



## Heart Valve Surgery: Repair or Replacement?

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (20 January 2024)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Aortic valve disease—congenital or acquired—represents a big cluster of the cardiac surgery procedures performed in everyday practice. Different approaches have been suggested for fixing a diseased aortic valve, mainly divided into replacement with a mechanical or bioprosthetic valve and repair of the valve leaflets. The disease pathophysiology, surgical approach, patient population, and intervention criteria are some of the determining factors for choosing the optimal surgical intervention for aortic valve disease. Despite the implementation of new guidelines and the conduction of multiple clinical studies over the years, there is still controversy regarding the optimal approach in terms of short-term and long-term outcomes for aortic valve surgery.

Thus, the aim of this Special Issue is to unveil the role of surgical repair and replacement of the aortic valve in advanced valvular disease and highlight all the aspects of different approaches currently in practice.





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