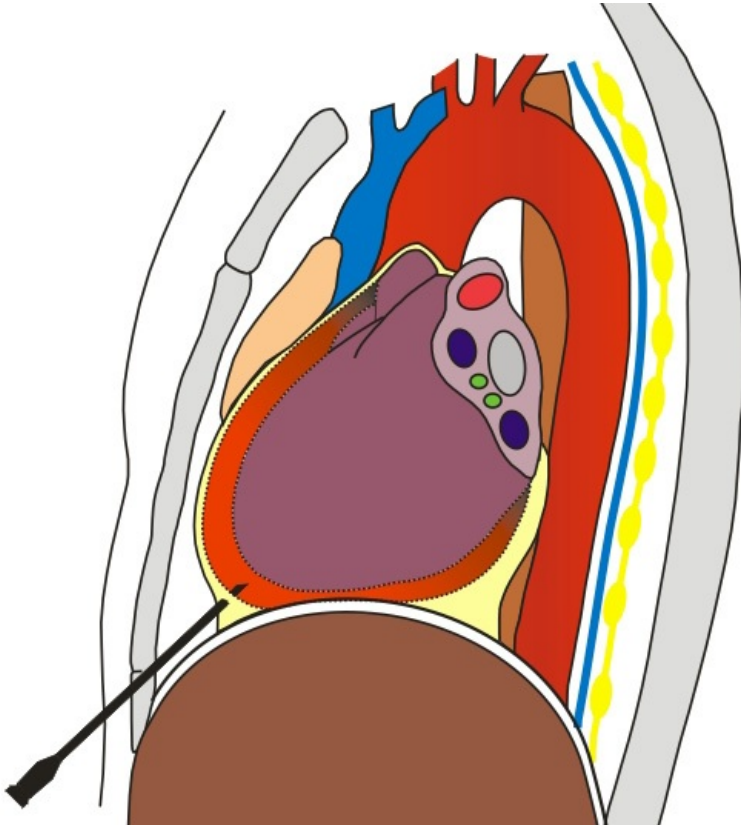


# Pericardial surgery

**Cardiac surgery** deals with the surgical treatment of pericardial diseases. The basic operations on the pericardium include:

- **Pericardiocentesis** (*pericardiocentesis*).
- **Creating a pericardial window**.
- **Pericardectomy**.

## Pericardiocentesis



It is a **puncture pericardial** to evacuate pericardial fluid.

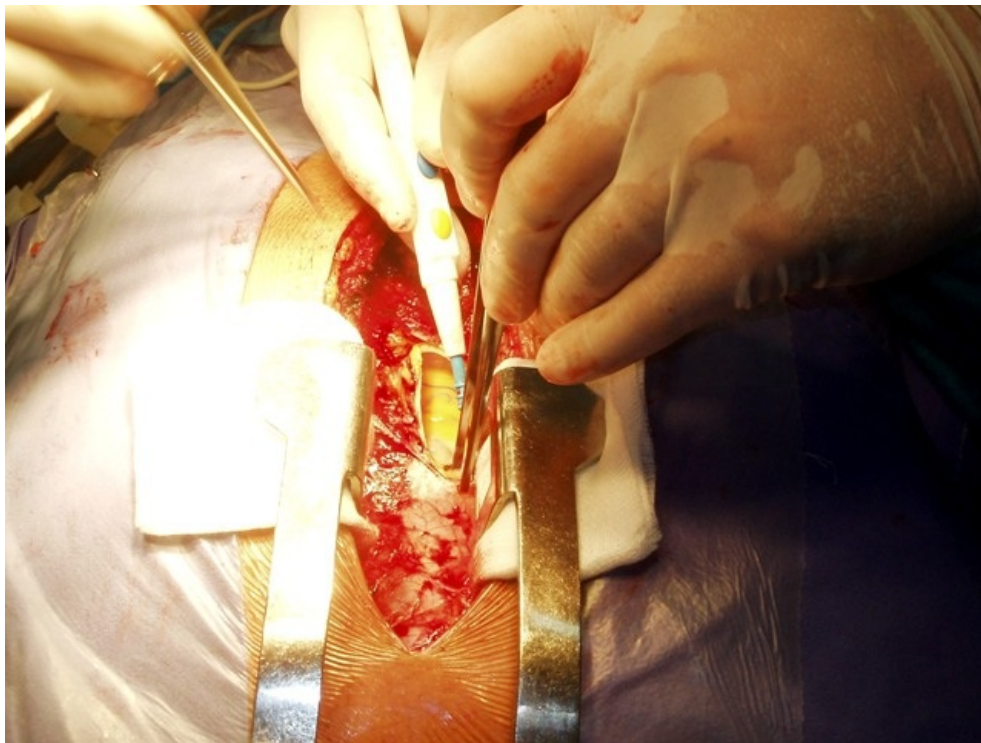
- In hospital conditions, it is performed under echocardiographic control, which minimizes complications and allows the subsequent introduction of a thin drain.<sup>[1]</sup>
- In the field, the pericardium is punctured **sightlessly**.
  - The patient assumes a semi-sitting position.
  - The epidural needle is inserted to the left of the xiphoid process at an angle of about 45 ° below the ribs towards the left nipple.
  - We are approaching the heart with constant aspirations.
  - We are waiting for a faint thud signaling the penetration of the pericardium and the subsequent aspiration of blood / serous fluid / air.
  - After aspirating the blood, we inject a small amount of blood and see if it clots. Blood from the pericardial space does not contain fibrin and therefore does not clot.
  - Exercise carries the risk of pericardial and cardiac laceration, coronary artery or lungs injury.
  - **The lethality of sightlessly pericardiocentesis is about 20 %.**

## Creating a pericardial window

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This is a procedure during which we resect the pericardium and establish **communication with the pleural cavity** (thoracoscopically or from an anterolateral thoracotomy) or **with the peritoneal cavity** (from a short subxiphoidal incision). This procedure is most often performed in patients with malignant disease (metastases to the pericardium), where fluid accumulates in the pericardial space even after repeated punctures.

# Perikardectomy



This is a **complete removal of the pericardium** (from an anterolateral thoracotomy or middle sternotomy). The indication for this procedure is constrictive pericarditis , the most common cause of which is tuberculosis or post-radiation pericarditis.

## Links

### Related articles

- Tamponáda srdeční
- Perikarditidy

### Reference

1.

### References

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Kategorie:Cardiology Kategorie:Surgery