



**Vascular pathology atherosclerosis,
hypertension, vasculitis.**

The image is a medical illustration of the human circulatory system. In the foreground, a large red artery is shown in cross-section, revealing a significant buildup of yellowish, bumpy atherosclerotic plaque on its inner wall, which narrows the lumen. Red blood cells are visible in the remaining space. In the background, a human torso is shown with the heart and a network of blue veins and red arteries. A coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) is visible, consisting of a yellowish vessel that has been surgically connected to the heart's coronary arteries to bypass a blocked section.

Vascular pathology atherosclerosis, hypertension, vasculitis

I. Microspecimens:

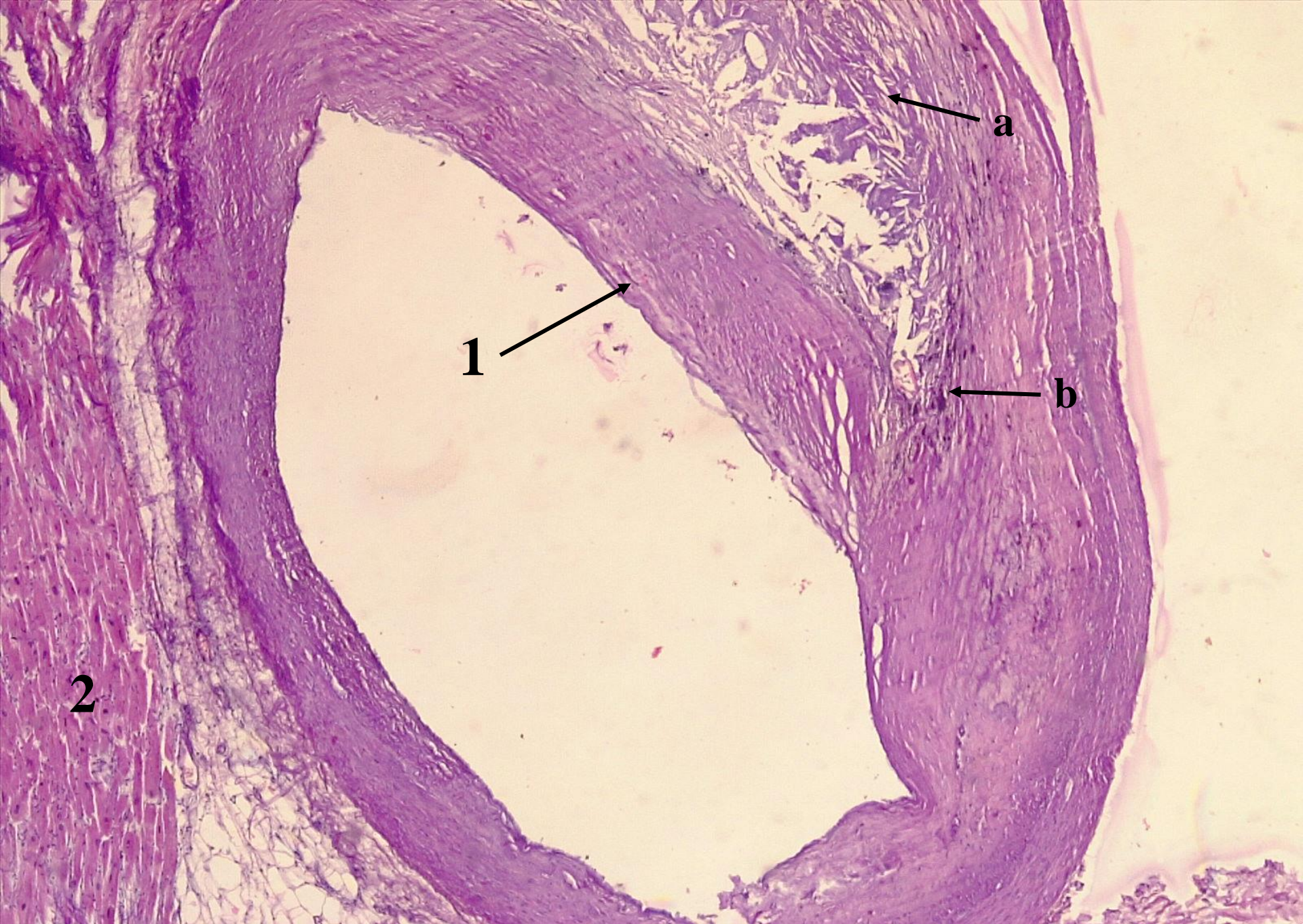
№ 155. Stenosing coronary atherosclerosis. (*H-E stain*).

Indications:

1. Stenosing atherosclerotic plaque in the artery wall.
 - a. cholesterol crystals;
 - b. calcium deposits.
2. Adjacent heart muscle.

Cross section through the subepicardial coronary artery with the underlying myocardium. Grossly, it can be seen that the wall of the artery is unevenly thickened, the lumen stenotic, in some parts blue-violet calcium deposits. Atherosclerotic plaque - focal, eccentric thickening of the wall, separated from the lumen of the vessel by the fibrous capsule - a thick, dense layer of collagen fibers with diffuse hyaline, stained homogeneous eosinophil; in the center of the plate deposits of optically empty aciculate crystals empty of cholesterol, amorphous masses of lipids and weakly eosinophilic tissue detritus, around foam cells, fibrosis, granular deposits of calcium, lymphocytes, plasma cells. Myocardium with normal structure.

Atherosclerosis is manifested morphologically by the appearance in the arteries of large and medium caliber of focal thickening, dense of the intima, which stenoses the lumen, called atherosclerotic plaques, fibrous plaques, fibrolipids or atheromas. Microscopically the atheroma has the following structure: the luminal surface is covered by the fibrous capsule, made up of collagen fibers with diffuse hyaline, under the capsule the center or necrotic nucleus formed by necrotic residues, intra- and extracellular lipids (especially cholesterol and cholesterol esters), cells foamy (macrophages and smooth muscle cells, containing lipids), collagen, fragments of disintegrated elastic fibers, fibrin and other plasma proteins, macrophages, lymphocytes, calcium salts. At the periphery of the atheroma, neovascularization processes (neof ormation of blood vessels) are revealed. Deeper than the necrotic center is the atrophied and fibrous middle sheath. These components of the atheroma can be in different proportions. In "stable" atheromas, the fibrous capsule is thickened, dense, the necrotic center and inflammation are pronounced, the fibrosis process predominates. In "unstable", "vulnerable" atheromas, the capsule is thin, fine, the necrotic center rich in lipids, active inflammation, the plaques being susceptible to erosions, ulcerations, thrombosis, hemorrhages, which leads to acute ischemia of the tributary areas of the vessel. In coronary artery atherosclerosis stenosis leads to chronic ischemia and diffuse cardiosclerosis, and acute ischemia - to myocardial infarction.



№ 155. Stenosing coronary atherosclerosis. (H-E stain).

№ 67. Atherosclerotic microfocal cardiosclerosis. (*picrofucsin, van Gieson stain*).

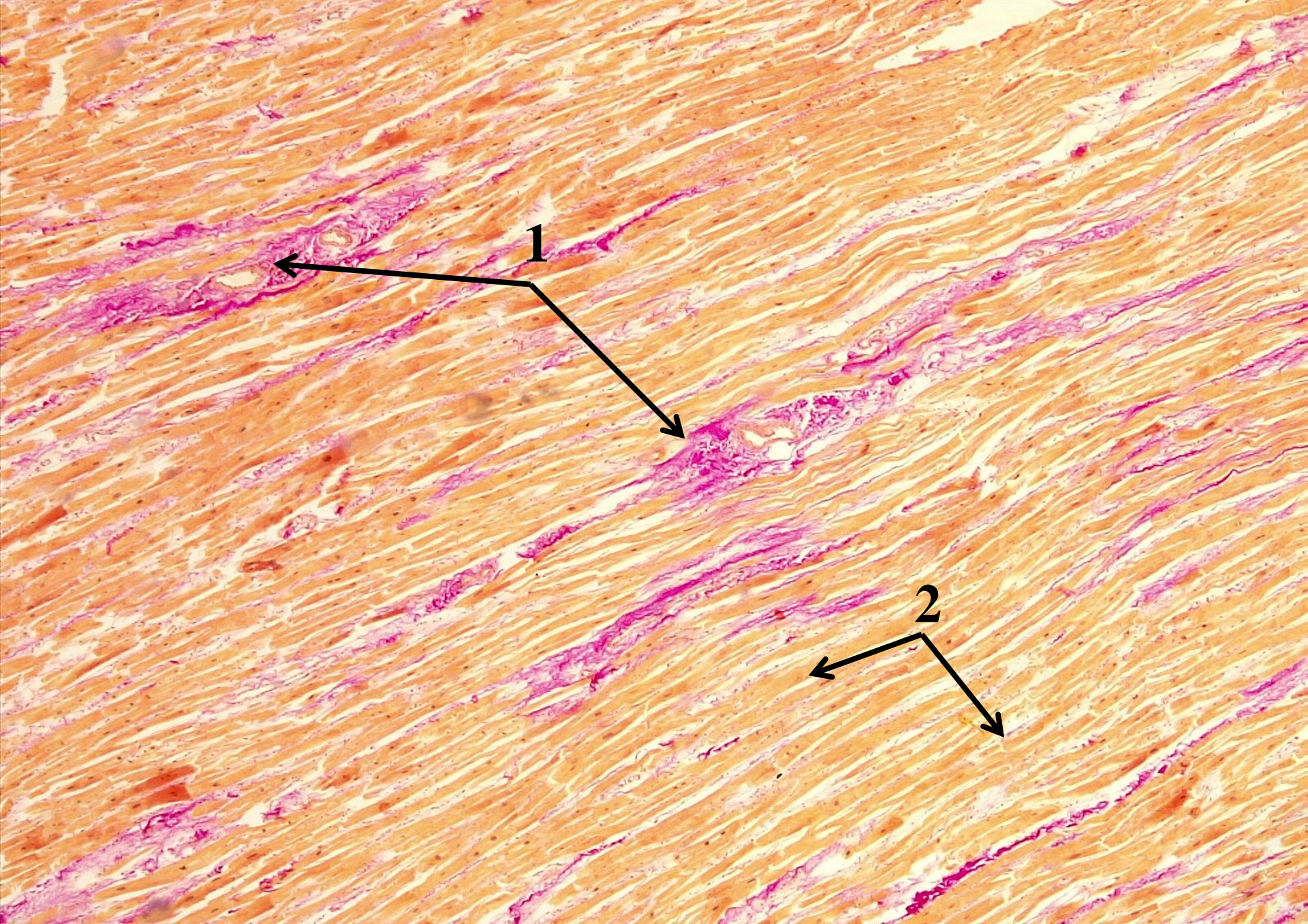
Indications:

1. Collagen fibers (colored in red).
2. Muscle fibers (colored in yellow).

Microscopically reveals multiple bundles of red collagen fibers, of different thickness, located among the myocardial fibers, predominantly perivascular, most cardiomyocytes have a normal appearance, cytoplasm colored yellow, some slightly atrophied.

Diffuse cardiosclerosis is a process of diffuse excessive proliferation of connective tissue in the heart wall. It is the morphological substrate of chronic ischemic heart disease, including ischemic heart disease. The main causative factor is stenotic atherosclerosis of the coronary arteries, chronic ischemia causing dystrophic and atrophic lesions of cardiomyocytes and proliferation of fibroconjunctival tissue. The process of sclerosis is more pronounced perivascular, around the small-caliber arteries. Possible complications: congestive heart failure, heart and conduction disturbances.

Diffuse cardiosclerosis can also develop from interstitial myocarditis, eg in rheumatism, diphtheria, influenza, measles, sepsis.



№ 67. Atherosclerotic microfocal cardiosclerosis. (*picrofucsin, van Gieson stain*).

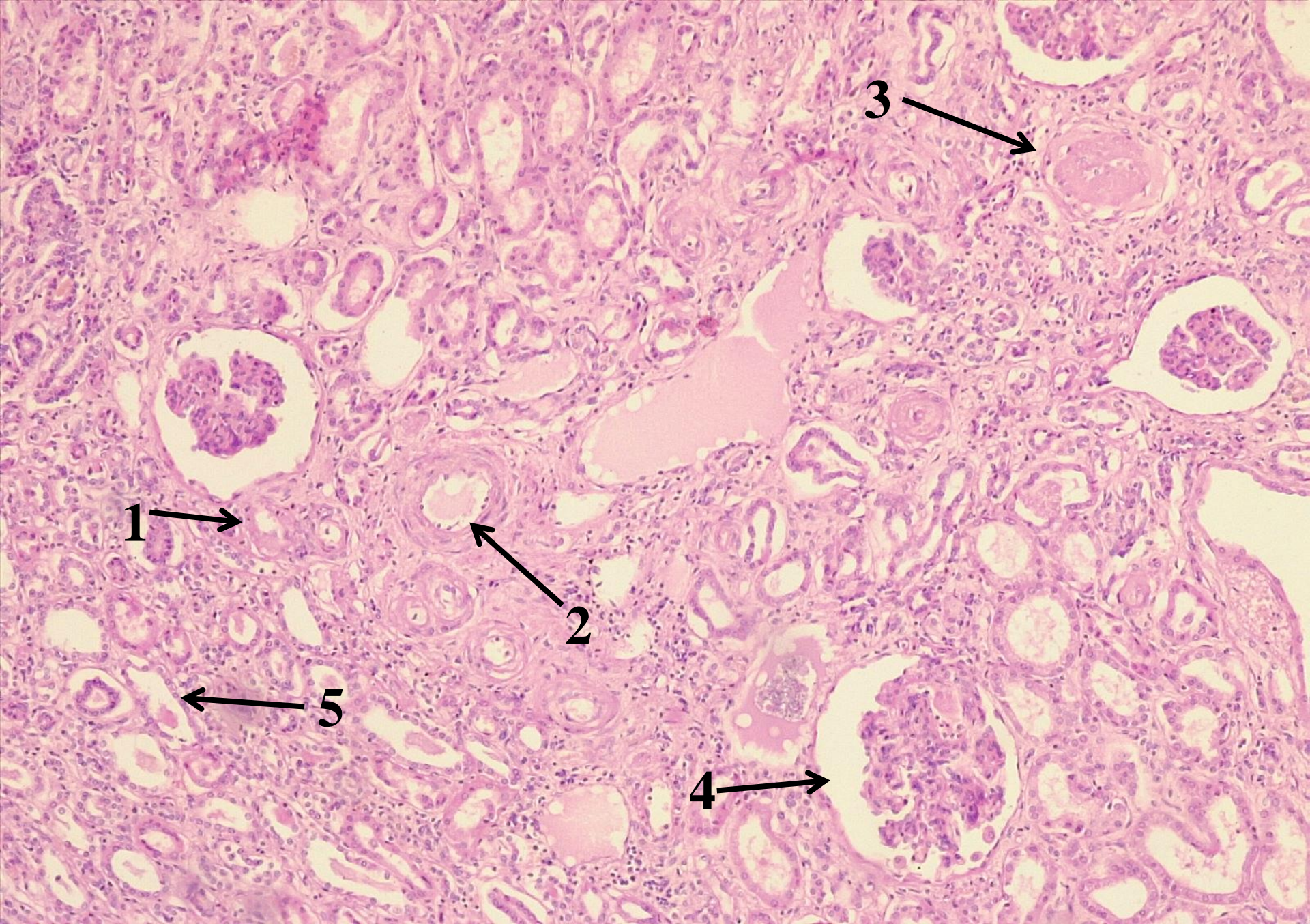
№ 64. Arteriolosclerotic nephrosclerosis. (H-E stain).

Indications:

1. Arteriole with hyalinosis of wall and lumen stenosis.
2. Medium caliber artery with hyperplasia of internal elastic membrane (elastofibrosis).
3. Hyalinated glomerulus with obliteration of capsule cavity.
4. Hyperplased glomerulus.
5. Atrophied tube with thin wall and dilated lumen.

Microscopically, it represents a pronounced atrophy of the renal parenchyma and diffuse sclerosis. In the arterioles the lumen is stenotic, the walls thickened, with diffuse hyaline, homogeneously colored eosinophilic; in small and medium-sized arteries the walls are thickened due to hyperplasia of the inner elastic membrane and hypertrophy of smooth muscle cells, stenotic lumen; many glomeruli are completely acellular, with diffuse hyaline, obliterated capsule; the glomeruli are also reduced in size, atrophied, others hyperplasia (compensatory hyperplasia), most of the renal tubes are atrophied, with thin, dilated walls, in the lumen of some tubes eosinophilic protein masses.

Arteriolosclerotic nephrosclerosis is a manifestation of chronic (benign) hypertension. In the kidneys there is a progressive process of parenchymal atrophy and replacement with fibroconjunctival tissue (sclerosis), caused by damage to the arterioles and small and medium-sized arteries, which occur during the evolution of hypertension. The target of hypertension is the arterioles, in which hyaline arteriolosclerosis develops (arterioles hyaline). Hyalinosis occurs after the infiltration of the arterial walls with plasma proteins, which turn into dense, structured masses of hyaline, which leads to atrophy of smooth muscle cells and the gradual transformation of the arteriole into a narrow tube, with homogeneous wall, structured, dense, covered from the inside with endothelial cells. These changes cause ischemia of the glomeruli, their atrophy and sclerosis (glomerulosclerosis), atrophy of the tubes adhering to that glomerulus. Finally, diffuse atrophy of the renal parenchyma and nephrosclerosis occur. The kidney shrinks in size, becomes dense, acquires a shriveled appearance, with a granular surface due to the alternation of small foci of depression (atrophy and sclerosis) with prominent foci of compensatory hypertrophy of intact nephrons. Nephrosclerosis and shrinkage of kidney result in progressive chronic renal failure.



№ 64. Arteriolosclerotic nephrosclerosis. (H-E stain).

II. Macrospecimens:

№ 3. Atherosclerosis of the aorta (parietal thrombosis).

The intima of the aorta is irregular, with multiple atherosclerotic plaques in the form of focal thickenings, protruding on the surface of the intima, round or oval, diameter from a few mm to 1-1.5 cm, some confluent, yellowish-white color, are exulcerated plaques, covered with yellow granular atheromatous masses, in the thickness of the plates in places there are purplish intramural hemorrhages, there is a parietal thrombus, adherent to the intima, brown, dense consistency, embossed surface.

Atherosclerotic plaque is the main morphological substrate of atherosclerosis. Macroscopically, the process begins with the appearance of yellow spots, which gradually merge, forming elongated yellow lesions - lipid streaks, made up of foam cells, which contain lipids. Lipid streaks progress into fibrous or fibro-lipid atherosclerotic plaques, which have prominent focal thickenings of the intima, of dense consistency, white-yellow color, which appear as a result of proliferation of connective tissue around lipid deposits (liposclerosis), they are covered with a caps dense fibrous. Such plaques are called "stable". They stenose the lumen of the vessel, causing a certain degree of chronic arterial hypoperfusion, atrophic changes of the parenchyma and sclerosis in those areas. Stable plaques can last a long time. Under certain conditions, acute changes of the atherosclerotic plaque can occur, becoming a "complicated or vulnerable, unstable" plaque: a) rupture, ulceration or erosion of the fibrous capsule; b) the formation of thrombi at the site of these defects, which in time can be subjected to organization, remaining incorporated in the plate; c) thromboembolism; d) atheroembolism - embolism with atheromatous masses, cholesterol crystals; e) hemorrhage in the plaque, which leads to its increase in volume; f) formation of an aneurysm due to decreased elasticity of the arterial wall. These lesions of the plaque cause acute ischemia with necrosis of the parenchyma (infarct, gangrene).

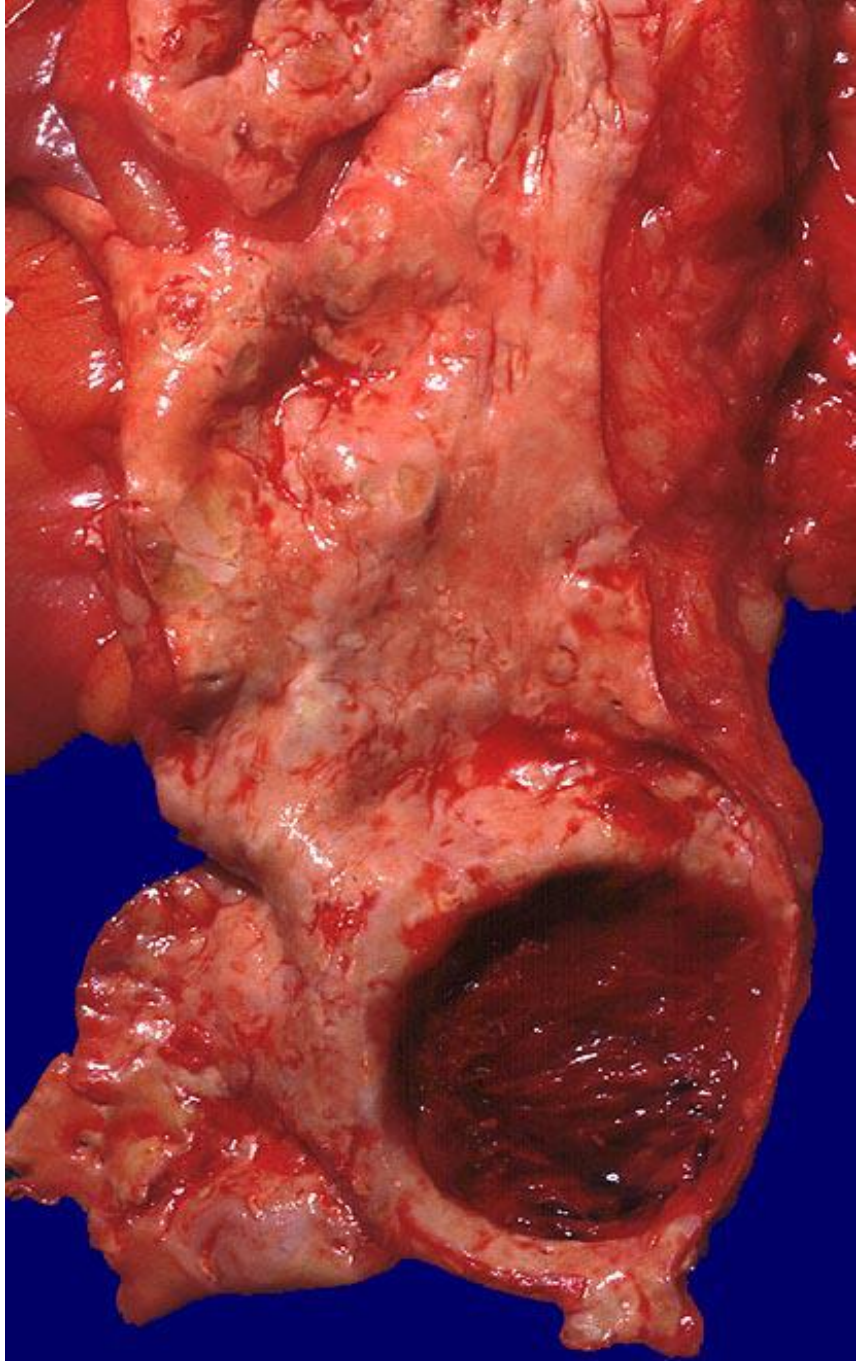


**№ 3. Atherosclerosis of the aorta
(parietal thrombosis).**

№ 14. Aortic aneurysm.

The lumen of the abdominal aorta is deformed, dilated circumferentially in the form of a spindle (fusiform aneurysm) or in the form of a sac (sacciform aneurysm), some containing thrombotic masses.

Aortic aneurysm is found predominantly in atherosclerosis (abdominal aortic aneurysm) and hypertension (ascending aortic aneurysm). Depending on the shape, it may be a fusiform and sacciform aneurysm. In true aneurysm all 3 layers of the aortic wall are affected (intimate, media, adventitia), and false aneurysm (pseudoaneurysm) is caused by a defect in the vascular wall, which leads to the appearance of an extravascular hematoma, which communicates with the intravascular space ("hematoma pulse "). In the dissecting aneurysm, the blood enters under pressure through a superficial defect of the intima in the thickness of the aortic wall, dissociating its layers. The pathogenetic mechanism consists of degenerative changes of the aortic wall. In atherosclerotic plaque thickening of the intima, especially the fibrous capsule causes ischemia of the inner part of the middle, and damage to the vasorum in hypertension - ischemia of the outer part of the middle. All these lesions as a whole prevent the diffusion of nutrients and metabolic products between the lumen of the vessel and the arterial wall and lead to gradual degeneration of the media, degradation of the extracellular matrix, fibrosis of the elastic membranes and decreased elasticity of the aortic wall. The aneurysm can be complicated by: a) thrombosis and thromboembolism, b) compression of adjacent structures, eg., a ureter, vertebrae, c) rupture with intraperitoneal or retroperitoneal hemorrhage in adjacent tissues with massive, lethal hemorrhage.

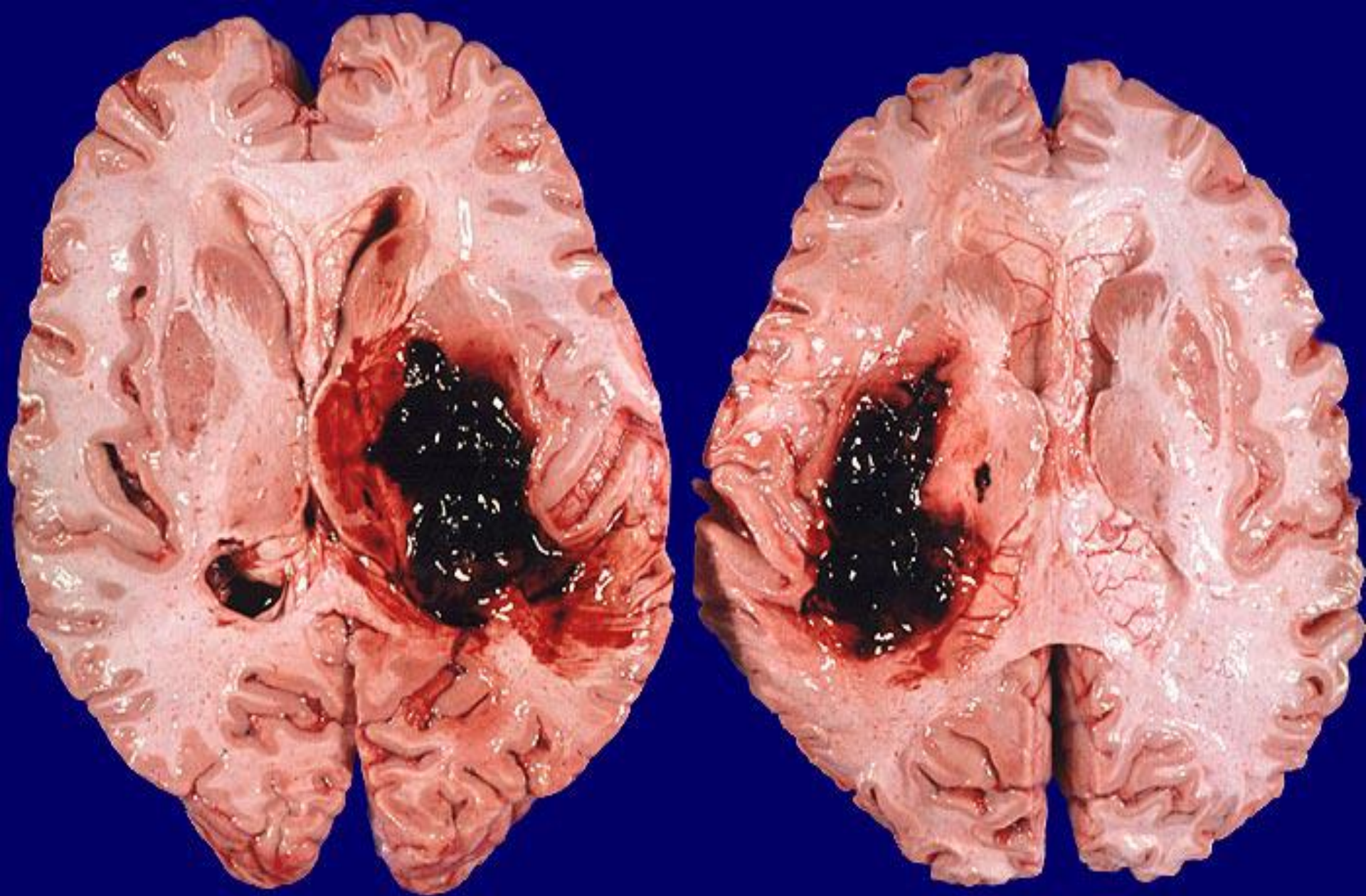


№ 14. Aortic aneurysm.

№ 121. Hemorrhage into the brain.

In the brain there is an accumulation of brown coagulated blood (hematoma), the adjacent brain tissue is softened, flaccid consistency.

Intracerebral hemorrhage is one of the manifestations of cerebrovascular disease and is the most common form of hemorrhagic stroke. The main cause is rupture of the arteries by microaneurysms and fibrinoid necrosis of the arterial walls. It is usually found in high blood pressure, which is the cause of death of about 15% of patients with chronic high blood pressure. The most common location is in the basal ganglia and thalamus - 65%, Varoli bridge - 15%, cerebellum - 10%. Hemorrhage causes both direct tissue damage and secondary ischemic damage by compressing adjacent brain tissue. The hematoma consists of blood clots and softened brain tissue. Clinically it is manifested by paralysis, aphasia. Consequences: fibro-glial organization, cystic cavities with rust walls and brown content due to the presence of hemosiderin. The most serious complication is bloodshed in the cerebral ventricles - a fatal complication.



№ 121. Hemorrhage into the brain.

№ 9. Acute myocardial infarction.

On the cut-section of the left ventricle there is an area of yellowish-white color paler than the adjacent myocardium, irregular in shape, with small hemorrhagic foci.

Myocardial infarction (MI) is one of the most common causes of death in the population (~ 25%) worldwide. In the vast majority of cases it is caused by stenotic atherosclerosis of the coronary arteries.

It is more common in the left ventricle (anterior, posterior or inferior infarction, lateral, septal, antero-lateral, antero-septal, postero-septal, circumferential), less common in the right ventricle and right atrium, in the left atrium it is practically not notice. The dimensions can be different from microfocal to macrofocal infarction with the surface up to 10 cm², usually transmural. According to the age of the infarction, there is an acute infarction (the duration until healing is 6-8 weeks) and a repeated infarction, which develops over a period of time after the first infarction has healed. After localization in the heart wall: subendocardial infarction and transmural infarction, which extends over the entire thickness of the ventricular wall. The evolution of MI over time can be divided into the necrosis stage and the organizational stage. Macroscopic IM becomes well outlined over 48-72 hours from the onset, having the appearance of an irregular white-yellowish area, surrounded by a red, hemorrhagic border. Very rarely, in 1-1.5% of cases, MI can be red, hemorrhagic. The most important complications of MI are acute congestive heart failure, cardiogenic shock, pulmonary edema, arrhythmias (ventricular fibrillation), external rupture of the heart with pericardial tamponade or internal rupture of papillary muscles or interventricular septum, intracardiac thrombosis, and thromboembolism cardiac.

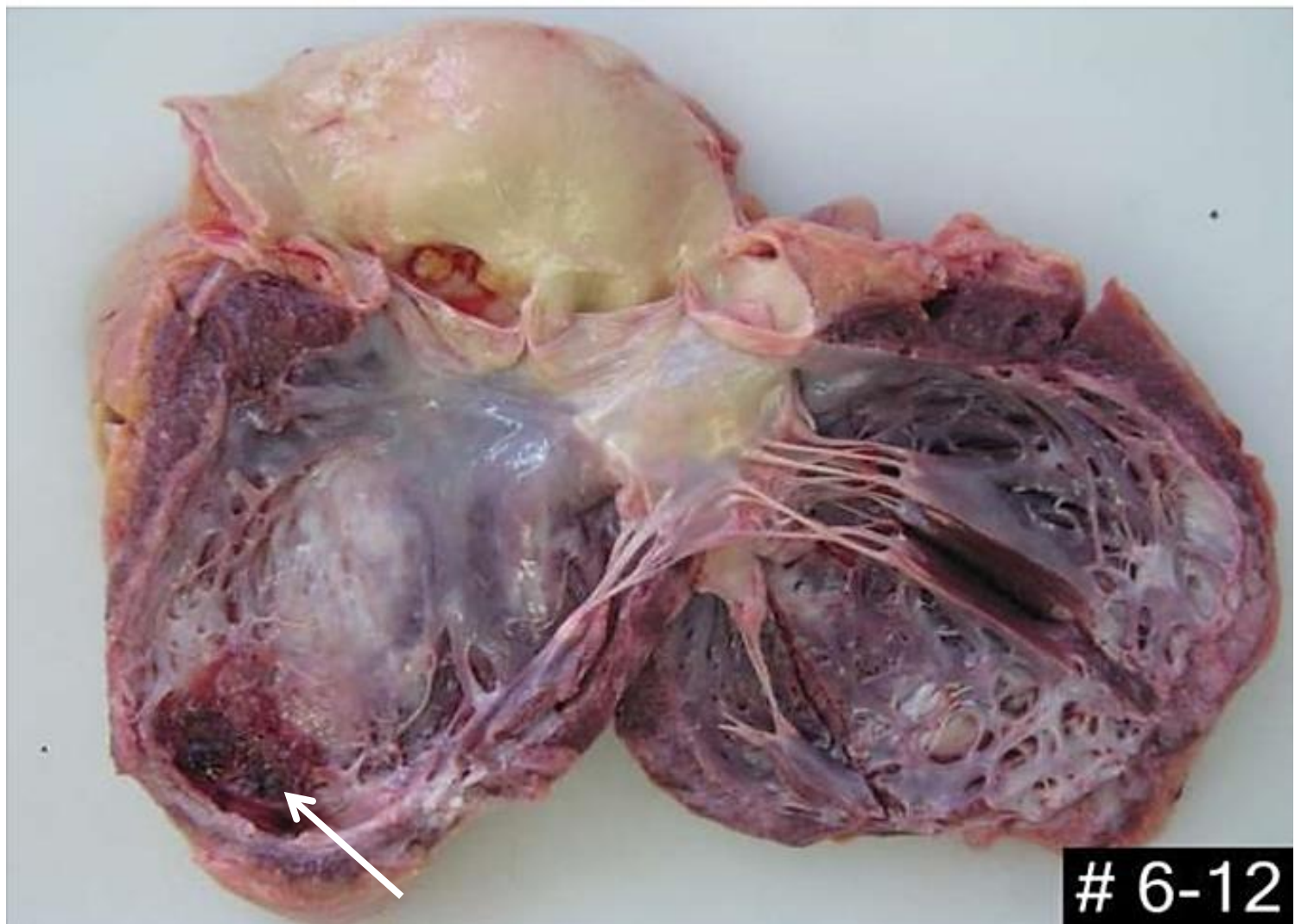


№ 9. Acute myocardial infarction.

№ 10. Chronic cardiac aneurysm with thrombosis.

In the antero-lateral wall of the left ventricle there is an aneurysmal dilation in the form of a round sac, filled with thrombotic masses, the adjacent ventricular wall is thin, on a gray-whitish section, with the appearance of scar tissue, the left ventricular wall in the basal region is hypertrophied.

Chronic cardiac aneurysm is a consequence of macrofocal, transmural myocardial infarction. It appears several weeks or months after the healing of the acute infarction, on the place of the massive post-infarct scar. The heart muscle in the infarct region is replaced with fibrous connective tissue. The post-infarct scar does not contract and under the action of intraventricular systolic pressure gradually thins, extends to the formation of the aneurysm. In chronic heart aneurysm there is progressive congestive heart failure, rhythm and conduction disorders, intracardiac thrombosis, thromboembolism, it is possible to rupture the wall with pericardial tamponade.



№ 10. Chronic cardiac aneurysm with thrombosis.

№ 83. Wrinkled kidney.

The kidney is reduced in size, the granular / nodular surface, the dense consistency, on cut-section the boundary between layers is not clear, the gray-whitish color.

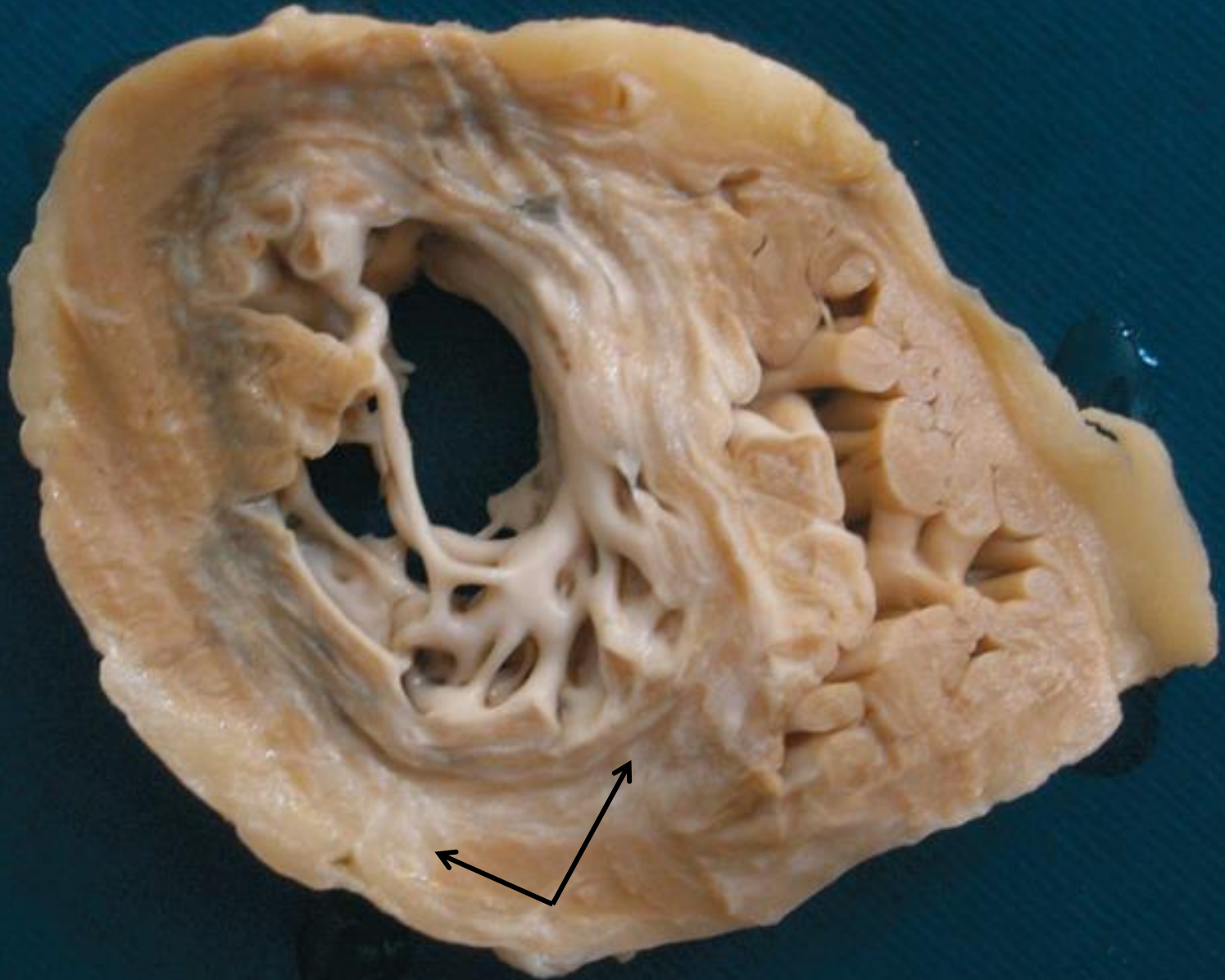
Wrinkled kidney - nephrosclerosis - is seen in arterial atherosclerosis and hypertension - the so-called primary nephrosclerosis. In the kidneys there is atrophy of the parenchyma, excessive proliferation of connective tissue and structural remodeling. The external appearance of wrinkled kidneys is different depending on the size of the affected vessels: in hypertension it is granular due to the predominant damage of arterioles (microspecimen № 64), and in atherosclerosis - macronodular due to damage to large and medium arteries. Nephrosclerosis leads to progressive chronic renal failure and azotemic uremia.

№ 12. Diffuse cardiosclerosis.

Multiple thin bundles of whitish fibrous connective tissue tissue are seen on the myocardial section of the left ventricular wall. (microspecimen № 67)



№ 83. Wrinkled kidney.



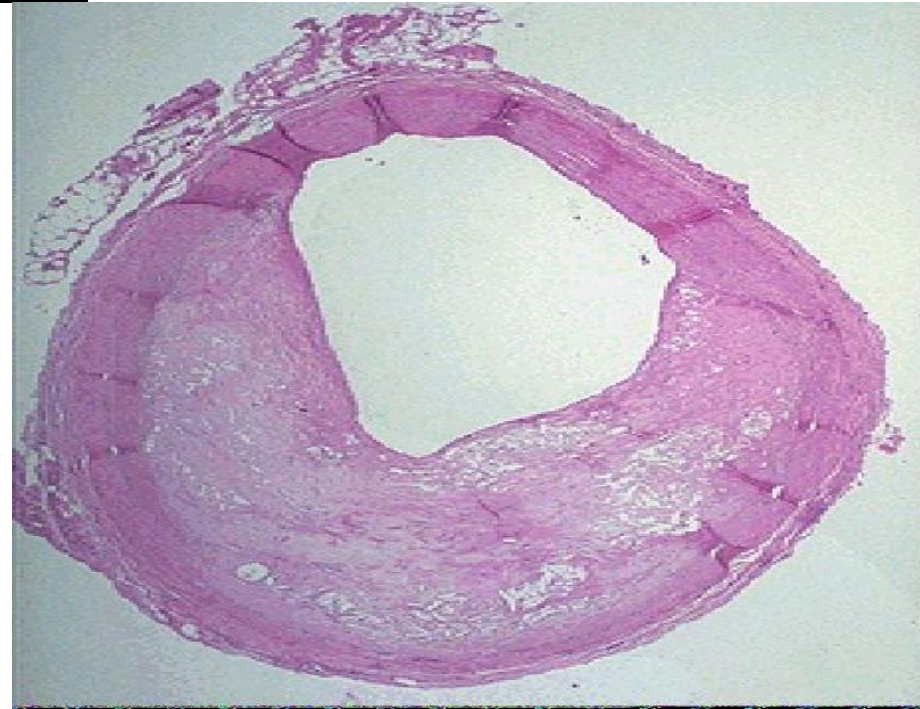
№ 12. Difuse cardiosclerosis.



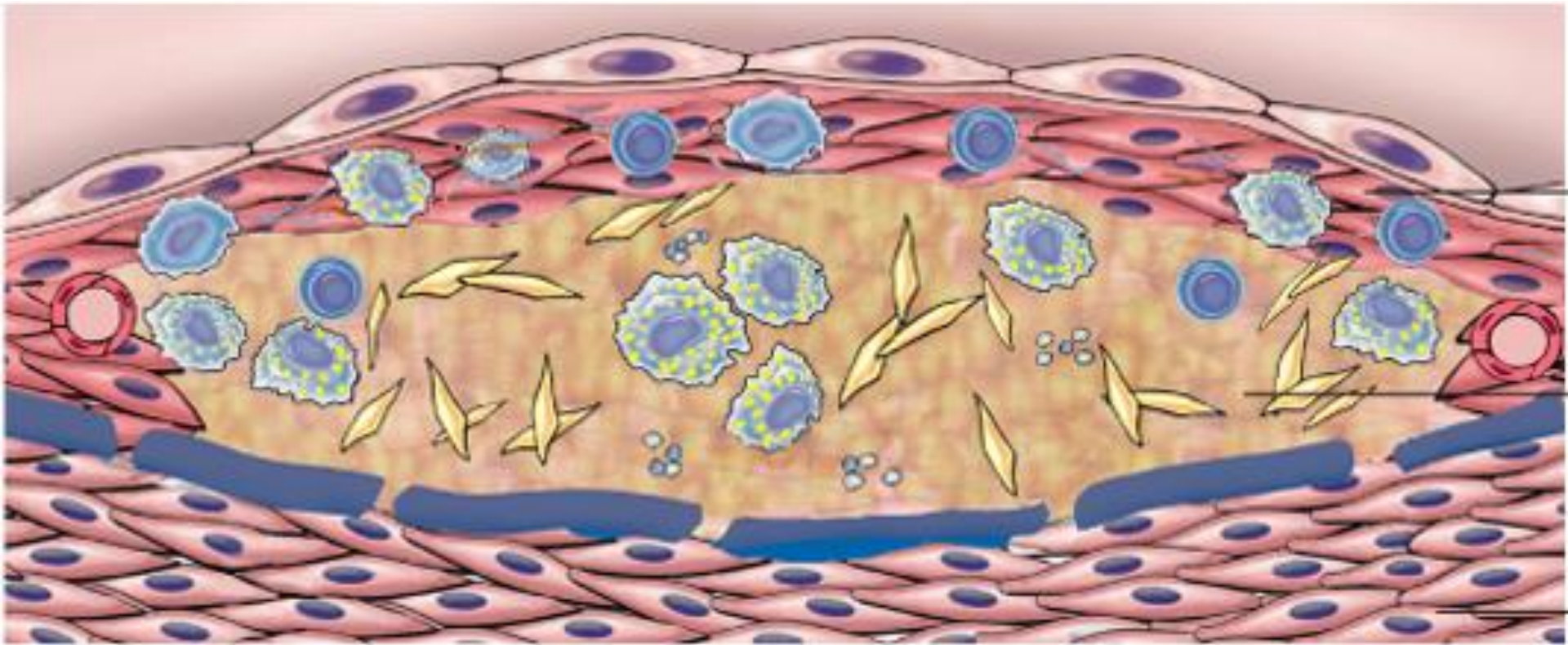
Lipid spots.



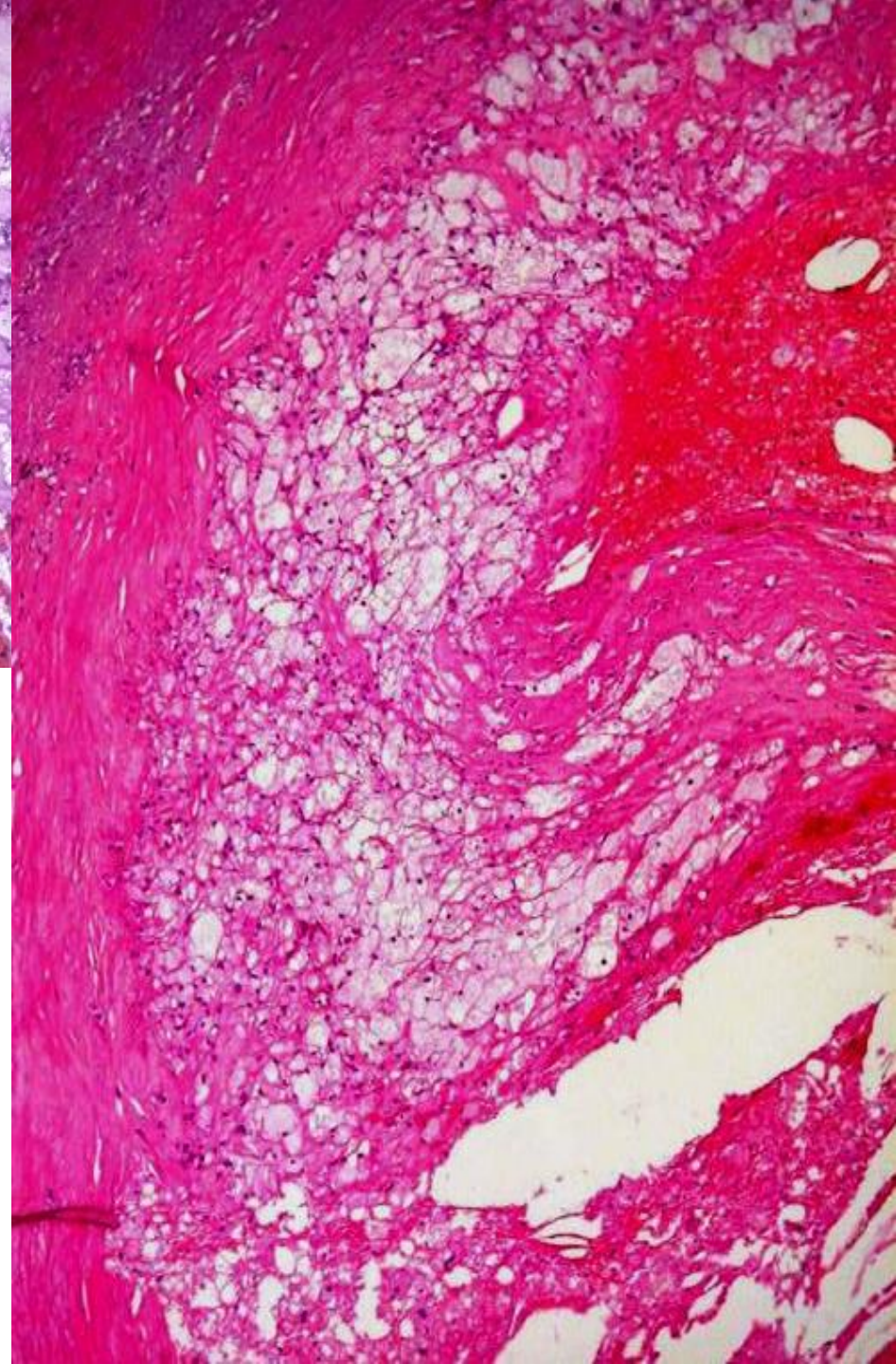
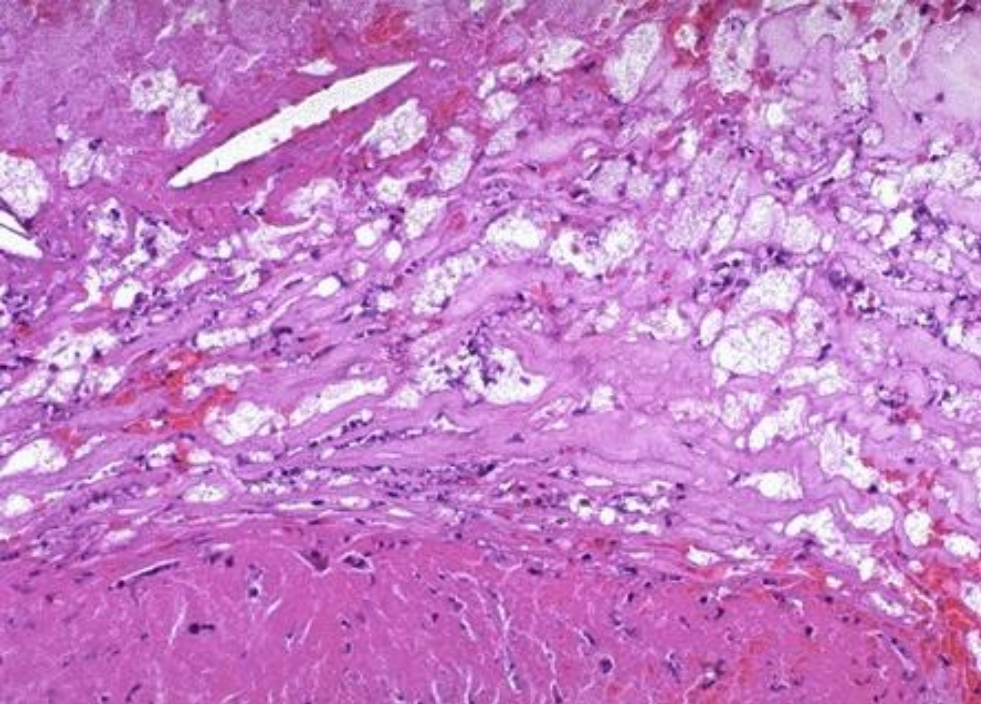
**Atheromatous
ulcerations in the
aorta.**



Stenosing atherosclerotic plaques.



Structure of atherosclerotic plaque.



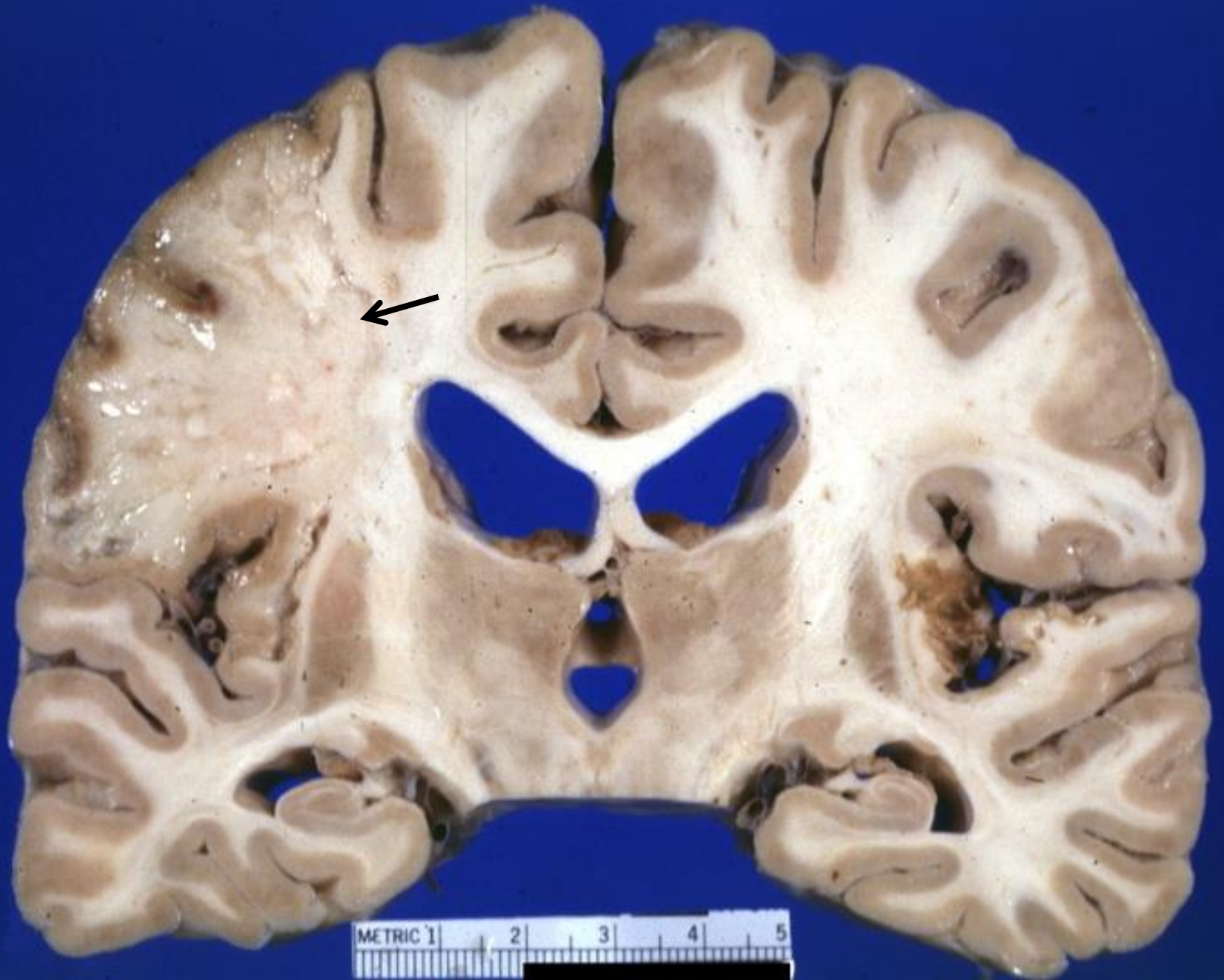
Atherosclerotic plaque:
*(atheromatous detritus, cholesterol
crystals, foam cells).*



Norma



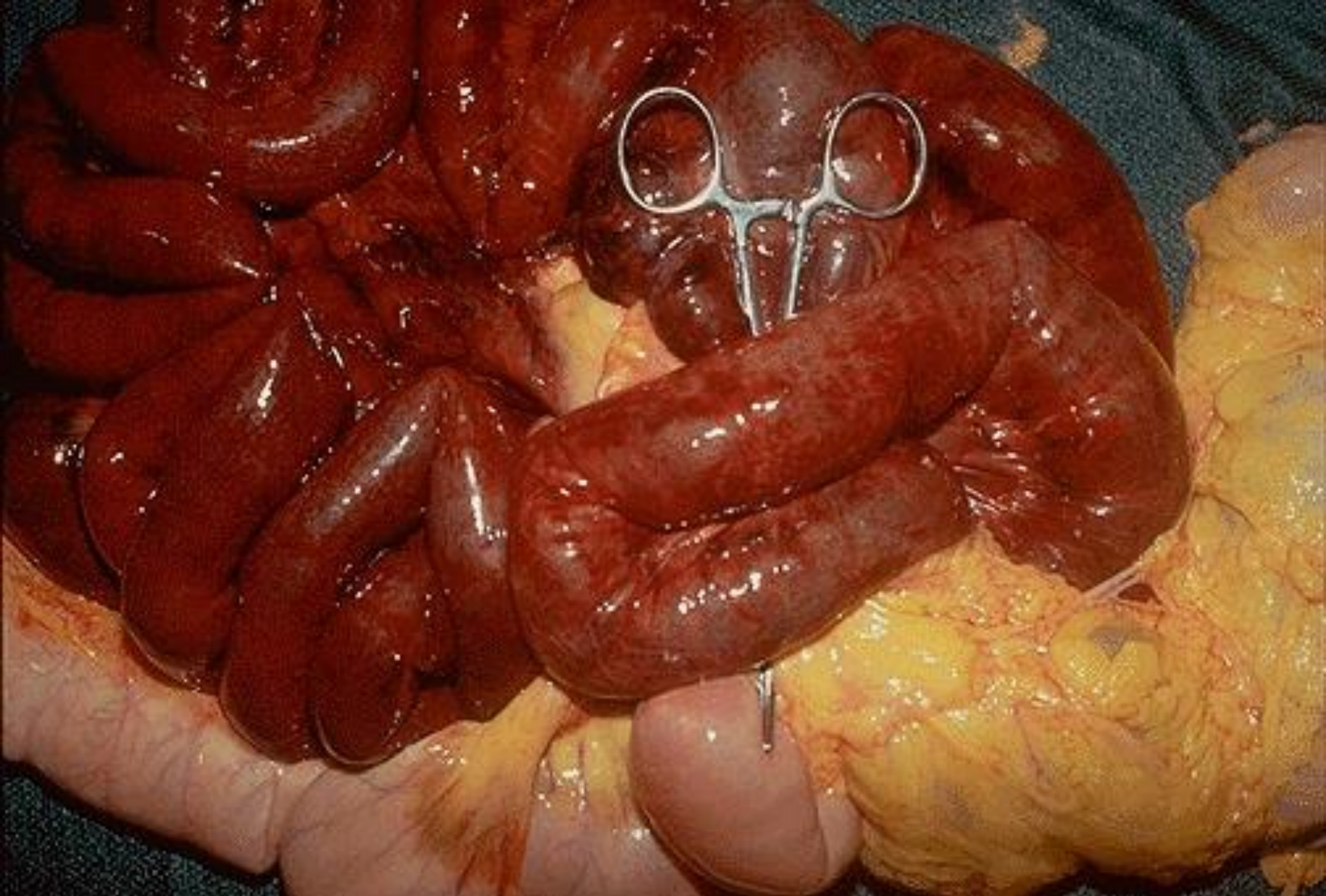
Brain atrophy.



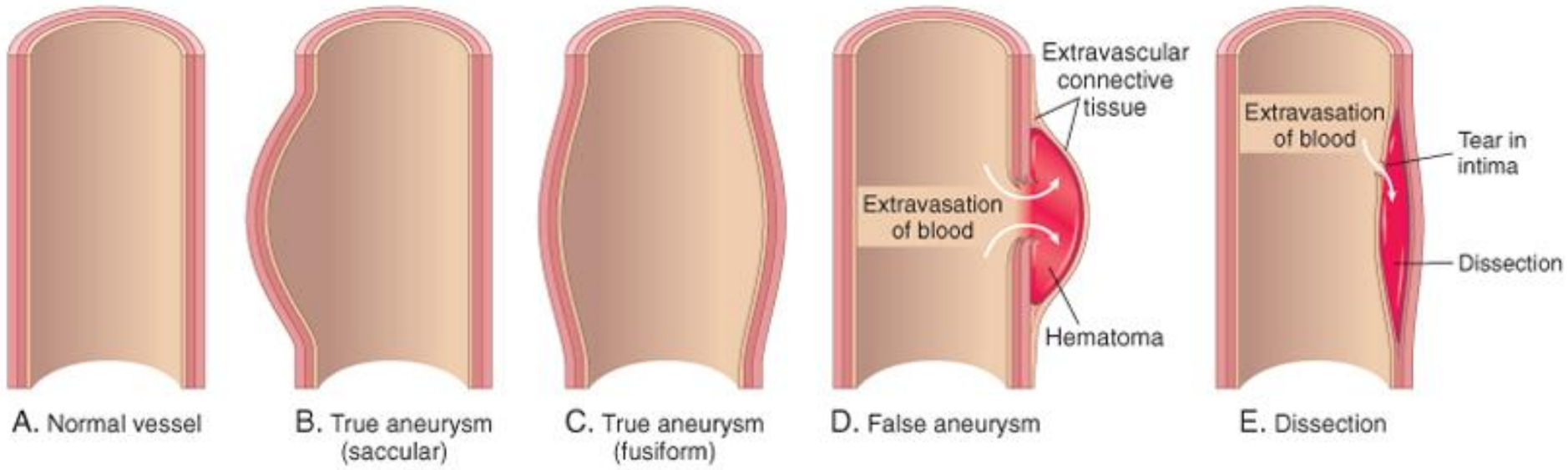
Cerebral ischemic infarction.



Atherosclerotic gangrene.



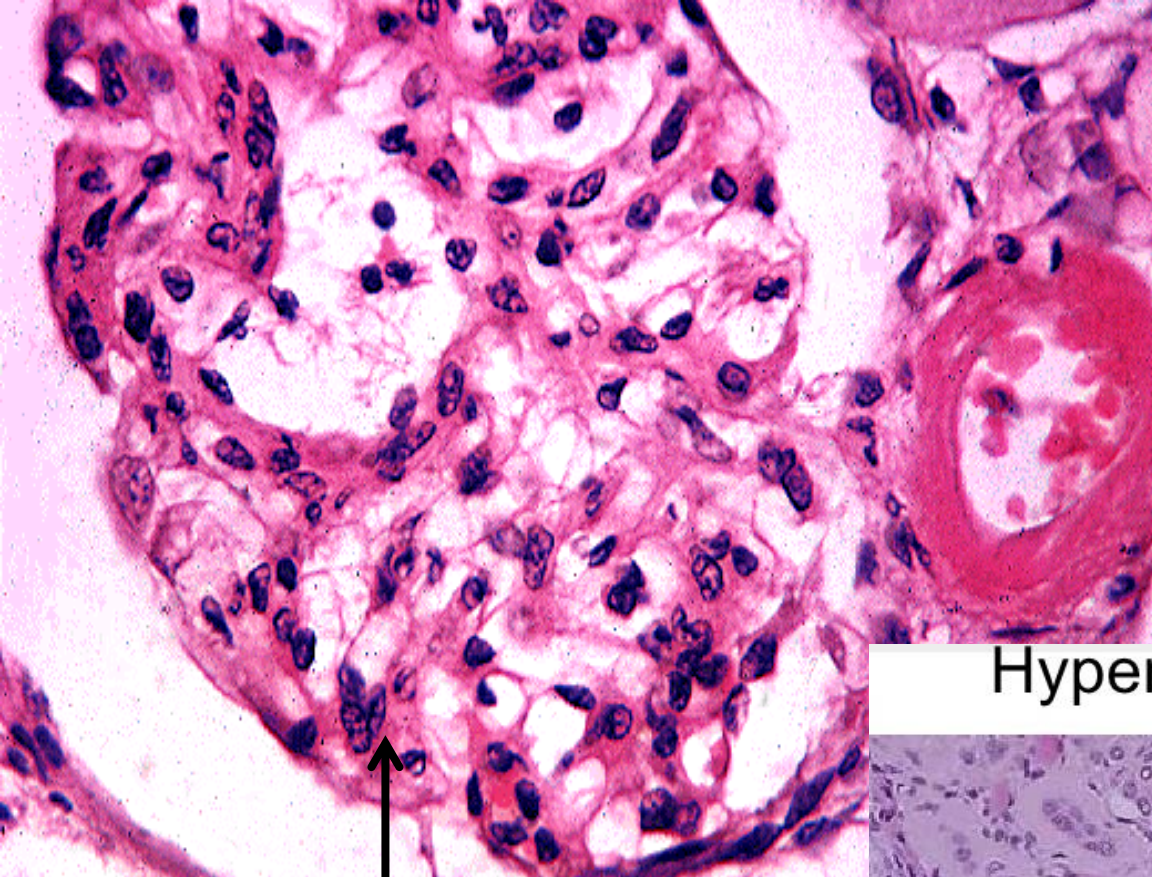
Intestinal gangrene.



Parietal thrombus in the abdominal aorta.



**Atherosclerotic
nephrosclerosis.**

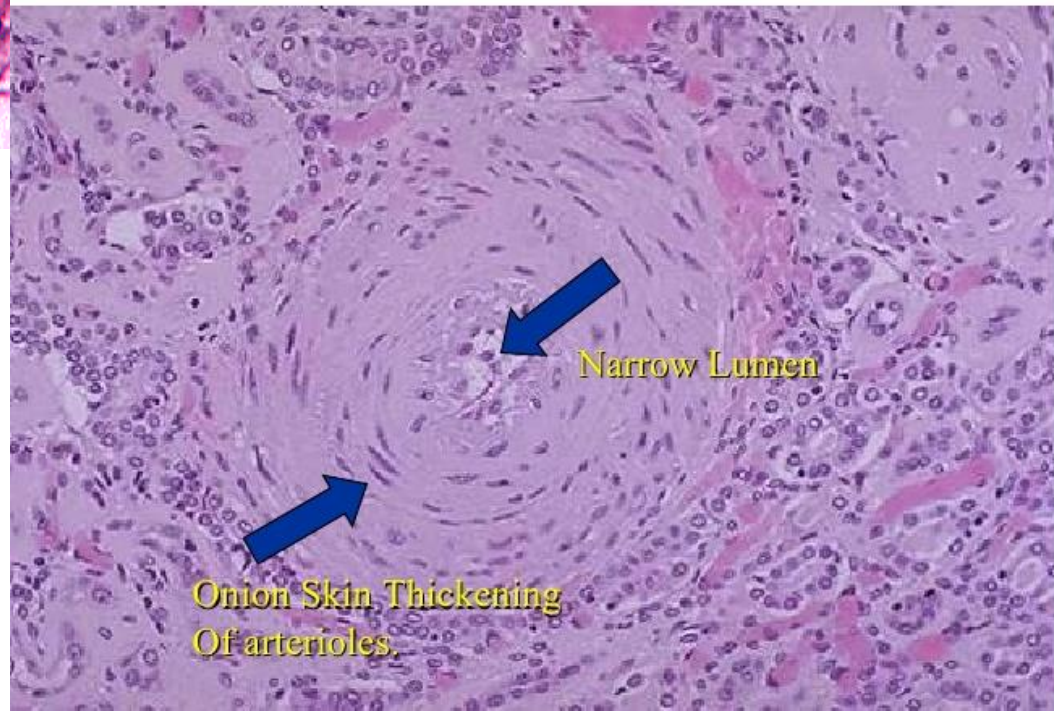


**Arteriolo-
hyalinosis
in hypertension**

**Hyperplasia of the elastic
membrane in hypertension**

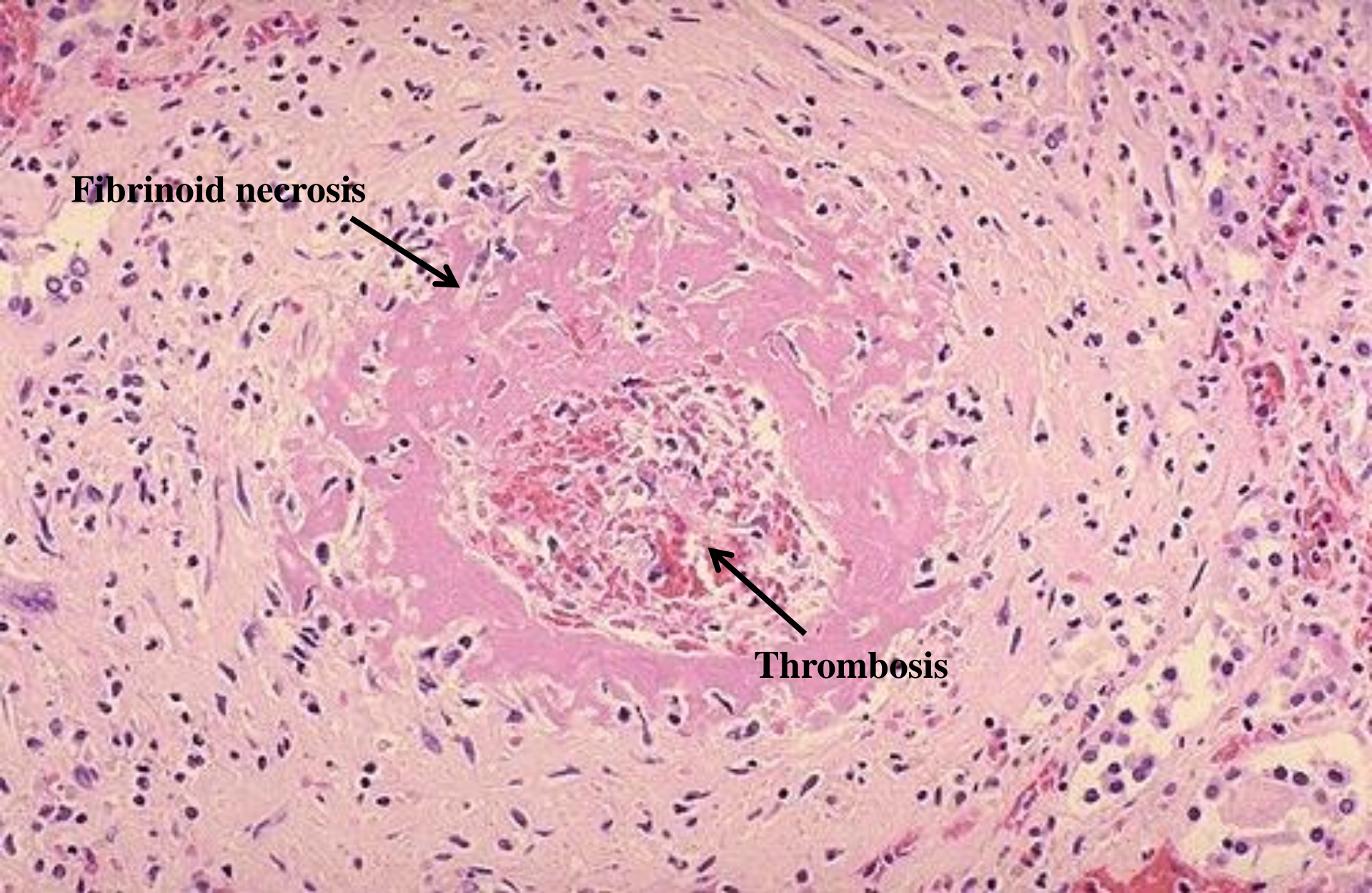


Hyperplastic Arteriolosclerosis:

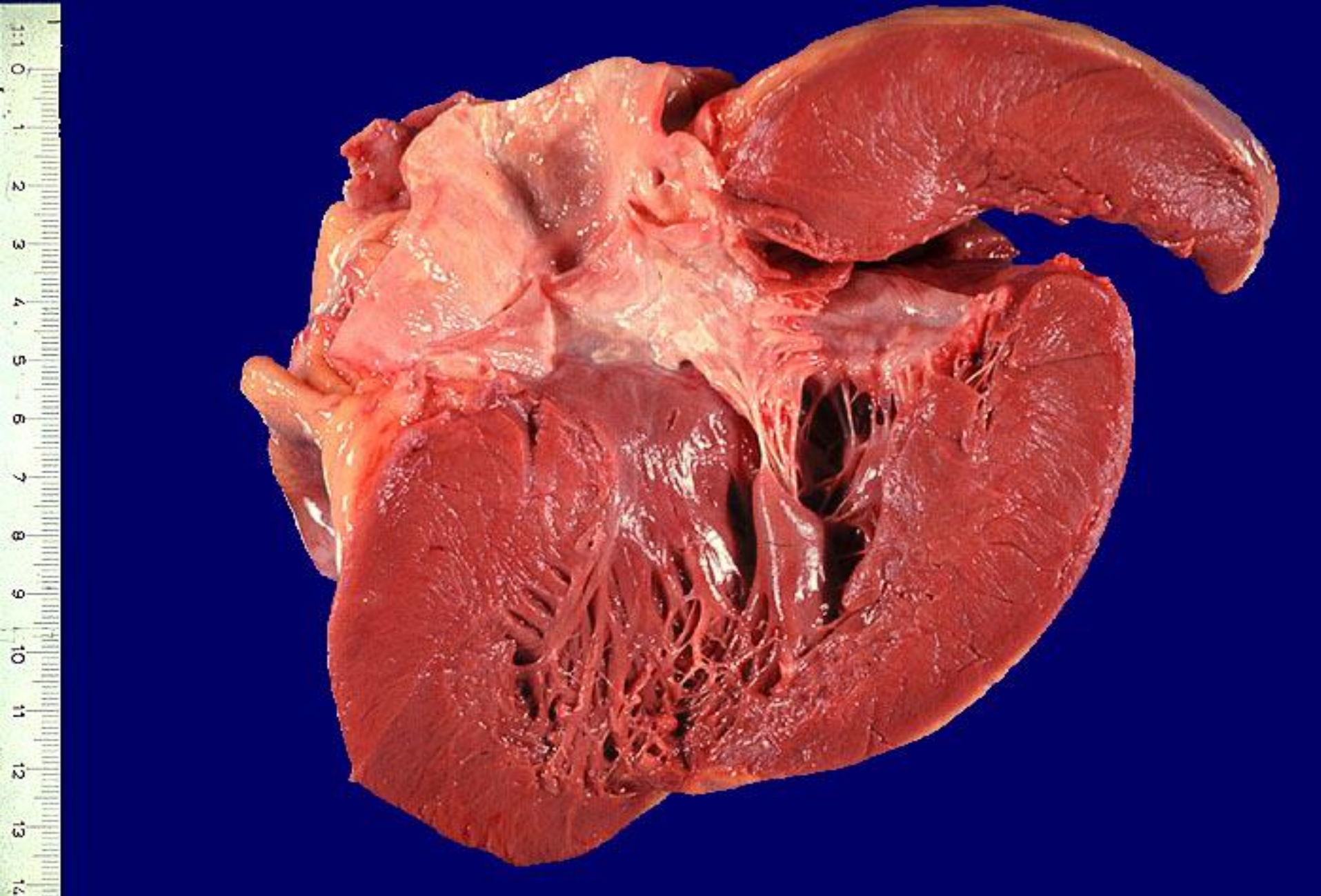


Narrow Lumen

**Onion Skin Thickening
Of arterioles.**



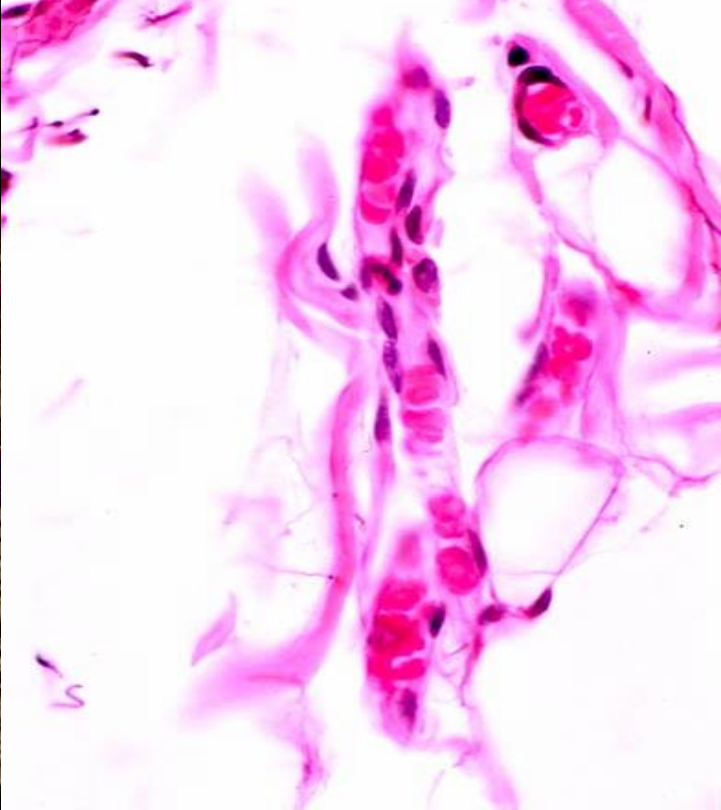
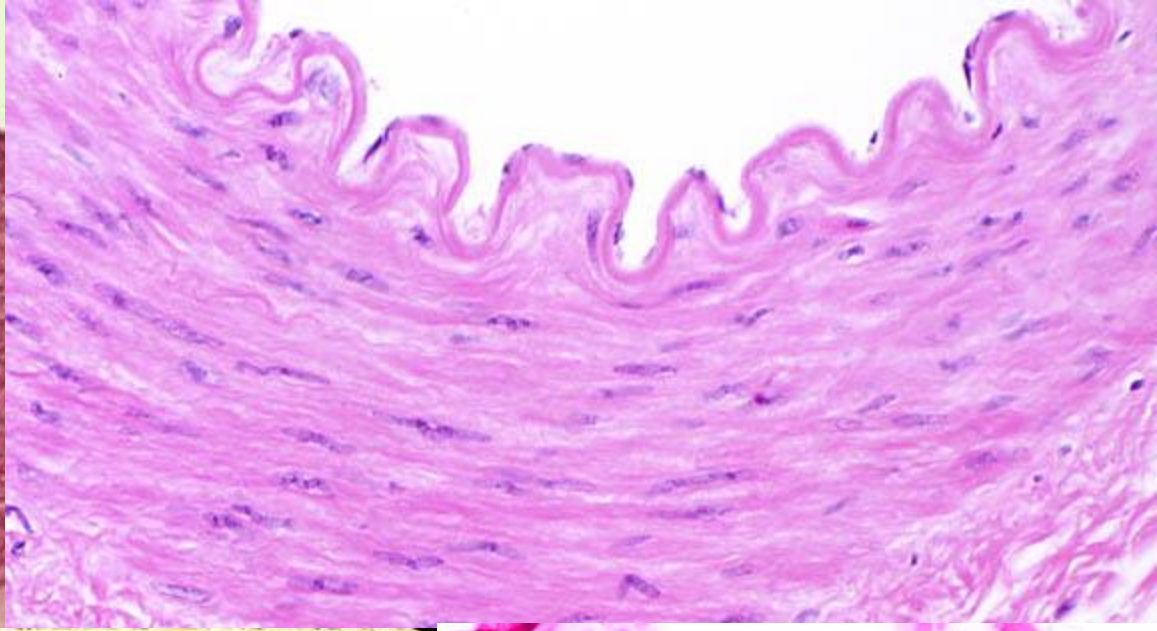
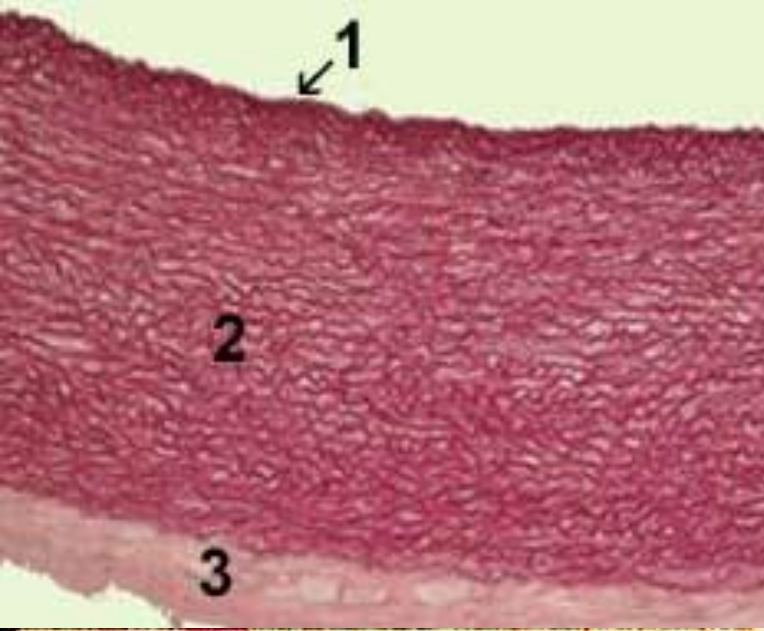
**Fibrinoid necrosis of the arterial wall in malignant hypertension
(*hypertensive crisis*).**



Hypertrophy of the left ventricle of the heart in hypertension.

Diseases of BLOOD VESSELS





COMPONENTS

- Intima, Media, Adventitia, M>A or A>M
- ENDOTHELIUM
- INTERNAL ELASTIC LAMINA
- ECM: Elastin (~aging), collagen, mucopolysaccharides
- Smooth Muscle
- Connective Tissue
- Fat



1) Blockage
(preceded by narrowing)

2) Rupture
Preceded by weakening)

TOPICS

- Vascular wall responses
- Congenital Anomalies
- Atherosclerosis
- Arteriosclerosis
- Hypertension
- Aneurysms
- Vasculitides
- Raynaud “phenomenon”
- Veins
- Lymphatics
- Tumors
- Interventions

DEFINITIONS

- **ARTERIO-sclerosis**
- **ATHERO-sclerosis**
- **Aneurysm**
- **Dissection**
- **Thrombus**
- **Hypertension**
- **Vasculitis/Vasculitides, infectious/NON-infectious (often-autoimmune)**
- **Varicosity**
- **DVT/Thrombo-phlebitis/Phlebo-thrombosis**

DEFINITIONS

- Lymphangitis
- Lymphedema
- Angioma/Hemangioma (generic)
- Lymphangioma
- Angiosarcoma (generic)
- Lymphangiosarcoma

NON-Specific Vascular Wall Response to Injury

- Endothelial “activation”
- Smooth Muscle cell roles
- Development, Growth, Remodeling
- Intimal “thickening”

ENDOTHELIAL CELLS

- **Recall Jeckyl/Hyde concept: maintain hemostasis/cause thrombosis**
- **Maintenance of Permeability Barrier**
- **Elaboration of Anticoagulant, Antithrombotic, Fibrinolytic Regulators**
- **Elaboration of Prothrombotic Molecules**
- **Extracellular Matrix Production (collagen, proteoglycans)**
- **Modulation of Blood Flow and Vascular Reactivity**
- **Regulation of Inflammation and Immunity**
- **Regulation of Cell Growth**
- **Oxidation of LDL**

ENDOTHELIAL CELL “ACTIVATORS” (Δ ?)

- Cytokines
- Bacterial Products
- Hemodynamic Forces
- Lipid Products
- Viruses
- Complement
- Hypoxia

VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

- **Vasoconstriction**
- **Vasodilatation**
- **Make ECM:**
 - **Collagen**
 - **Elastin**
 - **Proteoglycans**
- **Regulated by:**
 - **PROMOTORS: PDGF, endothelin, thrombin, etc.**
 - **INHIBITORS: Heparan SO₄, NO, TGF- β**

Vessel Growth & Remodeling

- **The sum total of all the factors and processes involved in tissue injury and the body's ability to grow vessels, develop new pathways, and re-perfuse areas in response to tissue and/or blood vessel injury.**

1. Migration of smooth muscle cells to the

2. Smooth muscle cell mitosis

3. Elaboration of extracellular matrix

Endothelium

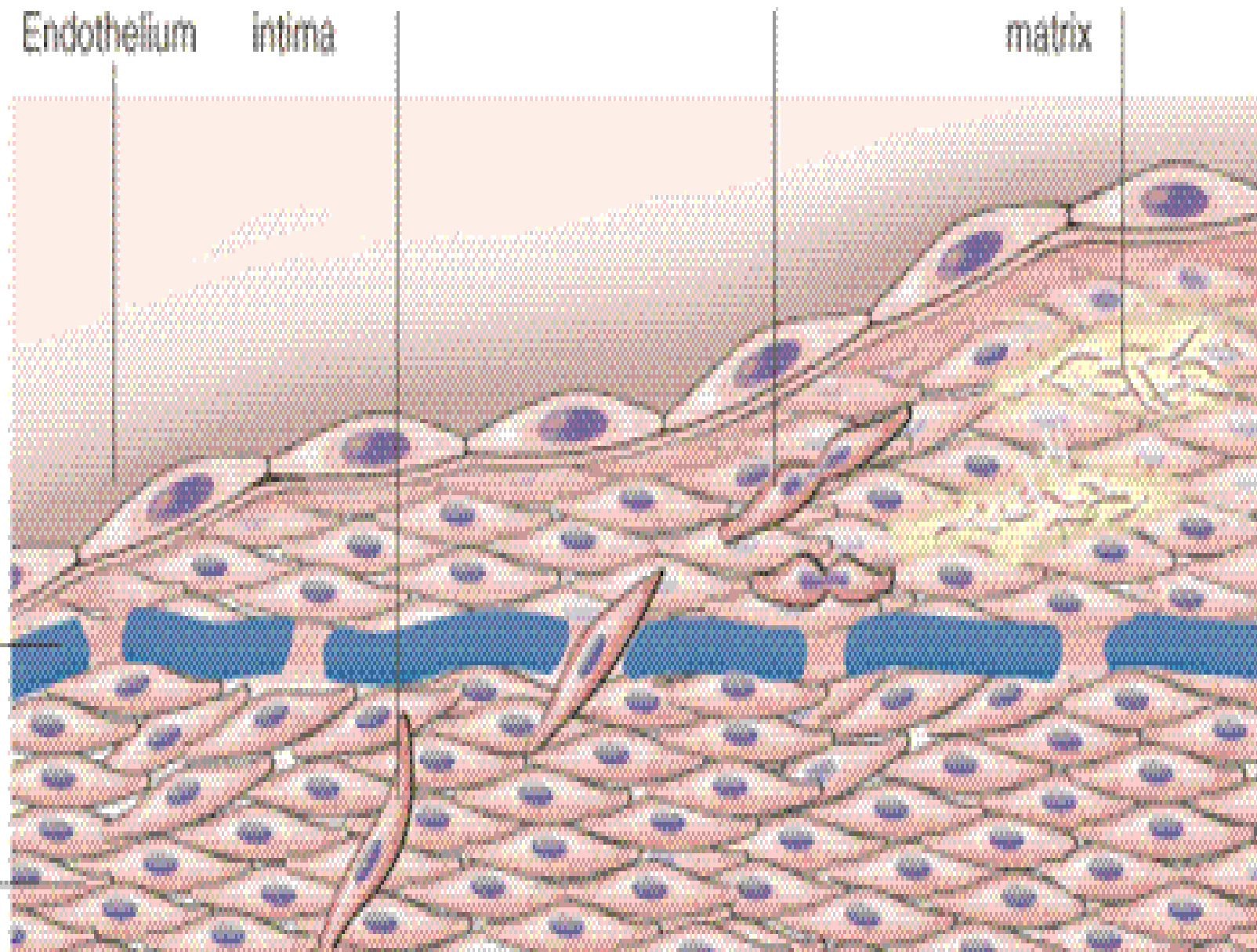
Intima

Intima

Media

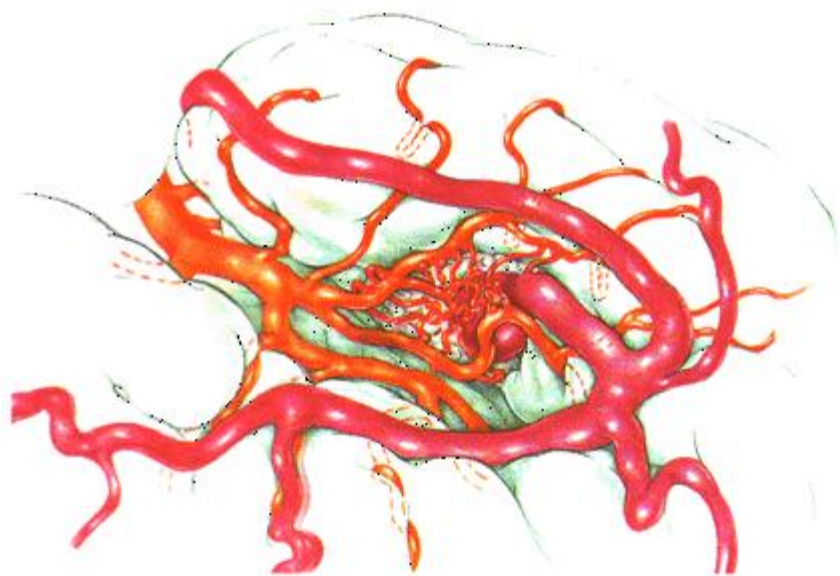
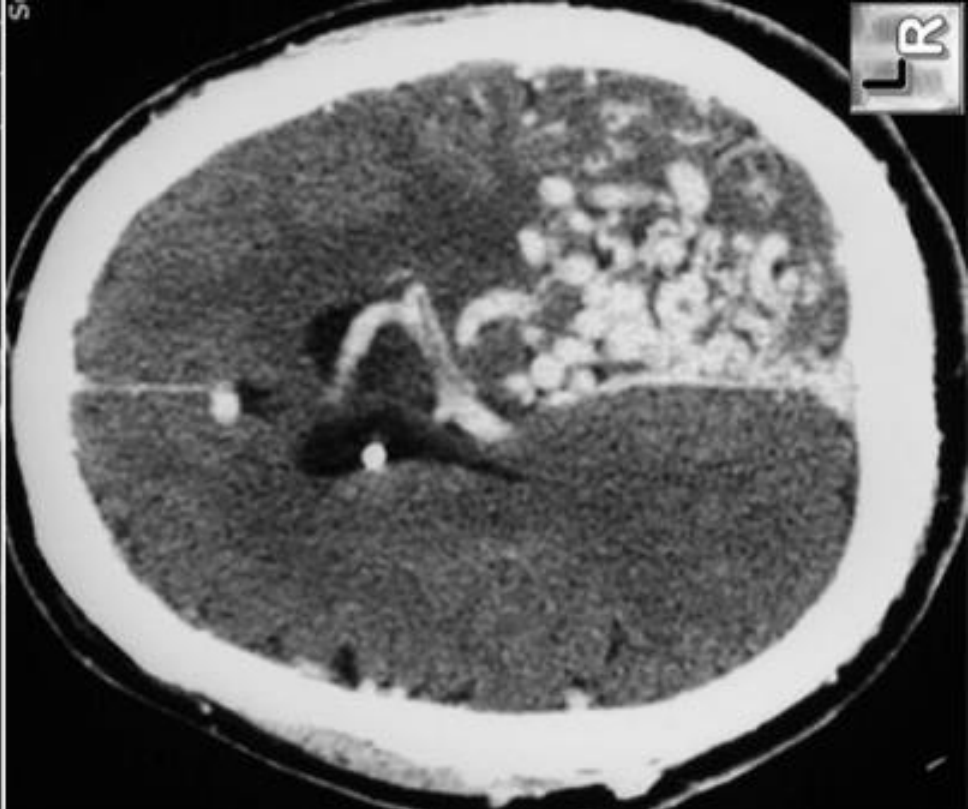
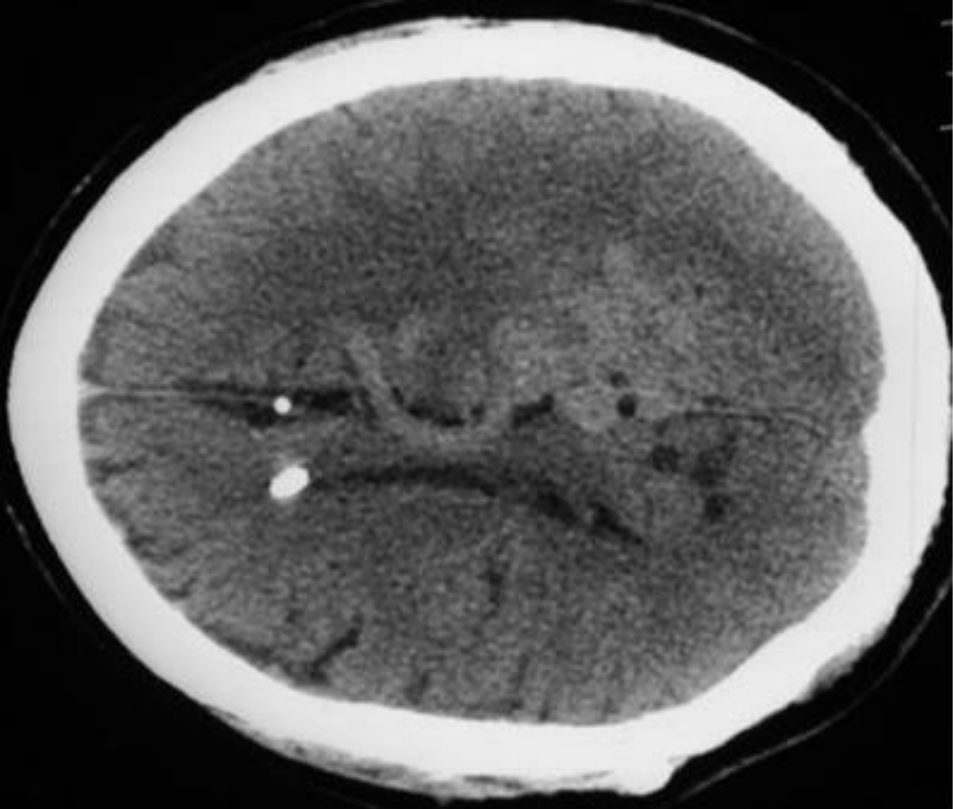
Internal elastic lamina

Smooth muscle cells



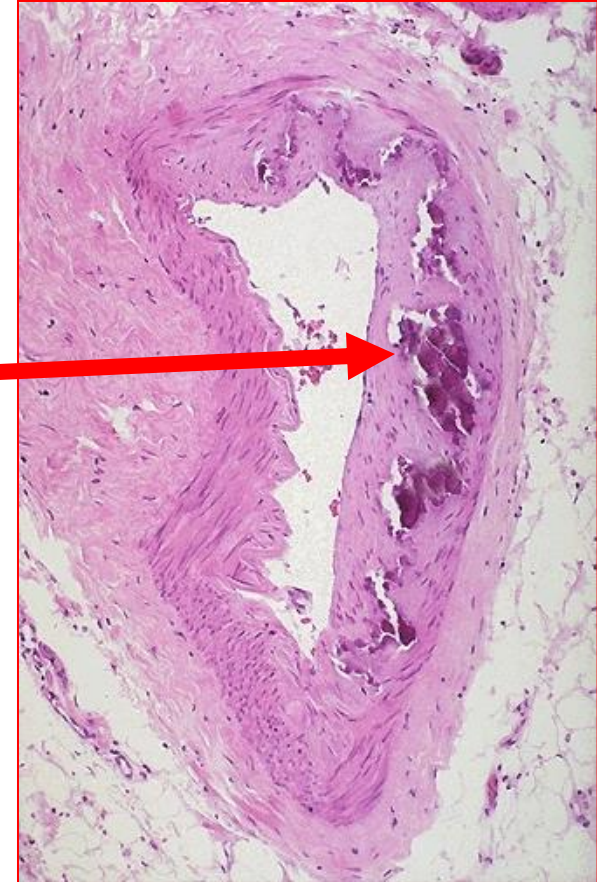
CONGENITAL ANOMALIES

- Arteriovenous fistulas
- Also called **ArterioVenous Malformation (AVM)**
- Common factor is abnormal communication between high pressure arteries and low pressure veins
- Usually congenital (malformation), but can be acquired by trauma or inflammation
- Most often described in the brain as an AVM
- Often asymptomatic or with hemorrhage or pressure effects



ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS

- **GENERIC** term for **ANYTHING** which **HARDENS** arteries
 - **Atherosclerosis (99%)**
 - **Mönckeberg medial calcific sclerosis (1%)**
 - **Arterio****lo**sclerosis, involving small arteries and arterioles, generally regarded as **NOT** strictly being part of atherosclerosis, but more related to hypertension and/or diabetes



ATHEROSCLEROSIS

(classical)

- Etiology/Risk Factors
- Pathogenesis
- Morphology
- Clinical Expression

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

(ala Robbins)

- * Natural History
- * Epidemiology
- * Risk Factors
- * Pathogenesis
- * Other Factors
- * Effects
- * Prevention

* NATURAL HISTORY

Nomenclature and main histology	Sequences in progression	Main growth mechanism	Earliest onset	Clinical correlation
Type I (initial) lesion Isolated macrophage foam cells		Growth mainly by lipid accumulation	From first decade	Clinically silent
Type II (fatty streak) lesion Mainly intracellular lipid accumulation			From third decade	
Type III (intermediate) lesion Type II changes and small extracellular lipid pools				
Type IV (atheroma) lesion Type II changes and core of extracellular lipid		Accelerated smooth muscle and collagen increase	From fourth decade	Clinically silent or overt
Type V (fibroatheroma) lesion Lipid core and fibrotic layer, or multiple lipid cores and fibrotic layers, or mainly calcific, or mainly fibrotic				
Type VI (complicated) lesion Surface defect, hematoma-hemorrhage, thrombus		Thrombosis, hematoma		

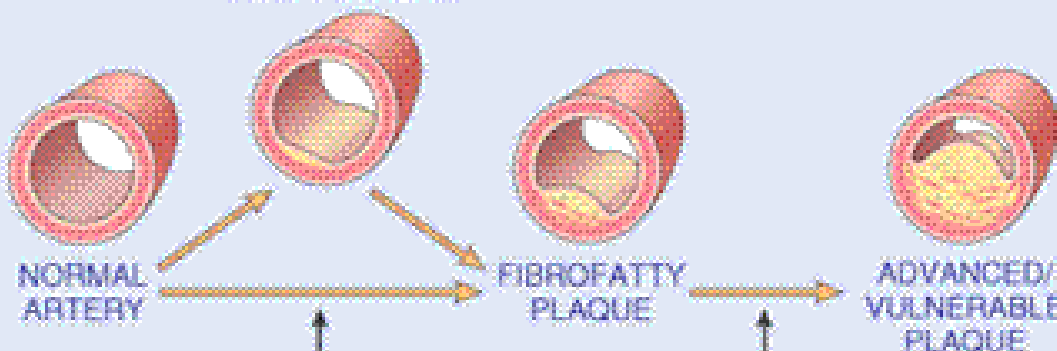
1) FATTY STREAK
(non-palpable, but a visible **YELLOW** streak)

2) ATHEROMA
(plaque) (palpable)

3) THROMBUS
(non-functional, symptomatic)

Pre-Clinical Phase
Usually young age

FATTY STREAK



At lesion-prone areas, and accelerated by risk factors:
Endothelial dysfunction
Monocyte adhesion/emigration
SMC migration to intima
SMC proliferation
ECM elaboration
Lipid accumulation

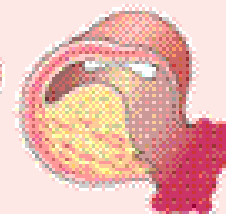
Cell death/degeneration
Inflammation
Plaque growth
Remodeling of plaque and wall
ECM
Organization of thrombus
Calcification

Clinical horizon

Clinical Phase
Usually middle age to elderly

Mural thrombosis
Embolization
Wall weakening

ANEURYSM AND RUPTURE



Plaque rupture
Plaque erosion
Plaque hemorrhage
Mural thrombosis
Embolization

OCCCLUSION BY THROMBUS



Progressive plaque growth

CRITICAL STENOSIS

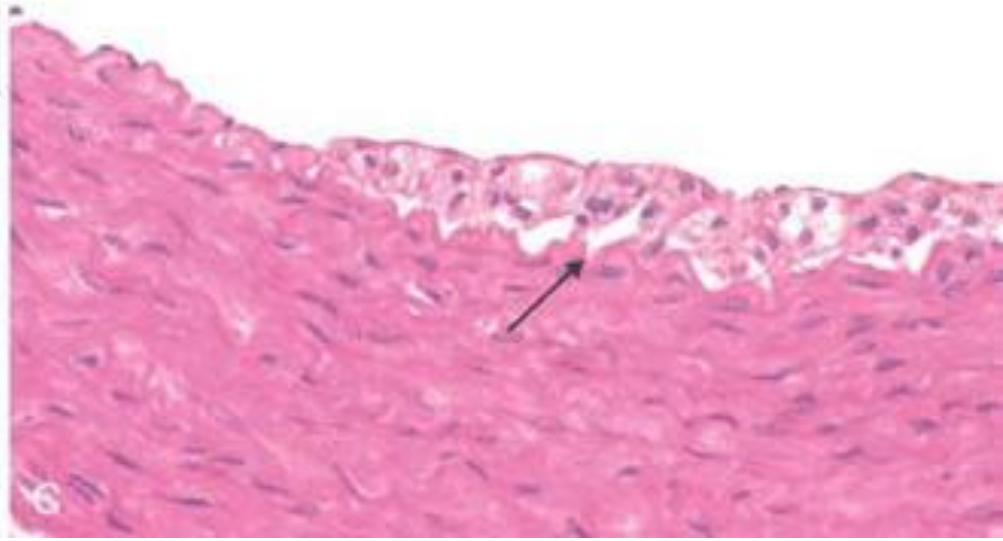


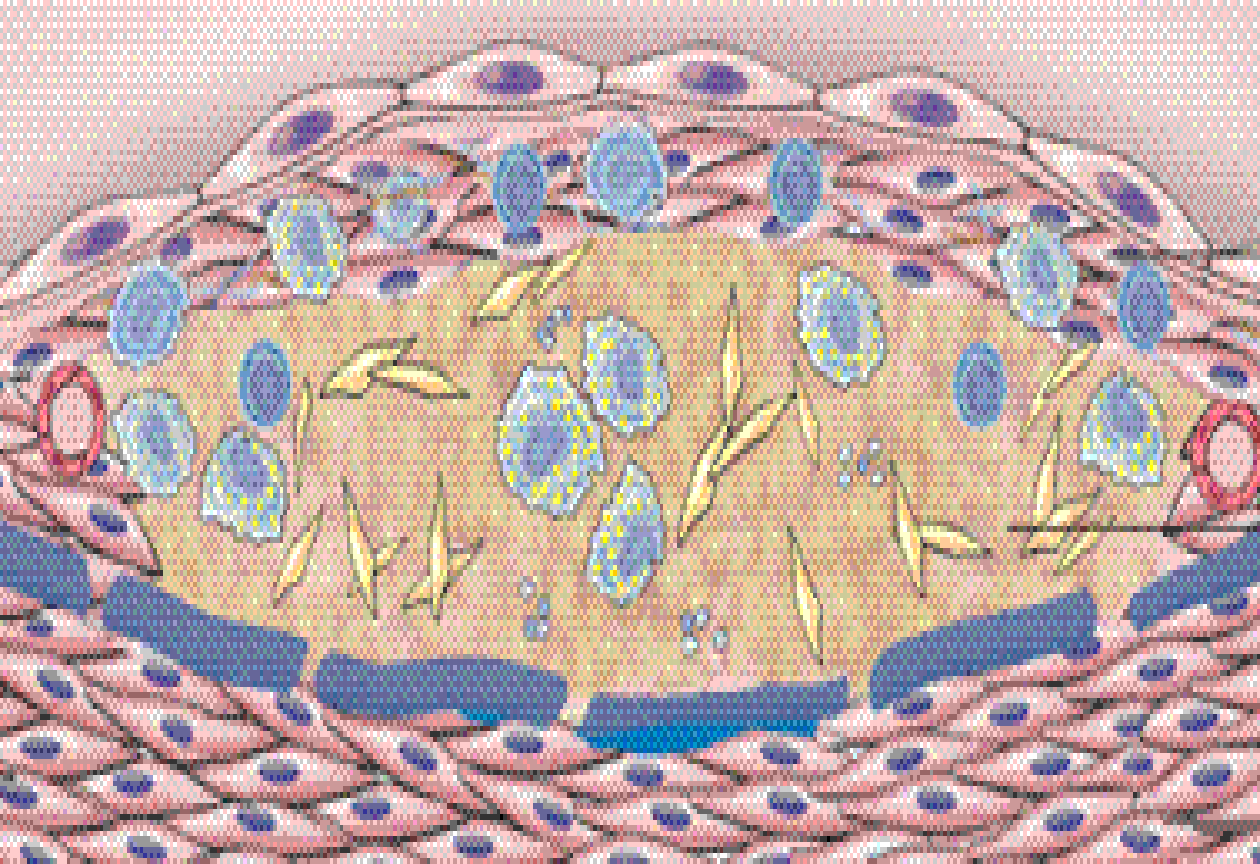
MORPHOLOGIC CONCEPTS

- Macrophages (really monocytes) infiltrate
- Intimal Thickening
- Lipid Accumulation
- Streak
- Atheroma
- Smooth Muscle Hyperplasia and Migration
- Fibrosis
- Calcification
- Aneurysm
- Thrombosis



FATTY STREAKS





FIBROUS CAP

(smooth muscle cells, macrophages, foam cells, lymphocytes, collagen, elastin, proteoglycans, neovascularization)

NECROTIC CENTER

(cell debris, cholesterol crystals, foam cells, calcium)

MEDIA

PLAQUE

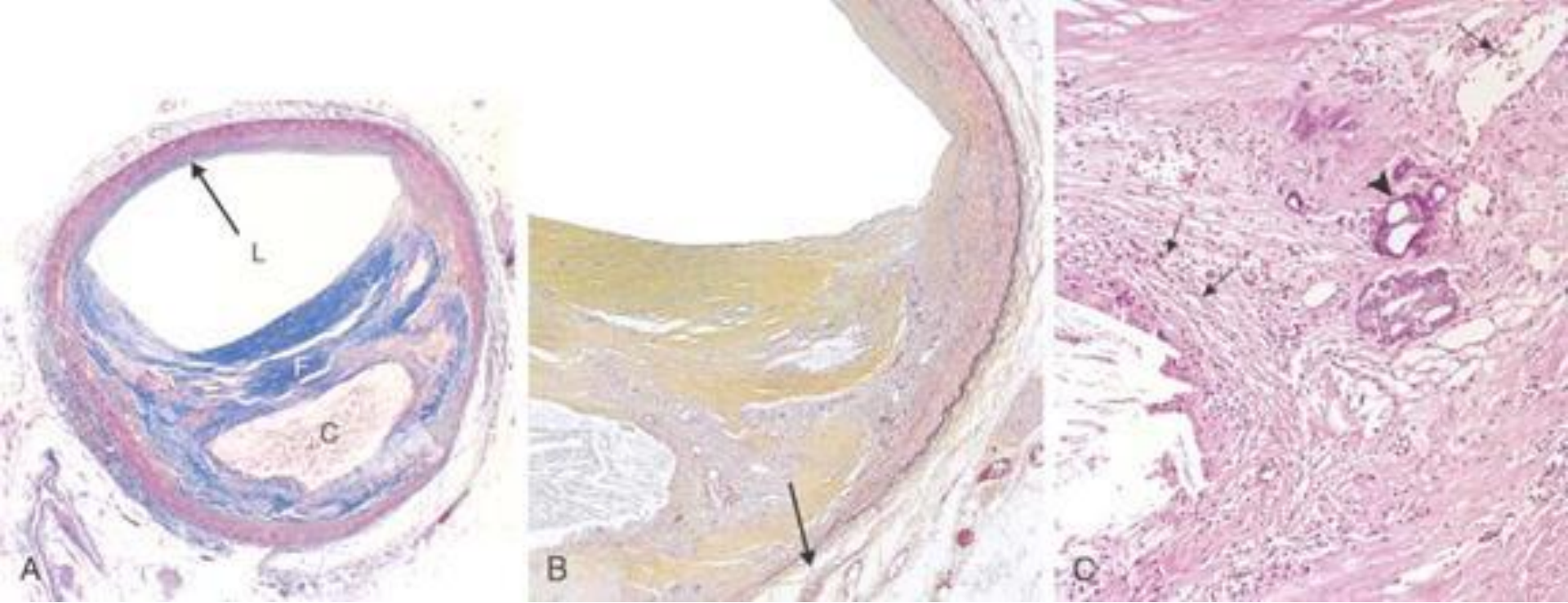


MILD

ADVANCED

ADVANCED FEATURES

- RUPTURE
- ULCERATION
- EROSION
- ATHEROEMBOLI
- HEMORRHAGE
- THROMBOSIS
- ANEURYSM



FUN THINGS TO FIND:

Lumen, Fibrous cap (fibrous plaque), Lipid core, External Elastic Membrane thinning/destruction, Calcification, Neovascularization

* EPIDEMIOLOGY & RISK FACTORS

Epid./RiskFactors

- Related to “development” of nation
- US highest
- 50-70% DECREASE 1963→2000. Why?
- AGE
- SEX, M>F until menopause, estrogen “protection”
- GENETICS

MAJOR

factors

- Hyperlipidemia
- Hypertension
- Cigarette Smoking
- Diabetes Mellitus

Risk Factors for Atherosclerosis

Major

NON-modifiable

Increasing age

Male gender

Family history

Genetic abnormalities

Modifiable

Hyperlipidemia

Hypertension

Cigarette smoking

Diabetes

Minor

Modifiable

Obesity

Physical inactivity

Stress ("type A" personality)

Postmenopausal estrogen deficiency

High carbohydrate intake

Alcohol

Lipoprotein Lp(a)

Hardened (trans)unsaturated fat intake

Chlamydia pneumoniae

MAJOR

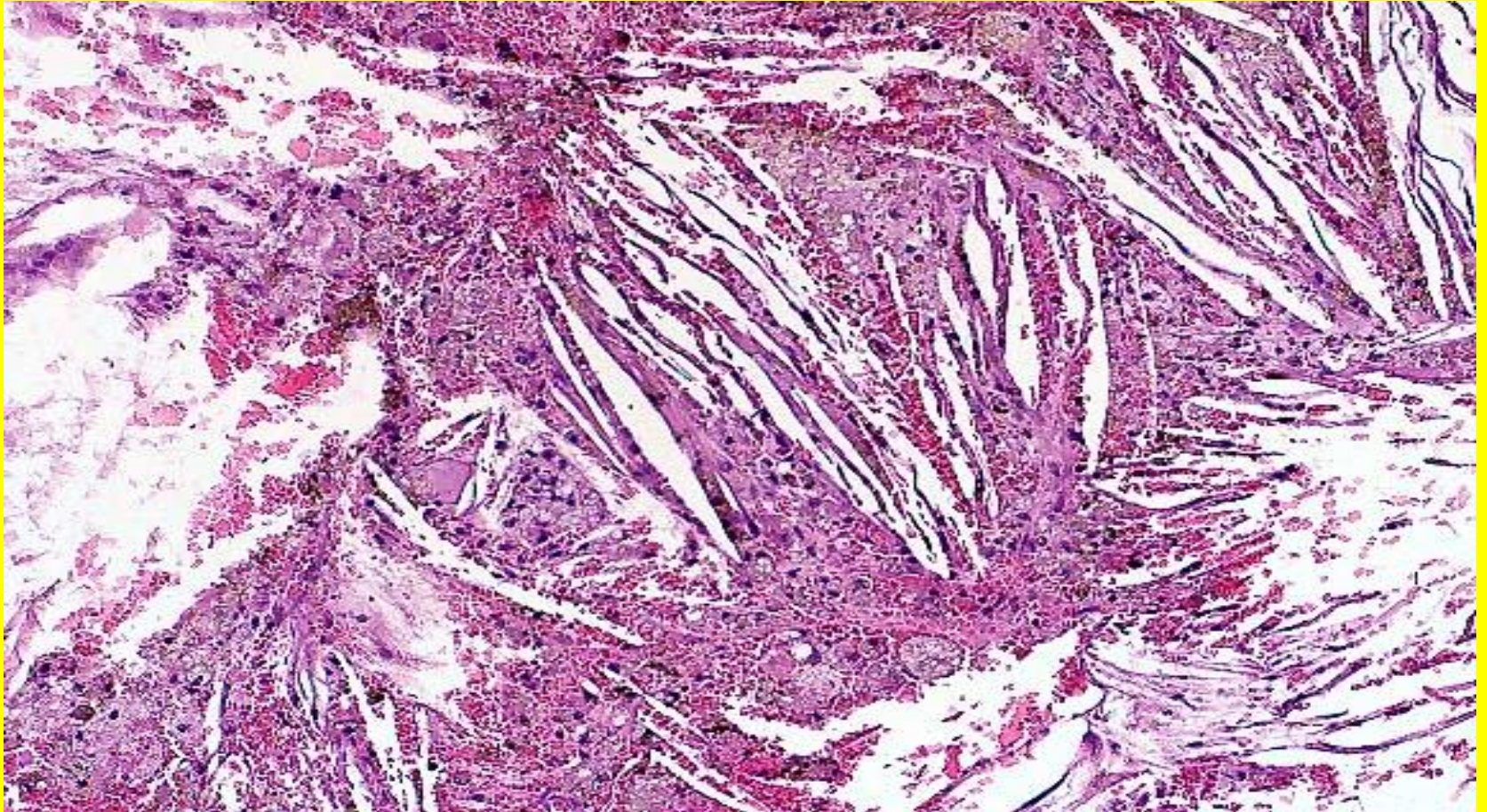
factors

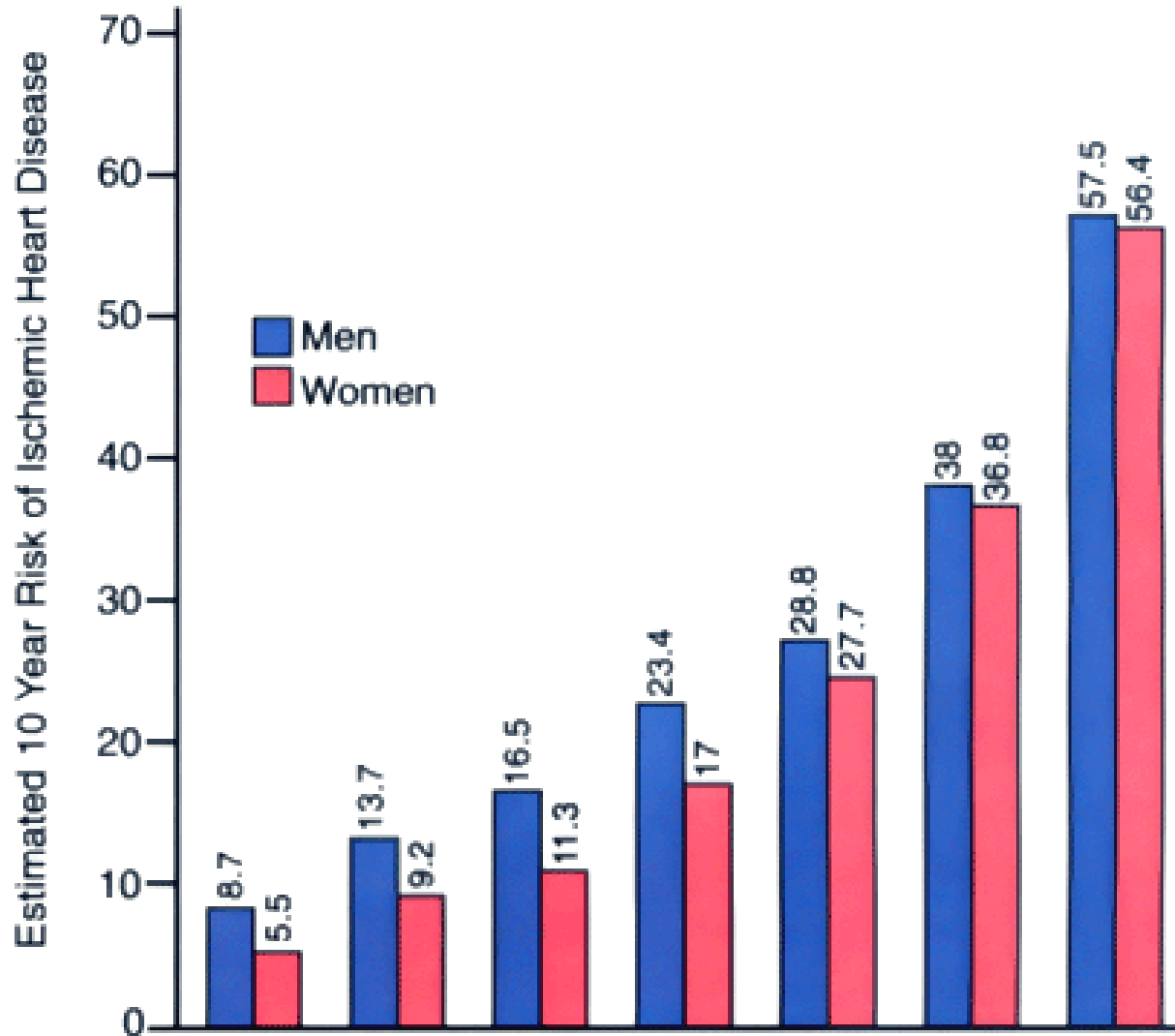
- Hyperlipidemia
- Hypertension
- Cigarette Smoking
- Diabetes Mellitus

HYPERLIPIDEMIA

- Chiefly CHOLESTEROL, LDL>>>>HDL
- HDL mobilizes cholesterol FROM atheromas to liver
- LOW CHOLESTEROL diet is GOOD
- UNSATURATED fatty acids GOOD
- Omega-3 fatty acids GOOD
- Exercise GOOD

CHOLESTEROL CLEFTS





BP Systolic	120	160	160	160	160	160	160
Cholesterol	220	220	260	260	260	260	260
HDL-C	50	50	50	35	35	35	35
Diabetes	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
Cigarettes	-	-	-	-	-	+	+

HYPERTENSION

- **HYPERTENSION** causes **ATHEROSCLEROSIS. Why?**
- **ATHEROSCLEROSIS** causes **HYPERTENSION. Why?**



CIGARETTES

- What more needs to be said?



DIABETES

- If there was one disease which I could challenge you to, as a dare, to PROVE to me that was NOT EXACTLY **THE SAME** as atherosclerosis, it would be DIABETES! Any takers?

NON major factors

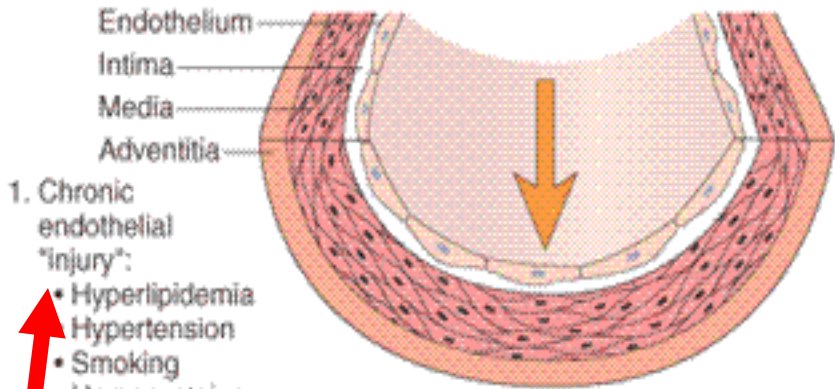
- **Homocysteinuria/homocysteinemia**, related to low B6 and folate intake
- **Coagulation defects**
- **Lipoprotein Lp(a)**, independent of cholesterol. Lp(a) is an altered form of LDL
- **Inadequate exercise, Type “A” personality, obesity** (independent of diabetes)
- **Protective effect of moderate alcohol?** Medical LIE, sponsored by the booze industry and alcoholic physicians!

PATHOGENESIS

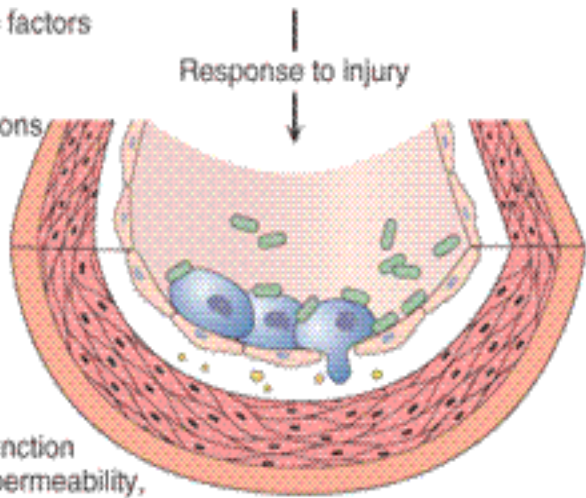
- *“atherosclerosis is a chronic inflammatory response of the arterial wall initiated by injury to the endothelium”*

PATHOGENESIS SAGA

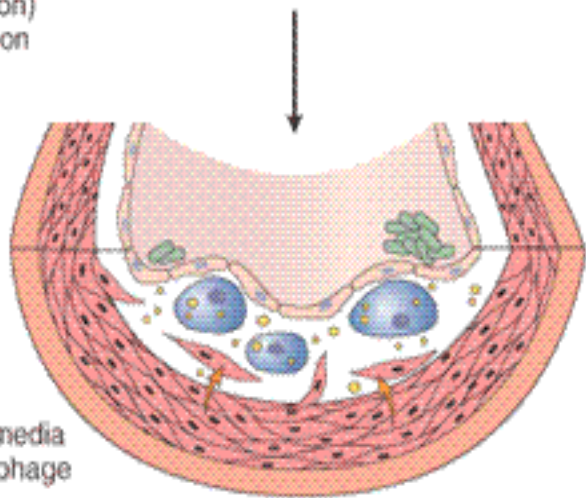
- Chronic endothelial injury →
- LDL, Cholesterol in arterial WALL →
- OXIDATION of lipoproteins →
- Monocytes migrate → endothelium → *
- Platelet adhesion and activation →
- Migration of SMOOTH MUSCLE from media to intima to activate macrophages (foam cells) →
- Proliferation of SMOOTH MUSCLE and ECM →
- Accumulation of lipids in cells and ECM



1. Chronic endothelial "injury":
- Hyperlipidemia
 - Hypertension
 - Smoking
 - Homocysteine
 - Hemodynamic factors
 - Toxins
 - Viruses
 - Immune reactions



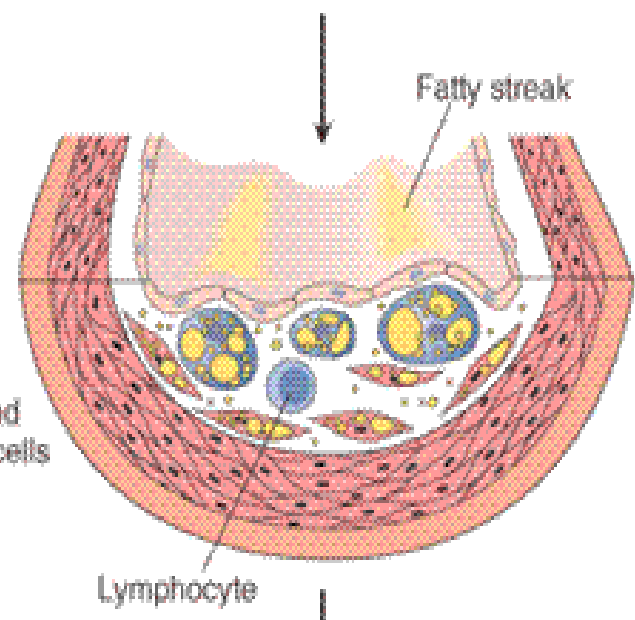
2. Endothelial dysfunction (e.g., increased permeability, leukocyte adhesion) Monocyte adhesion and emigration.



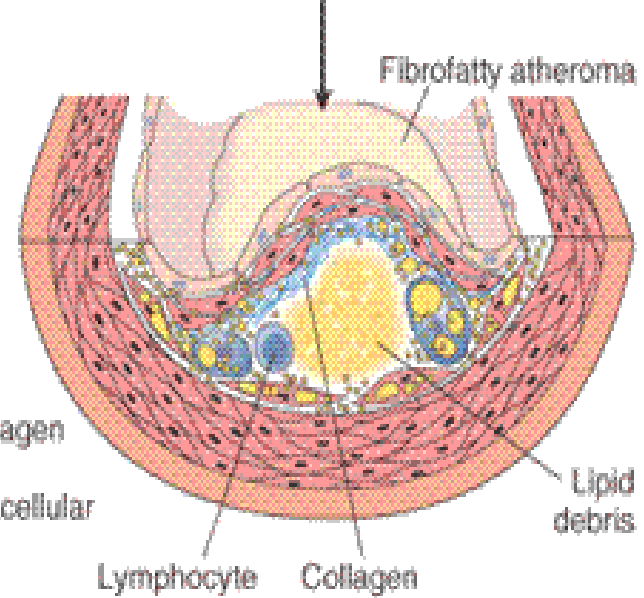
3. Smooth muscle emigration from media to intima. Macrophage activation.



4. Macrophages and smooth muscle cells engulf lipid



5. Smooth muscle proliferation, collagen and other ECM deposition, extracellular lipid



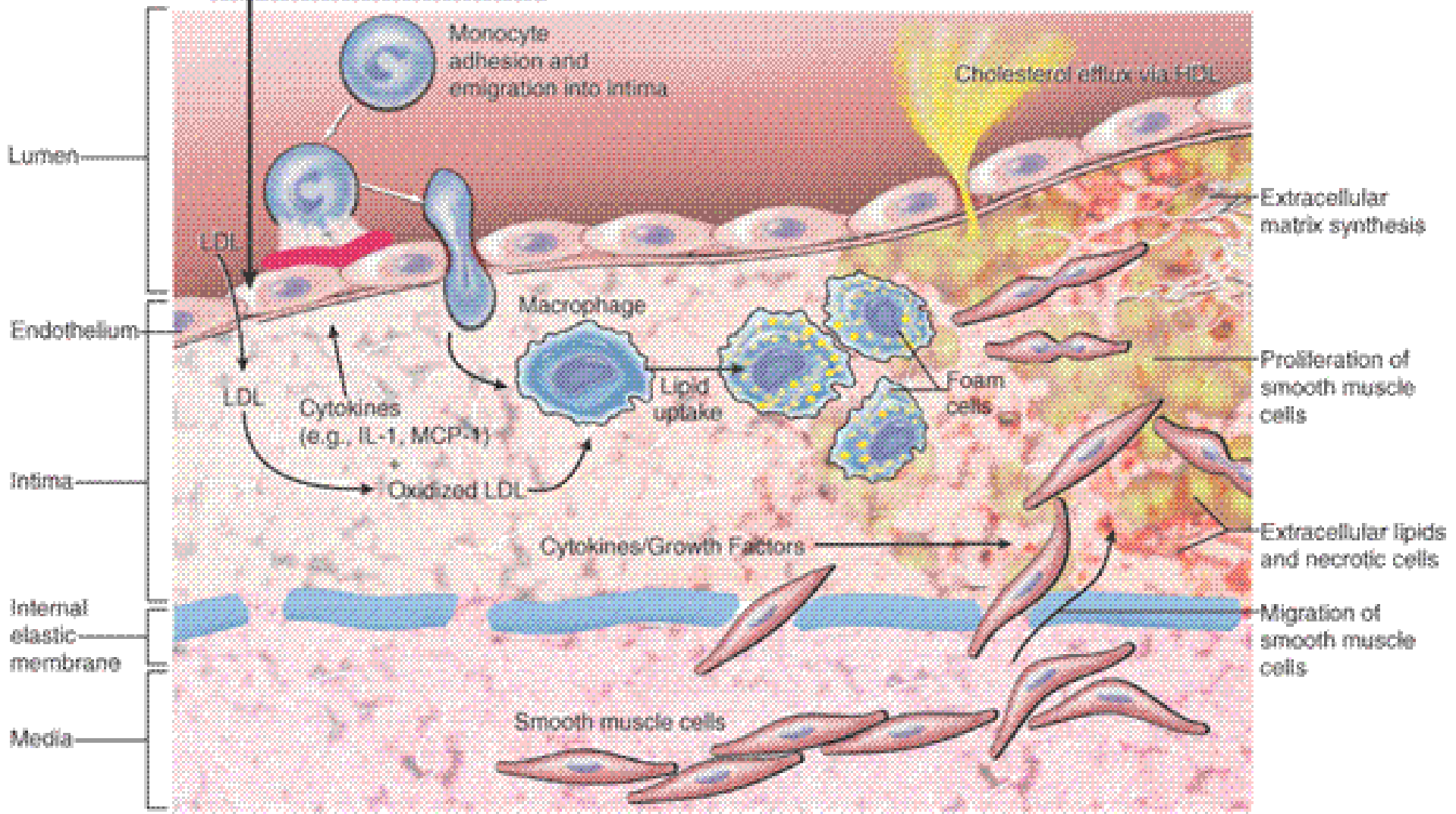
- Lymphocyte Collagen

Main FOUR STARS of PATHOGENESIS SAGA

- 1) Endothelial Injury
- 2) Inflammation
- 3) Lipids
- 4) Smooth Muscle Cells, SMCs

Hyperlipidemia, Hypertension, Smoking, Toxins, Hemodynamic factors, Immune reactions, Viruses

Endothelial Injury/Dysfunction



Normal vessel → Progressive development of atherosclerotic plaque

Other Pathogenesis Considerations

- **Oligoclonality of cells in plaque**
- **Chlamydia, CMV as endothelial injurers**

PREVENTION PRINCIPLES

- Know what is preventable
- Know what is MAJOR (vs. minor)
- Know PRIMARY vs. SECONDARY principles
- Understand atherosclerosis begins in CHILDHOOD
- Risk factors in CHILDREN predict the ADULT profile
- Understand SEX, ETHNIC differences

NON ATHEROSCLEROSIS VASCULAR DISEASES

- **HYPERTENSION**
- **ANEURYSMS**
- **VASCULITIDES**
- **VEIN DISORDERS**
- **NEOPLASMS**

HYPERTENSION

- “ESSENTIAL” 95%
- “SECONDARY” 5%

SECONDARY

- **Renal**

- Acute glomerulonephritis
- Chronic renal disease
- Polycystic disease
- Renal artery stenosis
- Renal artery fibromuscular dysplasia
- Renal vasculitis
- Renin-producing tumors

- **Endocrine**

- Adrenocortical hyperfunction
- (Cushing syndrome, primary aldosteronism, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, licorice ingestion)
- Exogenous hormones (glucocorticoids, estrogen [including pregnancy-induced and oral contraceptives], sympathomimetics and tyramine-containing foods, monoamine oxidase inhibitors)
- Pheochromocytoma, Acromegaly, Hypothyroidism (myxedema), Hyperthyroidism
- Pregnancy-induced

- **Cardiovascular:** Coarctation of aorta, Polyarteritis nodosa (or other vasculitis)

- Increased intravascular volume

- **MISC:**

DEFINITION

- 140/90
- **SUSTAINED** diastolic >90
- **SUSTAINED** systolic >140

ALL Hypertension

$$BP = CO \times PR$$

HUMORAL FACTORS

Constrictors

Angiotensin II
Catecholamines
Thromboxane
Leukotrienes
Endothelin

Dilators

Prostaglandins
Kinins
NO

PERIPHERAL RESISTANCE

LOCAL FACTORS

Autoregulation
Ionic (pH, hypoxia)

NEURAL FACTORS

Constrictors

α -adrenergic

Dilators

β -adrenergic

BLOOD VOLUME

Sodium
Mineralocorticoids
Atriopeptin

BP = CARDIAC OUTPUT \times PERIPHERAL RESISTANCE

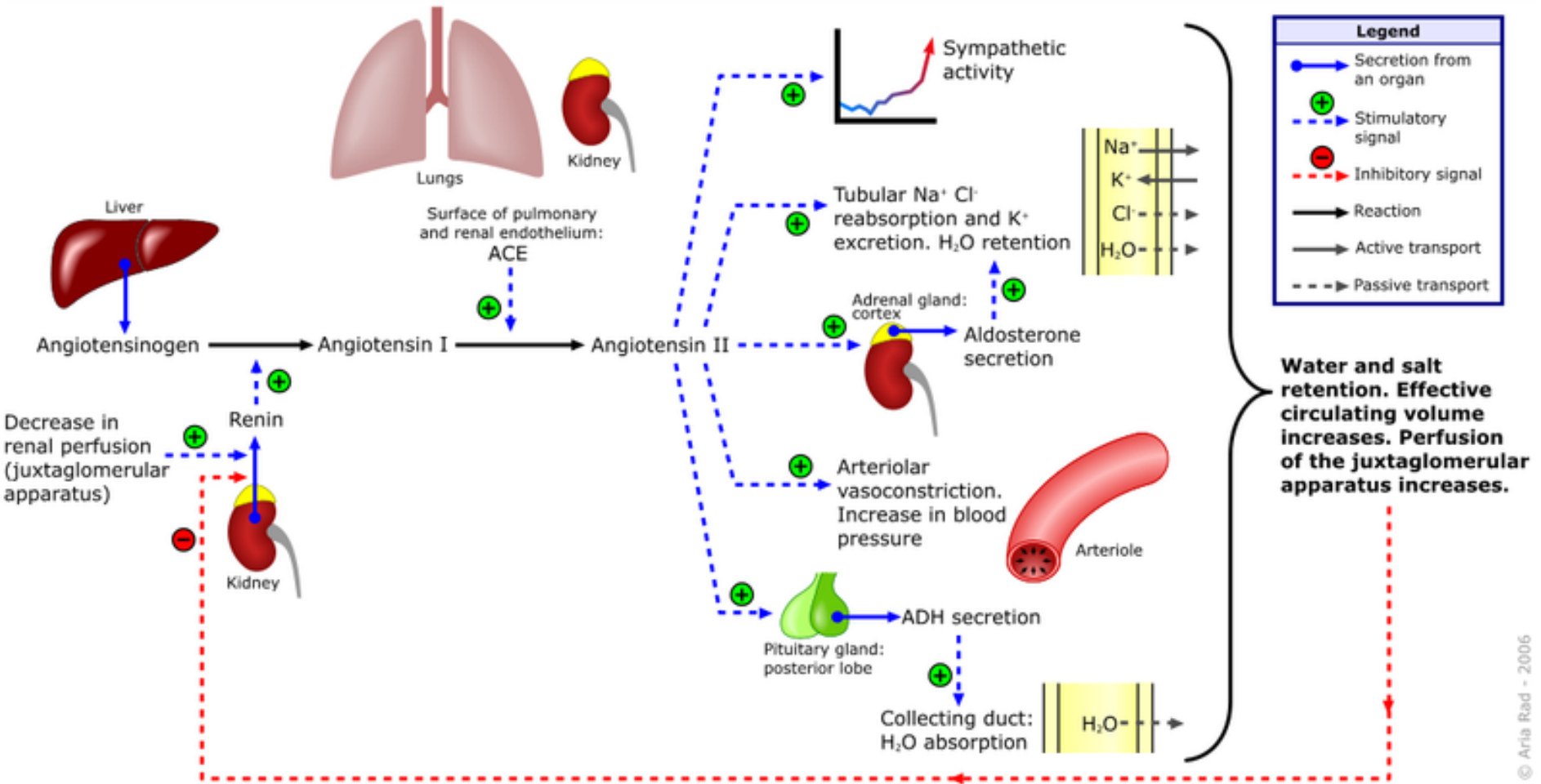
CARDIAC FACTORS

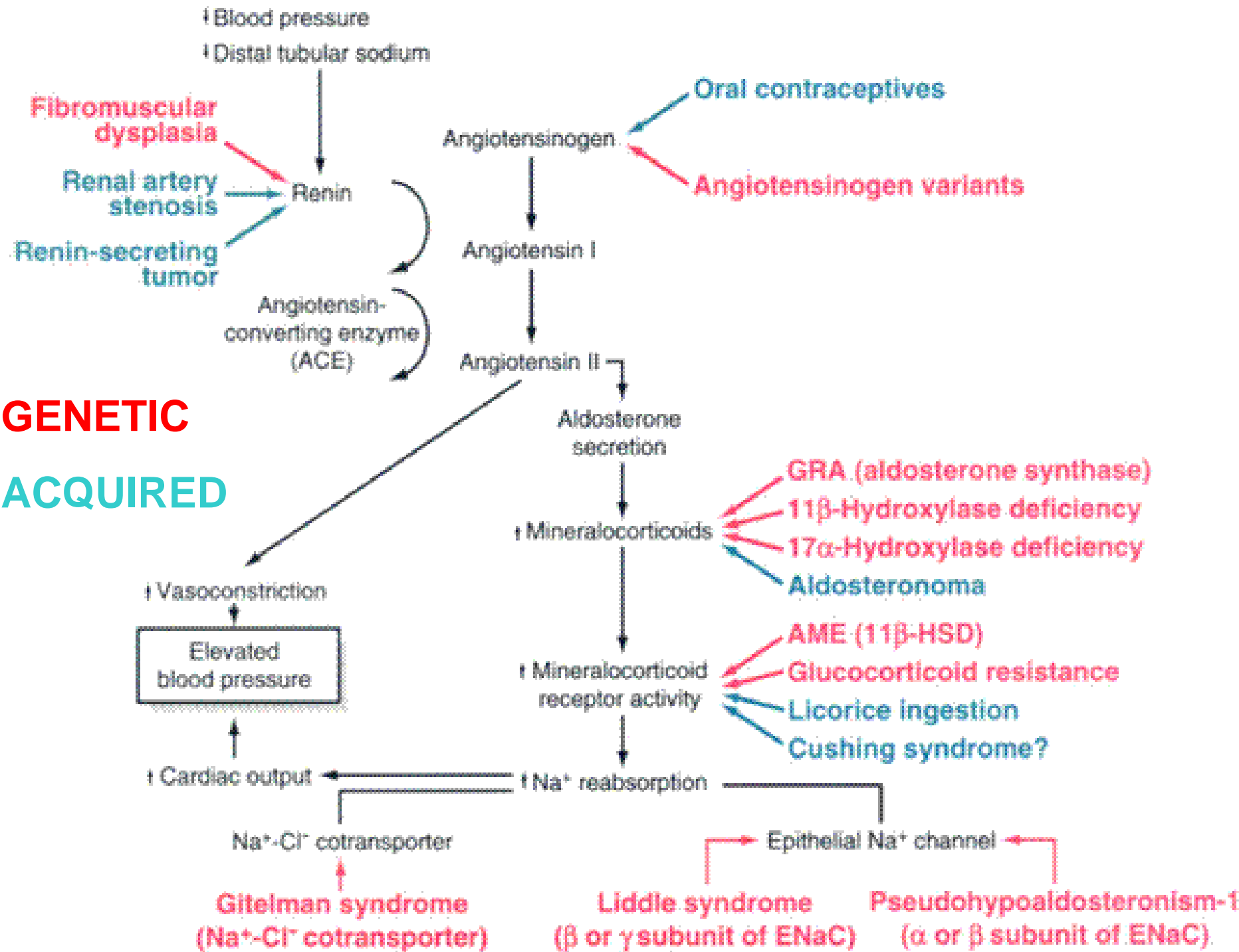
Heart rate
Contractility

Renin → Angiotensin → Aldosterone AXIS (RAAS)

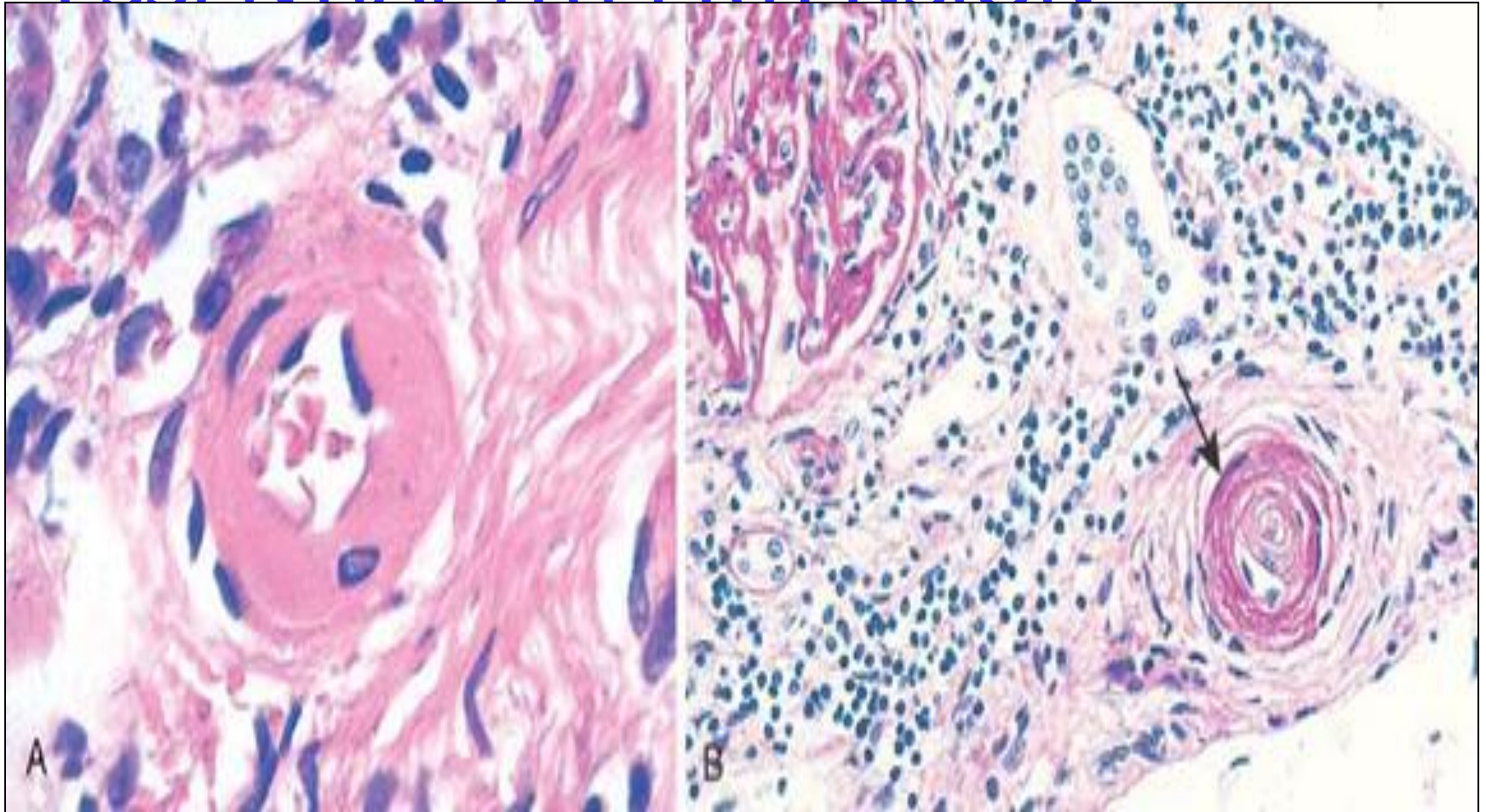
- If the perfusion of the juxtaglomerular apparatus in the kidneys decreases, then the juxtaglomerular cells release the enzyme renin.
- Renin cleaves an inactive peptide called angiotensinogen, converting it into angiotensin I.
- Angiotensin I is then converted to angiotensin II by angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE), which is found mainly in lung capillaries.
- Angiotensin II is the major bioactive product of the renin-angiotensin system. Angiotensin II acts as an endocrine, autocrine/paracrine, and intracrine hormone.

Renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system





HISTOPATHOLOGY of ESSENTIAL HYPERTENSION



“HYALINE” = BENIGN HTN. “HYPERPLASTIC” =
MALIGNANT HTN. SYS>200

1) ONION SKIN 2)

GENETIC

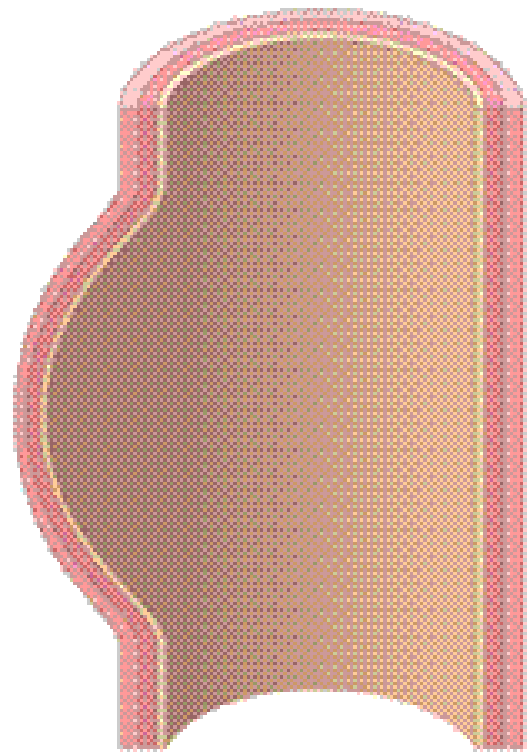
VS.

ENVIRONMENTAL

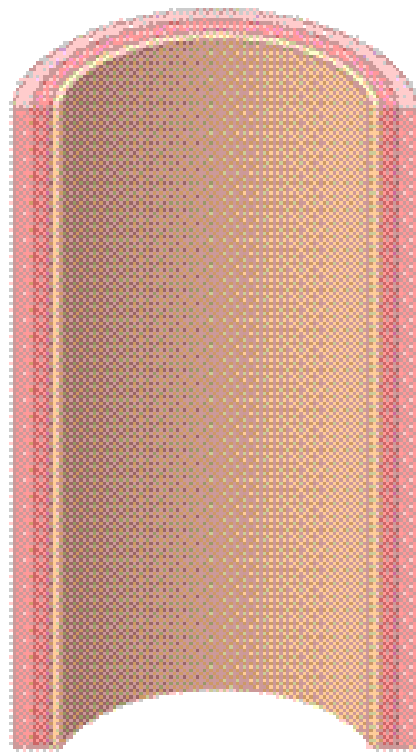
- GENETIC → UN-CONTROLLABLE
- ENVIRONMENTAL → CONTROLLABLE
 - STRESS
 - OBESITY
 - SMOKING
 - PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
 - NaCl INTAKE

ANEURYSMS

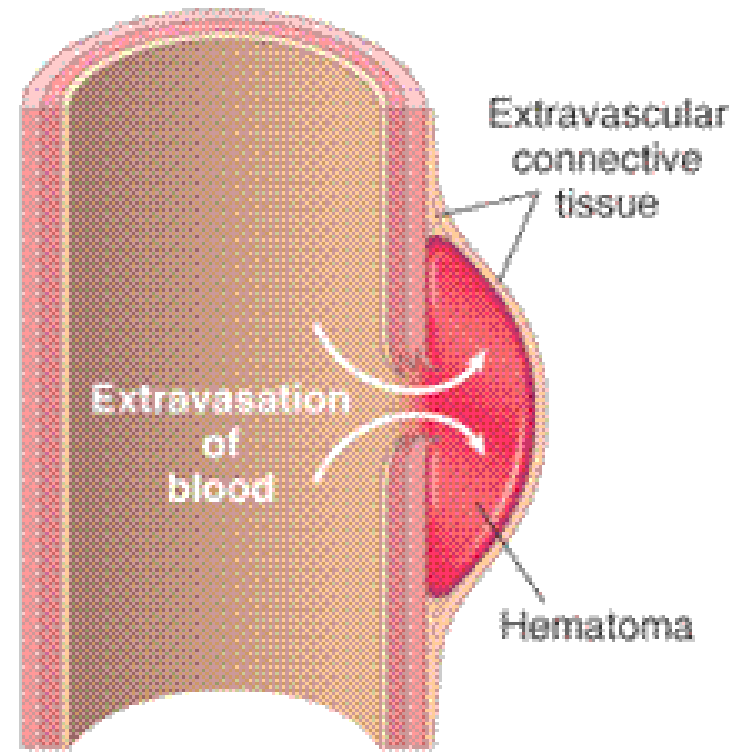
- TRUE vs. FALSE
- ATHEROSCLEROTIC
- NON-ATHEROSCLEROTIC
 - CONGENITAL
 - LUETIC (SYPHILITIC)
 - TRAUMATIC
 - “MYCOTIC” (MIS-leading term)
 - 2° to VASCULITIS
- SACCULAR (i.e., “Berry”) vs. FUSIFORM
- DISSECTION vs. NON-DISSECTION



True aneurysm



Normal vessel



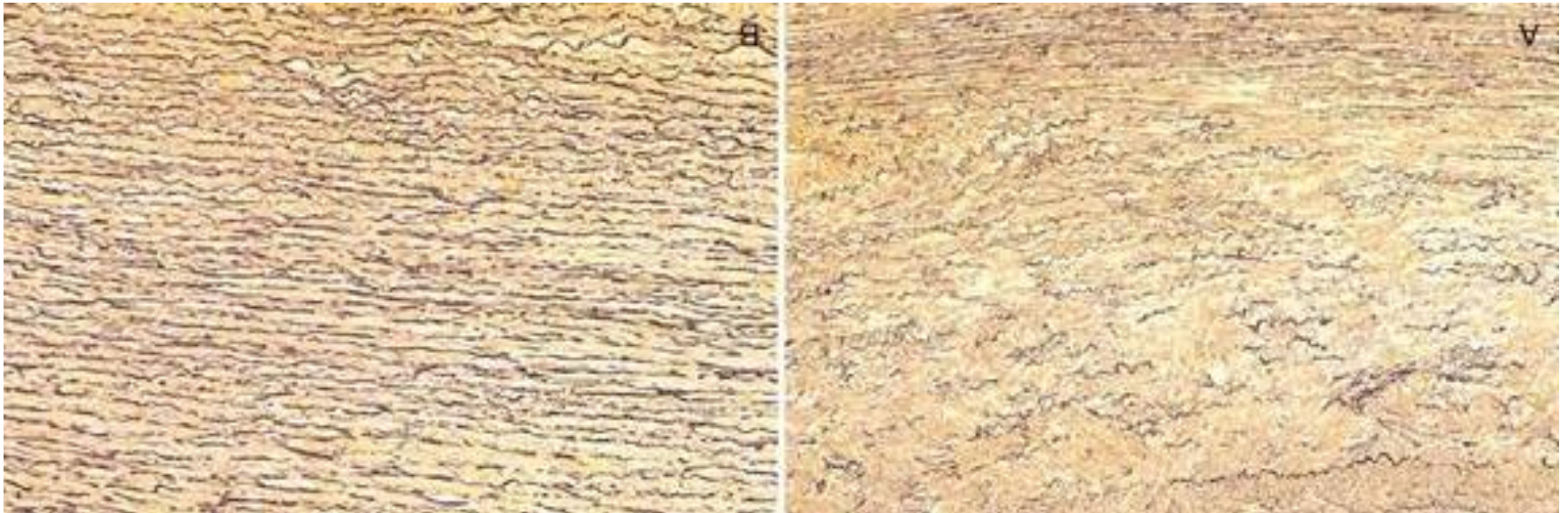
False aneurysm

ANEURYSMS

- 2 CAUSES:

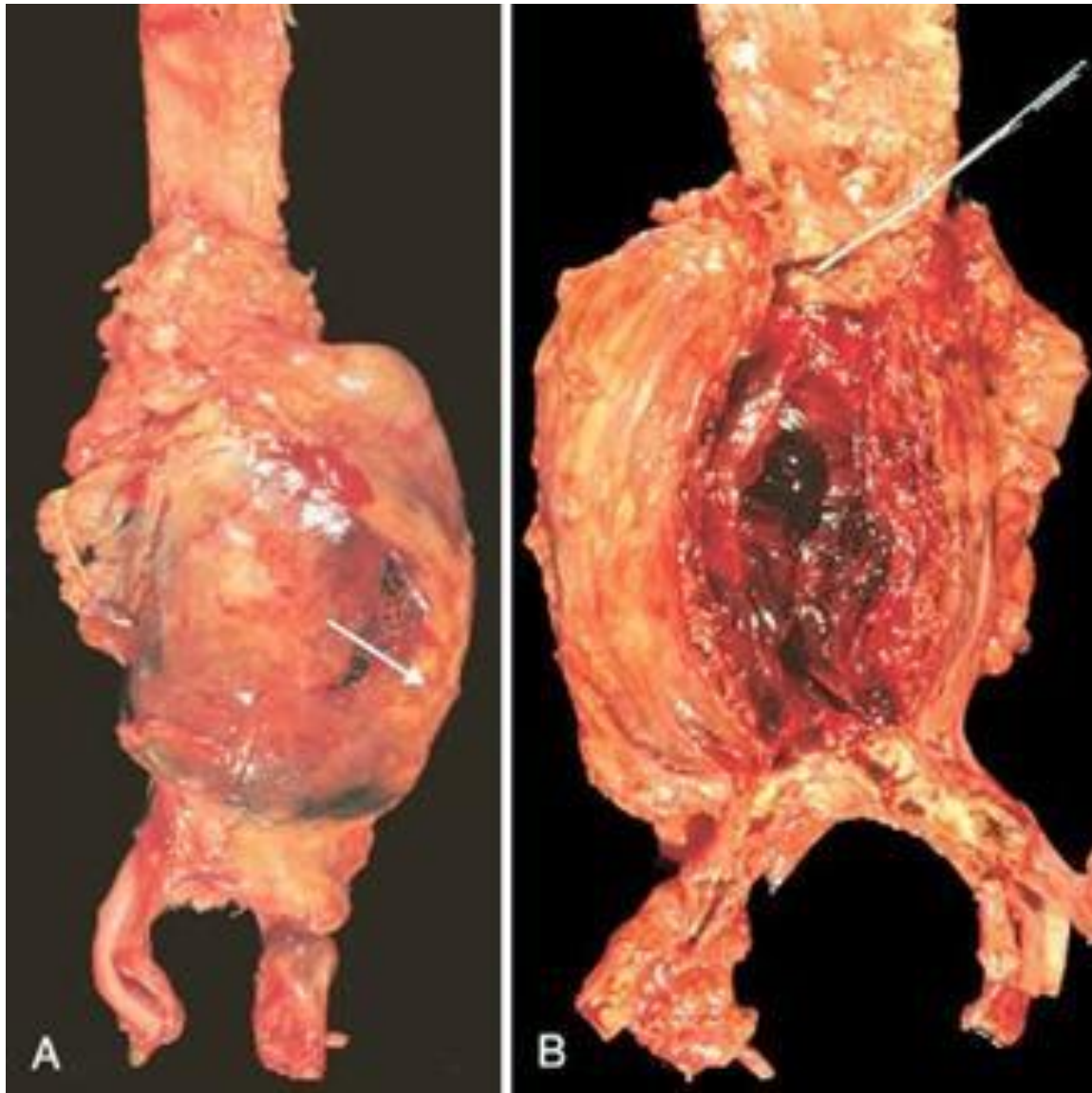
- 1) ATHEROSCLEROSIS

- 2) CYSTIC MEDIAL DEGENERATION (NECROSIS), can be familial



NORMAL elastic fibers

DISRUPTED, FRAGMENTED elastic fibers



Most abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAA) occur between the renal arteries and the bifurcation of the aorta

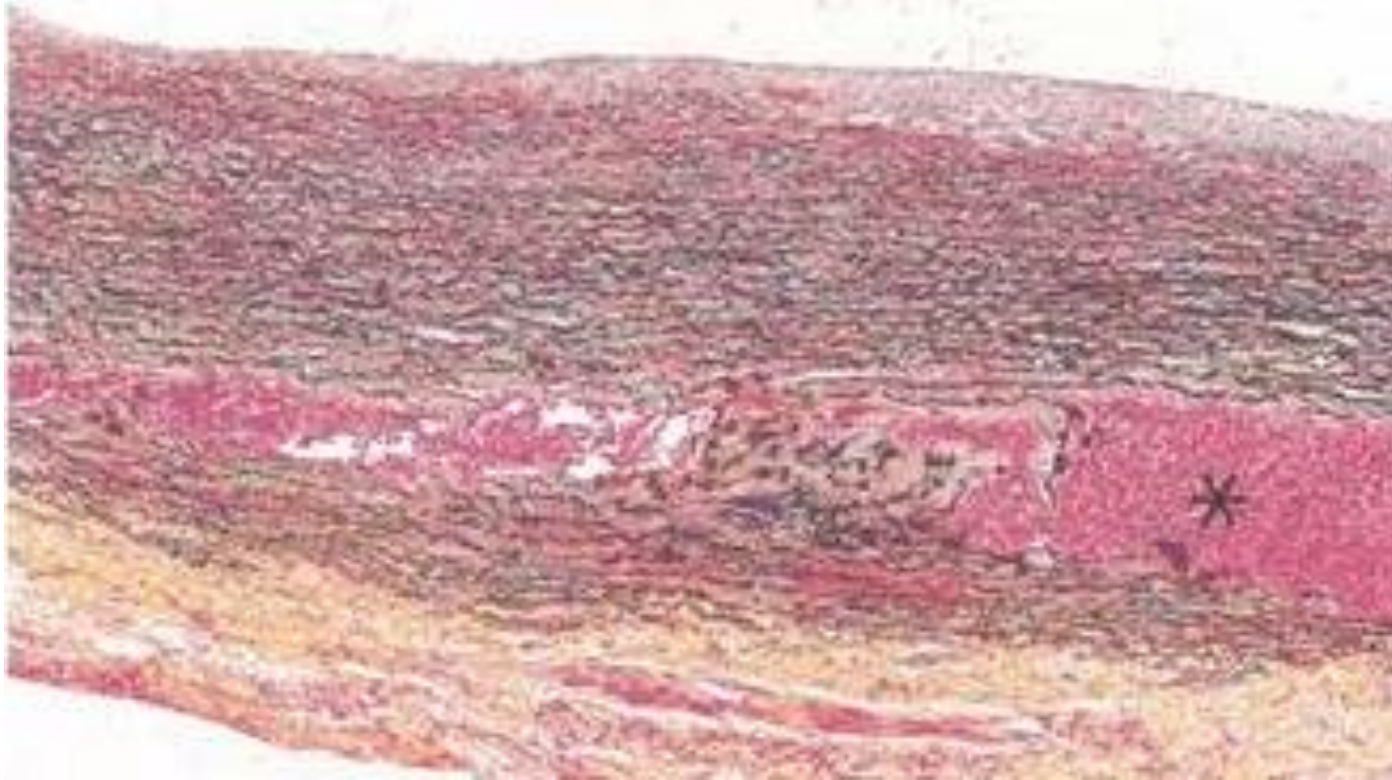
ANEURYSMS

(sequelae)

- RUPTURE
- OBSTRUCTION
- EMBOLISM
- COMPRESSION
 - URETER
 - SPINE
- MASS EFFECT

THORACIC ANEURYSMS

- **Encroachment**
- **Respiratory difficulties**
- **Dysphagia**
- **Cough**
- **Pain**
- **Aortic valve dilatation**
- **Rupture**



DISSECTION

ANEURYSMS

(luetic)

- **Chiefly thoracic**
- **Follows an AORTITIS**
 - **PLASMA CELLS predominate**

VASCULITIDES

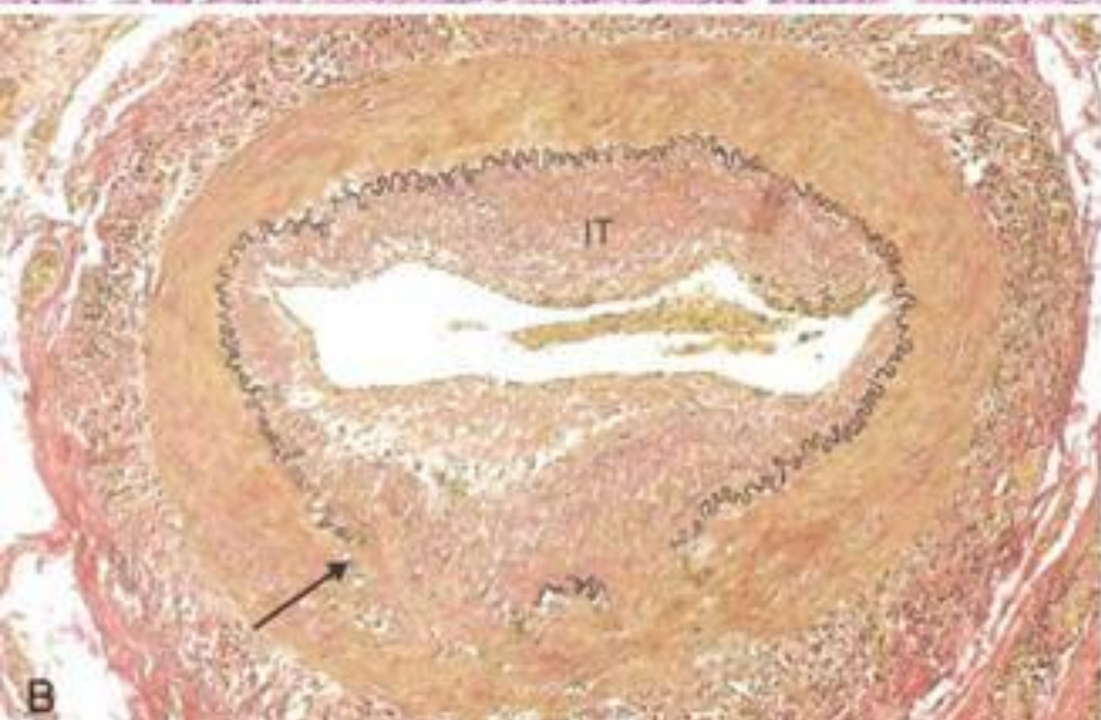
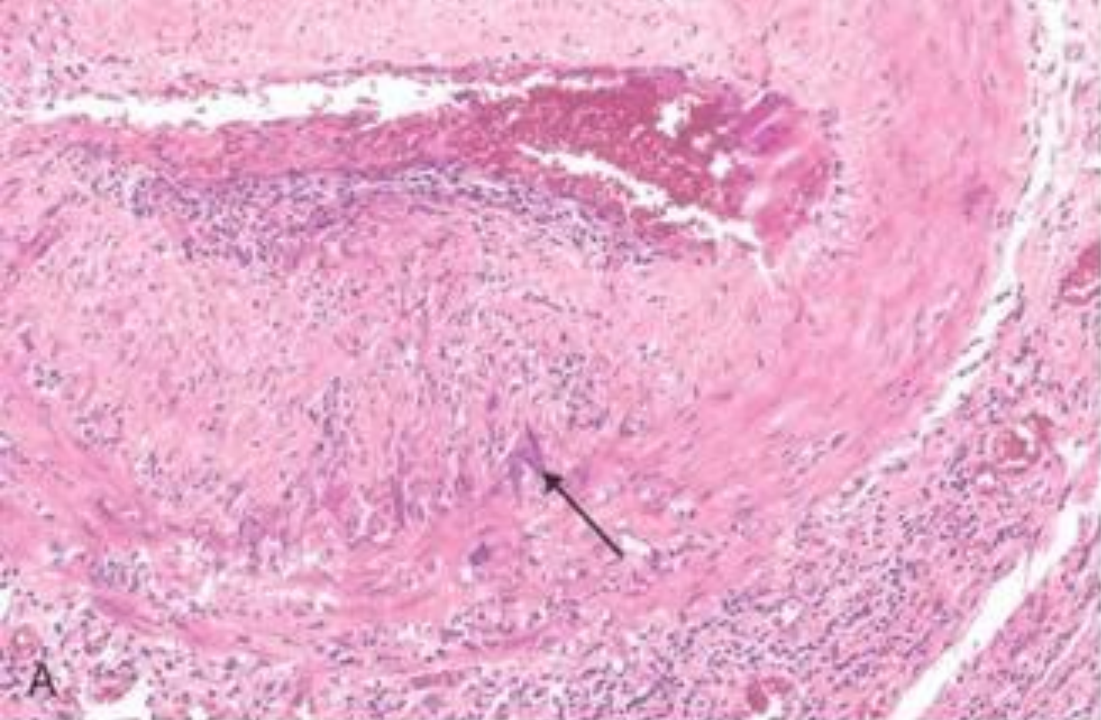
- TEMPORAL “GIANT CELL” ARTERITIS
- TAKAYASU ARTERITIS
- POLY (PERI) ARTERITIS NODOSA
- KAWASAKI DISEASE
- WEGENER’S GRANULOMATOSIS
- THROMBOANGI(i)TIS OBLITERANS (BUERGER[’s] DISEASE)
- OTHER
- INFECTIOUS

VASCULITIDES

- Chiefly arterial
- Infectious (5%) vs. Non-infectious (95%)
- NON-infectious are generally “AUTO”-IMMUNE. Why?
- Persistent findings:
 - Immune complexes
 - ANTI-NEUTROPHIL AB's (Wegener's, “Temporal”)
 - ANTI-ENDOTHELIAL CELL AB's (Kawasaki)
- Often DRUG related (Hypersensitivity, e.g.)

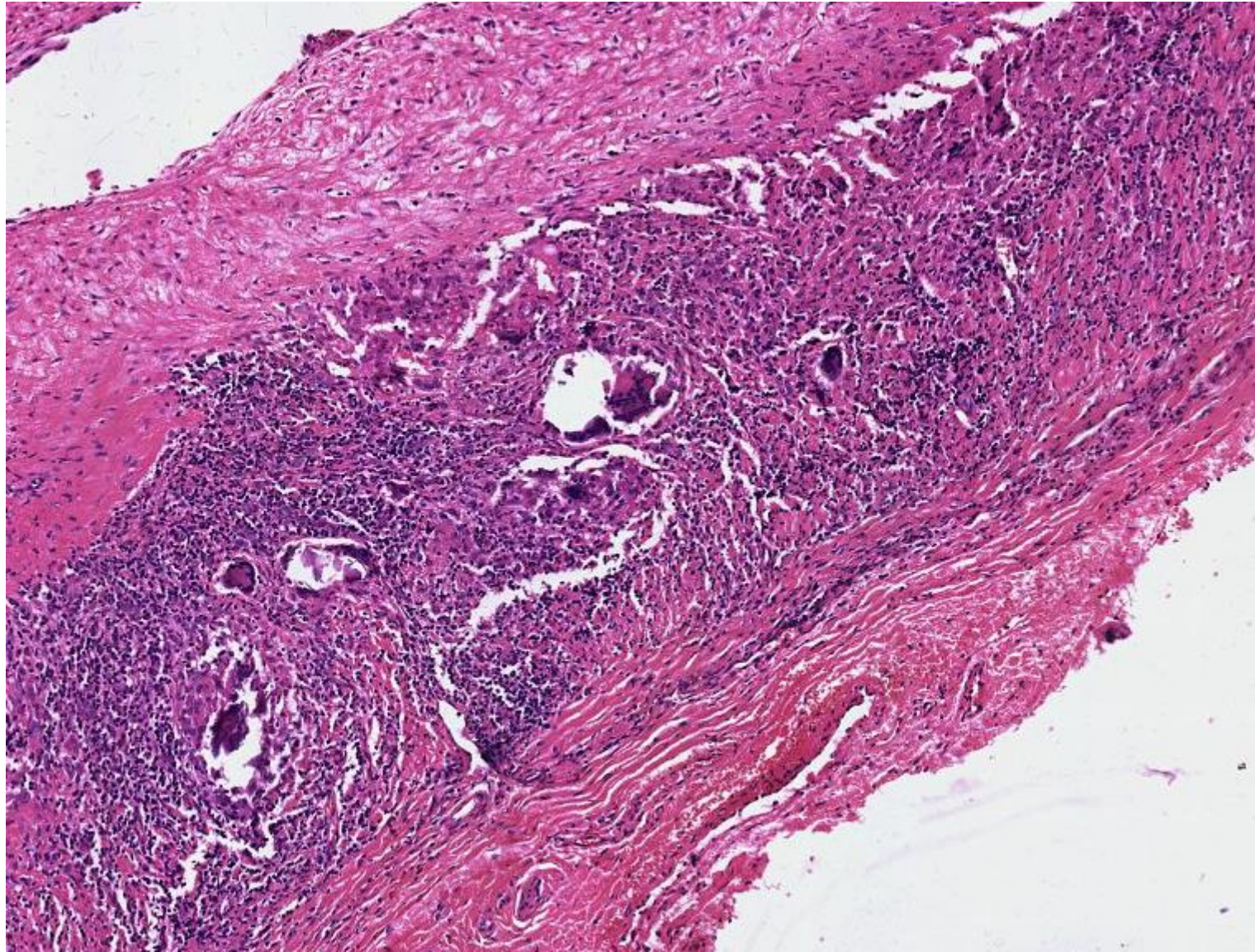
“TEMPORAL” ARTERITIS aka, Giant Cell Arteritis, GCA

- ADULTS
- Mainly arteries of the head and temporal arteries are the most visibly, palpably, and surgically accessible
- BLINDNESS most feared sequelae
- GRANULOMATOUS WALL inflammation diagnostic
- OFTEN associated with marked ESR elevation to be then known as POLYMYALGIA RHEUMATICA
- Anti-NEUTROPHIL AB's often POSITIVE



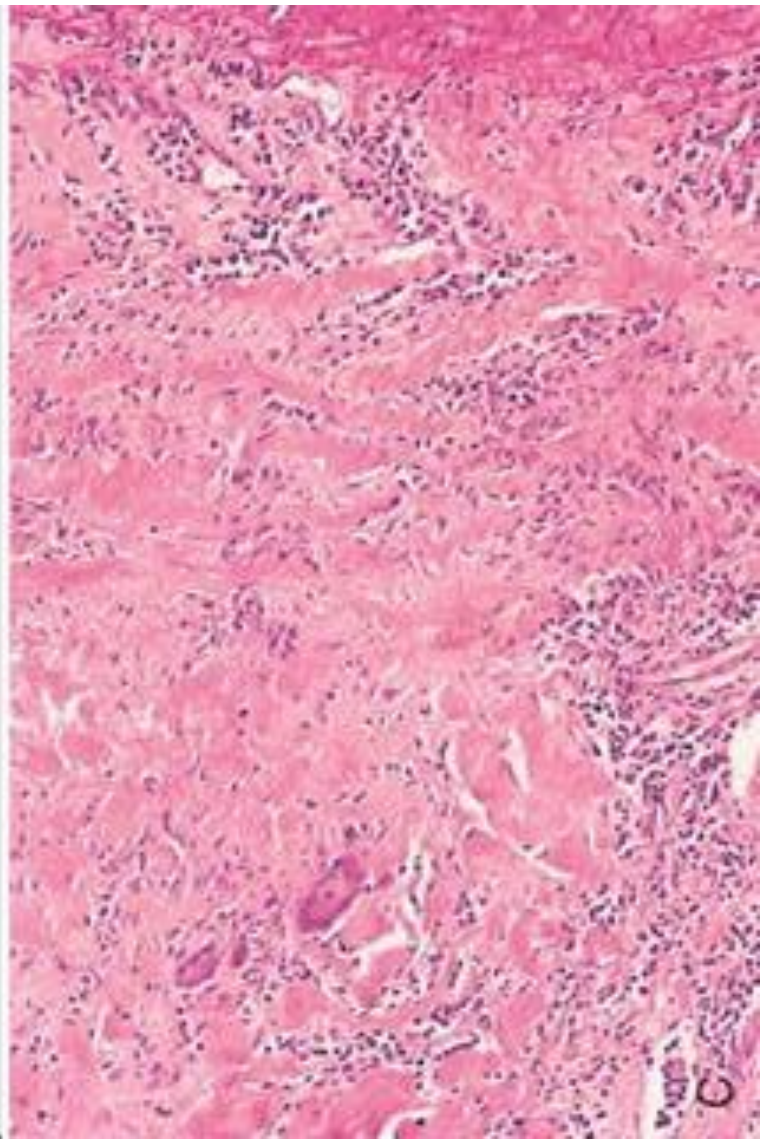
TEMPORAL ARTERITIS

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TAKAYASU ARTERITIS

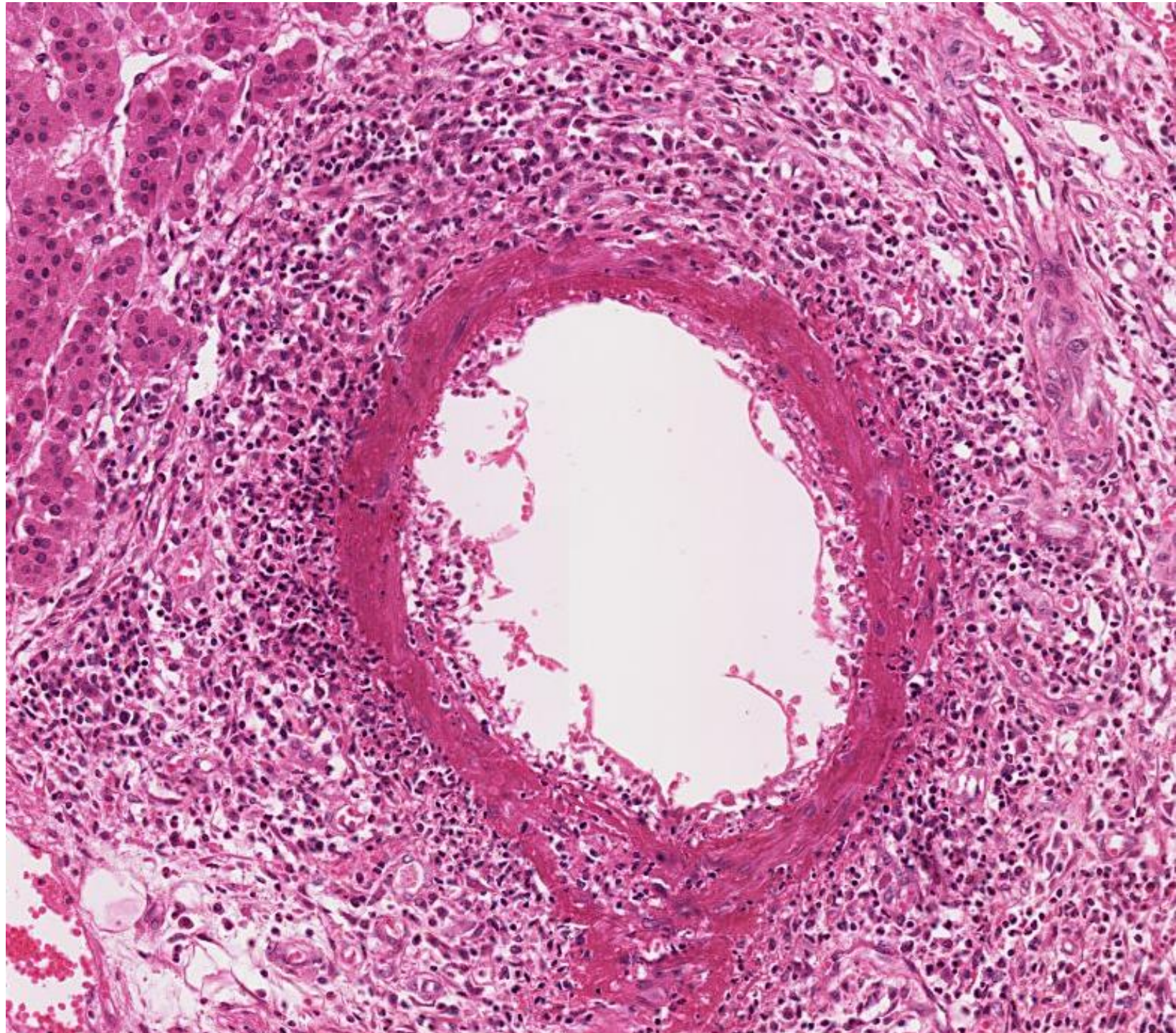
- Involves aortic arch and other heavily elastic arteries, i.e., chief thoracic aorta branches, most commonly young Asian women
- FEMALES <40
- “PULSELESS” disease
- NECROSIS, Giant Cells also



POLY-(Peri-) **A**RTERITIS **N**ODOSA (**PAN**)

- **ANY MEDIUM or SMALL artery**
- **OFTEN visceral arteries**
- **Infarcts, aneurysms, ischemia**
- **CLASSICAL AUTOIMMUNE disease**
- **SEGMENTAL, TRANSMURAL, NECROTIZING (fibrinoid) inflammation**

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KAWASAKI DISEASE

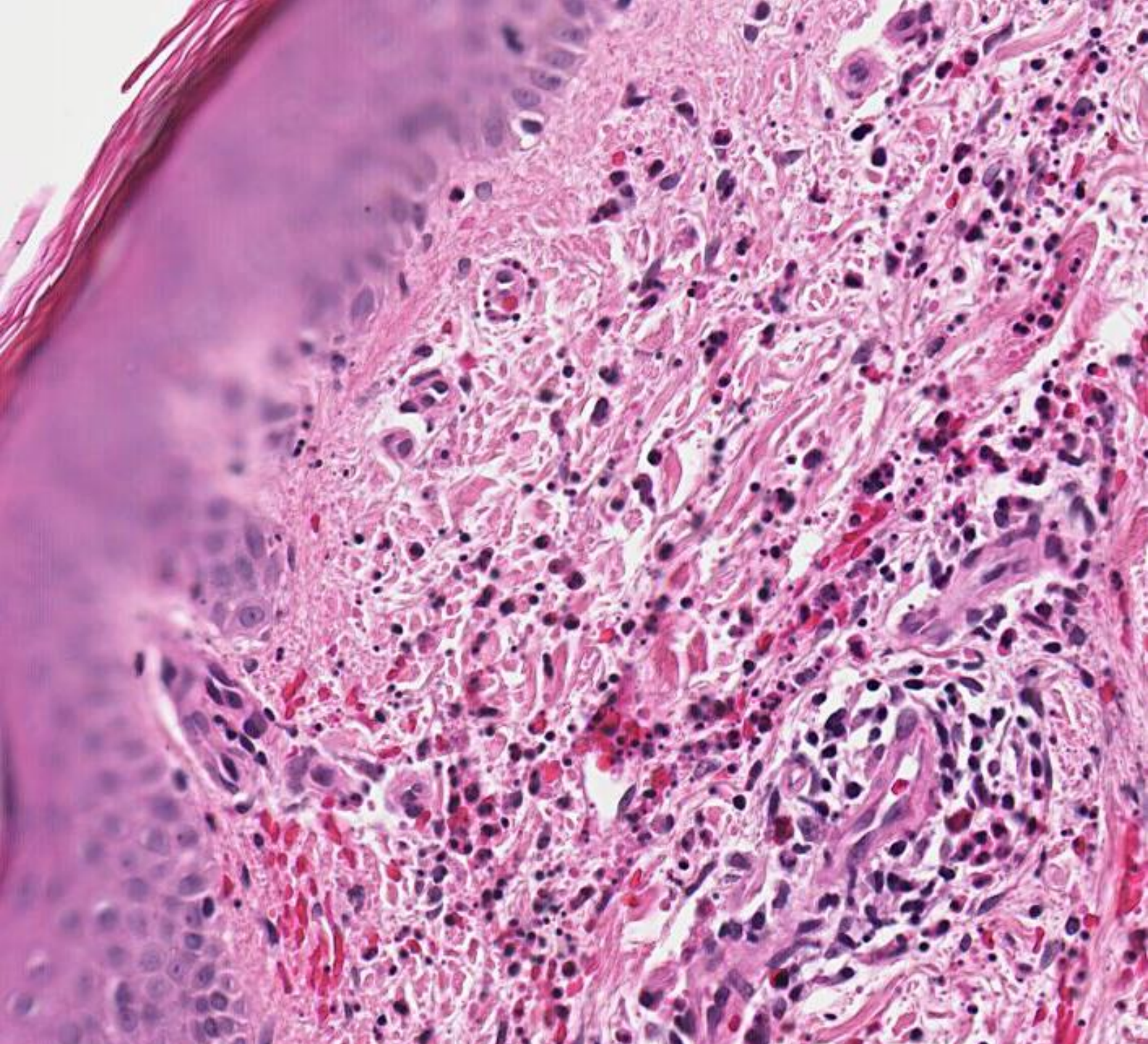
- CHILDREN <4
- CORONARY ARTERIES
- LEADING cause of ACQUIRED heart disease in children
- USA and JAPAN
- Fatal in only 1%

MICROSCOPIC POLYANGIITIS

HYPERSENSITIVITY VASCULITIS

LEUKOCYTOCLASTIC VASCULITIS

- **SMALL** VESSELS OF ALL TYPES, e.g., capillaries and veins too
- **FRAGMENTED NEUTROPHILS**
- aka, LEUKOCYTOCLASIA
- aka, NUCLEAR “DUST”
- Most are ALLERGIC reactions to allergens like penicillin or strep
- **DERMATOLOGIST’S DISEASE**



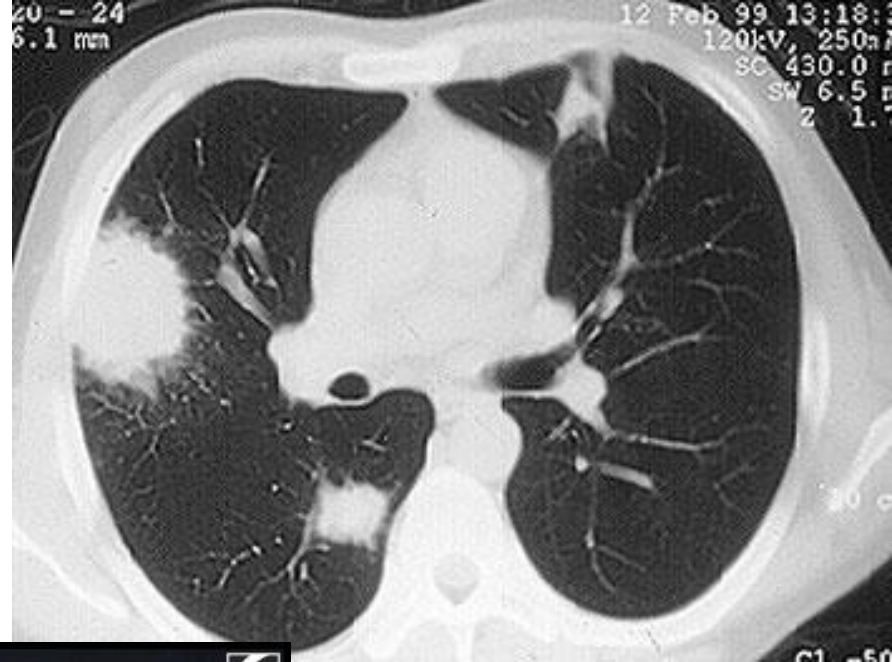
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WEGENER GRANULOMATOSIS

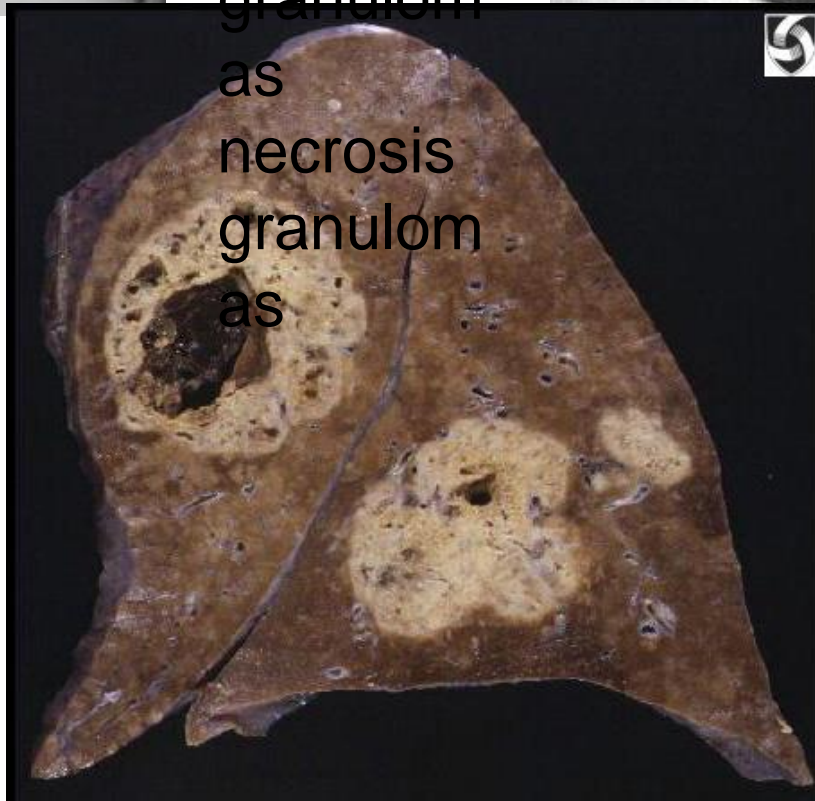
- M>F, often in 40's
- ACUTE NECROTIZING GRANULOMAS OF UPPER and LOWER respiratory tract
- NECROTIZING GRANULOMATOUS VASCULITIS of SMALL vessels of ALL types
- Often renal involvement, “crescentic” glomerulonephritis
- ANTI-NEUTROPHIL-CYTOPLASMIC-AB's usually present



necrosis
granulom
as
necrosis
granulom
as
necrosis
granulom
as



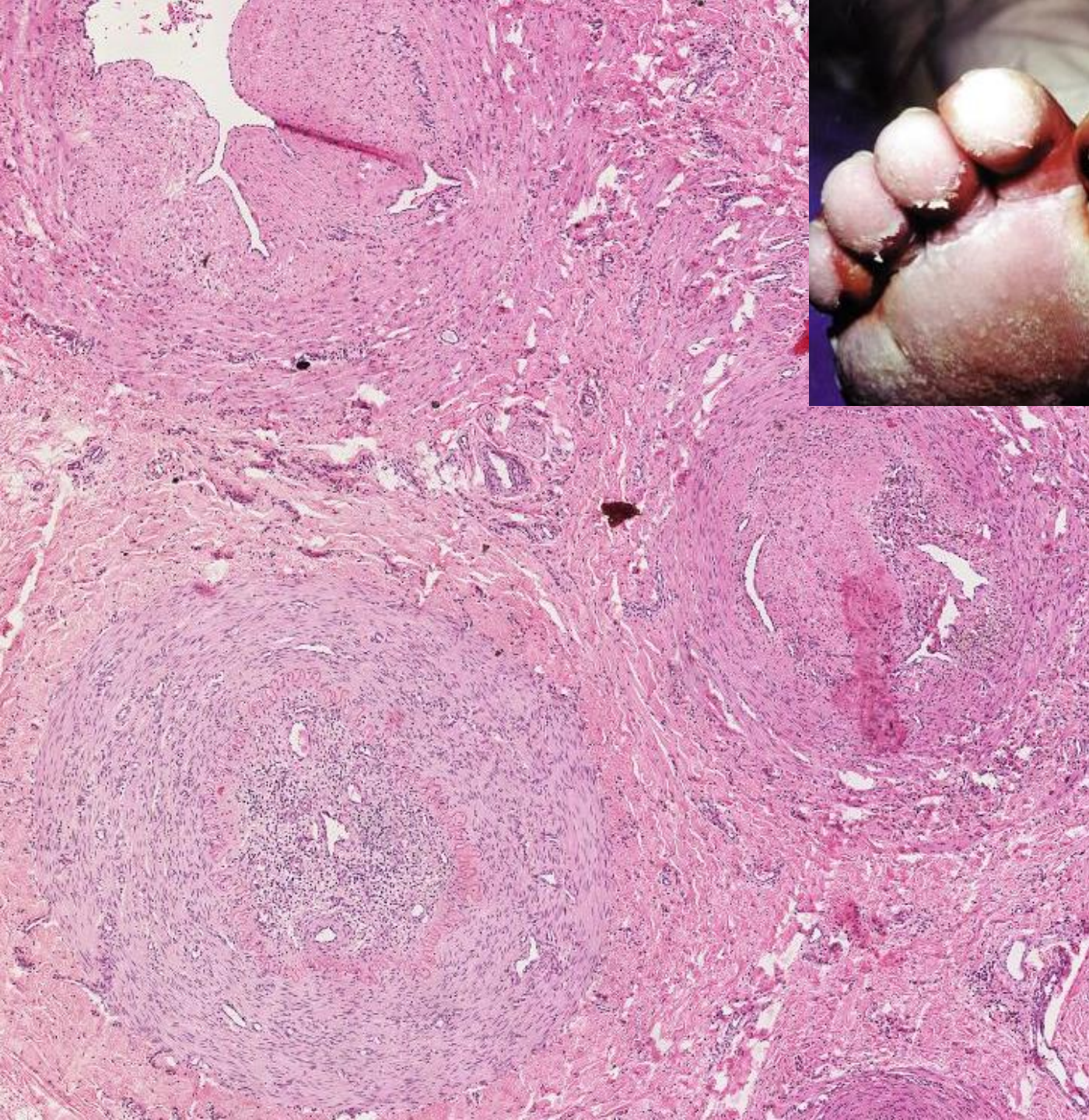
necrosis
granuloma
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necrosis
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necrosis
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necrosis
granuloma
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necrosis
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necrosis
granuloma

THROMBOANGIITIS OBLITERANS BUERGER('s) Disease

- **100% caused by cigarette smoking**
- **MEN>>>F, 30's, 40's**
- **Often arteries are 100% obliterated, hence the name "obliterans"**
- **EXTREMITIES most often involved**



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n.cgi?slide=7
04&viewer=ja
va&view=0&la
y=iowa](http://www.path.uiowa.edu/cgi-bin-pub/vs/fpx_general.cgi?slide=704&viewer=java&view=0&lay=iowa)

OTHER VASCULITIDES

- SLE
- RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

INFECTIOUS ARTERITIDES

- ASPERGILLIS
- MUCORMYCOSIS
- “MYCOTIC” ANEURYSMS

NON ATHEROSCLEROSIS VASCULAR DISEASES

- **HYPERTENSION**
- **ANEURYSMS**
- **VASCULITIDES**
- **VEIN DISORDERS**
- **NEOPLASMS**

FINAL TOPICS

- **Raynaud Phenomenon**
- **Veins and Lymphatics**
 - **Varicosities**
 - **Thrombophlebitis/Phlebothrombosis**
 - **SVC/IVC syndromes**
 - **Lymphangitis**
 - **Lymphedema**
- **Tumors: Benign, Intermediate (Borderline), Malignant**
- **Vascular Interventions: Angioplasty, Stents, Grafts**

Raynaud “Phenomenon”

- **PRIMARY: (formerly Raynaud “DISEASE”)**
 - Digital **PALLOR**→**CYANOSIS**→**HYPEREMIA**
 - **(WHITE)**→ **(BLUE)**→ **(RED)**
 - Vasoconstriction usually triggered by **COLD**, emotion
 - Can be tip of nose, not only digits
 - Self Limited, Gangrene UN-common
 - Arteries often do **NOT** show diagnostic pathology
- **SECONDARY: (formerly Raynaud “Phenomen.”)**
 - Atherosclerosis
 - SLE
 - Buerger Disease



WHITE →

BLUE →

RED

“Varicose” Veins

- 20% of population, F>M
- Related to increased venous pressure, age, valve dysfunction
- Superficial veins of lower extremities most common
- PATH: 1) DILATED, 2) TORTUOUS, 3) ELONGATED, 4) SCARRED (phlebosclerosis), 5) CALCIFICATIONS, 6) NON-UNIFORM SMOOTH MUSCLE
- Conceptually like varices or hemorrhoids



THROMBOPHLEBITIS

- 90% DEEP veins of the legs
- IDENTICAL to PHLEBOTHROMBOSIS
- Factors: CHF, Neoplasia (esp. GI, panc. Lung adenocarcinomas “migratory” thrombophlebitis), pregnancy, obesity, post-op, immobilization, or any of the parts of Virchow’s triangle
- Sequelae: PE most feared
- Symptoms: edema, cyanosis, heat, pain, tenderness, but usually.....NONE!!!

SVC SYNDROME

- Usually from bronchogenic CA or mediastinal lymphoma
- “DUSKY CYANOSIS” of:
 - Head
 - Neck
 - Arms



IVC SYNDROME

- **Secondary to:**
 - **NEOPLASMS (external compression)**
 - **ASCENDING THROMBOSIS from FEMORALS, ILIACS**
 - **AAA, Gravid uterus**
- **Bilateral leg edema**
- **Massive proteinuria if renal veins involved (like nephrotic syndrome)**

LYMPHANGITIS

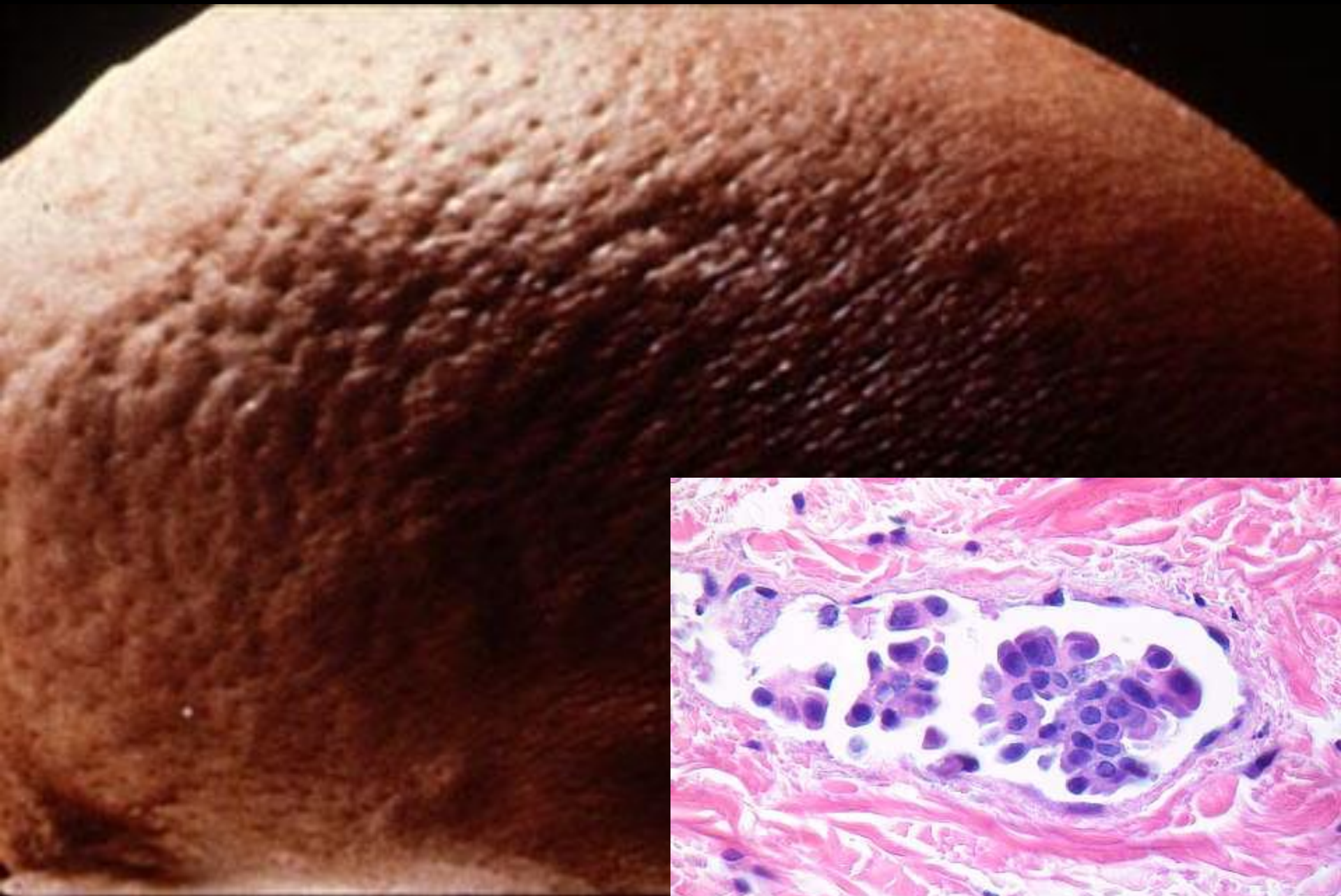
- From regional infections
- Group-A beta-hemolytic strep most common
- Lymphatics dilated, filled with WBCs
- Cellulitis usually present too
- Lymphadenitis also usually follows
- If lymph nodes cannot filter (process) antigens enough → **septicemia**



LYMPHEDEMA

- Lymphatic channels blocked or scarred or absent:
 - Post surgical
 - Post radiation
 - Filariasis
 - Congenital
 - Tumoral (peau d'orange)





CHYLE

- CHYLOUS ASCITES
- CHYLOTHORAX
- CHYLOPERICARDIUM



Vascular TUMORS

- **BENIGN** (NEVER metastasize, in fact some are not even TRUE neoplasms, but hamartomas)
- **INTERMEDIATE** (rarely metastasize)
- **MALIGNANT** (FREQUENT and EARLY metastases, like any other sarcoma → lung)

BENIGN-----→MALIGNANT

Rare mitosis-----→Common mitosis

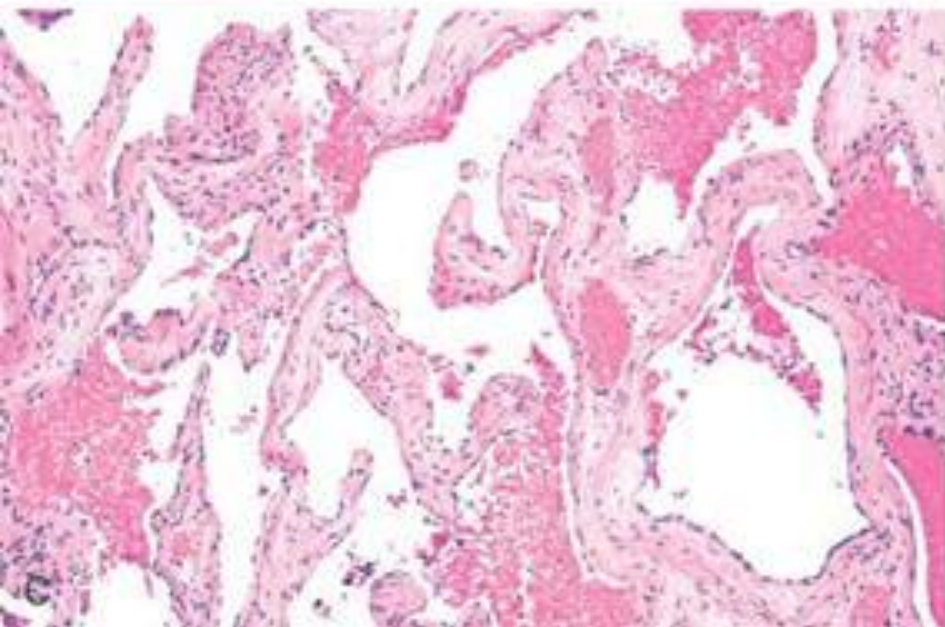
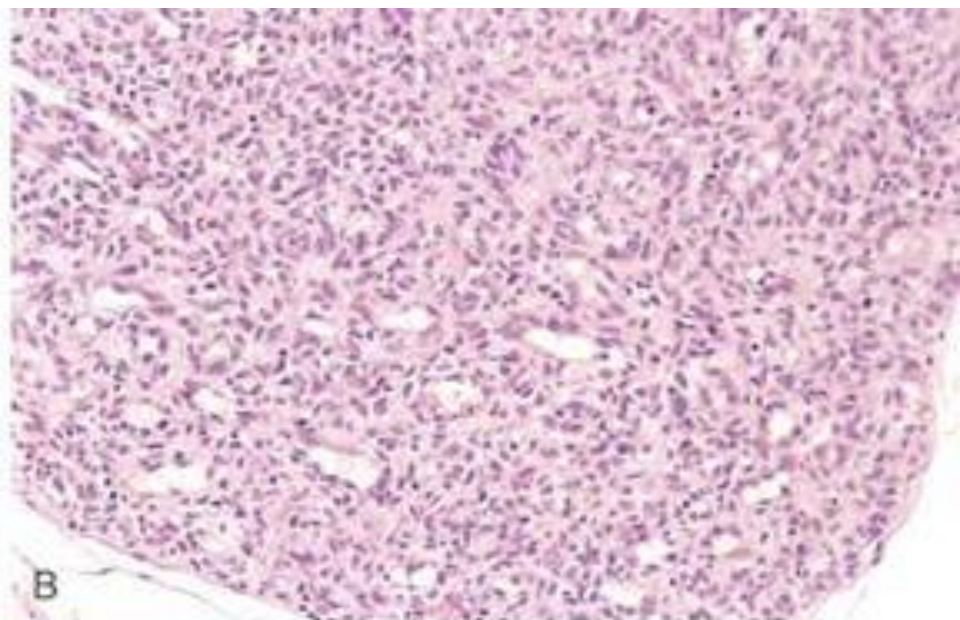
Mild, rare atypia-----→Frequent, severe atypia

NO mets-----→Early, frequent mets

via BLOODSTREAM

HEMANGIOMA

- Often a generic term for ANY benign blood vessel tumor
- **CAPILLARY** (small vascular spaces)
 - Also called “juvenile”, often called “birth marks”
 - Usually regress with age
- **CAVERNOUS** (LARGE vascular spaces)
 - Also called “adult”
 - Usually do NOT regress



PYOGENIC GRANULOMA

- ORAL CAVITY MOST COMMON
- Histology like capillary hemangioma
- Regress
- Indistinguishable from normal **granulation tissue**



LYMPHANGIOMA

- Small 1-2 mm
- 90% Head and neck region in kids <2
- Generally.....RARE
- When large size and/or spaces present often called “CYSTIC HYGROMA”

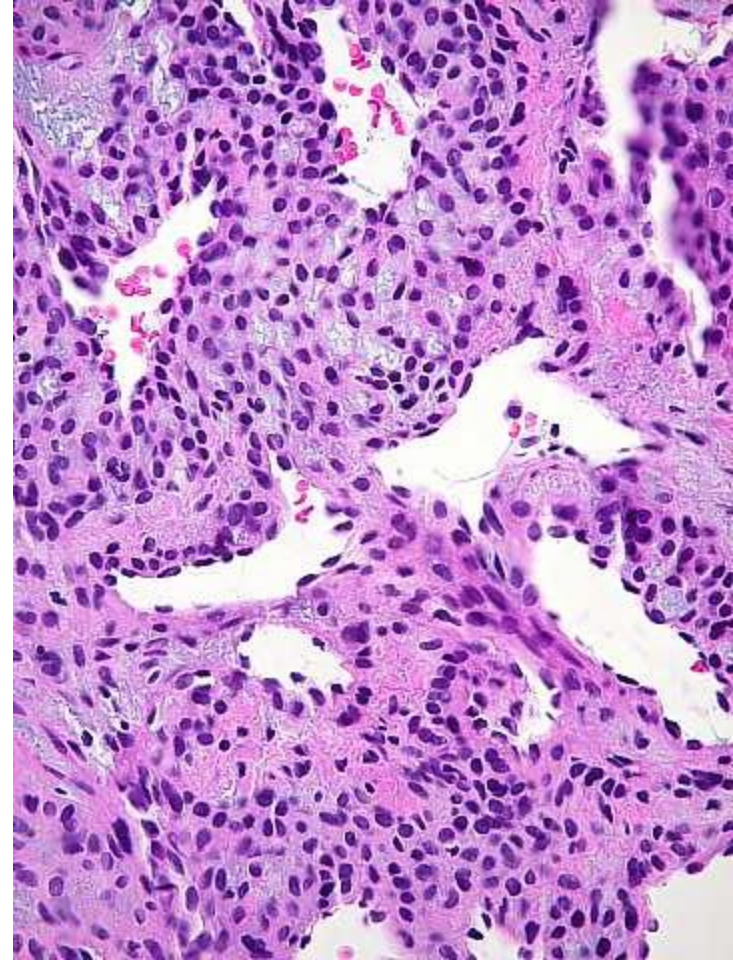


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GLOMUS TUMOR GLOMANGIOMA

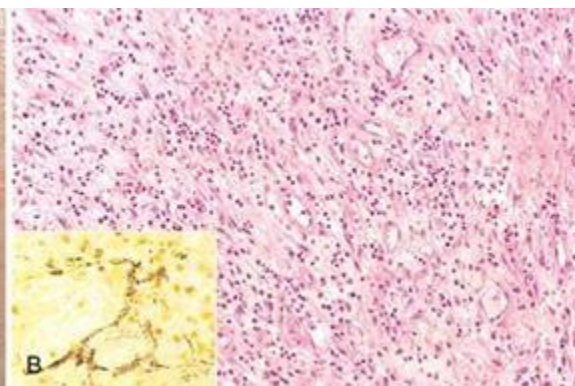
- **1 cm**
- **Most commonly under nail**
- **Painful**





MISC. "BENIGN" TUMORS

- -ectasias, telangiectasias
- Nevus Flammeus, aka, port wine stain----→
- Spiders (spider telangiectasias), ass. W. pregnancy or liver cirrhosis-----→
- Osler-Weber-Rendu Disease (Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia)-----→
- Bacillary Angiomatosis, in HIV patients, caused by bacilli of *Bartonella* species



INTERMEDIATE (BORDERLINE) VASCULAR NEOPLASMS

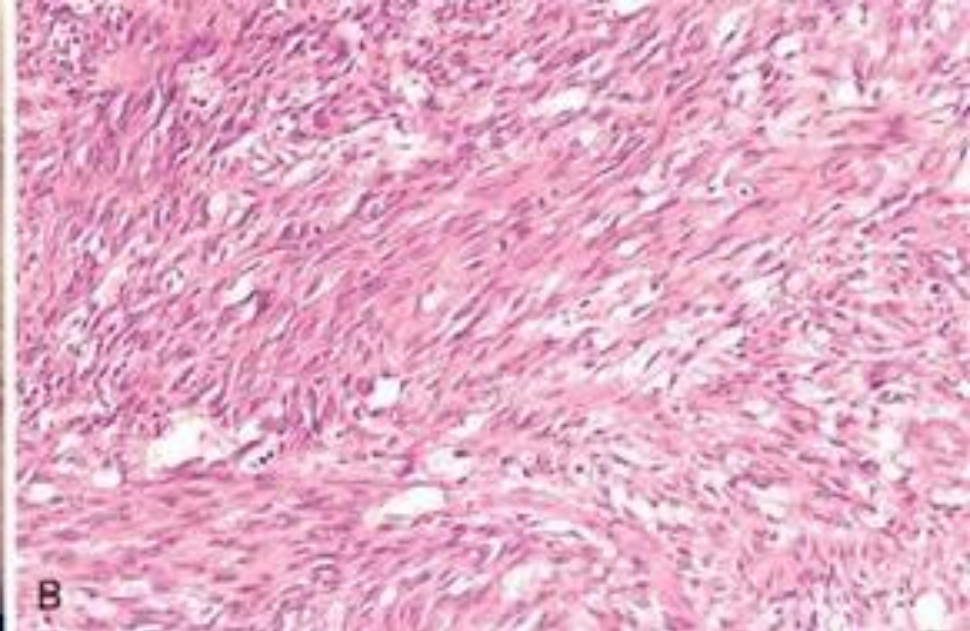
- **Kaposi Sarcoma, KS**

- 1) Classic European, described 1872, NON-HIV
- 2) African, pre-HIV, now HIV- and HIV+
- 3) Transplant associated, HIV-
- 4) AIDS KS, caused by HHV-8, aka KSHV

- PATCH → PLAQUE → NODULE

- **HEMANGIOENDOTHELIOMA (HETEROGENEOUS GROUP OF NEOPLASMS)**





Diagnosis of vascular neoplasms may require the use of endothelial cell markers such as Factor VIII or CD-31, especially if clear cut vascular spaces are difficult to see, especially if the tumor is UNDIFFERENTIATED enough to the degree that endothelial lined spaces are NOT clearly seen.

MALIGNANT VASCULAR TUMORS

- **ANGIOSARCOMA**

- May not look “vascular” at all
- Severe atypia
- Frequent and often bizarre mitoses
- Behave as any sarcoma might, i.e., early pulmonary metastases

- **HEMANGIOPERICYTOMA**

- HETEROGENOUS group of disorders
- Most commonly arising in pelvic retroperitoneum

VASCULAR INTERVENTIONS

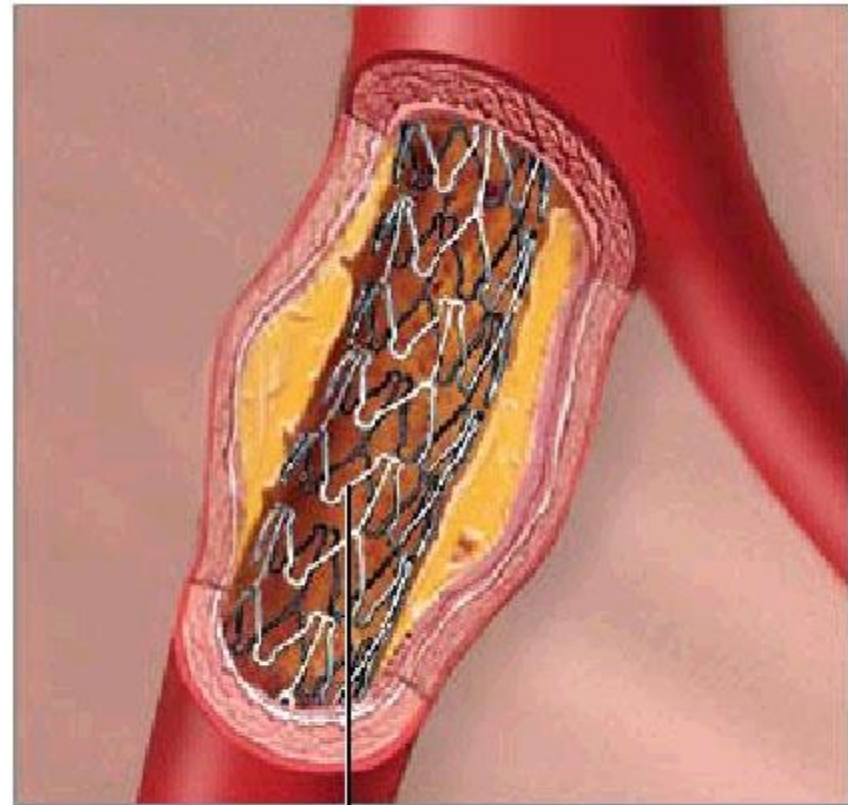
- **ANGIOPLASTY**
- **STENTS**
- **GRAFTS**
 - Autologous (saphenous v., internal mammary a.)
 - Synthetic (Teflon)

ANGIOPLASTIES

- **Plaque fracture (crackling sound)**
- **Dissection**
- **Arterial dilatation initially**
- **Restenosis ~ 6 months**

STENTS

- Metallic mesh
- Permanently placed
- Stays patent longer than angioplasty
- OFTEN DRUG COATED
- Goals:
 - Prevent thrombosis
 - Prevent spasm
 - Delay RE-stenosis



Coronary artery stent

GRAFTS

- 400,000 CABG grafts per year in USA
- Saphenous v. vs. Internal mammary a. (internal thoracic a.)
- 50% patent after 10 years, for saphenous v.
- 90% patent after 10 years, for mammary a.

- Endothelial and smooth muscle migration and proliferation key factors for success