

A Brief Note on Arteries and its Disorders

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DESCRIPTION

Arteries are part of circulatory system and are the blood vessels that transport oxygen-rich blood from the heart to the body's tissues.

The other functions of the arteries are removal of carbon dioxide and waste products also for the circulation of proteins and in the maintenance of blood pH.

The arteries further sub divided into arterioles and capillaries.

The intima is the artery's inner layer, which is adjoined with a smooth tissue known as endothelium.

The media is a layer of muscle that allows arteries to sustain the high pressures of the heart.

The adventitia is a connective tissue that connects arteries to their environs.

Disorders

Atherosclerosis: The development of cholesterol (waxy substances) in the arteries' walls, known as plaques. Heart attacks and strokes can be caused by atherosclerosis in the arteries of the heart, brain, or neck.

Vasculitis (arteritis): Arterial inflammation that can affect one or multiple arteries at the same time. An overactive immune system is the most common cause of vasculitis.

Amaurosis fugax: A significant loss of blood flow to the retina, the light-sensitive tissue that lines the back of the eye, causes vision loss in one eye. It tends to happen when a segment of a cholesterol plaque breaks off and travels to the retinal artery from one of the carotid arteries (the arteries on either side of the neck that supply blood to the brain) (the artery that supplies blood and nutrients to the retina).

Aortoiliac Occlusive Diseases (AIOD): It is caused due to blockade of aorta which the main blood vessel which is

further divided into iliac arteries that supply blood to pelvis. The main cause of the blockage due to accumulation of plaque in walls of blood vessels.

Stenosis of the arteries: Atherosclerosis is the most common cause of artery narrowing.

When stenosis occurs in the arteries of the heart, neck, or legs, the reduced blood flow can lead to health problems.

Peripheral artery disease: Atherosclerosis is a condition that causes artery narrowing in the legs or groin. A decrease in blood flow to the legs may result in pain or poor wound healing.

Arterial thrombosis: It is defined as a sudden blood clot in one of the arteries that prevents blood flow.

Myocardial infarction (heart attack): A blood clot forms unexpectedly in one of the arteries, restricting blood flow. To restore blood flow in the artery, immediate treatment is required.

Cerebrovascular accident (stroke): A blood clot forms unexpectedly in one of the arteries supplying blood to the brain. Strokes can also occur when one of the brain's arteries bursts, resulting in bleeding.

Temporal arteritis: The temporal artery in the scalp is inflamed. Common symptoms include pain in the jaw when chewing and pain on the scalp.

Coronary artery disease: These arteries and their branches transmit blood through every part of the heart muscle.

Two large coronary arteries split out from the aorta near the junction of the aorta and the left ventricle. These arteries and their branches supply blood to all parts of the heart muscle.

Carotid artery disease: Atherosclerosis characterized by narrowing of one or both carotid arteries in the neck. Stroke is made more likely by carotid artery disease.

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