**Congenital heart disease**

Life in the Victor Chang Institute is about always being a growing institution. Every year, we have new 200 dedicated scientists and staff. There are always big advances in technology and science. There are always new life-saving discoveries as the science and technology move way beyond where we were just a few years ago. 

On any given day our scientists are making major discoveries that will have a life-saving impact on humans.
BORN WITH HEART DEFECTS?
WHY ARE SO MANY BABIES in the world

Professor Sally Dunwoodie is the head of the Victor Chang Institute’s Embryology Laboratory.

“Professor Dunwoodie and her team have discovered that short-term oxygen deficiency during pregnancy can affect the development of the heart and other parts of the body.”

For the first time, scientists believe they’ve discovered that multiple types of birth defects can be trigged by environmental stresses.

“Every pregnant parent wants to have a healthy baby, but 1 in 6 babies are born with heart defects.”

“IT’S THE MOST COMMON cause of birth defects in the world, and the genetic and environmental components have been very poorly understood.”

“New, important breakthroughs, scientists at the Victor Chang Institute have found that cellular stresses can occur in seemingly healthy parents.”

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