

**Subject:** CVS-pathology

**Topic:** Lectures 4(pg 1-2)&5(pg 3-4)

**Done by:**



## Arteriosclerosis:

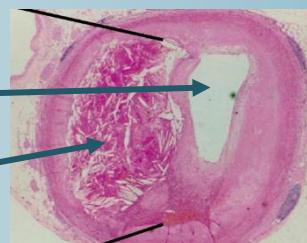
Arterial **thickening, hardening** leading to loss of elasticity, it has three recognized patterns. Numbered 1,2,3.

## 2.Atherosclerosis:

Most frequent and clinically important pattern of arteriosclerosis.

Lesions: **atheromas** (atheromatous plaques) affect the intima. They're made of a fibrous cap (proteins & certain cells) and a cholesterol lipid core (cholesterol crystals, cell debris, foam cells & calcium)

The plaques narrow the lumen.



Necrotic center with whitish cholesterol crystals

## 1. Mönckeberg's medial calcific sclerosis:

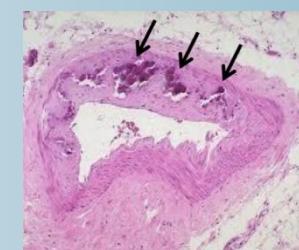
Medial → affects tunica media (muscular arteries)

Calcific → calcific deposits (hardening; like bones)

Meaning: vessels are visible on **x ray**, they're palpable if they're subcutaneous, **purple deposits** in Tunica media with H&E.

Info: Affects people above 50

NOT clinically significant if it's on its own (no accompanying Atherosclerosis) [doesn't affect the lumen]



## Atherosclerosis; Pathogenesis:

2 main elements: Inflammation of endothelium<sup>1</sup> with LDL particles deposition<sup>2</sup>.

Formation of atheromatous plaques: ① chronic endothelial injury or assault [by smoking, hyperlipidemia, HTN, toxins or Immune reactions] cause ② Endothelial dysfunction (**activation**) ③ Inflammatory responses (macrophage activation and smooth muscle cells migration) ④ Macrophages engulf lipids forming a lipid core (debris formation within the atheroma) ⑤ smooth muscle cells proliferation and production of collagen and ECM deposition.

## Arteriosclerosis: progression

It takes a plaque many years to significantly impact the lumen diameter, the clinical phase is usually in middle age to elderly.

The pathological stage “Atheroma” develops from the 3<sup>rd</sup> decade of life, and further complications like fibroatheroma and complicated lesions develop even later at the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> decades.

### Possible complications:

1. Aneurysm and rupture
2. Occlusion by thrombus (superimposed thrombus can cause complete obstruction)
3. Critical stenosis (more atherosclerosis and bigger lesion)

Constituents of the plaque affect the progression & complication of the Atheroma:

- Vulnerable plaque: **MORE susceptible** to complications [contains: **Thick fat core**/ Thin fibrous cap/ More inflammation]
- Stable plaque [contains: Thin fat core/ Thick fibrous cap/ less inflammation]

## Arteriosclerosis: Risk factors

1. Major nonmodifiable risk factors
    - **Male, Old, family history** and **genetic abnormalities**
  2. Major modifiable risk factors
    - Hyper Lipidemia, HTN, smoking, DM, inflammation
  3. Lesser uncertain risks
    - Obesity, physical inactivity, stress, hormonal deficiency like estrogen, diet: high carbs, trans fat
    - Hyperhomocystinemia, Metabolic syndrome, Lipoprotein a levels, **Factors Affecting Hemostasis**
- 5X more MI in men **aged 40-60** and increasing Ischemic heart disease rates with age.
- Increasing Atherosclerosis after menopause in women.
- genetically, the case could be either:  
Familial clustering of multiple other risk factors like HTN or DM or a well-defined genetic derangements in lipoprotein metabolism like **familial hypercholesterolemia**

→ 20% of cardiovascular events occur without any **identifiable risk factors** and here we suspect the lesser risks

## Hypertensive vascular disease:

Hypertension diagnosis is made when either:

- Diastolic is >80 mm Hg or
- Systolic is >130 mm Hg

Types are classified according to:

- Severity: Benign (95%) versus malignant (5%)
- Etiology: Primary (essential) (95%) and it's the most common of all vs secondary (5%)
  - ↳ Secondary HTN causes: endocrine, cardiovascular and neurologic and renal (the most common) e.g. renal artery narrowing causes **renovascular HTN**,
- Side of circulation: systolic vs diastolic

### Complications of HTN:

- P stroke (CVD) & multi-infarct dementia
- atherosclerotic coronary heart disease (HTN → Atherosclerosis)
- cardiac hypertrophy and heart failure (hypertensive heart disease)
- aortic dissection
- renal failure
- retinal hemorrhage

## 3. Arteriolosclerosis: (small arterial disease)

HTN is associated with 2 forms of arteriolosclerosis:

### 1. hyaline arteriolosclerosis (with benign hypertension)

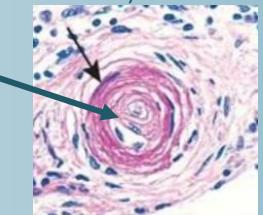
Leakage of plasma components across endothelial cells causes:

- homogeneous **pink** hyaline thickening of arteriolar walls and luminal narrowing
- Increased ECM production by smooth muscle cells due to chronic HTN
- complications mostly affect the kidneys: nephrosclerosis (glomerular scarring)
  - hyaline arteriolosclerosis can happen without HTN:
    - 1) In normo-tensive elderly people
    - 2) diabetic people



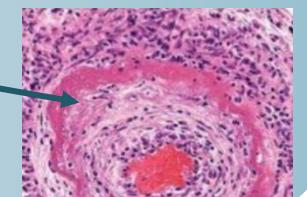
### 2. Hyperplastic arteriolosclerosis (with malignant HTN)

shows as luminal narrowing with **onionskin** thickening of the walls with a reduplicated basement membrane



Another abnormality seen with MHTN is **necrotizing arteriolitis**

Also known as **fibrinoid necrosis**



## Pathogenesis of essential HTN:

### Genetic factors:

- polymorphisms in the renin-angiotensin system
- Susceptibility genes: like genes that control renal sodium absorption

**Environmental factors:** modify the impact of genetic determinants: e.g. stress, obesity, smoking, physical inactivity, ↑ salt consumption

### Malignant Hypertension: (accelerated HTN)

5% of cases

Characterized by: attacks of rapidly rising blood pressure that, if untreated, cause death within 1-2 years

Diagnosed when:

- systolic pressures > 200 mm Hg or
- diastolic pressures > 120 mm Hg

causes aggressive complications like **renal failure** and **retinal hemorrhages** and mortality

↳ usually superimposed on preexisting benign hypertension (either essential or secondary)