

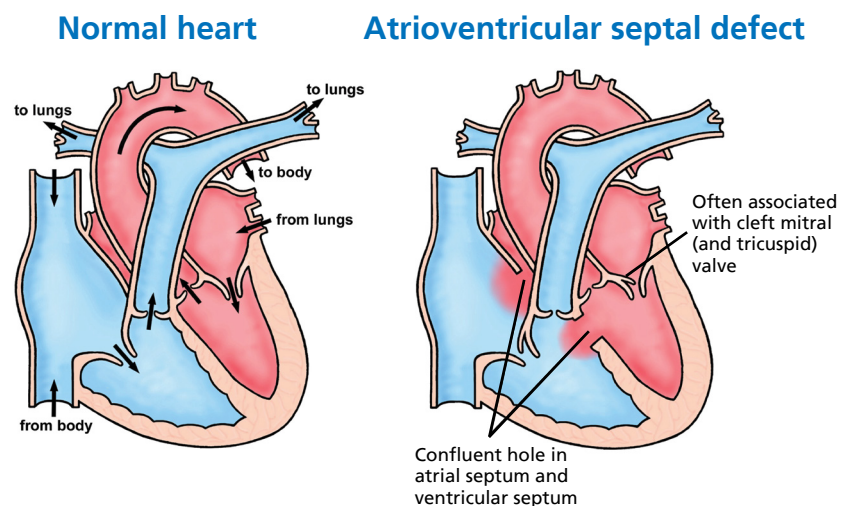


# Atrioventricular Septal Defect

## Information for Parents/Carers

..... has a diagnosis of an  
**atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD).**

This is a large hole between the top two and the bottom two chambers of the heart, with an abnormal valve. During the first few months of life all babies go through changes in the way their blood flows. Because your baby has an AVSD these changes can cause more blood flow to the lungs which can cause symptoms requiring treatment.



For further information go to [www.leedscongenitalhearts.com](http://www.leedscongenitalhearts.com)  
Click on 'Child', then 'Conditions' then 'atrioventricular septal defect'

If you notice your child develops any of the following symptoms please contact the children's cardiac nurse specialists:

- Breathlessness
- Difficulty feeding or taking longer than normal to feed
- Poor weight gain

## Questions

If you have any questions at all before you see the cardiology team in clinic, please contact our children's cardiac nurse specialists or your paediatrician at your local hospital.

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