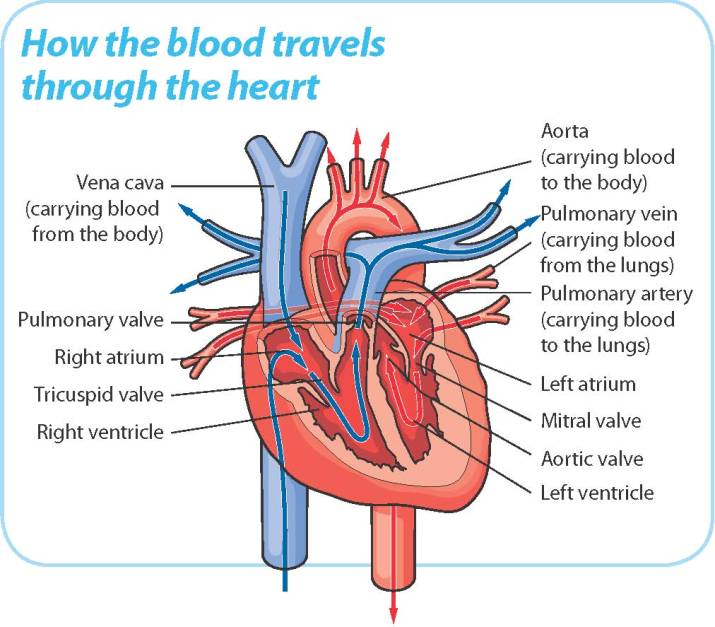
Core Competency Theme 4: Cardiovascular Assessment and Management



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|  | Basic description | Function |
| A  Vena Cava | The vena cava is made up of 2 veins the superior which brings de-oxygenated blood from the head and upper body and the inferior vena cava which brings de-oxygenated blood from the legs and lower body. | The superior vena cava is the large vein which returns blood to the heart from the head, neck and both upper limbs. The inferior vena cava returns blood to the heart from the lower part of the body |
| B  Aorta | The aorta is the largest blood vessel in the body, roughly as wide as your thumb. | The aorta carries oxygenated blood from the left ventricle to various other parts of the body. |
| C  Pulmonary vein | The pulmonary vein is one of two veins that carry oxygenated blood in the body. It starts as right and left veins the merges into one to enter the heart. | The pulmonary vein carries oxygenated blood from the lungs to the left atrium |
| D  Pulmonary Artery | The pulmonary artery carries de-oxygenated blood in the body; it separates into as right and left veins prior to reaching the lungs. | The pulmonary artery carries de-oxygenated blood from the right ventricle to the lungs |
| E  Pulmonary Valve | The pulmonary vein separates the right ventricle from the pulmonary artery | As the ventricles contracts the pulmonary valve opens allowing de-oxygenated blood from the right ventricle to flow into the lungs. As the ventricle relaxes the valve closes preventing blood to flow back into the heart |
| F  Right Atrium | The right Atrium receives de-oxygenated blood from the vena cava; it houses the SA (Sinoatrial) Node and the tricuspid valve. | The right atrium send de-oxygenated blood into the right ventricle following an impulse sent from the SA Node |
| G  Left Atrium | The left atrium receives oxygenated blood from the lungs | The left atrium send oxygenated blood into the left ventricle following an impulse sent from the SA Node |
| H  Tricuspid Valve | The tricuspid valve separates the right atrium from the right ventricle. | When the right atrium contracts the tricuspid valve opens forcing the blood into the right ventricle, when the right ventricle contracts the tricuspid valve closes preventing the blood from returning. |
| I  Mitral Valve | The mitral valve separates the left atrium from the left ventricle. | When the left atrium contracts the mitral valve opens forcing the blood into the left ventricle, when the left ventricle contracts the mitral valve closes preventing the blood from returning. |
| J  Aortic Valve | The aortic valve separates the left ventricle from the aorta. | As the ventricles contracts the aortic valve opens allowing oxygenated blood from the left ventricle to flow to the rest of the body. As the ventricle relaxes the valve closes preventing blood to flow back into the heart |
| K  Right Ventricle | The right ventricle receives de-oxygenated blood from the right atrium. | When the right ventricle is filled with blood it contracts closing the tricuspid valve and opening the pulmonary to send de-oxygenated blood to the lungs. |
| L  Left Ventricle | The left ventricle receives oxygenated blood from the left atrium | When the left ventricle contracts it closes the mitral valve and opens the aortic valve sending oxygenated blood to the rest of the body. |