

# Tricuspid Regurgitation

Tricuspid regurgitation—often referred to as a leaky tricuspid valve—is a form of heart valve disease. It happens when the valve fails to close completely. When the valve leaks, the heart cannot pump blood as well.

## Signs and Symptoms

Symptoms may worsen as the valve begins to leak more.



**Fatigue**



**Shortness  
of breath**



**Weakness**



**Rapid fluttering  
heartbeat**



**Swelling in ankles  
or abdomen**



**Pulsing in the blood  
vessels in the neck**

## Treatment options

Will depend on the cause, how much the valve is leaking, your symptoms, and your preferences.

### Medication

Your doctor may prescribe medication, such as diuretics, which removes extra fluid from the body.

### Minimally invasive procedures to fix the valve

Repair or replace the valve in a procedure in which the valve is delivered to the heart through a thin tube called a catheter that is inserted into a vein the leg or groin.

### Surgical repair

In some cases, open heart surgery may be necessary.

## Get regular checkups

Your health care team can monitor your valve by taking images of your heart, called an **echocardiogram** or "echo."



### Do you need a new heart valve?

If your symptoms are severe, you may need a valve procedure.

You and your health care professional can discuss the option that's best for you.

- Less invasive procedure
- Surgical repair



For more information, visit [heart.org/hvdeducation](https://heart.org/hvdeducation)