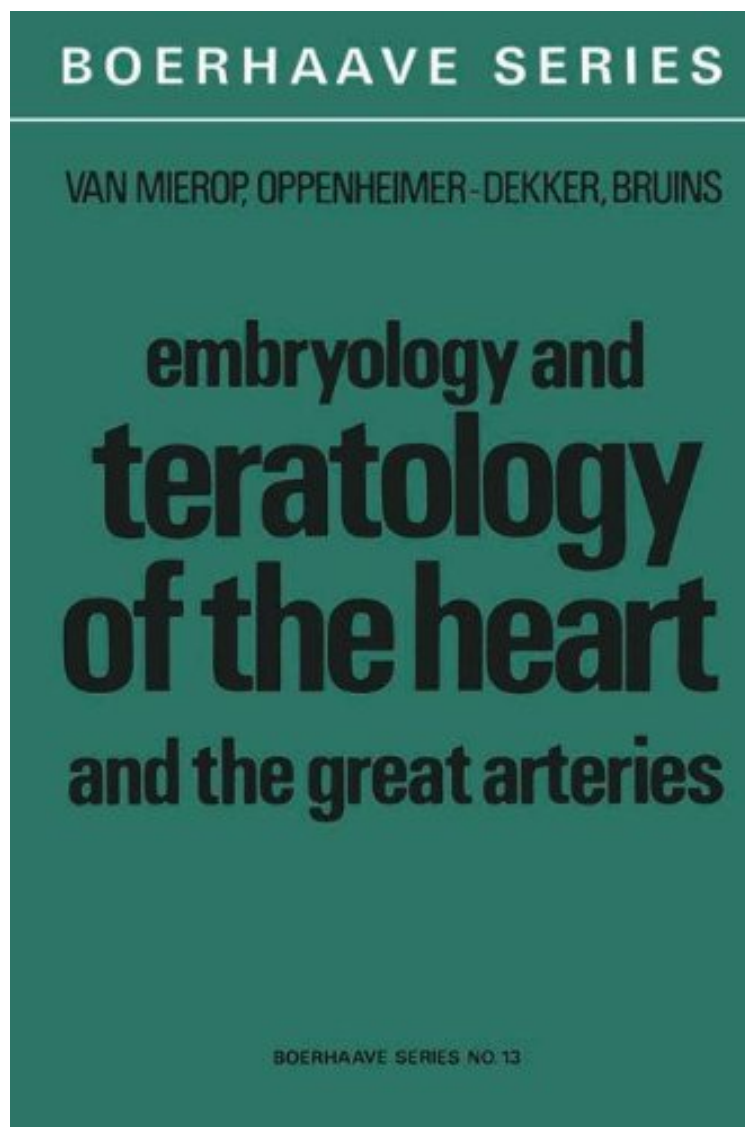


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Embryology and Teratology of the Heart and the Great Arteries: Conducting System; Transposition of the Great Arteries; Ductus Arteriosus (Boerhaave ... Postgraduate Medical Education) (Volume 13)

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The material contained in this book was presented at the Boerhaave Course which was held in Leiden, The Netherlands, on May 2 and 3, 1977. It deals with three topics of considerably recent interest, not only to cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons, but also to embryologists, anatomists and pathologists. Papers on the development and the normal anatomy of the conduction system include a discussion of the continuing controversy as to whether discrete and anatomically distinct internodal pathways exist in the human heart. These are followed by descriptions of the abnormal anatomy and relationships of the conduction system in certain complex cardiovascular anomalies. The rather startling discovery that there may be a second, ectopically located and functioning atrioventricular node and common bundle in addition to the usual, but non-functioning one has been of enormous importance in the surgical treatment of certain forms of congenital heart disease. The panel presentations comprising the first four papers on the topic of transposition of the great arteries highlight the widely differing views and the continuing controversies concerning the nature and pathogenesis of this relatively common and important anomaly. Descriptions of the special morphologic features of ventricular septal defect and pulmonary stenosis as they occur in association with transposition are followed by discussions concerning recent advances in the surgical treatment of transposition, and the common and often troublesome postoperative arrhythmias.