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TIMING OF INTERVENTIONS IN COMMON CONGENITAL HEART DEFECTS

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Abstract: Congenital heart defects are the most common amongst birth anomalies. Timely intervention can prevent complications and reduce the mortality associated with these defects. This article discusses the timing of intervention for common congenital heart defects and is largely based on the Indian guidelines proposed by the working group on the management of congenital heart diseases.

Keywords: Congenital heart defects, Timing of intervention, Surgery, Device closure.

Points to Remember

- *Early diagnosis and timely intervention improve survival and quality of life in children with congenital heart defects.*
- *Weight of the child is not a criterion to plan the timing of intervention.*
- *Spontaneous closure is not seen in large left to right shunts.*
- *There is no role for pharmacological closure (ibuprofen/indomethacin) in term neonates with PDA.*

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