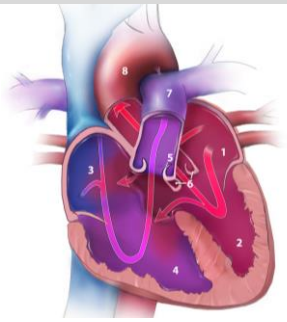
Atrioventricular Septal Defect (Atrioventricular Canal Defect; Endocardial Cushion Defect)

(Core Condition)

Description



A defect in both the lower portion of the atrial septum and the upper portion of the ventricular septum. In extreme cases, virtually the entire atrial and ventricular septae may be missing. The valves controlling blood flow from the atria to the ventricles, the tricuspid and mitral valves may also be abnormal. They may not form from the endocardial cushions during cardiac development into two separate valves, and thus be a single common atrioventricular valve. Together, these defects producing a large opening (canal) in the central part of the heart.

Inclusions

Atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD)
Common or complete atrioventricular (AV) canal
Endocardial cushion defect

Primum type atrial septal defect (1° ASD) – A defect only in the lower portion of the atrial septum. While this does not involve a defect in the upper portion of the ventricular septum, it is etiologically related to the more complete form of AVSD. A cleft mitral valve is often present with a primum type ASD (see partial AVC).

Common atrium – Near absence of the atrial septum.
Partial AV canal (partial endocardial cushion defect) – Refers to a primum ASD with cleft mitral valve.

Inflow-type, subtricuspid, or canal-type ventricular septal defect (VSDAVC) – A defect in the upper (inflow) portion of the ventricular septum. While this does not also involve a defect in the lower portion of the atrial septum, it is etiologically related to the more complete form.

Exclusions

Secundum ASDs that coexist with a VSD. In this instance, both the ASD and the VSD should be coded.

ICD-9-CM Codes

745.60, 745.61, 745.69

ICD-10-CM Codes

Q21.2

CDC/BPA Codes

745.60 – 745.69, 745.487

Diagnostic Methods

While atrioventricular septal defects may be suspected by clinical presentation, examination, and EKG changes, it may be conclusively diagnosed only through direct visualization of the heart by cardiac echo (echocardiography), catheterization, surgery, or autopsy.

Prenatal Diagnoses Not Confirmed Postnatally

These conditions may be included as cases when only diagnosed prenatally. However, if it is possible to ascertain the degree of certainty of the prenatal