



Cardiovascular System

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Terminology

Acute coronary syndrome (ACS): Cardiopulmonary

Anastomosis: Surgical connection of two tubular structures, such as two pieces of the intestine

Aneurysm: Abnormal dilation of vessels, usually an artery

Angina: Spasmodic, choking, or suffocative pain

Angiography: Radiography of blood vessels

Angioplasty: Procedure in a vessel to dilate vessel opening

Atherectomy: Removal of plaque from an artery (can be done by a percutaneous or open procedure)

Auscultation: Listening for sounds within the body

Bundle of His: Muscular cardiac fibers that provide heart rhythm to ventricles

Bypass: To go around

Cardiopulmonary bypass: Blood bypasses heart through a heart-lung machine

Circumflex: A coronary artery that circles heart

Cutdown: Incision into a vessel for placement of a catheter

Edema: Swelling due to abnormal fluid collection in tissue spaces



Electrode: Lead attached to a generator that carries electric current from the generator to atria or ventricles

Electrophysiology: Study of electrical system of heart, including study of arrhythmias

Embolectomy: Removal of blockage (embolism) from vessel

Endarterectomy: Incision into an artery to remove inner lining

Epicardial: Over heart

False aneurysm: Sac of clotted blood that has completely destroyed vessel and is being contained by tissue that surrounds vessel

Fistula: Abnormal opening from one area to another area or to outside of the body

Hematoma: Mass of blood that forms outside vessel

Hemolysis: Breakdown of red blood cells

Hypoxemia: Low level of oxygen in blood

Hypoxia: Low level of oxygen in tissue

Implantable defibrillator: Surgically placed or wearable device that directs an electric shock to the heart to restore rhythm

Intracardiac: Inside heart

Invasive: Entering body, breaking skin

Noninvasive: Not entering body, not breaking skin

Nuclear cardiology: Diagnostic specialty that uses radiologic procedures to aid in diagnosis of cardiologic conditions

Order: Shows subordination of one thing to another; family or class

Pericardiocentesis: Procedure in which a surgeon withdraws fluid from pericardial space by means of a needle inserted transvenously percutaneously

Pericardium: Membranous sac enclosing heart and ends of great vessels

Swan-Ganz catheter: A catheter that measures pressure in right side of heart and in pulmonary artery

Thoracostomy: Incision into chest wall and insertion of a chest tube

Thromboendarterectomy: Removal of thrombus and atherosclerotic lining from an artery (percutaneous or open procedure)

Suffixes

-dilation: widening, expanding

-emia: blood

-graphy: recording process

-lysis: separation

-megaly: enlargement

-oma: tumor

-osis: condition

-plasty: repair

-sclerosis: hardening

-stenosis: blockage, narrowing

-tomy: cutting, incision

Prefixes

a-: not

an-: not

bi-: two

brady-: slow

de-:

dys-: lack of, bad, difficult, painful

endo-:

hyper-: over

hypo-: under

inter-: between

intra-: within

meta-: change, after

peri-: surrounding

tachy-: fast

tetra-: four

tri-: three

angi/o: vessel

aort/o: aorta

ather/o: yellow plaque (fat)

arter/o: artery

arteri/o: artery

atri/o: atrium

brachi/o: arm

cardi/o: heart

cholesterol/o: cholesterol

coron/o: heart

cyan/o: blue

my/o, muscul/o: muscle

myx/o: mucus

ox/o: oxygen

pericardi/o: pericardium

phleb/o: vein

sphygm/o: pulse

steth/o: chest

thromb/o: clot

valv/o: valve

valvul/o: valve

vascul/o: vessel

vas/o: vessel

ven/o: vein

ventricul/o: ventricle

