

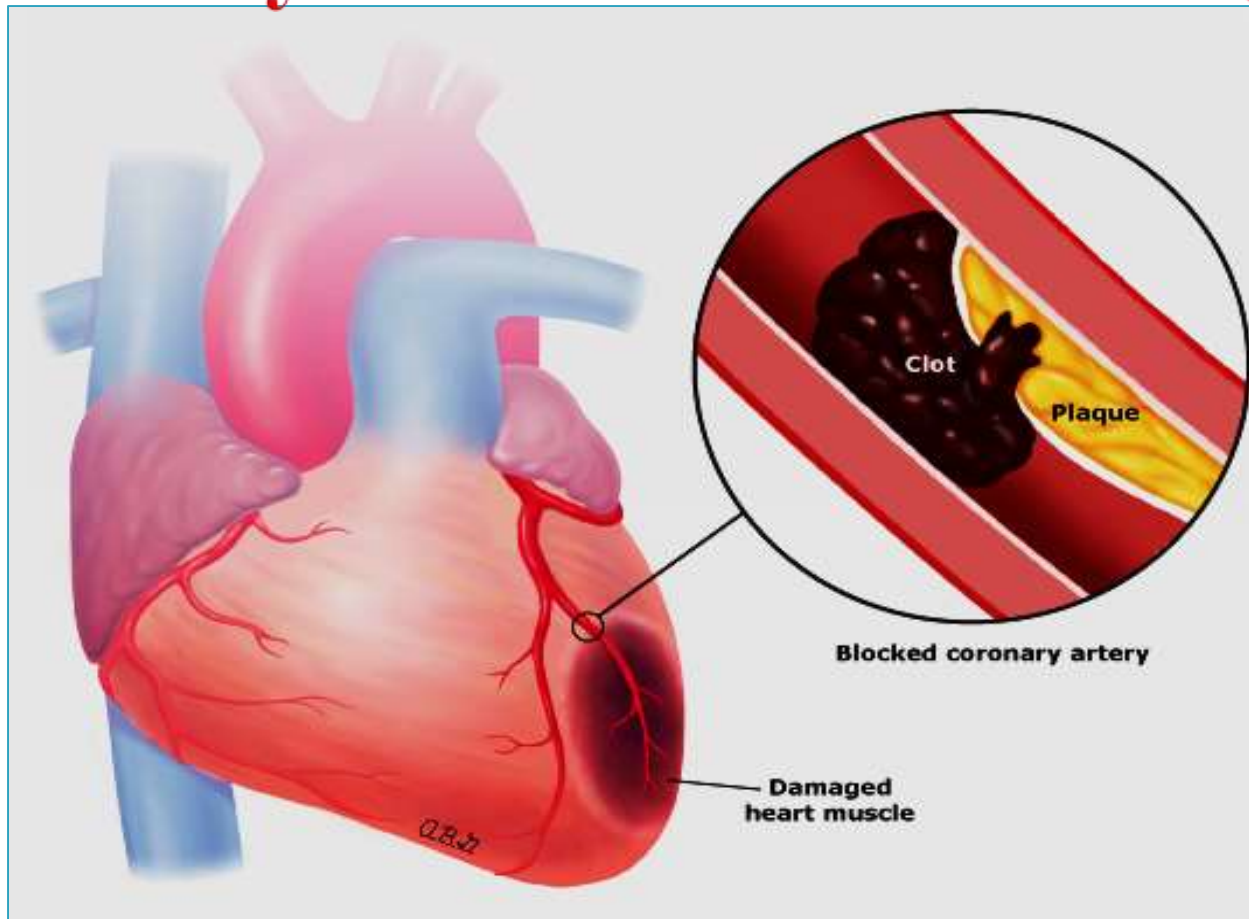


# **ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE-2**

## **Acute Myocardial Infarction**

**Dr. Nisreen Abu Shahin**  
**Associate Professor of Pathology**  
**Pathology Department**  
**University of Jordan**

# Acute Myocardial Infarction (MI)



- MI = *heart attack*.
- *Necrosis of heart muscle due to ischemia.*
- A significant cause of death worldwide.

# *Clinical Features of acute MI*

**Severe, crushing substernal chest pain that radiates to neck, jaw, epigastrium, or left arm**

dyspnea (if pulmonary congestion and edema)



Dizziness; sweating

rapid and weak pulse

nausea (in posterior MI)

cardiogenic shock (in massive MIs >40% of left ventricle)

**Sometimes: No typical symptoms (silent infarcts)**

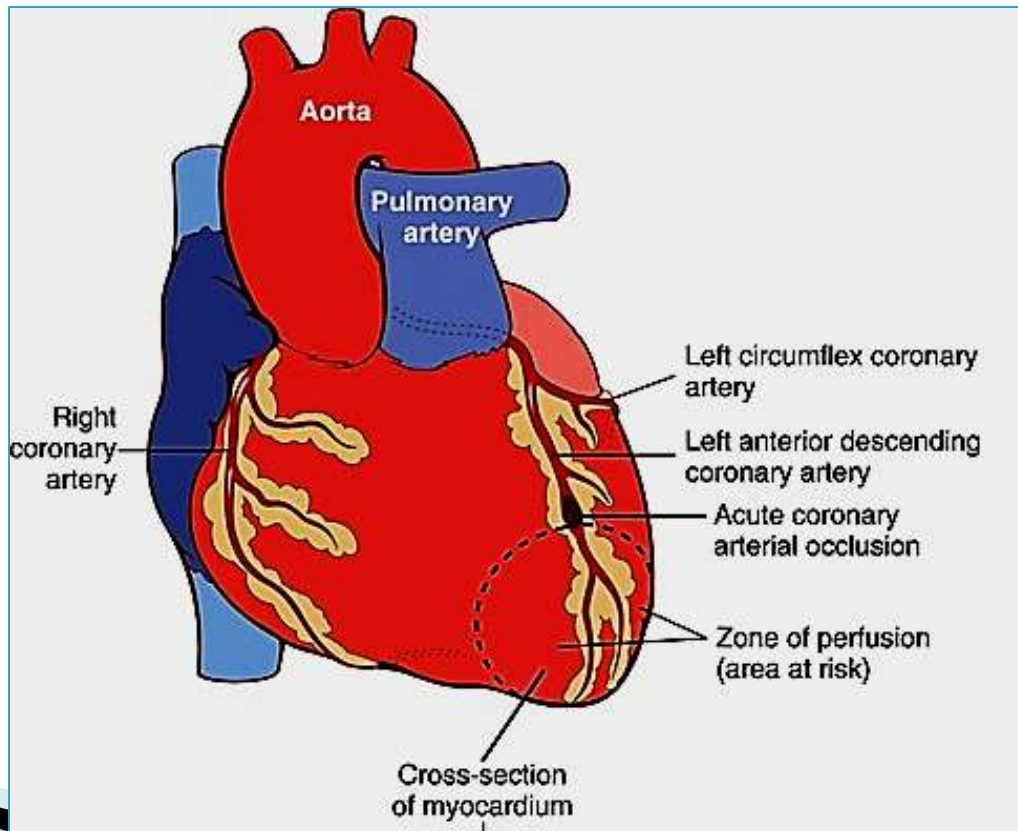
## Silent infarcts:

- ▶ A variable percentage of MIs are asymptomatic
- ▶ Confirmed only on ECG and lab workup.
- ▶ particularly in:
  - 1- DM (peripheral neuropathies)
  - 2- the elderly



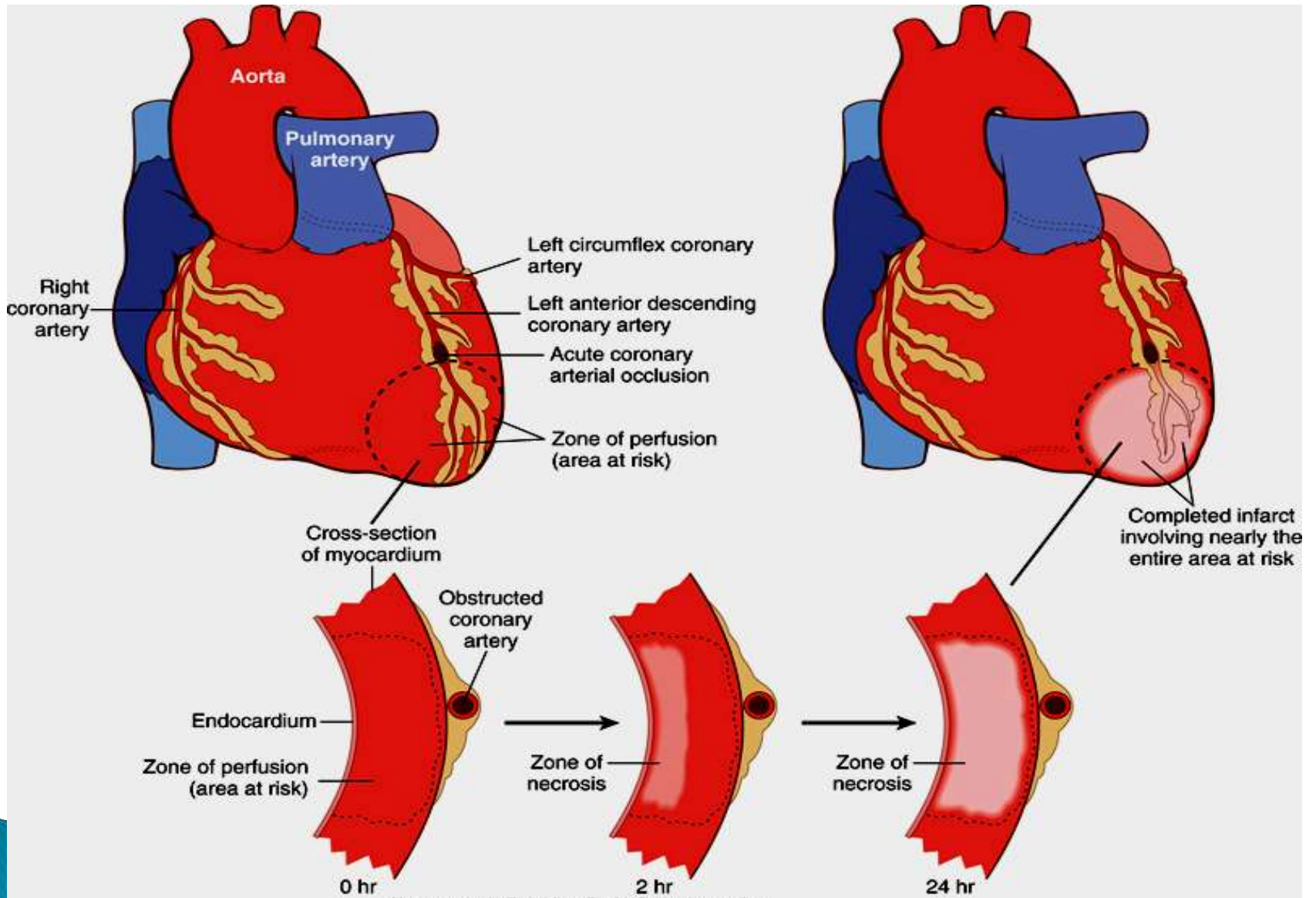
## MI- Causes:

- ▶ Acute occlusion of the proximal left anterior descending (**LAD**) artery is the cause of 40% to 50% of all MI cases



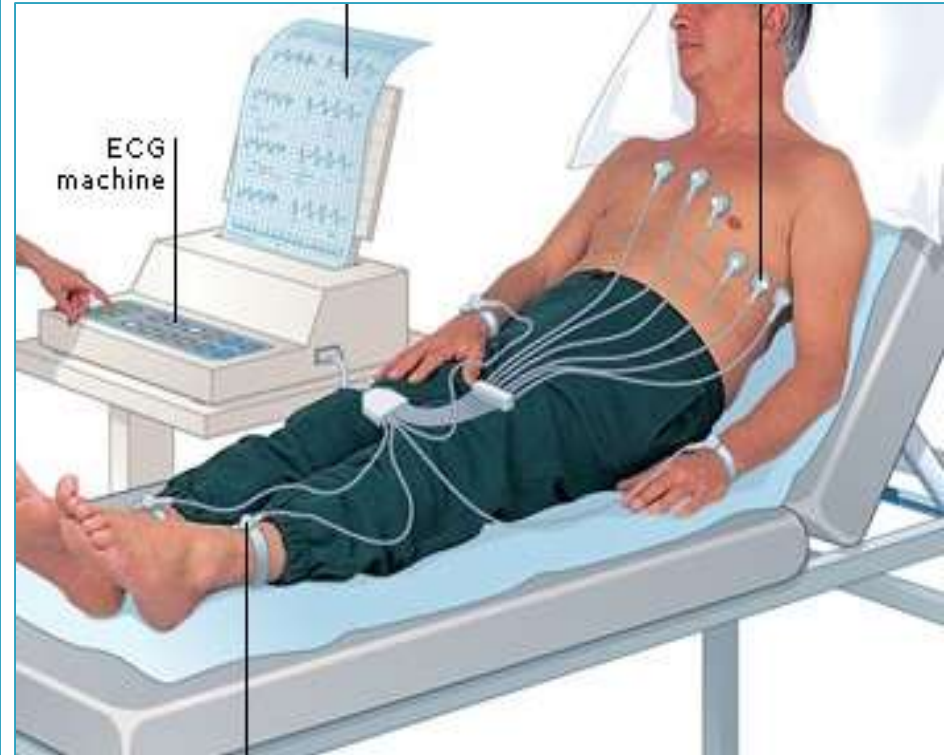


# MI- Evolution



# *Evaluation of MI*

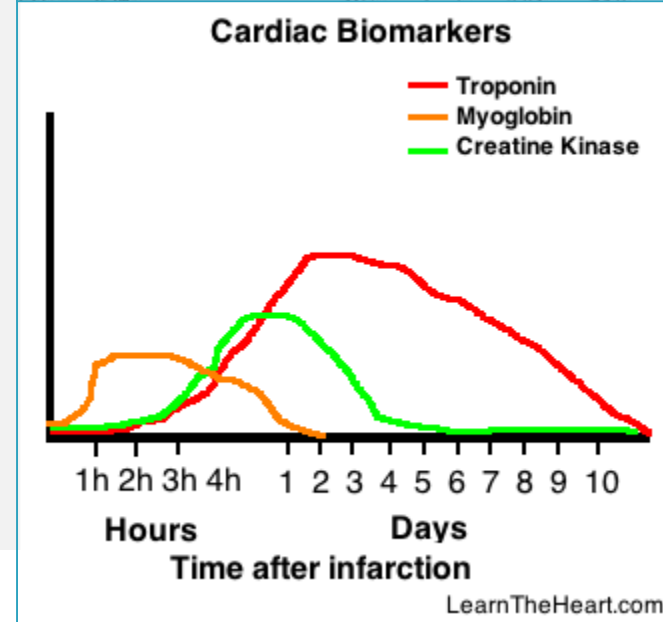
- ▶ *Clinical signs and symptoms*
- ▶ *Electrocardiographic (ECG) abnormalities*
- ▶ *Laboratory evaluation:*  
blood levels of intracellular macromolecules that leak out of injured myocardial cells through damaged cell membranes.



# Cardiac enzymes in MI

- 1-Myoglobin
- 2-Cardiac **Troponins** T and I (TnT, TnI)
- 3-Creatine kinase (CK); specifically the myocardial-specific isoform (CK-MB)
- 4- Lactate dehydrogenase

- Cardiac troponins T and I (TnT, TnI), are **the best markers for acute MI**.
- Creatine kinase CK-MB is the second best marker after the cardiac-specific troponins.



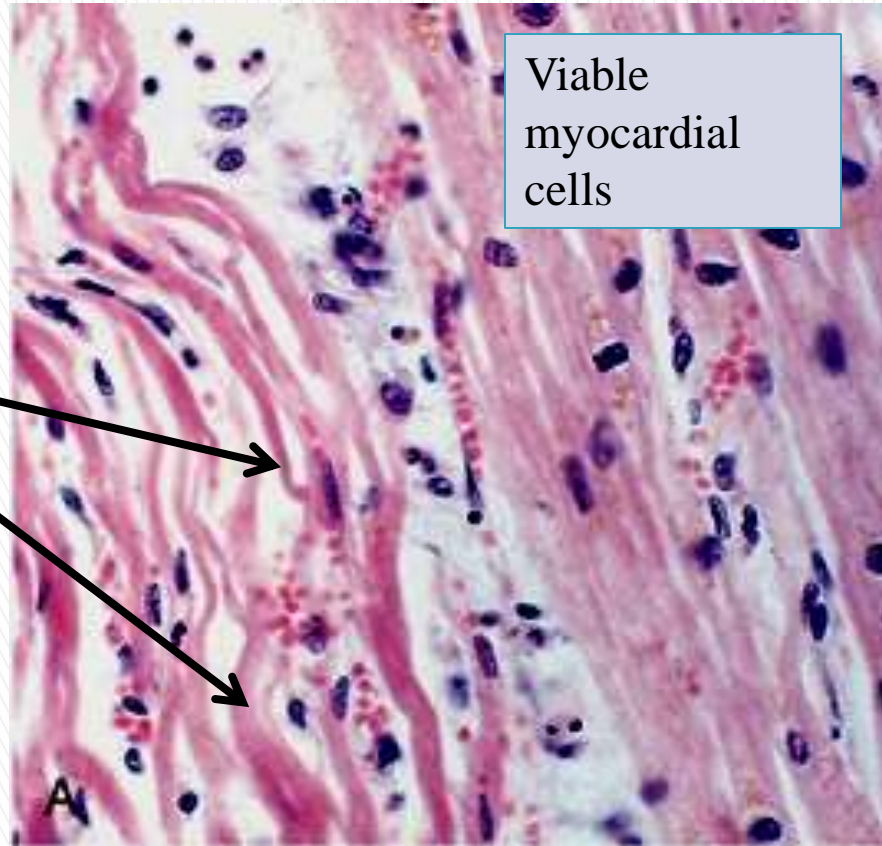


# Microscopic features of myocardial infarction and its repair.

**<24 hr:**

coagulative **necrosis**  
and **wavy fibers**

Necrotic cells are  
separated by edema  
fluid



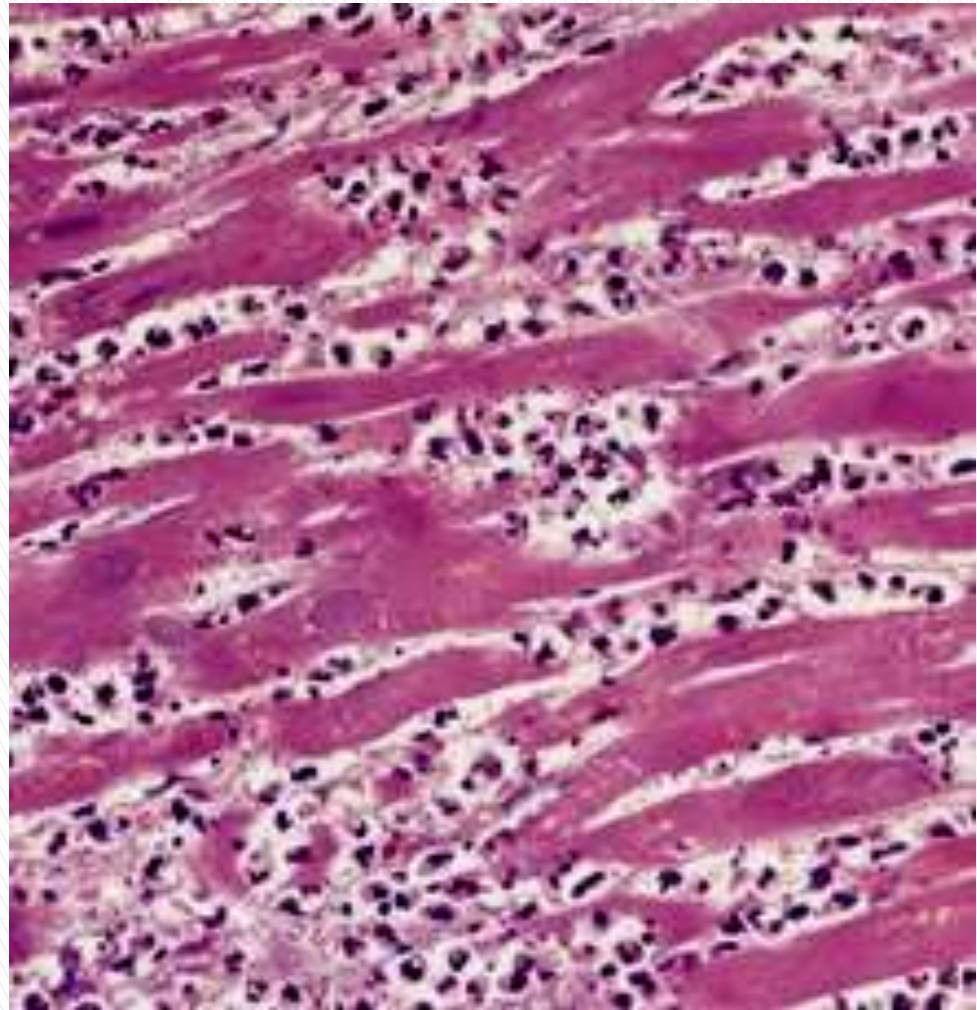
Viable  
myocardial  
cells

Stain: Hematoxylin & Eosin (H&E)

# Microscopic features of myocardial infarction and its repair.

**2 - 3 days:**

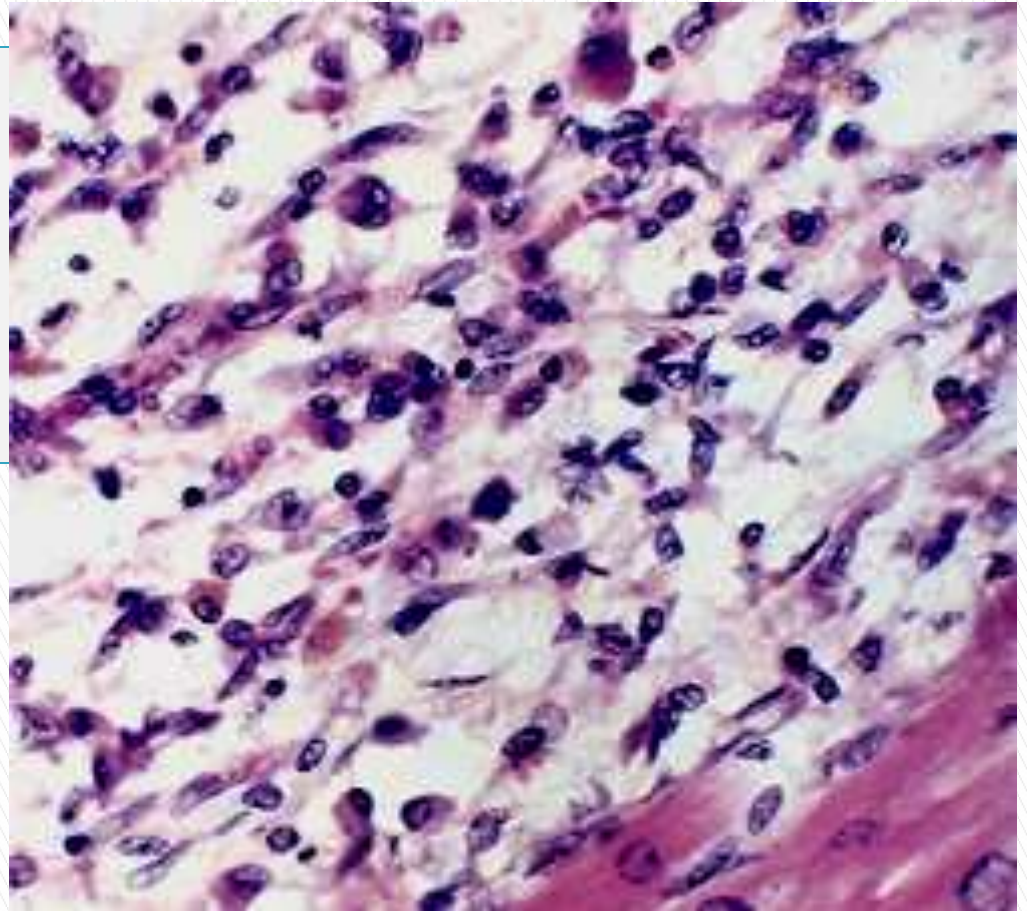
**Dense neutrophil infiltrate**



Stain: Hematoxylin & Eosin (H&E)

# Microscopic features of myocardial infarction and its repair.

**7 to 10 days:**  
complete removal of  
necrotic myocytes by  
**macrophages**

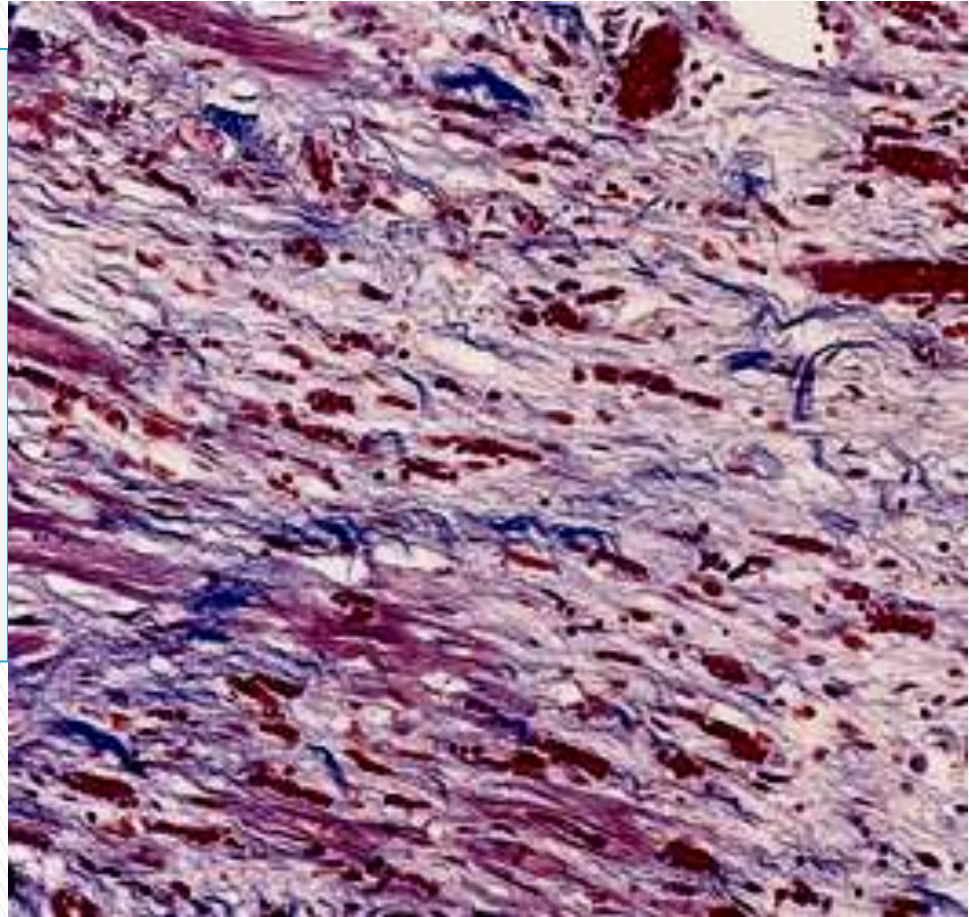


Stain: Hematoxylin & Eosin (H&E)



# Microscopic features of myocardial infarction and its repair.

**up to 14 days:**  
**Granulation tissue**  
[loose connective tissue (blue) and abundant capillaries (red)]

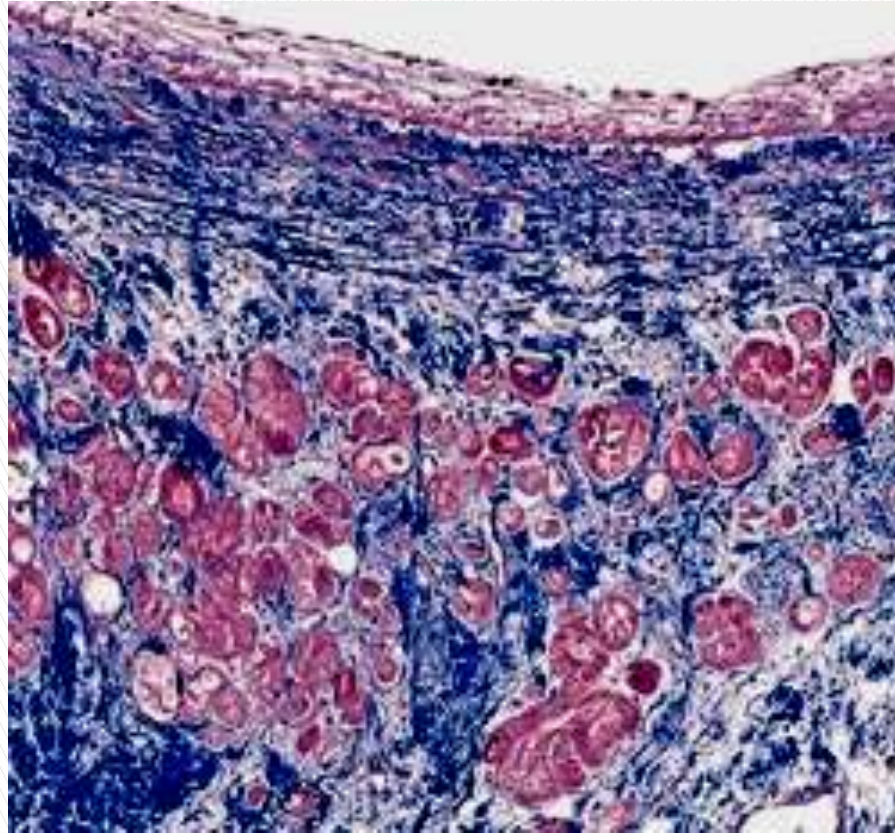


Stain: Masson Trichrome (MT)

# Microscopic features of myocardial infarction and its repair.

**several weeks:**

Healed infarct  
consisting of a  
dense collagenous  
**scar (blue)**



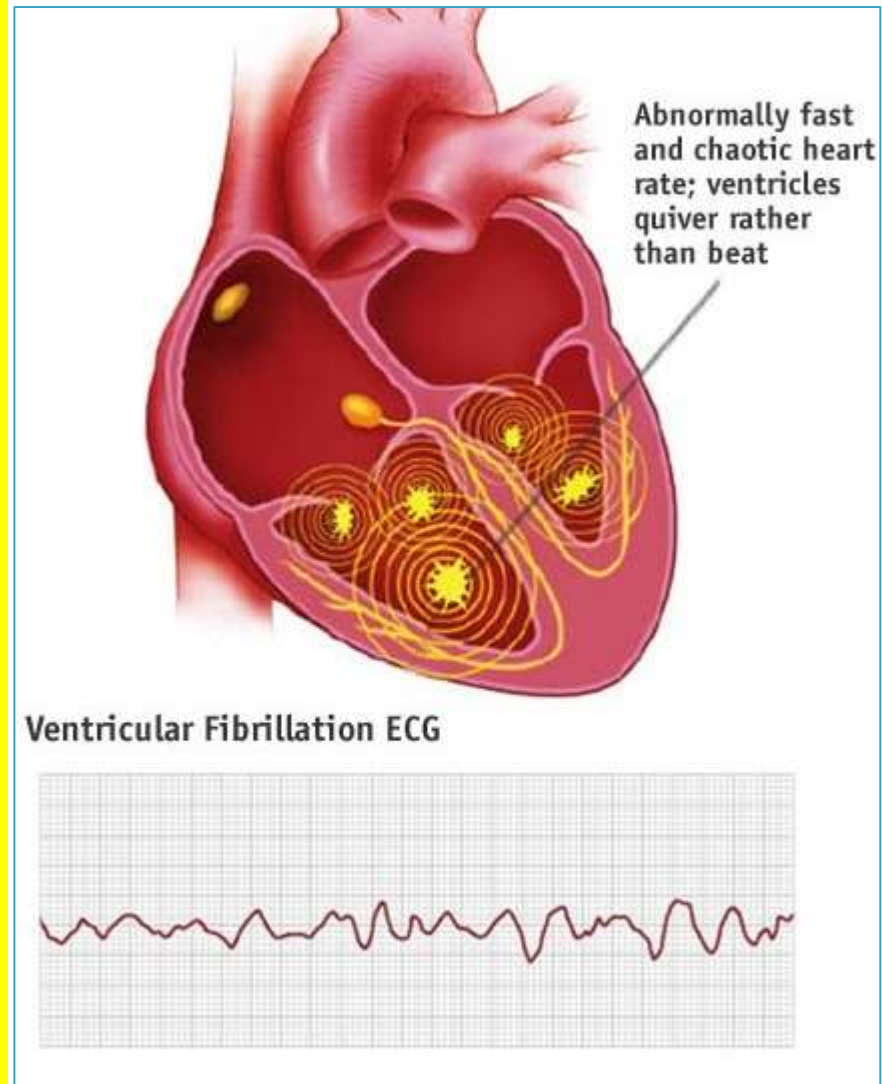
Stain: Masson Trichrome (MT)



# Consequences & Complications of MI

## 1- Death:

- 50% occur before reaching hospital (within 1 hour of symptom onset-usually as a result of lethal arrhythmias ( Sudden Cardiac Death))
- **Arrhythmias** are caused by **electrical abnormalities of the ischemic myocardium and conduction system**
- With current medical care, patient outcome is better (*in-hospital death rate* has declined).



# Consequences & Complications of MI

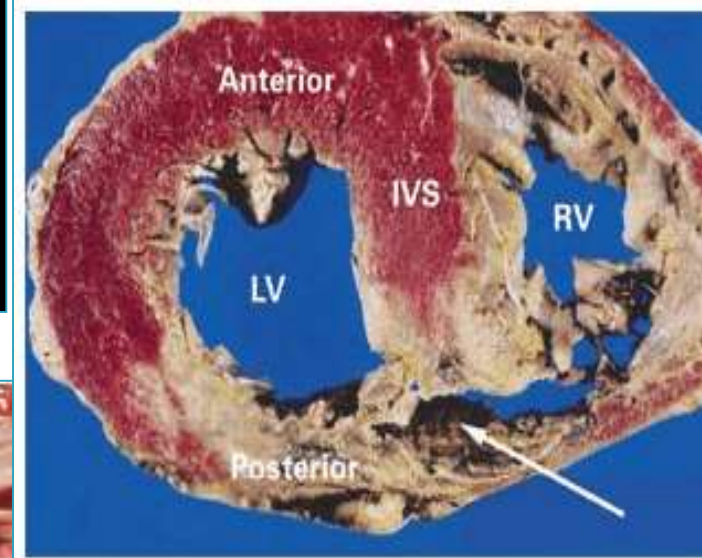
- **2- Cardiogenic shock.**
  - 15% - In large infarcts ( >40% of Left ventricle).
  - 70% mortality rate - important cause of in-hospital deaths.
- **3-Myocardial rupture**
- **4-Pericarditis**
- **5-Infarct expansion**
- **6- Mural thrombus**
- **7-Ventricular aneurysm**
- **8-Progressive late heart failure**

# Complications of Myocardial Rupture Include:

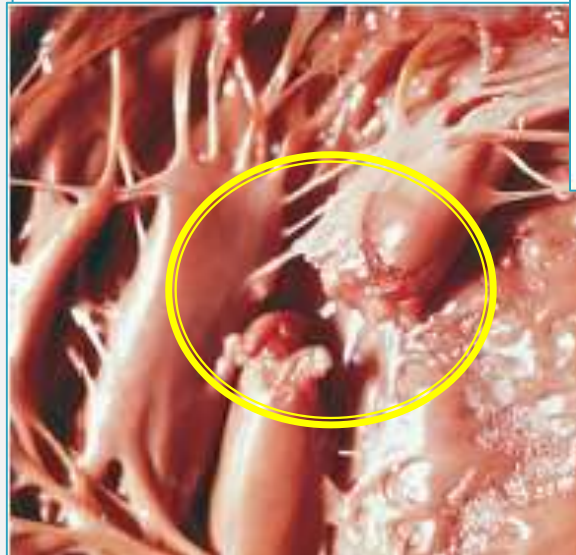
(1) rupture of the ventricular free wall:  
hemopericardium  
and cardiac tamponade (usually fatal)



(2) rupture of the ventricular septum:  
VSD and left-to-right shunt



(3) papillary muscle rupture:  
severe mitral or tricuspid regurgitation



#### ***4-Pericarditis.***

- 2 to 3 days post a transmural MI
- spontaneously resolves (immunologic mechanism)

#### ***5-Infarct expansion.***

disproportionate stretching, thinning, and dilation of the infarct region (especially with anteroseptal infarcts)

#### ***6-Mural thrombus.***

loss of contractility (causing stasis) + endocardial damage  
→ ***thromboembolism***

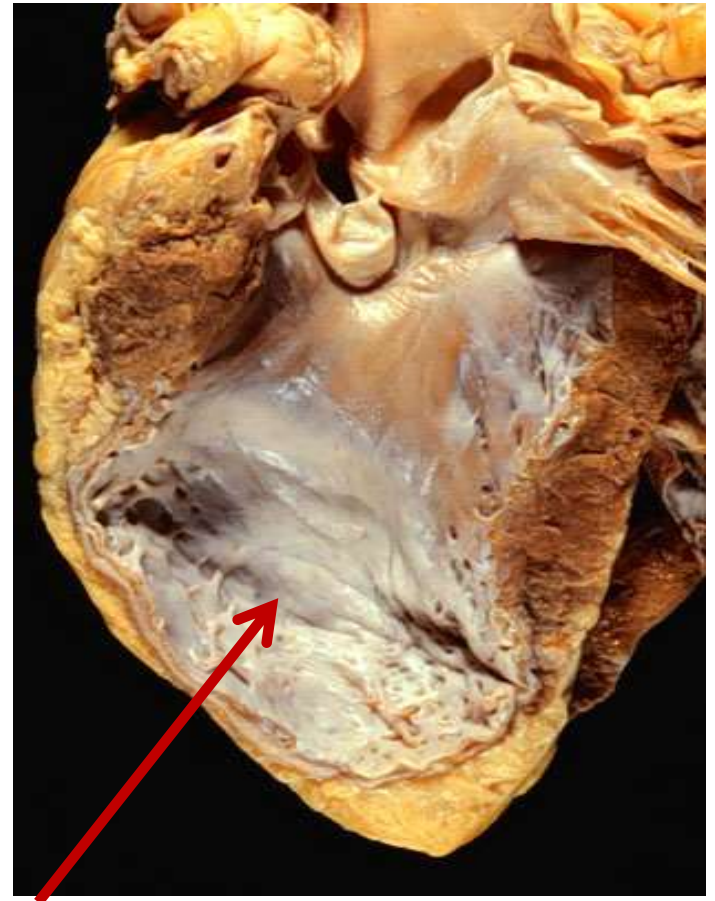


## *7-Ventricular aneurysm.*

- A late complication
- most commonly result from a large transmural anteroseptal infarct that heals with the formation of thin scar tissue

**Complications of ▶  
ventricular aneurysms  
include:**

- 1-mural thrombus**
- 2-arrhythmias**
- 3-heart failure**



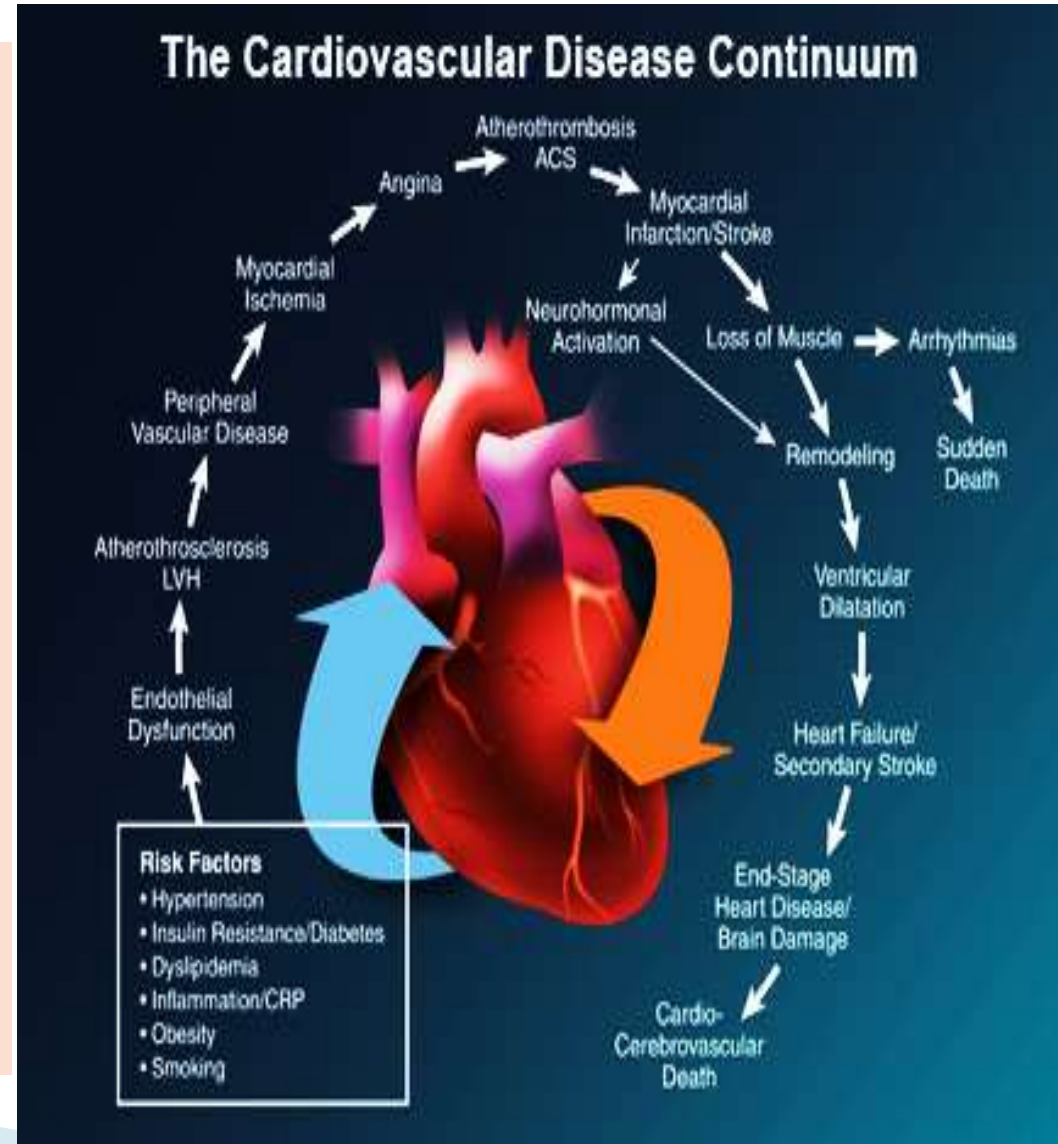


# Long-term prognosis after MI

- depends on many factors: e.g. left ventricular function; severity of atherosclerosis in viable myocardium; etc...
- 1<sup>st</sup> year mortality  $\approx$  30%.
- Thereafter, the annual mortality rate  $\approx$  3%

# Chronic Ischemic Heart Disease

- ▶ results from **post-infarction** cardiac decompensation that follows exhaustion of hypertrophic viable myocardium.
- ▶ **progressive heart failure**
- ▶ sometimes punctuated by episodes of angina or MI
- ▶ Arrhythmias are common



# Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD)

- ▶ **Unexpected death from cardiac causes either without symptoms or < 24 hours of symptom onset**
- ▶ **CAD (atherosclerosis) is the most common underlying cause**
- ▶ **Lethal arrhythmias (v. fibrillation) is the most common direct mechanism of death**
- ▶ **With younger victims, other non-atherosclerotic causes are more common:**

# Non-atherosclerotic causes of SCD

- ▶ Congenital coronary arterial abnormalities
- ▶ Aortic valve stenosis
- ▶ Mitral valve prolapse
- ▶ Myocarditis
- ▶ Dilated/ hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- ▶ Pulmonary hypertension
- ▶ Hereditary/ acquired abnormalities of cardiac conduction system
- ▶ .....

