

*Tuesday, February 6, 10:00AM-12:00AM
Plenary Session*

Clinical History of Congenital Heart Defects (CHD): From Abstraction to Adulthood

Moderator: Angela Lin, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

Prenatal Diagnosis of CHD

Janice Byrne, University of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, UT

Outcomes in Children and Adults with Congenital Heart Disease

William Mahle, Sibley Heart Center, Atlanta, GA

One million Americans are affected by congenital heart disease (CHD) (American Heart Association [AHA], 2003). As survival has improved, evidence has accumulated that CHD touches many aspects of the lives of those affected. Children and adults report difficulties with physical growth and/or stature. Gross motor abnormalities are common in both groups, and significantly reduced exercise tolerance is reported in adults with CHD, including those with minor defects. Behavioral and psychiatric abnormalities are reported in adolescents and young adults, including a significant incidence of depression and anxiety disorders. The data are conflicting regarding quality of life (QOL) in children and adults with CHD. More research is needed examining outcomes, particularly outcomes of those diagnosed, managed, and repaired using modern technology.