

## Special Issue

# Advances in Understanding the Genetics of Congenital Heart Defects

### Message from the Guest Editors

Congenital heart defects (CHDs) are the most common abnormalities, affecting almost 1% of newborn babies. These can occur in isolation or as a component of broader developmental syndromes. It is widely considered that CHDs have a major genetic component, but despite this, relatively few genes have been definitively shown to cause CHDs, and we are still some way from being able to offer prenatal diagnosis to at-risk families. With the aim of remedying this situation, major initiatives are underway, utilizing whole-exome and whole-genome sequencing, to identify genomic variants in CHD patients. Optimal filtering of the huge numbers of gene variants remains a challenge, and validation of these variants using in vitro and in vivo approaches, as well as confirmation of these variants in patients and their families, are also areas of significant activity. In this Special Edition of *JCDD*, we welcome contributions focused on recent advances in understanding the genetics of CHDs using genetic, genomic, and bioinformatic approaches, as well as studies that validate/confirm gene variants as disease-causing.

---

### Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Deborah Henderson

Bioscience Institute, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 3BZ, UK

Prof. Dr. Qingping Feng

1. Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University, London, ON N6A 5C1, Canada

2. Department of Medicine, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University, London, ON N6A 5C1, Canada

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2023)



## Journal of Cardiovascular Development and Disease

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.3  
CiteScore 3.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/160134](https://mdpi.com/si/160134)

*Journal of Cardiovascular  
Development and Disease*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[jcdd@mdpi.com](mailto:jcdd@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
jcdd](https://mdpi.com/journal/jcdd)





# Journal of Cardiovascular Development and Disease

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.3  
CiteScore 3.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
jcdd](https://mdpi.com/journal/jcdd)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The primary goal of the *Journal of Cardiovascular Development and Disease* (JCDD, ISSN 2308-3425) is to provide cardiovascular scientists a platform to publish their work in a quick and efficient way. Topics can range from studies designed to decipher the events underlying early heart development to studies focusing on the origins of congenital and acquired heart disease. Papers submitted to *JCDD* undergo a fast, yet thorough, peer-review process. In this process, we will apply strict ethical policies and standards. *JCDD* guarantees fast dissemination of results to a large scientific audience.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Thomas Brand  
National Heart & Lung Institute, Imperial College London, South  
Kensington Campus, London SW7 2AZ, UK

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Cardiac and Cardiovascular Systems) /  
CiteScore - Q2 (General Pharmacology, Toxicology and  
Pharmaceutics)

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 24.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).