

## Preventing Cardiovascular Disease

Total Fitness And Wellness

## 1. Define *cardiovascular disease* and describe the prevalence of this condition worldwide.

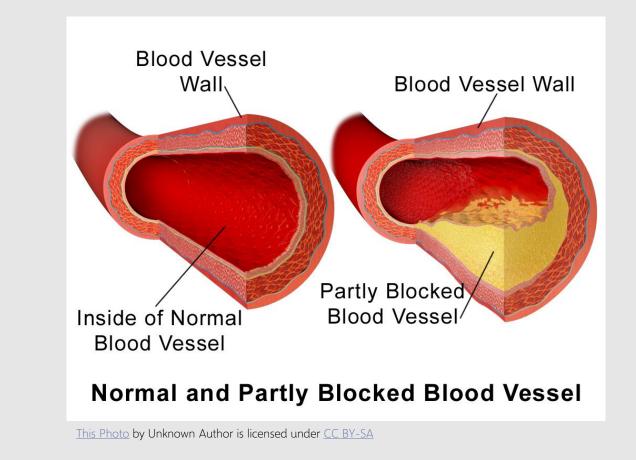
Learning Outcomes

## Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)

Any disease that affects the heart or blood vessels
#1 cause of death in USA
#2 cause of death in Canada



## Types of Cardiovascular Disease

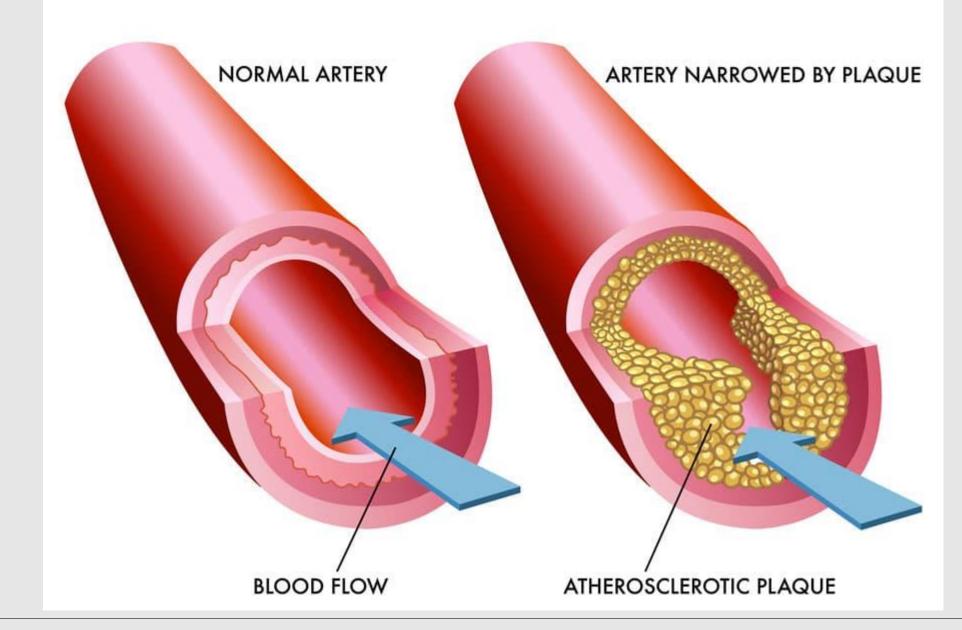


## 

Arteriosclerosis: Group of diseases characterized by a narrowing, or "hardening," of the arteries
Eventually prevents blood flow to vital organs

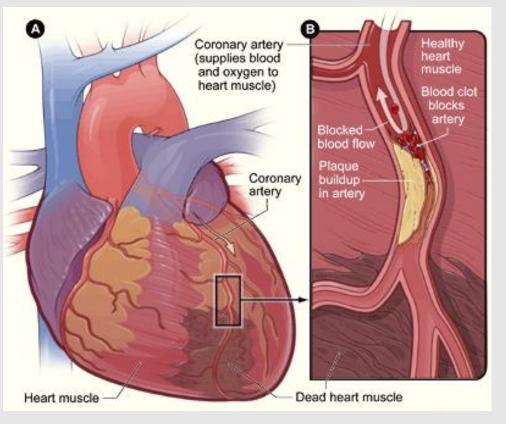
•Atherosclerosis: type of arteriosclerosis that results in arterial blockage due to buildup of fatty deposit (*atherosclerotic plaque*) inside the blood vessel.

#### ATHEROSCLEROSIS



•Coronary Heart Disease (CHD): disease that results from atherosclerotic plaque blocking one or more coronary arteries (blood vessels supplying the heart); also called *coronary artery disease*.

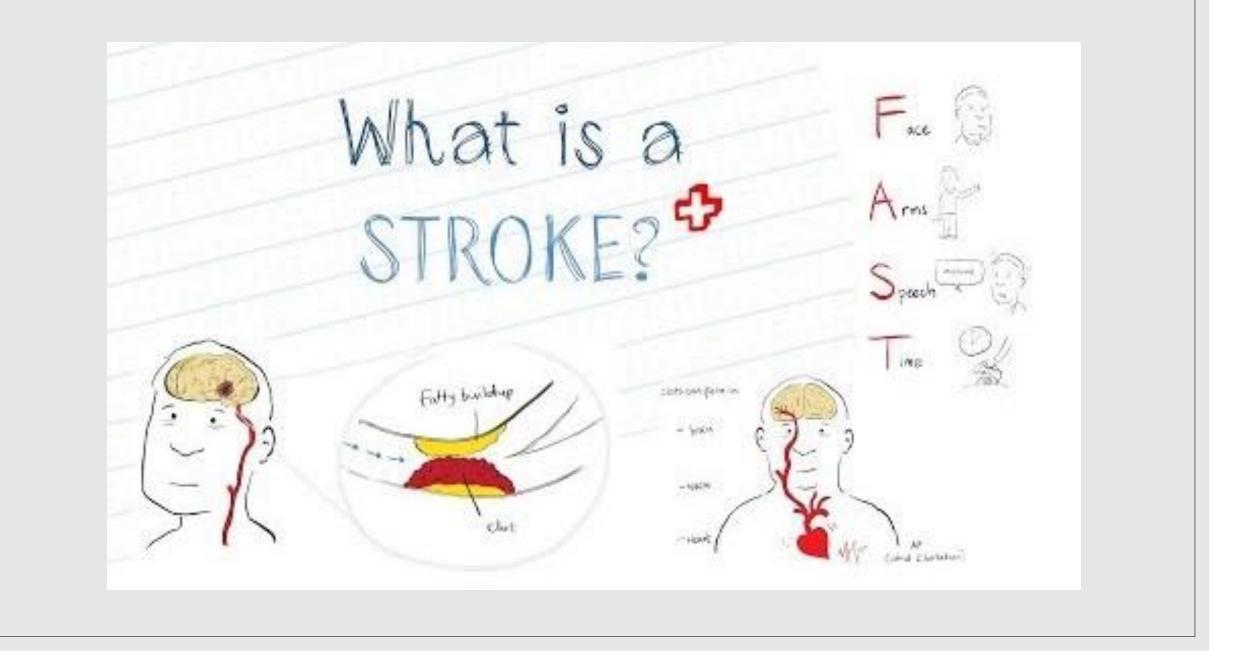
•Heart attack (myocardial infarction): Stoppage of blood flow to the heart, resulting in the death of heart cells.



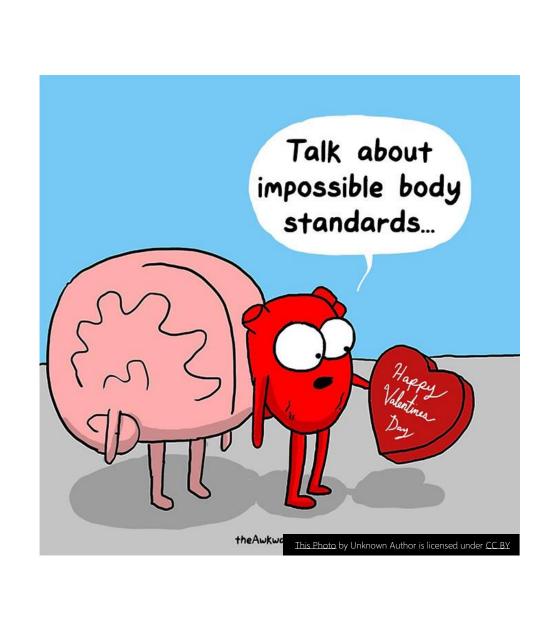
• Stroke: brain damage that occurs when the blood supply to the brain is reduced for a prolonged period of time

 Usually due to atherosclerosis – blockage of arteries leading to the brain

 Sometimes can occur due to a blood clot or when a blood vessel in the brain ruptures

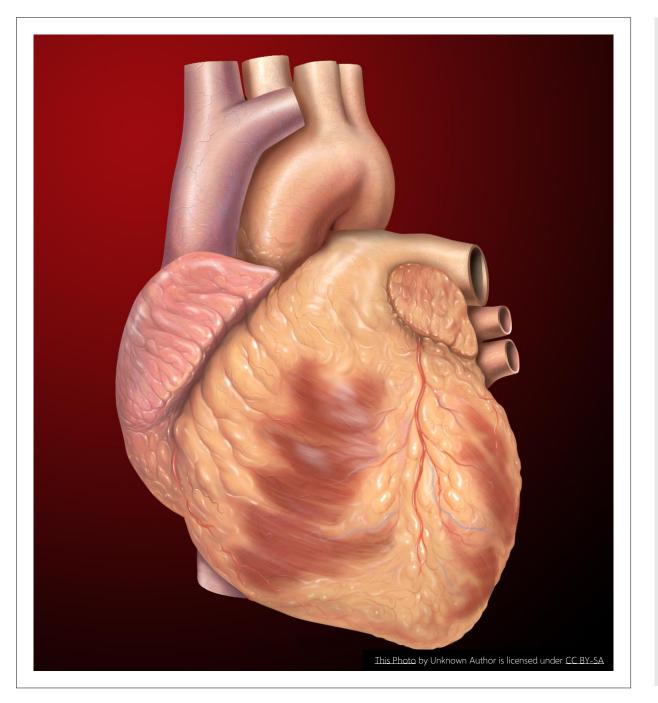


- Hypertension: abnormally high blood pressure
- Blood pressure is measured in millimeters of mercury (mm Hg) – expressed as the systolic blood pressure (blood pressure when you heart contracts
  - Diastolic blood pressure is the pressure when your heart relaxes
  - Hypertension = resting blood pressure over 140 mm Hg systolic, and diastolic pressure of 90 mm Hg or higher



What Risk Factors Are Associated with Coronary Heart Disease?

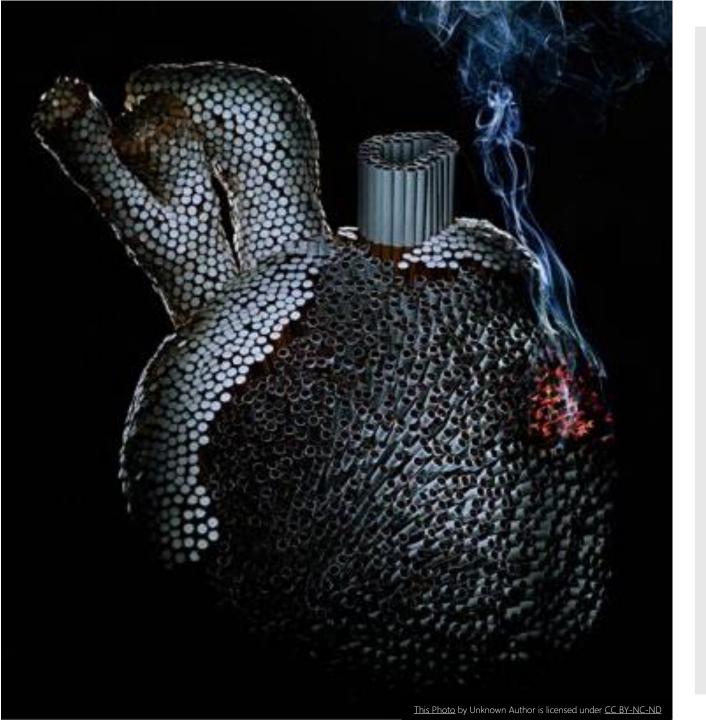
 Concept 2: List the major (primary) and contributory (secondary) risk factors for coronary heart disease and identify those risk factors that can be modified.



## Risk Factors

 Primary Risk Factors: Major risk factors. Directly related to the development of Cardiovascular Heart Disease (CHD) and stroke.

 Secondary Risk Factors: Contributory risk factors. Increase the risk of CHD, but their direct contribution to the disease process has not been precisely determined.



## Major Risk Factors

#### • Smoking

- $\circ$  Twice the risk of a non-smoker
- Biggest risk factor for sudden death due to cardiac arrest, a heart attack, or irregular heartbeats (arrhythmias)
- Promotes development of atherosclerosis in peripheral blood vessels (such as in the arms and legs)
- More likely to die within an hour after the attack
- Second hand smoking can be as dangerous to your health as direct inhalation

## Major Risk Factors – Smoking Continued



Nicotine =  $\uparrow$  heart rate and blood pressure



↑ stickiness of platelets
= ↑ risk of clotting &
risk of attack



Nicotine ↑ cholesterol, = promoting fat deposits in arterial walls



Women who take birth control + smoke = even higher risk of CHD Major Risk Factors - Hypertension

•Disease and a risk factor

•High blood pressure

↑ sodium (from
processed & fast foods)
= ↑ blood pressure



## Major Risk Factors – High Blood Cholesterol

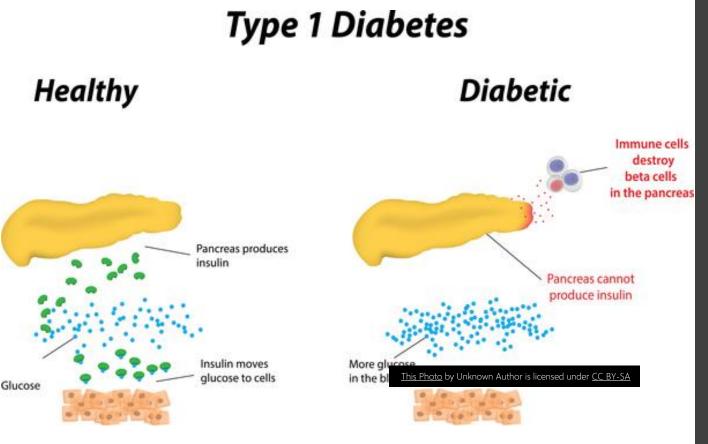
 Cholesterol is not soluble in blood – it is combined with proteins in the liver so it can be transported in the bloodstream

- $\uparrow$  High-density lipoprotein (HDL) =  $\downarrow$  CHD



#### Major Risk Factors – Physical Inactivity

- Exact mechanism that reduces this risk is not known



## Major Risk Factor – Diabetes

- Results in elevated blood sugar (ex. Glucose) levels because the body cannot use blood glucose as a fuel source
- Occurs most often in middle age
- Common in people who are overweight
- About 68% of people with diabetes die from cardiovascular disease
- Could be because of inactive lifestyle, unfavorable blood cholesterol levels, and/or suffer from hypertension

## Major Risk Factor – Overweight and Obesity

Waist-to-hip circumference rations greater than
 1.0 for men and 0.9 for women indicate significant
 risk for development of CHD

Hypertension – possibly because of high sodium intake



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## Major Risk Factor – Heredity/Gender/Increasing Age

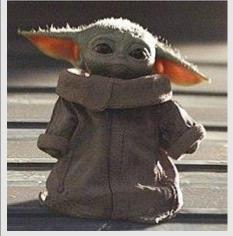


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- Children with parents of CHD are more likely to develop CHD than are children of parents who do not have CHD
- Up until age 55 men have a greater risk of developing CHD and stroke than women
  - Women are "protected" by estrogen which may elevate HDL cholesterol
     After menopause, CHD risk increases much more than men's risk
- ↑ age = ↑ buildup of arterial plaque
- More than 80% of people who die of CHD are age 65 or older
- Most people who get strokes are over 55

## Contributory Risk Factors

Stress = ↑ hypertension = ↑ blood cholesterol profile
Stress = induces the release of hormones that elevate blood pressure
Alcohol Consumption = ↑ consumption = ↑ blood pressure, heart failure and stroke, high triglycerides, cancer, and liver disease



 Diet: can control and reduce many risk factors that lead to CHD

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# How Can You Reduce Your Risk of Heart Disease?

Concept 3: Outline a plan for reducing your risk for developing cardiovascular disease.

## How Can You Reduce Your Risk of Heart Disease?

- Recent study reveals that more than half of college-age students 18-24 years have at least one major CHD risk factor, and nearly ¼ have advanced atherosclerotic lesions (plaque buildup in arteries)
- Reducing Risk Factors
  - Don't smoke as soon as you quit, CHD risk begins to decline
- Lower Your Blood Pressure medication, exercise, healthy diet low in sodium
- Reduce Blood Cholesterol Levels decreasing intake of cholesterol (meat and dairy products)
- Be Physically Active risk of death from CHD decreases as the total physical activity energy expenditure increases from 500 to 3500 kilocalories per week.
  - Regular vigorous exercise is better, 3 or more days per week
- Reduce Your Stress Level
  - Relaxation techniques
  - If angry or hostile easily meet with a counselor or therapist trained in anger management

https://www.ted.com/talks/alyson\_mcgregor\_why\_m edicine\_often\_has\_dangerous\_side\_effects\_for\_wom en#t-913285