



Welcome

PedCath was developed in the winter of 1994 at the request of Dr. Allen Everett and others at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center. While initially conceived 14 years earlier and attempted on one of the original Apple II computers, the processing speed and graphics power available today have enabled us to develop a powerful tool for pediatric cath reporting, used in the majority of congenital cath labs worldwide.

PedCath has been used continuously at the University of Virginia since January 1, 1995. It combines several important features:

- 1) An easy method of recording data specific to the pediatric catheterization laboratory. The program works in any cath lab, on any PC running Windows, and provides a standard set of hemodynamic calculations.
- 2) The definitive atlas of congenital defects. We are proud to be licensed to distribute the ***Mullins and Mayer Atlas*** for electronic cath reporting. We have expanded the atlas with many new diagrams available for download.
- 3) A visual database of all patients having undergone cardiac catheterization.
- 4) A powerful, built-in drawing program for modifying diagrams to show patient-specific anatomy. The drawing program makes it easy to represent the patient's anatomy accurately, and to add hemodynamic values and other annotations.
- 5) A data structure designed so that statistical summaries may be quickly and easily compiled. PedCath includes software for reporting patient groups by diagnosis, age, cath date or physician.

Acknowledgments

Dr. Allen Everett has given freely of his time to help develop PedCath. He has also provided invaluable assistance as editor of the ***Illustrated Field Guide to Congenital Heart Disease and Repair, Illustrated Field Guide to Adult Congenital Heart Disease***, the PedHeart Resource (www.HeartPassport.com), and the PedHeart Community Web (www.Congenital.org). Without his generous help, none of these would have been possible.

At the University of Virginia, Scott Lim MD, Paul Matherne MD, and Howard Gutgesell MD have aided in the design of PedCath and provided technical guidance. Drs. Felice Heller, William Hammill and Naomi Gauthier provided live testing and feedback during the initial testing phase.

PedCath was tested at many institutions before you received this copy.

In particular, we wish to thank:

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- Dr. Ed Overholt at Oklahoma Children's Hospital
- Dr. Michael R. Nihill, Dr. Charles E. Mullins and Dr. Ronald G. Grifka at Texas Children's Hospital

Dr. Lee Benson at The Hospital for Sick Children (Toronto) has guided development of the optional hierarchical diagnostic codes and many other features that have been added to PedCath over the years.

We would also like to thank Dr. Charles E. Mullins and Dr. Timothy J. Bricker for their assistance in licensing the ***Mullins & Mayer Atlas***®.

Thanks to all

Overview of Features

Over the past two decades, PedCath has become the most widely used software for storing and reporting data from congenital cardiac catheterization procedures. While it remains simple enough to run on virtually any PC, the program is designed with the needs of physicians and other practitioners in mind. It is intended to save valuable time, while improving the accuracy, thoroughness and appearance of cath reports.

With PedCath, data entry is designed to be quick and easy. As you enter the results of a catheterization procedure, the program automatically makes standard calculations and displays the results on the screen. A calculation override feature is provided as well, allowing you complete control over every calculated value.

You may select diagnosis and intervention codes, to be stored as part of each cath record. Whether you are using the standard diagnostic code set or an optional one, you can easily select codes and then rank them in order of importance. Optional code sets are also available; current choices include the widely used codes from Boston Children's Hospital, Toronto Hospital for Sick Children, Texas Children's Hospital and the European Paediatric Cardiac Coding System. IMPACT users have access to the STS compatible IMPACT Dx codes.

Perhaps the most unusual feature of PedCath is its ability to generate, store, retrieve and print high-quality anatomical diagrams. You may select up to three diagrams for each cath. If a patient's cath record includes more than one set of hemodynamic data, individual diagrams may be specifically associated with one or more data sets.

After selecting an appropriate diagram, you may modify it to match the patient's anatomy by using the special, built-in drawing program. The drawing tools allow you to add text to the diagram or to insert arrows indicating the catheter course. Interventional devices are easily illustrated. Cath data can be automatically embedded or manually inserted from a table directly into the diagram. In addition, you may save the modified diagram as a template, to be used as a starting place when recording future cath data for the same patient.

The printed cath report contains all hemodynamic data, as well as hospital and patient information, the patient's anatomical diagram, and standard calculations. The diagram and other data can be exported to disk in several standard formats, to be used by your institution's internal information systems or directly emailed to other doctors.

The document manager allows you to generate, store and print documents with each cath record, and the image manager allows you to add angio still frames, waveforms, or any other image to your cath report.

***We are always looking for ways to improve your software and enhance its usability.
Please do not hesitate to get in touch with your comments and suggestions.***

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