

Hockey exec wins faceoff against heart issue

VIDEO	AUDIO
Courtesy: Chicago Blackhawks	It's something Chicago Blackhawks General Manager Kyle Davidson has had to deal with all his life.
Kyle Davidson General Manager Chicago Blackhawks	"I was born with tetralogy of Fallot. It's a congenital heart defect. I needed two open-heart surgeries right around when I was a year old."
Jason	Five years ago, at the age of 31, Kyle had another open-heart surgery to place a new pulmonary valve inside his heart.
Kyle	"It's pretty heavy surgery and long recovery, which is about, you know, one and a half, two months."
Jason	But five years later ...
Kyle	"I've had a couple, you know, I'd call them episodes over the last number of months, where it didn't feel normal."
Jason	And at 36 years old ...
Kyle	"I've learned that that valve is no longer working properly again, and intervention was needed."
---nats preop---	"Hello, Mr. Davidson. I'm Dr. Anderson and this is Dr. Cabalka."
Jason Anderson, M.D. Interventional Cardiology Mayo Clinic	"He was noticing a limitation in his ability to exercise to his peak potential. And when we hear a limitation for exercise tolerance, to me, that is a big red flag."
Jason	Dr. Jason Anderson is an interventional congenital cardiologist at Mayo Clinic.
Dr. Anderson	"His valve was regurgitant, meaning he would send the blood forward. Part of the blood would come backward, and part would go forward. So every heartbeat, he's having some wasted flow that he's trying to keep up with. So your body compensates for that by trying to go faster and beat harder."

Jason	A replacement pulmonary valve is needed. There are two options... another open-heart surgery or a less invasive transcatheter procedure.
Kyle	"With all things being equal and having the two options on the table, I certainly preferred and was happy that the transcatheter approach was something that was applicable to my case."
Kyle	"Compared to 2019 when I had my open-heart surgery, I'm just at a very different point in my life, you know, I do have the general manager's job. I do have two kids that weren't around, you know, five years ago.
Kyle	"You have to make sure that you're putting yourself in the best situation, from a health standpoint, to be there for them for a long time."
Jason	At Mayo Clinic, pulmonary valve replacement can be performed on eligible patients as a same-day transcatheter procedure — meaning no open-heart surgery and, typically, no hospital stay. It requires only a mild form of sedation and usually takes under an hour to perform.
	---nats of heart monitor---
Allison Cabalka, M.D. Interventional Cardiology Mayo Clinic	"The procedure is basically to give him a new valve within his existing, surgically placed valve. We do that through a catheter method, where you place equipment into the heart. We work through a large tube that goes through the vein in his leg."
Dr. Anderson	"When that valve is deployed and opened in the next heartbeat, he has his new valve function as brand-new, right out of the box."
Jason	Another aspect of this procedure that sets Mayo apart is that it's done in tandem by two Mayo Clinic cardiologists through a method called co-scrubbing.
Dr. Cabalka	"When Dr Anderson and I are working together, we often think of it as two co-pilots."
Dr. Cabalka	"If we have anything that's unexpected, we have collaborative decision, we have immediate response, and we have the ability to take care of any potential complications or any potential barriers

	to success to make that procedure go as smoothly as possible."
Jason	And just a few hours after the procedure, Kyle is out of the hospital, heading home and back to work.
Kyle	"I'm very fortunate that there are medical advances to the point where I don't have to step away, I don't have to miss any significant time."
Jason	Kyle's experience is typical for patients at Mayo Clinic undergoing this procedure.
Dr. Anderson	"It's not an exception that he went home the same day, that is now the norm."
Dr. Anderson	"His body is now able to achieve the same amount of forward flow with less stress and less exertion."
Kyle	"Now that we're a couple weeks out and I'm back to my normal routine, I feel 100%. I feel great."
Jason	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Jason Howland.