How the Heart Works





Heart Video





Summarizing What We Have Seen.....

- The heart is a pump that circulates blood.
- It moves oxygenated blood to the organs where the oxygen is exchanged for carbon dioxide.
 Remember! The heart is an organ that functions in the same way.
- It moves the blood containing carbon dioxide to the lung where it is scrubbed and carbon dioxide is replaced by oxygen.
- Finally this clean blood (with oxygen) comes back to the heart which pushes it back to the organs.





The Heart Must Work Like 2 Pumps





The Heart





Phases of Contraction



Relaxed state ("Diastole")



Contracted state ("Systole")







Heart Valves





Valves

What Happens In The Organs (1)









What Happens in the Organs (2)





What Happens In The Lungs





Is the Heart a Muscle?

The heart wall is made up of three layers: the inner endocardium, middle myocardium and outer epicardium. These are surrounded by a double-membraned sac called the pericardium.





Is the Heart a Muscle?



"Myocardium" is the cardiac muscle– a layer of striated muscle tissues surrounded by a framework of collagen. The myocardium is also supplied with blood vessels, and nerve fibers by way of the epicardium.

Cardiac muscle tissue has autorhythmicity - a unique ability to initiate a cardiac action potential– spreading the impulse rapidly from cell to cell to trigger the contraction of the entire heart. This autorhythmicity is still modulated by the endocrine and nervous systems.



Types of Muscle Cells





Types of Cardiac Muscle Cells

There are two types of cardiac muscle cell: 1) Cardiomyocytes contract easily, make up the bulk (99%) of cells in the atria and ventricles. These contractile cells respond to impulses of from the 2) pacemaker cells.





Pacemaker Cells

Pacemaker cells comprise just 1% of myocytes and form the conduction system of the heart. They are generally much smaller than the contractile cells and have limited contractibility. Their function is similar in many respects to neurons.





What Makes the Heart Beat?

A normal heart beat is triggered by a small pulse of electric current initiated in the SA Node. This tiny electric shock spreads downward and cause the heart muscle to contract.

If the whole heart muscle contracted at the same time, there would be no pumping effect. The electrical activity starts at the top, spreads down and then up again, enabling the heart to contract and pump blood in a rhythmic fashion.





Types of Cardiac Cells



The Heart is a Very Special Muscle

A heart attack implies some of the heart muscle (myocardium) has died (infarcted).





Cardiac Hypertrophy

As with skeletal muscles the heart can increase in size and efficiency with exercise

Endurance athletes (such as marathon runners may have a heart that has increased in size by up to 40%.



Normal

Cells in the heart wall are stacked like bricks, allowing an electrical signal to smoothly sweep across the muscle and regulate beats.

Left atrium Left ventricle Heart wall



Heart wall cells



Athlete normal Heart chambers may enlarge and the heart wall thicken, but cells retain normal structure. EKGs may flag as abnormal.





Cardiac Hypertrophy

Hearts overworked by pumping against elevated pressures also "hypertrophy" and enlarge.





LV Hypertrophy



RV Hypertrophy



Dilated Cardiomyopathy





Heart Covering



The **pericardium** is a double-walled sac containing the <u>heart</u> and the roots of the <u>great vessels</u>. The pericardial sac has two layers, a serous layer and a fibrous layer. It encloses the pericardial cavity which contains <u>pericardial fluid</u>.

The pericardium fixes the heart to the <u>mediastinum</u>, gives protection against infection, and provides the lubrication for the heart.



Coronary Arteries







Right coronary artery (RCA)

supplies blood to the right atrium, right ventricle, bottom portion of the left ventricle and back of the septum





So What Could Possibly Go Wrong?



ACRAMENTO