

Events of the cardiac cycle

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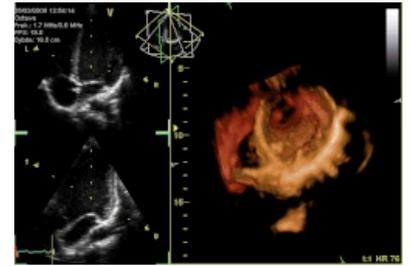
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The heart valves

Heart valves are fibrous tissues that separate the atria from the ventricles and the ventricles from large vessels that conduct blood to the pulmonary and systemic circulation. The function of the heart valves is to prevent blood backflow inducing a unidirectional flow of blood during the cardiac cycle events. This activity guarantees flow of a significantly large amount of blood to tissues and lungs enhancing the overall effect of systemic and pulmonary circulation.

- The atrioventricular valves - left mitral and right tricuspid - prevent regurgitation of blood into atria during ventricular systole. They are composed of membranous cusps that hang into the ventricles with their free endings being attached to the papillary muscles by thin tendinous threads called chordae tendinae, which prevent cusps from being pushed back into the atria during ventricular systole.
- The semilunar valves - aortic and pulmonary - are situated at bases of large arteries, preventing regurgitation of blood into the ventricles during the cardiac diastole.



Cardiac valve activity during cardiac cycle events

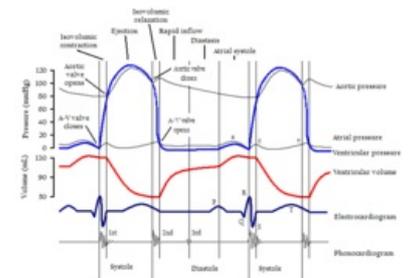
Cardiac cycle

The cardiac cycle separates into two major phases, the ventricular systole and the ventricular diastole (which include the atrial systole). These events

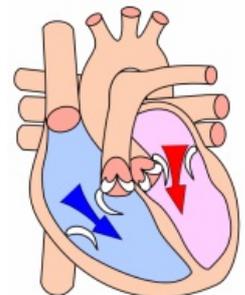
Links

Bibliography

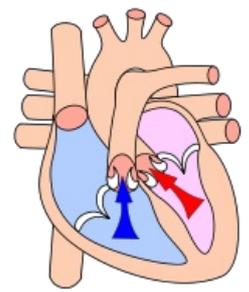
- HALL, John E. - GUYTON, Arthur C. *Guyton and Hall Textbook of Medical Physiology*. 12. edition. Saunders/Elsevier, 2010. ISBN 1416045740.
- Lecture Notes: Prof. MUDr. Jaroslav Pokorný DrSc.



Cardiac valve activity during cardiac cycle events



Atrial systole



Ventricular systole

