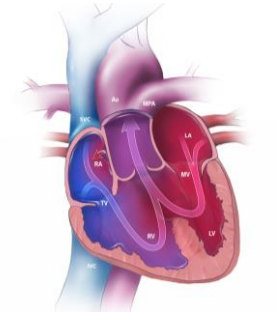
Common Truncus (Truncus Arteriosus or TA)

(Core Condition)

Description

Failure of separation of the aorta and the pulmonary artery during development, resulting in a single common arterial trunk carrying blood from the heart to both the body and lungs.



Inclusions

Common truncus
Truncus arteriosus (TA)
Persistent truncus arteriosus

Exclusions

Aorto-pulmonary window. In ICD-9-CM, this related defect is not distinguished from truncus. An AP window is a hole (aka "window") between a separate aorta and pulmonary artery. This is distinct from truncus, when neither vessel forms separately.

ICD-9-CM Codes

745.0

ICD-10-CM Codes

Q20.0

CDC/BPA Codes

745.00 only (excluding 745.01, aortic septal defect which including aorto-pulmonary window)

Diagnostic Methods

Truncus arteriosus is conclusively diagnosed only through direct visualization of the heart by cardiac imaging (typically echocardiography but also MRI), catheterization, surgery, or autopsy. A clinical diagnosis is considered insufficient to make the diagnosis.

Prenatal Diagnoses Not Confirmed Postnatally

These conditions may be included as cases when only diagnosed prenatally by a pediatric cardiologist through fetal echocardiography. However, if it is possible to ascertain the degree of certainty of the prenatal diagnosis, this should factor into the decision as to whether or not to include an individual case in the surveillance data. Live-born children who survive should always have confirmation of the defect postnatally.

Additional Information:

A ventricular septal defect is often present in association with truncus defects and should be coded separately. Truncus arteriosus is one of several abnormalities of the outflow tract of the heart known as conotruncal defects. Some infants (1 in 5 to 1 in 3) with these defects have a deletion on the short arm of chromosome 22 (deletion 22q11.2). This deletion may not necessarily be detected on a routine karyotype analysis and is more reliably diagnosed by fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH) or microarray technology.