

# The Strain of Mitral Regurgitation and LV Remodeling



Karen G. Zimmerman, BS, ACS, RDCS, RVT, FASE



HAWAII  
2020

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# The Strain of Mitral Regurgitation and LV Remodeling



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*DISCLOSURES: THE GIANTS OF STRAIN! I AM NOT WORTHY BUT WILL DO  
MY BEST!*



HAWAII  
2020

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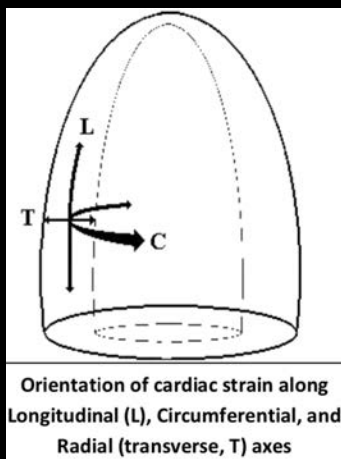
# The Strain of Mitral Regurgitation and LV Remodeling

- I. Introduction
- II. Myocardial Structure and Rotation
- III. Strain Concepts
  - A. Basic Concepts
  - B. Principles of Speckle Tracking
  - C. Strain and Strain Rate by Speckle Tracking
- IV. Loading Conditions
- V. Cellular Response
- VI. Mitral Valve Regurgitation
- VII. Mitral Valve Repair
- VIII. Summary

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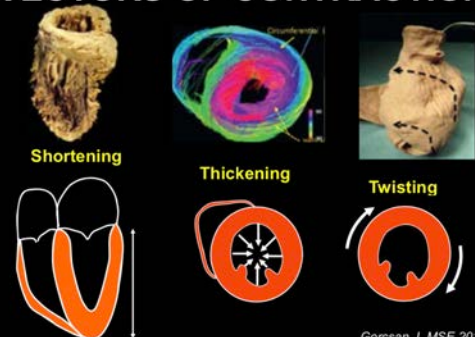
## 3 Dimensional heart moves in 3 directions

- Longitudinal
- Circumferential
- Radial (transverse)



<http://folk.ntnu.no/stoylen/strainrate>

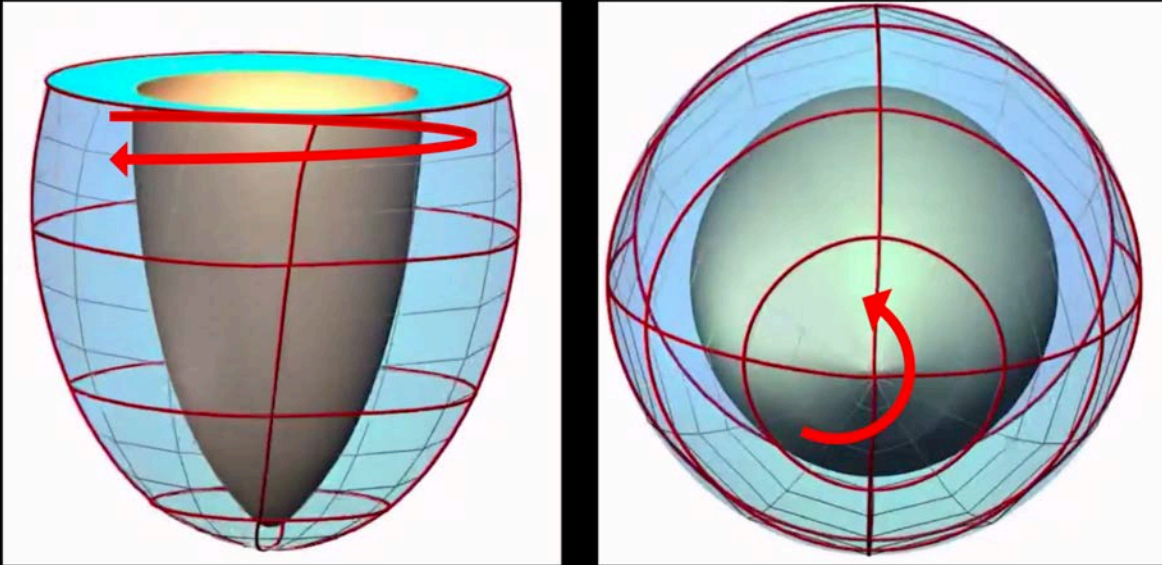
### VECTORS OF CONTRACTION



Gorcsan J. MSE 2017

4

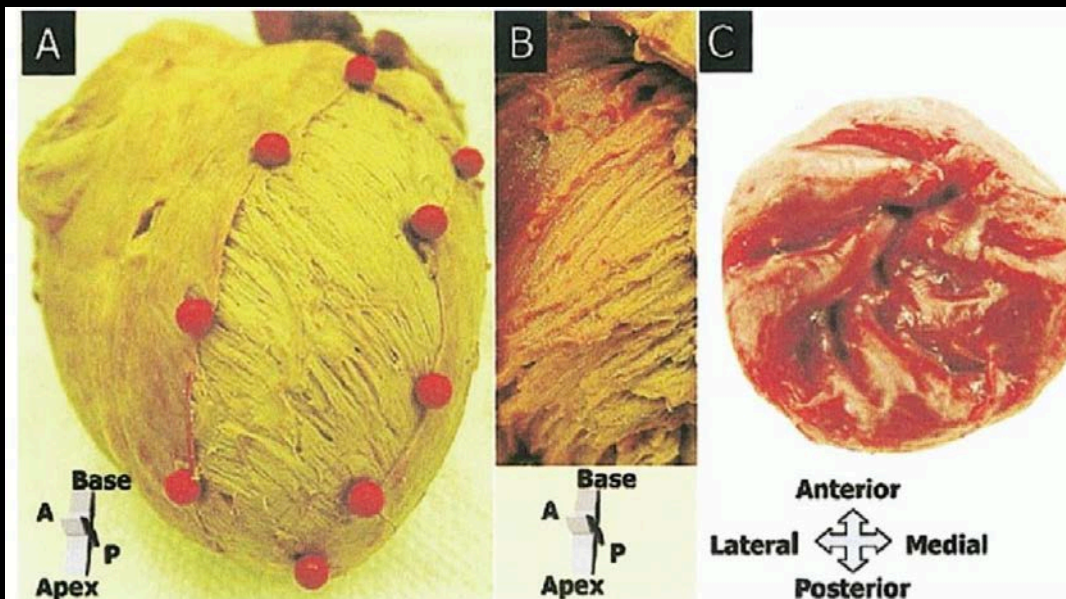
## Basal clockwise rotation and apical counterclockwise



Otto CM, ed. *The Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2016

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## 3 Different fiber arrangements



Sengupta et al. Left Ventricular Structure and Function. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2006;48:1988-2001

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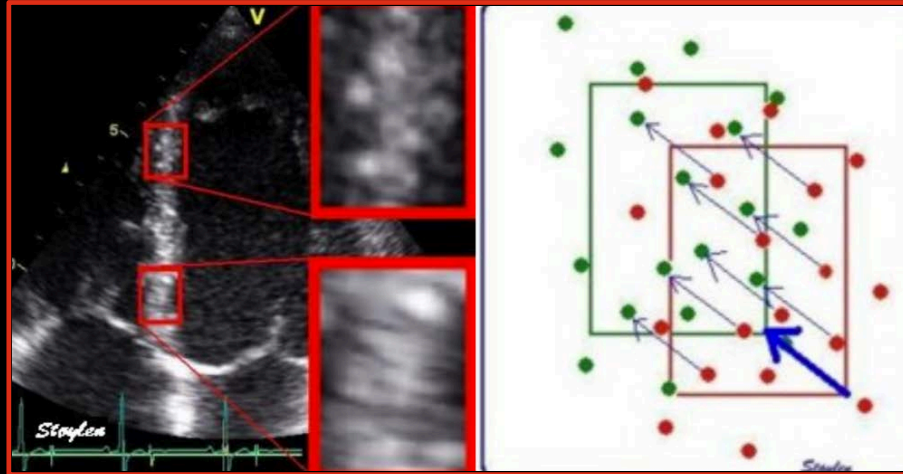
## Strain = Deformation

- Along a single linear axis (stretching or lengthening)
- Strain is change in length *in-comparison to* initial length
- Strain =  $\frac{(\text{new length} - \text{initial length})}{\text{initial length}}$  or  $\frac{L - L_o}{L_o}$
- Dimensionless
- Expressed as *percentage of change*
- Angle dependent

Ho, J Cardiac Kinetics: Taking the stress out of strain

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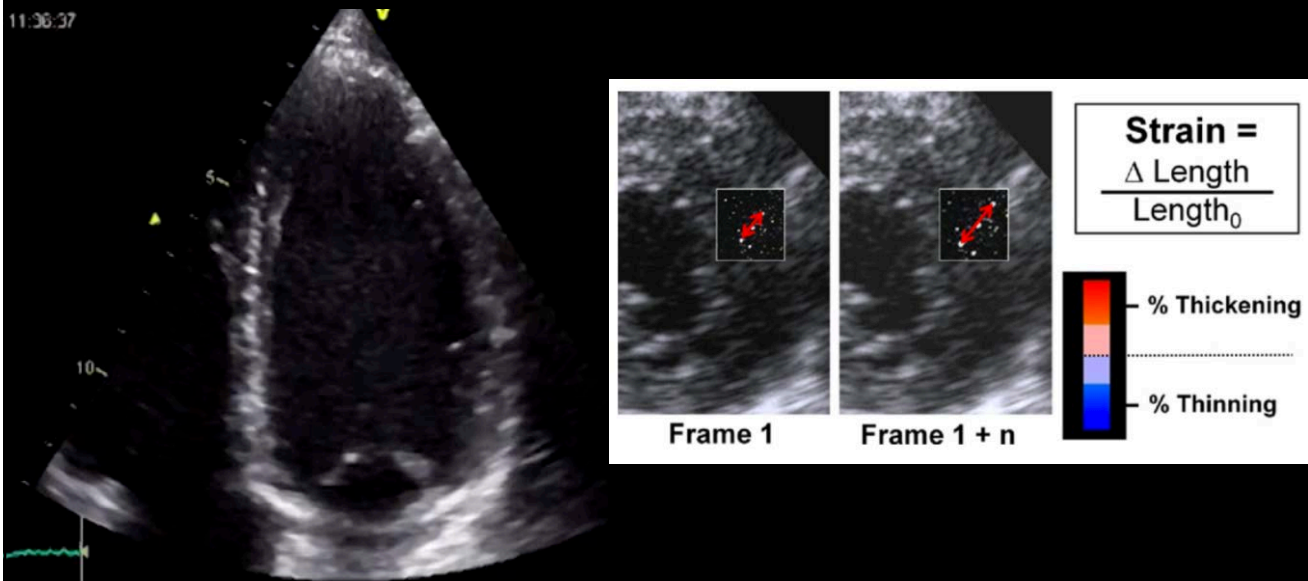
## Speckle tracking echo (STE) Myocardial velocity, strain and SR based on tracking speckle movement seen in greyscale



<http://folk.ntnu.no/stoylen/strainrate>

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## Speckle tracking echo (STE)



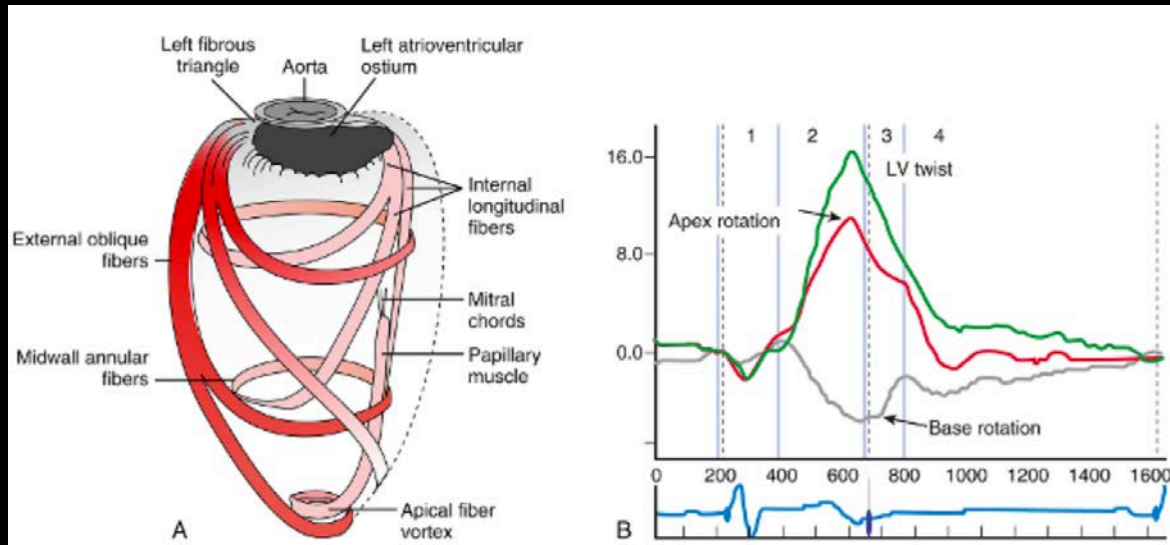
Otto CM, ed. *The Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2016

Gorcsan III and Tanaka JACC 58;14:1401-13

10



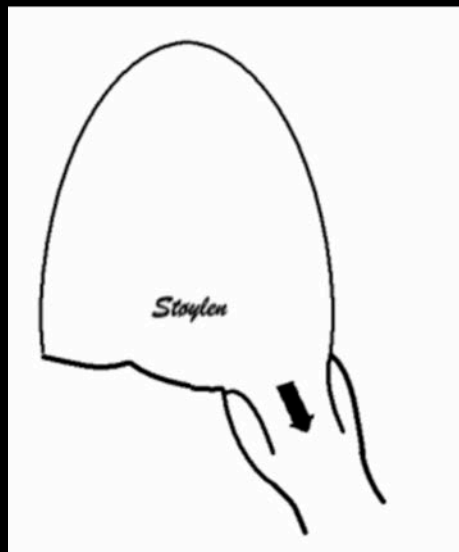
## Apical rotation, LV twist and LV torsion



Otto CM, ed. *The Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2016

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## Longitudinal = length, base to apex



### Longitudinal Strain LV Shortening



End Diastole



End Systole

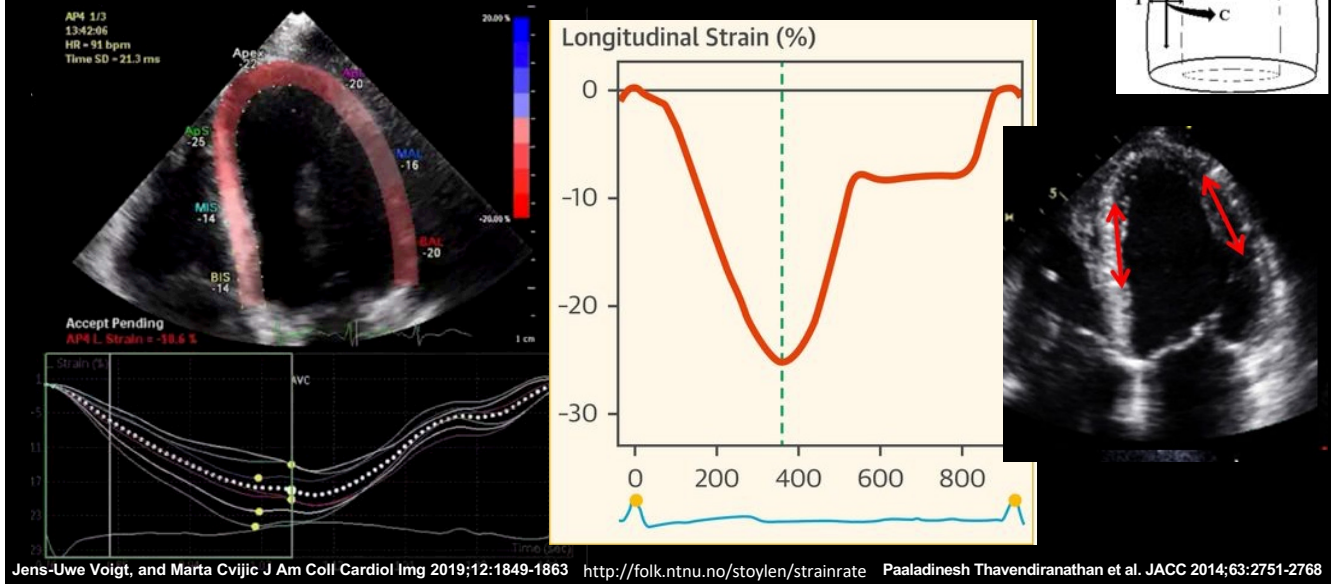
End-Diastole	End-Systole	%
↑	↓	
↓	↑	
Strain = % Change in Length		

<http://folk.ntnu.no/stoylen/strainrate>

Gorcsan J. MSE 2017

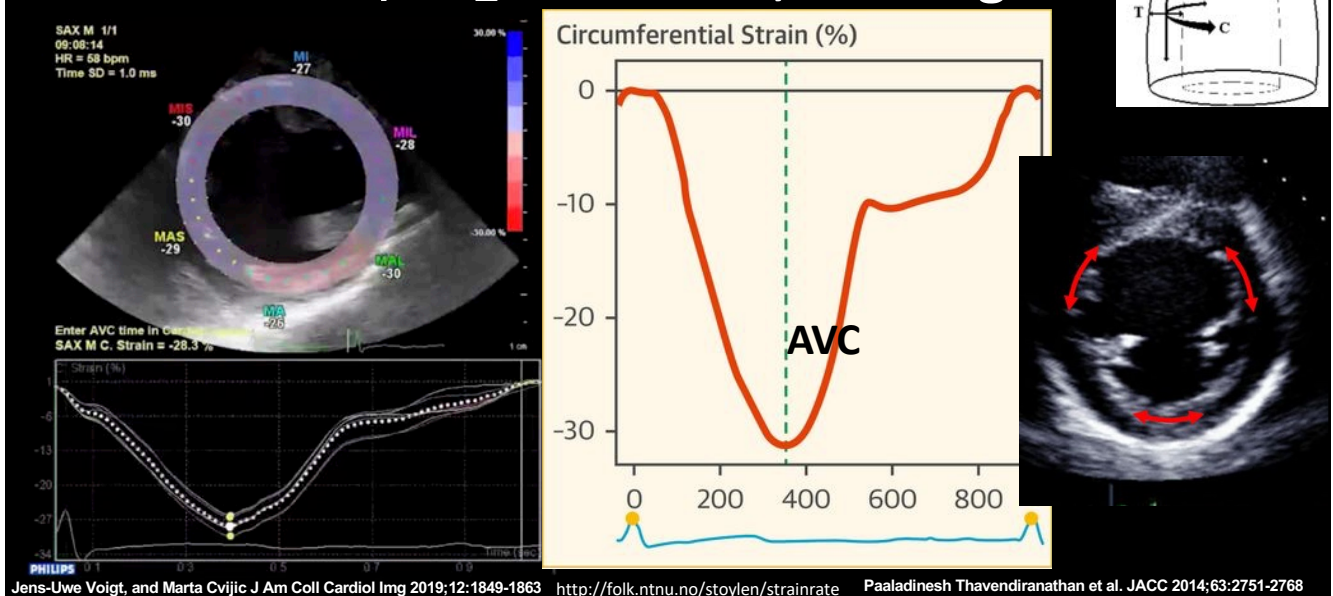
12

**Longitudinal = negative pattern stretching myocardium from apex to base**



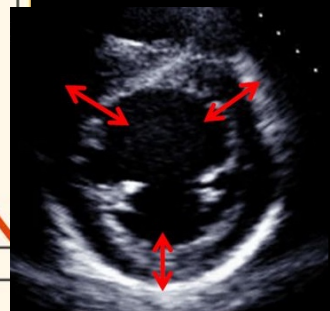
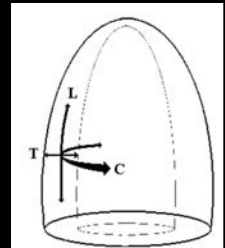
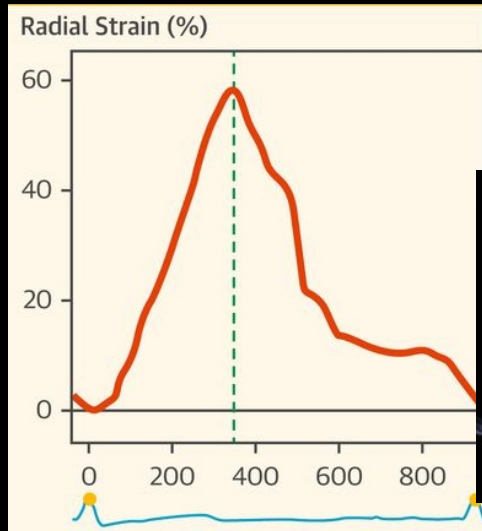
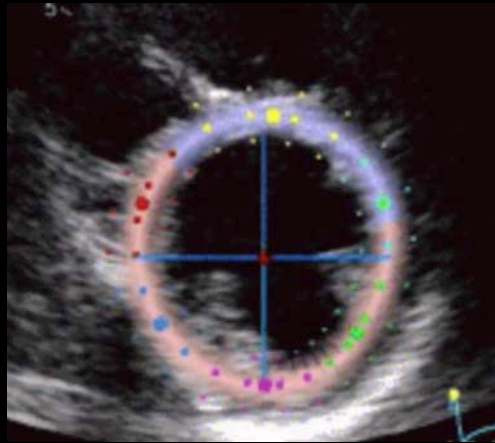
13

**Circumferential = around ventricle, cross section, negative value, twisting**



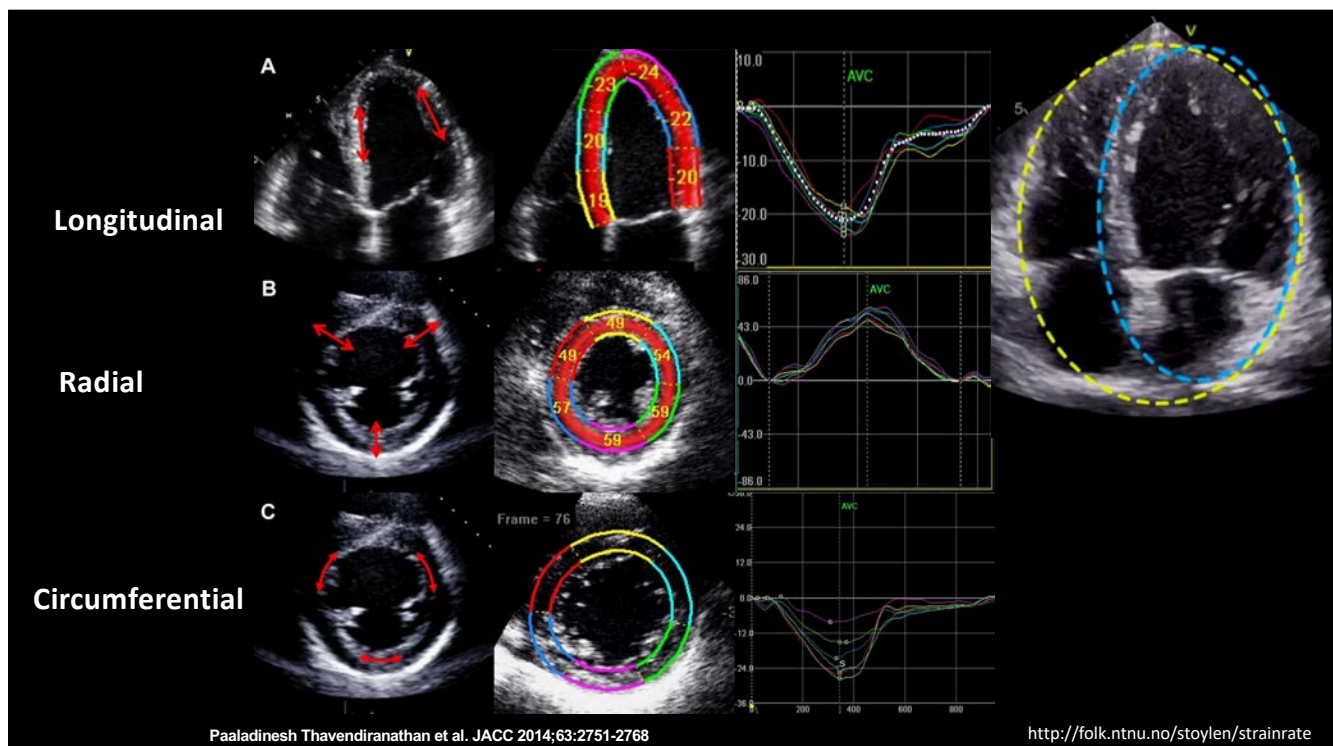
14

**Radial = transverse or transmural,  
positive value, inward motion**



Jens-Uwe Voigt, and Marta Cvijic J Am Coll Cardiol Img 2019;12:1849-1863 <http://folk.ntnu.no/stoylen/strainrate> Paaladinesh Thavendiranathan et al. JACC 2014;63:2751-2768

15



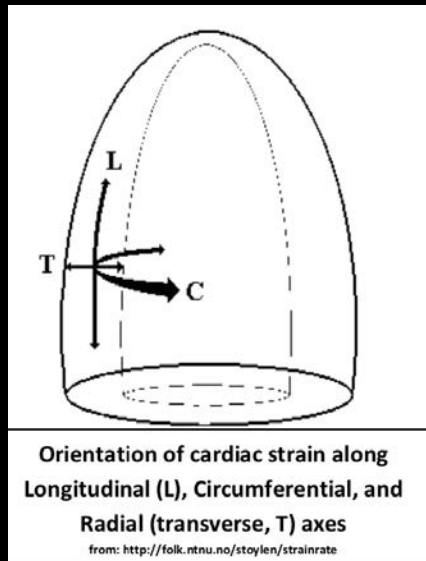
Paaladinesh Thavendiranathan et al. JACC 2014;63:2751-2768

<http://folk.ntnu.no/stoylen/strainrate>

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## Different directions will have different values

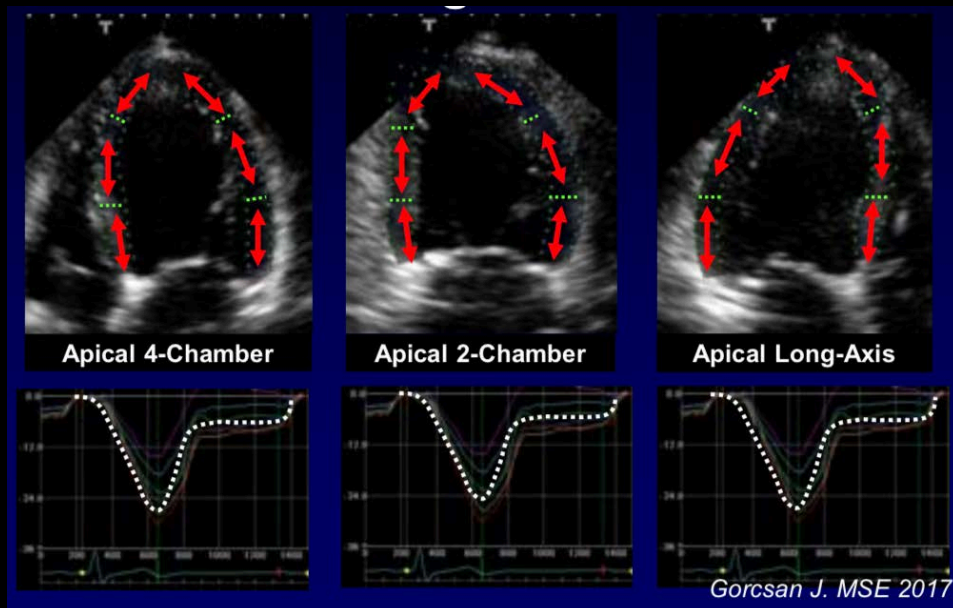


LV Strain normal range (TTE)	
Longitudinal	17-23%
Circumferential	23-27%
Radial	41-59%

<http://folk.ntnu.no/stoylen/strainrate>

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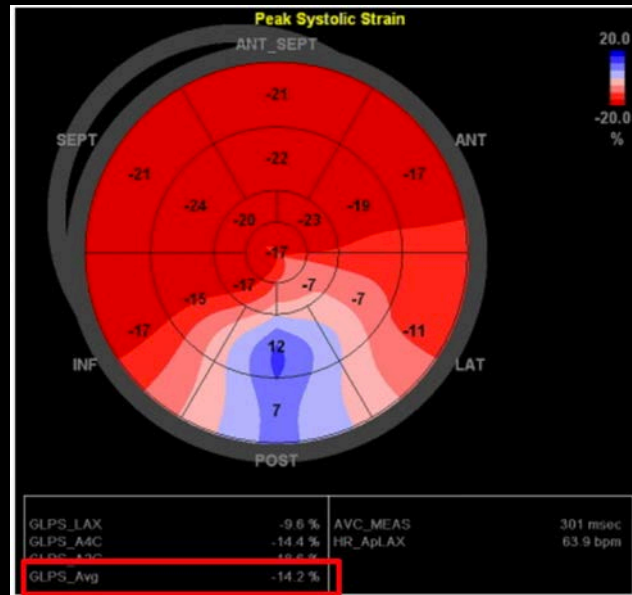
## Global Longitudinal Strain is averaged



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## How to report these changes?

- Compare segments
- Timing of peak values
- GLS averages
- More negative-red (more stretching) better
- Blue is bad



Ho, J Cardiac Kinetics: Taking the stress out of strain

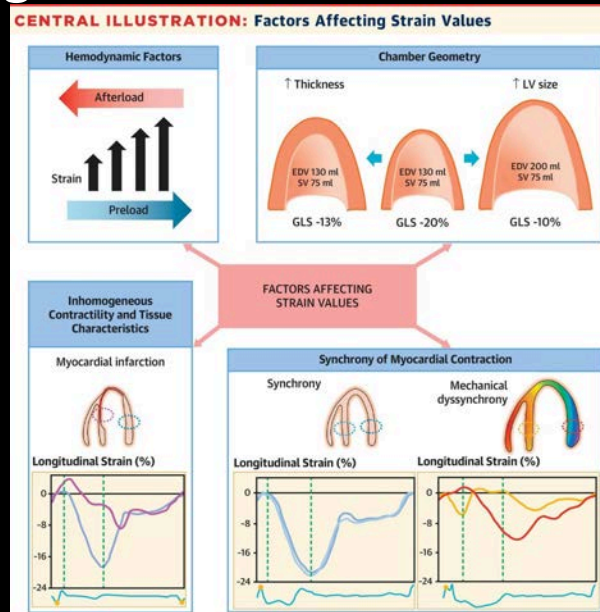
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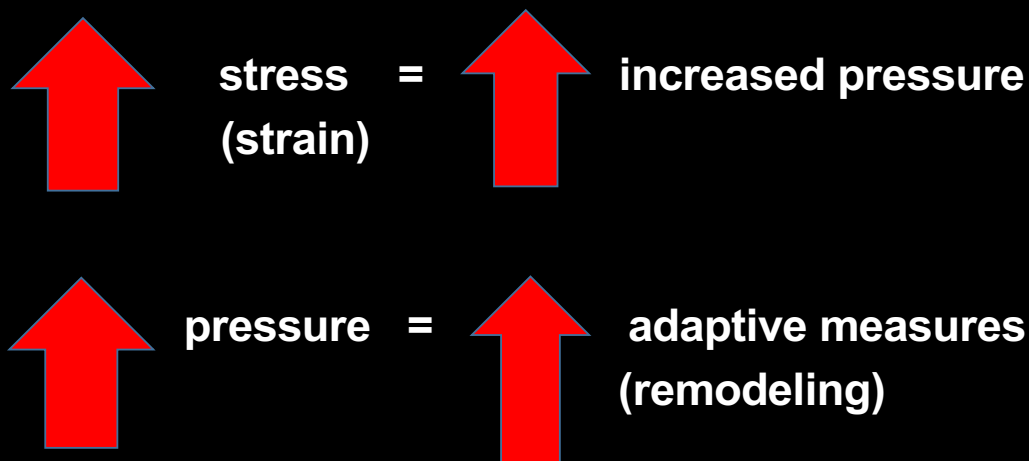
# Loading conditions affect deformation



Jens-Uwe Voigt, and Marta Cvijic J Am Coll Cardiol Img 2019;12:1849-1863

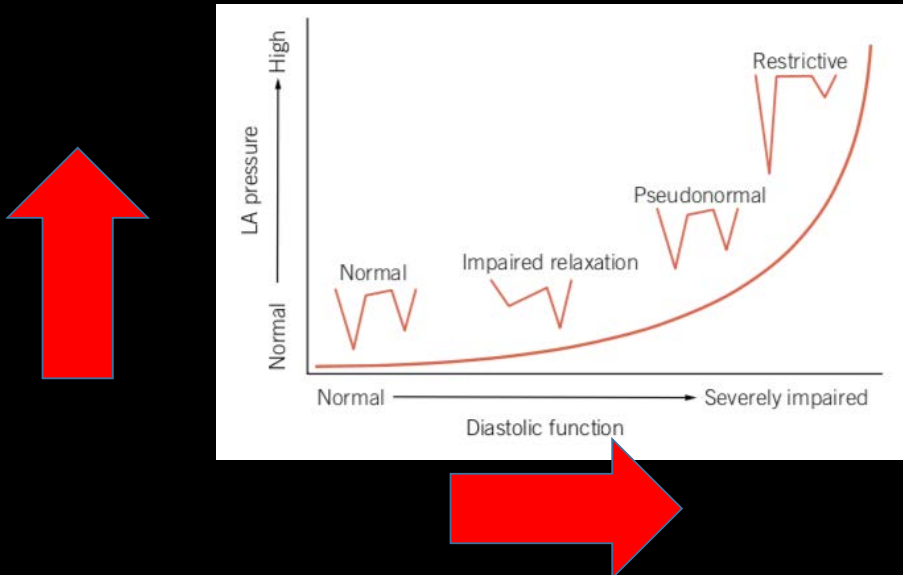
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**Stress + Pressure = Diastolic dysfunction**



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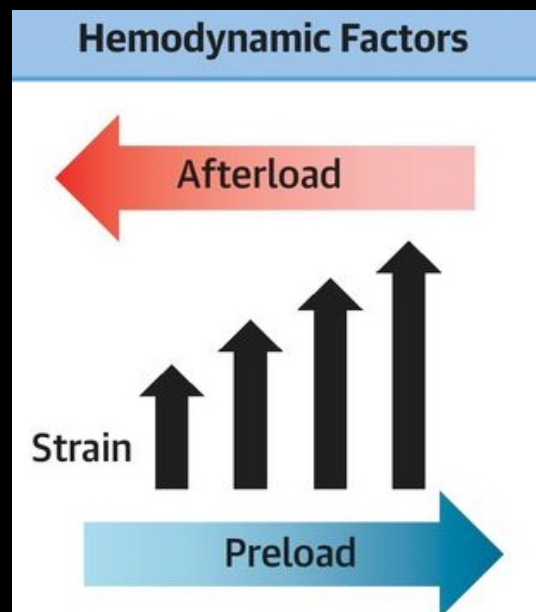
## More pressure leads to more dysfunction



Sidebotham DA, ed. *Practical Perioperative Transesophageal Echocardiography*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Oxford University Press, Oxford, England 2018

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## Preload and afterload have a major impact on deformation



Jens-Uwe Voigt, and Marta Cvijic *J Am Coll Cardiol Img* 2019;12:1849-1863

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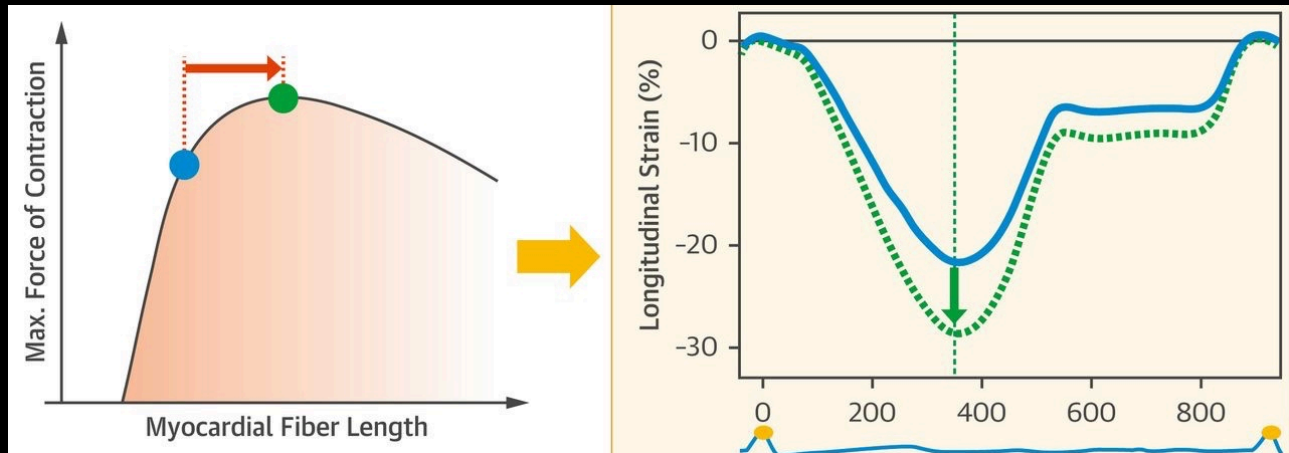
**Simply put, what effects inside the chambers, either by volume, pressure or stiffness (causing stress), will effect chamber remodeling (or deformation) in response to adapt**

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**... and strain will help us detect this sooner**

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**Less time to stretch = less power = decreased values**

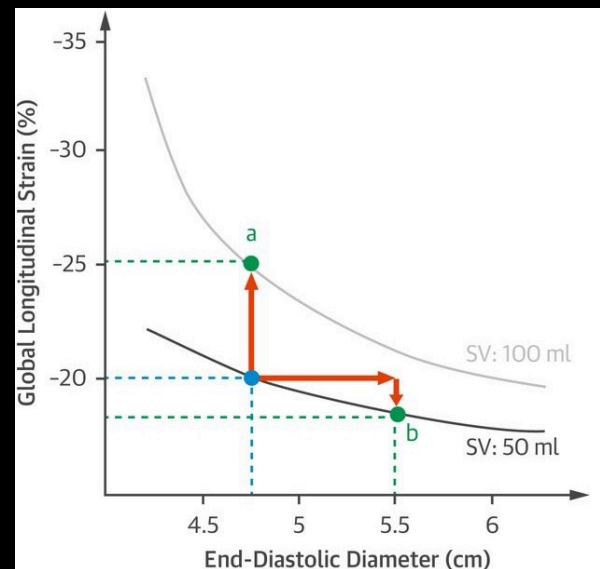


Jens-Uwe Voigt, and Marta Cvijic J Am Coll Cardiol Img 2019;12:1849-1863

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## Goal: Maintain stroke volume

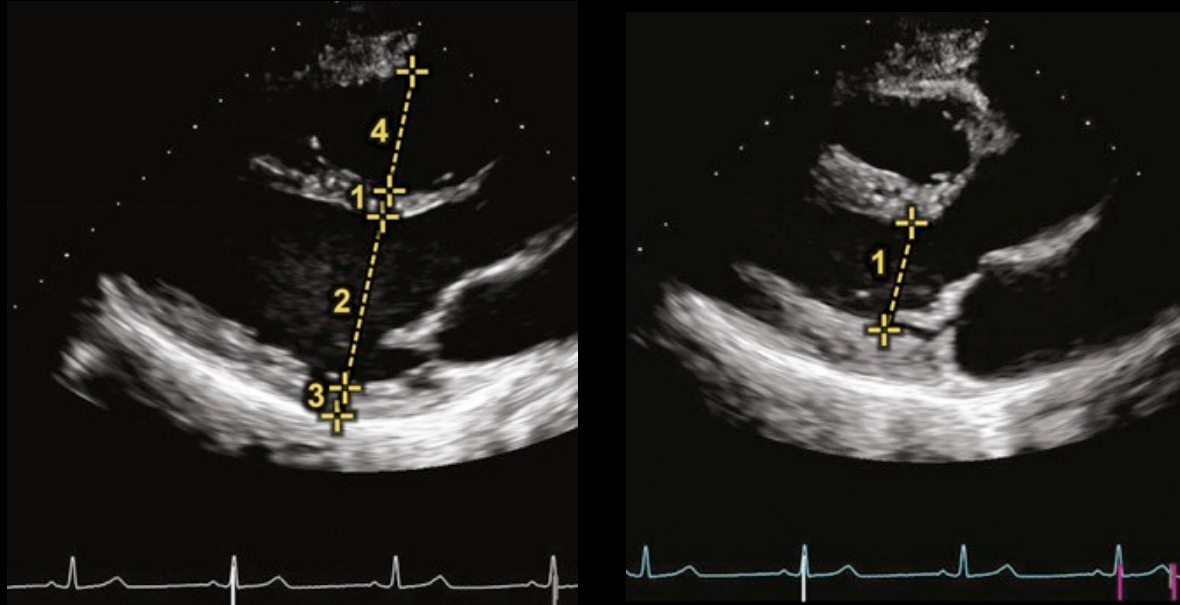
- Acute volume over-load initially leads to higher strain
- Deformation increases from increased load
- Not reflective of increased strain, but of volume overload itself



Jens-Uwe Voigt, and Marta Cvijic J Am Coll Cardiol Img 2019;12:1849-1863

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## Eventually, differences in chamber size become less

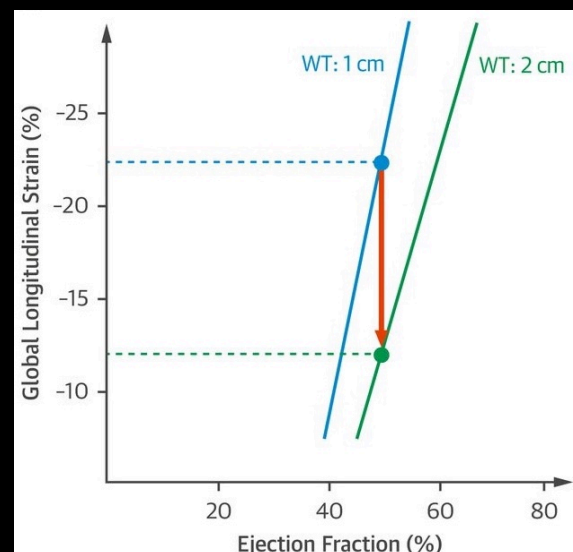


Carol Mitchel et al. *Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography* 2019 32, 1-64DOI: (10.1016/j.echo.2018.06.004)

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## Chronic pressure overload (AS or HTN)

- Increasing wall thickness and decreasing chamber size offset excess wall stress
- EF remains normal while GLS is significantly reduced



Jens-Uwe Voigt, and Marta Cvijic *J Am Coll Cardiol Img* 2019;12:1849-1863

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## Pathophysiology of MR



Cioffi G et al. *European Journal of Heart Failure* 2005 Dec;7(7):112-7

31

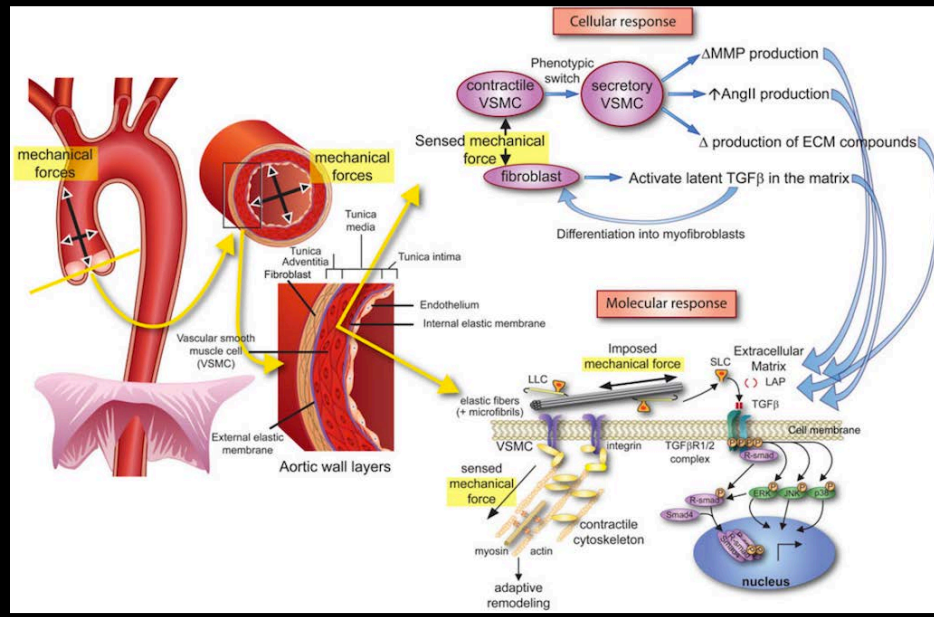
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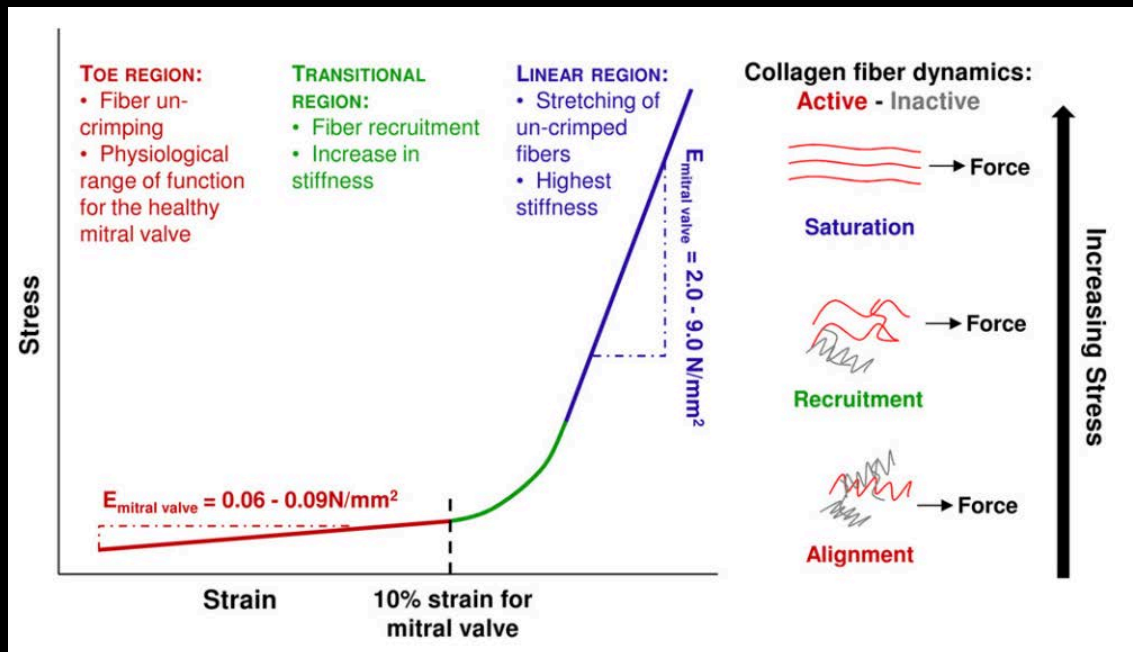


# The cellular level affects everything!



De Backer J European Heart Journal (2015) 36,2131-2133

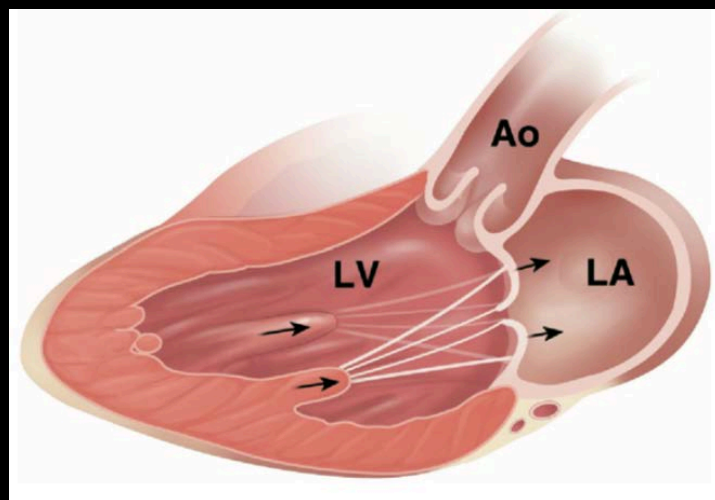
33



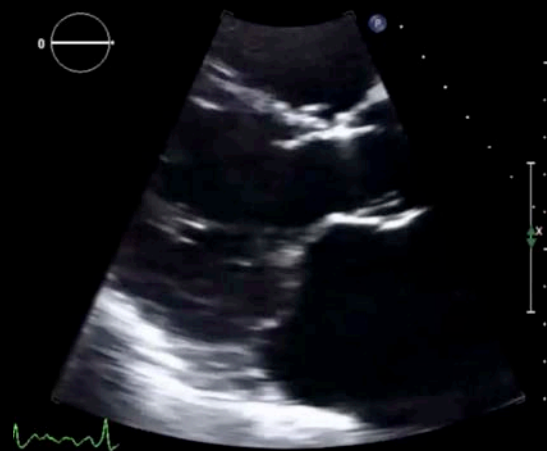
Richards JM et al J of Vet Cardiology (2012)14, 47-58

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## Excessive stretching leads to fibrosis



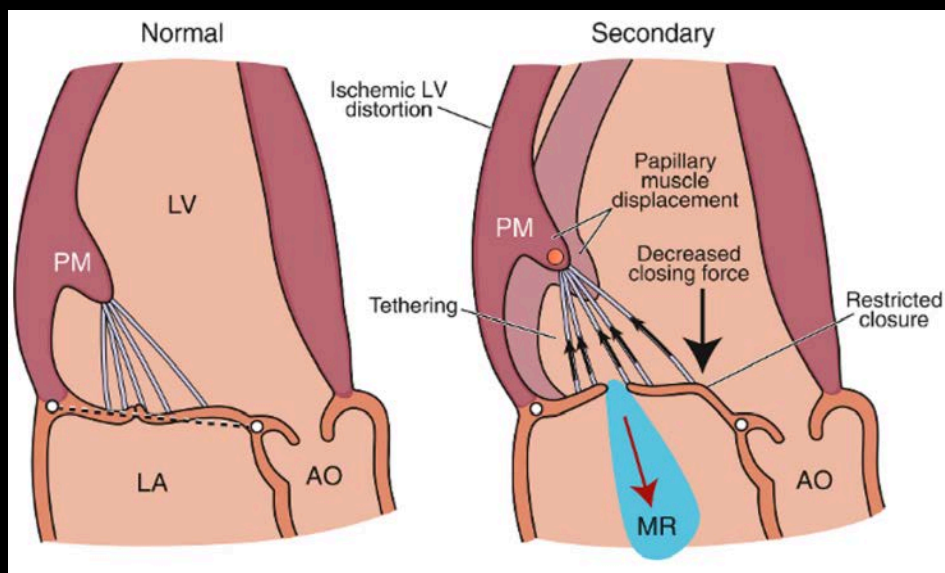
Levine R and Durst R, ed comment JACC:CVI,1,3,2008:304-6



Otto CM, ed. *The Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2016

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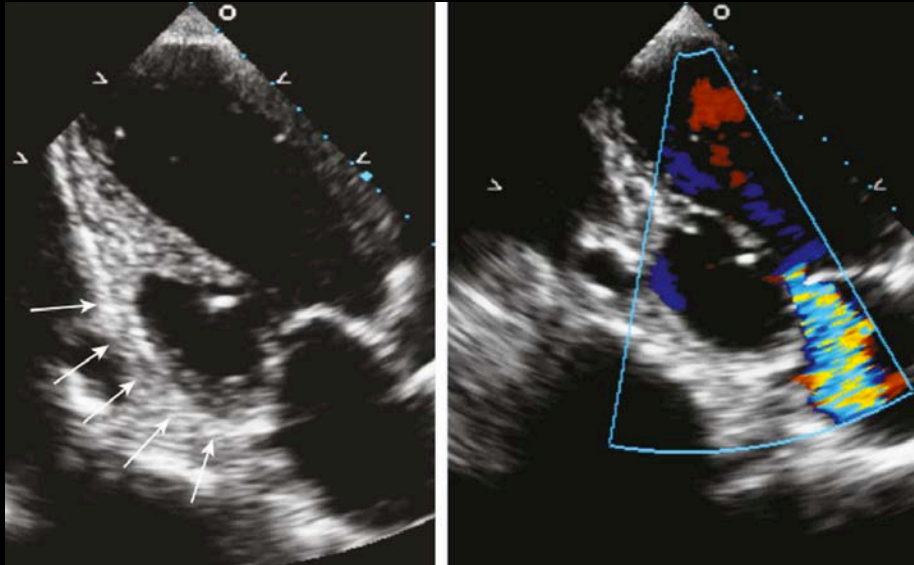
## Excessive stretching leads to fibrosis



Otto CM, ed. *The Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2016

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## Excessive stretching leads to fibrosis



Otto CM, ed. *The Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2016

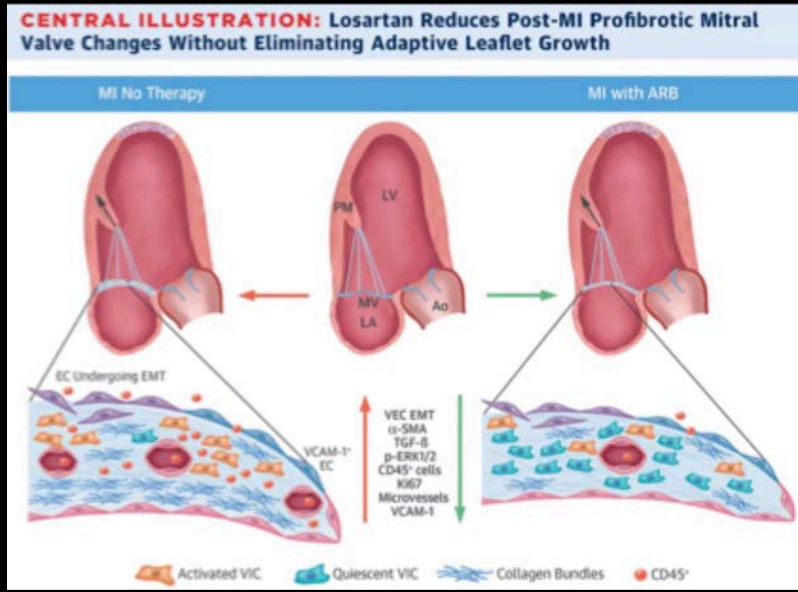
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## Fibrosis = Scar

- Deformation creates myocardial scar at interstitial level
- Scars become thick and influence things like mitral regurgitation
- Fibrosed scar does not stretch

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## Bottom Line: MMPs Rule Everything begins, and maybe one day can end, at the cellular level!

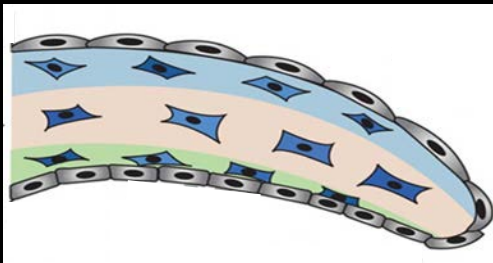


Philipp E. Bartko et al. JACC 2017;70:1232-1244

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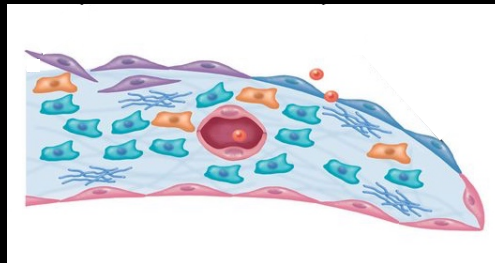
## ARB

Degenerative



Delling FN, Vasan RS. *Circulation*. 2014;129:2158-70

Ischemic



Bartko PE et al. JACC 2017;70:1232-44

**ARBs reasonable following most repairs to limit  
disease progression and prevent recurrent MR**

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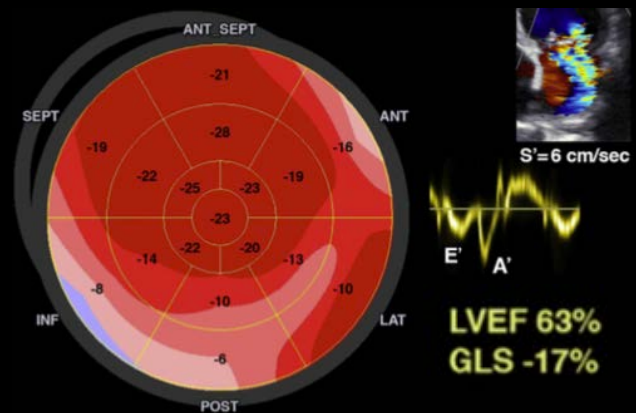
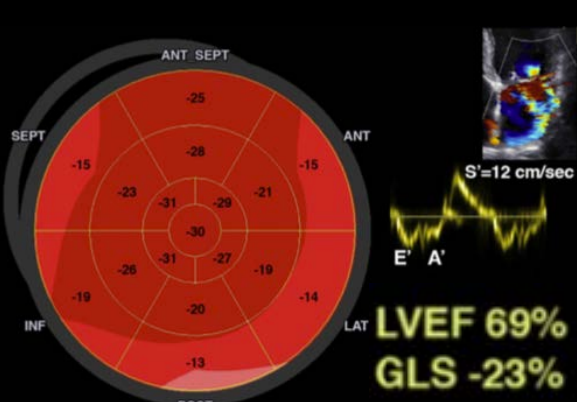
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## Severe primary MR GLS with normal EF

Normal EF, 60 yo female BSA 1.48 m<sup>2</sup>  
ERO 0.61 cm<sup>2</sup>

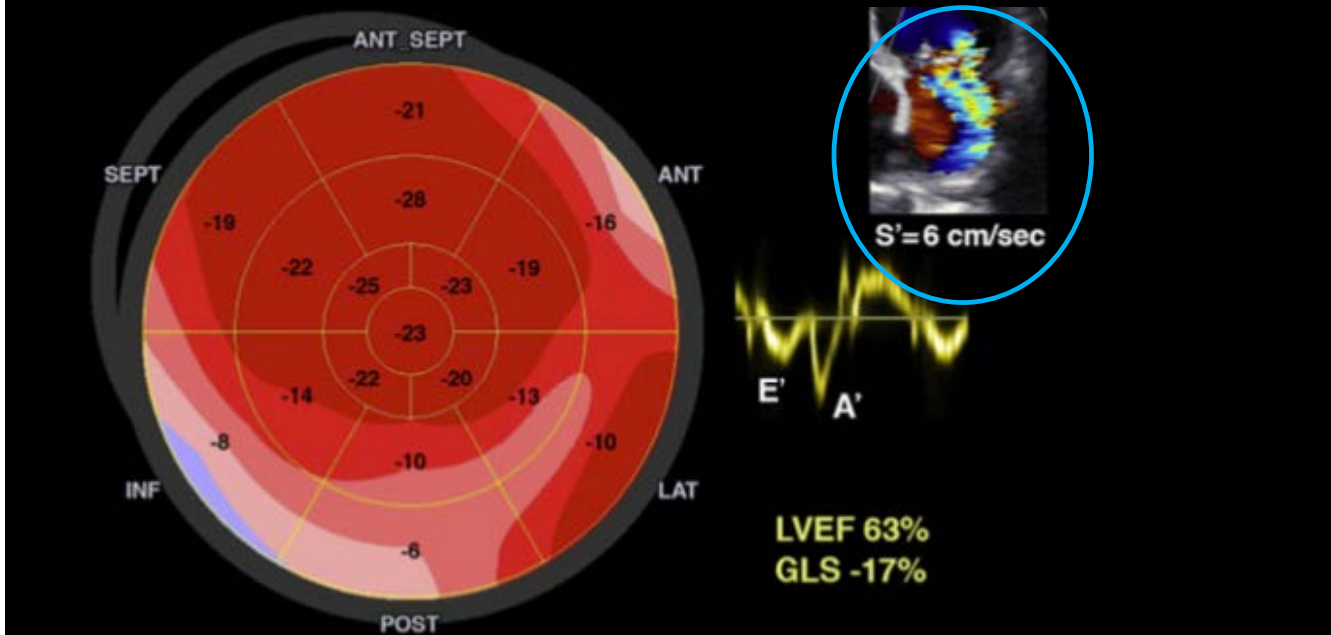


Reduced GLS 75yo male BSA 1.7 m<sup>2</sup>  
ERO 0.50 cm<sup>2</sup>

Galli et al JACC: CVI vol7 no 11 2014 1151-66

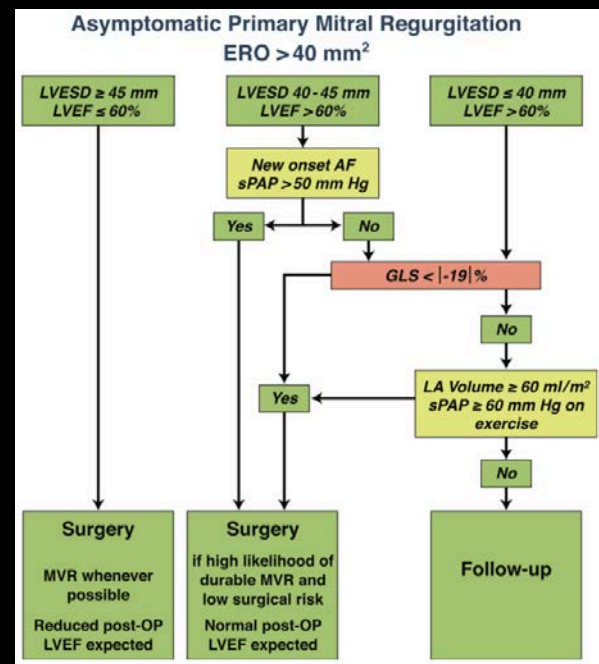
42

## Severe primary MR GLS with normal EF



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**Bottom line:  
GLS may prompt  
earlier intervention  
and preserve post op  
LV function!**



Galli et al JACC: CVI vol7 no 11 2014 1151-66

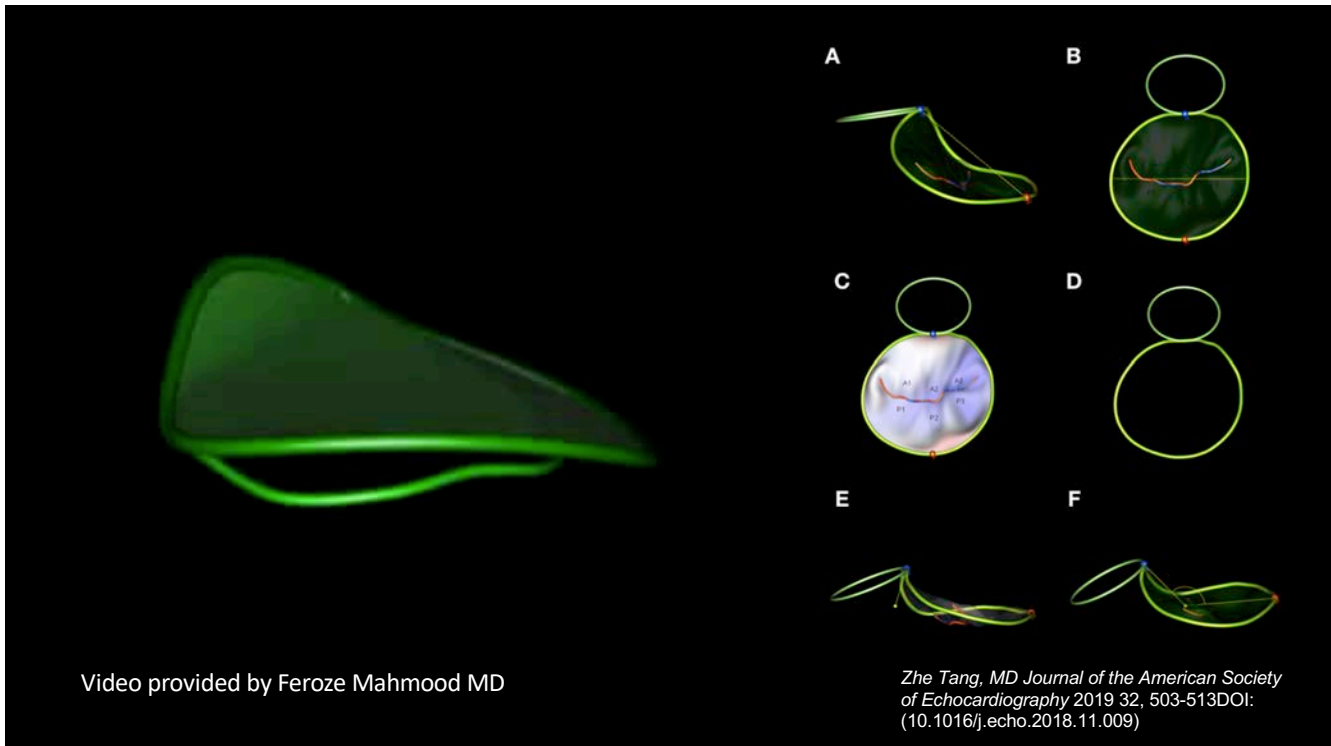
44

**GLS is our warning signal!**

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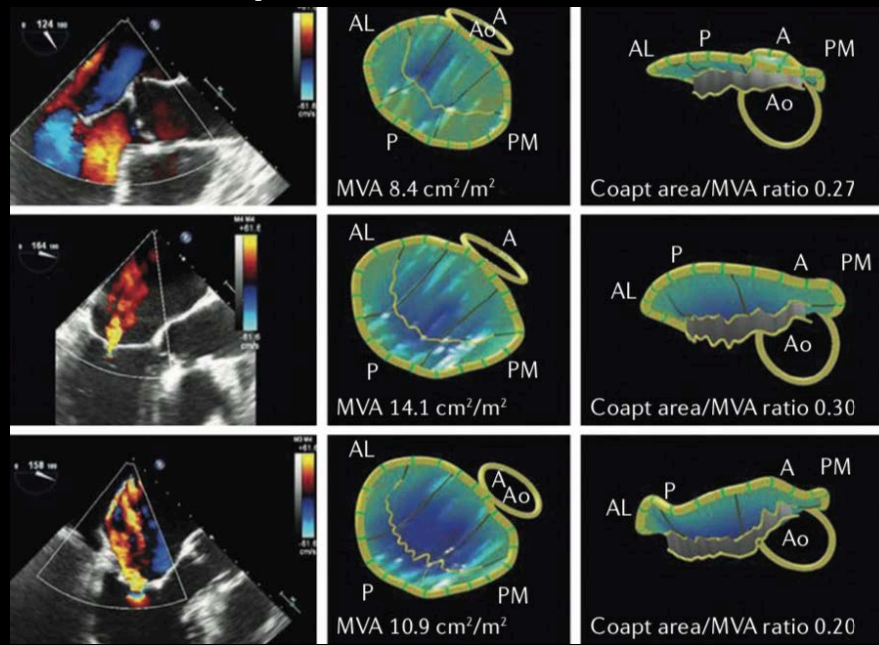
**Secondary MR  
and  
ventricular remodeling**

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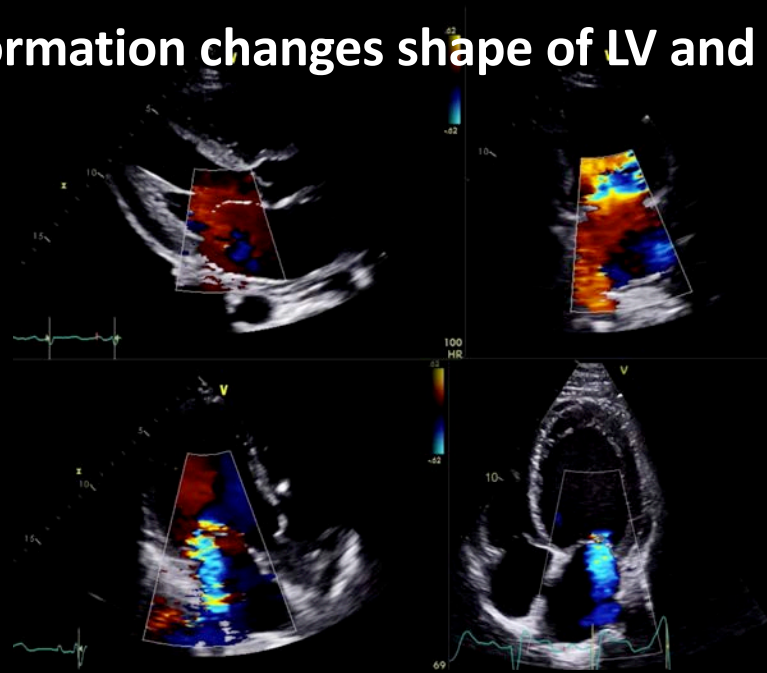
## Leaflet Adaptive Growth Reduces MR

Debonnaire, P et al. *Eur Heart J: Cardiovasc.Imaging* 16,290-299 (2015)

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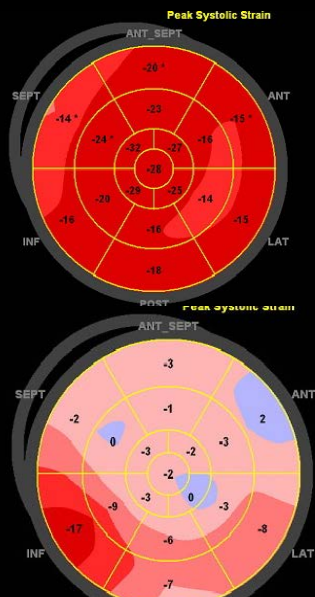
## Deformation changes shape of LV and MR



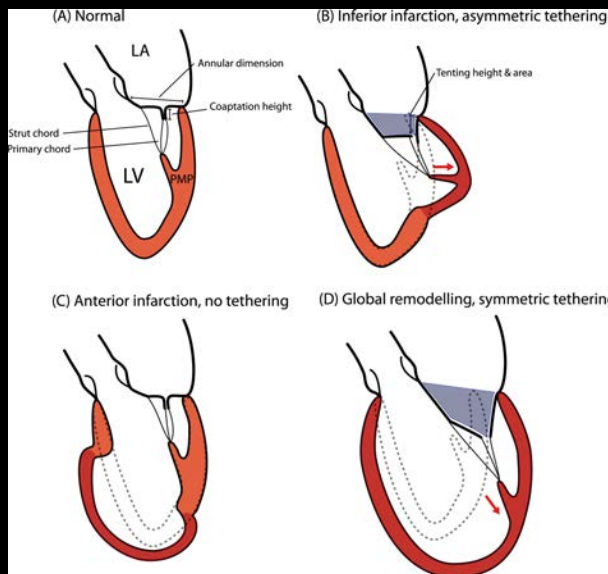
Video clips provided by THE Bonita Anderson

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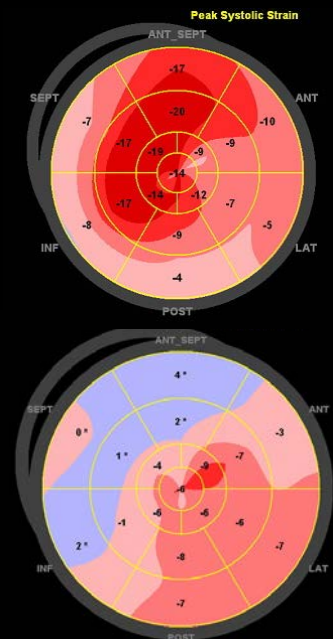
## Deformation causes stress, changing strain patterns



Strain images provided by Bonita Anderson

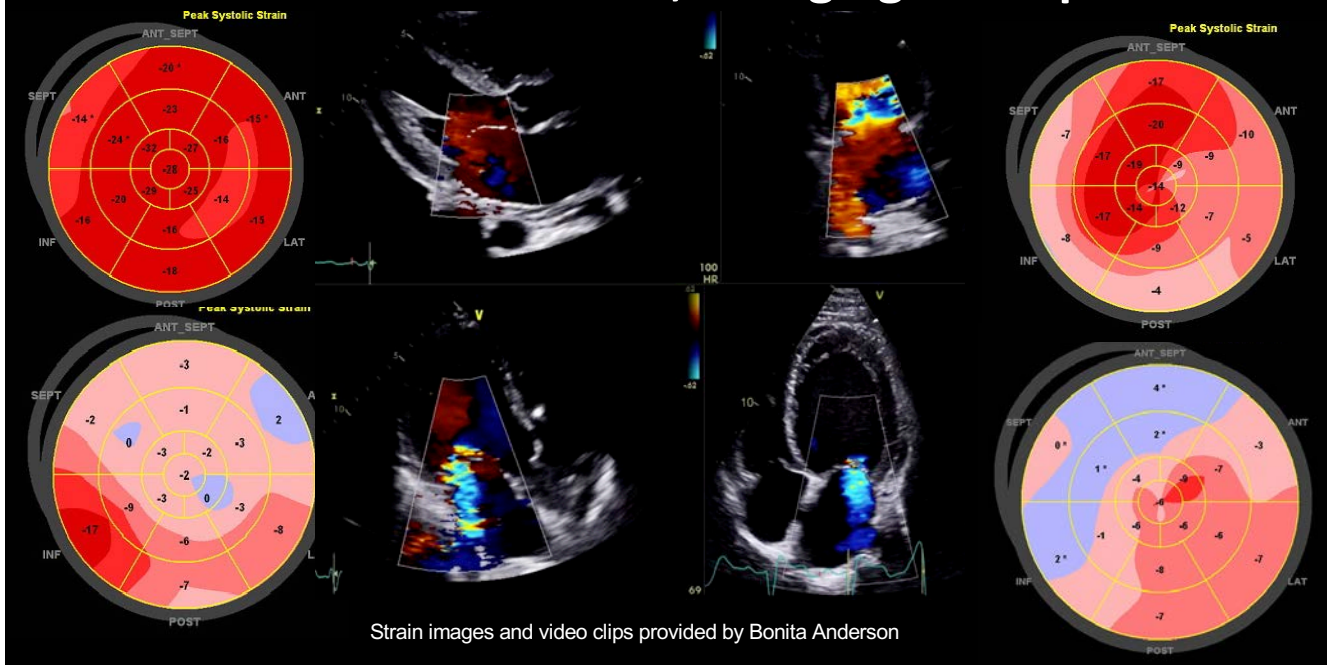


Sidebotham DA et al. *Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography* 2014 27, 345-366 DOI: (10.1016/j.echo.2014.01.005)



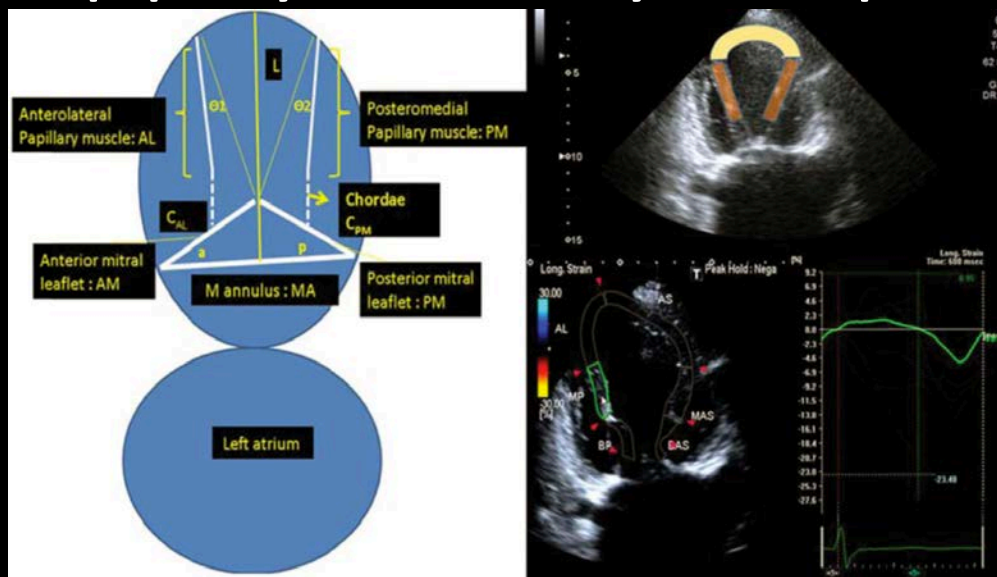
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## Deformation causes stress, changing strain patterns



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## IMR remodeling distorts myocardium, papillary muscles delay time to peak



Graspa J et al. EHJ Cvi2015.16.53-61

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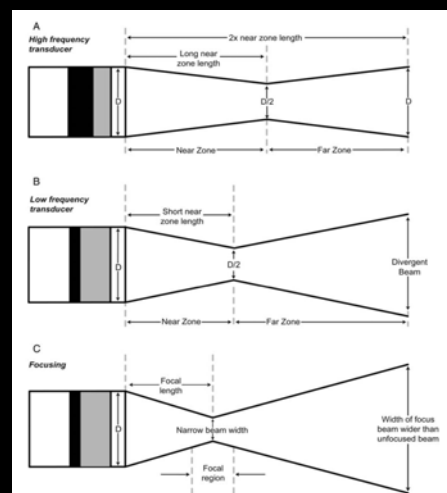
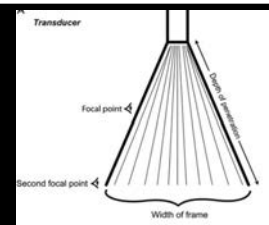
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## Speckle Tracking in the OR

- Largely overcomes angle dependence limitations of TDI
- Depends on spatial resolution, varies along lateral axis
- Lateral resolution affected by beam width and depth of imaging.
- Wider beams typically diverge further in far field and at greater depth, decreasing lateral resolution

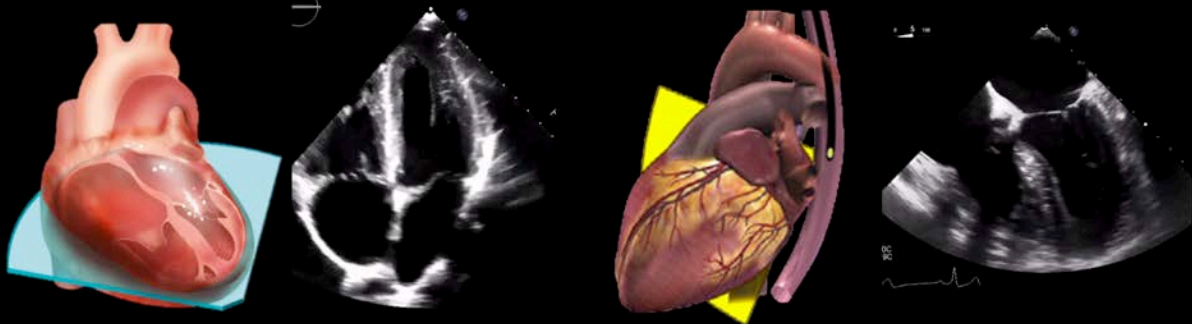
Ng and Swanevelder, Continuing Ed in Anesthesia, Critical Care & Pain; Vol11.No5,2011



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## Speckle Tracking in the OR

- Lateral resolution varies affecting comparison from TTE and TEE
- Anesthetized state and positive-pressure ventilation may confound intraop strain



Otto CM, ed. *The Textbook of Clinical Echocardiography*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Elsevier Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2018

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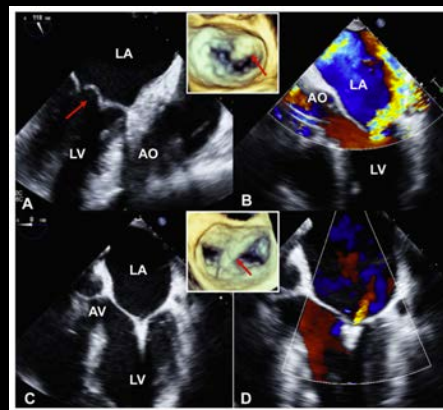
## Mitral valve repair

- Durable mitral repair is potentially curative and associated with lower mortality and complications than replacement
- Management of secondary MR remains controversial:
  - Inconsistent image guidance
  - Recurrent MR following inappropriate use of simple ring annuloplasty
  - Postop diastolic dysfunction

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## Edge-to-Edge repair

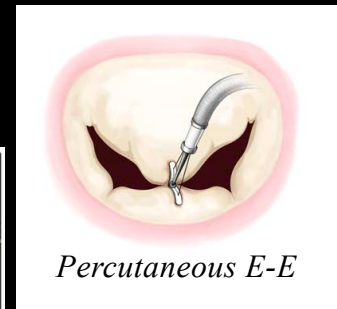
- Surgical – Alfieri stitch
- Percutaneous – MitraClip
- Changes flow pattern to double orifice
- Peak flow is reduced by half
- Valvular stress is doubled



Alkhouli et al JACC:CVI;10-5.2017

Lau KD et al. *Journal of Biomechanics* 44(2011)2409-2417

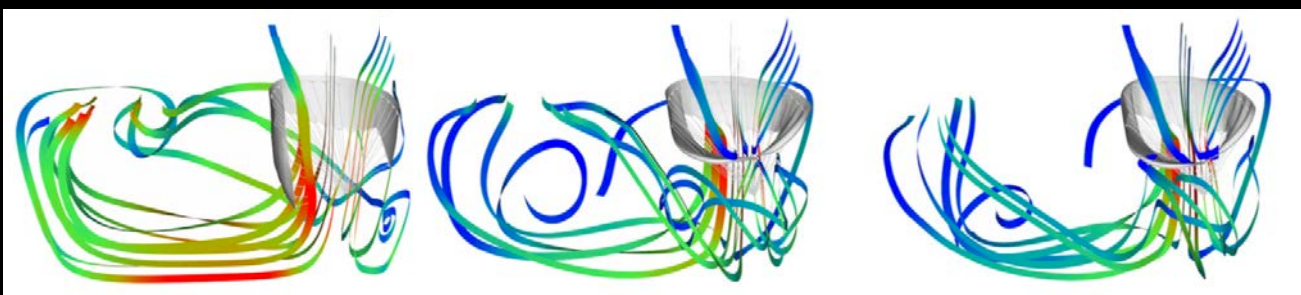
Drake et al in CM Otto *Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2020 in press



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## Edge-to-Edge repair

### Downstream flow



Normal

Edge-to-edge  
without  
annuloplasty

Edge-to-edge  
with  
annuloplasty

Lau KD et al. *Journal of Biomechanics* 44(2011)2409-2417

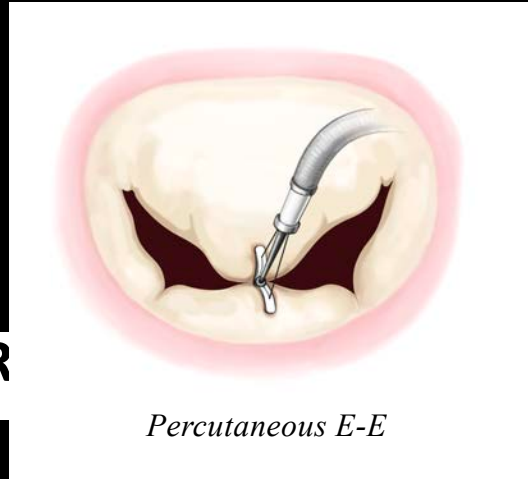
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## Elevated gradient following edge-to-edge repair

Trans-valvular gradient of  $> 4.4$  mmHg by echo or  $> 5.0$  mmHg invasively predict significantly worse outcomes...

equal to those with  $> 2+$  MR



Neuss M et al. *JACC:CVI* 2017;10(9):931-9

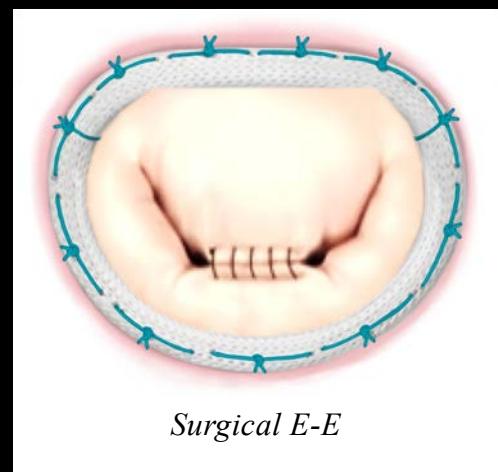
Drake et al in *CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2020 in press

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## Edge-to-Edge repair

High gradients, reduced flow, turbulence, and limited durability have prompted most surgeons to abandon

Considered “bail out” procedure



Bhudia SK et al. *Ann Thorac Surg*. 2004 May;77(5):1598-606

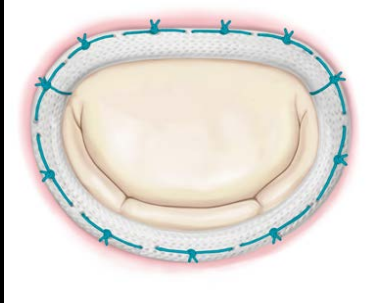
Drake et al in *CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2020 in press

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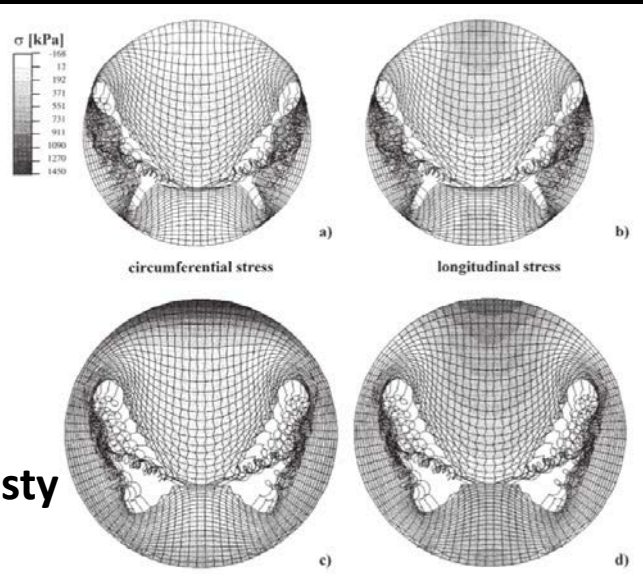


## Edge-to-Edge repair

### Edge-to-edge with annuloplasty



### Edge-to-edge without annuloplasty

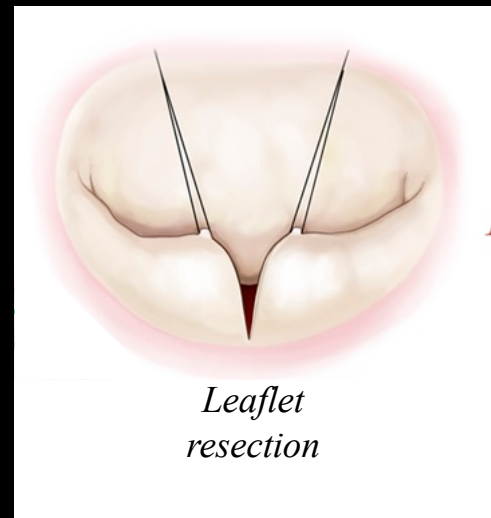


E. Votta et al. *J Heart Valve Dis* 2002;11:810-822  
 Lau KD et al. *Journal of Biomechanics* 44(2011)2409-2417

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## Leaflet resection

- Reduces leaflet area
- Restores normal hemodynamic patterns
- Introduces scar at the coaptation surface
- Increases leaflet stiffness (unquantified)



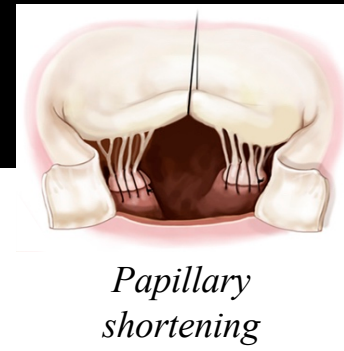
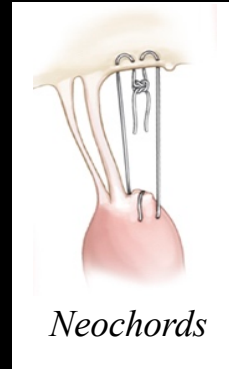
Richards JM et al *J of Vet Cardiology* (2012)14, 47-58

Drake et al in *CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2016

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## Artificial chords / papillary shortening

- Optimally restore native tension
- Change direction of applied force depending on attachment points
- Increase stress on native chordae
- 3% increase in leaflet area
- 2.8 x increase in leaflet thickness



Richards JM et al J of Vet Cardiology (2012)14, 47-58

Drake et al in CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2016

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## Mitral valve repair (for secondary disease)

### Annular dilatation

- Critical influence on stress distribution
- Accelerates degeneration
- May cause repair failure

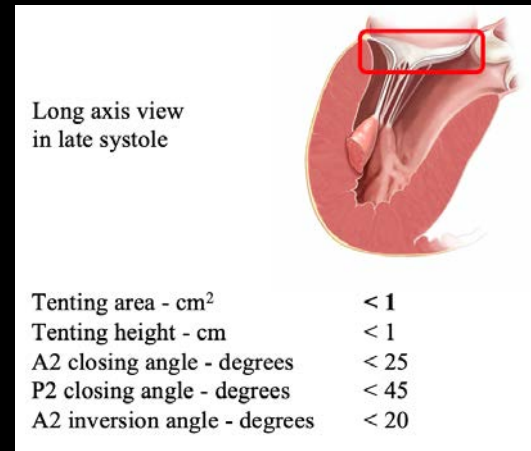
E. Votta et al. J Heart Valve Dis 2002;11:810-822

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## Mitral valve repair (for secondary disease)

**Reductive ring annuloplasty is effective for secondary MR if:**

- Tenting area  $< 1 \text{ cm}^2$
- Tenting height  $< 1 \text{ cm}$



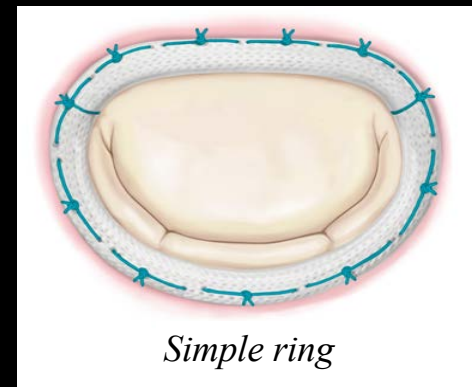
E. Votta et al. J Heart Valve Dis 2002;11:810-822

Drake et al in CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2020 in press

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## Reductive ring annuloplasty

- Reduces AP and intercommissural diameters of mitral annulus
- Alters distribution of stress across leaflets
- Reduces peak stress
- Increases bending stress
- Lowers papillary muscle/ chordae tension
- Flat ring configuration reduces peak strain on posterior leaflet by 78%



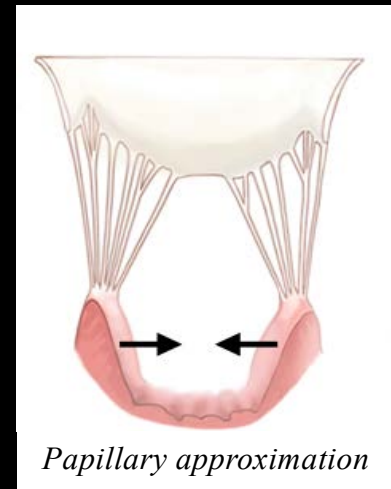
Richards JM et al J of Vet Cardiology (2012)14, 47-58

Drake et al in CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2016

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## Papillary muscle approximation

- Relieves tension on marginal chords
- Increases coaptation
- Reverse LV remodeling
- Difficult to assess adequate approximation intraoperatively
- Increases diastolic dysfunction



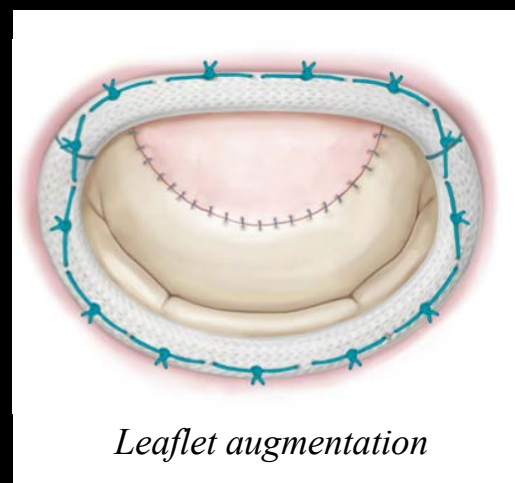
Harmel EK et al. Heart 2018;104:1783-1790

Drake et al in CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2016

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## Leaflet augmentation

- Mimics adaptive growth
- Has the effect of lengthening marginal chords
- Does not increase diastolic dysfunction
- Technically demanding



Richards JM et al J of Vet Cardiology (2012)14, 47-58

Drake et al in CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2016

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## Mechanical Valve

- Dramatically changes mechanical conditions of atrioventricular canal
- Restricts annular deformation
- Increases turbulent flow
- Increases thrombogenicity
- Incomplete re-endothelization
- Systemic anticoagulation and prosthetic failure



*Mechanical prosthesis*



*Tissue prosthesis*

Drake et al in CM Otto Practice of Clinical Echocardiography, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Elsevier 2020 in press

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## The Strain of Mitral Regurgitation and LV Remodeling

- I. Introduction
- II. Myocardial Structure and Rotation
- III. Strain Concepts
  - A. Basic Concepts
  - B. Principles of Speckle Tracking
  - C. Strain and Strain Rate by Speckle Tracking
- IV. Loading Conditions
- V. Cellular Response
- VI. Mitral Valve Regurgitation
- VII. Mitral Valve Repair
- VIII. Summary

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## Summary

- **MR severity related to ventricular geometry**
- **Altered strain reflects early ventricular dysfunction, despite preserved EF**
- **Reduced GLS predicts post op LV dysfunction**
- **Earlier detection of dysfunction allows for earlier correction and may help to restore LV function and life expectancy**
- **Echo provides valuable insight that allows cardiologist to tailor interventional strategy**

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**Thank you!**

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**Everyone PLEASE get up and do the  
Hula with our Hawaiian Hula Hosts!**



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## The Strain of Mitral Regurgitation and LV Remodeling



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HAWAII  
2020

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