



Distance Learning Program

Pulmonary trunk - vessel that leaves the right ventricle and routes blood to the lungs where gas exchange occurs.

Superior vena cava - major vessel that returns oxygen-depleted blood to the right atrium of the heart from body regions superior to the diaphragm.

Inferior vena cava - major vessel that returns oxygen-depleted blood to the right atrium of the heart from body areas below the diaphragm.

Fossa ovalis - a shallow depression in the interatrial septum that marks the spot where an opening, the foramen ovale, existed in the fetal heart.

Coronary sinus - a vein which drains blood from the myocardium and routes it into the right atrium.

SA node - specialized myocardial cells in the wall of the right atrium that generate electrical impulses. The pacemaker of the heart.

Right ventricle - inferiorly-located chamber on the right side of the heart that receives oxygen depleted blood from the right atrium and pumps it to the lungs.

Left ventricle - inferiorly-located chamber on the left side of the heart that receives oxygenated blood from the left atrium and pumps it into the systemic circulation via the aorta.

Tricuspid valve - a three cusp valve that separates the right atrium from the right ventricle. It prevents backflow of blood into the right atrium when the right

Pectinate muscles - prominent muscular ridges that run along the inner surface of the auricle and across the adjacent anterior atrial wall.

Arteries - blood vessels that conduct blood away from the heart and into the circulation

Veins - blood vessels that return blood toward the heart from the circulation.

Congestive heart failure (CHF) - condition in which the pumping efficiency of the heart is depressed so that circulation is inadequate to meet tissue needs.

Hypertension - an elevation in diastolic or systolic blood pressure.

Coronary artery disease (CAD) - results from narrowing of the coronary arteries over time because of atherosclerosis.

Atherosclerosis - changes in the walls of large arteries consisting of lipid deposits on the artery walls; the early stage of arteriosclerosis.

Myocardial infarction (MI) - condition characterized by dead tissue areas in the myocardium; caused by interruption of blood supply to the area.

Myocardium - layer of the heart wall composed of cardiac muscle.

Cardiac cycle - sequence of events encompassing one complete contraction and relaxation of the atria and ventricles of the heart.

AIMS
Anatomy of the Human Heart
Pre/Post Test

1. The heart is composed of how many chambers? _____
- 2.

