first 24 hours of life in 8 patients; these included all patients with a postnatal diagnosis of truncus arteriosus. Four patients required mechanical ventilation. Whilst in the neonatal intensive care unit, 3 babies developed heart failure and were treated with diuretics and 2 developed necrotising enterocolitis which was managed conservatively. Median length of stay before transfer to our local surgical cardiology centre was 3 days. Thirteen patients (87%) underwent common arterial trunk repair. 10 (77%) babies survived to date. Two patients died in the initial post-operative period and one patient at 14 months of age. The remaining two patients did not receive any surgical intervention and subsequently died (4 and 11 days old). Of the 10 babies who survived, the median length of hospital stay post operatively was 20 days.

Conclusion Truncus arteriosus is a rare congenital defect. The majority of these were detected antenatally. They are likely to require respiratory support but the surgical outcomes are good. The following information can be used when counselling parents antenatally and managing their expectations.

**P449 PROBIOTICS AND RETINOPATHY OF PREMATURE: SYSTEMIC REVIEW**

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**Introduction** As we know, ROP is a multifactorial disease, and several preventable factors are dependent on increased ROP. Thus, we decided to undertake a systematic review to study the effects of probiotics on the prevalence and severity of ROP.

**Method** We searched studies in the PubMed, Cochrane collaborative library and Google Scholar at all levels until January 30, 2019. The papers were evaluated independently by two reviewers according to the predefined criteria and relevant data were extracted. The initial complications of ROP and its severity and stage were analyzed.

**Results** Of the 780 extracted studies, only 13 studies were relevant, none of which had directly investigated the effect of probiotics on the prevalence of ROP. A thorough study of the articles revealed that 9 studies had examined the effect of probiotics on the severity of ROP without reporting any significant correlation. Moreover, 4 studies had assessed the effect of probiotics on the stage of ROP, with none of them reporting a significant difference. A meta-analysis published in 2017 suggested that the use of probiotics significantly reduces the risk of infection without affecting the severity and stage of ROP.

**Conclusion** According to the results of the study, a challenging problem in clinical trials is that poor infant growth can be a predictor of ROP and proper nutrition can improve infant growth. Hence, further studies are required to determine whether probiotics have an indirect or direct effect on the incidence or severity of ROP or not.