

Justin was born at 39 weeks with a whole lot more wrong with his heart than the AVSD he had been diagnosed with in utero.

A day after he was born, my husband and I were gently informed that our newborn son had an Interrupted Aortic Arch, 2 different holes (VSD & ASD), aortic valve stenosis and a PDA. Because of the extent of the stenosis, the doctors weren't really considering surgery as a viable option.

3 days and a whole lot more scans, tests, doctors, tears and prayers later, they agreed with our blessing to operate.

On the morning of day 10 in NICU, where they had been keeping him going with medicine, Justin went into surgery at around 8am and arrived in cardiac ICU at about 3pm, 7 nerve wracking hours later. By day 4 post op he had removed his own ventilator pipe (which is a whole other story!) On day 8 post op, he was transferred to High Care. 3 days later, at 21 days old and 11 days post op, we were discharged home.

What a pleasure it's been to watch this little man grow like a weed, develop the most charming personality and build lots of special relationships. Our heart journey is far from over (I'm also a CHD survivor!) but we take each day as it comes and enjoy our lives and our wonderful children to the best of our abilities. ♡

