

Patients at least 18 years of age with at least one AF diagnosis during study period  
(January 1, 1993 to December 31, 2008)  
(n = 116,288)

**Exclusions:**

- AF diagnosis before cohort entry (n = 41,970)
- No follow-up data (n = 510)
- Date problems (n = 716)

Patients with incident AF  
(n = 73,092)

**Exclusions:**

- Indication of mitral or aortic valve repair/replacement (n = 1258)
- Hyperthyroidism (treatment or diagnosis) (n = 1068)

Study cohort  
(n = 70,766)