



SCHWEIZERISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR HERZ- UND THORAKALE GEFÄSSCHIRURGIE
SOCIETE SUISSE DE CHIRURGIE CARDIAQUE ET VASCULAIRE THORACIQUE
SOCIETA SVIZZERA DI CHIRURGIA DEL CUORE E DEI VASI TORACICI

Cardiac Surgical Skills and Training Today and Yesterday: Two truths cannot be contradictory

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Präsident SGHC/SSCC



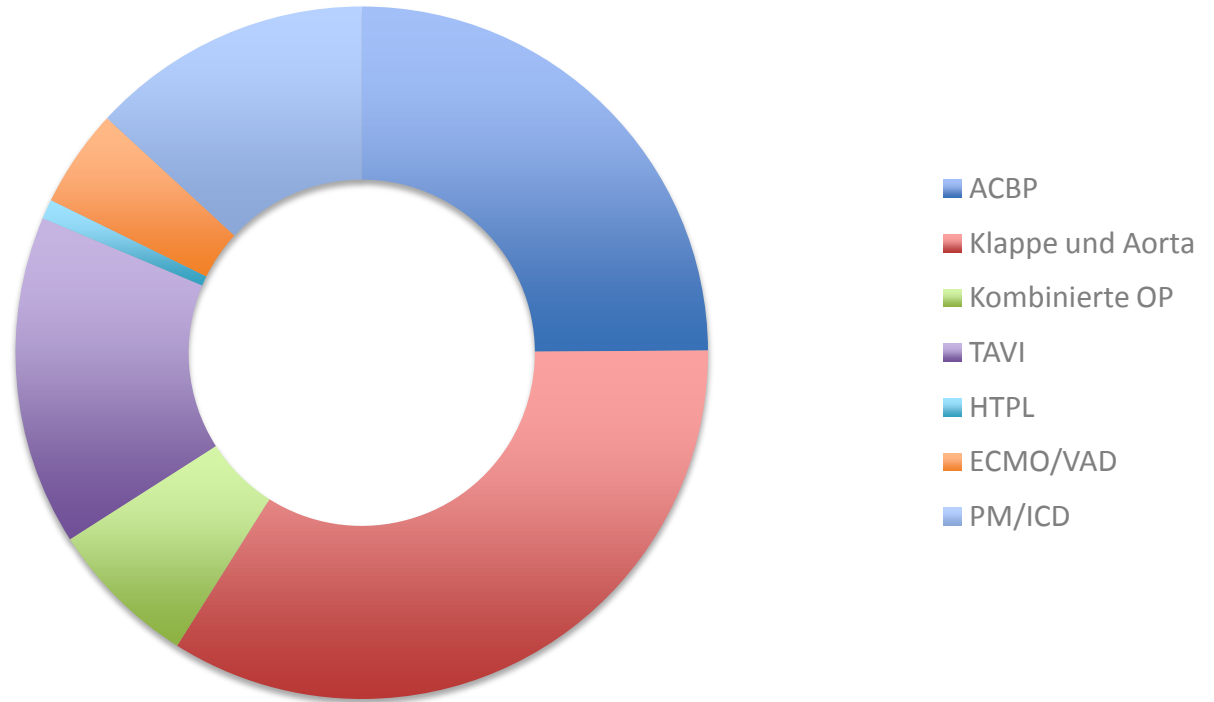
What makes cardiac surgery different?

- Standardized procedures
- Wide expertise
 - Cardiology
 - Surgery
 - Anesthesiology
 - Intensive Care Medicine
- Direct contact with patient's death



The heart surgical spectrum

Standard interventions





Cardiac surgeons need more than ever competence

- Cardiology
- Surgery
- Anesthesia
- Intensive care medicine
- Research

Is this still possible?



Expertise Cardiology

- Heart team
 - concept meant to improve the quality of indication
 - Debate
 - Effort to become partner with cardiologists

For patients with stable CAD and multivessel or LM disease, all relevant data should be reviewed by a clinical/non-invasive cardiologist, a cardiac surgeon, and an interventional cardiologist (Heart Team) to determine the likelihood of safe and effective revascularization with either PCI or CABG.⁴ To ensure this review, myocardial revascular-



Expertise cardiology

- Special effort is required
 - Acquire knowledge
 - Reading literatures in a continuous base ensures competence
 - Politics requires: quality indications
- Cardiac catheterization as a mandatory rotation was discussed by the professional society



Expertise surgery

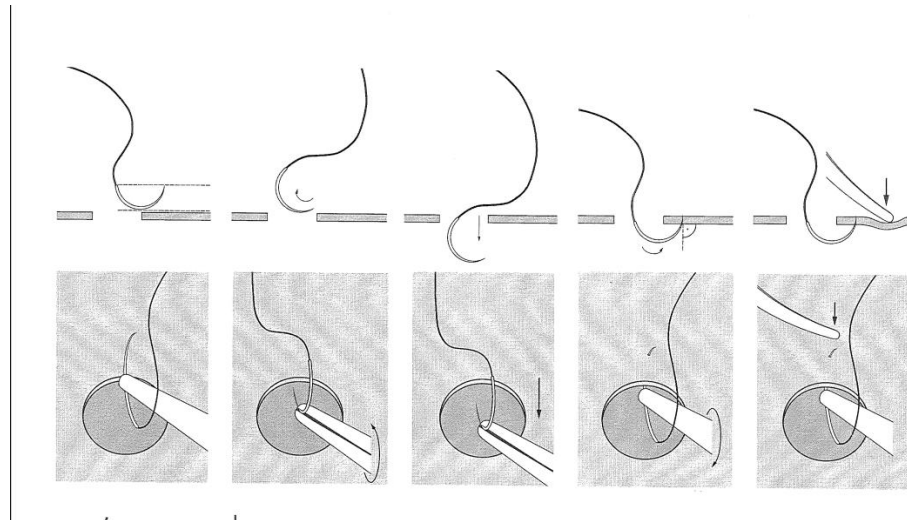
- Surgeon in cardiac surgery
 - Train the routines in order to be able to manage the unforeseen accident





Expertise surgery

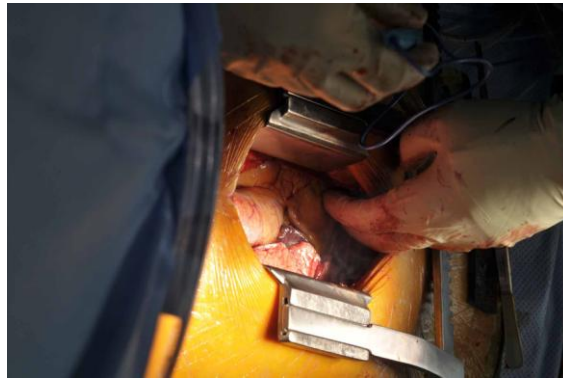
- Surgeon in cardiac surgery
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 - Surgical technique: attention to detail





Expertise surgery

- Surgeon in cardiac surgery
 - Train the routines in order to be able to manage the unforeseen accident
 - Surgical technique: attention to detail
 - Contact with blood: finger on it!



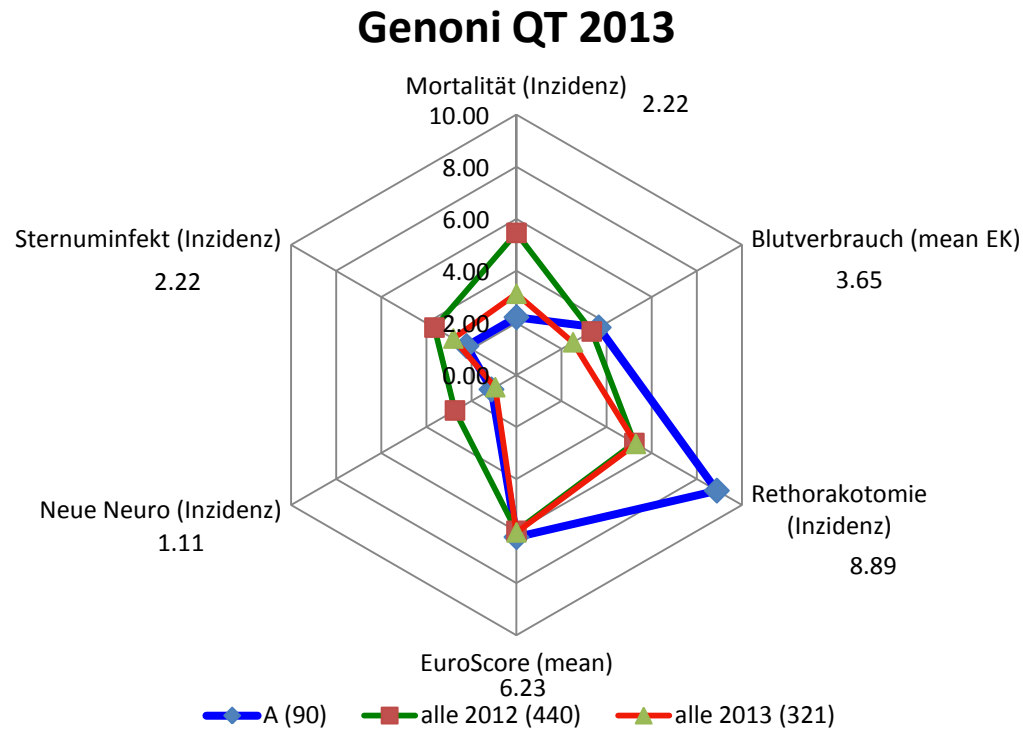


expertise surgery

- Surgeon in cardiac surgery
 - Train the routines in order to be able to manage the unforeseen accident
 - Surgical technique: attention to detail
 - Contact with blood: finger on it!
 - Postoperative treatment: Typical surgical
 - pain management
 - volume management
 - wound management



Strong contact to the death



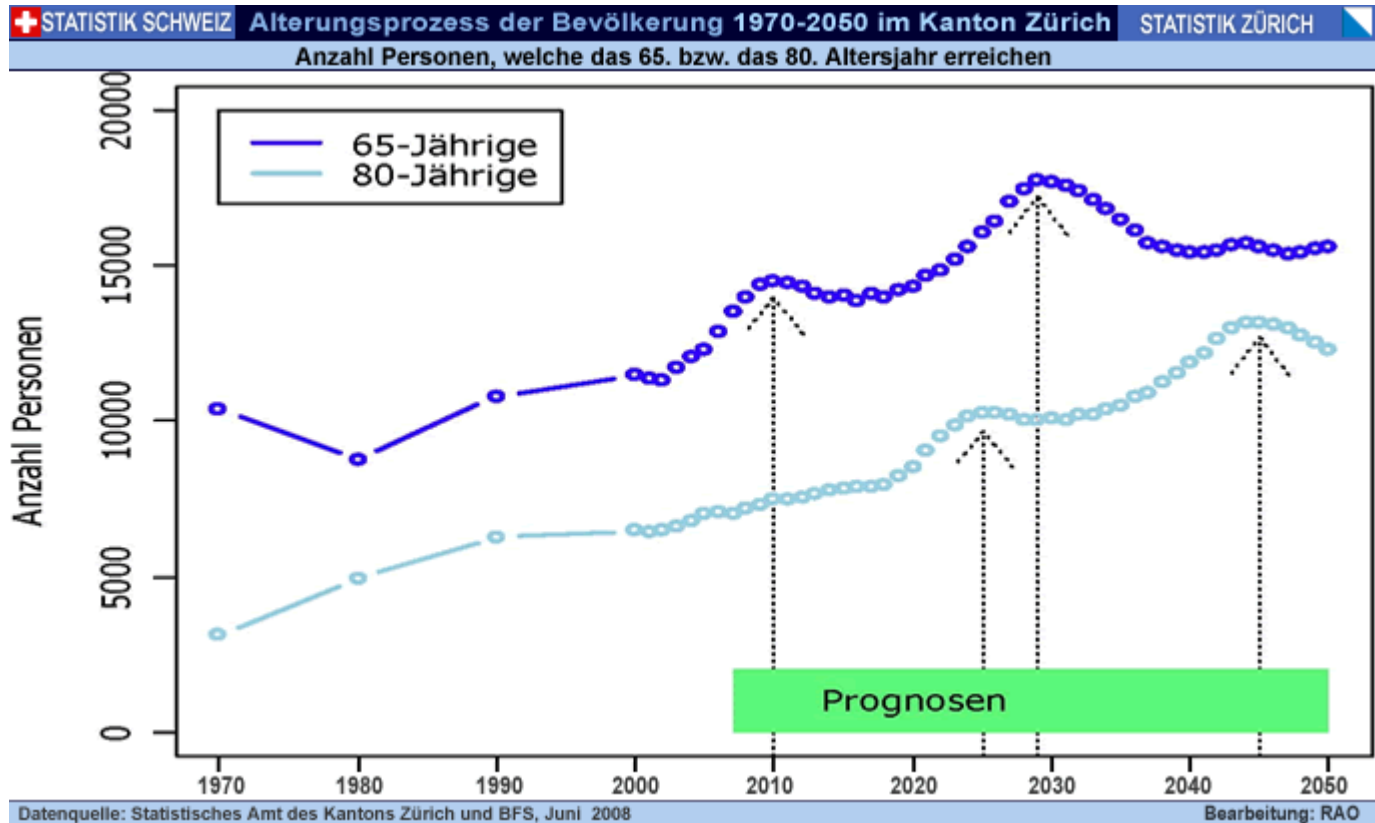


SGHC
SSCC

Where is the limit?



Life expectancy in Switzerland





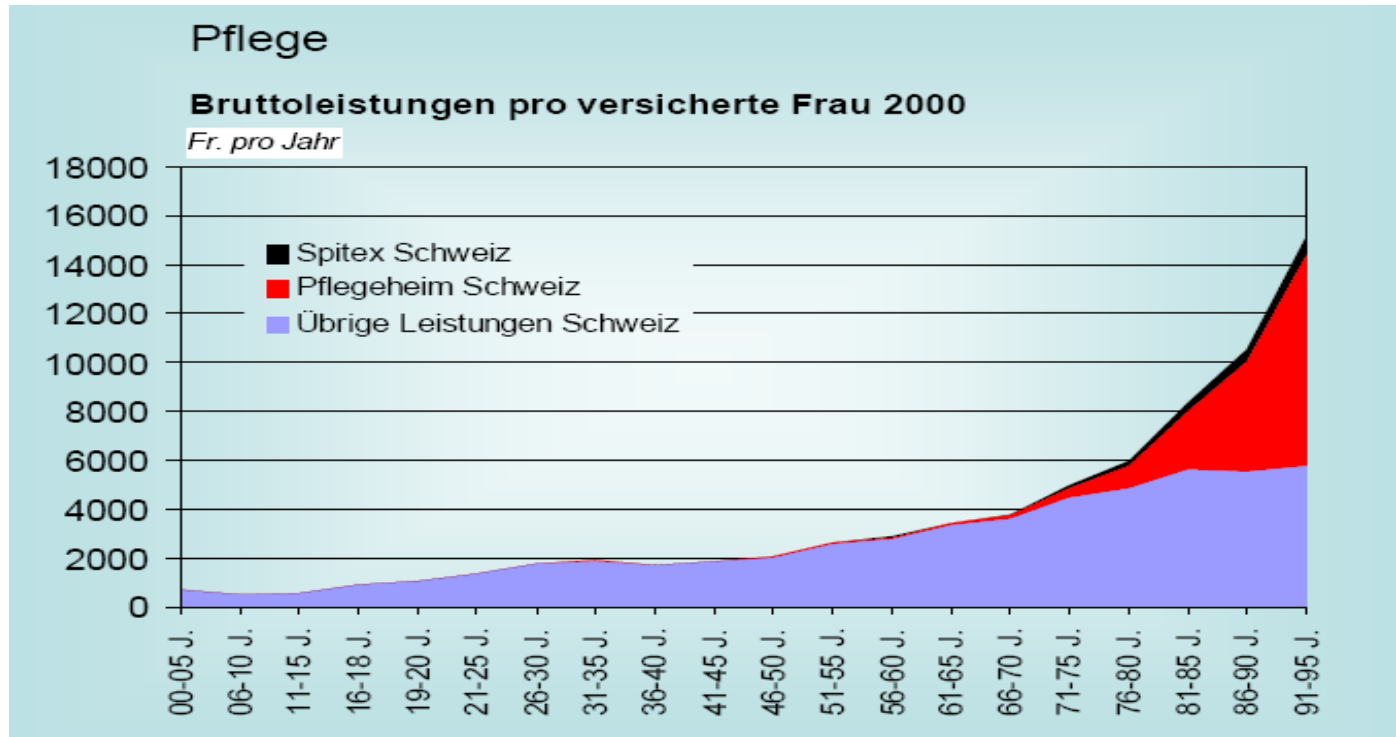
SGHC – Outcome quality

More and more older people

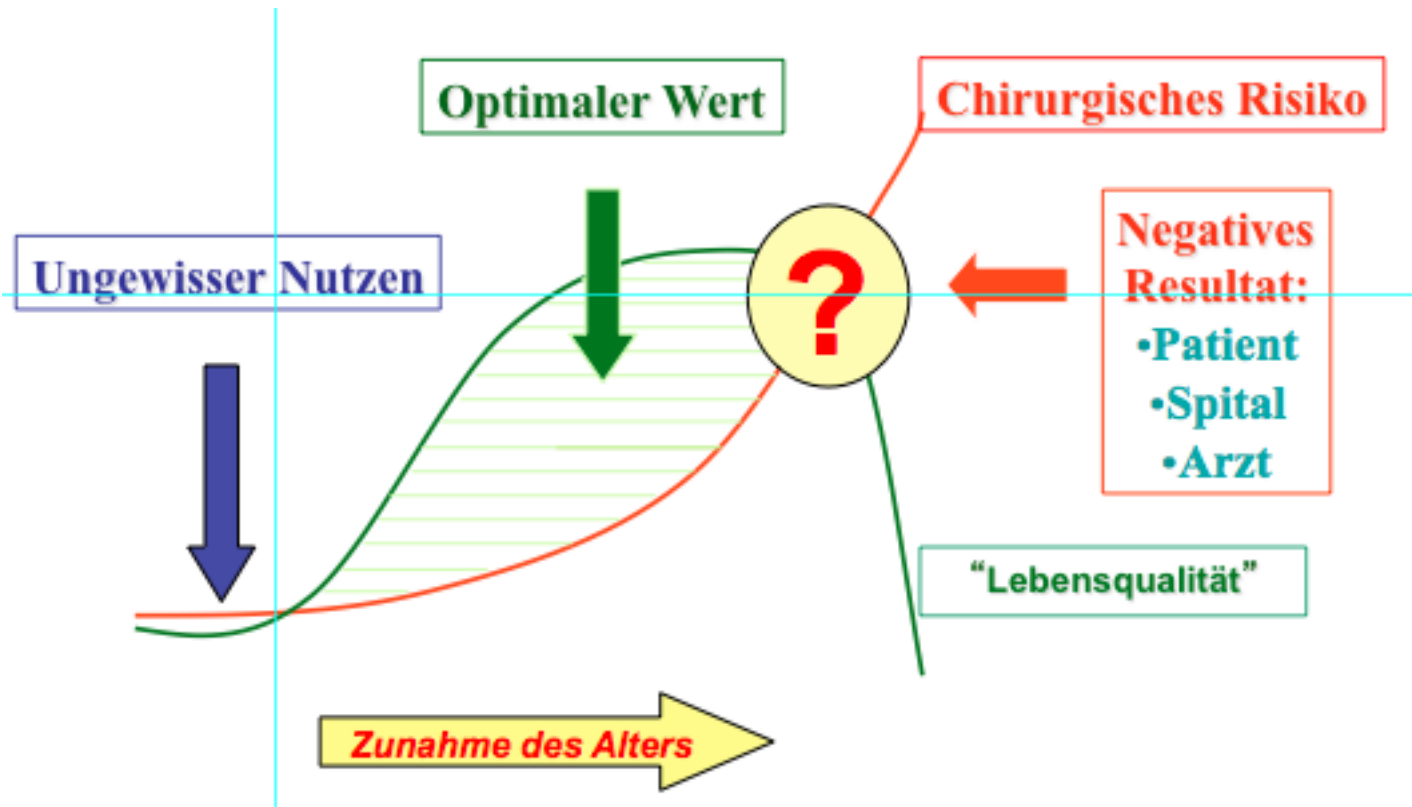
More and more patients
with comorbidity



Economic impact of getting older



At what age is the risk of surgery too high? Balancing the arguments





Ethical dilemma

Reasonable

versus

Feasible

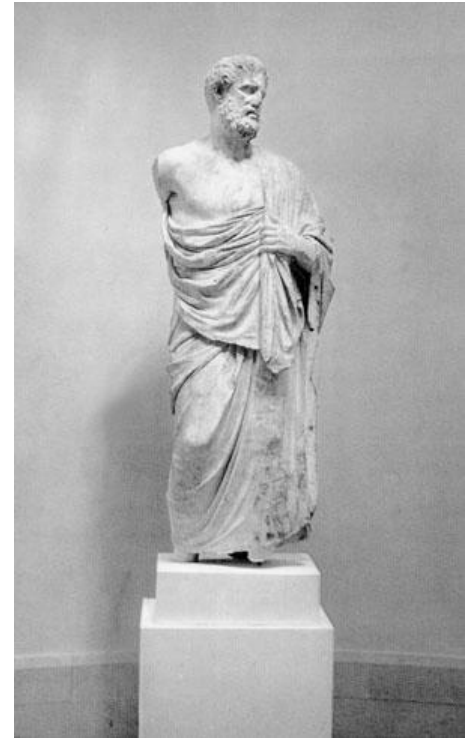




Hippocratic ethics

- Now than ever!

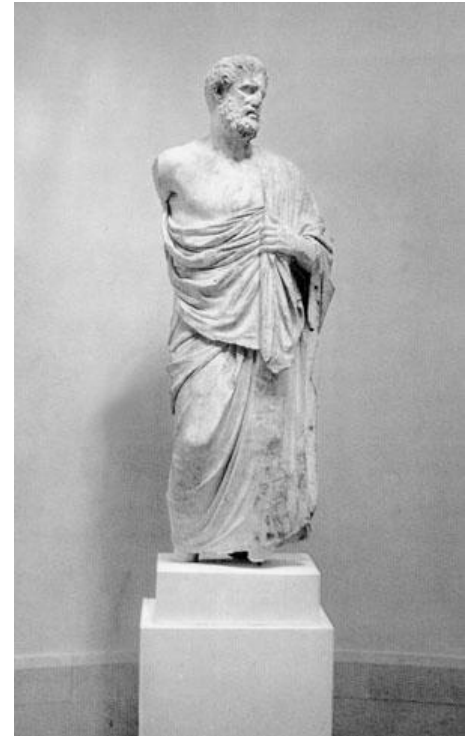
It's about the goodness of the patient,
which is more than just the physical
condition!
- Salus suprema lex aegroti
- Vita suprema lex aegroti





Hippocratic ethics

- Life expectancy versus quality of life
- *The aim of "cardiac surgery in old age" must be to alleviate the suffering of the patient and not to prolong life*





What does it take to become a heart surgeon?



Prerequisites cardiac surgery

Triple A



Prerequisites cardiac surgery

- Be able
- Be available
- Be affable

Triple A



Prerequisites football school SC Freiburg (1000 >> 30 >> 2!)

- Be able
 - Talent is only 18% criterion
- Be available
 - Training; 10,000 hour principle
- Be affable
 - Social Skills



Prerequisites cardiac surgery

- Be able
 - Talent is only 18% criterion (Talent is overrated, Geoff Colvin)
 - Surgical skills
 - Innovation
 - Academic interest
 - Endurance
 - Ability to take criticism
 - Frustration tolerance



Prerequisites cardiac surgery

- Be able
 - Talent is only 18% criterion
- Be available
 - training; 10,000 hour principle
 - Hard work, presence, assist, surgeon



Prerequisites cardiac surgery

- Be able
 - Talent only 18% criterion
- Be available
 - Training; 10,000 hour principle
- Be affable
 - Dedication
 - Enthusiasm
 - Communication (..with your patients)



The Two Truths

- Craftsman
- Coach & Graduate
- Expertise
 - Surgery
 - Cardiology
 - Anesthesiology
 - Intensive Care Medicine
- Social Skills
 - Communication
 - Interdisciplinarity
 - Debate skills
 - Knowledge



Special attitude for cardiac surgeons

- Prepare young cardiac surgeon for the future
- Guarantee an important part in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases



& Good Luck