

**TABLE 61** Included pathologies

Category	Pathologies	
1	Structural defect	Atrial septal defect, ventricular septal defect, rupture of chordae tendineae or papillary muscle
2	Ischaemia/ thrombosis	LA thrombus (includes LAA thrombus), RA thrombus (includes RAA thrombus), thrombosis of ventricle, atherosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery atherosclerosis/disease/stenosis), aneurysm of heart
3	Pulmonary disease	PE, pulmonary hypertension, cor pulmonale
4	Endocarditis	Endocarditis
5	Valvular heart disease	Valvular regurgitation or stenosis of mitral, aortic or tricuspid valve, valvular heart disease, pulmonary valve disease, mitral valve disease or prolapse
6	Cardiomyopathy	Hypertrophic obstructive or non-obstructive or dilated cardiomyopathy, LV non-compaction
7	Heart failure	CHF, LA enlargement, LV or RV dysfunction or impairment
8	Diseases of arteries	Aortic dissection
9	Cardiac masses	Cardiac tumours or masses

Atrial septal defect and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy were included as although ECG may indicate their diagnoses, it would not provide a definitive diagnosis. LA enlargement could be diagnosed by ECG but AF may make this diagnosis less accurate.

Although newly diagnosed AF in stroke patients was not excluded, stroke in a non-AF population was excluded. Echocardiography in stroke is the subject of a HTA report (unpublished at time of going to press [www.hta.ac.uk/project/2243.asp](http://www.hta.ac.uk/project/2243.asp)).

## Excluded pathologies

The following is not intended as an exhaustive list of every cardiac pathology but provides examples of pathologies fitting exclusion criteria.

### ***Pathologies excluded because they would be diagnosed prior to atrial fibrillation diagnosis, or at time of atrial fibrillation diagnosis***

Transposition of great arteries, Fallot's tetralogy, AV septal defect, aortic atresia, hypoplasia of aorta, Marfan syndrome, sinus of Valsalva aneurysm, aortic coarctation, myocardial infarction unrecognised (diagnosed by ECG).

### ***Pathologies excluded because they would be clinically diagnosed without echocardiography***

Acute myocardial infarction, acute heart failure, coronary thrombosis, haemopericardium, pericarditis.

### ***Pathologies excluded because they present with symptoms that represent indications for echocardiography (including indications for emergency transthoracic echocardiography)***

Myocardial rupture, cardiac tamponade.