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)