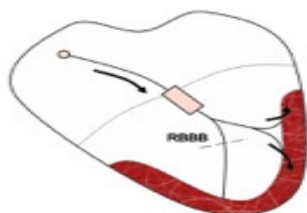


# RIGHT BUNDLE BRANCH BLOCK (RBBB)

Right bundle branch block (RBBB) is an abnormality of the electrical conducting system of the heart. There are two main conducting pathways in the heart, the left and the right bundle. In RBBB the right conducting pathway no longer functions so electrical conduction is maintained through the left bundle.

RBBB can be a normal finding but it is more common in structural abnormalities of the heart such as some heart muscle conditions, high blood pressure or coronary artery narrowing.



## HOW COMMON IS IT?

RBBB affects approximately 1 in 100 of the population.

## WHAT SYMPTOMS MIGHT I GET?

RBBB does not give symptoms in the absence of any other underlying heart abnormality,

## WHAT EXTRA TESTS ARE REQUIRED?

Patients with RBBB may require a heart ultrasound (echocardiogram), a Holter ECG monitor and a stress test such as an exercise tolerance test to try and exclude associated heart conditions.

## WILL I NEED TREATMENT?

Usually not.

## IS IT HEREDITARY?

No.

## DOES THIS AFFECT MY LIFE EXPECTANCY?

No although patients with RBBB have a slightly increased lifetime risk of needing a pacemaker.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If you have been diagnosed with RBBB then you should see your GP who can arrange further investigations if required.

## USEFUL LINKS

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right\\_bundle\\_branch\\_block](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_bundle_branch_block)

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HeartforLife

[www.heartforlife.co.uk](http://www.heartforlife.co.uk)

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