Learning objectives

1. Understand the formation and remodeling of the primitive embryonic ventricles and their respective outflow tracts
2. Understand the formation of the crux of the heart and the atrioventricular valves
3. Understand the components that comprise the ventricular septum
4. Know the derivation of the great vessels and semilunar valves
5. Be able to discuss the origin of some well known cardiac malformations

Glossary

Aortiocopulmonary septum: the portion of the conotruncal septum that divides the truncus arteriosus in to the ascending aorta and the pulmonary trunk

Atrioventricular valves: the tricuspid and mitral valves

Bulbar ridges: another name for the truncoconal ridges or conus swelling that ultimately separate the conotruncal outflow tract

Conotruncal septum: the septum that divides the conus cordis into the outflow tracts (infundibulum of the right ventricle and aortic vestibule) as well as the truncus arteriosus into the aorta and pulmonary artery

Membranous interventricular septum: outgrowth of tissue from the inferior endocardial cushion, which fuses with the conus swellings and closes the foramen between the right and left ventricles

Semilunar valves: the aortic and pulmonary valves

Recommended Reading

Larsen, Human Embrylogy 3rd Edition: Page 169-187.