

The Edmond J. Safra International Congenital Heart Center-
the largest center in Israel and a global leader

- 1 out of each 125 babies is born with a congenital heart disease
- Highly specialized and fully trained medical team led by two senior internationally renowned congenital heart surgeons
- Our highly qualified cardiothoracic surgeons are trained to treat about 150 congenital heart defects
- Comprehensive and fully equipped Congenital Heart Center

The Edmond J. Safra International Congenital Heart Center in the Sheba Medical Center is a very special place with unique medical staff and state-of-the-art technologies.

The dedicated medical team has a single goal: to treat patients so that they have maximum comfort and minimal pain.

Did you know that 1 out of each 125 babies is born with a congenital heart disease?

The Congenital Heart Center is proud of more than thirty years of experience in the surgical correction of congenital heart diseases. Our center treats various types of congenital heart diseases and conducts various surgical interventions with varying degrees of complexity. Approximately 400 patients undergo surgery each year, including operations identified as extremely complicated, due to the high severity of the defect and the problematic nature of its surgical correction, with excellent results compared to the best international centers. Every year, three hundred procedures are performed in the catheterization laboratory in order to diagnose, assess and treat conditions they are not accessible by surgery.

Our highly qualified cardiothoracic surgeons are trained to treat about 150 congenital heart defects. Conditions generally treated at our center are:

- Transposition of the Main Arteries
- Left Heart Hypoplasia Syndrome
- Fallot's Tetralogy, Unifocalization for Pulmonary Atresia and MAPCA's
- Single Ventricles
- Valve Repair: Aortic, Mitral and Tricuspid
- Intracardiac Reconstruction of Complex Malformations
- Remodeling of Left Ventricular Outflow Tract with the Ross Procedure, Nikaidoh Procedure
- ASD, VSD and AV Canals





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Innovations and research are part of the medical team's daily routine.

The Congenital Heart Center specialists have extensive experience in the field of surgical interventions on the heart valves, including the Ross operations.

We can perform surgical interventions for heart disease in newborns with a low weight (less than 2.5 kg).

To achieve the best cosmetic result, we have developed a unique and minimal invasive method for treating certain types of congenital heart defects, where the operation is performed through a cosmetic incision under the breast, which is subsequently invisible.

Additionally, operations on congenital heart disease in adult patients are performed in our center.

All facilities for diagnosis, assessment and evaluation of patients with congenital heart defects before and after birth are located on the same floor, with the inclusion of 4 echocardiography machines, a catheterization laboratory, a stress test, an ambulatory CT and a non-invasive CT and MRI imaging within walking distance.

All treatment facilities for patients suffering from congenital heart defects, including a catheterization laboratory, 2 fully equipped operating suits, and an intensive care unit with 8 private rooms, as well as post-operative recovery rooms – are all on the same floor.

A highly specialized and fully trained medical team is led by two senior internationally renowned congenital heart surgeons: [Prof. Alain Serraf](#), chairman of the Edmond J. Safra International Congenital Heart Center and [Dr. David Mishaly](#), director of Pediatric & Congenital Cardiothoracic



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Surgery. The Center includes 8 pediatric cardiologists, 2 intensive care specialists, and several medical interns in different areas. To assist the medical team, specialized nurses play an active and important role in the department.

Since congenital heart defects can be very complex, the families of the patients can make use of the services and support of a psychologist, an occupational therapist or a nutritionist when needed.

Every single patient receives the same dedicated care, regardless of his origin and background. Each case is fully investigated and discussed prior to any invasive procedure.

We have recently implemented hybrid operations, which combine surgical intervention and cardiac catheterization in a mode of simultaneous execution.

Depending on the complexity of the patient's defect and weight, access to the heart is either a minimally invasive method or an open operative approach.

The treatment of congenital heart defects in children requires constant cooperation between the department of pediatric cardiology, the general pediatric departments, the pediatric intensive care, the department of neonatology, the pediatric anesthesia unit and cardio surgery. Such cooperation allows us to provide a high level of service to children and members of their families in full compliance with the highest surgical and medical standards.