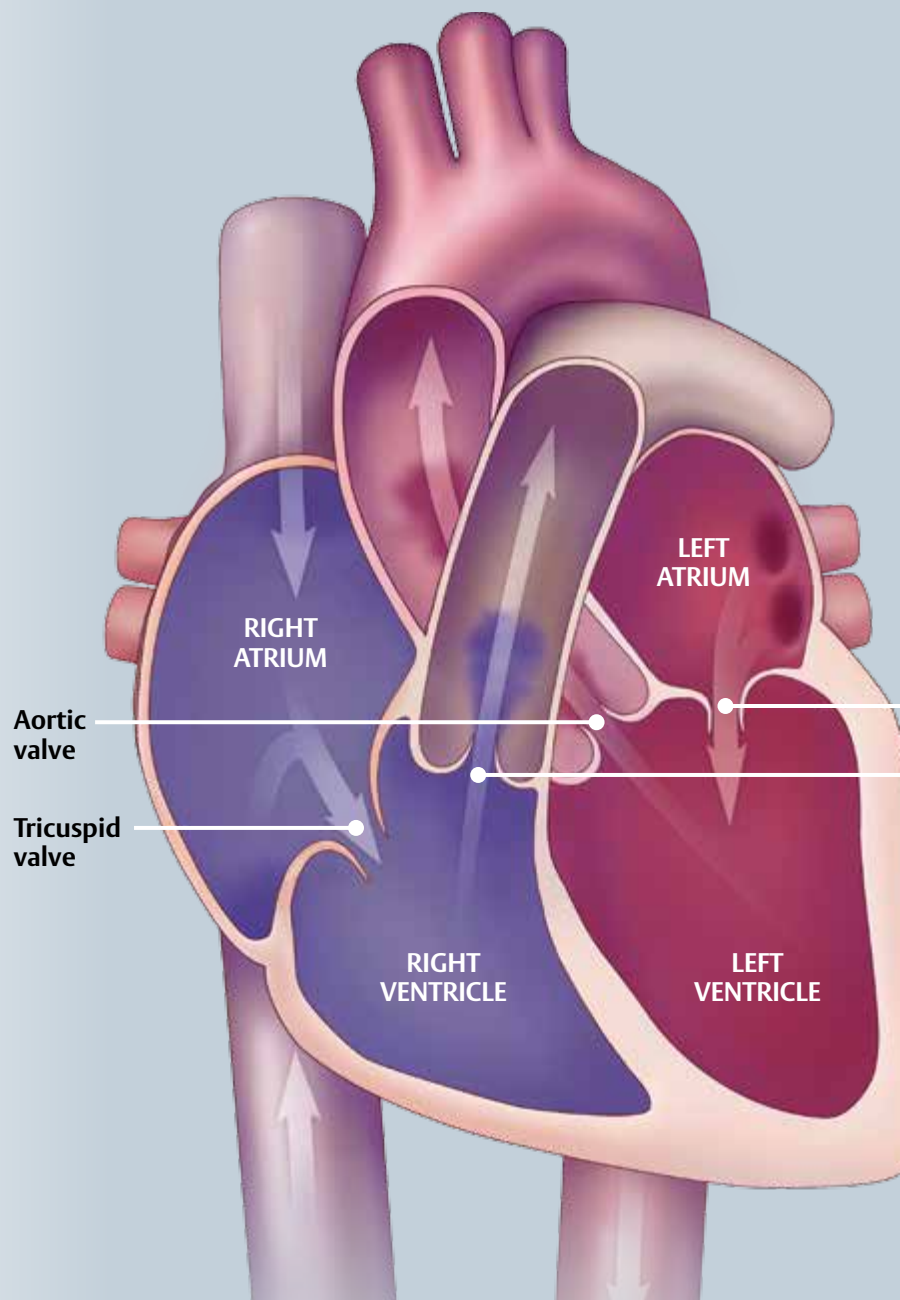
**It is important that your valves are always working properly:**

- Be properly formed and flexible
- Should open all the way so that the right amount of blood can pass through
- Close tightly so that no blood leaks back into the chamber

**There are two problems that can occur in heart valves:**

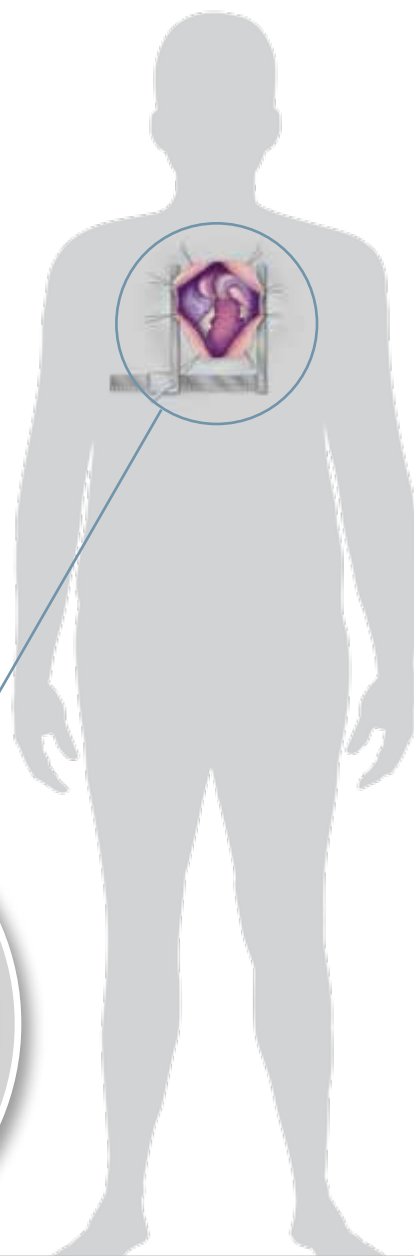
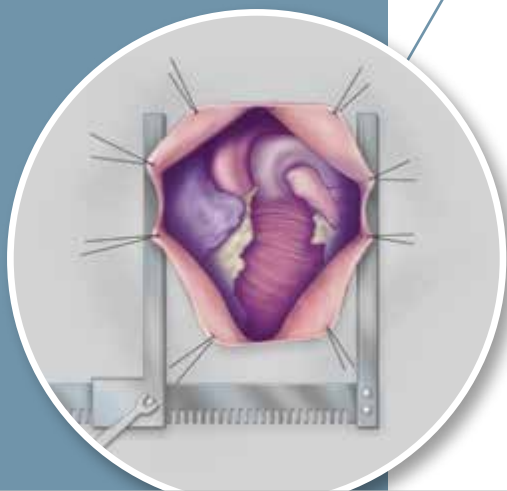
**Stenosis:** when your valve narrows and does not open completely

**Regurgitation:** when your valve does not close completely and blood can leak backwards



## UNDERSTANDING YOUR TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR SEVERE AORTIC STENOSIS

If you have been diagnosed with severe aortic stenosis and your doctor has evaluated you to be at intermediate or greater risk for surgery, TAVR may be a better alternative for you. However, only a specialized Heart Team can determine which treatment option is best for you.



## Surgery

Most open heart surgeries are performed through an incision across the full length of the breast bone, or sternum. This incision is called a median sternotomy. Occasionally open heart surgeries can be performed through smaller incisions.

Open heart surgeries, including those performed through smaller incisions, both require the use of a heart lung machine which temporarily takes over the function of the heart. During the procedure, the surgeon will completely remove the diseased aortic valve and insert a new valve. There are two different types of surgical valves:

- Mechanical (man-made material)
- Biological (animal or human tissue)



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