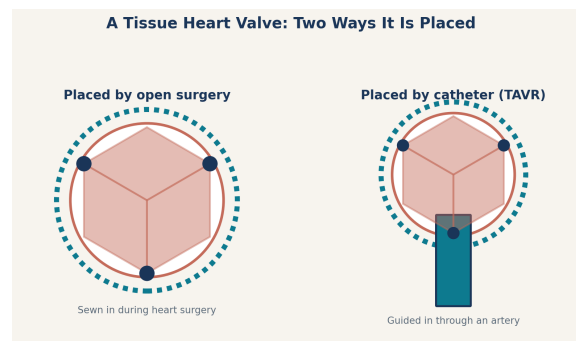


Bioprosthetic (Tissue) Heart Valves

Living with a tissue valve - why it was chosen, how long it lasts, and the blood-thinner plan

A tissue valve usually frees you from lifelong blood thinners - but it does not last forever.



Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>

Rias KS Ali, MD FACC

Board Certified in Interventional Cardiology & Cardiovascular Disease

4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com

Last Updated: August 2026



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Names & Terms You Will Hear

Term	Meaning
Bioprosthetic valve	A replacement heart valve made from treated animal or human tissue. Also called a tissue valve.
Tissue valve	The everyday name for a bioprosthetic valve. This guide is about living with one.
Xenograft valve	A tissue valve from another species. Almost always cow or pig tissue.
Homograft / allograft valve	A tissue valve from a donated human valve. Used less often.
Surgical bioprosthesis	A tissue valve sewn in during open-heart surgery.
TAVR (transcatheter aortic valve replacement)	Placing a tissue valve through a catheter. Usually done through an artery in the groin. No open chest surgery.
Antithrombotic therapy	Medicine that reduces clotting. Aspirin or a blood thinner. After a tissue valve, this is usually short-term.
Valve-in-valve TAVR (ViV)	Placing a new catheter valve inside an old, worn tissue valve. Explained fully in our companion guide.
Structural valve deterioration (SVD)	The slow wear of a tissue valve over years. Covered in depth in our Degeneration guide.

This guide is about living with a tissue valve. Want to know how and why a tissue valve wears out, and the full valve-in-valve TAVR procedure? See our companion [Bioprosthetic Valve Degeneration guide](#). This guide covers the choice, durability, blood-thinner plan, and follow-up.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Bioprosthetic (Tissue) Heart Valves?

- A bioprosthetic (tissue) valve is a replacement heart valve. It is made from treated cow, pig, or human tissue.
- It can be placed by open surgery. Or, for many patients, through a catheter with no open chest (TAVR).
- Its biggest advantage: most people do NOT need a lifelong blood thinner. This differs from a mechanical (metal) valve.
- Its trade-off is durability. A tissue valve slowly wears out. This usually takes about 10 to 20 years.
- This guide covers living with a tissue valve day to day. For how a valve wears out, see our companion Degeneration guide.



A real tissue (bioprosthetic) heart valve. Its leaflets are made from treated animal tissue and open and close like a natural valve. Image: public domain, Wikimedia Commons.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Tissue vs Mechanical Valve - Why the Choice Is Made

Feature	Tissue valve	Mechanical valve
What it is made of	Treated cow, pig, or human tissue	Strong metal and carbon
How long it lasts	About 10-20 years	Decades - often a lifetime
Long-term blood thinner	Usually none long-term (short course, then aspirin)	Yes - lifelong warfarin, with INR tests
Main trade-off	Wears out and may need a future procedure	Needs a daily blood thinner for life
If it wears out / fails	Often fixed with valve-in-valve TAVR	Rare; a redo is open surgery if needed
Often best for	Older patients, high bleeding risk, or a planned pregnancy	Younger patients who can manage warfarin



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Why It Matters

- Knowing why a tissue valve was chosen helps you understand your plan. Your blood-thinner course differs from a mechanical valve.
- Most tissue-valve patients take a blood thinner for only a few months, not for life. Knowing this prevents worry.
- The valve will slowly wear over time. Regular echocardiograms catch early change before it strains the heart.
- If a tissue valve wears out years from now, many patients can be fixed with a valve-in-valve TAVR. This avoids a second open surgery.
- Understanding the tissue-vs-mechanical trade-off explains why this valve fit your age and life plans.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



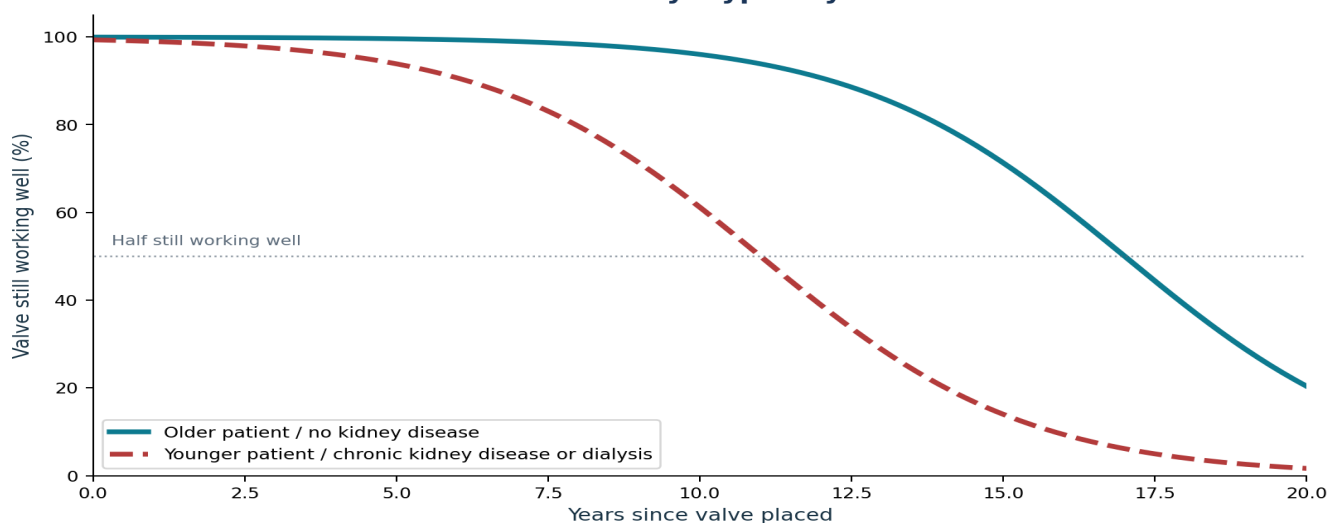
Save
Contact Info

Risk Factors

Some patients are more likely to develop this condition. Knowing your risk helps your care team take extra precautions.

Risk Factor	Why It Increases Risk
Older age at implant	Tissue valves are often chosen for older patients. The valve should outlast their remaining years, so a lifelong blood thinner is avoided.
Wish to avoid lifelong warfarin	Some patients cannot safely manage regular blood tests. Others simply prefer not to take a daily blood thinner for life. Tissue is often chosen.
A planned pregnancy	Warfarin can harm a developing baby. Tissue valves are often chosen for women planning pregnancy.
Younger age or chronic kidney disease / dialysis	These do not rule out a tissue valve. But they shorten its life, because calcium builds up on the leaflets faster. This is discussed with your Heart Team.
Inability to reliably take a daily medication	A mechanical valve needs lifelong, precise blood thinning. Patients who cannot manage that are often better suited to tissue.

Tissue Valve Durability: Typically 10 to 20 Years



Tissue valve durability is typically 10 to 20 years, and shorter in younger patients or those with chronic kidney disease or dialysis.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Durability - and What Shortens It

- Most tissue valves work well for about 10 to 20 years before showing real wear.
- Younger age at implant shortens durability. A younger body lays down calcium on the leaflets faster.
- Chronic kidney disease, and especially dialysis, speeds up calcium buildup. This shortens valve life.
- A smaller original valve size can also shorten durability. It limits future valve-in-valve options too.
- Durability is not a fixed expiration date. The valve is watched closely as it ages, especially past year 10.
- For the full mechanics of how wear happens, see our companion Degeneration guide.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



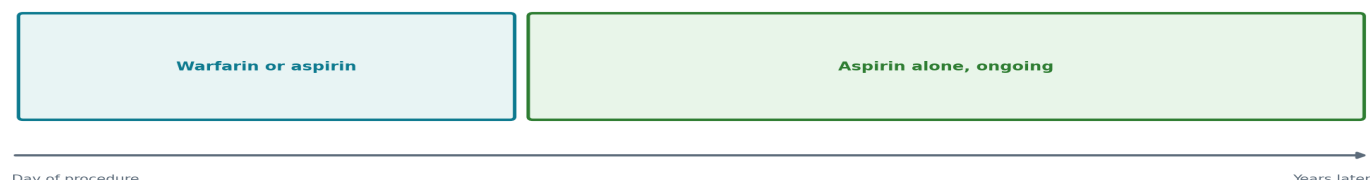
Save
Contact Info

Treatment Options

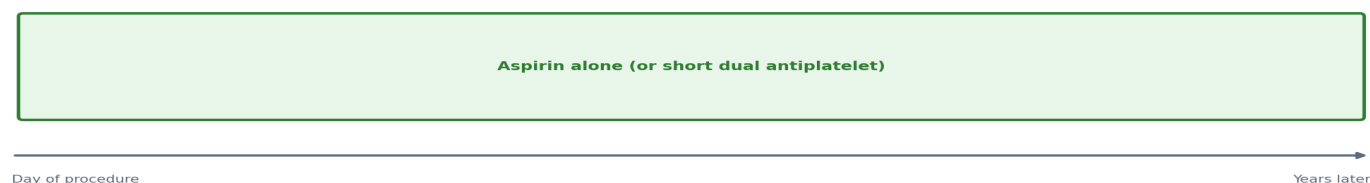
- Take your prescribed medication exactly as directed. Do not stop early on your own.
- After a SURGICAL tissue valve: about 3 to 6 months of warfarin or aspirin. Then aspirin alone, ongoing.
- After TAVR: usually aspirin alone. Sometimes a short course of two antiplatelet medicines together. Not routine warfarin or a DOAC.
- A DOAC (a newer blood thinner) is used only for a separate reason, such as atrial fibrillation. Not simply because you have a tissue valve.
- Keep every scheduled follow-up echocardiogram. This is how the team watches the valve over the years.
- Tell every dentist and surgeon you have a prosthetic valve before any procedure.
- If your valve ever shows wear, ask about valve-in-valve TAVR as well as repeat surgery. See our companion Degeneration guide.

Blood Thinners After a Tissue Valve Are Usually Short-Term

After SURGICAL Tissue Valve



After TAVR (Catheter) Tissue Valve



Blood thinners after a tissue valve are usually short-term - a few months after surgery, or aspirin alone after TAVR - not a lifelong medication like after a mechanical valve.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Anticoagulation After a Tissue Valve

- After a SURGICAL tissue valve: about 3 to 6 months of warfarin or aspirin. Then aspirin alone, ongoing.
- After TAVR: aspirin alone is the standard for most patients (POPULAR-TAVI trial). Some get a short course of two antiplatelet medicines together.
- Routine DOAC use after TAVR, without another reason, raised bleeding and death in the GALILEO trial. It is not recommended.
- A DOAC or warfarin IS used long-term for a separate reason, most often atrial fibrillation. That decision does not depend on the valve type.
- This differs from a mechanical valve, which always needs lifelong warfarin. See our Mechanical Heart Valve guide.
- Always confirm your specific plan and its end date with your cardiologist.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Do not stop your antithrombotic medication early on your own. Stopping it too soon raises the risk of a clot forming on the new valve. Always check with your cardiologist first. This includes before any surgery or dental procedure.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Comfort Measures at Home (No Medication Needed)

These simple steps support healing and ease symptoms. Use them alongside any medication your doctor prescribes.

- Stay active. Most people with a well-working tissue valve can walk, swim, and exercise. Ask your team what is right for you.
- Brush, floss, and see your dentist. Good dental care lowers the risk of a valve infection.
- Do not smoke. Keep blood pressure, blood sugar, and weight in a healthy range. This protects the valve.
- Carry a card or wear a medical ID with your valve type, brand, and size. It helps plan any future procedure.
- If you are on a short course of warfarin, keep your lab appointments. Know the foods and medicines that affect it.
- If you are planning a pregnancy, tell your cardiologist and obstetrician early. Your medication plan can then be coordinated.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Risks, Benefits, and Alternatives

Every choice has trade-offs. Use this table to start the shared decision conversation.

Option	Risks	Benefits	Alternatives
Choosing a tissue (bioprosthetic) valve	Wears out over time, usually in 10 to 20 years. Sooner in younger patients or those with kidney disease. May need a second procedure someday.	Usually no lifelong blood thinner. Lower bleeding risk day to day. Compatible with a planned pregnancy.	A mechanical valve. Or watchful waiting if the native valve does not yet need replacement.
Choosing a mechanical valve	Needs a lifelong blood thinner (warfarin) with regular blood tests. A real bleeding risk. Not recommended in pregnancy.	Durability that often lasts a lifetime. This avoids a future re-do valve procedure.	A tissue valve, weighed against your age and bleeding risk. See our Mechanical Heart Valve guide.
Short-term antithrombotic course after a tissue valve	A period of higher bleeding risk while on the medication. Stopping too early raises clot risk on the new valve.	Protects the new valve surface while it heals. Most patients then move to aspirin alone.	A different duration or medicine, chosen by your Heart Team.
Valve-in-valve TAVR if a surgical tissue valve degenerates	Depends on the size and type of the original valve, and your anatomy. Not right for every case.	Fixes a worn valve through a catheter. Usually no open surgery, in suitable patients.	Repeat open valve surgery. Both options are covered fully in our Degeneration guide.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Common Misconceptions

Myth	Reality
A tissue valve means I never need a blood thinner.	Most tissue-valve patients take a blood thinner or aspirin for a period after the procedure. Usually months, not years. Then aspirin alone, ongoing.
Once my short blood-thinner course ends, I am done with medication for my valve.	Aspirin alone is usually continued long-term. It protects the valve and reduces clot risk, even after the first course ends.
My tissue valve will last the rest of my life no matter my age.	Durability is usually 10 to 20 years. It is shorter in younger patients and those with kidney disease. This is why age factors into the valve choice.
If my tissue valve ever wears out, I will need another open-heart surgery.	A worn SURGICAL tissue valve can often be fixed with a valve-in-valve TAVR. A new valve is placed inside the old one through a catheter. See our Degeneration guide.
Tissue valves are simply the 'better' or 'safer' choice.	Neither valve type is always better. Tissue avoids a lifelong blood thinner but wears out sooner. Mechanical lasts longer but needs lifelong warfarin.
Because I have a tissue valve, I should take a DOAC for extra protection.	Routine DOAC use after a tissue valve, without another reason, raised bleeding and death in trials. It is not recommended.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

The Valve-in-Valve Future

- If a surgical tissue valve wears out years from now, many patients can get a valve-in-valve TAVR. This avoids a second open operation.
- A new catheter valve is guided in and opened inside the old, worn valve. Recovery is often short, like a first-time TAVR.
- Not every worn valve is a candidate. The size and type of the old valve, and your anatomy, decide if it fits.
- This option is a big reason many patients now choose a tissue valve, even at a younger age than in years past.
- Full detail on candidacy and outcomes is in our [Bioprosthetic Valve Degeneration guide](#).



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Possible Complications

Knowing what can go wrong helps you spot problems early. Most complications are uncommon, especially with treatment.

Where / What	What Can Happen
Bleeding from antithrombotic medication	Warfarin, aspirin, and other blood thinners all raise bleeding risk. This is highest in the first months. Report unusual bruising or heavy bleeding.
Valve infection (endocarditis)	Bacteria can settle on any prosthetic valve and cause a serious infection. Fever, chills, or night sweats always need a prompt check.
Valve thrombosis (a clot on the valve)	A clot can form on a tissue valve, especially early on. This is more likely if antithrombotic therapy is stopped too soon. It can sometimes be cleared with a blood thinner.
Structural valve deterioration (wear over time)	The leaflets slowly thicken, calcify, or tear over years. This is the expected trade-off of a tissue valve. Full detail is in our companion Degeneration guide.
Heart strain if wear is not caught early	A worn valve that is missed on routine echocardiogram can strain the heart muscle over time. This can lead to breathlessness and swelling.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Points to Know

If you remember nothing else, remember these key points.

- A tissue (bioprosthetic) valve can be placed surgically or by catheter (TAVR). Often chosen for older age, avoiding warfarin, or a planned pregnancy.
- Durability is usually 10 to 20 years. Sooner in younger patients and those with kidney disease or dialysis.
- Blood thinners after a tissue valve are usually short-term: months after surgery, then aspirin alone. TAVR patients are usually on aspirin alone.
- A DOAC is used only for a separate reason, such as atrial fibrillation. Not simply because you have a tissue valve.
- Keep every scheduled follow-up echocardiogram. This is how wear is caught early.
- If your tissue valve ever wears out, valve-in-valve TAVR is often an option instead of repeat surgery. See our companion Degeneration guide.
- Tell every dentist and surgeon about your prosthetic valve before any procedure.
- The tissue-vs-mechanical choice weighs your age, bleeding risk, and life plans. It is made with your Heart Team.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

When to Call Us - and When to Call 911

If you are not sure, call. We would rather hear from you twice than miss a real problem.

- New or worse shortness of breath, especially lying flat or at night. Call us. With chest pain or fainting, call 911.
- Unusual bleeding or bruising on your medication. Call us. Heavy or uncontrolled bleeding is a 911 emergency.
- Returning tiredness, leg swelling, or fast weight gain over a few days. Call us within 24 hours.
- Fever, chills, or night sweats lasting more than a day or two. Call us the same day. This can signal a valve infection.
- A new fluttering heartbeat, dizziness, or fainting. Call us right away. If you pass out, call 911.
- Before any surgery, dental work, or new medicine, tell your team about your prosthetic valve.
- If you become pregnant or are planning to, tell your cardiologist and obstetrician promptly.

Office: (727) 943-5200



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Surveillance and Follow-Up

- Expect a baseline echocardiogram after your procedure. Then echoes on a schedule your team sets, often yearly.
- An echocardiogram measures how well the valve opens and closes. It catches early wear before it causes symptoms.
- Keep every scheduled visit, even if you feel well. Early wear is usually silent.
- Bring a list of your medications and any new symptoms to each visit.
- Learn more about the procedures in our [Surgical Valve Replacement](#) and [TAVR](#) guides, and about daily life with a valve in our [Living With a Prosthetic Valve](#) guide.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Trusted Resources

The links below are the trusted resources Dr. Ali used to write this guide and that he recommends you visit for more information. Each is a clickable link in the digital version and a Short.io tracked URL on the printed version.

- [Cleveland Clinic - Heart Valve Surgery](#) - Tissue vs mechanical valves and how the choice is made.
- [Mayo Clinic - Heart Valve Disease](#) - Overview of valve-replacement decision-making and follow-up.
- [American Heart Association - Options for Heart Valve Replacement](#) - Plain-language comparison of tissue and mechanical valves.
- [MedlinePlus - Heart Valve Diseases](#) - US National Library of Medicine overview with trusted links.
- [Dr. Ali - Bioprosthetic Valve Degeneration Guide](#) - Our companion guide on how and why a tissue valve wears out, and the valve-in-valve TAVR fix.
- [Dr. Ali - TAVR Patient Guide](#) - Our companion guide on catheter valve replacement.
- [Dr. Ali - Mechanical Heart Valve Guide](#) - Our companion guide on the mechanical-valve alternative and lifelong warfarin.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Sources Used to Build This Guide

Every recommendation in this guide is grounded in one or more of the studies, guidelines, or trusted resources below. Short links are tracked so Dr. Ali can see which references patients are reading; nothing personally identifying is captured.

- [2020 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Management of Patients With Valvular Heart Disease \[Guideline\]](#)
Authoritative basis for tissue-valve selection factors (age, bleeding risk, pregnancy plans), post-implant antithrombotic duration after surgical bioprosthesis, and surveillance echocardiography schedule.
- [2021 ESC/EACTS Guidelines for the Management of Valvular Heart Disease \[Guideline\]](#)
European guideline complement on bioprosthesis choice, antithrombotic strategy after surgical and transcatheter tissue-valve implantation, and valve-in-valve TAVR positioning.
- [PARTNER 3 Trial — Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Replacement in Low-Risk Patients \(NEJM 2019, with 5-year durability follow-up\) \[Trial\]](#)
Named-trial evidence for TAVR bioprosthesis durability and outcomes in low-surgical-risk patients, supporting the surgical-vs-TAVR tissue-valve framing.
- [Evolut Low Risk Trial — Transcatheter or Surgical Aortic-Valve Replacement \(NEJM 2019\) \[Trial\]](#)
Named-trial evidence for self-expanding transcatheter tissue-valve durability vs surgical bioprosthesis in low-risk patients.
- [POPULAR-TAVI Trial — Aspirin with or without Clopidogrel after TAVI \(NEJM 2020; PMID 37164609 companion analysis\) \[Trial\]](#)
Named-trial evidence that single antiplatelet therapy (aspirin alone), not dual antiplatelet or routine anticoagulation, is the standard antithrombotic strategy after TAVR in patients without a separate anticoagulation indication.
- [GALILEO Trial — Rivaroxaban after Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Replacement \(NEJM 2020\) \[Trial\]](#)
Named-trial evidence that routine DOAC therapy after TAVR (without a separate indication like atrial fibrillation) increased death and bleeding compared to antiplatelet therapy — grounds the guide's 'no DOAC unless AF' framing.
- [Standardized Definitions for Bioprosthetic Valve Dysfunction \(JACC State-of-the-Art Review, 2022\) \[Review\]](#)
Defines structural valve deterioration and durability drivers (younger age, chronic kidney disease/dialysis) referenced for the durability-by-age framing; full mechanism detail deferred to the companion degeneration guide.
- [PARTNER 2 Valve-in-Valve Registry — 3-Year Outcomes for Degenerated Bioprostheses \(JACC 2019\) \[Trial\]](#)
Named-trial evidence for valve-in-valve TAVR as a re-do option when a surgical tissue valve degenerates, avoiding repeat open surgery in suitable patients.
- [Cleveland Clinic — Heart Valve Surgery \(Tissue vs Mechanical Valves\) \[Patient Education\]](#)
Plain-language framing of who tissue valves are typically chosen for and the durability trade-off vs mechanical valves.
- [Mayo Clinic — Heart Valve Disease \(Diagnosis & Treatment\) \[Patient Education\]](#)
Patient-facing overview of valve-replacement decision-making and follow-up care used for accessible framing.
- [American Heart Association — Options for Heart Valve Replacement \[Patient Education\]](#)
Frames tissue-valve durability and the anticoagulation trade-off vs mechanical valves for lay readers.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

- [MedlinePlus — Heart Valve Diseases](#) *[Patient Education]*
US National Library of Medicine plain-language overview with trusted links, for the trusted-resources listing.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

About This Guide

Rias KS Ali, MD FACC | Board Certified in Interventional Cardiology & Cardiovascular Disease

4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com

Version: 2026-08-15

Reviewer note: Reviewed against the Cleveland Clinic heart-valve-surgery page, the Mayo Clinic heart-valve-disease pages, and the AHA valve-replacement options page. Ours adds: a surgical-vs-TAVR placement diagram, a durability-by-age curve grounded in guideline evidence, a plain-language antithrombotic timeline showing that blood thinners are usually short-term (not lifelong like a mechanical valve), a tissue-vs-mechanical trade-off table, and direct cross-links to our degeneration, TAVR, surgical-valve-replacement, and mechanical-valve guides so nothing is duplicated or contradicted.

Disclaimer

This guide is for educational purposes only and does not replace medical advice from your physician. Recommendations may not apply to every patient. Always follow the specific instructions of Dr. Ali and your care team. In an emergency call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department.



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info

Take This Guide With You



Scan or visit: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>

Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>

Office: (727) 943-5200

4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com



Visit
RiasAliMD.com

This guide is educational only. Always follow your doctor's specific recommendations.
4740 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday FL 34690 | Office: (727) 943-5200 | Fax: (727) 943-5201 | RiasAliMD.com
Online: <https://go.riasalimd.com/tissue-valve-guide>



Save
Contact Info