

# CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE ATHEROSCLEROSIS

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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To Describe the risk factors, and lab. Diagnosis of CAD
- To Define and Enlist the stages of atherosclerosis

# CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

- Coronary artery disease is the narrowing or blockage of the coronary arteries, usually caused by atherosclerosis.

## **ATHEROSCLEROSIS**

- A process of progressive thickening and hardening of the walls of medium and large size arteries as a result of fat deposits on their inner lining.
- It underlies the pathogenesis of coronary, cerebral, and peripheral vascular disease, and causes more morbidity and mortality.

**Table 11-2 Major Risk Factors for Atherosclerosis**

**Nonmodifiable (Constitutional)**

Genetic abnormalities

Family history

Increasing age

Male gender

**Modifiable**

Hyperlipidemia

Hypertension

Cigarette smoking

Diabetes

Inflammation

## **NON MODIFIABLE**

**Age** (men  $\geq 45$  yrs, women  $\geq 55$  yrs)

- between ages 40 and 60, the incidence of myocardial infarction in men increases fivefold
- Death rates from IHD rise with each decade even into advanced age

**Male gender.**

- Men are at greater risk than premenopausal women, because of the protective effects of endogenous estrogen

## **Genetics**

- The familial predisposition to atherosclerosis and IHD is multifactorial
- In some instances it relates to familial clustering of other risk factors, such as hypertension or diabetes
- In others it involves well-defined genetic derangements in lipoprotein metabolism, such as familial hypercholesterolemia that result in excessively high blood lipid levels

# **MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS**

## **HYPERLIPIDEMIA**

- high plasma cholesterol associated with atheroma
- LDL most significant
- HDL protective

## **HYPERTENSION**

- High blood pressure produces mechanical stress on the vessel endothelium.
- It is a major risk factor for atherosclerosis in all age groups and may be as important or more important than hypercholesterolemia after the age of 45 years.



## **CIGARETTE SMOKING**

- Powerful risk factor for IHD
- Risk falls after giving up
- Mode of action uncertain
  - coagulation system
  - reduced PGI<sub>2</sub>
  - increased platelet aggregation

- **HYPERTENSION**

- Strong link between IHD and high systolic/diastolic blood pressure
- Mechanism uncertain
- Endothelial damage caused by raised pressure

- **DIABETES MELLITUS**

- Diabetes elevates blood lipid levels and otherwise increases the risk of atherosclerosis
- Incidence of myocardial infarction is twice as high in diabetic as in Nondiabetic individuals

- ***METABOLIC SYNDROME.***

Associated with central obesity, this clinical entity is characterized by insulin resistance, hypertension, dyslipidemia (elevated triglycerides and depressed HDL), hypercoagulability, and a pro-inflammatory state, which may be triggered by cytokines released from adipocytes

## ***LIPOPROTEIN LEVELS.***

- Apolipoprotein(a) is homologous to plasminogen and tPA and it
- competes with plasminogen for its binding site, leading to reduced fibrinolysis.
- Also, because Lp(a) stimulates secretion of PAI-1, it leads to thrombogenesis.
- It also may enhance coagulation by inhibiting the function of tissue factor pathway inhibitor

- ***Elevated levels of procoagulants***

- ***Clonal hematopoiesis***

Alterations in the function of innate immune cells derived from mutated hematopoietic stem cells

- ***Lack of exercise***

- ***Stressful life***

# PATHOGENESIS ATHEROSCLEROSIS

- DUE TO ETIOLOGICAL FACTORS



- INJURY TO THE ENDOTHELIAL CELL THAT LINING THE ARTERY



- INFLAMMATION AND IMMUNE REACTIONS



- ACCUMULATION OF LIPIDS IN THE INTIMA OF ARTERIAL WALL

# PATHOGENESIS ATHEROSCLEROSIS

- T LYMPHOCYTES AND MONOCYTES THAT BECOMES A MACROPHAGES INFILTRATE



- INGEST THE LIPIDS



PROLIFERATION OF SMOOTH MUSCLE CELLS WITH IN THE VESSEL



FORMATION OF FIBROUS CAP OVER DEAD FATTY CORE (ATHEROMA)



PROTRUSION OF ATHEROMA IN TO THE LUMEN OF VESSEL

# PATHOGENESIS ATHEROSCLEROSIS

- NARROWING AND OBSTRUCTION



- IF CAP IS THIN THE LIPID CORE MAY GROW CAUSING IT TO RUPTURE



- HEMORRHAGE INTO PLAQUE ALLOWING THROMBUS TO DEVELOP



- OBSTRUCT THE BLOOD FLOW LEADING TO SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH, MI ANGINA

AND OTHER SYMPTOMS



Endothelium

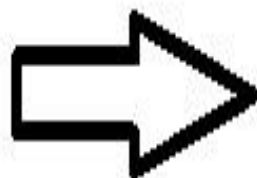
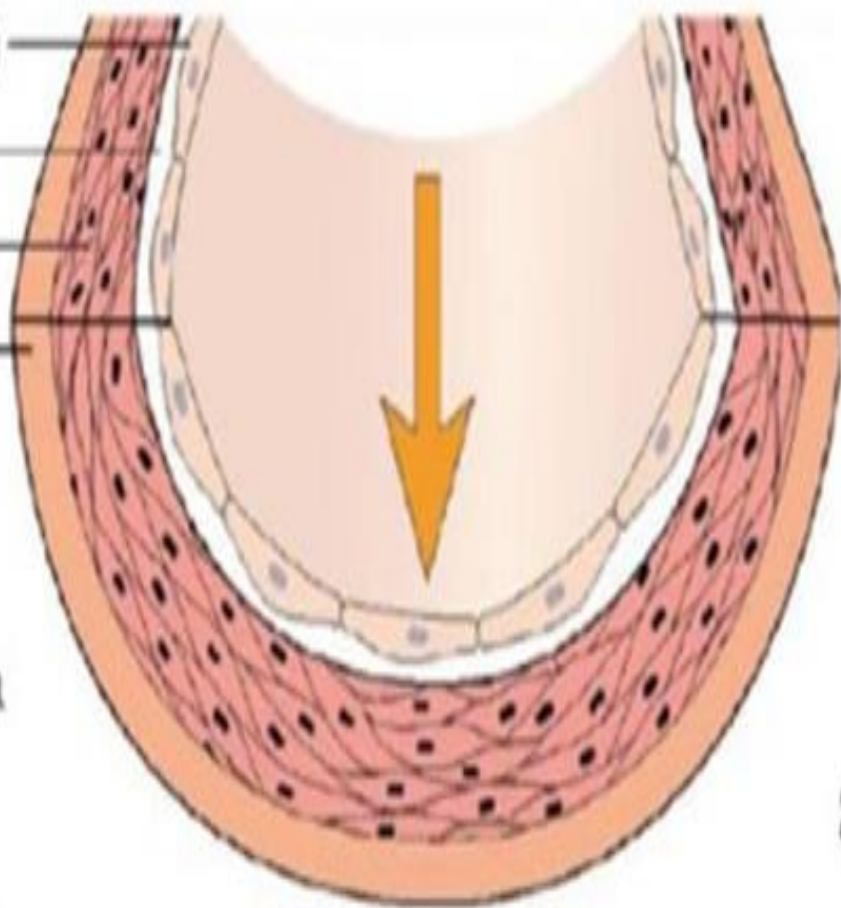
Intima

Media

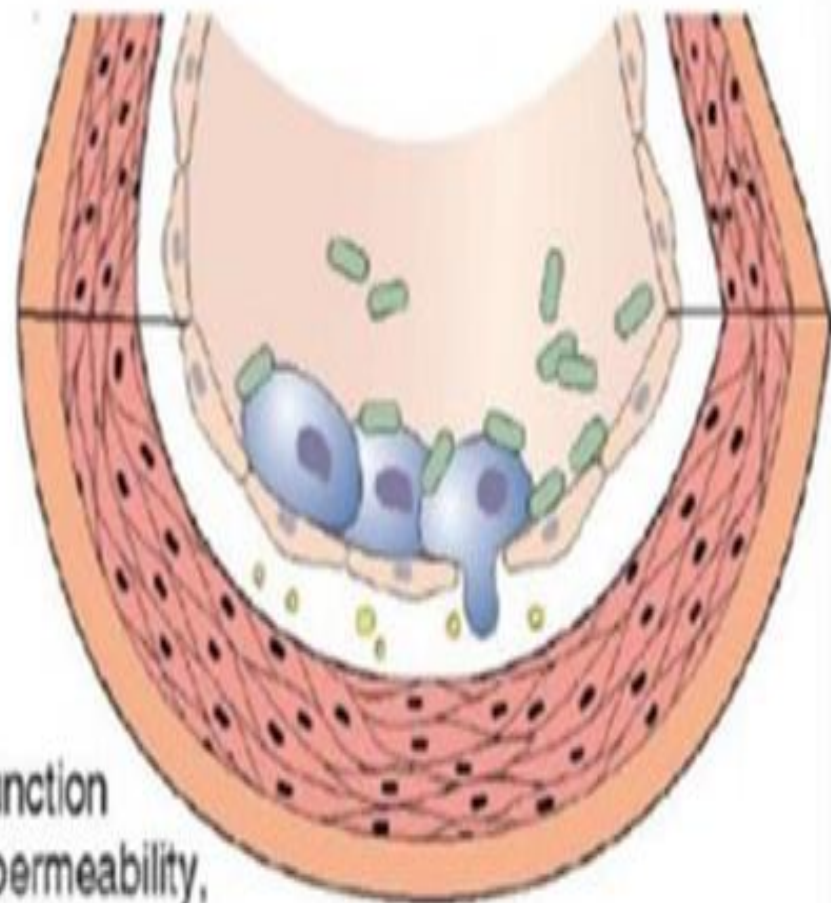
Adventitia

1. Chronic endothelial "injury":

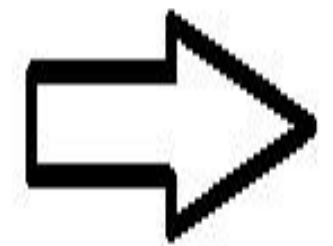
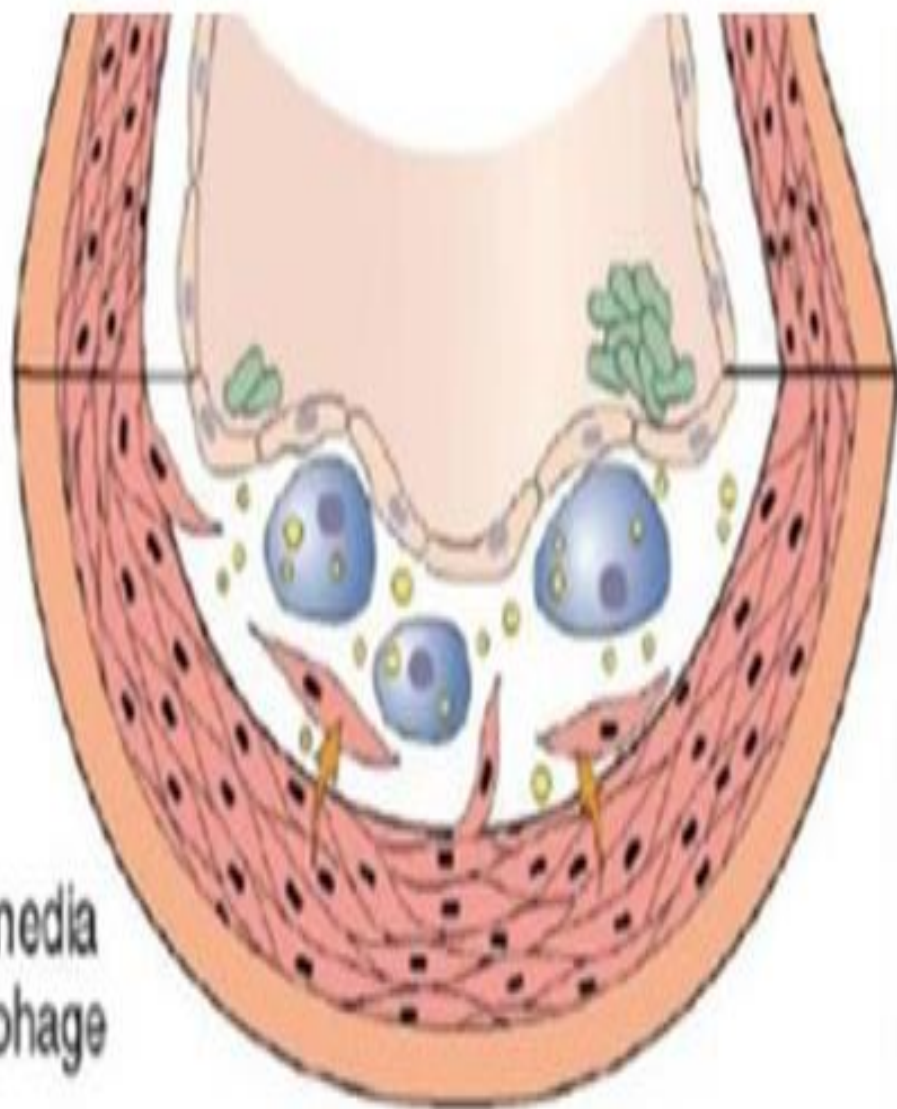
- Hyperlipidemia
- Hypertension
- Smoking
- Homocysteine
- Hemodynamic factors
- Toxins
- Viruses
- Immune reactions.



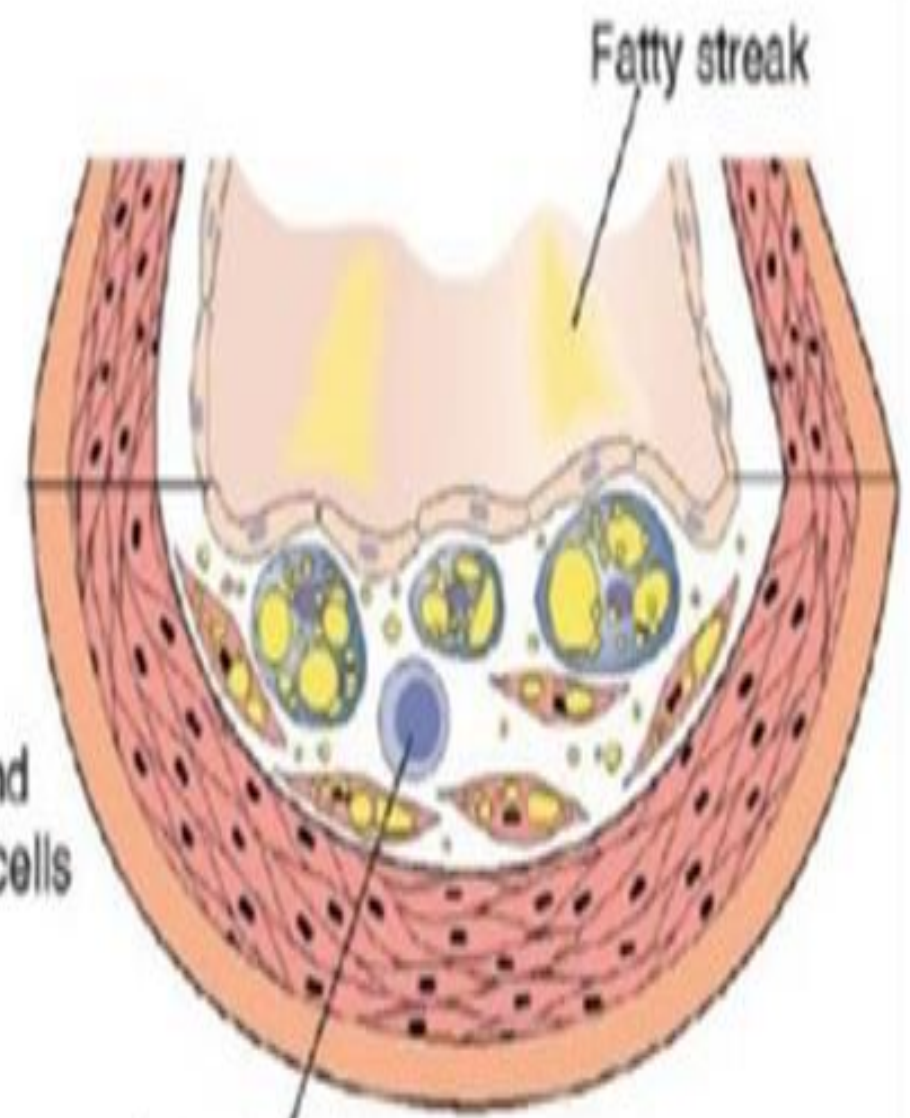
2. Endothelial dysfunction (e.g., increased permeability, leukocyte adhesion)  
Monocyte adhesion and emigration.



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



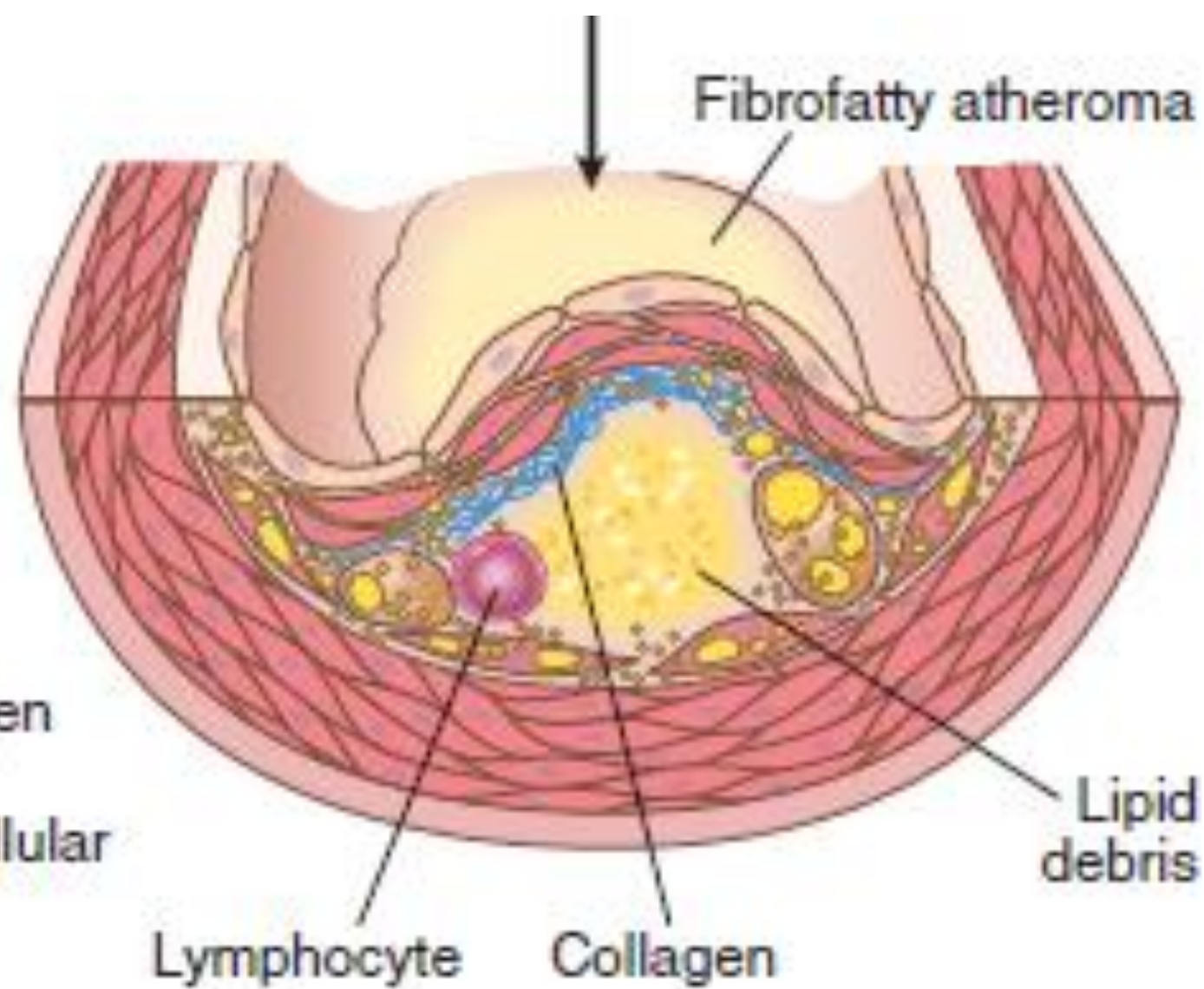
4. Macrophages and smooth muscle cells engulf lipid



Lymphocyte

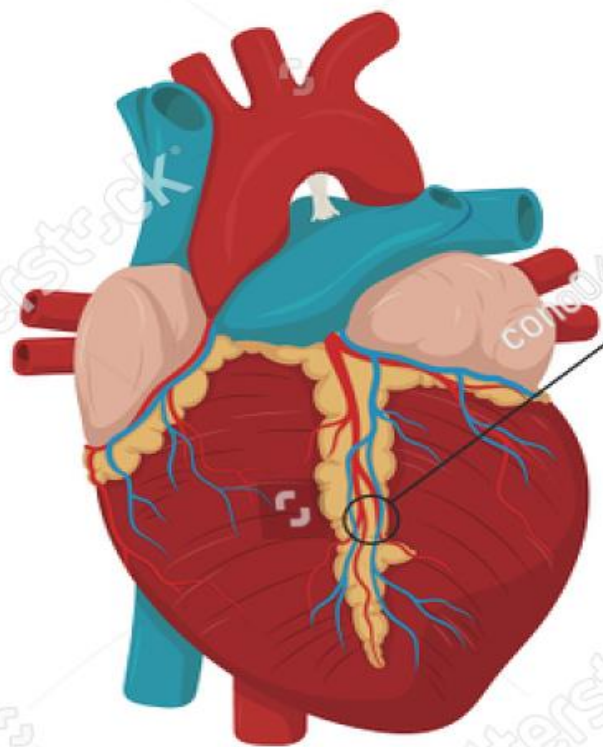


5. Smooth muscle proliferation, collagen and other ECM deposition, extracellular lipid

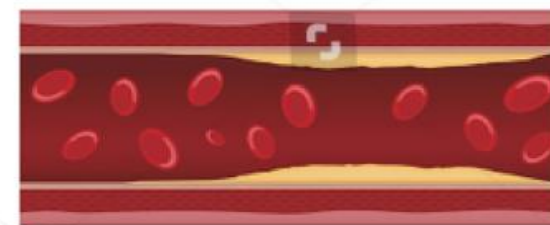


# Atherosclerosis Stages

Plaque formation and growth.



Healthy artery



Beginning of plaque formation



Increased plaque accumulation



Narrowed artery blocked by a blood dot

# DIAGNOSIS

## **DIAGNOSIS**

- History collection
- Physical examination
- Cardiac enzymes
- Electrocardiograms
- Echocardiograms
- Stress Tests
- Nuclear Imaging
- Angiography

## **ECHOCARDIOGRAMS**

- An echocardiogram is a non invasive test that uses ultrasound images of the heart.

## **STRESS TESTS**

- They are used to show how the heart reacts to physical exertion.  
Exercise stress tests are usually performed on a treadmill or exercise bicycle

## **NUCLEAR CARDIAC IMAGING**

- Involves the use of small amounts of short lived radioactive material, which is injected into the bloodstream.
- A special camera (live-motion x-ray) detects the radioactivity of these materials, and the images displayed show how heart pumps blood.
- This is useful in identifying any areas of abnormal motion or for assessing the blood supply to the heart muscle



## **ANGIOGRAPHY**

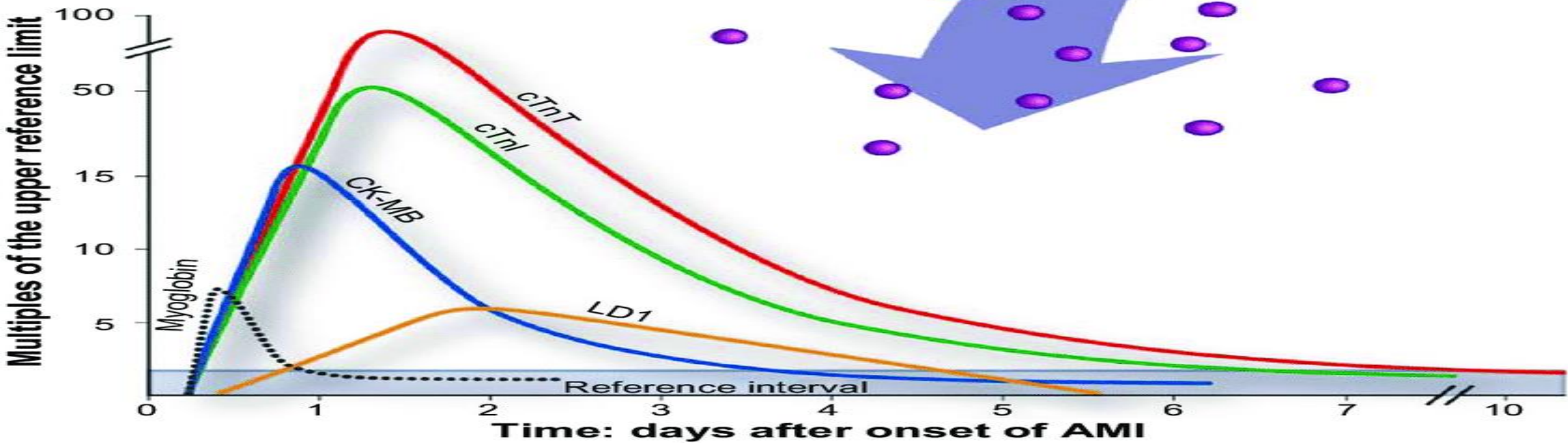
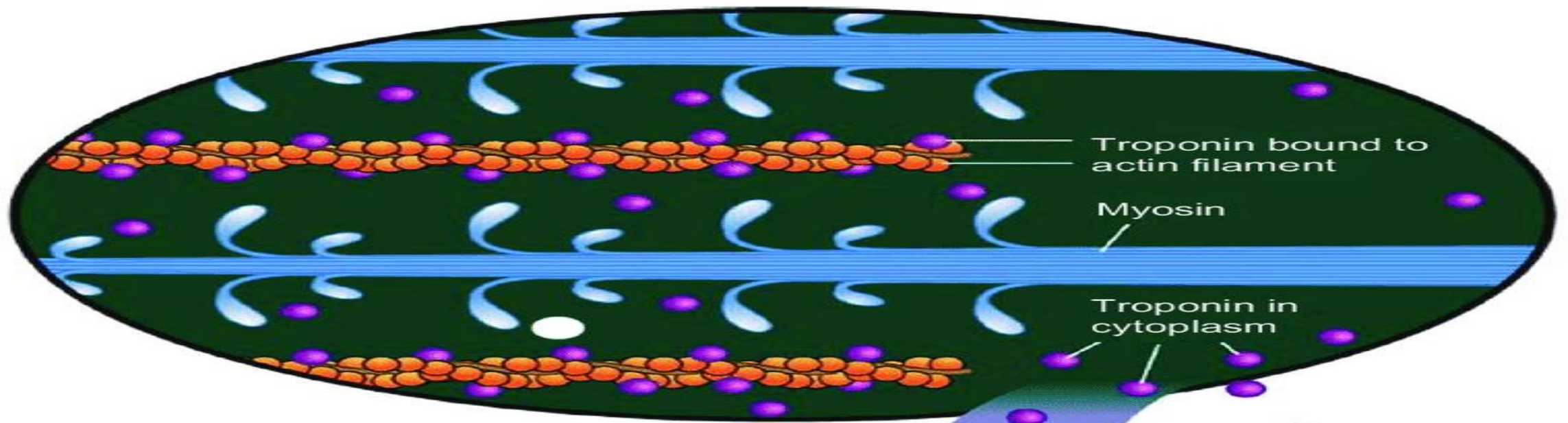
- Is the most accurate means by which to examine the coronary arteries
- It requires a surgical procedure called cardiac catheterization.
- During the procedure, catheters (small thin plastic tubes) are placed in the artery of the leg or arm, and directed using an x-ray machine to the opening of each of the coronary arteries

- **Magnetic Resonance Angiography**

- MRA is a newer non invasive imaging technique that can provide three-dimensional images of the major arteries to the heart.

- **COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY** • Computed tomography (CT) scans may be used to evaluate coronary artery disease.

- Blood Enzyme Tests
- Troponin
- Creatine Kinase



## **LIPID PROFILE,**

- Total cholesterol
- Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol
- High-density lipoprotein cholesterol
- Triglycerides

Thank  
you!

