

"Congratulations on getting to the part of your medical school education where you learn about things that actually kill people."

ARTERIOSCLEROSIS

APPROVED

arteriosclerosis- hardening of the arteries. arterio- artery sclerosis- fibrosis

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

athero- implies that there is a fatty component along with the thickening and fibrotic component

MONCKEBERG'S MEDIAL CALCIFIC SCLEROSIS

where someone may calcify the media of their arteries. usually not pathologic because it doesn't impinge on the lumen.

ARTERIOLOSCLEROSIS

in smaller vessels.

Objectives

crutch for everybody who needs an objective slide..

- Discuss the etiology of atherosclerosis and plaque enlargement
- Enumerate the clinical presentations of atherosclerosis in the following organ systems:

Heart

Central Nervous System

Peripheral vasculature/Extremities

Kidneys

Intestines

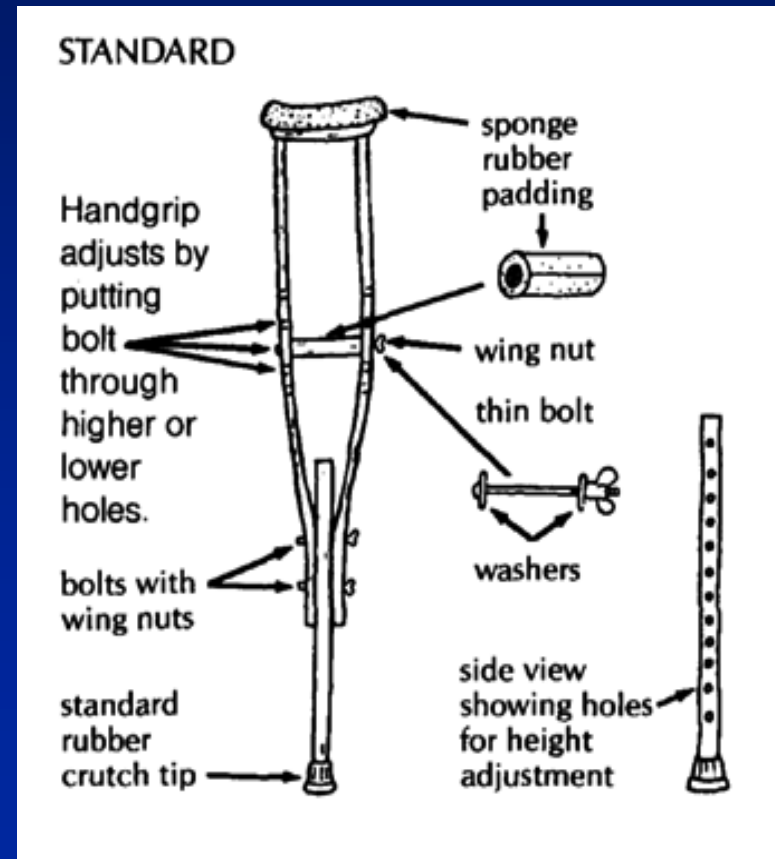
Define and discuss the concepts of “Critical Stenosis” and “Plaque Rupture and Thrombosis” in relation to the above.

- Compare and contrast thoracic and abdominal aortic aneurysms including dissections on the basis of:

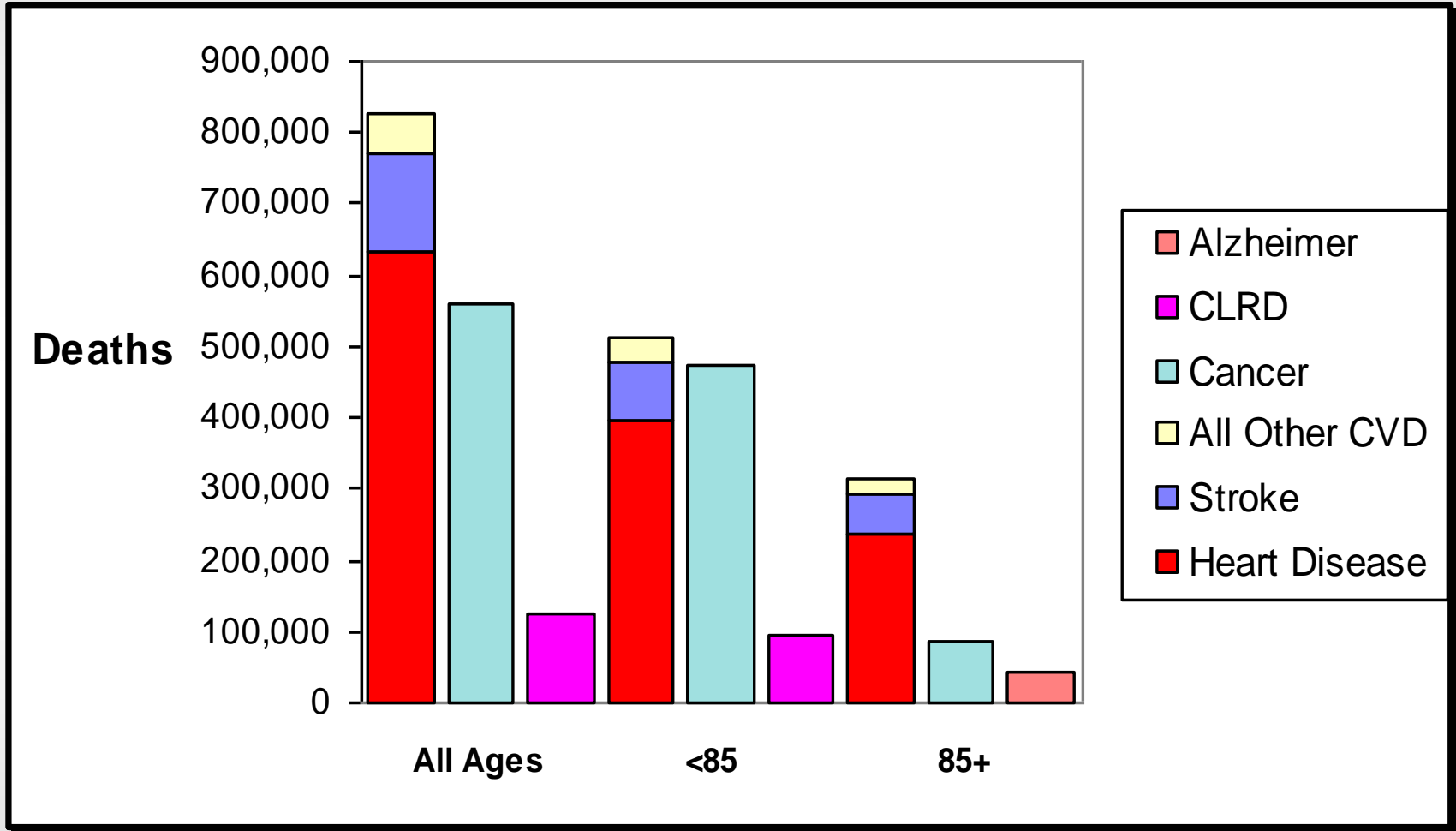
Etiologic factors

Incidence

Complications



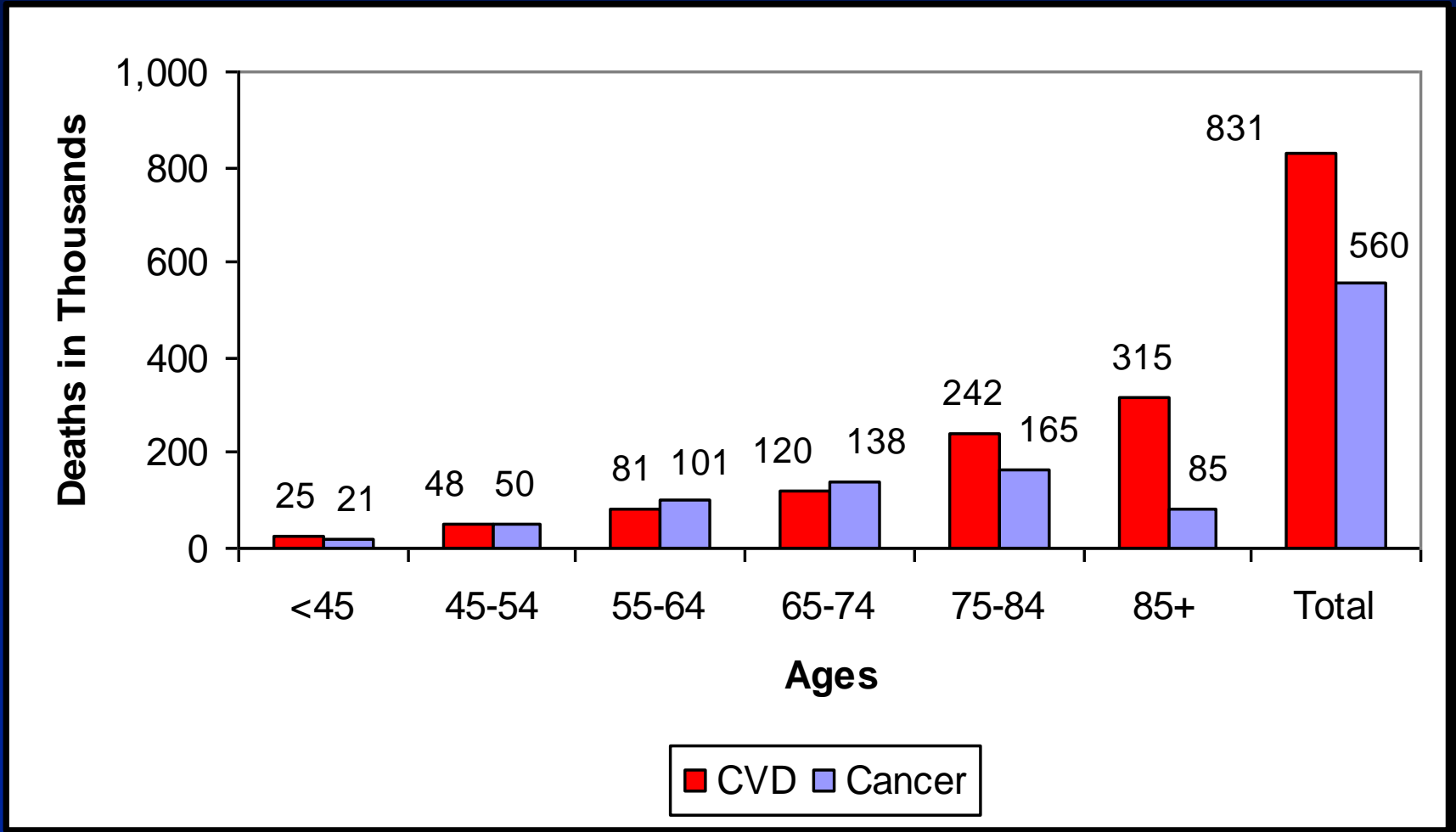
Comparison of heart disease vs. other causes of death.



CVD and other major causes of death: both sexes.
(United States: 2006). Source: NCHS and NHLBI.

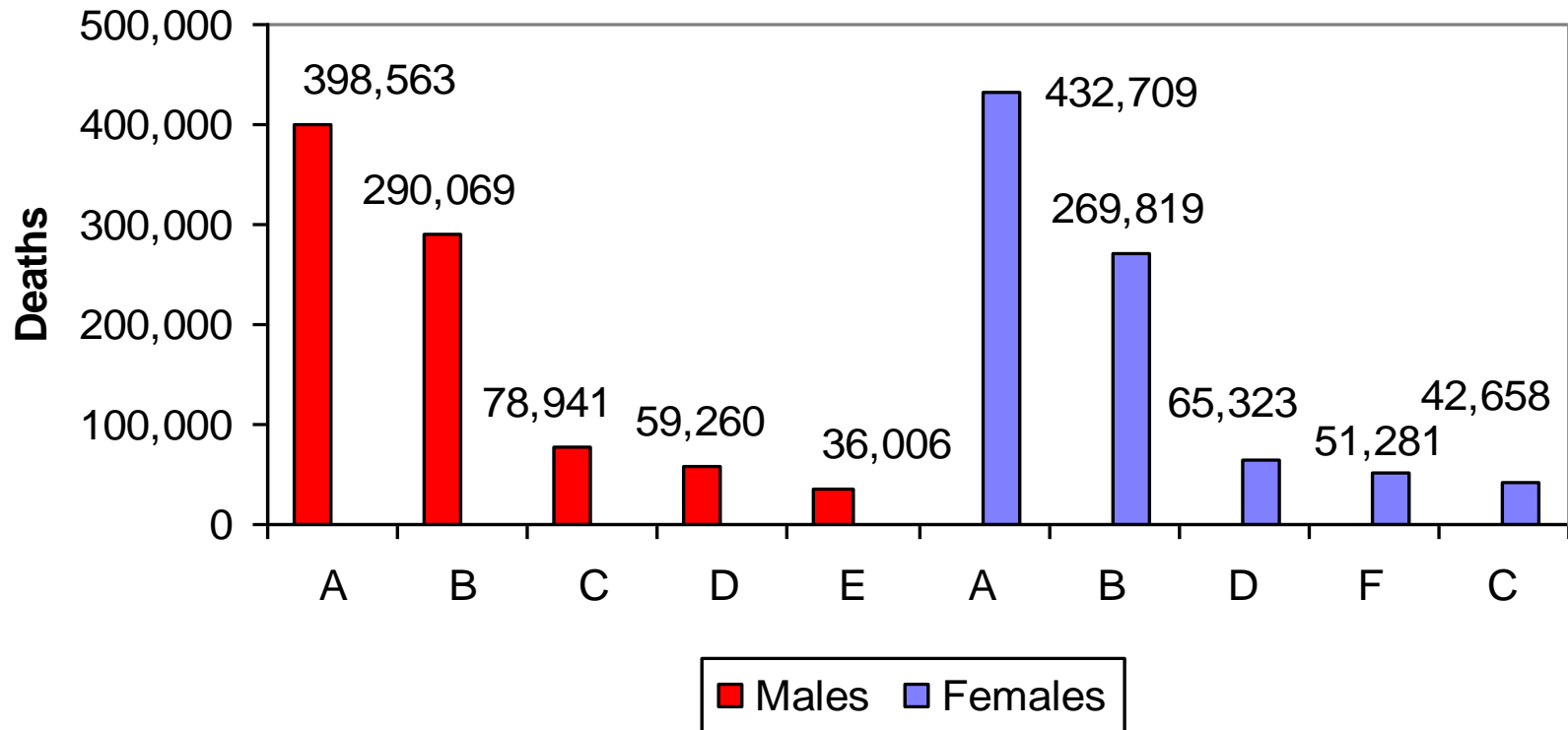
Cardiovascular Disease Deaths vs. Cancer Deaths by Age

United States: 2006



under 45 there are still thousands of deaths. both cancer and cvd increase with age

3rd leading cause of death in males, but 5th in females. He thinks it's because women drivers are usually the ones who hit you when you're on the road.



A CVD (I00-I99; Q20-Q28)

B Cancer

C Accidents

D Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases

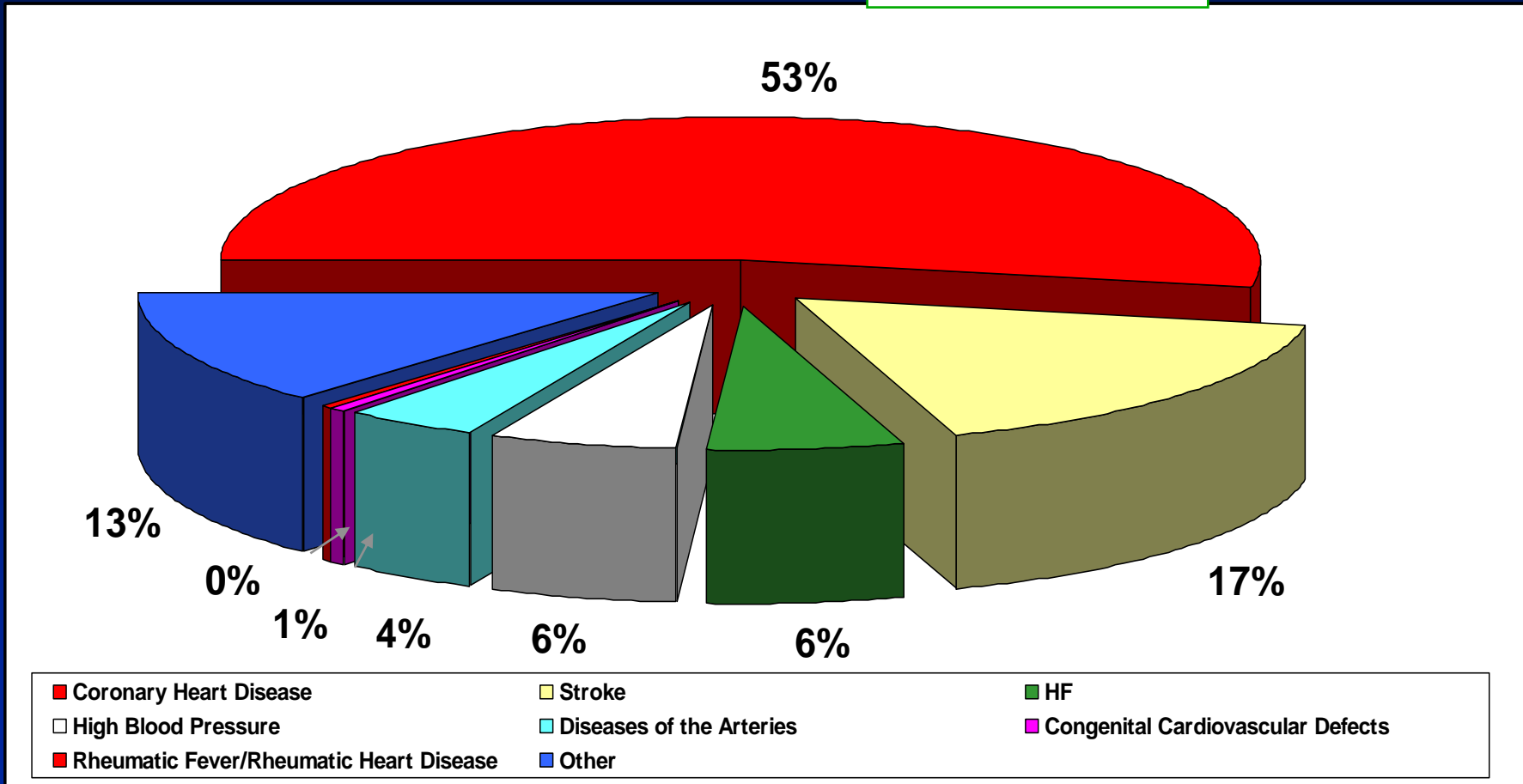
E Diabetes Mellitus

F Alzheimer's Disease

CVD and other major causes of death for all males and females (United States: 2006). Source: NCHS and NHLBI.

Percentage Breakdown of Deaths From Cardiovascular Diseases United States:2003*

CVD is mostly coronary heart disease.

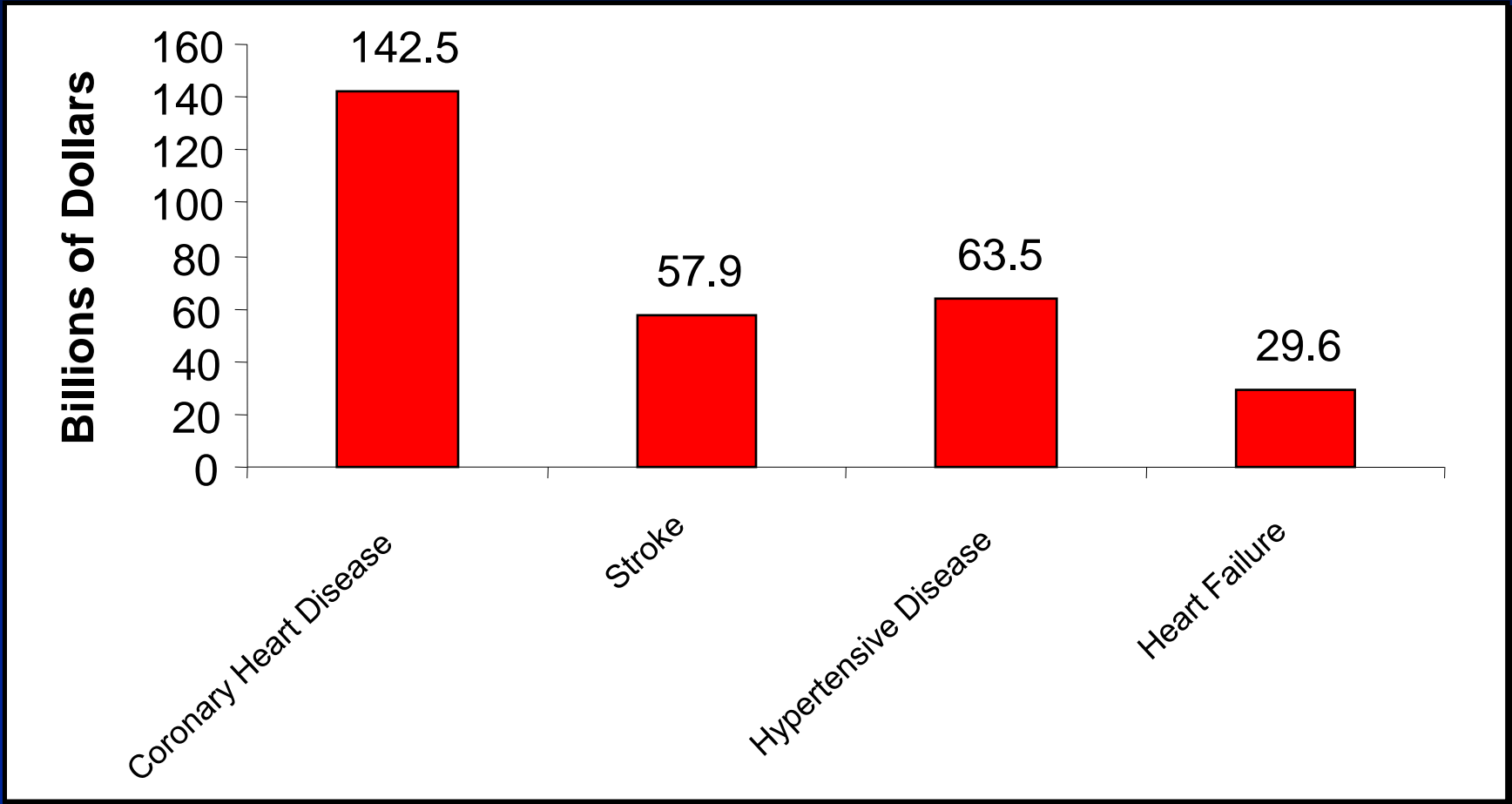


Source: CDC/NCHS and NHLBI. *Preliminary

Estimated Direct and Indirect Costs of Major Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke

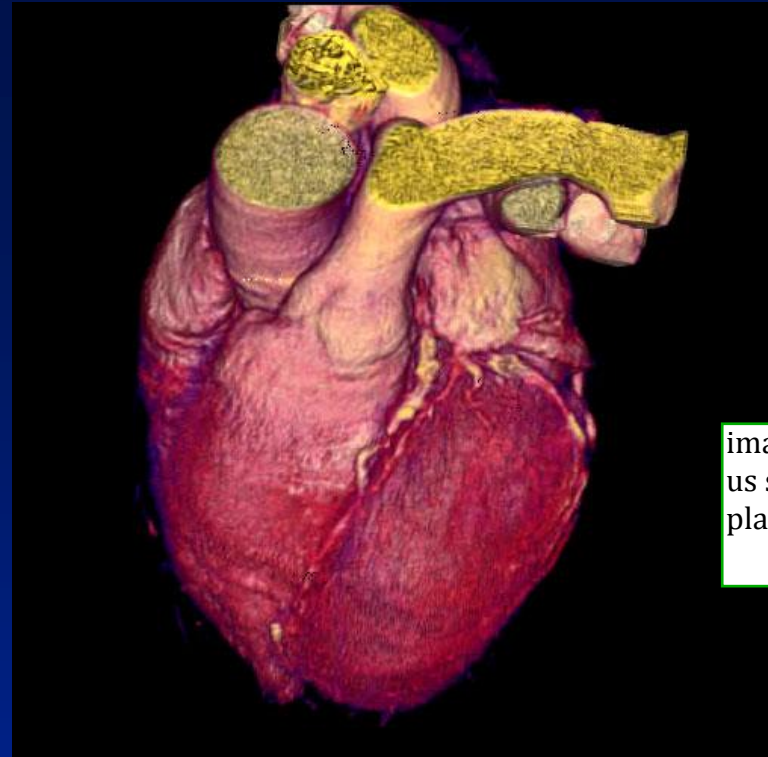
United States: 2006

Huge costs related to CAD. If you add what we put into prevention...

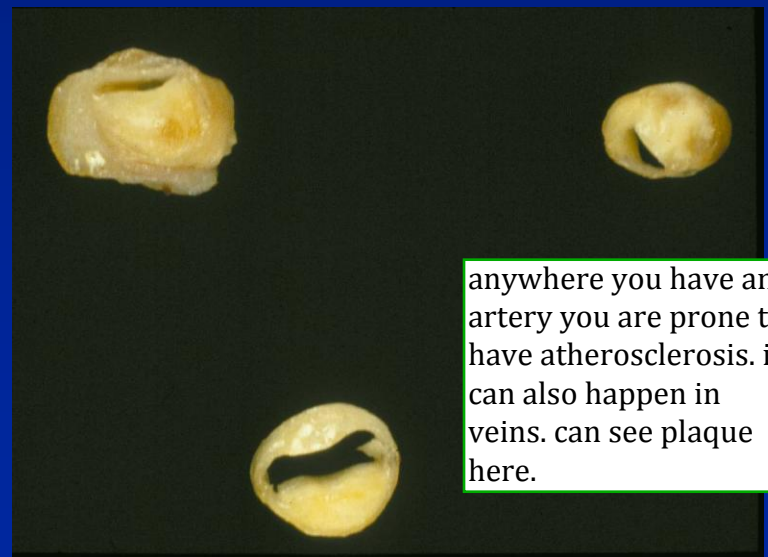


Source: *Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics – 2006 Update.*

Atherosclerosis



imaging let's
us see
plaques.



anywhere you have an
artery you are prone to
have atherosclerosis. it
can also happen in
veins. can see plaque
here.

Atherosclerotic Lesions

athero- fatty,
sclerosis- fibrosis.

atherosclerosis starts as somewhat benign lesion called fatty streak: this is when you first get injury in your blood vessels. usually in your second decade of life. end up getting into a vicious cycle in which you collect the plaque and response to injury adds fibrosis. Once you get to fibrous stage you have it for life.

- **Progression**

- **Fatty Streaks**

- ▶ **Lipid filled myointimal cells**

- ▶ **Starts in second decade – Intimal Process**

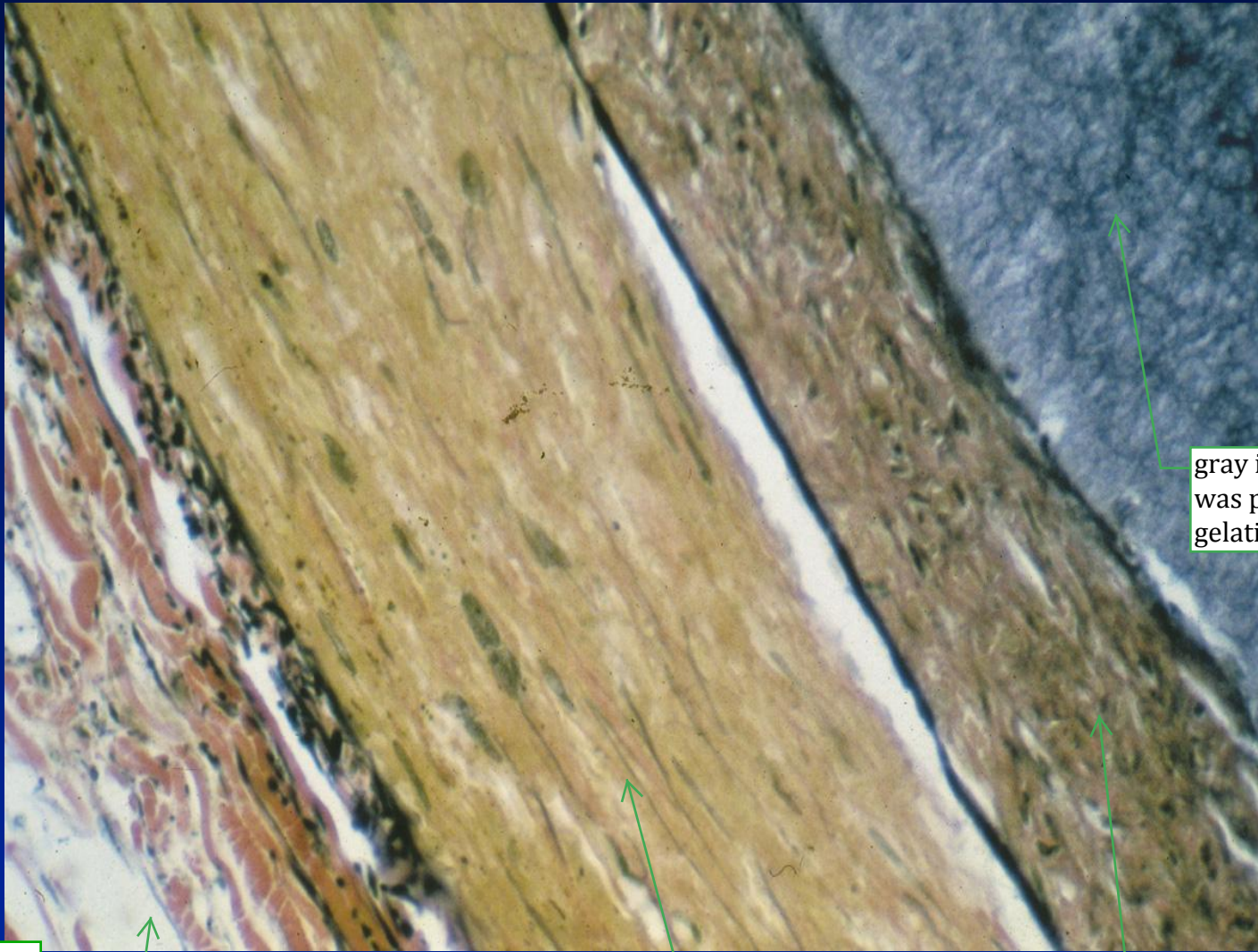
- **Fibrous Plaques**

- ▶ **Subendothelial fibrous cap over extracellular lipid pool**

- **Complicated Plaques**

- ▶ **Fibrous plaque with erosion, intramural hemorrhage, thrombus, calcification**

if you bleed into the plaque it will grow more rapidly and will calcify. complicated just means that something happened and now it grows more quickly not necessarily a clinical complication.



gray is because it was perfused with gelatin solution

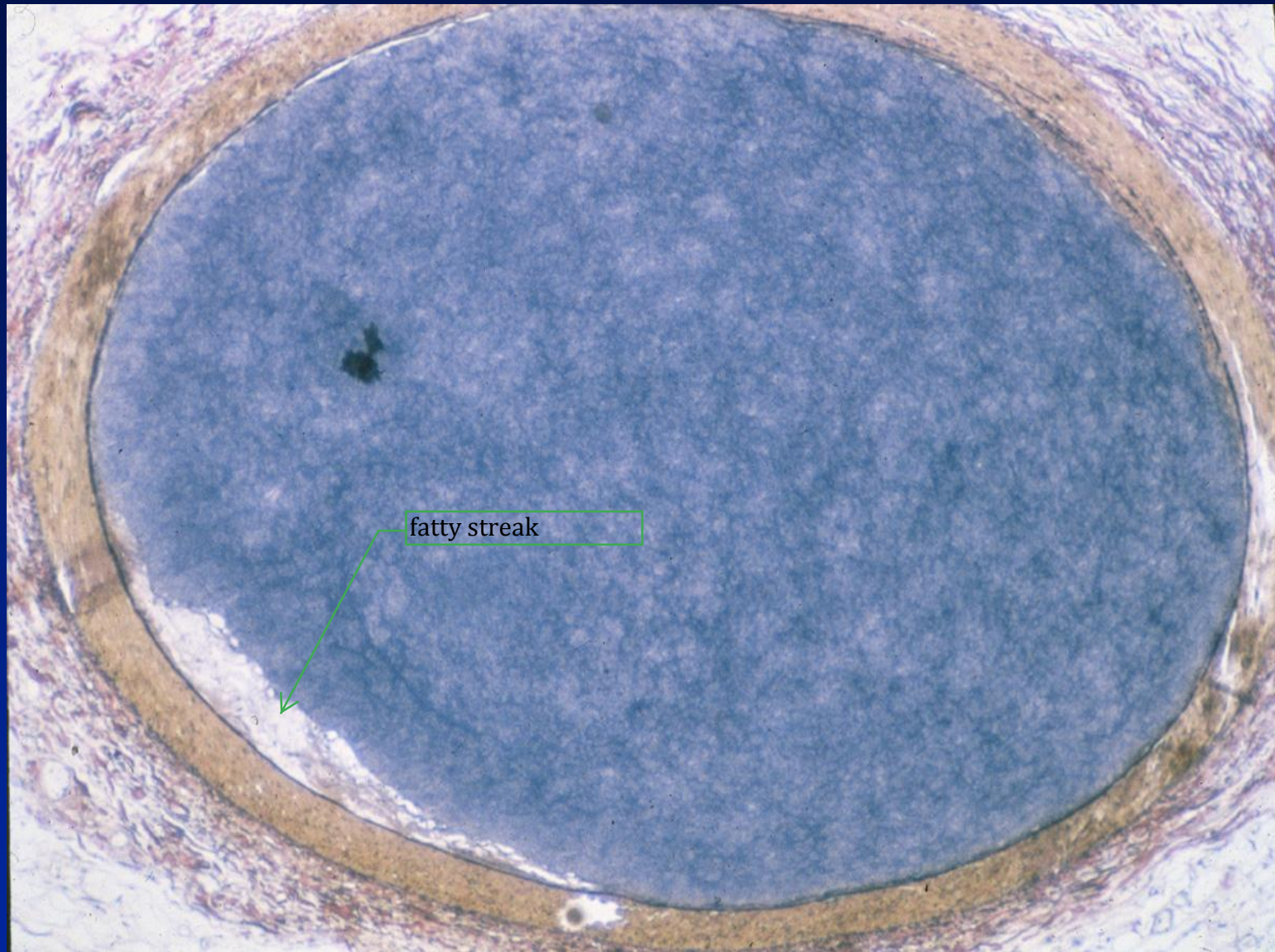
rabbit artery.

adventitia

tunica media-contains muscle and elastin

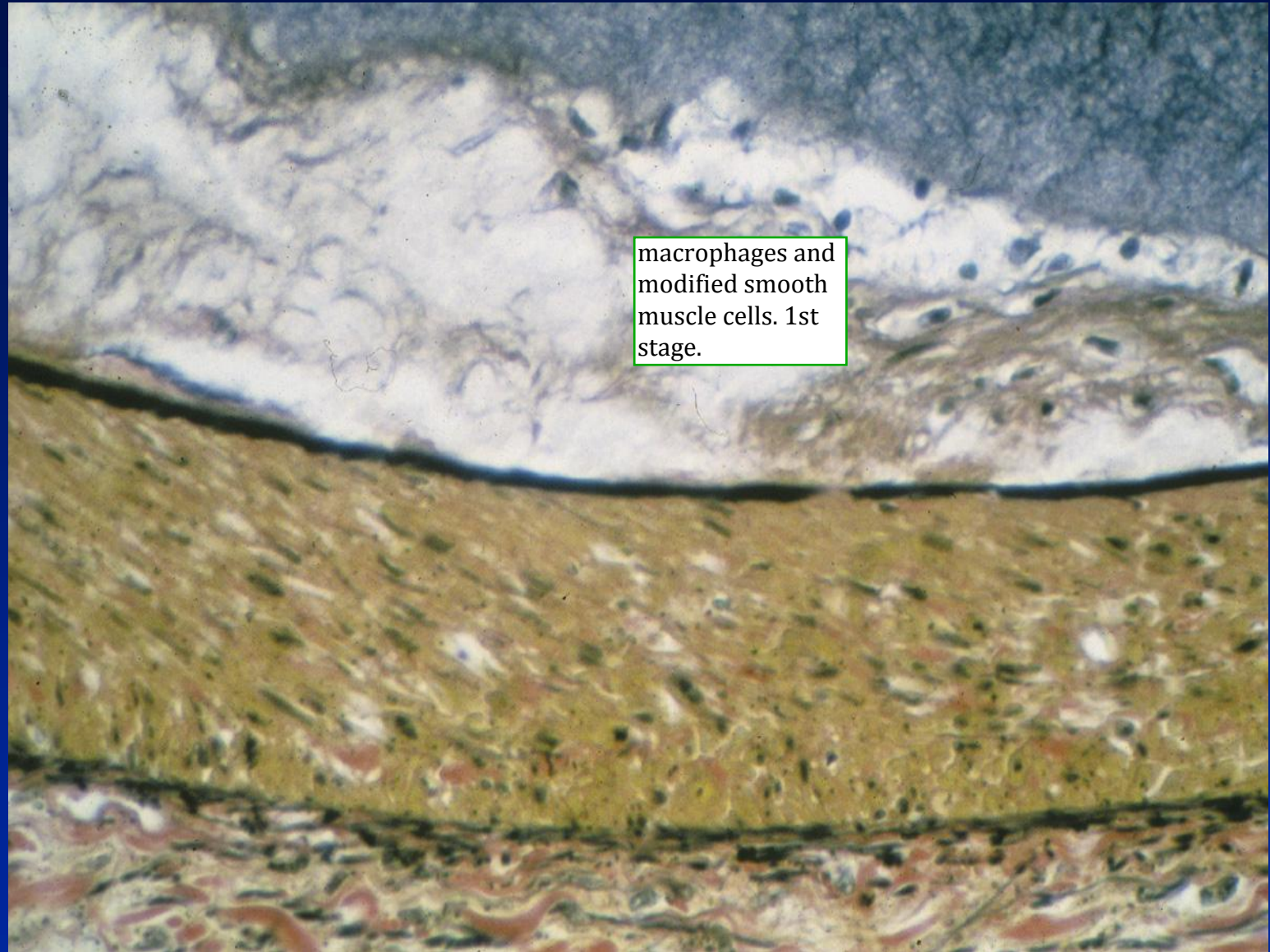
intima thicker than humans (usually 1-3 cell layers thick)

Relatively Normal Muscular Artery



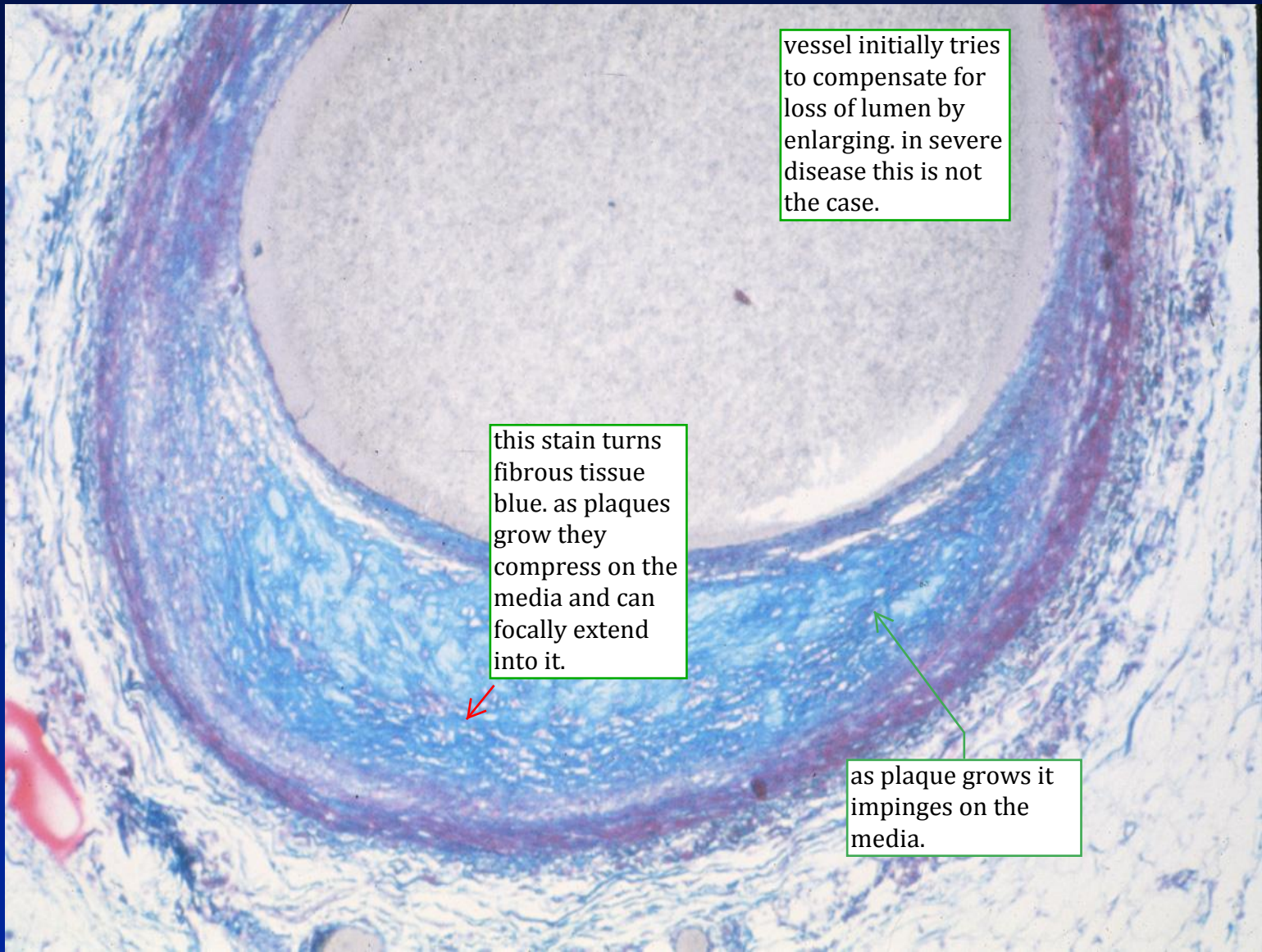
rabbit on human diet.

Artery with Fatty Streak



macrophages and modified smooth muscle cells. 1st stage.

Fatty Streak



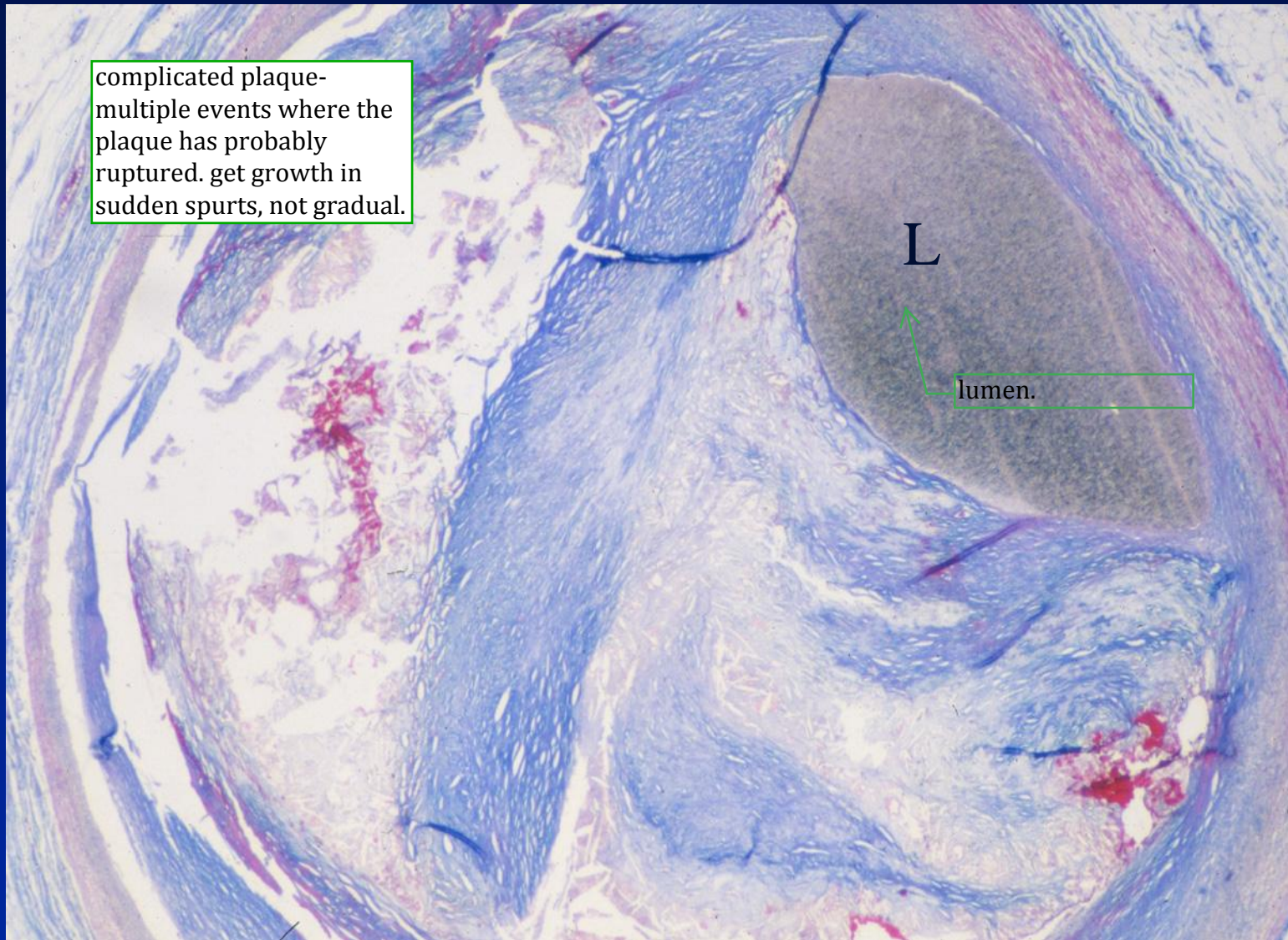
vessel initially tries to compensate for loss of lumen by enlarging. in severe disease this is not the case.

this stain turns fibrous tissue blue. as plaques grow they compress on the media and can focally extend into it.

as plaque grows it impinges on the media.

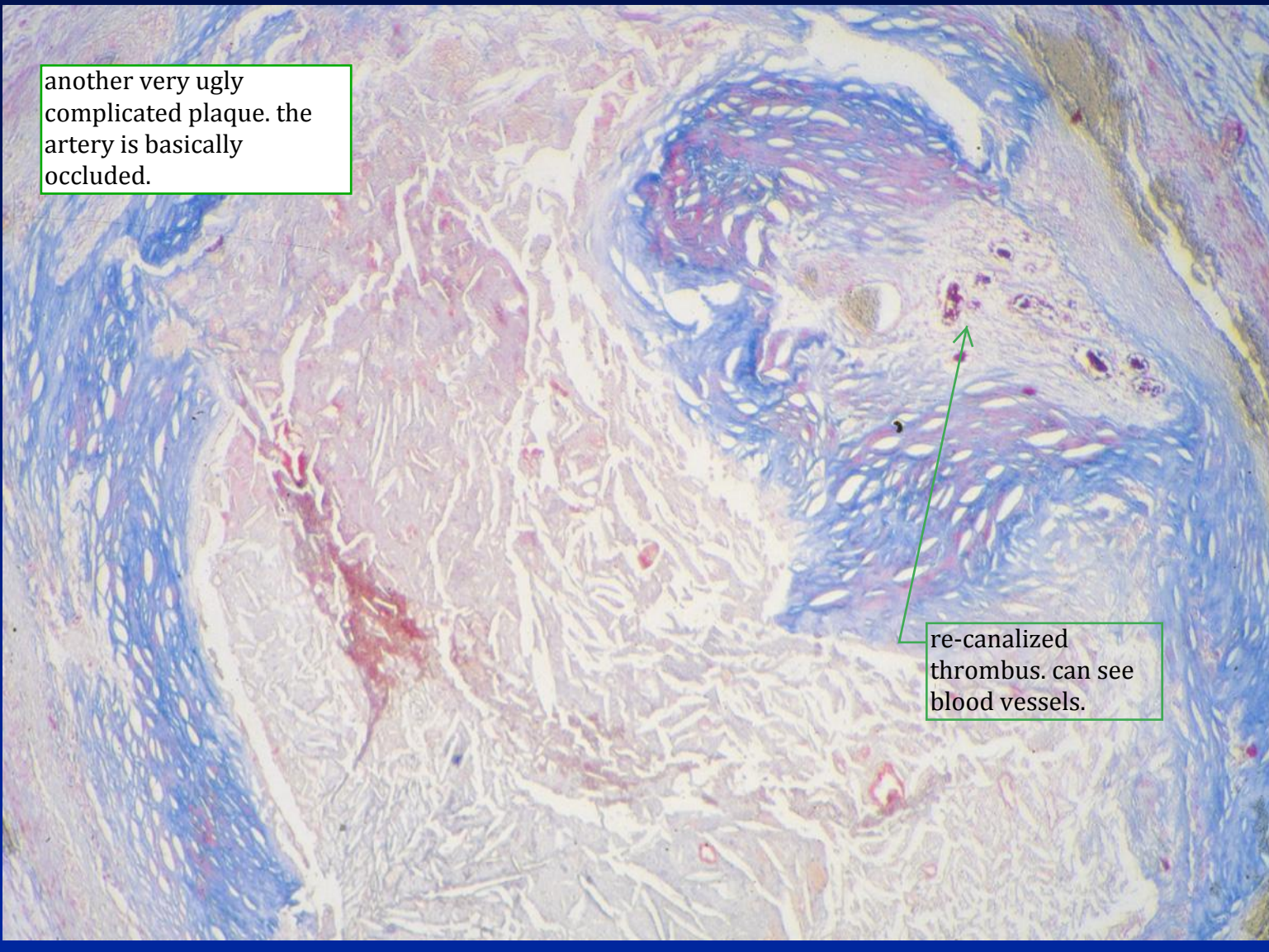
Fibrous Plaque

complicated plaque-
multiple events where the
plaque has probably
ruptured. get growth in
sudden spurts, not gradual.



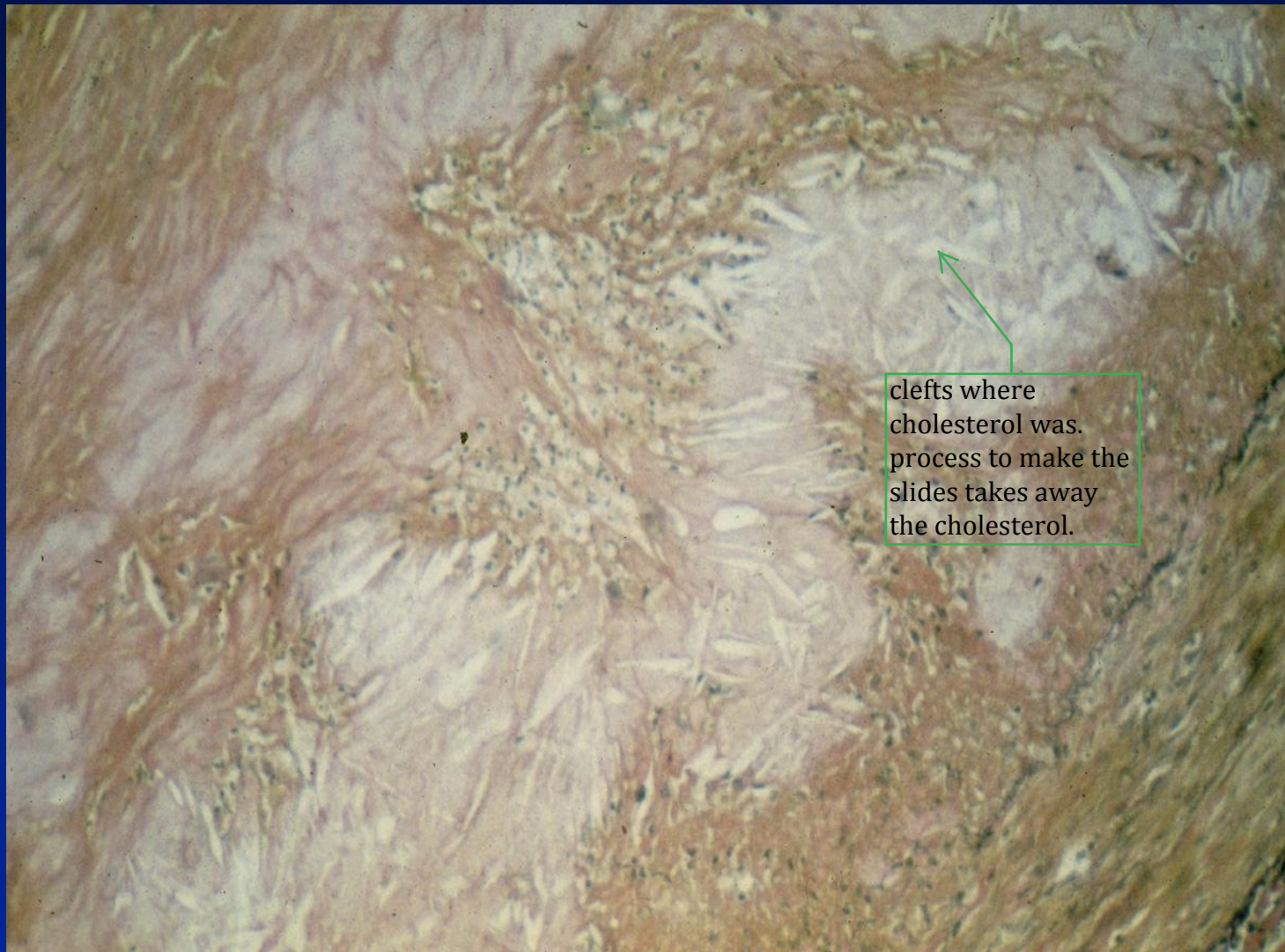
Complicated Plaque

another very ugly complicated plaque. the artery is basically occluded.



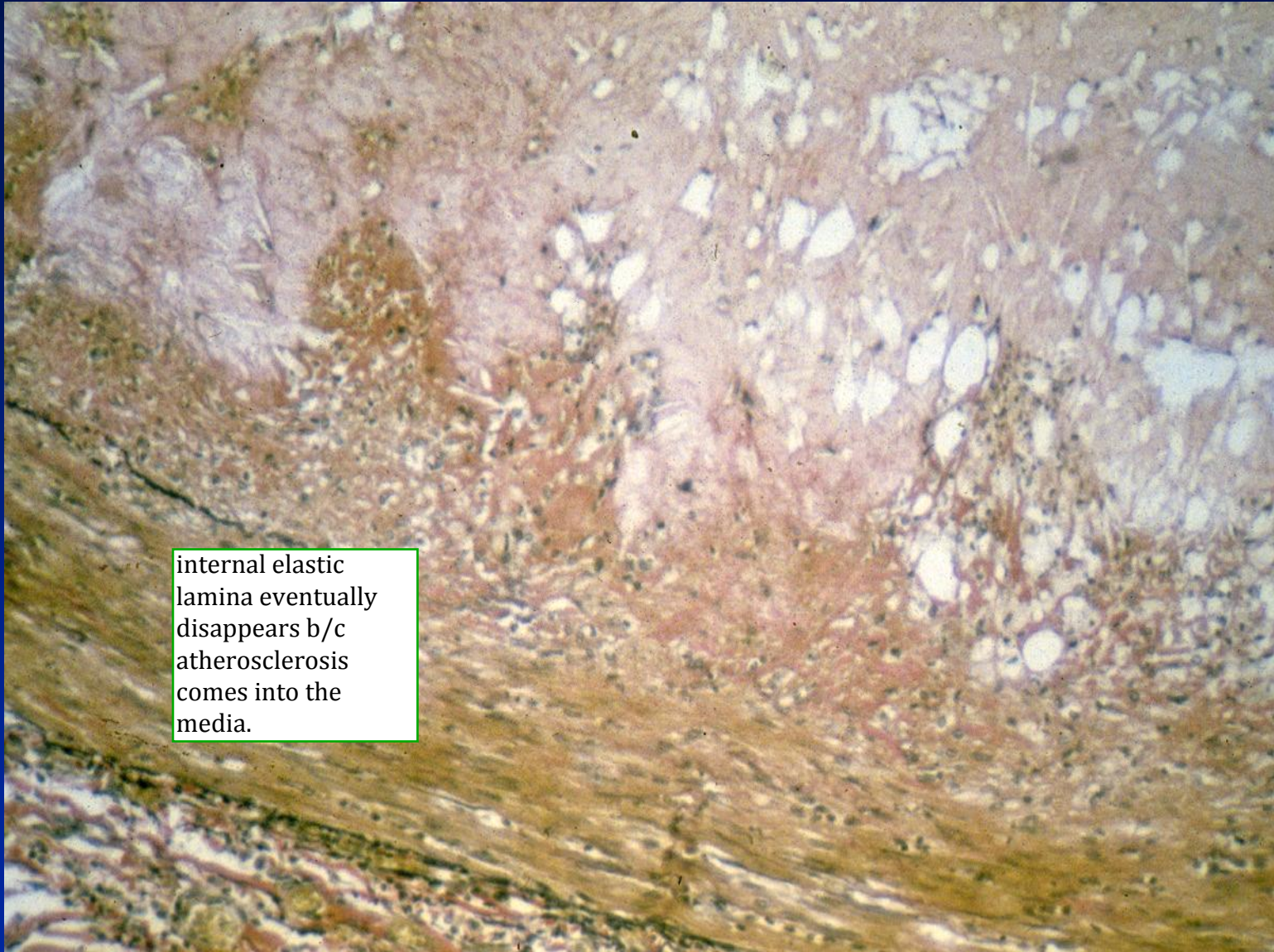
re-canalized thrombus. can see blood vessels.

This histological image shows a cross-section of an artery with a large, complex plaque. The plaque is characterized by a dense, fibrous structure with a central area of re-canalization. This central area contains several small, circular blood vessels, indicating that the thrombus has been partially reabsorbed and replaced by new blood vessels. The surrounding tissue is highly cellular and disorganized, with a mix of blue and pink staining. A green arrow points from the text box to the re-canalized area.



clefts where
cholesterol was.
process to make the
slides takes away
the cholesterol.

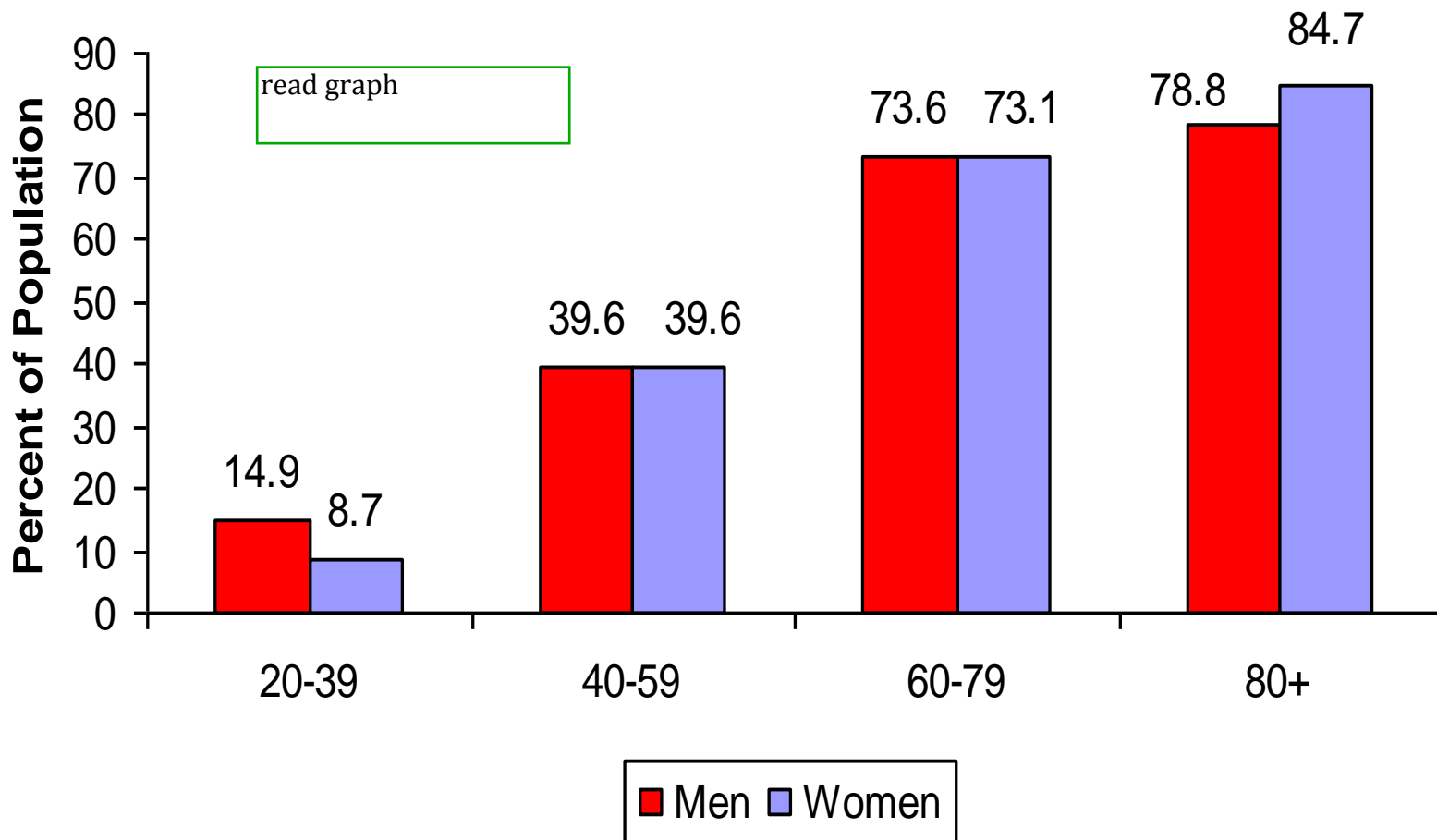
Cholesterol Clefts in Atherosclerotic Plaque Atheromatous Core



internal elastic
lamina eventually
disappears b/c
atherosclerosis
comes into the
media.

Focal disruption of internal elastic lamina

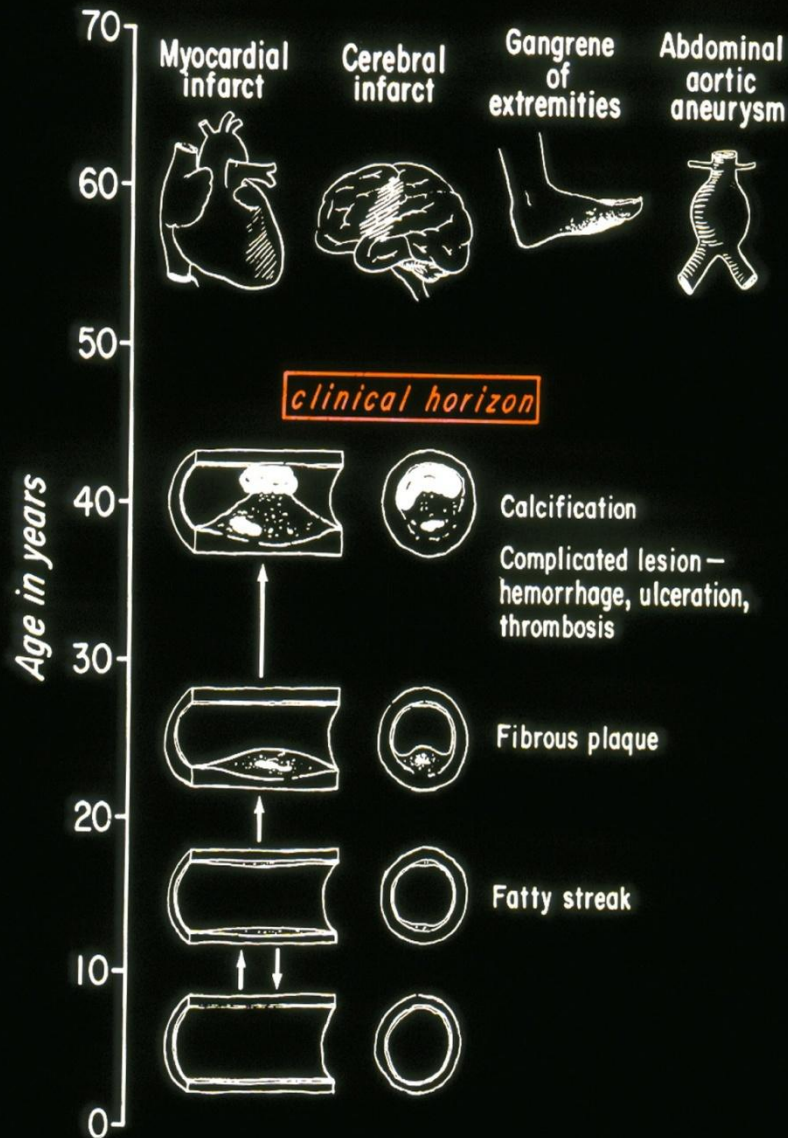
Prevalence of Cardiovascular Diseases in Americans Age 20 and Older by Age and Sex NHANES 2003-2006



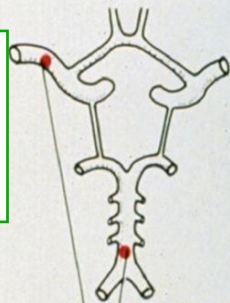
Source: CDC/NCHS and NHLBI. These data include coronary heart disease, heart failure, stroke and hypertension.

start in teens,
progresses, see
clinical phase in
30s - 40s.

Natural History of Atherosclerosis



he wants to prove that it starts when you are young. just fyi he's showing this slide to a jury in miami.



Common Sites of Atherosclerotic Plaques



Larger vessels, branch pt.s

Abdominal aorta and iliacs

Proximal Coronaries

Thoracic Aorta , Distal LE's

Internal Carotid and Cerebral

④ Internal carotid arteries

⑤ Vertebral, basilar, and middle cerebral arteries

larger vessels usually the 1st involved. because of fluid dynamics and injury. starts proximal and in branch points which has implications on how we treat it (more in the road show and in the spring)

② Proximal coronary arteries

① Abdominal aorta and iliac arteries

③ Thoracic aorta, femoral and popliteal arteries

Uncommon Sites:

Subclavian arteries

Axillary arteries

Renal arteries

Superior Mesenteric and Celiac

(Not incl. aortic origin)

uncommon sites are also important.

you can have a perfectly clean artery but if you block it at it's origin it's non-functional

Risks and Etiology

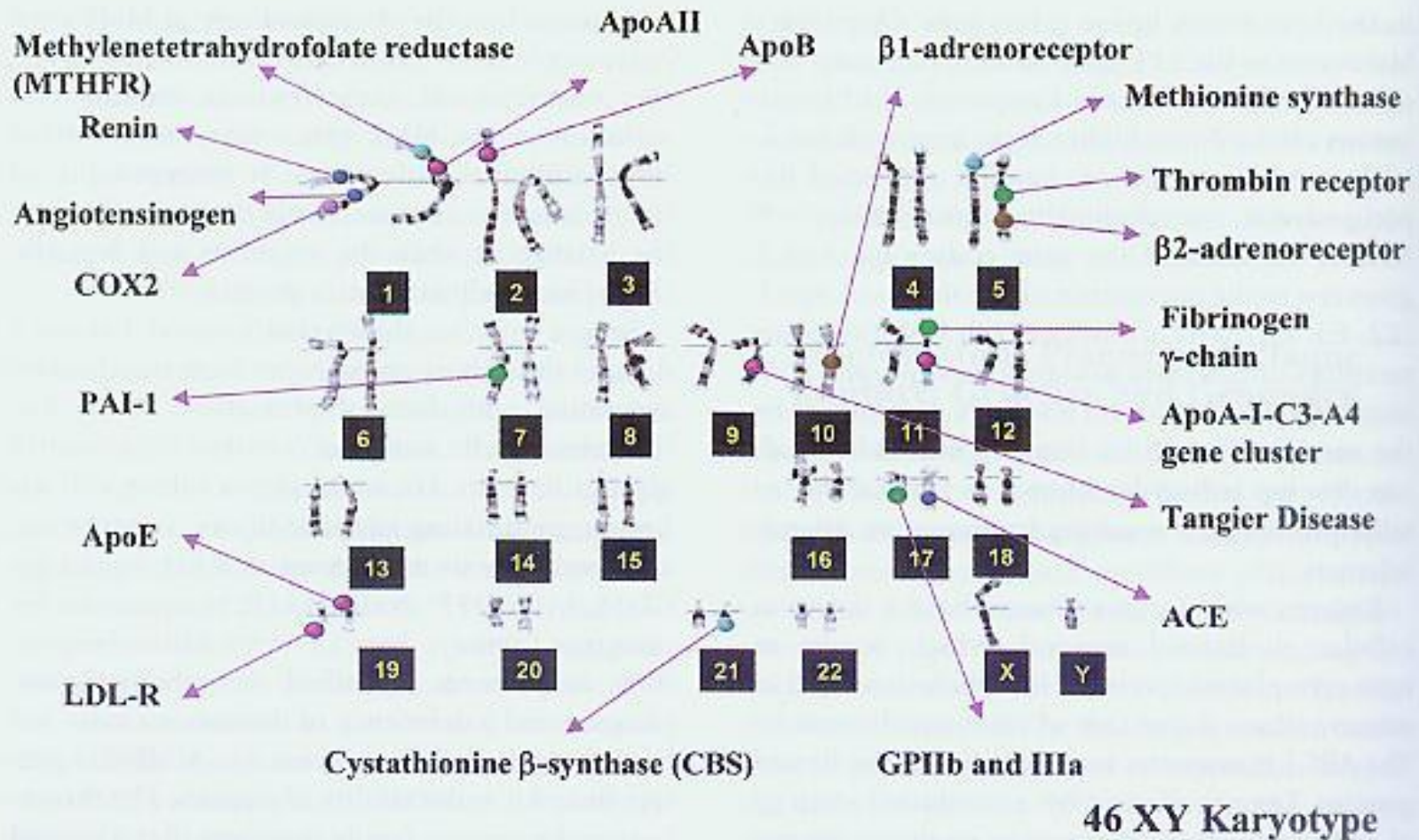
- Major – **Can Not Be Changed:**
 - Genetic ← strongest risk factor. tons of genes are involved in atherosclerosis. ask for family history.
 - Male Gender
 - Age ← older than 55.
- Major – **Can Be Changed/Managed**
 - Tobacco use
 - Hypertension
 - Lipidemias
 - Diabetes Mellitus
- **Contributing Factors:**
 - Obesity, Sedentary Life, Stress

these we can do something about



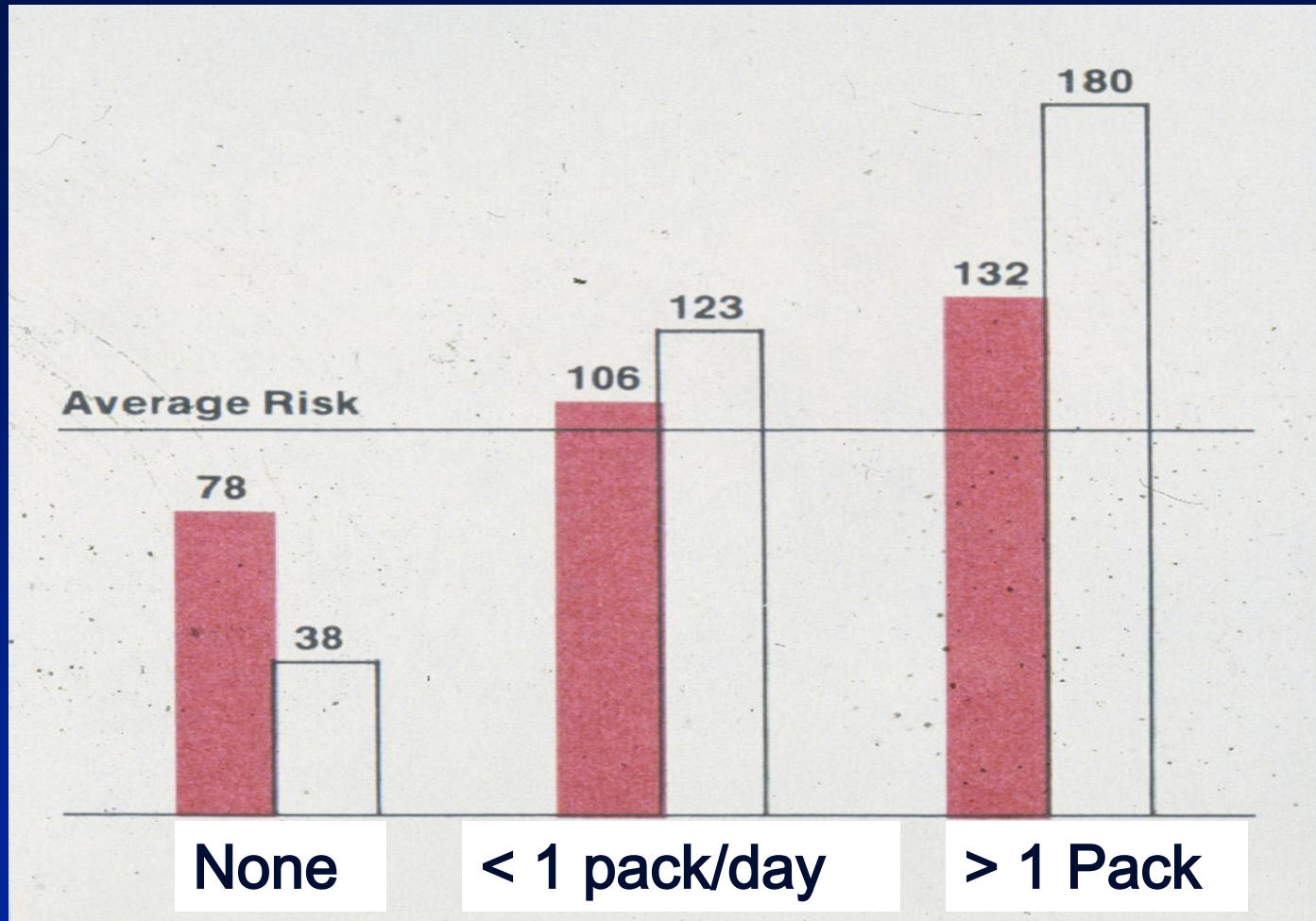
obesity contributes but is not a MAJOR risk factor.

Atherosclerosis: Genetics



very complicated b/c multiple genes are involved.

Tobacco Use: Smoking



Red bars are myocardial infarcts

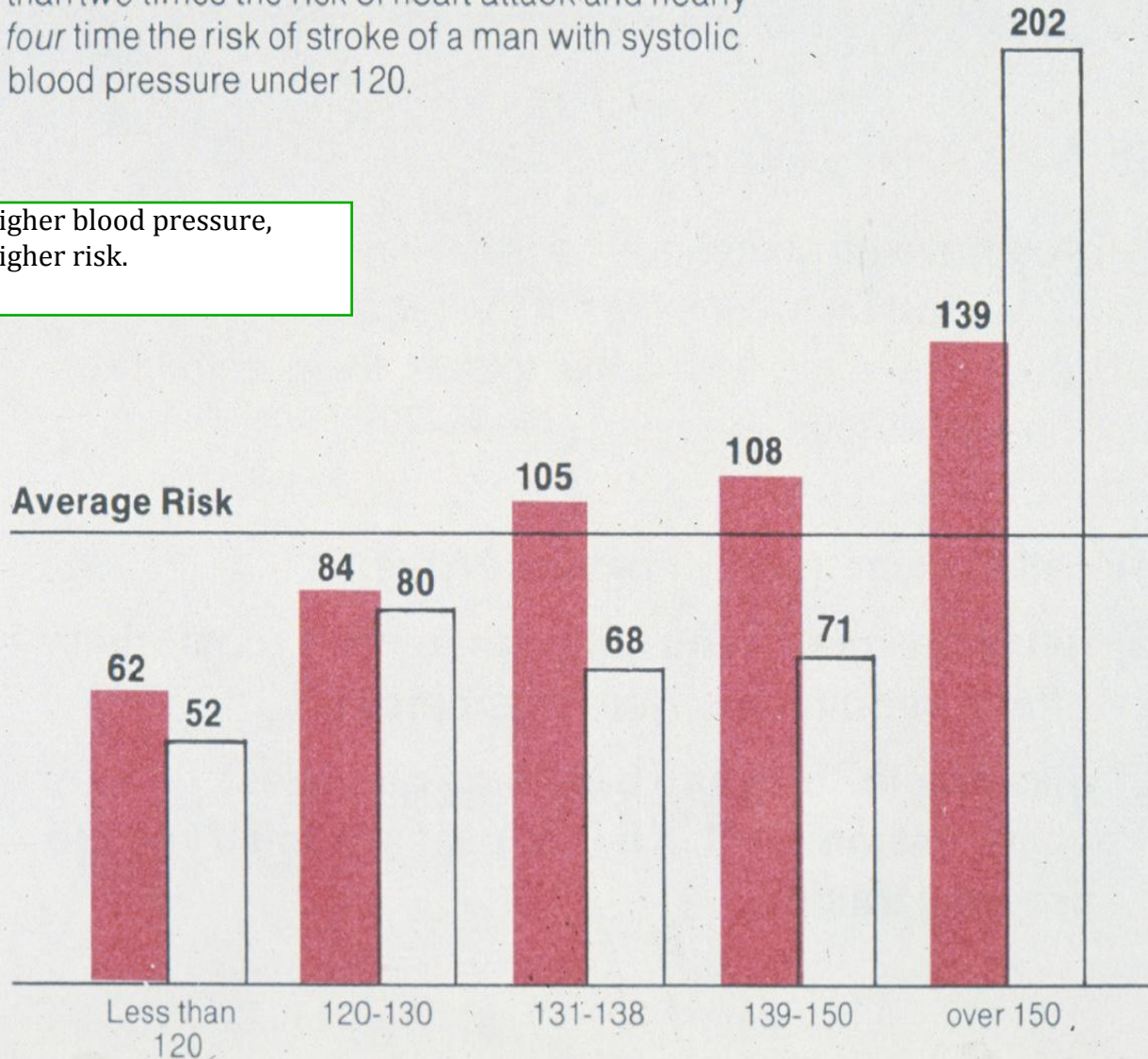
White bars are strokes

more you smoke the
higher your risk.

Blood Pressure

A man whose blood pressure at systole (the moment the heart contracts) is over 150 has more than two times the risk of heart attack and nearly four times the risk of stroke of a man with systolic blood pressure under 120.

higher blood pressure,
higher risk.



in general they keep becoming more stringent on where they want your cholesterol levels to be, depending on your risk factors.

Cholesterol and Atherosclerosis

In adults, total cholesterol > 240 mg/dL is high risk

LDL cholesterol > 130 mg/dL is associated with increased risk of coronary artery disease

HDL cholesterol < 40 mg/dL is associated with increased risk of coronary artery disease

basically read slide.

Inflammation

- > 50% of deaths from CAD have normal cholesterol levels

how do we explain these people w/ normal cholesterol levels? started looking at inflammatory responses.

- **Is there an overall “hyper-inflammatory” state?**

YES.

- C-Reactive Protein (CRP) – **Acute phase reactant - indicates ongoing inflammation**

CRP-ongoing inflammation.

- hs-CRP - Easily measured by blood test, low cost

- Correlates with risk of adverse coronary events

- ▶ **Short** and long term risk

- Medications can reduce levels and risk

- ▶ Statins (HMG-CoA reductase inh) – **dual** role also reduces CRP levels.

aspirin also reduces inflammatory state.

- **Other Markers being developed**

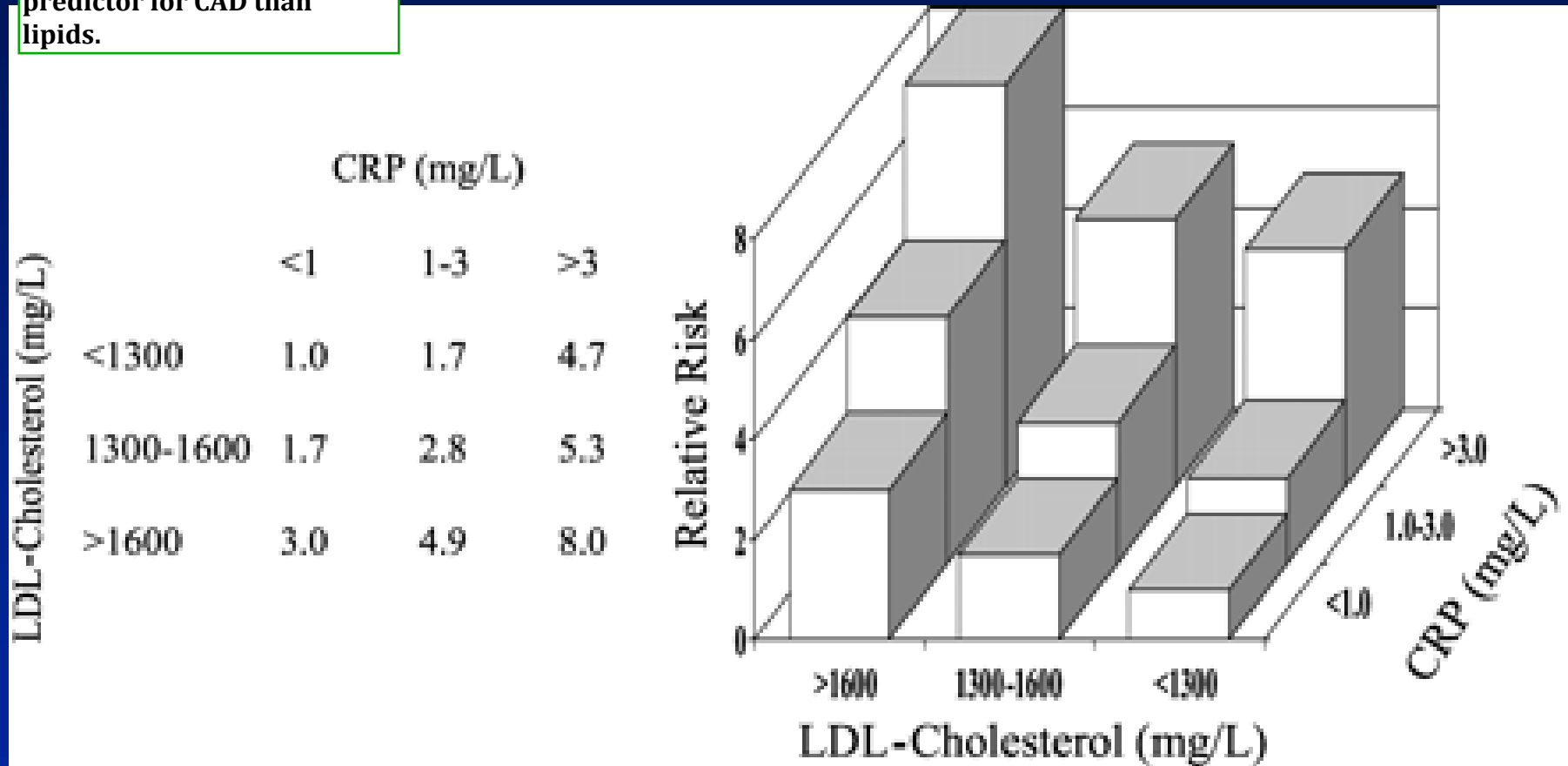
- **PlacentalGF** – less influenced by ongoing inflammation

more specific markers that are specific to arteries and vascular inflammation being developed

elevated CRP important in both short and long term.

paper looked at stratified risk in patients w/ both high cholesterol and high CRP. if patients controlled their levels of cholesterol and had elevated CRP they were still at risk. **elevated CRP is a stronger predictor for CAD than lipids.**

Inflammation




- Rifai and Ridker, Clinical Chemistry. 2003;49:666-669

Pathogenesis of Atherosclerosis

Intimal Injury and Repair

(The Response to Injury Hypothesis)

model that is now
focused on.



Mural Thrombosis and Organization

(The Thrombogenic or Encrustation Hypothesis)

ppl thought it was a
thrombus.

Monoclonal Proliferation

(The Monoclonal Hypothesis)

mini tumor- this
idea is gone.

Injury and Repair

- **Injury Mechanisms:**

- **Hyperlipidemia**
- **Hypertension/Shear Stress**
- **Tobacco Abuse**
- **Inflammatory State**
- **Microorganisms/ Viruses: CMV, Adenovirus**

- **Effects – Vicious Cycle**

- **Lipid Accumulation/ Free Radicals**
- **Cytokines/Chemotaxis**
- **Necrosis/Apoptosis/Thrombosis**
- **Fibrosis**

- **Players:**

- **Smooth Muscle Cells (medial and circulating), Macrophages, Endothelial Cells, White Cells and Platelets**

once this process starts it's difficult to stop.

flow dynamics, high bp extends and distends the vessel. remember blood is viscous.

chemicals in bloodstream

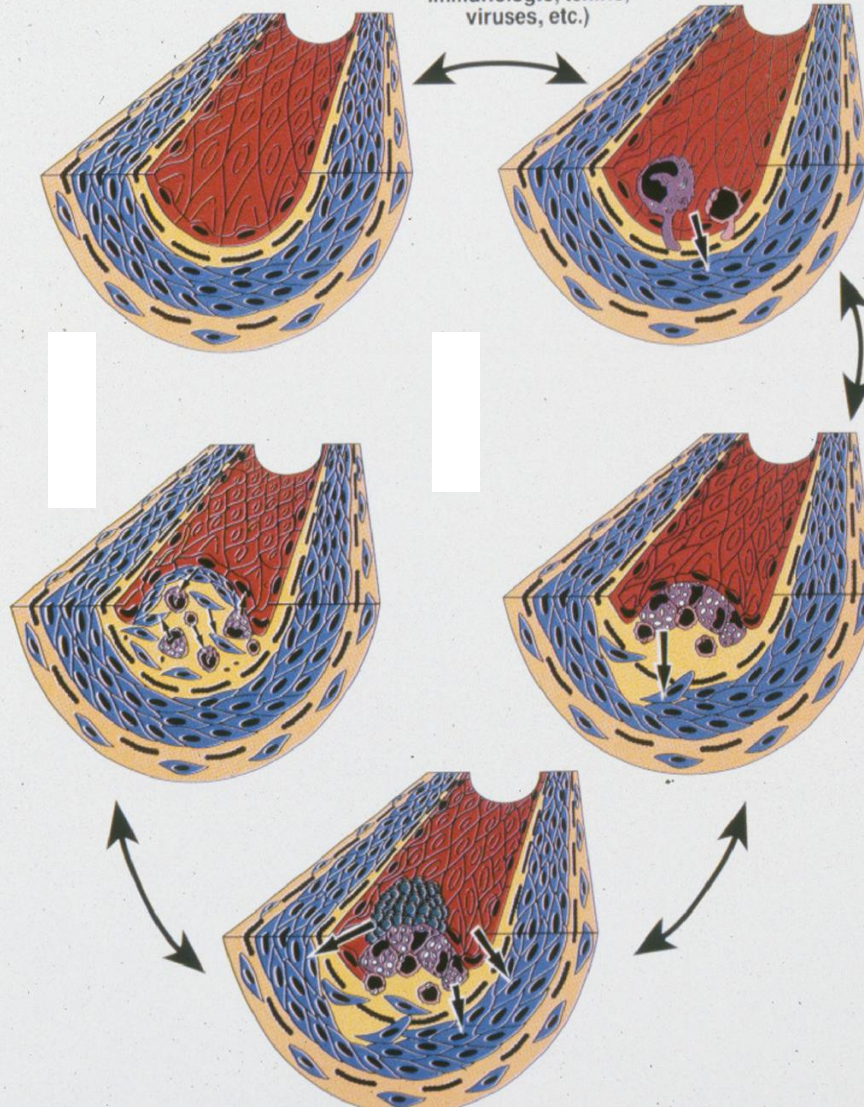
generate free radicals when lipids are oxidized.

especially problematic in peds-immunosuppressed patients, there seems to be a problem in heart arteriosclerosis when they get these viruses.

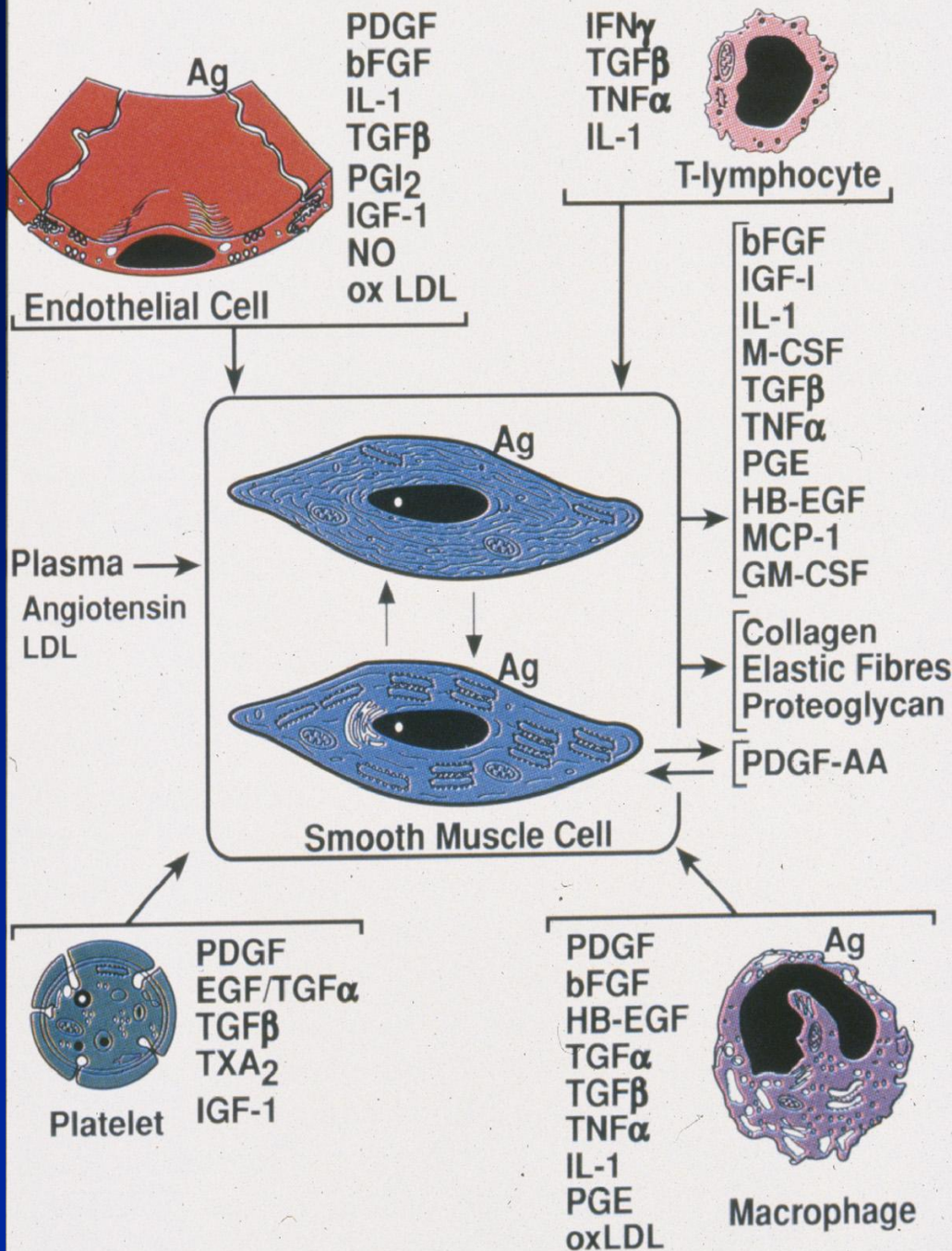
smooth muscle cells are VERY important because they are pluripotent here- can become secretory cells, cells that take up the fatty component, and can also be in our circulation and settle down in areas of injury and join the "riot". these and all the above-mentioned are involved.

Injury

Ox LDL,
(mechanical, homocysteine,
immunologic, toxins,
viruses, etc.)

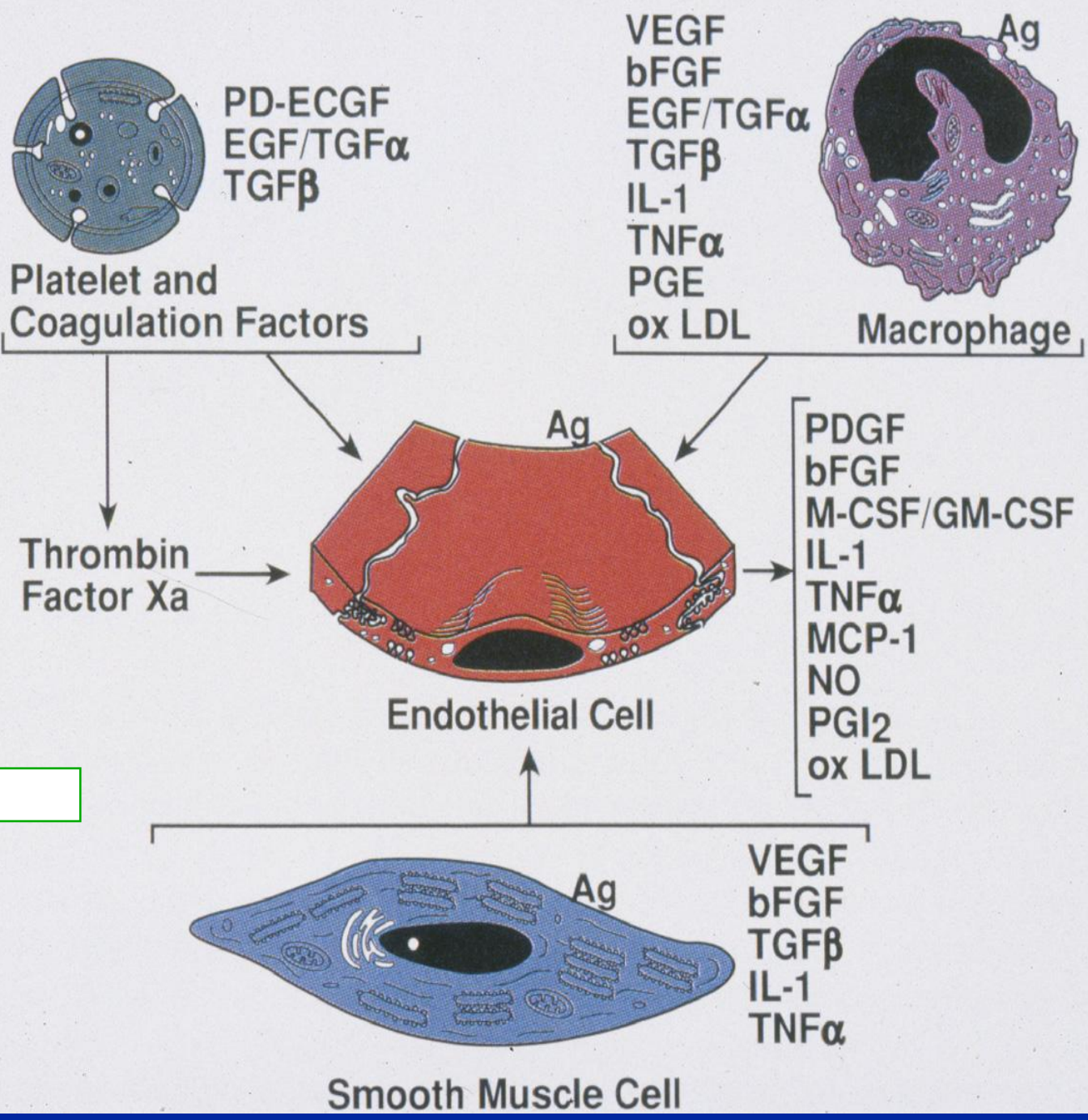


as plaque forms we
get smooth muscle
cells, platelet
aggregation, more
cell recruitment->->-
> accumulation on
blood vessels

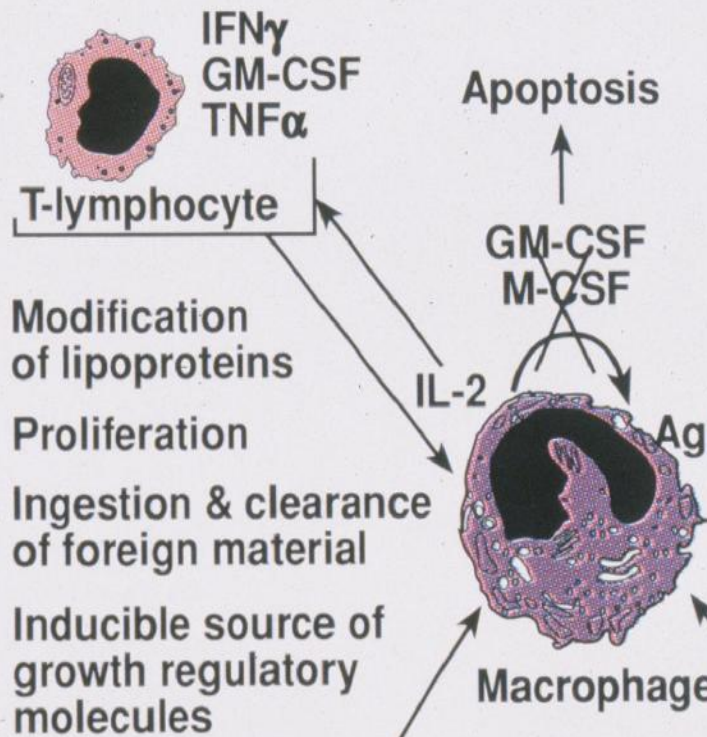


chemokines are involved.
just remember it's a
COMPLICATED process
with a lot of players that
interact with each other.

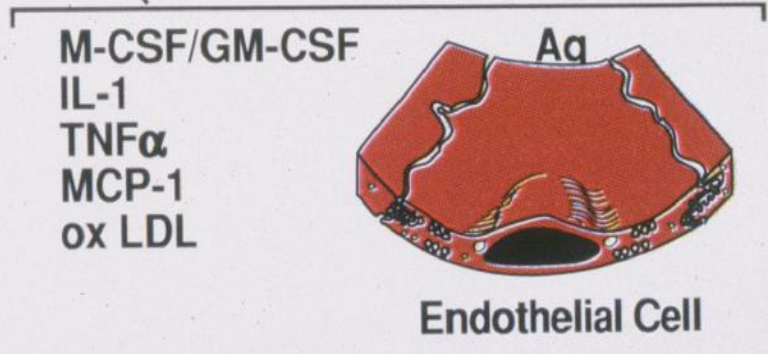
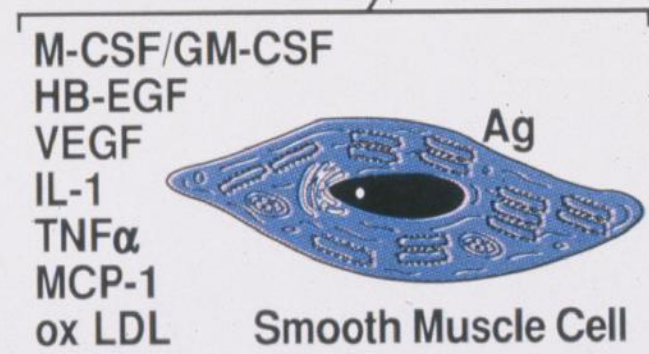
Growth Agonists	Growth Antagonists	Chemo-attractants
GM-CSF	IFNγ	GM-CSF
M-CSF	IL-1	M-CSF
HB-EGF	TGFβ	VEGF
IGF-1		bFGF
VEGF		MCP-1
bFGF		TGFβ
IL-1		PDGF
TNFα		oxLDL
TGFα		
TGFβ		
PDGF		



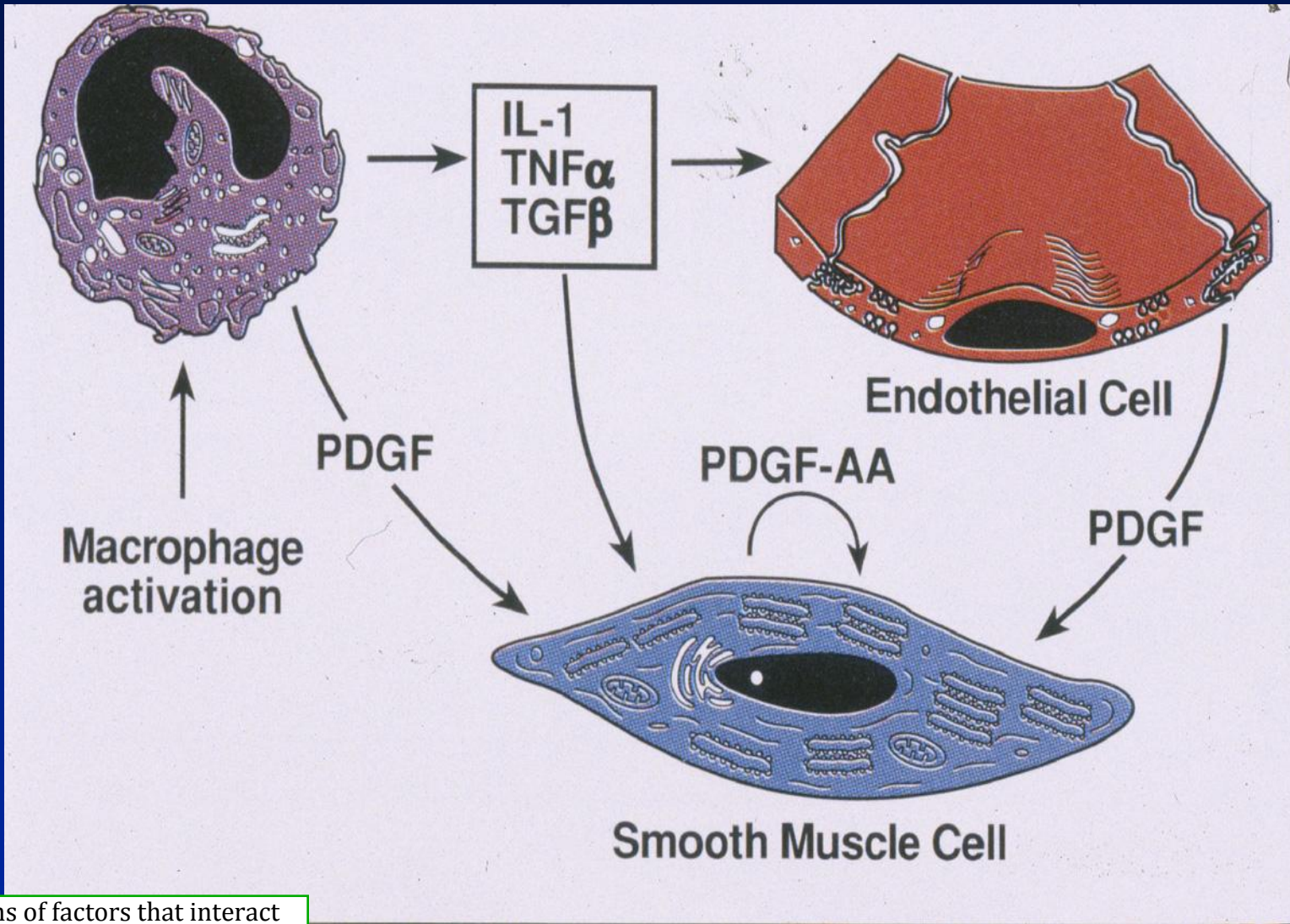
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Growth Agonists	Growth Antagonists	Chemo-attractants
GM-CSF	IFN γ	GM-CSF
M-CSF	IL-1	M-CSF
HB-EGF	TGF β	VEGF
IGF-I		bFGF
VEGF		MCP-1
bFGF		TGF β
IL-1		PDGF
TNF α		oxLDL
TGF α		
TGF β		
PDGF		



skipped



tons of factors that interact with each other.

Inflammation: Toll-Like Receptors

TLRs are present in your intima. React to pathogens and thus can trigger advanced atherosclerosis.

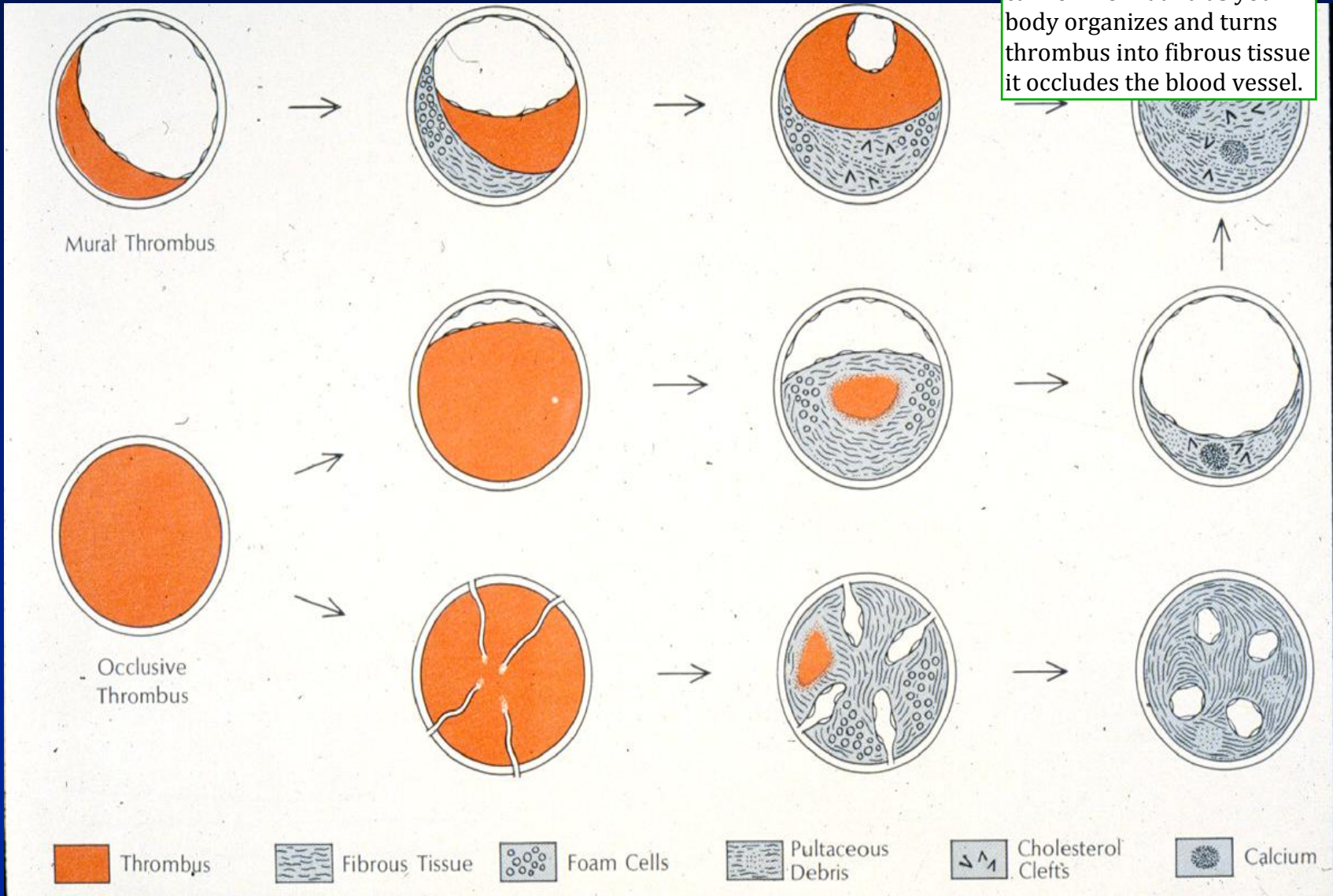
- Immune functions
 - React to pathogens
 - Endogenous ligand stimulation
- Responses
 - Affects lipid transport and macrophage uptake and release (cholesterol)
 - Interact with oxidized lipoproteins
 - Cytokine upregulation
- **Cycle** ←
 - Injury can further activate TLR's
- Remodeling
 - May also stimulate arterial remodeling to accommodate progressing atherosclerosis

ongoing topic: it's a CYCLE.

initially they might try to help the artery.

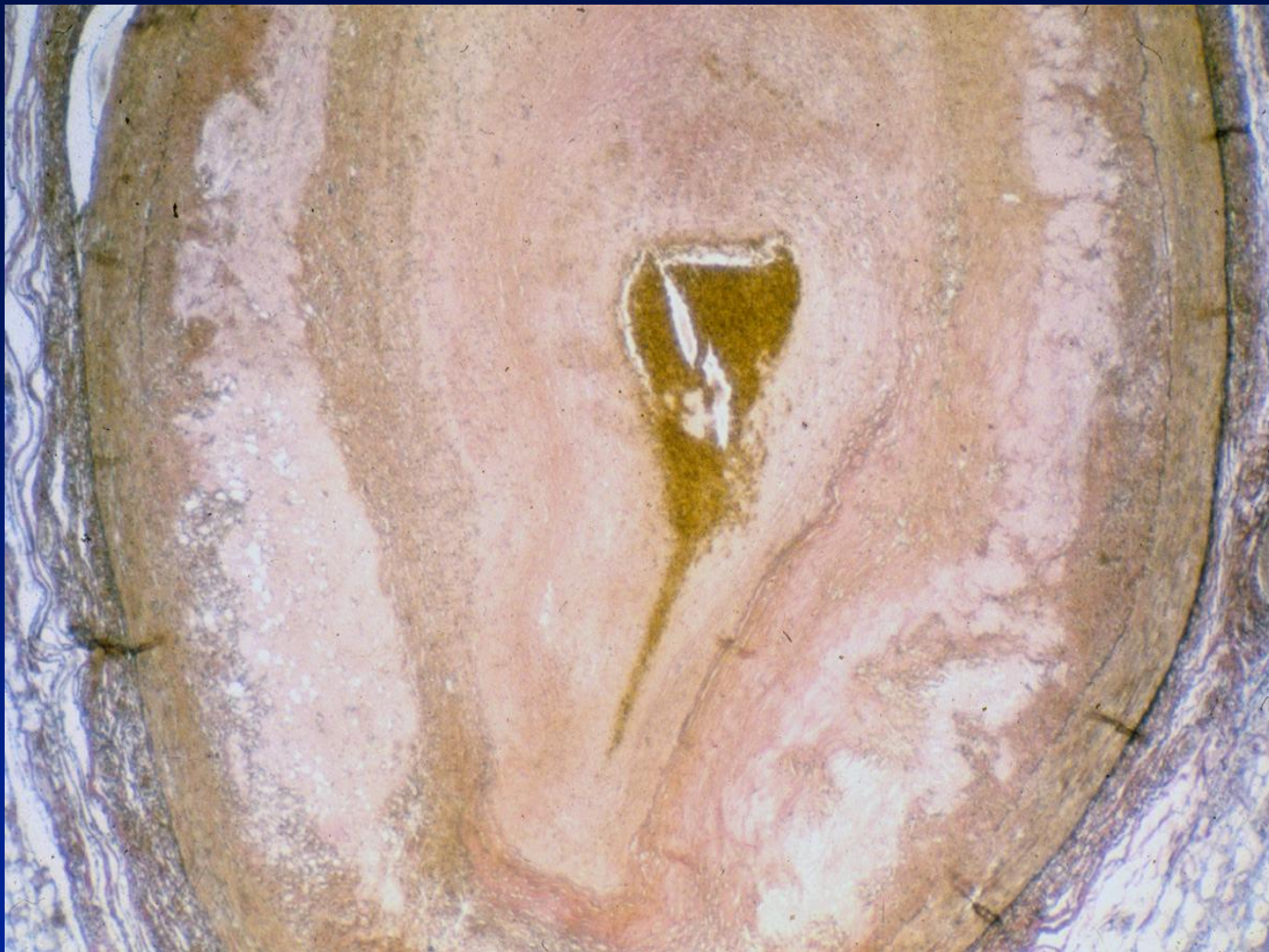
Thrombotic Theory

doesn't speak to how plaque begins to form but once plaque forms a thrombus can form on it and as your body organizes and turns thrombus into fibrous tissue it occludes the blood vessel.





Atherosclerotic plaque with organized mural thrombus



Concentric atherosclerotic plaque, central organized thrombus, small central lumen

had plaque, it became complicated and the process, which included thrombosis, led to severe blockage.

2 "ends of the spectrum" - 1. critical stenosis.

Clinical Atherosclerosis: Luminal Narrowing

Critical Stenosis: Supply < Demand

Symptoms related to flow restriction

- **Episodic Ischemia**

when you require higher blood flow (exercise) you feel symptoms.

- Heart: Angina Pectoris
- Brain: Transient Ischemic Attacks (\pm emboli)
- Extremities: Intermittent Claudication
- Kidneys: Renovascular Hypertension
- Intestines: Mesenteric Ischemia

chest pain

patients cramp when they walk.

not as common.

further discussed in road show.

Clinical Atherosclerosis:

2. acute arterial occlusion

Plaque Rupture and Thrombosis

Acute Arterial Occlusion - leads to sudden significant or total obstruction of lumen

Most Common Cause: **Thrombus superimposed over plaque rupture/erosion site**

most important event in atherosclerosis.



usually occurs because of plaque rupture. thrombus occludes lumen.

← plaques sit in a dynamic setting like rocks in a stream.

Clinical Atherosclerosis: Plaque Rupture and Thrombosis

Vulnerable Plaque

plaques more likely to rupture.

Vulnerability to **Plaque Rupture**

- Large Atheromatous Core
- Thin Fibrous Cap/Increased Cap Tension
- Inflammation or Foam Cells in Fibrous Cap
- Matrix Metalloproteases
- Cap Fatigue

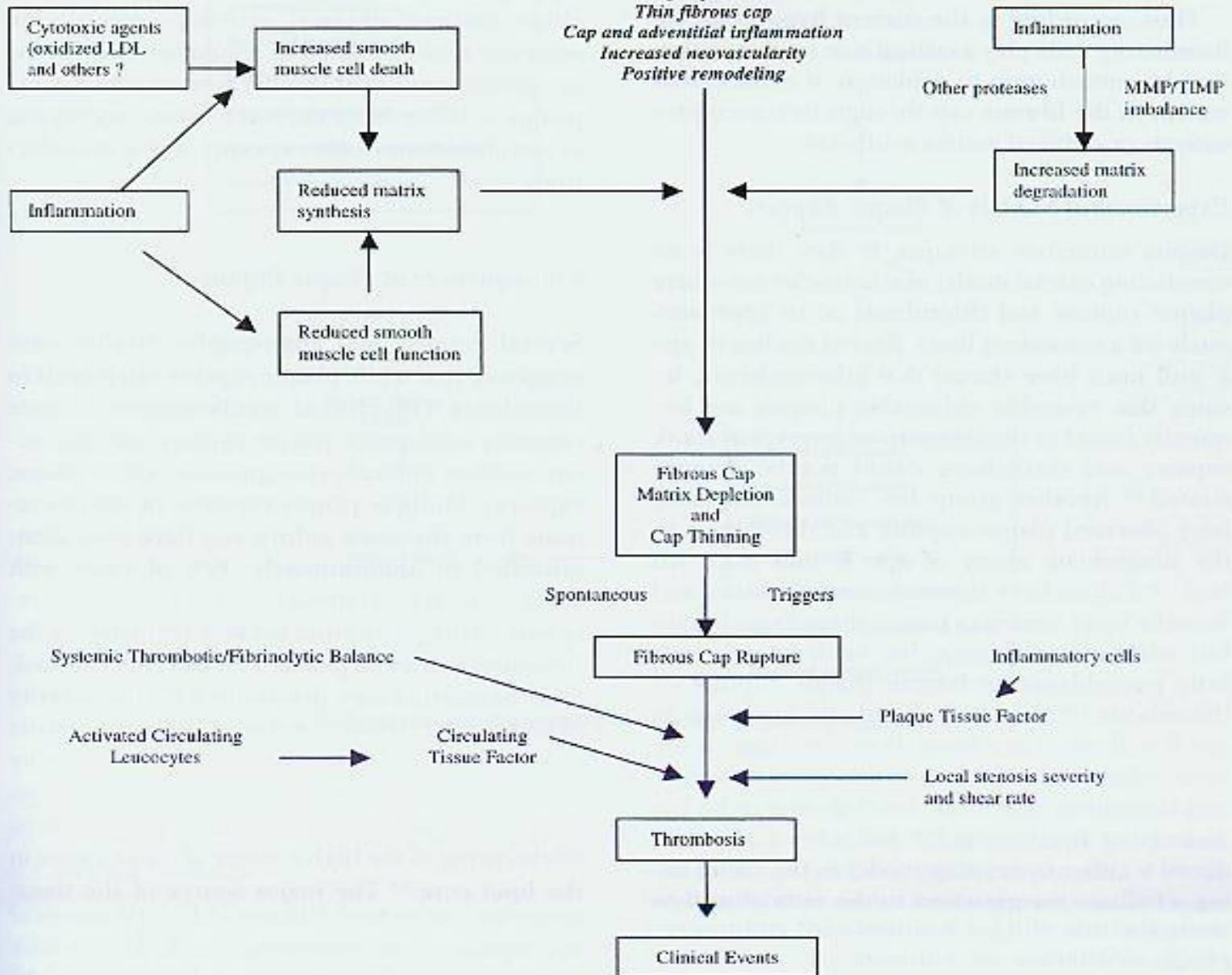
these are more likely to rupture.

_>>>>>

cap- cells degrading can loosen the cap, so do inflammation and foam cells.

Vulnerable Plaque

*Large lipid-core
Thin fibrous cap
Cap and adventitial inflammation
Increased neovascularity
Positive remodeling*



Acute Manifestations of Coronary Artery Disease

Angina Pectoris

Prevalence - 13,000,000

Myocardial Infarction

Deaths/Year - 600,000

Sudden Cardiac Death

half of them are sudden. difficult because we are not able to treat for their CAD.

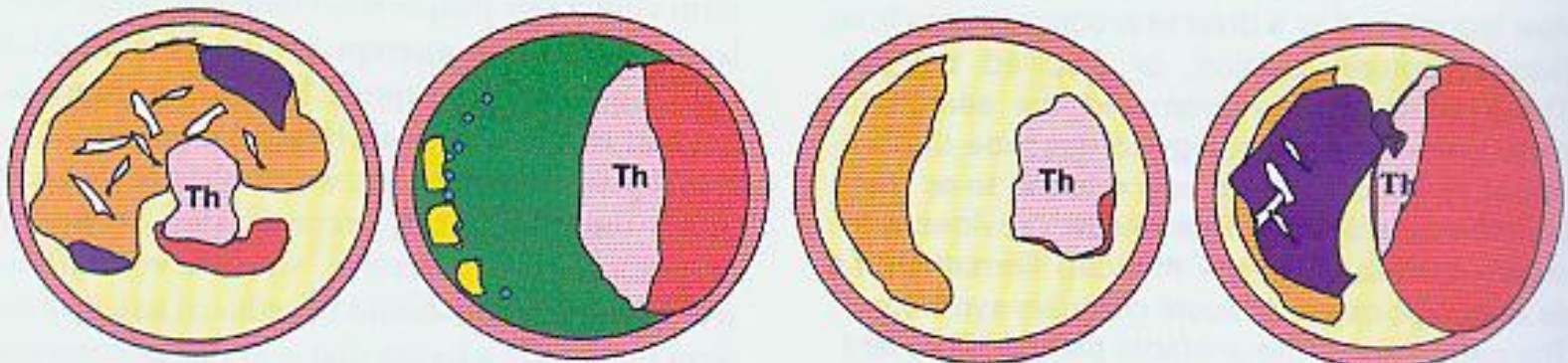
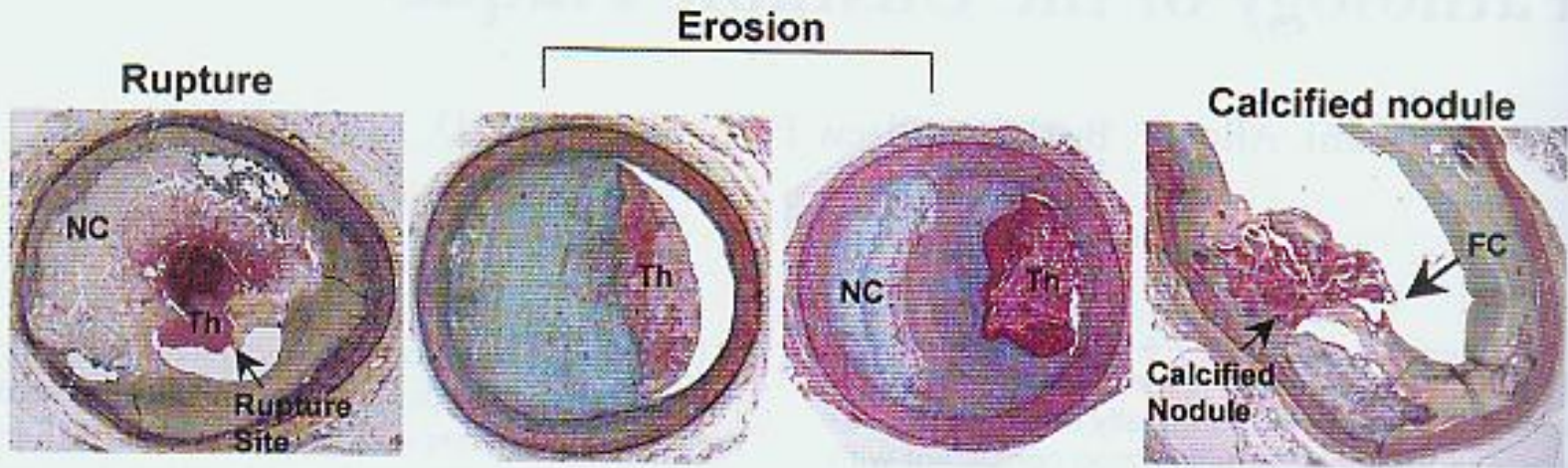
from 600,000 - 800,000 in the US

50% of Deaths are Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD)

50-60% of SCD are First Clinical Manifestation of CAD

10% of Patients with CAD First Present as SCD

Plaque Rupture

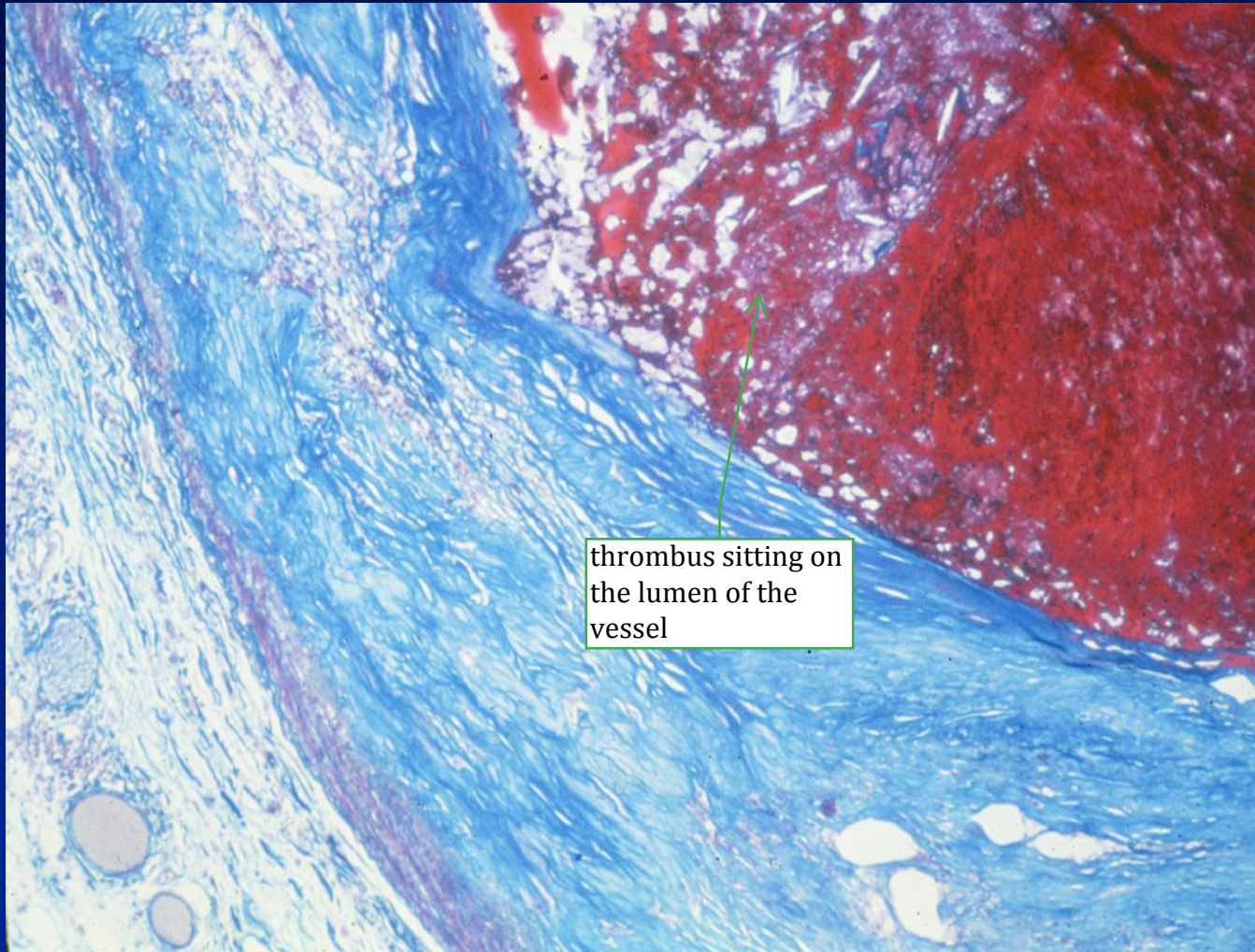


rupture of fatty core

erosion

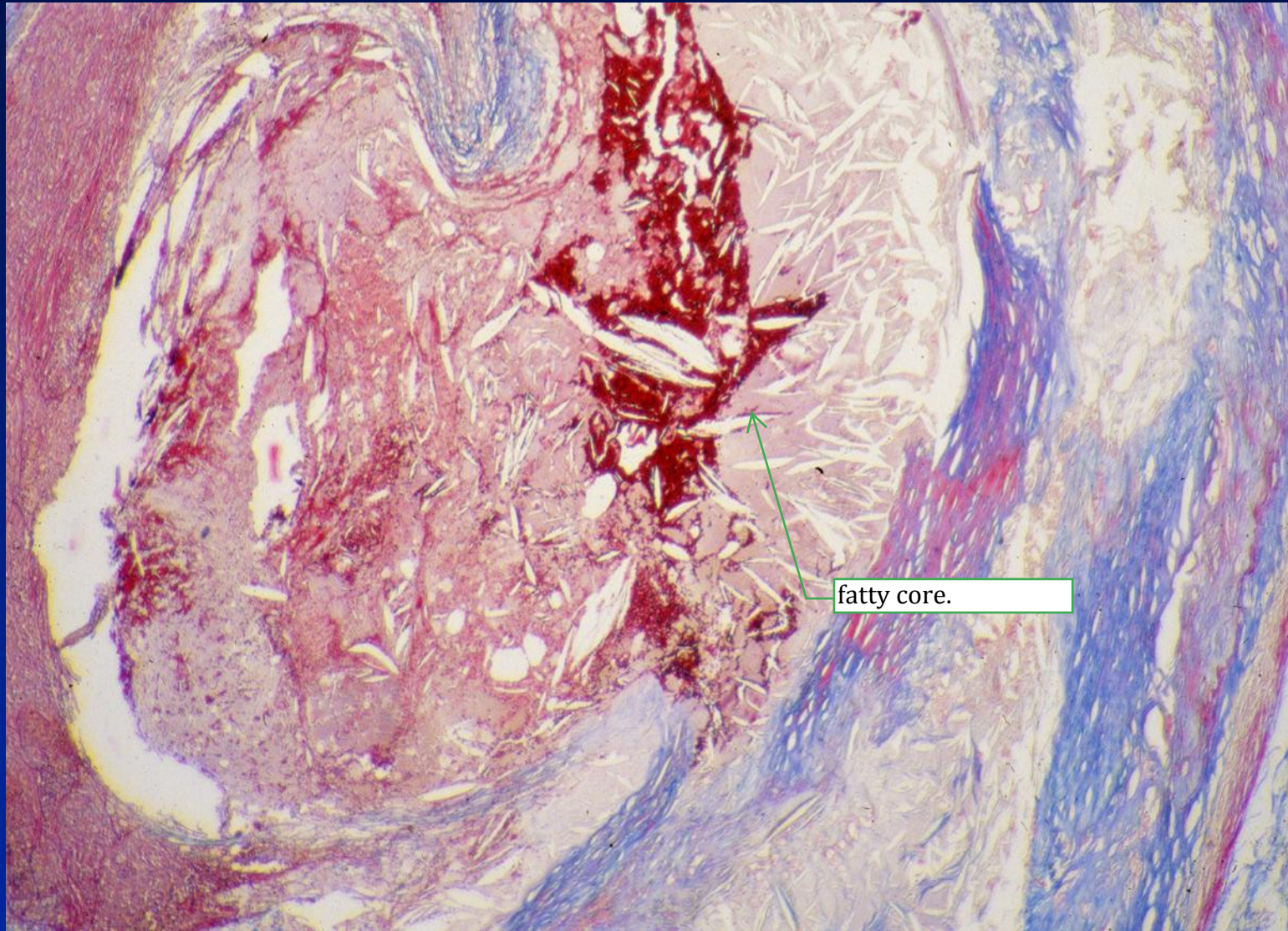
calcification
erodes to the
surface->
vulnerable
plaque

ni, et al.



Atherosclerotic Plaque with Acute Thrombus

(Plaque Rupture, with lipid debris on left, inducing thrombosis)



Ruptured atherosclerotic plaque (right), superimposed thrombus (left)



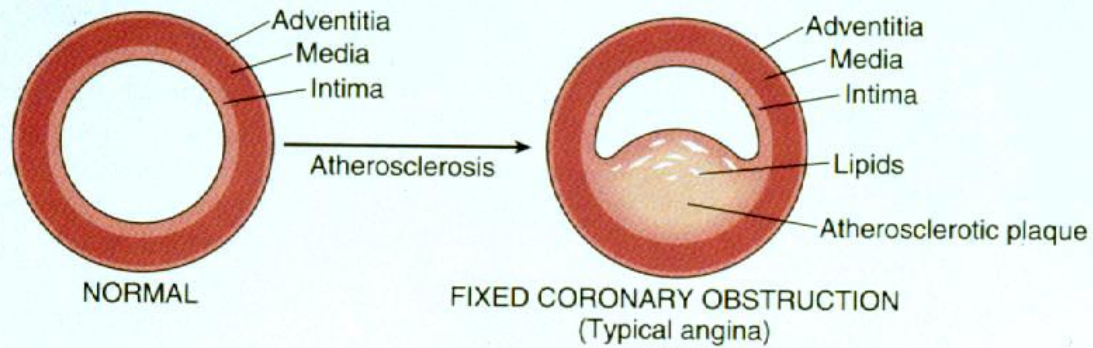
likelihood of developing an acute event does not necessarily correlated with obstruction but rather the QUALITY of the plaque.

Severe atherosclerotic narrowing, superimposed thrombus more distally



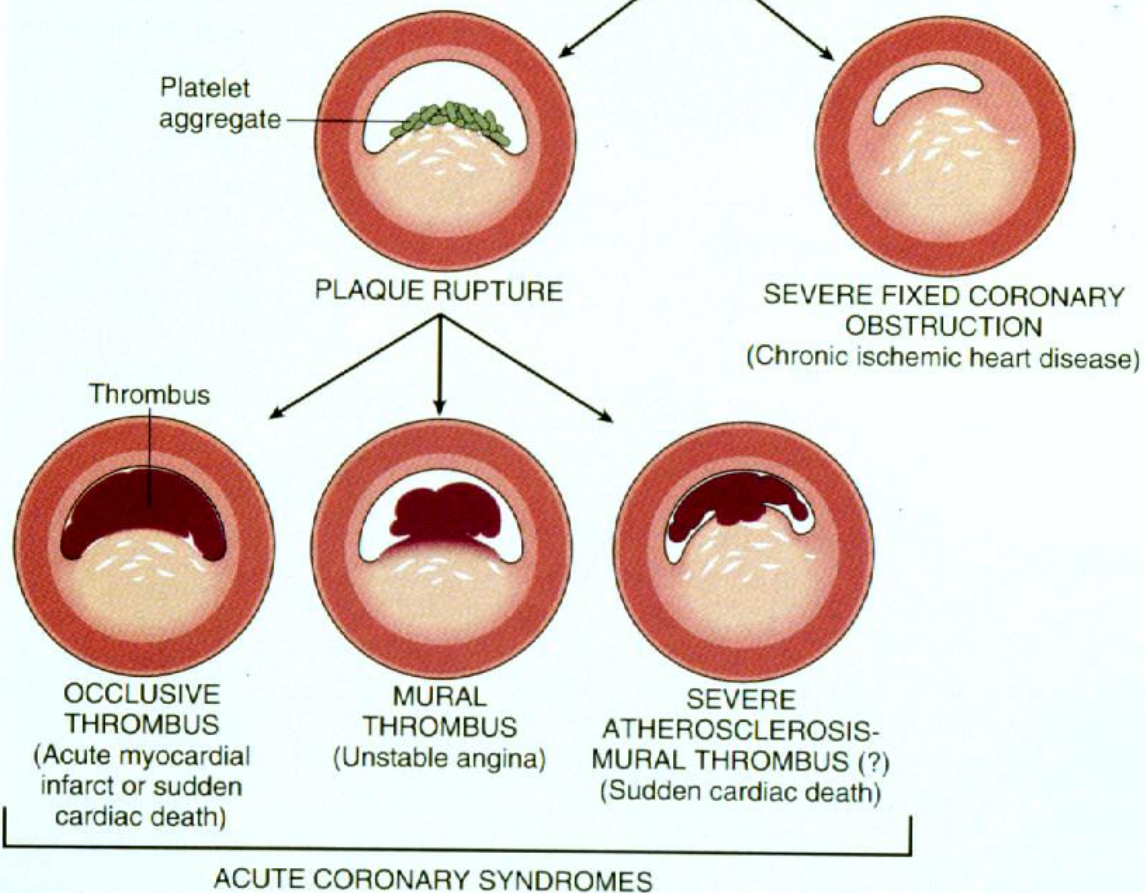
outcomes? acute MI

Anteroseptal Myocardial Infarct due to LAD
Thrombus



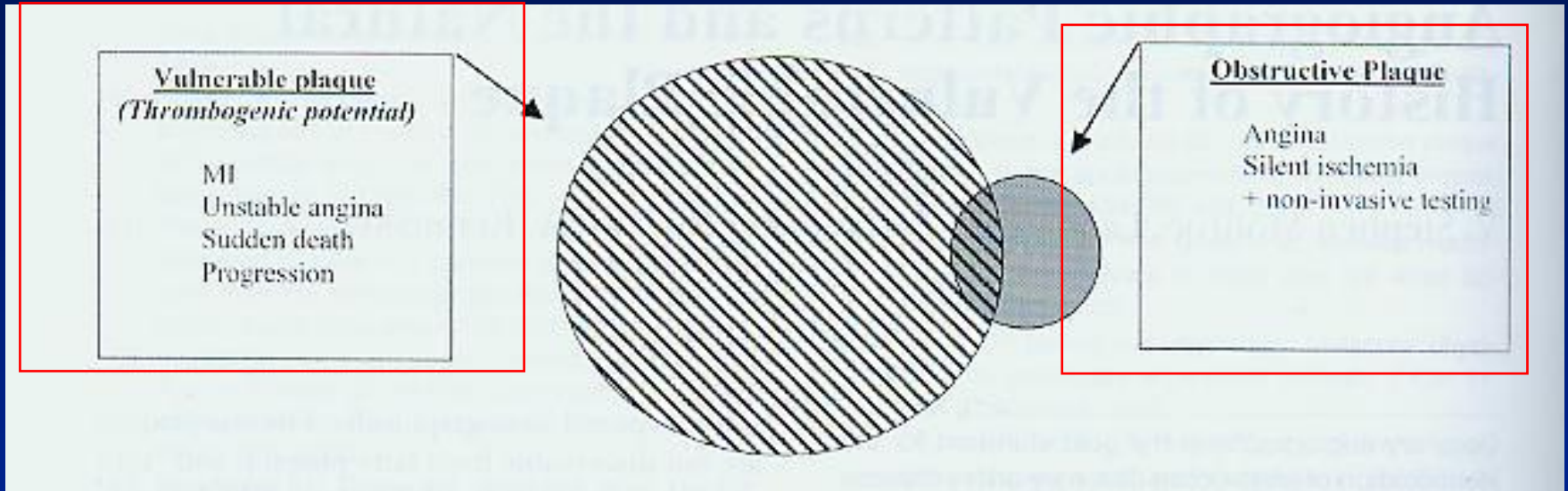
how does plaque lead to symptoms-severe coronary obstruction or acute plaque rupture.

types of thrombi and their clinical correlations



read the slide. but remember severity does not necessarily equal acute event risk.

Clinical Effects



- **Plaque Rupture vs. Obstructive Stenosis**
- **Severity of stenosis does not necessarily equal vulnerability or acute event risk at that focus**



Stress Test Raises Questions About Bank Capital

The Obama administration's announcement that it will begin a series of stress tests on Wednesday on the biggest financial institutions ...

Bloomberg.com

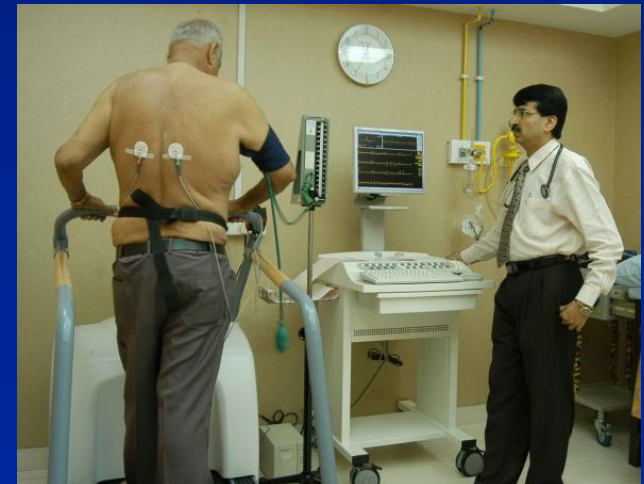
**Obama Seeks to 'Clean Out the System'
with Bank Stress Test**



**Stress tests: demonstrate symptoms of
flow restriction when requirements
increased**

**Designed to demonstrate ischemia
due to Critical Stenosis through
exercise or pharmacology**

**Predicts severity of stenosis,
not plaque vulnerability**



stress test looks at critical stenosis not quality-
patient can do great on stress test and drop dead.

Interventional Frontier\$

- **Reduced** Lipid content
- **Reduced** Inflammation
- **Reduced** Neovascularity
- **Reduced** Matrix Metalloproteinase Activity
- **Reduced** tissue Factor Activity
- Smooth Muscle Cell Activity/death
- Increased collagen content/Strength

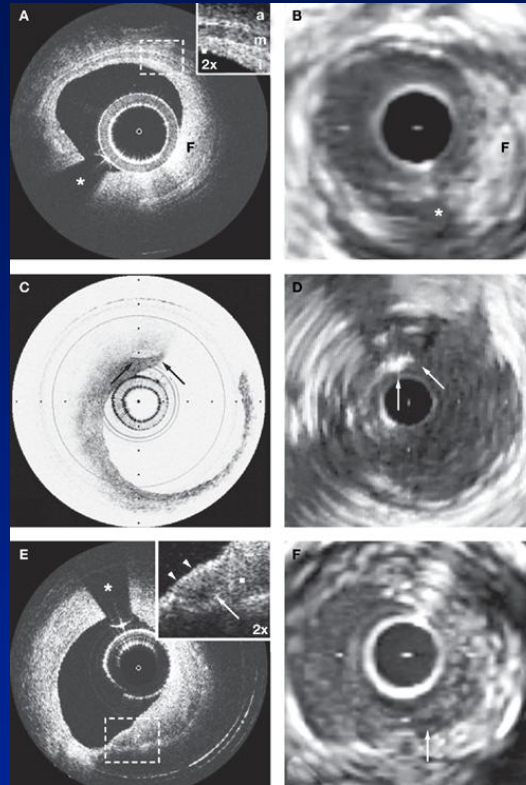
- Identification Techniques: MR, IVUS, OCT

if you interact here
you make a lot of \$\$
\$\$\$\$\$.

way to see the type of
plaque.

Figure 3 *In vivo* optical coherence tomography images of different coronary plaque types compared with intravascular ultrasonography of the corresponding sites

IV ultrasound and OCT- catheter goes through artery and can look at plaque from inside



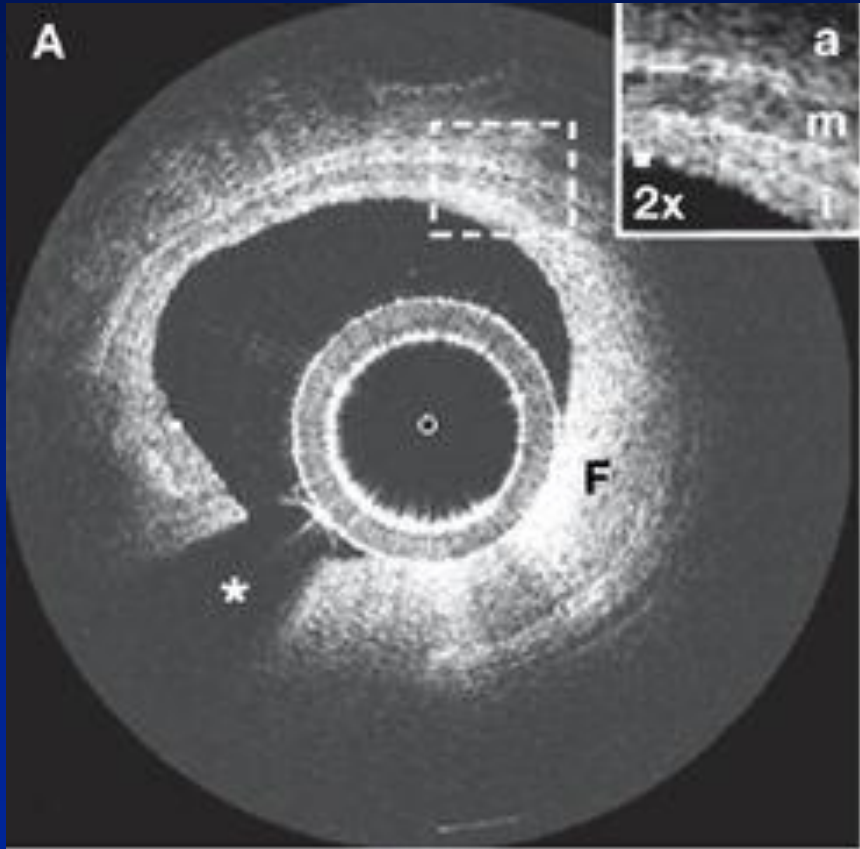
oct

ultrasound

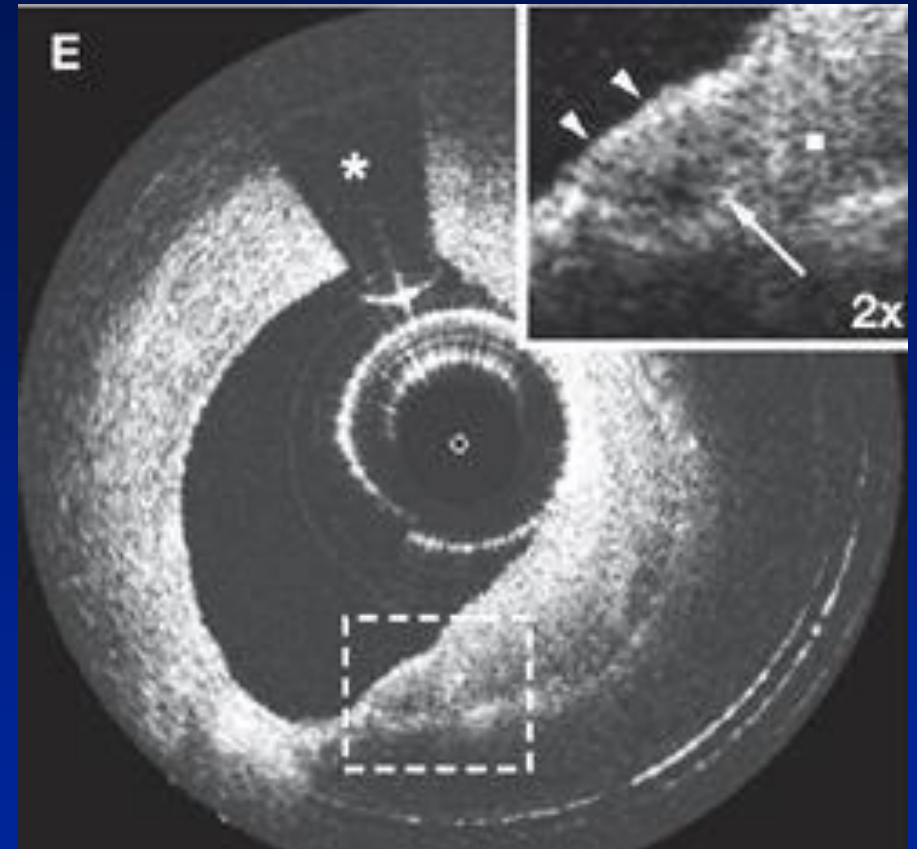
both show you the specific amount of blockage.

from Jang IK *et al.* (2002) Visualization of coronary atherosclerotic plaques in patients using optical coherence tomography: comparison with intravascular ultrasound. *J Am Coll Cardiol* **39**: 604–609.
© (2002) American College of Cardiology Foundation.

OCT



Fibrous Plaque



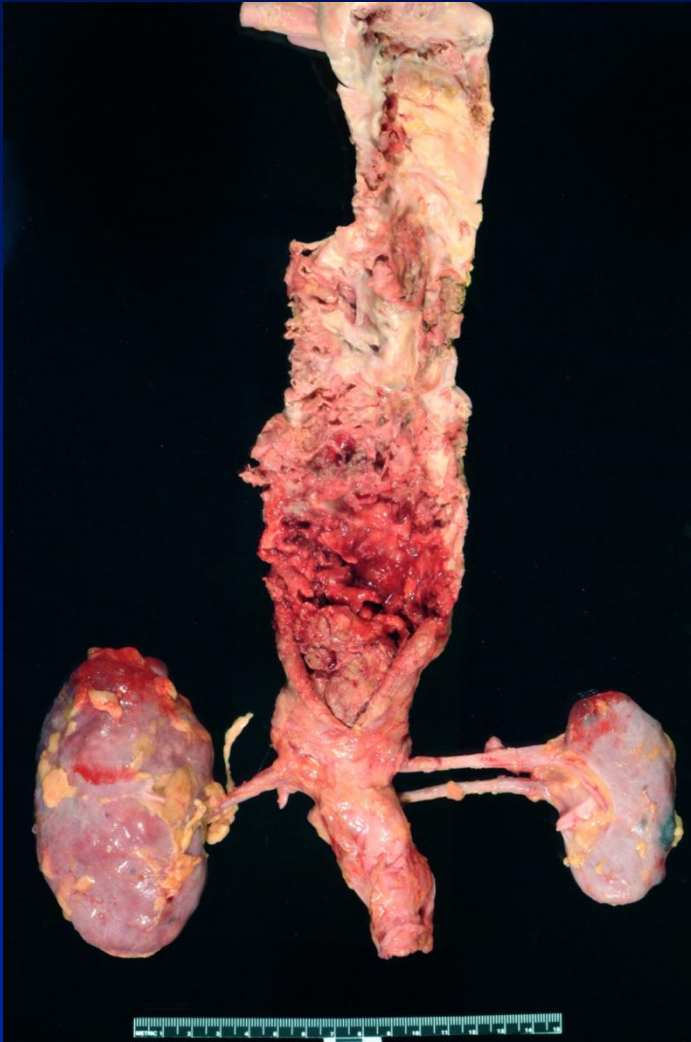
Atheromatous Plaque

although this plaque is only 40% lesion, it will probably be followed up by intervention

Atherosclerosis:

Other Complications

Thrombosis

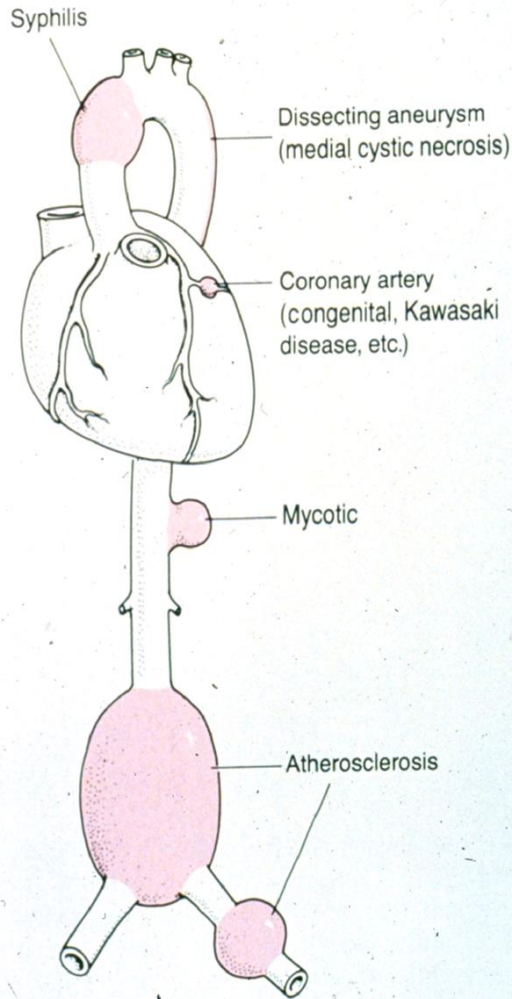
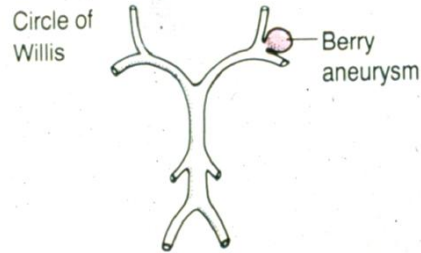


thrombosis in entire aorta. kidneys are "unhappy looking". if disease goes on long enough you can get collateral flow to lower extremities so ppl walk around with this.

Aneurysms

In the vascular system, an aneurysm is an **area of weakness in the wall of a blood vessel that typically** results in bulging due to arterial blood pressure

in the media.



Etiology: Medial Injury or Weakness

Congenital / Genetic

- Ex: Polycystic Kidney Dz

Marfan's disease, too.

Atherosclerosis

when it goes through the media.

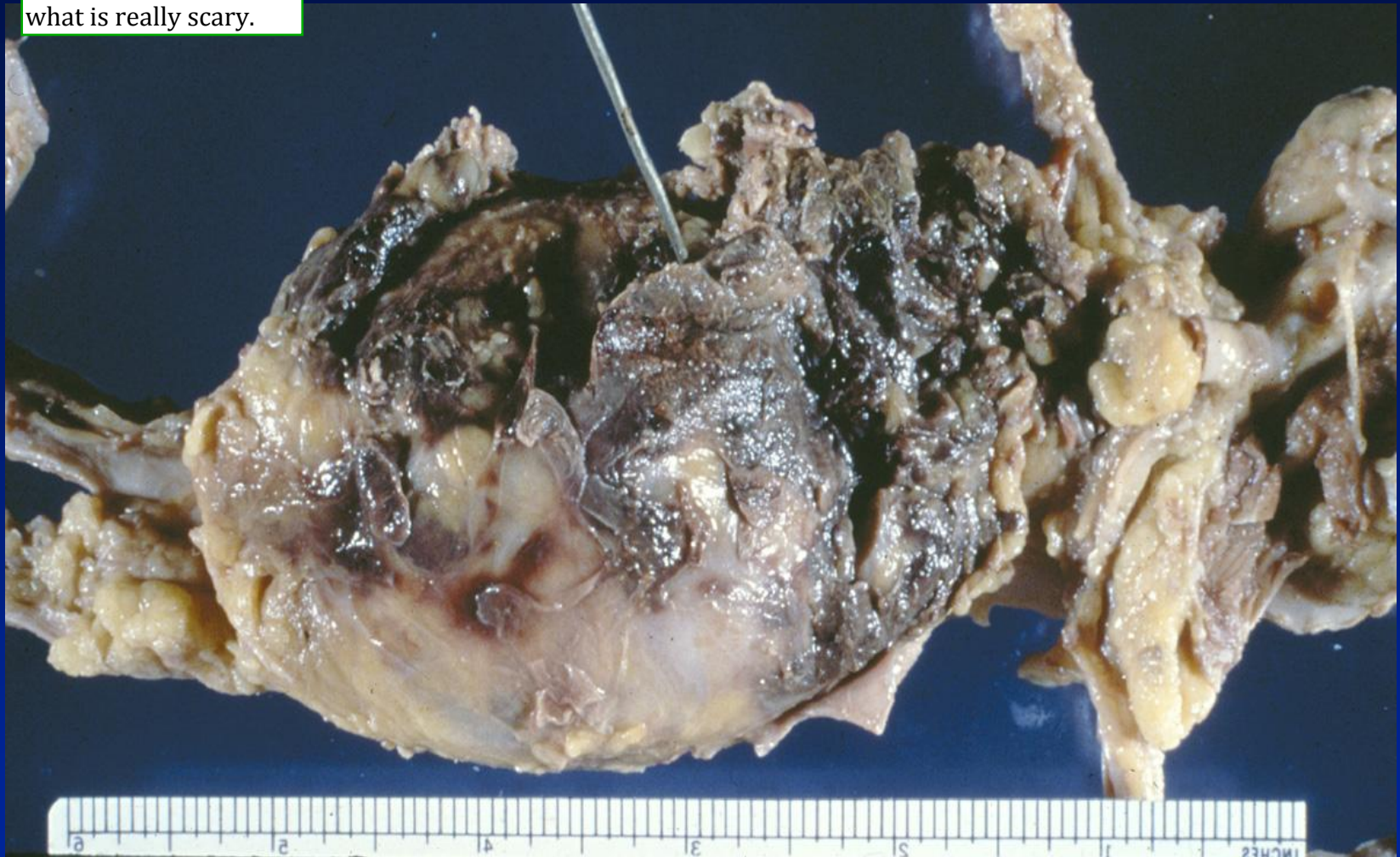
Infectious

can directly destroy the wall and lead to aneurysm.

Autoimmune

connective tissue disorders or lupus, arthritis.

possible rupture is
what is really scary.



Atherosclerotic aortic aneurysm (renal arteries on right, bifurcation on left), which has **ruptured** (see probe)

Syphilitic Aortitis

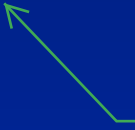
(Obliterative Endarteritis)

Aortic Aneurysm

Aortic Valve Insufficiency

Coronary Stenosis

*** Late Complications***



syphilis attacks small vessels that supply bigger ones (vaso vasorum). end up with a fibrous scar that over time stretches.

Aortic Dissection

“Dissecting Aneurysm”

dissection- get a tear in a wall and it propagates to the media and adventitia.

when we are out jogging we probably create micro-dissections ever day but our bodies can handle it.

- **Cystic Medial Necrosis (Degeneration)**

- Loss of elastin fibers and smooth muscle
- Replacement with Ground Substance

- **Isolated lesions**

- **Marfan’s Syndrome**

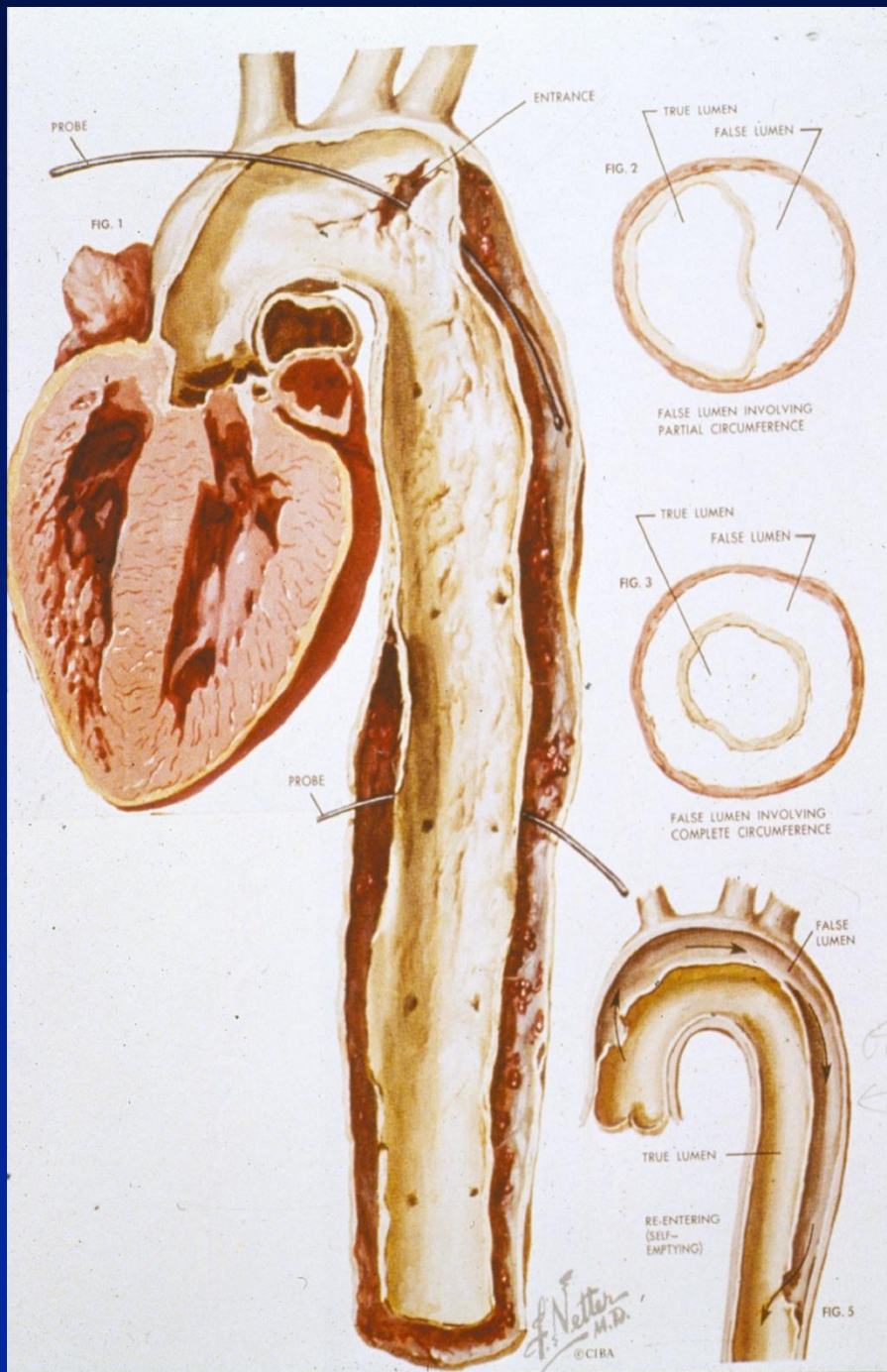
- Fibrillin-1 gene on chr 15

these patients often have a connective tissue disorder. cystic tissue necrosis. replace elastin fibers with ground substance.

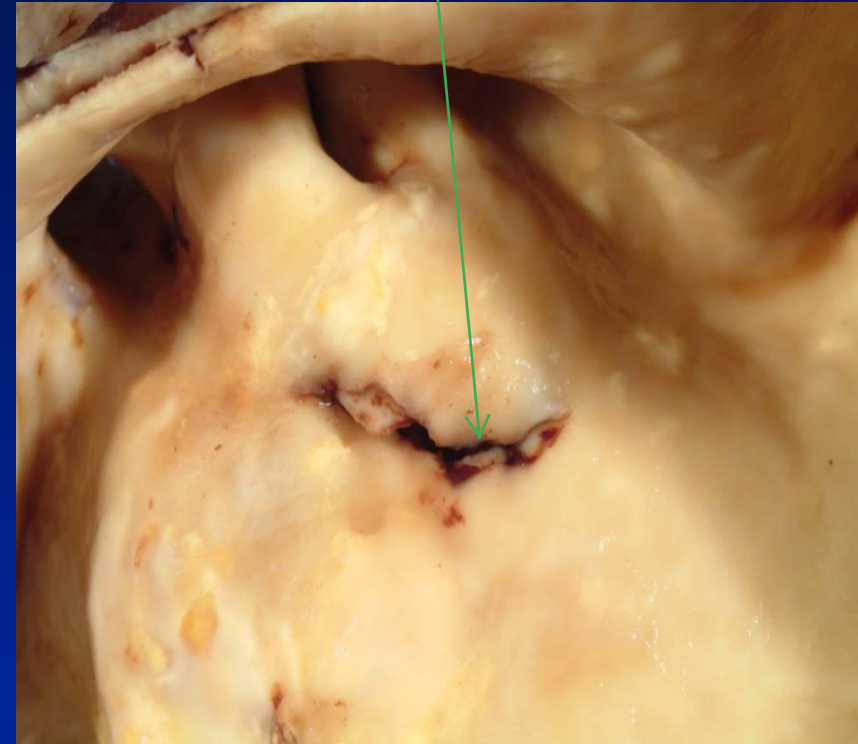
Hypertensive injury

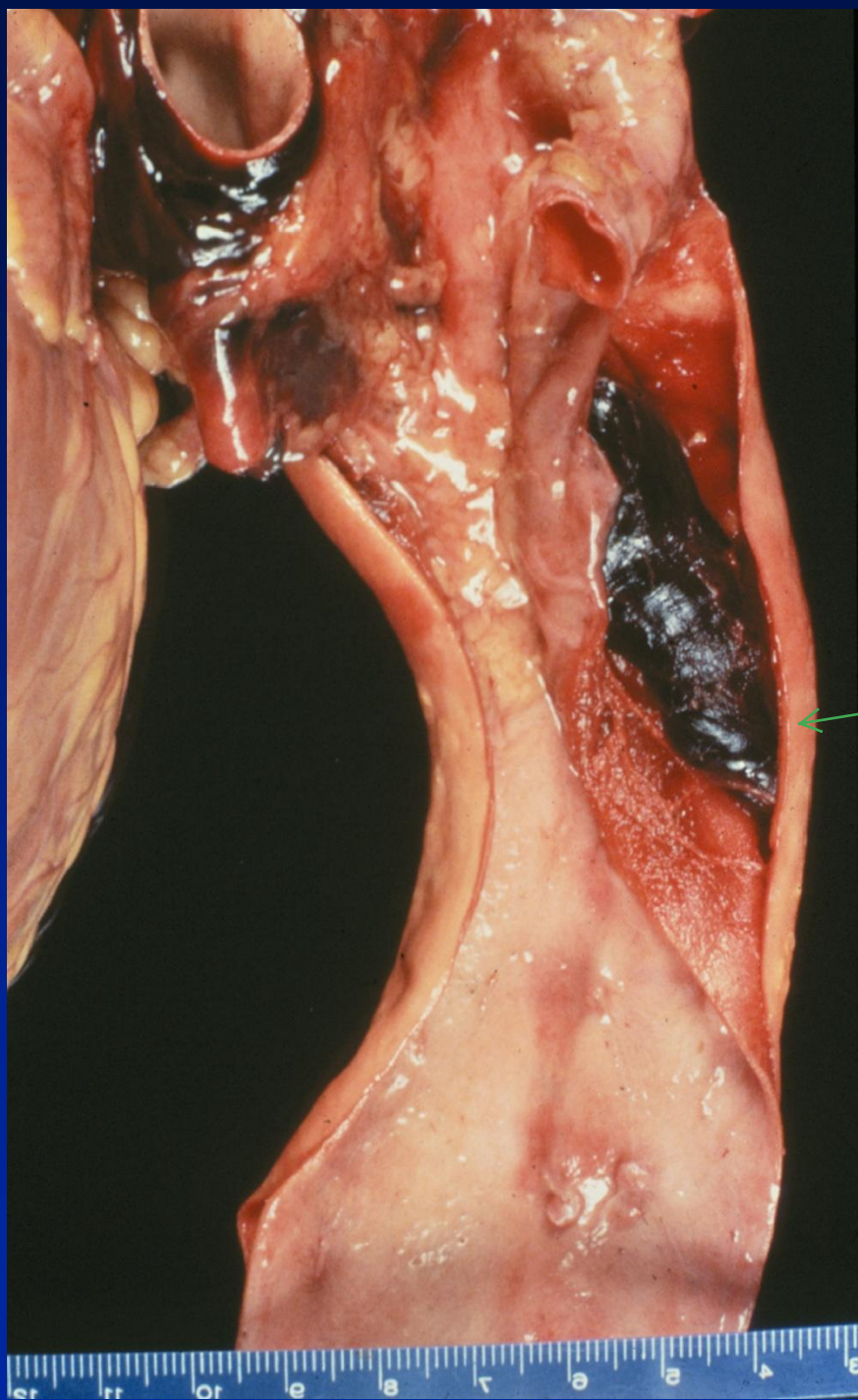
- Essential, “pharmacologic”

cocaine. high systolic BP leads to tears.



tear lets blood in and dissects through.





blood in lumen.



blood in false lumen
occludes real lumen.



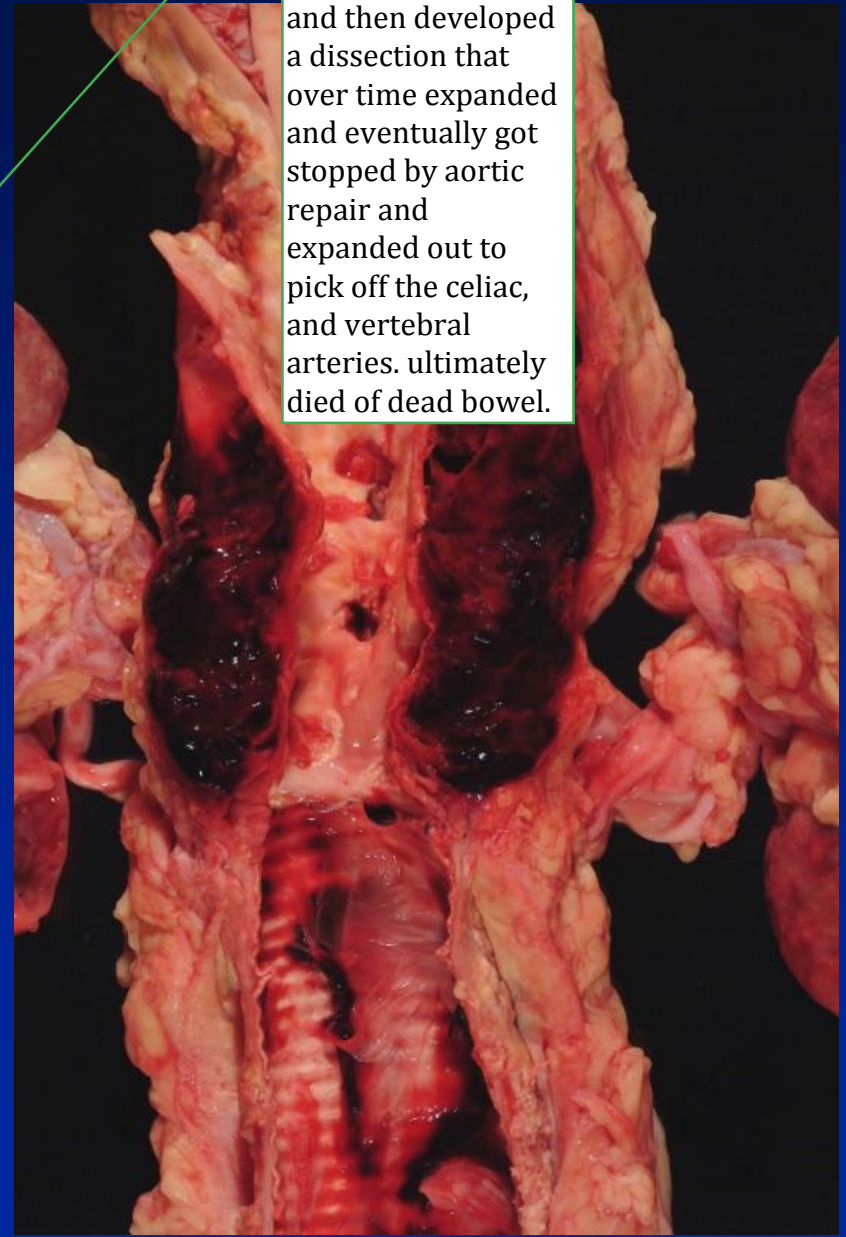
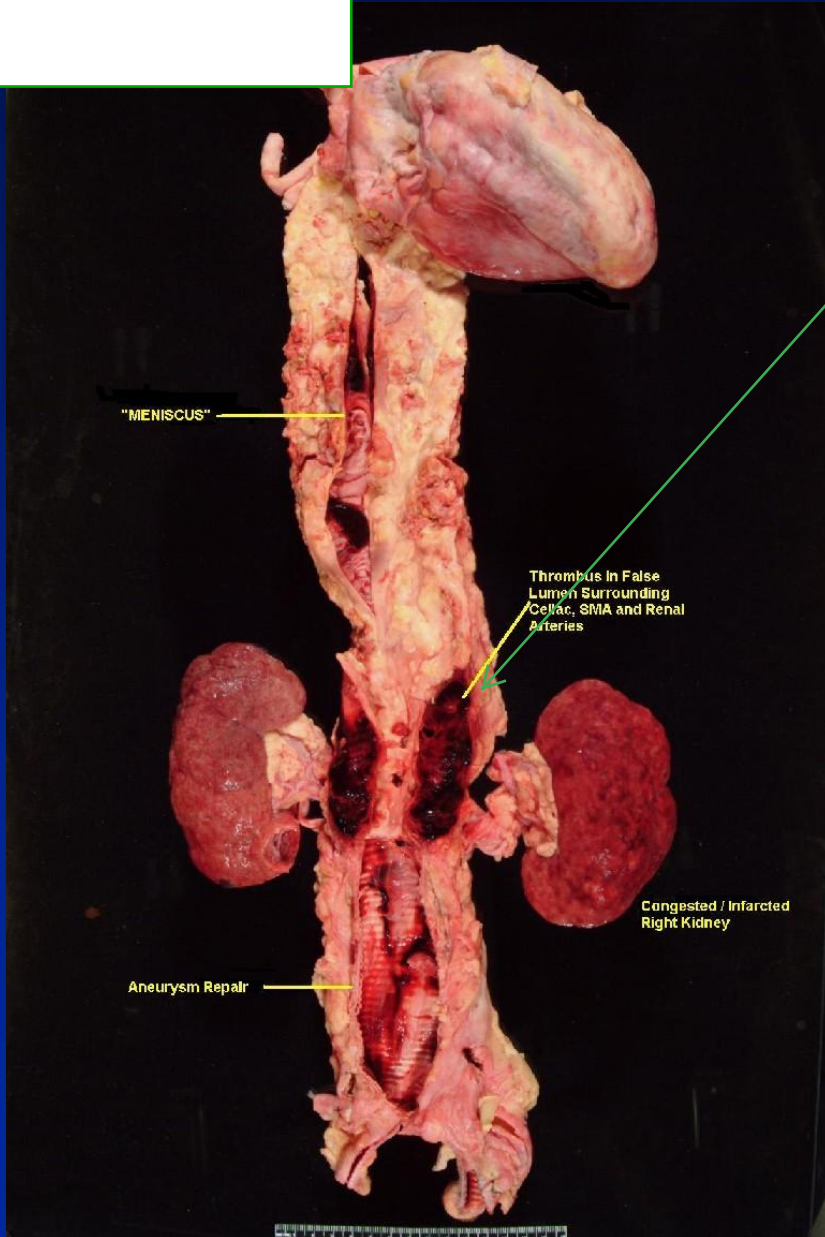
can dissect up into
branches and cut
them of.



saw this in road show.

Dissection

abdominal aortic aneurysm was originally repaired and then developed a dissection that over time expanded and eventually got stopped by aortic repair and expanded out to pick off the celiac, and vertebral arteries. ultimately died of dead bowel.



Any Questions?

