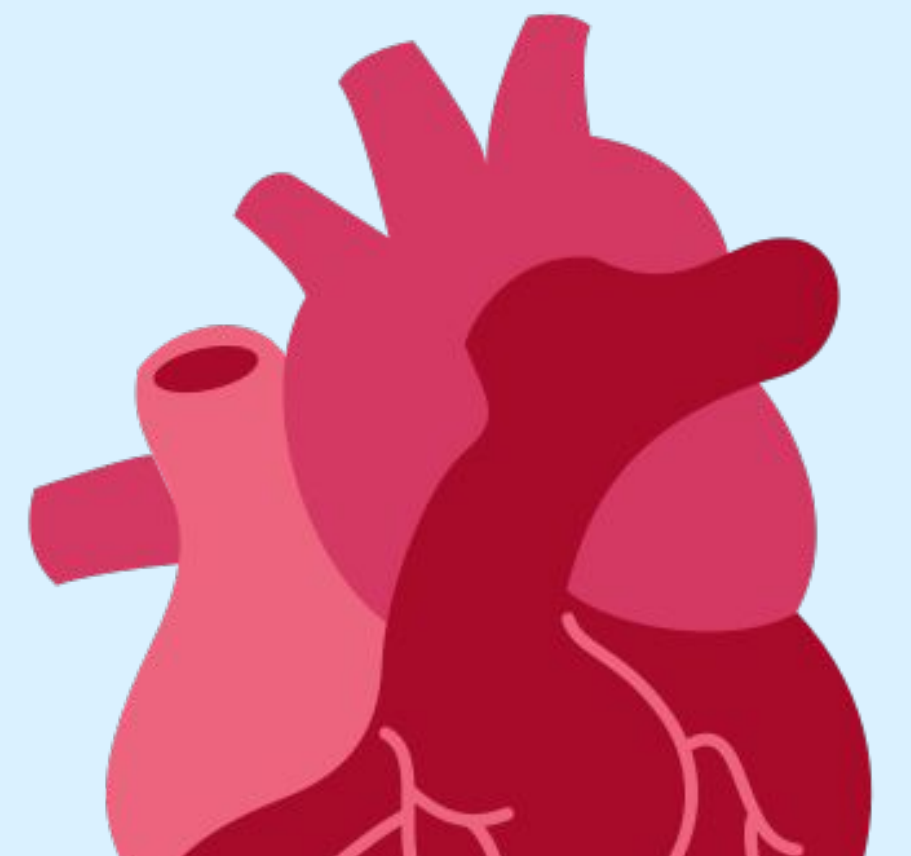
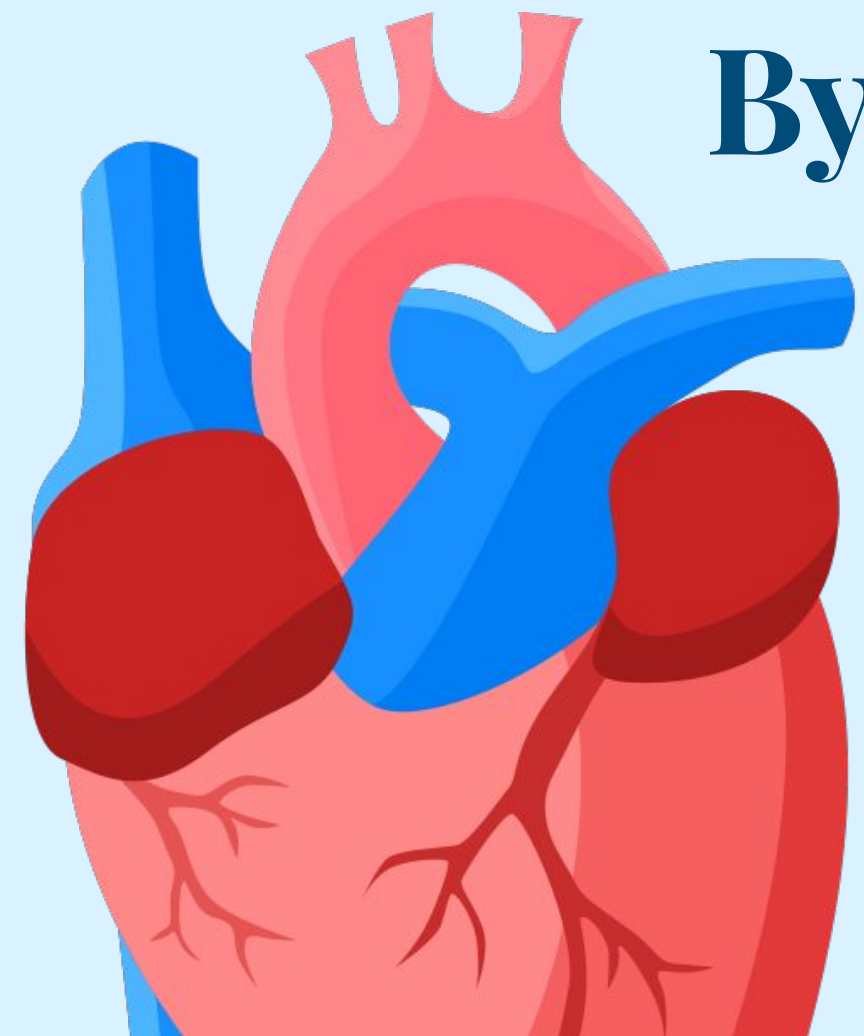
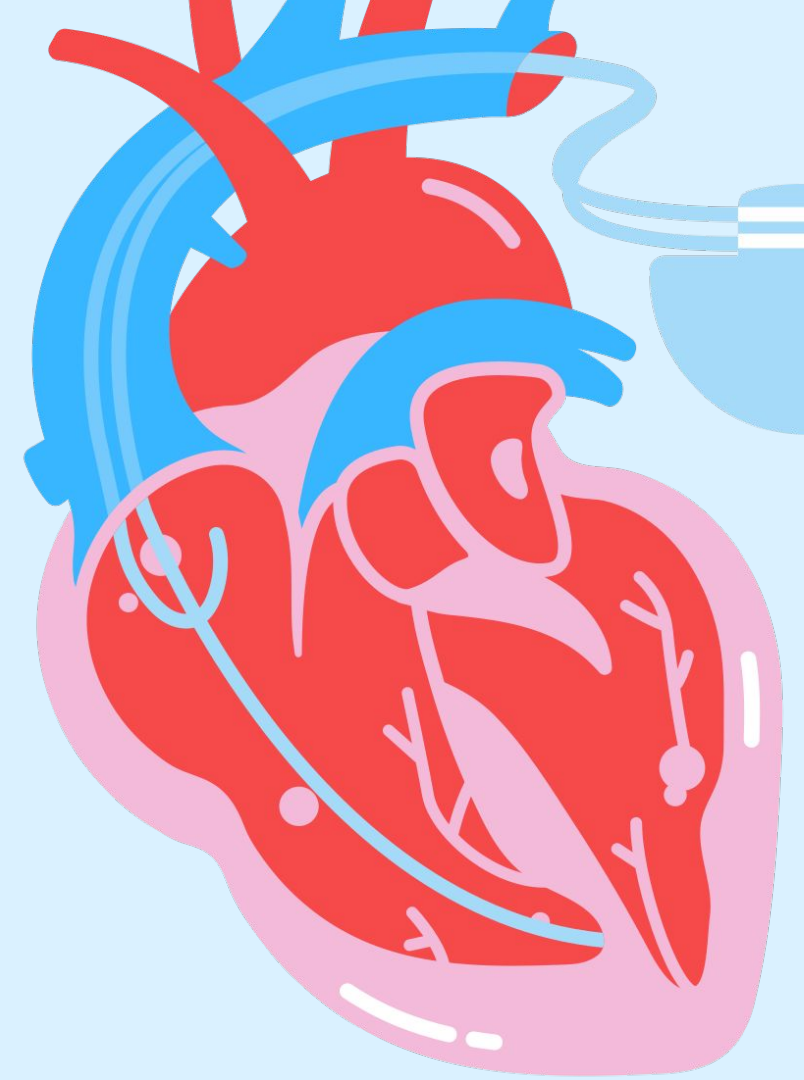
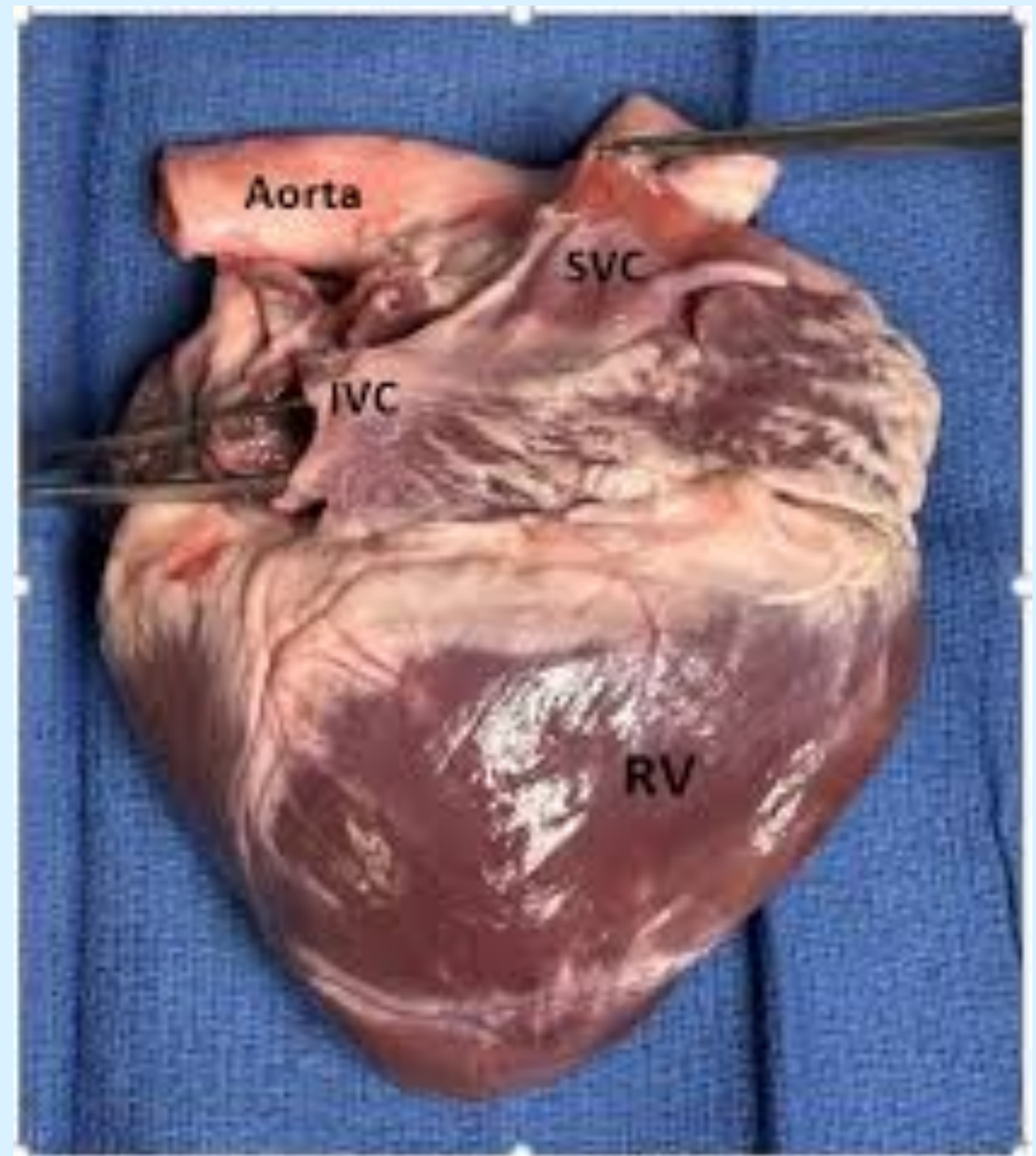
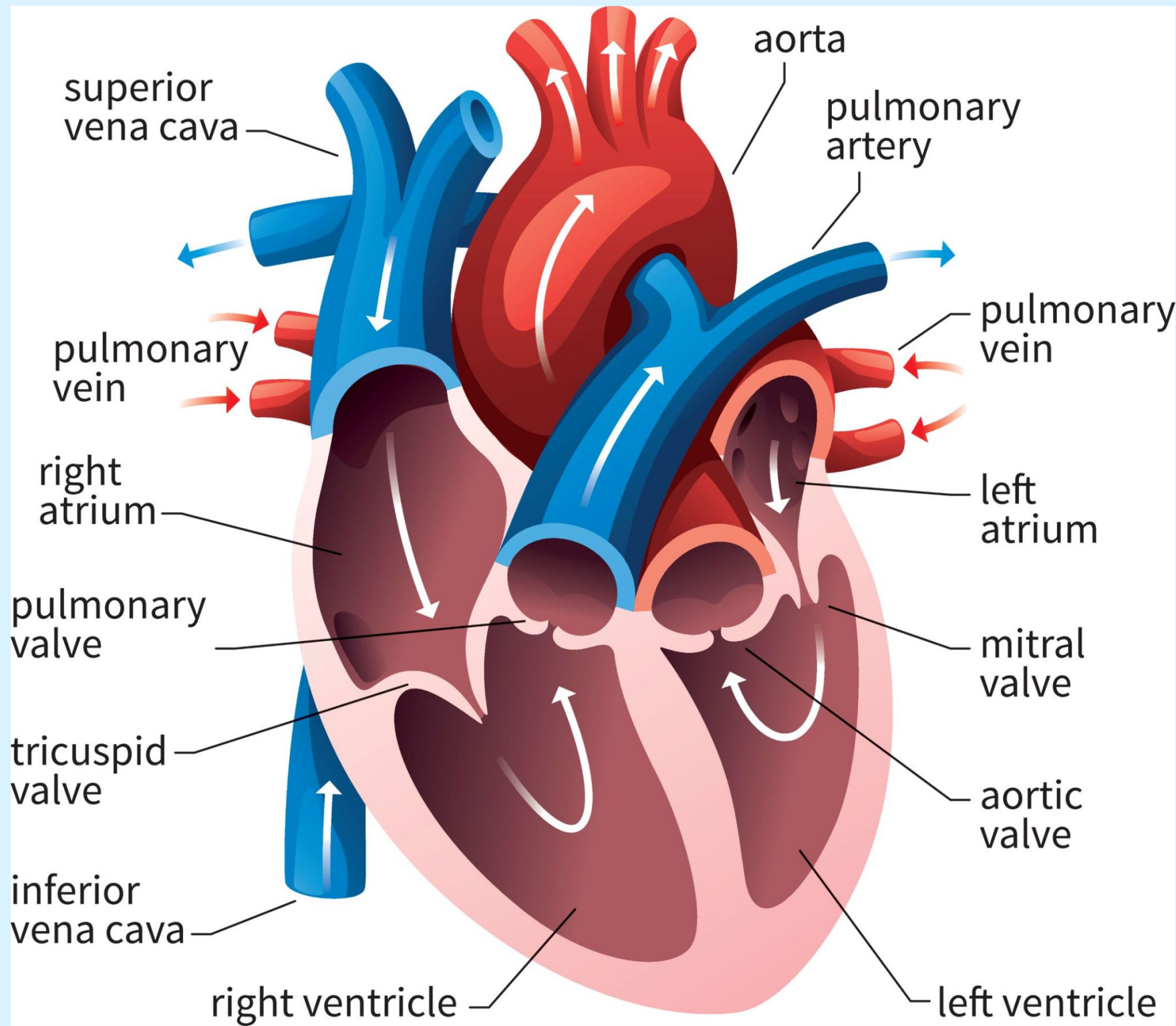
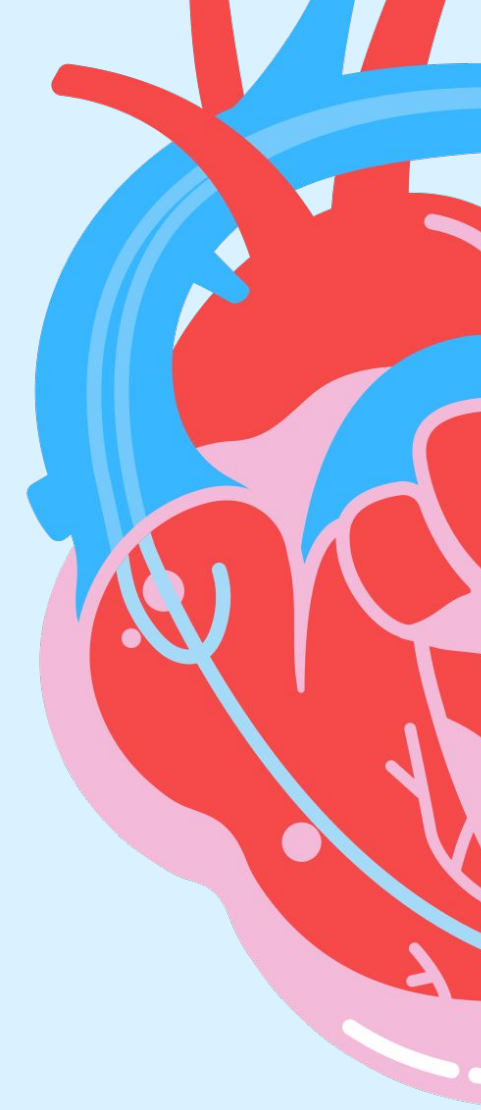
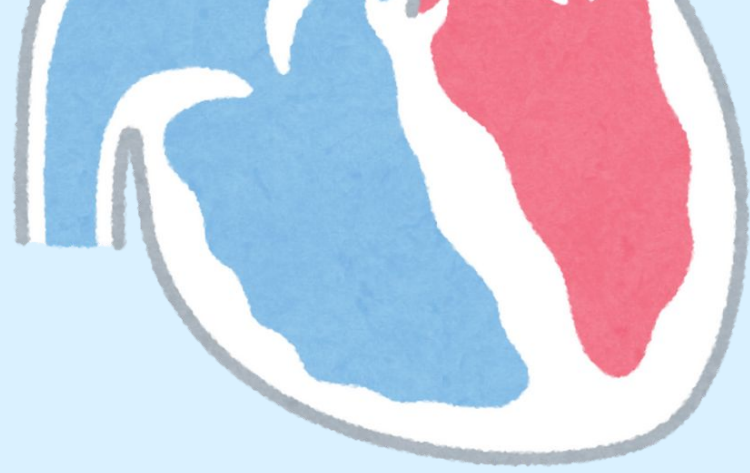
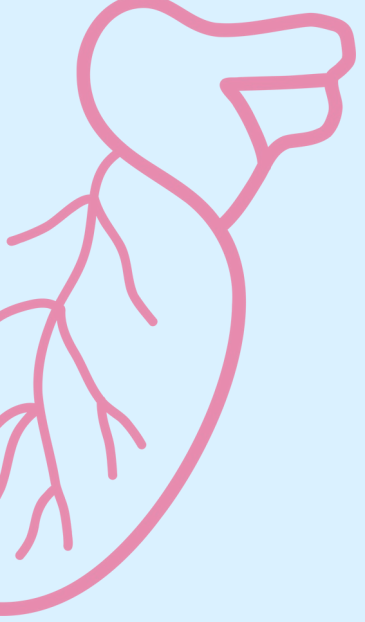


# Cardiovascular Emergencies

**By: Marisa Carillo and Lakshita Kutnikar**

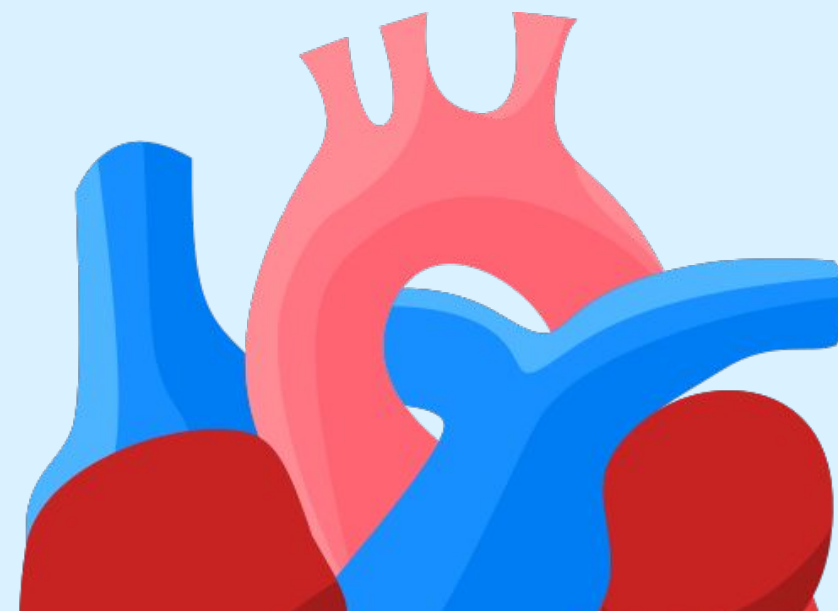






**01**

# Circulation



# Circulation

## **Movement of blood through the heart and body**

### **Function:**

- Delivers O<sub>2</sub> & nutrients
- Removes CO<sub>2</sub> & wastes

### **Pathway:**

inf/sup vena cava » right atrium » tricuspid valve » right ventricle » pulmonary artery » lungs » pulmonary vein » left ventricle » bicuspid valve » left atrium » aorta

# Blood Vessels

**Arteries** - carry blood away from the heart

**Arterioles** - small arteries that regulate blood flow to tissues

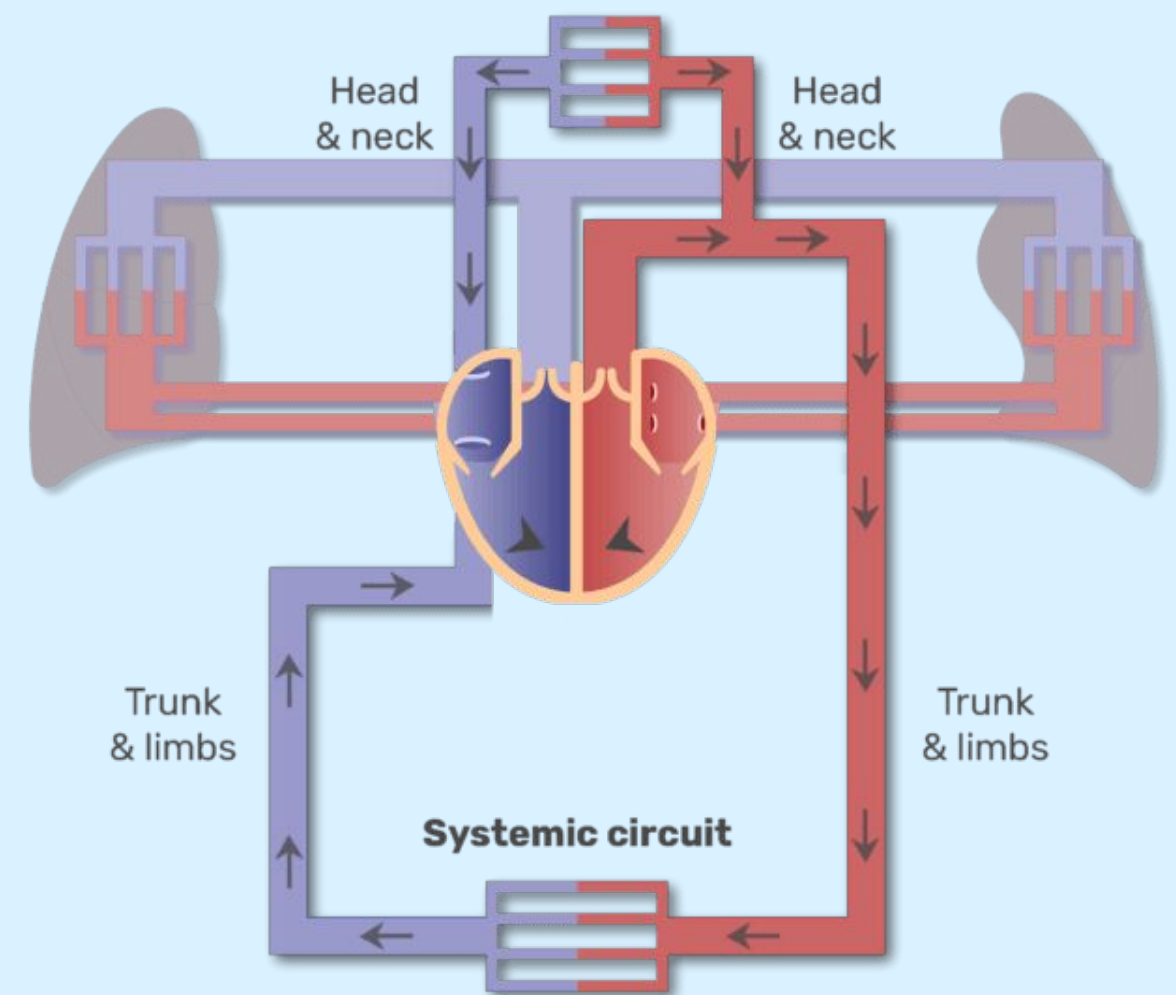
**Capillaries** - tiny vessels where gas & nutrient exchange occurs

**Venules** - collect blood from capillaries

**Veins** - return blood to the heart

## ***Flow:***

Arteries ➤ Arterioles ➤ Capillaries ➤ Venules ➤ Veins





# Electrical Pathways

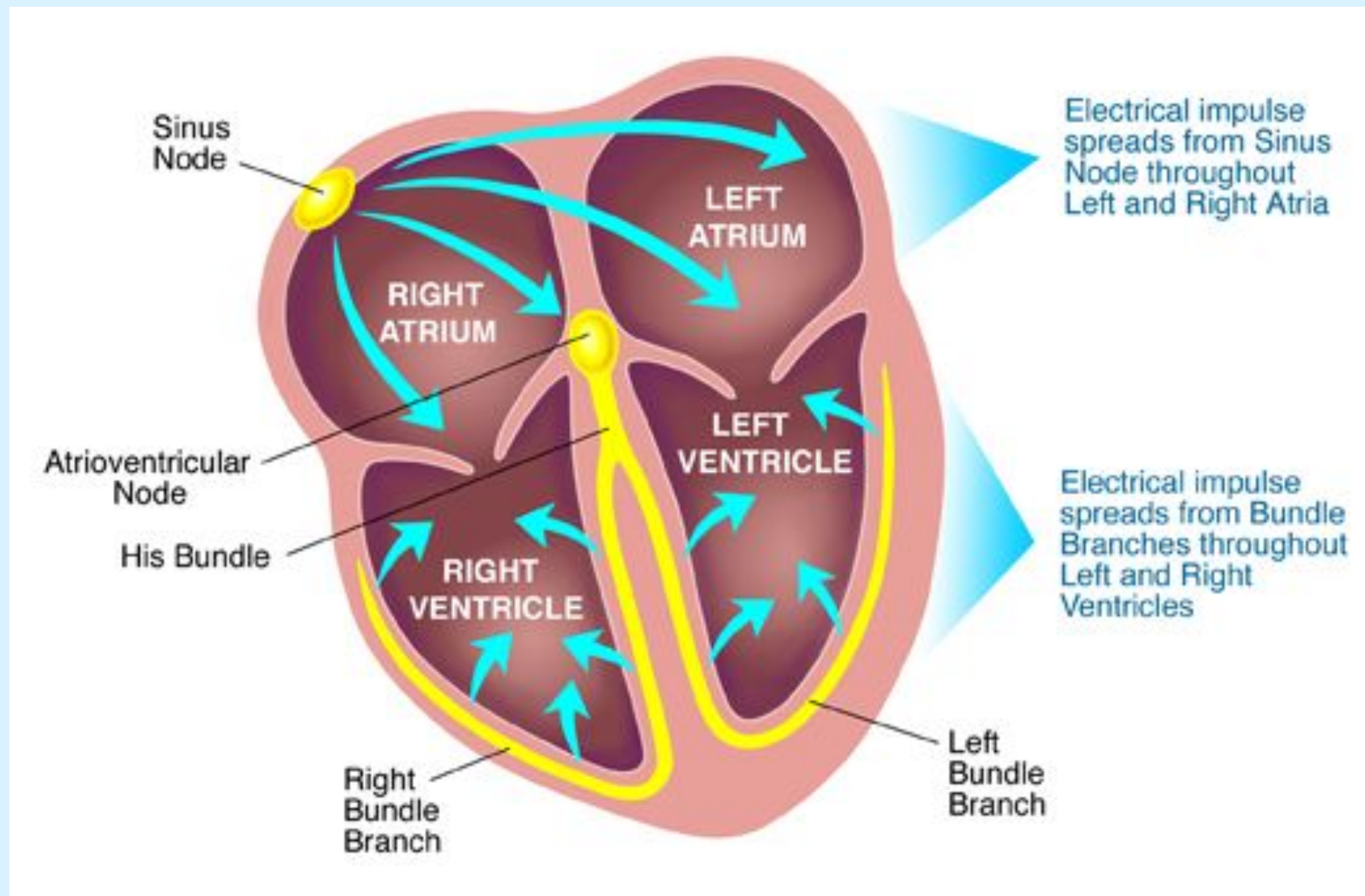
**Controls the heartbeat by coordinating contraction**

## **Pathway:**

SA node » AV node » Bundle of His » Right & Left bundle branches » Purkinje fibers

## **Result:**

Atria contract » Ventricles contract





02

# Common Emergencies

# Vital Signs

## **Normal Adult Vitals**

Heart rate: 60–100 bpm

Respiratory rate: 12–20/min

Blood pressure: ~120/80 mmHg

Temperature: 36.5–37.5 °C (97.7–99.5 °F)

Oxygen saturation: 95–100%

## **Abnormal Vitals (Concerning)**

HR: <60 or >100 bpm

RR: <12 or >20/min

BP: very low (<90 systolic) or very high (>140 systolic)

Temp: <35 °C (95 °F) or >38 °C (100.4 °F)

SpO<sub>2</sub>: <90%

Oxygen used to be the “wonder drug” but given at the wrong time or in excess, can cause harm. Research showed that raising the oxygen levels of patients with certain conditions (e.g., heart attack and stroke) can make their condition worse.

Protocol states that anything above 94% SPO<sub>2</sub> is no oxygen!



# Cardiac Emergencies

**Acute conditions where the heart cannot pump blood effectively » can be life-threatening without rapid treatment**

## **Examples:**

- Heart attack (myocardial infarction)
- Cardiac arrest
- Dangerous arrhythmias
- Severe heart failure
- Hypertensive crisis

## **Why it matters (stats):**

- Heart disease = #1 cause of death worldwide
  - ~805,000 heart attacks/year in the U.S.
  - Cardiac arrest survival drops 7–10% per minute without CPR

# Difference Between Heart Attack and Cardiac Arrest

## Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction)

- Caused by a blocked coronary artery
- Heart muscle is damaged from lack of oxygen
- Heart usually still beating
- Person is often conscious

Symptoms: chest pain, SOB, nausea

## Cardiac Arrest

- Caused by electrical failure of the heart
- Heart stops beating effectively
- Person becomes unconscious
  - No pulse, not breathing normally
    - Requires immediate CPR & defibrillation

The slide features several decorative illustrations of hearts and blood cells. In the top left, there is a stylized heart with blue and red vessels. In the top center, there are several red blood cells of varying sizes. In the top right, a more detailed heart diagram shows internal structures. In the bottom left, there is a large, dark red heart silhouette. In the bottom right, another heart diagram shows a red mass, possibly representing a clot or tumor, within the heart's chambers.

# Relation to PEDS

- Rare
- Usually due to congenital heart defects, Kawasaki disease, or trauma

**Symptoms may be atypical (fatigue, vomiting, irritability)**

## **Cardiac Arrest in children:**

- More often caused by respiratory failure or shock (not coronary blockage)
- Common triggers:
  - Drowning
  - Choking
  - Severe asthma



# Cardiac Arrest

- Sudden electrical failure of the heart
- Heart stops pumping ⇒ no pulse, no breathing
- Immediate action needed to prevent death

## CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)

- Manual chest compressions + rescue breaths
- Maintains blood flow to brain & heart until heart restarts

## AED (Automated External Defibrillator)

- Delivers electric shock to correct lethal arrhythmias
- Works with CPR to restore normal heartbeat

# Myocardial Infarction vs Angina Pectoris



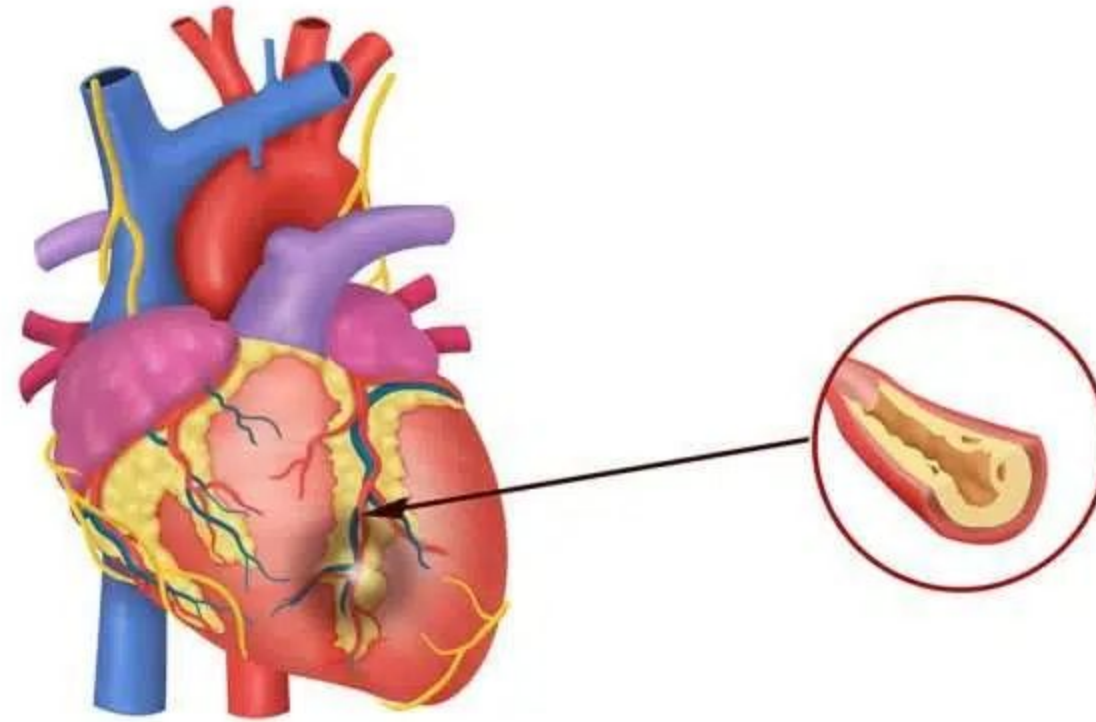
## **Myocardial Infarction (Heart Attack):**

- Caused by blocked coronary artery ➤ heart muscle damage
- Chest pain >20 min, may radiate to arm/jaw/back
- Permanent heart muscle injury
  - Symptoms: chest pain, shortness of breath, nausea, sweating, fatigue
- Elevated cardiac enzymes (troponin)
- Emergency treatment required

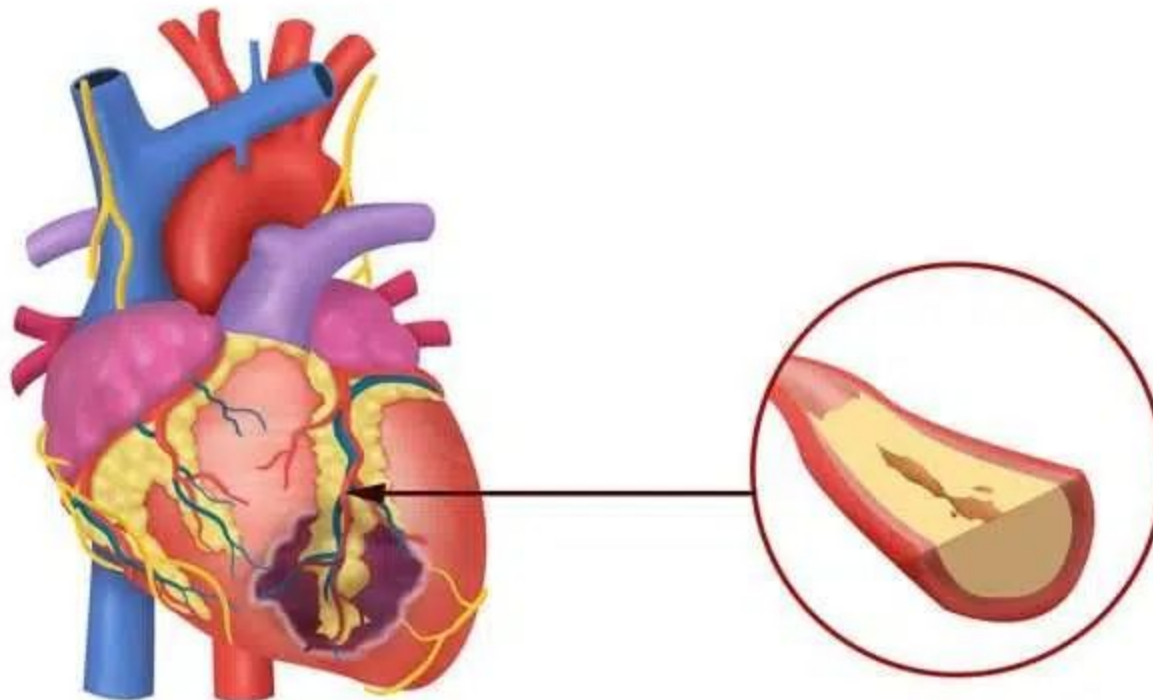
## **Angina Pectoris:**

- Caused by temporary reduced blood flow to heart
- Chest discomfort with exertion, relieved by rest
- No permanent damage
- Symptoms: chest tightness, shortness of breath with activity
- Normal cardiac enzymes
- Managed with rest, nitroglycerin, lifestyle changes

## Angina pectoris



## Myocardial infarction



# Commotio Cordis



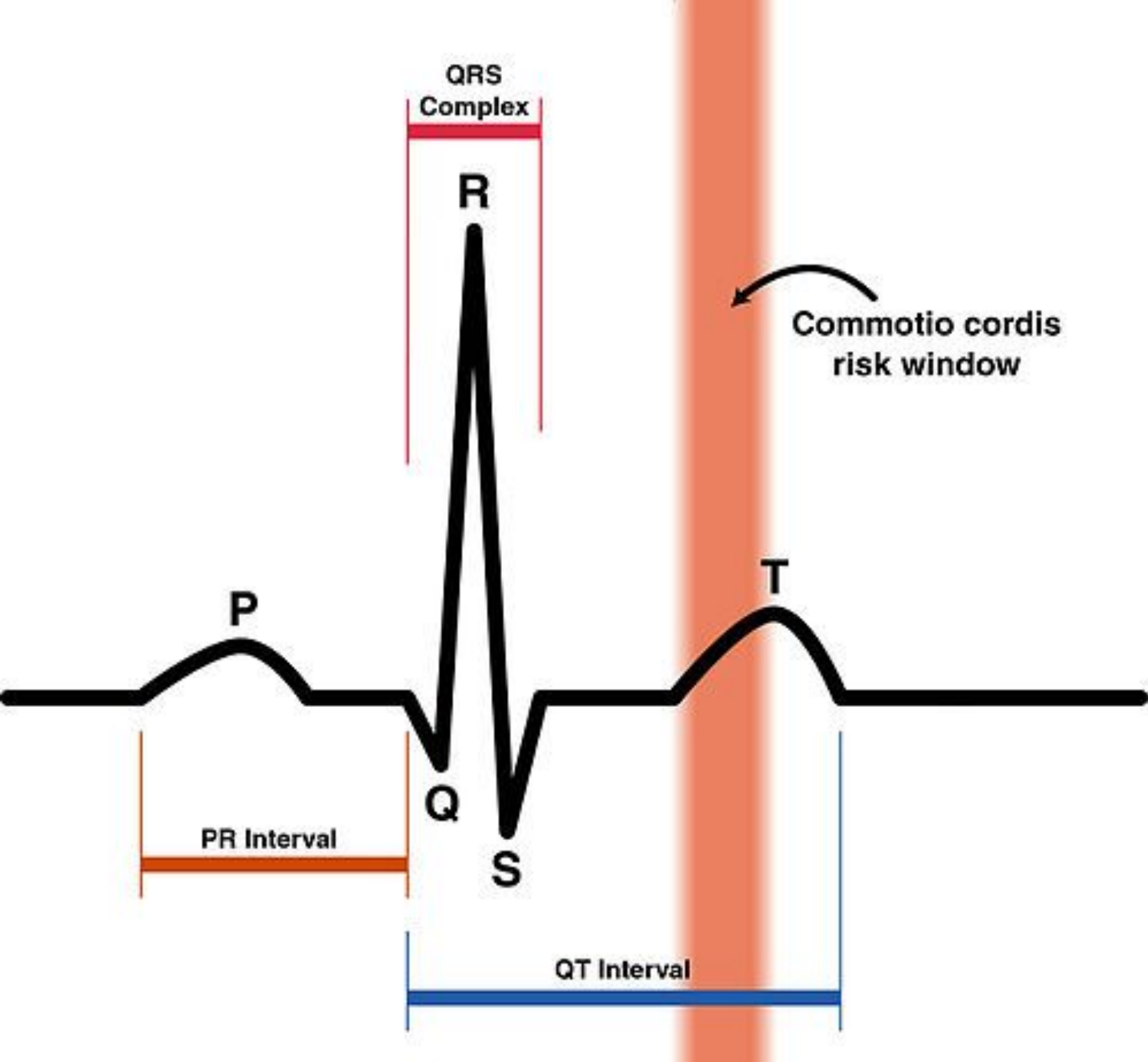
- Sudden cardiac arrest from a blunt impact to the chest
- Heart is structurally normal
- Causes: Sports injuries (football, baseball, hockey, lacrosse)
- Usually occurs during critical moment of heart cycle

## **Signs & Symptoms:**

- Sudden collapse
- No pulse
- Unconsciousness

## **Management:**

- Immediate CPR + AED
- Quick action improves survival



# Cardiac Tamponade

- Fluid buildup in the pericardial sac
- Compresses the heart
  - Lowers cardiac output

## **Causes:**

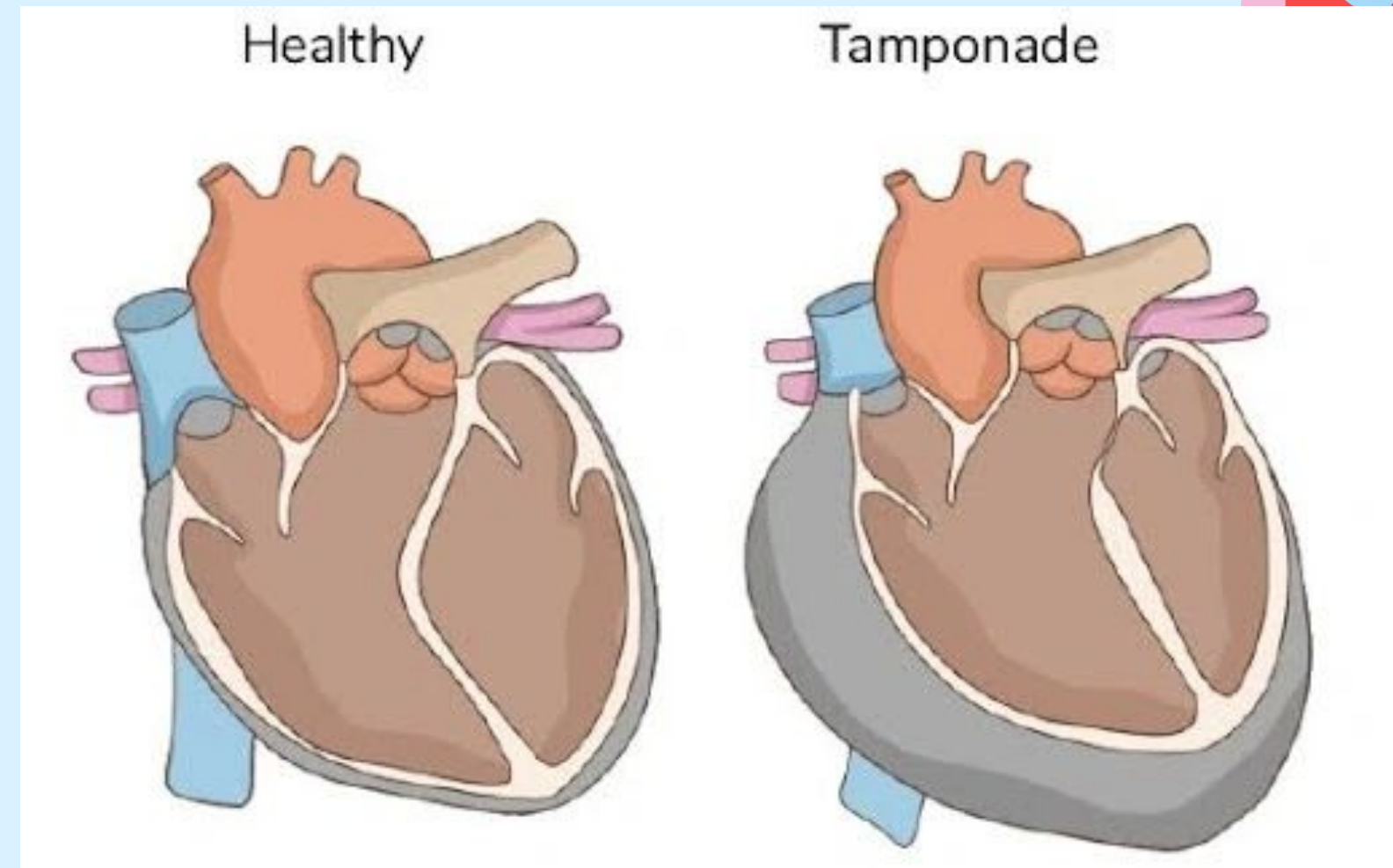
- Trauma (blunt or penetrating)
- Heart surgery complications
- Pericarditis or cancer

## **Signs & Symptoms (S/S):**

- Beck's triad:
  - Hypotension (low BP)
  - Distended neck veins (JVD)
  - Muffled heart sounds
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Rapid heartbeat
- Anxiety or restlessness

## **Management:**

- Emergency pericardiocentesis to remove fluid



# Aortic Dissection

- Tear in the aortic wall → blood leaks between layers
- Can lead to life-threatening internal bleeding

## Causes:

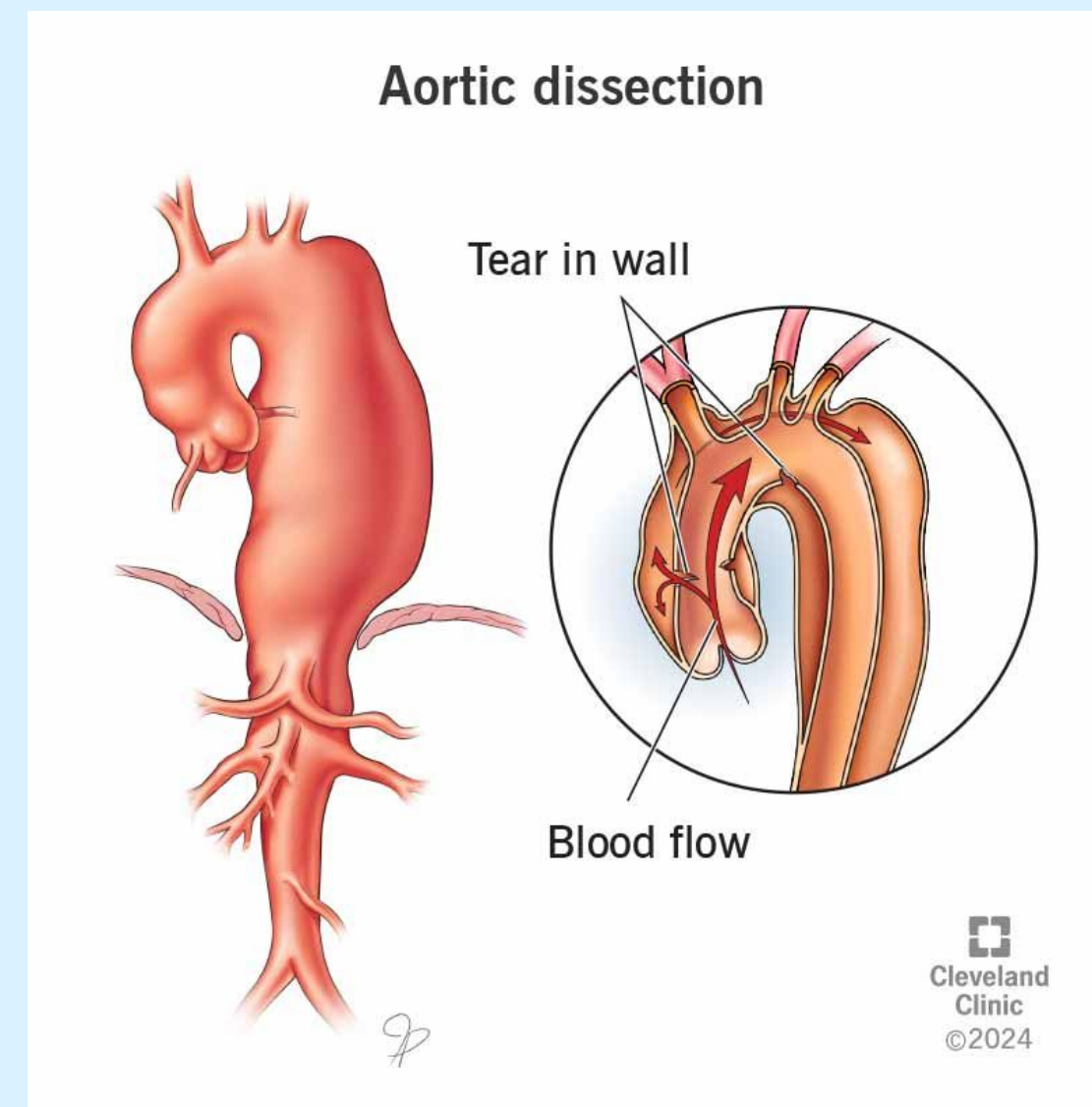
- High blood pressure (chronic)
- Connective tissue disorders (e.g., Marfan syndrome)
- Trauma

## Signs & Symptoms (S/S):

- Sudden, severe “tearing” chest or back pain
- Unequal blood pressures in arms
- Weak or absent pulse
- Shortness of breath
- Fainting or loss of consciousness
- Shock (pale, clammy skin, rapid heartbeat)

## Management:

- Emergency surgery or endovascular repair
- Blood pressure control



# Congestive Heart Failure

- Heart cannot pump blood effectively → fluid buildup in lungs & body

## Causes:

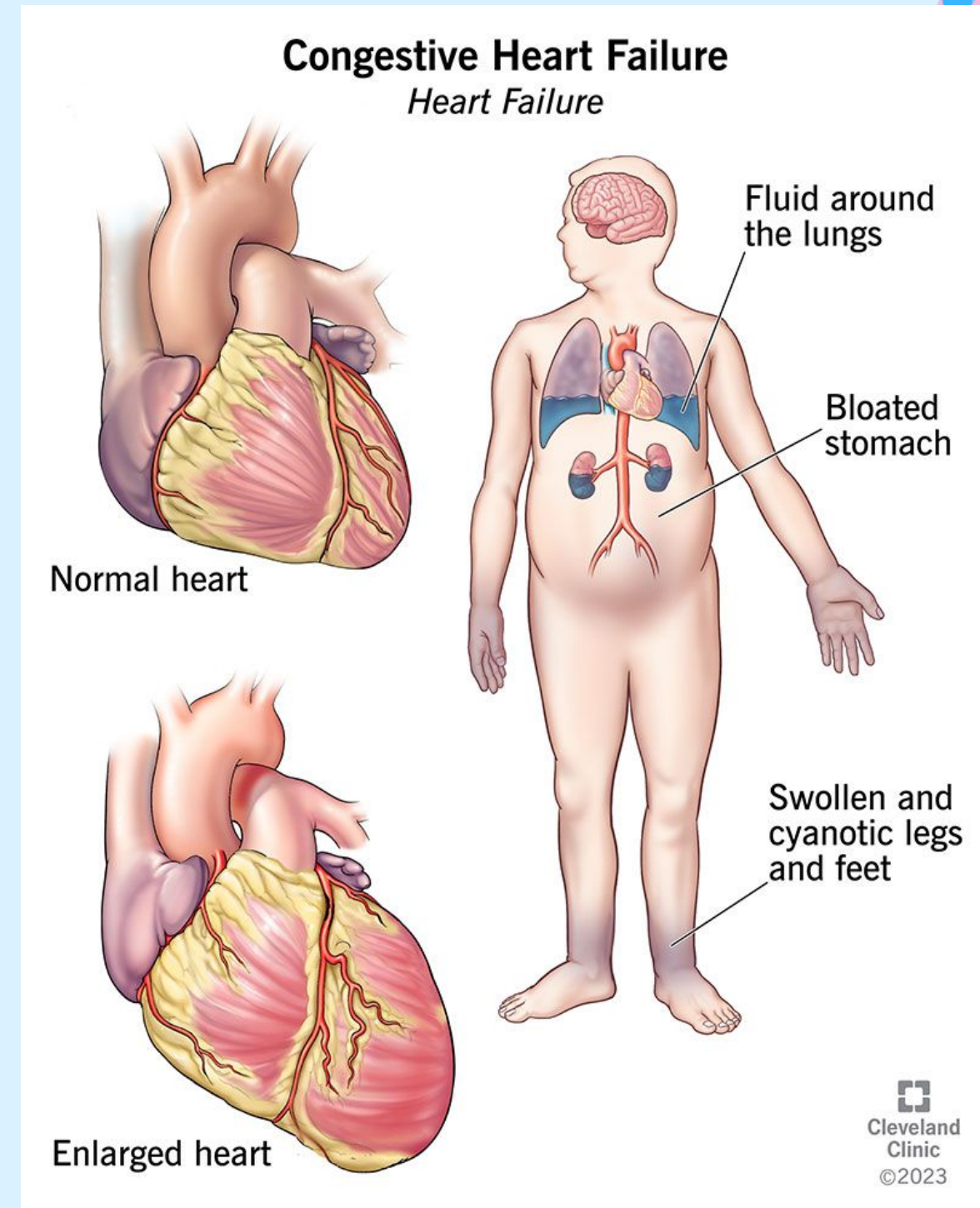
- Coronary artery disease
- Hypertension
- Heart valve problems
- Previous heart attack

## Signs & Symptoms (S/S):

- Shortness of breath (especially lying down)
- Fatigue / weakness
- Swelling in legs, ankles, feet (edema)
- Rapid weight gain (fluid retention)
- Crackles in lungs (pulmonary edema)
- Rapid heartbeat

## Management:

- Medications (diuretics, ACE inhibitors, beta-blockers)
- Lifestyle changes (low-salt diet, fluid restriction)
- Treat underlying cause





02

# Assessment & Treatment

# Assessment

## Responsive pt:

determine C/C, vital signs/ABC, SAMPLE

## Unresponsive pt:

Rapid medical assessment, vitals, SAMPLE if obtainable from bystanders/family

### Primary Assessment

- BSI Scene Safety
- ENAMES
  - MOI/NOI, # of pt, ALS
- General Impression
- AVPU/LOC
- ABC

### Secondary Assessment

- SAMPLE
- OPQRST
- PASTE
- IPA
  - lung sounds!!

# Treatment (ALCO)



- O<sub>2</sub>
  - get up to 94% SPO<sub>2</sub>
- Aspirin
  - 81-324 mg
- Nitroglycerin
  - 0.4 mg up to 0.12mg
  - Erectile Dysfunction (24 hrs):  
viagra, levitra, cialis
- CPR + Defibrillation

## CHEST PAIN - SUSPECTED CARDIAC/STEMI

- Routine Medical Care
- Signs of Shock - 2 or more of the following:
  - Pulse > 120/minute
  - BP < 90/systolic
  - Pale, cool and/or diaphoretic skin signs
  - Altered Mental Status
- If cardiac chest pain is suspected and the patient is able to swallow, give **Aspirin 162 - 324 mg po** as soon as possible (tablet or chewable – not enteric coated)
- NTG may be prioritized as needed based on patient presentation
- Perform 12-Lead ECG, as appropriate, and transport to a STEMI Receiving Center if STEMI is identified. See **page 120** - ECG 12-Lead for ECG transmission and STEMI Receiving Center information
- **Note:** If the patient has taken **erectile dysfunction (ED) medication within the last 24 hours (Viagra/Levitra) or 36 hours (Cialis), withhold nitroglycerin**

Patients who have oxygen saturations of greater than 94% without signs or symptoms of hypoxia or impending airway compromise should not receive oxygen.

Monitor  
Assess ABC's  
**O<sub>2</sub> – titrate to 94-99%**  
**Aspirin 162-324 mg**  
**IV/IO NS**

12-lead EKG

**\* NTG 0.4 mg**  
up to 3 doses, q 3-5 minutes for continuing pain/discomfort

If unresponsive to nitrates:  
**Pain Management**  
(see **page 42**)

(^^see note)

**^^ Note:** If **B/P** drops below 90 systolic or drops > 30 mm/Hg from baseline at any point; or, **heart rate** is < 50 or > 120 bpm, **contact the base physician** before administering/continuing NTG and/or Pain Management

STEMI?

Yes

No

Transmit EKG to STEMI Receiving Center (SRC) (see **page 118**)

Transport to SRC

Establish 2<sup>nd</sup> IV en-route

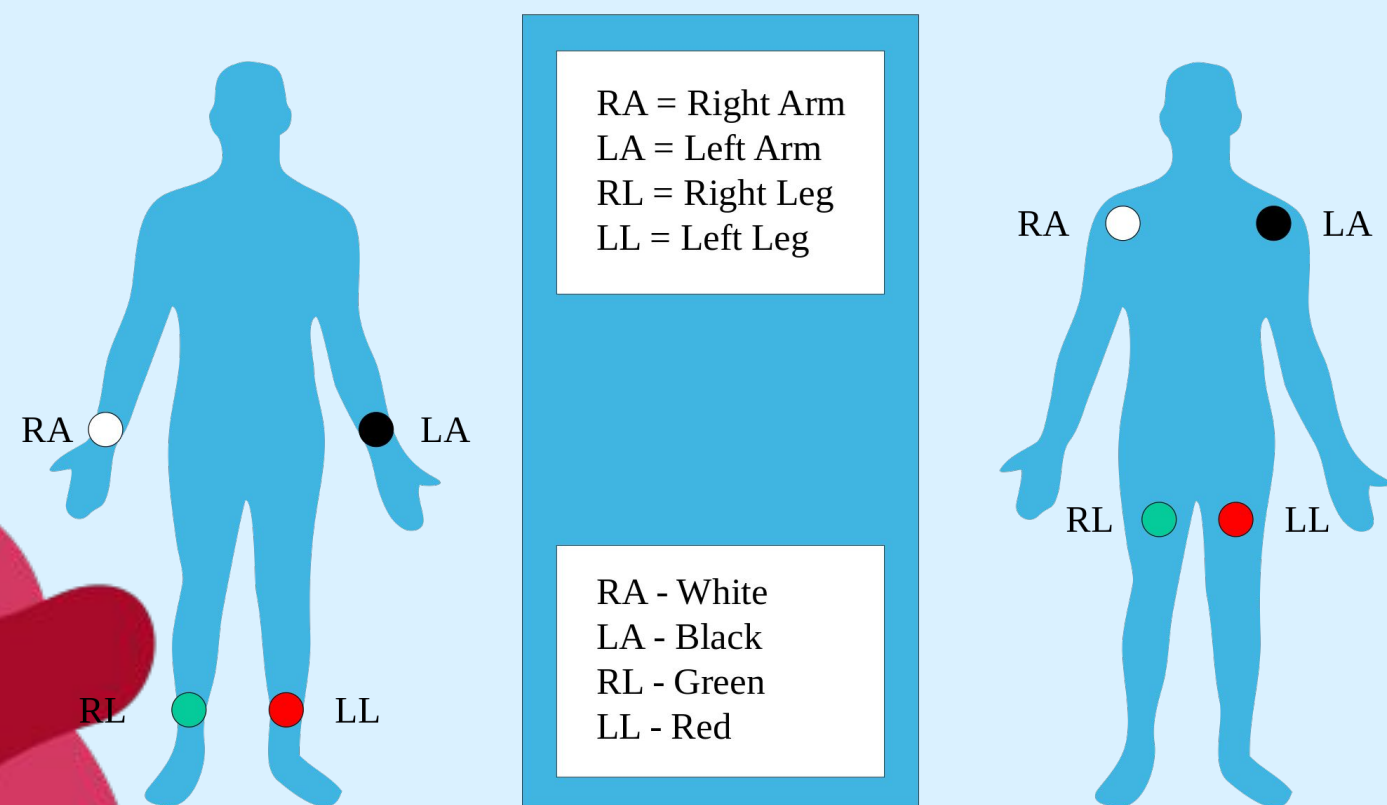
Do not delay transport if technical difficulties impede EKG transmission. Attempt to send en-route whenever possible.

If cardiogenic shock, tachycardia, or life threatening dysrhythmia go to appropriate policy

# ALCO Protocol

# Electrocardiogram(EKG)

## How do we do EKGs?



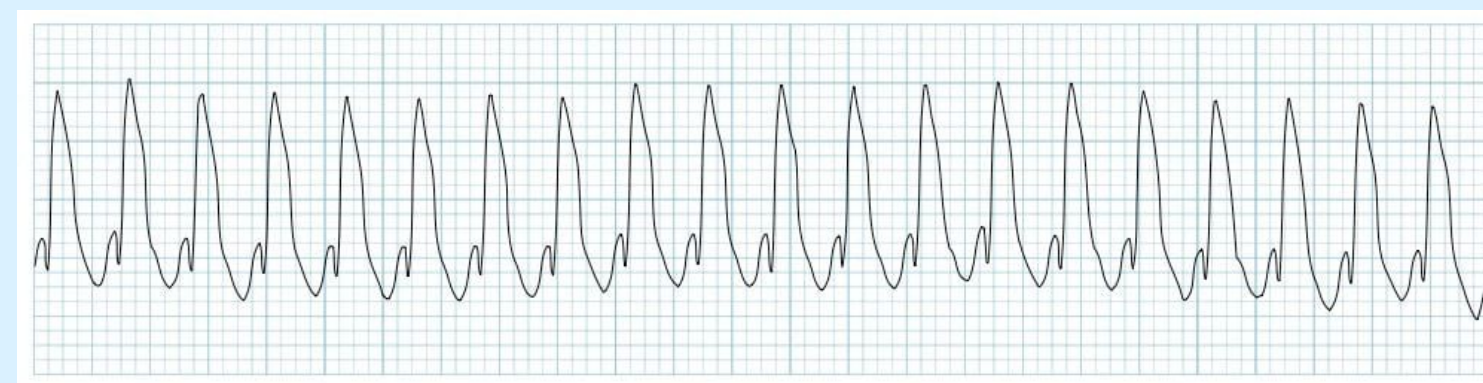
sky over grass...smoke over fire!!

## Abnormal EKGs!!

V-Fib



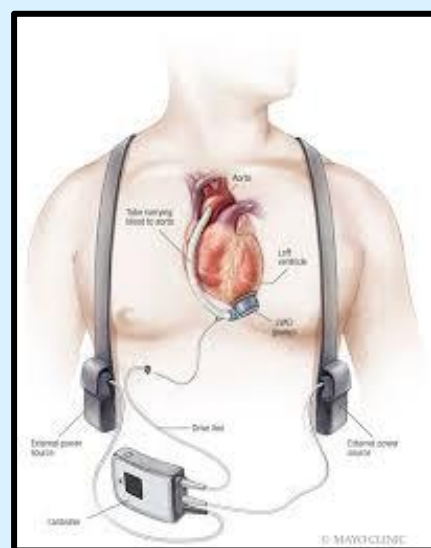
V-Tach



# VADs, ICDs, & Pacemakers

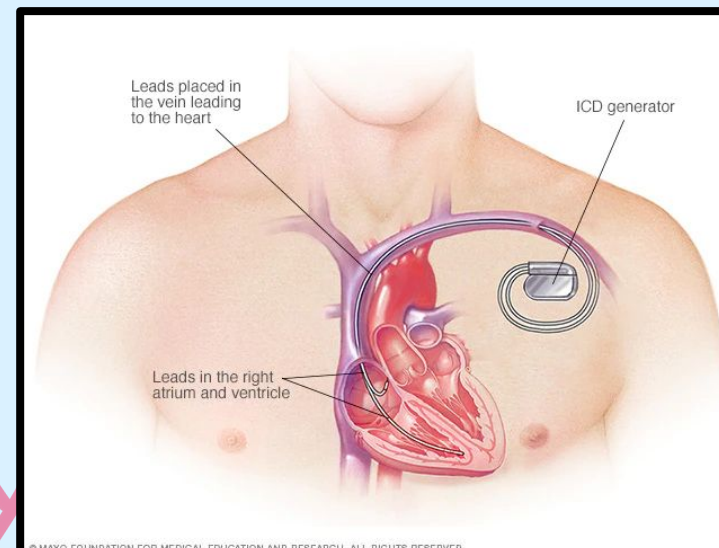
## VADs

mechanical heart pumps for severe heart failure. Most common are LVADs. Long term in some cases, and sometimes for bridging recovery time/transplants.



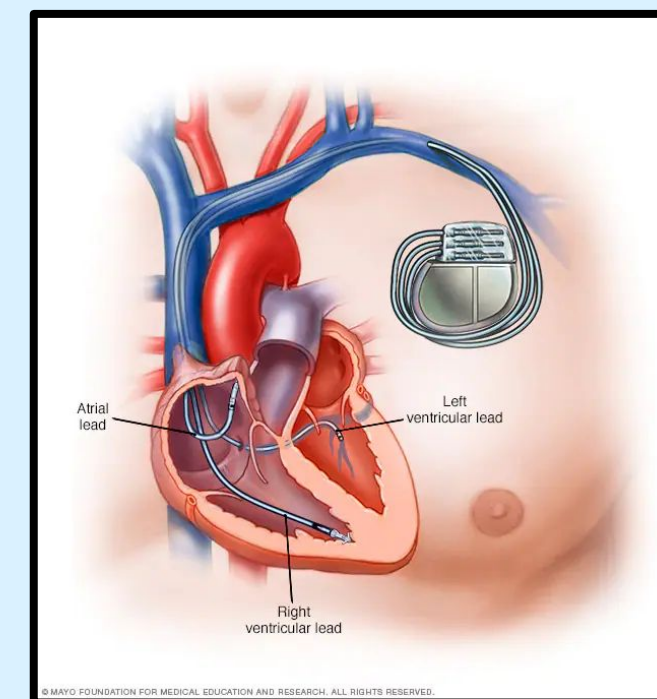
## ICD

detects abnormal heartbeat and returns it to normal heartbeat by either sending **electrical signals/defibrillating** (pacemaker x AED)



## Pacemakers

sends electrical pulses to assist heart in beating at regular **rhythms/rate**

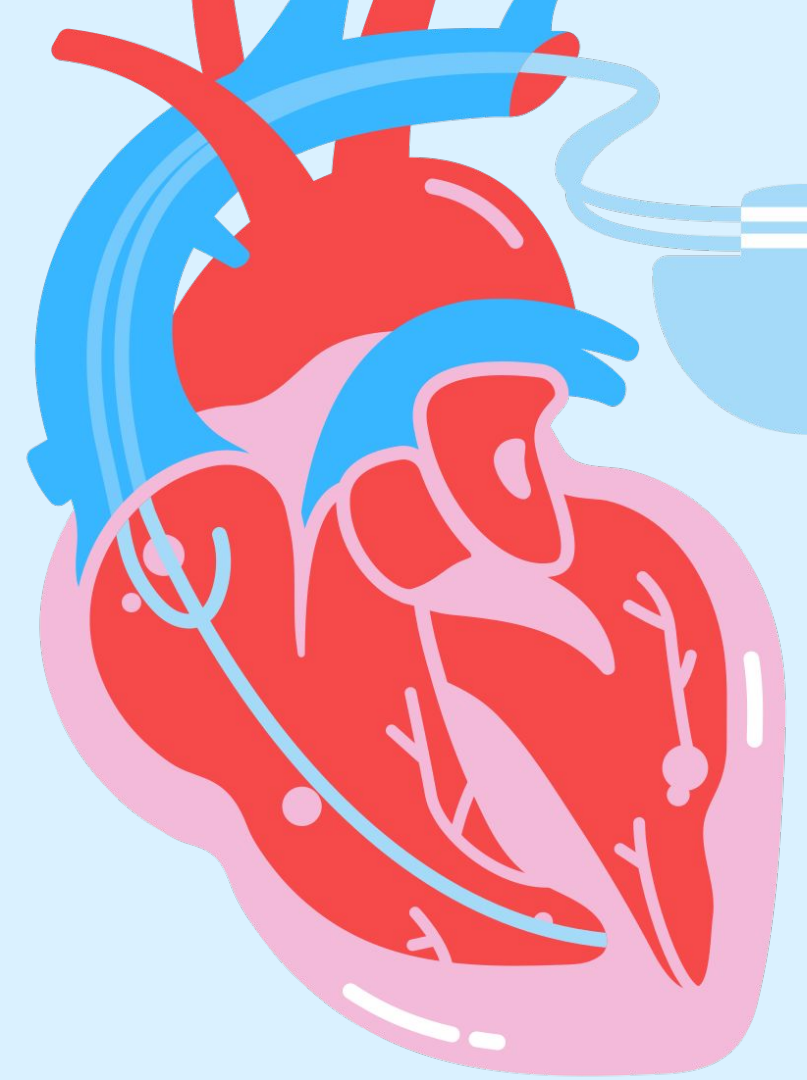


# STEMI CENTERS

TRAUMA CENTER	PEDIATRIC CAPABLE	LOCATION	PHONE #
STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	X	PALO ALTO	(650) 723-7337
SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL		SAN FRANCISCO	(415) 206-8111
REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER		SAN JOSE	(408) 729-2841
SANTA CLARA VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER	X	SAN JOSE	(408) 885-6912
JOHN MUIR MEDICAL CENTER		WALNUT CREEK	(925) 947-4444
SAN JOAQUIN GENERAL		FRENCH CAMP	(209) 982-1975

STEMI Centers	ED Phone Number
Kaiser Walnut Creek (Out of County)	(925) 939-1788
Kaiser Fremont	(510) 248-5011
Kaiser Oakland	(510) 752-8869
Alameda County Medical Center - Highland	(510) 535-6000
San Ramon Medical Center (Out of County)	(925) 275-8338
St. Rose Hospital	(510) 264-4251
Summit Medical Center	(510) 869-8797
Valley Care Medical Center	(925) 416-6518
Washington Hospital	(510) 608-1367

VAD CENTER	24-HOUR HOTLINE
Stanford Hospital and Clinics Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford*	650-723-6661 (ask operator to page the VAD Coordinator-pager code #12502)
California Pacific Medical Center	415-600-1051
UC San Francisco	415-443-5823 (pager number)
Kaiser Santa Clara	408-851-3750
*Stanford Hospital and Clinics & Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford share the same VAD Coordinators	



Thank You

