



Diseases and Conditions

Aortic valve disease

By Mayo Clinic Staff

Aortic valve disease is a condition in which the valve between the main pumping chamber of your heart (left ventricle) and the main artery to your body (aorta) doesn't work properly. Aortic valve disease sometimes may be a condition present at birth (congenital heart disease), or it may result from other causes.

Types of aortic valve disease include:

- **Aortic valve stenosis.** In this condition, the aortic valve opening is narrowed. This narrowing prevents the valve from opening fully, which obstructs blood flow from your heart into your aorta and the rest of your body.
- **Aortic valve regurgitation.** In this condition, the aortic valve doesn't close properly, causing blood to flow backward into the left ventricle.

References

1. Aortic valve stenosis (AVS). American Heart Association.
http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Conditions/CongenitalHeartDefects/AboutCongenitalHeartDefects/Aortic-Valve-Stenosis-AVS_UCM_307020_Article.jsp. Accessed April 29, 2014.
2. What is heart valve disease? National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/hvd/>. Accessed April 29, 2014.
3. Aortic regurgitation. The Merck Manual for Health Care Professionals.
http://www.merckmanuals.com/professional/cardiovascular_disorders/valvular_disorders/aortic_regurgitation.html. Accessed May 27, 2014.
4. Cook AJ. Decision Support System. Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. May 2, 2014.

Aug. 15, 2014

Original article: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/aortic-valve-disease/basics/definition/con-20032612>