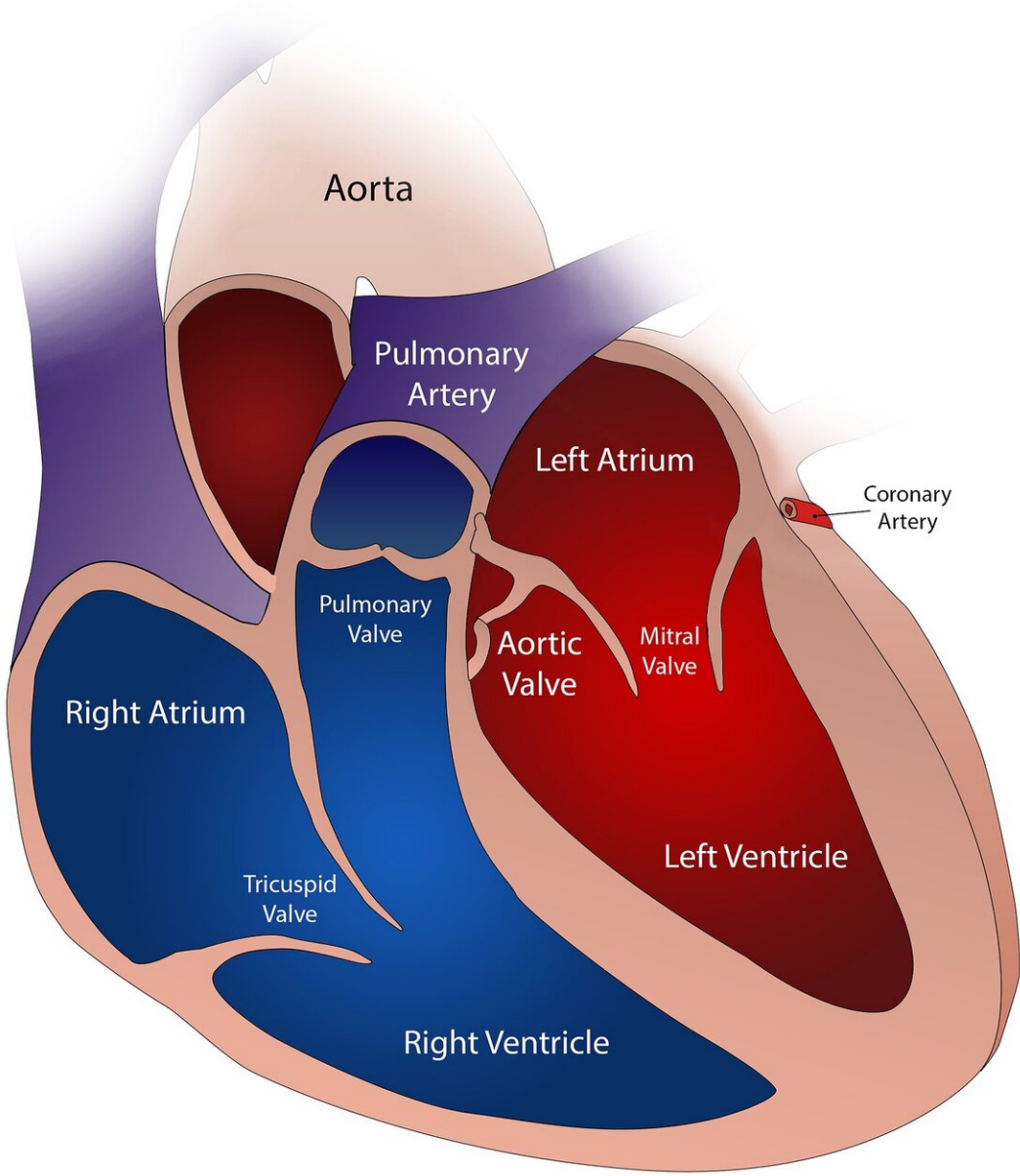


Mental illness associated with increased death from cardiovascular disease

April 19 2022



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Compared to the general population, people with severe mental illness, including schizophrenia, have higher levels of cardiovascular-related mortality, and that association has become stronger over recent decades, according to a new study publishing April 19 in *PLOS Medicine* by Amanda Lambert of the University of Birmingham, UK, and colleagues.

Previous research has identified [higher incidence](#) and [mortality](#) from cardiovascular disease in people with [severe mental illness](#), but it was not known whether that association has changed over time. The new study involved a systemic review and meta-analysis of 108 previous studies including over 30 million participants in [high-income countries](#), all aged 16 to 65 years of age at onset of psychiatric disorder.

The study found that, overall, the cardiovascular-related mortality rate for people with severe mental illness is about twice that of the [general population](#) (SMR 1.96, 95% CI: 1.61–2.39, p

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