**A person in a red shirt

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**Dr. Muge Kuyumcu-Martinez Unveils Pioneering Research on Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome at American Heart Association Conference**

July 26, 2024

**[Charlottesville, VA]** — Dr. Muge Kuyumcu-Martinez, Professor in the Department of Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics at UVA, recently presented her groundbreaking research on Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS) at the American Heart Association Basic Cardiovascular Sciences Conference. Her findings, highlighting the mechanisms of how mutations in an RNA binding protein RBFOX2 leads to this congenital heart defect, received widespread acclaim.Dr. Kuyumcu-Martinez 's talk, "RBFOX2-RNA networks in heart development and Hypoplastic left Heart Syndrome," revealed new mechanisms that cause HLHS.

In an exclusive interview at the American Heart Association Conference, Dr. Kuyumcu-Martinez emphasized the potential of her findings to understanding of this devastating disease that impacts babies. "Our research opens new avenues for RNA based therapies for heart disease in the future," she stated.

Dr. Kuyumcu-Martinez 's research brings hope and progress to understanding this complex congenital heart disease and help adult patients living with this condition in the future. For more information on her work, visit https://med.virginia.edu/kuyumcu-martinez-lab/ or contact her at pnc3uj@virginia.edu.

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