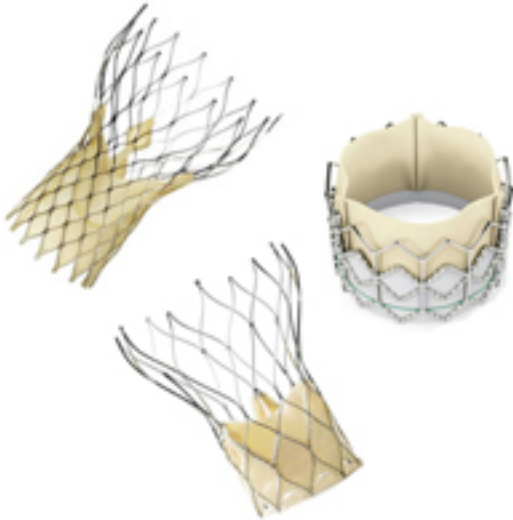


TAVI pioneers celebrate 10 years and more than 50,000 patients treated

Mass Device

Transcatheter aortic valve implantation hits the 10-year mark, having matured during that time "from an ugly duckling into a beautiful swan," according to TAVI pioneers.



The 1st transcatheter aortic valve was implanted 10 years ago, laying the foundation for a game-changing technology that has since matured "from an ugly duckling into a beautiful swan," according one researcher.

Heart valve enthusiasts gathered at the PCR London Valves conference this week, taking some time to wish a happy birthday to the "breakthrough technology" and share a laugh about the debate over whether the device is best referred to as transcatheter aortic valve implantation or transcatheter aortic valve replacement, TheHeart.org reported.

Whether TAVI or TAVR, the device has yet to catch up to its forebear, surgical aortic valve replacement, in terms of use. The less-invasive TAVI procedure remains relegated to patients who are at too high a risk and aren't good candidates for surgery.

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<http://www.mdtmag.com/news/2012/10/tavi-pioneers-celebrate-10-years-and-more-50000-patients-treated>