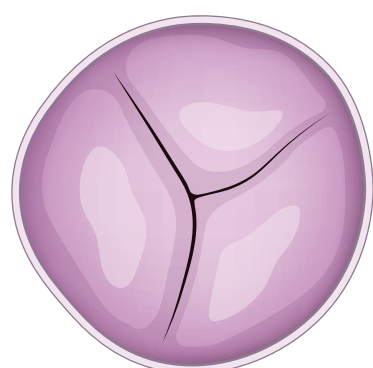


# Tricuspid Regurgitation A Leaky Valve

## The tricuspid (pronounced try-CUSS-pid) valve

- ▶ Is 1 of 4 valves in the heart
- ▶ Keeps blood moving forward into the lungs

If the valve leaks, the heart can't pump blood well.

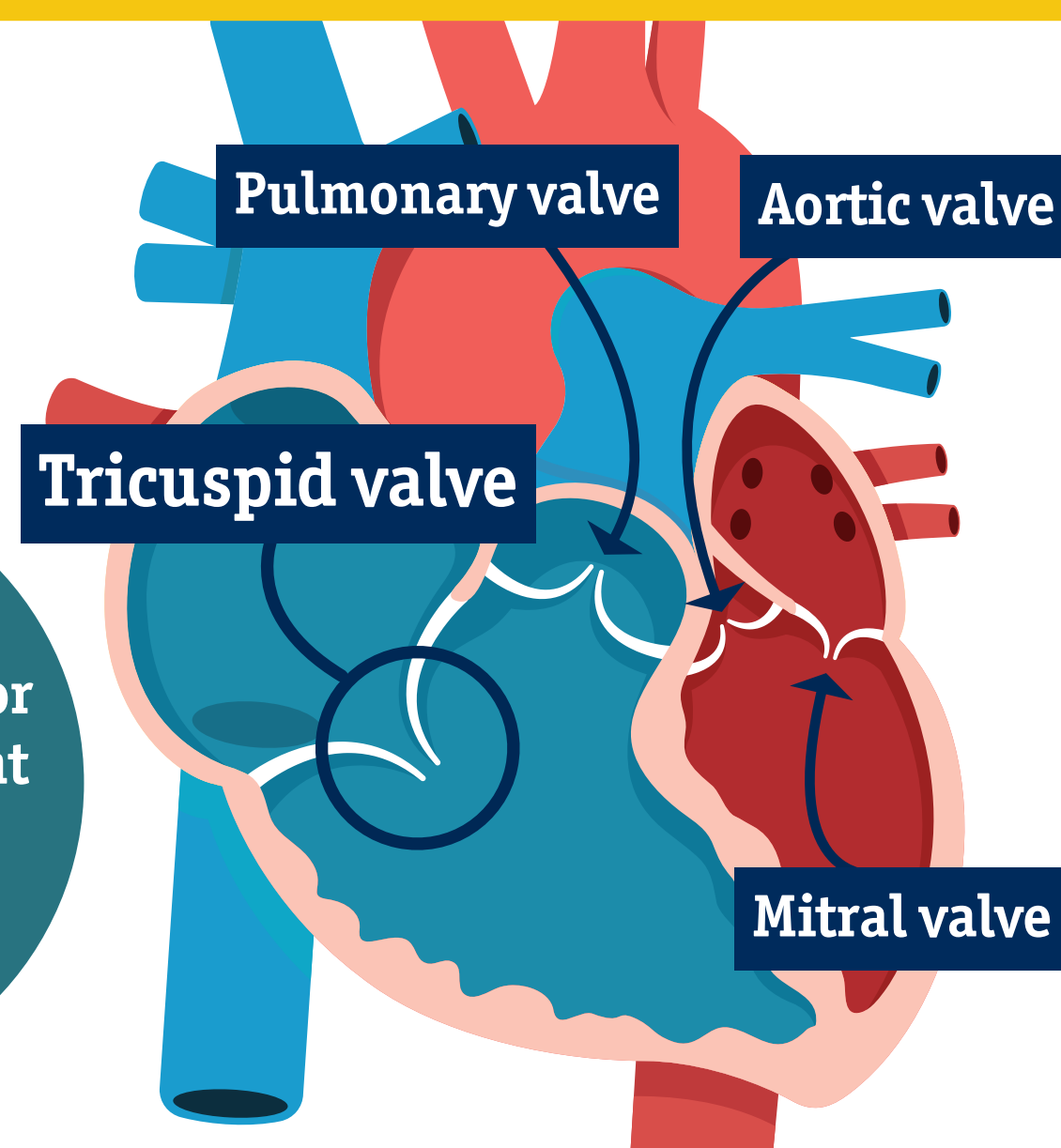


**Normal valve**  
The valve fully opens and closes.



**Leaky valve**  
The valve doesn't fully close, allowing blood to leak backward.

The tricuspid valve acts like a door separating the right upper and lower chamber of the heart.



## Signs and Symptoms

Will depend on the **amount of leaking**

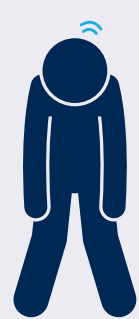
**A little**

You may feel fine.

You notice swelling, feel worn out, and short of breath after even simple activities.

**A lot**

At later stages you may have:



**Fatigue**



**Shortness of breath**



**Weakness**



**Swelling in the belly or ankles**



**Rapid or pounding heartbeat**



**Pulsing in the neck veins**

## Treatments

Will depend on the cause, how much leaking there is, symptoms, and your wishes

**Medicine (diuretics)**  
Removes extra fluid from the body

### Less invasive procedures to fix the valve

**Repair the valve**  
A clip pulls the leaflets or flaps closer together

**Replace the valve**  
A new valve is placed inside the leaky valve

The valve is threaded to and placed in the heart through a small tube in the leg or groin

**Open-heart surgery, in some cases, if already needed for another reason**

### Other considerations:

- See a heart valve doctor
- Manage other heart conditions
- Make healthy choices
- Find support and share your goals

For more information, visit [CardioSmart.org/TricuspidValve](https://www.cardiosmart.org/TricuspidValve)  
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