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Physiology**

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**HEART FAILURE**

## Case report A

*68 year old patient, 10 years of hypertension history, low adherence to the treatment, 5 years ago had acute myocardial infarction*

*During the last month he complains of growing **dyspnea**, first **exertional** but later event at **rest** and even **nocturnal**. At acute deterioration he suffered from severe **dyspnea**, **expectoration of watery and foamy fluid**.*

## Case report B

*73 year old patient with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heavy smoking from the youth.*

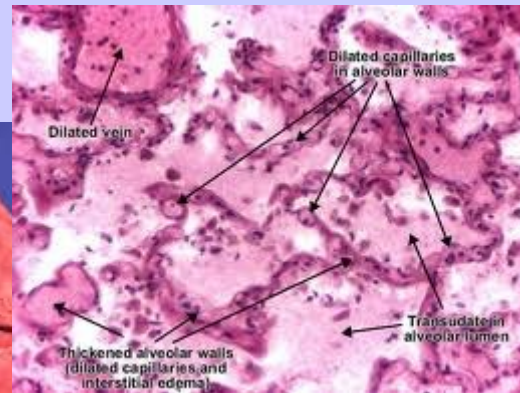
*In several last weeks he observes intensive lower limb edemas, worsening during the day, improving at night. Mild pain in the right hypochondrium.*

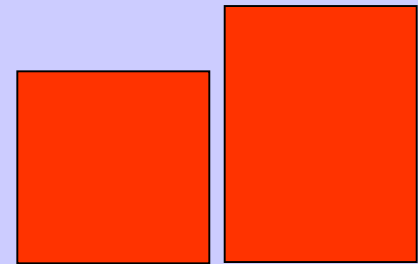
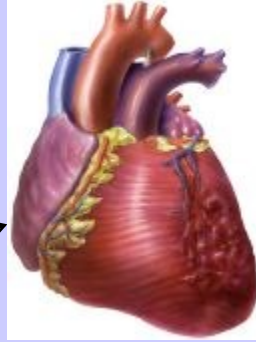
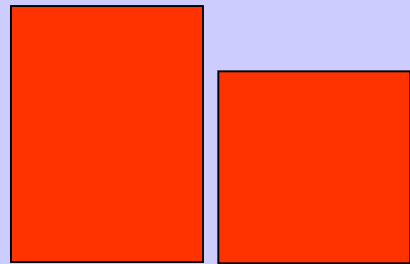
# Case report A and B

*Both patients have edema (fluid and blood congestion).*

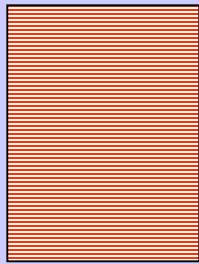
*A – in the lungs*

*B – at the lower limbs, in the liver...*





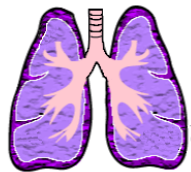
**normal  
situation**



**heart failure**

**congestion**

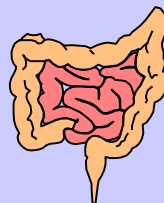
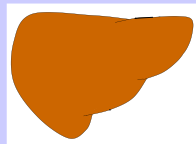
**backward**

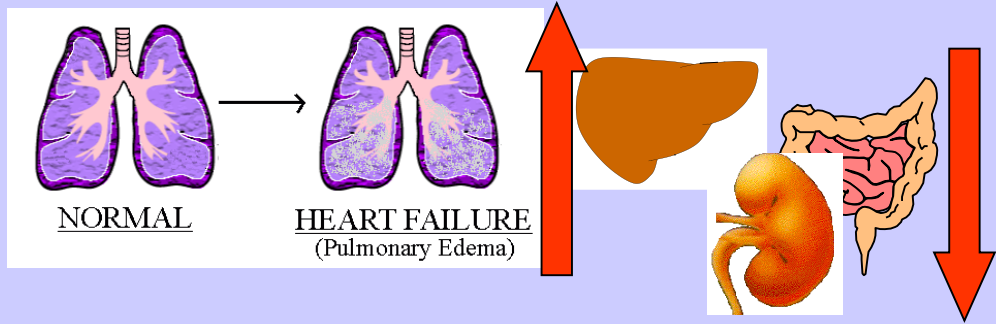
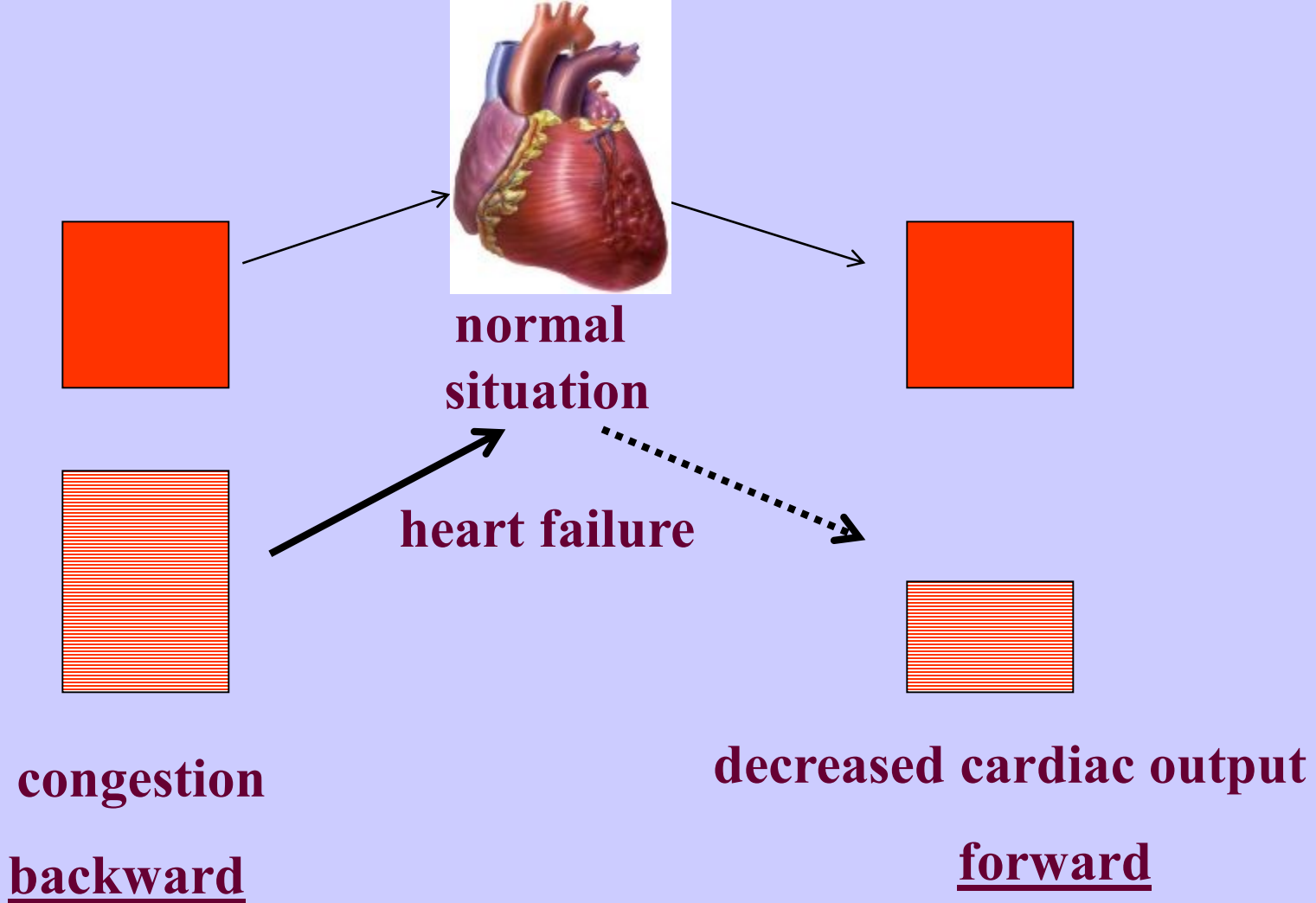


NORMAL



HEART FAILURE  
(Pulmonary Edema)





**Insufficient organ perfusion**  
 – muscles, kidneys, skin, GIT...

- **Heart (ventricle) is not capable to pump the blood from one circulation to the other – basic hemodynamics**
- **The organs suffer from shortage of perfusion**

## **HEMODYNAMIC CONCEPT**

- **Various compensatory mechanisms are activated**
- **The blood is not only redistributed but the fluid retention follows with edema development**
- **Changes in other organs and the whole organism**

## **SYSTEMIC CONCEPT**

## Case report A and B

*The symptoms of BACKWARD failure with the congestion prior to the failing ventricle have been described*

*A – left ventricle*

*B – right ventricle*



## MAIN SYMPTOMES

### **1. *CONGESTION***

- left-sided - **DYSPNEA, LUNG EDEMA**

- right-sided - **LOWER EXTREMITY EDEMAS,  
HEPATOMEGALY...**

### **2. *DECREASED CARDIAC OUTPUT***

**WEAKNESS, FATIGUE,  
DECREASED ORGAN PERFUSION**

# Low CO consequences

- Decrease of peripheral perfusion
- Tiredness, weakness, paleness
- Decreased kidney perfusion
- In severe cases severe ischaemisation, tissue hypoxia and *microcirculation failure* – SHOCK

# Causes of heart failure

## Myocardial failure

### defect in myocardial contraction

Myocardial infarction myokardu (necrosis, scars)

ischemia (ischemic, coronary heart disease)

cardiomyopathy,

myocarditis

# Causes of heart failure

## Excessive, long-term hemodynamic burden

- **increased pressure burden**
  - hypertension systemic (LV)
  - hypertension pulmonary (RV)
  - valvular stenosis : Ao or P
- **increased volume burden**
  - valvular regurgitation
  - general volume overload
- **hyperkinetic circulation** (increased CO at rest)

In developed countries the most common cause in adults or seniors is a combination of *ischemic disease + arterial hypertension*

*Valvular diseases*  
(degenerative origin)

***CMP***

# Newborns and babies

*myocarditis*

*arrhythmias*

*some inborn heart defects*

*CMP ...*

Children and adolescents

*myocarditis incl. poststreptococcal  
with valve damage*

*CMP*

*arrhythmias*

*systemic (juvenile) hypertension*

## Case report C

*13 year old patient, so far healthy, following mild respiratory infect played football, the day after subfebrile, tired... X-ray suspicious pneumonia, enlarged heart shade, general worsening, heart sonography (ECHO) with importantly decreased myocardial contractility of both ventricles, mitral regurgitation.*



## Case report A

*68 year old patient, 10 years of **hypertension** history, low adherence to the treatment, 5 years ago had acute **myocardial infarction***

*During the last month he complains of growing dyspnea, first exertional but later event at rest and even nocturnal. At acute deterioration he suffered from severe dyspnea, expectoration of watery and foamy fluid.*

## Case report B

*73 year old patient with **chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)**, heavy smoking from the youth.*

*In several last weeks he observes intensive lower limb edemas, worsening during the day, improving at night. Mild pain in the right hypochondrium.*

The most frequent causes of RV is  
*pulmonary hypertension*

E.g1 due to severe **pulmonary**  
disease (COPD, fibrosis) or due to  
the failure of **left ventricle**

Right sided heart failure in pediatrics

*secondary pulmonary hypertension*  
*acute pulmonary embolism*

## Case report D

*Newborn in term, shortly after the birth  
circulatory and ventilatory failure,  
pulmonary hypertension, not well  
responding to the therapy, enlargement of  
right atrium and ventricle on ECHO,  
right-to-left shunt at atria, při dg.  
total anomaly in pulmonary veins*

## Case reports A and B

*A – left-sided failure: hypertension (pressure damage to LV), myocardial infarction (ischemic damage of the myocardium, loss of the contractility)*

*B – right ventricle (pulmonary hypertension due to the lung disease)*

## Frequency of heart failure

**In the Czech Rep. the prevalence is about  
1-2 %  
(i.e. 100 000 of patients)**

**The number of patients is increasing –  
among others due to successful treatment of other  
heart diseases**

# Compensation of heart failure

- The effort to keep (i.e. again increase) cardiac output (CO) to maintain sufficient organ perfusion
- Physiological processes of the heart and circulation regulation
- Long-term changes in the heart, its remodeling
- Involvement of other organs
- **COMPENSATION IS NOT RECOVERY!**



# Cardiac output

- **volume of the blood pumped by the heart in 1 minute**

Cardiac output (CO) =  
heart rate (HR) × stroke volume (SV)

**70 /min**

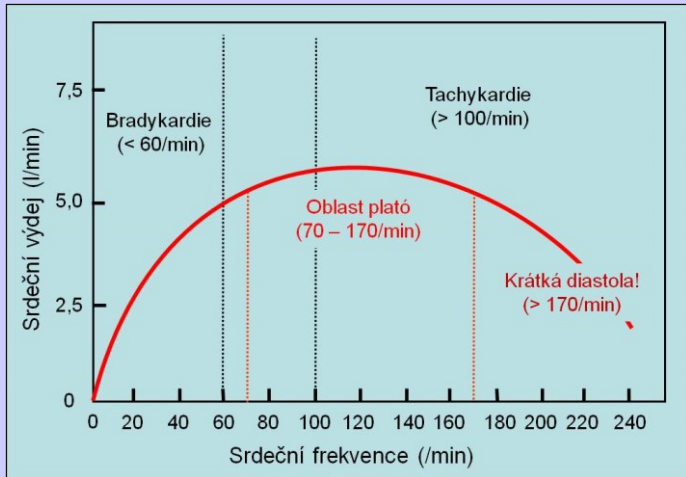
**70 ml**

**4 900 ml/min**

## Heart rate

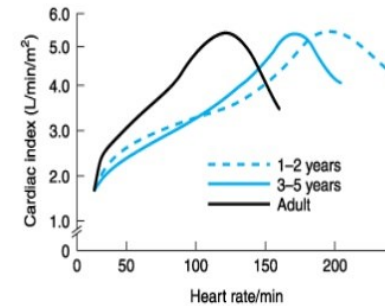
- vegetative nerves
- (disturbances in) heart rhythm
  
- has impact of heart cycle duration, mainly shortens diastole – when the heart is filling with blood

Increases CO but high rates decrease the ventricle filling and heart is easier exhausted



## (1) HEART RATE :

- Cardiac output is generally directly proportional to heart rate.



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<http://pfyziollfup.upol.cz/castwiki2/?p=2293>

<http://www.slideshare.net/DRSHADABKAMAL/determinants-of-ventricular-performance>

Cardiac output (CO) =  
heart rate (HR) × stroke volume (SV)

70 /min

70 ml

4 900 ml/min

# Stroke volume

- preload

- contractility

- afterload

- \* How is the heart filled before the systole

- \* What is its „force“ of contraction

- \* What is resistance against the pumping

# Contractility

- „strenth“ of the contraction in constant filling (preload, i.e. independent of preload)
- *Increased* (positive inotropy):  
sympathetic nerves, catecholamines  
(calcium)

**Healthy heart**  
**uses increased contractility**  
**to increase SV and CO**



**The decrease of contractility  
is a frequent cause  
of heart failure**

# *Causes of decreased contractility*

- ischemia
- hypoxia
- acidosis
- inflammation, proinflammatory cytokines
- some drugs

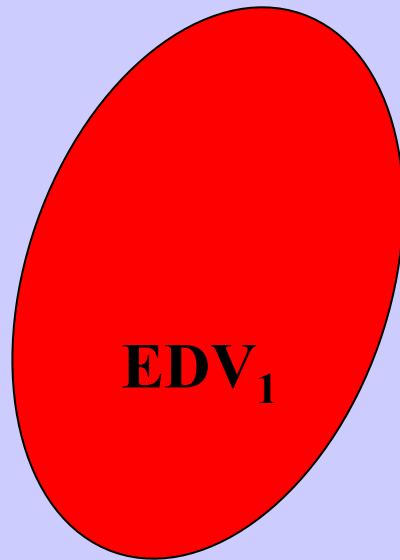
# Ejection fraction

$$EF = SV / EDV$$

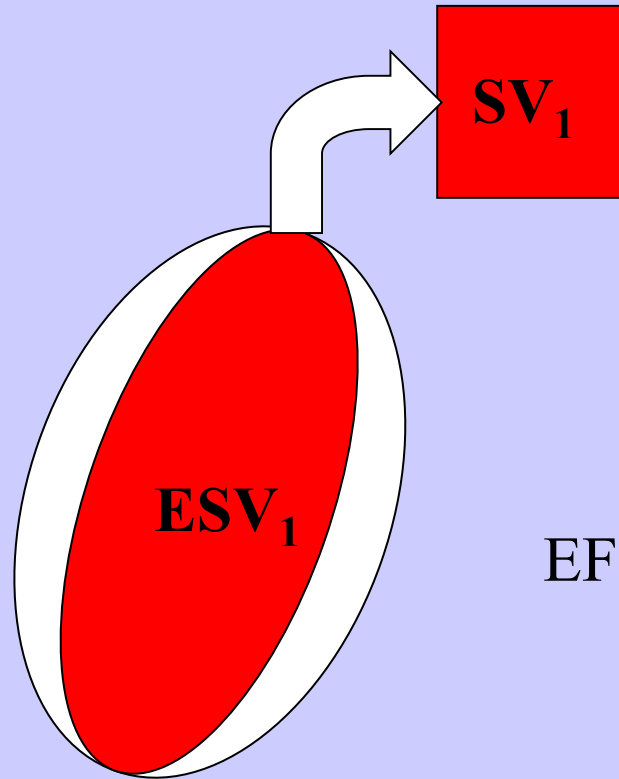
the ratio of stroke volume to end-diastolic volume  
normal value =  $67 \pm 8$  percent

$$SV = 70 \text{ ml}, EDV = 120 \text{ ml}$$

$$EF = 70 / 120 = 58 \%$$



End of diastole 1



$$EF_1 = SV_1 / EDV_1$$

End of systole 1

# Stroke volume

- preload
- contractility
- afterload

- \* How is the heart filled before the systole
- \* What is its „force“ of contraction
- \* What is resistance against the pumping

# **Preload**

**is the basic mechanism of the  
regulation of CO**

# Preload

Filling of the ventricle at the end  
of the diastole

enddiastolic volume = EDV

Frank-Starling mechanism



## Factors influencing preload

- *Venous return*

total blood volume

blood distribution (position of the body, intrathoracic pressure, venous tonus...)

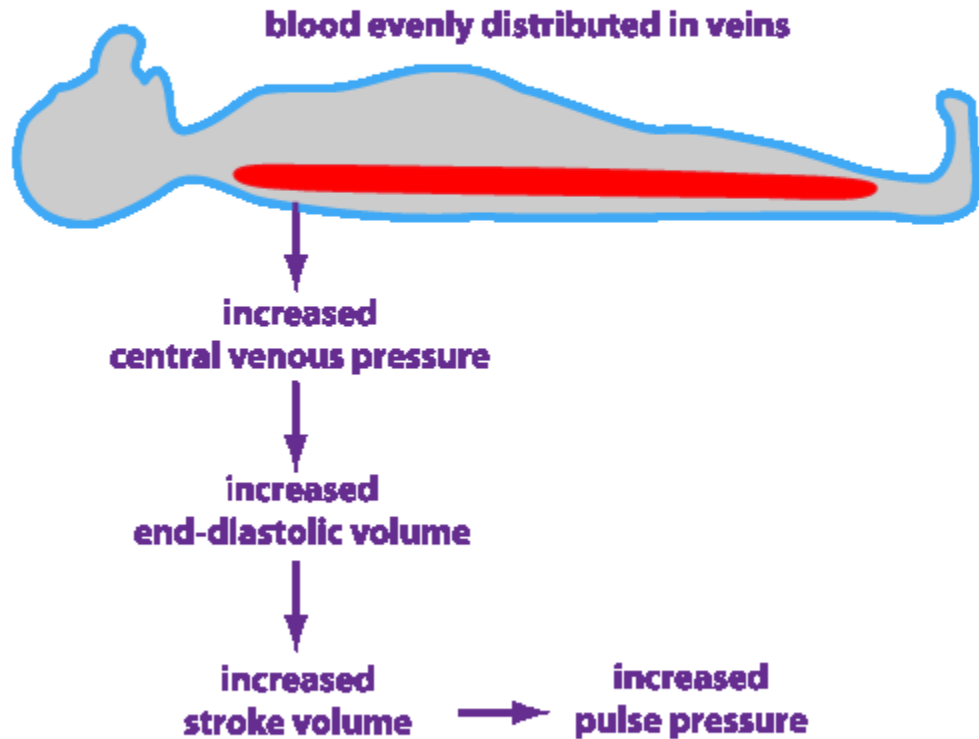
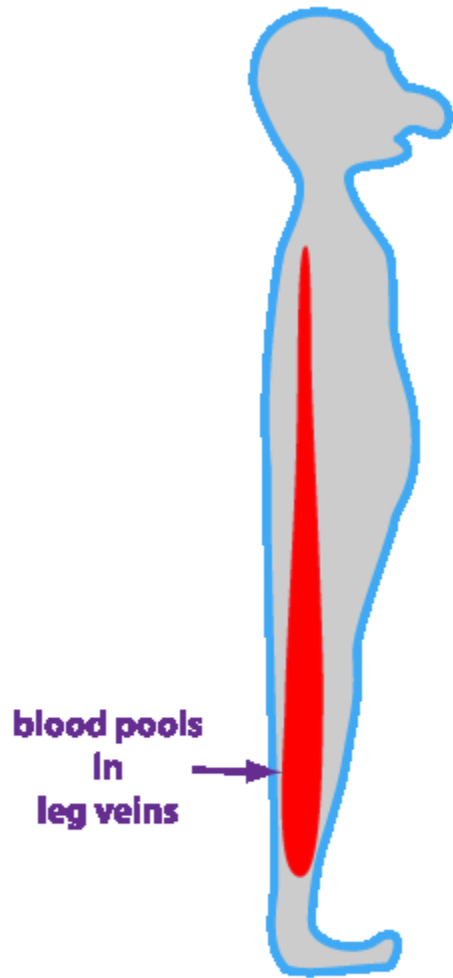
- *atrial systole*

- *size of ventricle cavity*

- *intrapericardial pressure*

Low preload is the cause of the decreased CO in case of syncope and shock

In heart failure the preload is not decreased but it is *increased* as one of the the compensatory mechanisms



# Low preload

- bleeding, strong vasodilation etc.
- shock, syncope
- THIS IS NOT HEART FAILURE

# **Failing heart**

**uses the increase of preload  
to improve SV and CO**

**Healthy heart**  
**uses increased contractility**  
**to increase of SV and CO**

# Other causes of low CO

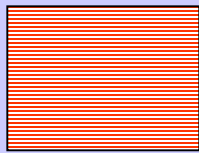
- Not caused directly by heart disturbances but by other parameters of the circulation

# Situations with low CO

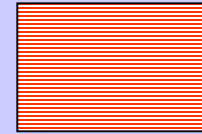
- Heart failure – high preload
- Impaired/limited filling of the ventricles (e.g. constrictive pericarditis) – high preload
- Blood loss, dehydration – low preload



**heart insufficiently  
filled**



**decreased venous return**



**e.g. shock** decreased cardiac output

**bad filling of the ventricles  
(e.g. constrictive pericarditis)**



## **Failing heart:**

**uses increased preload  
to improve SV and CO**

This increase is efficient only partially

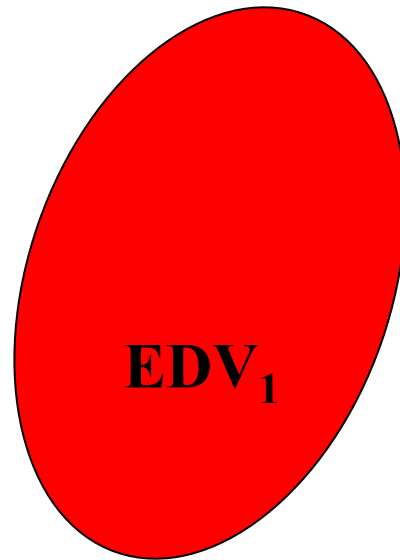
## **Non failing heart:**

**low CO is often the consequence of  
low preload**

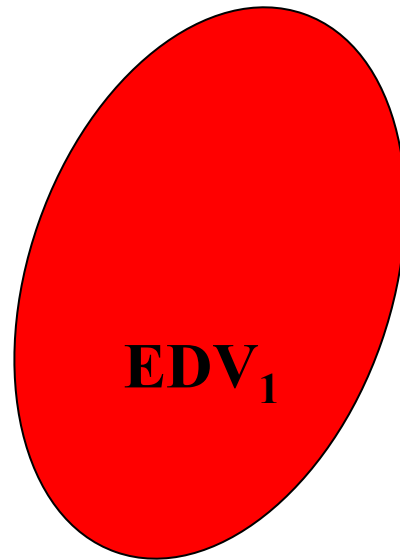
# Preload and heart failure compensation

- If contractility decreases (EF decrease),
- the heart will start to use increased filling of the ventricle to maintain SV and consequently CO

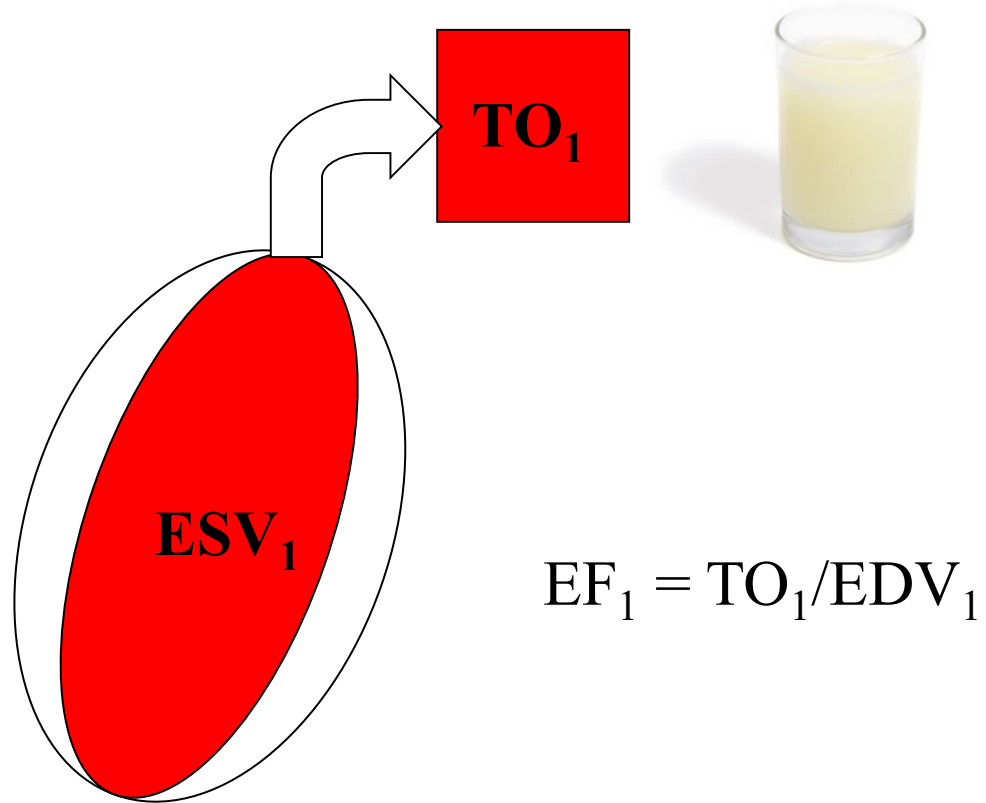




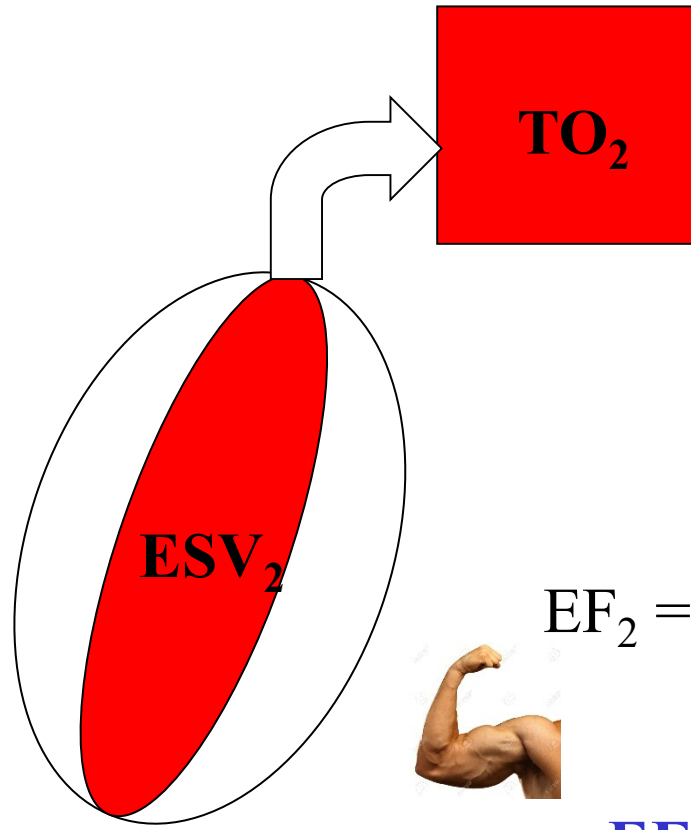
Konec diastoly 1



Konec diastoly 1



Konec systoly 1



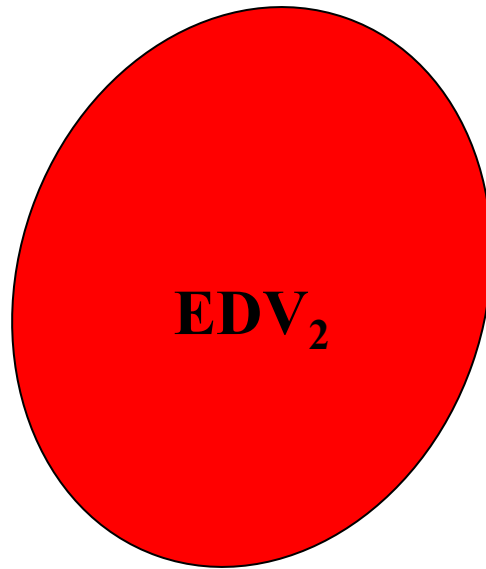
$$EF_2 = TO_2 / EDV_2$$



$$EF_2 > EF_1$$

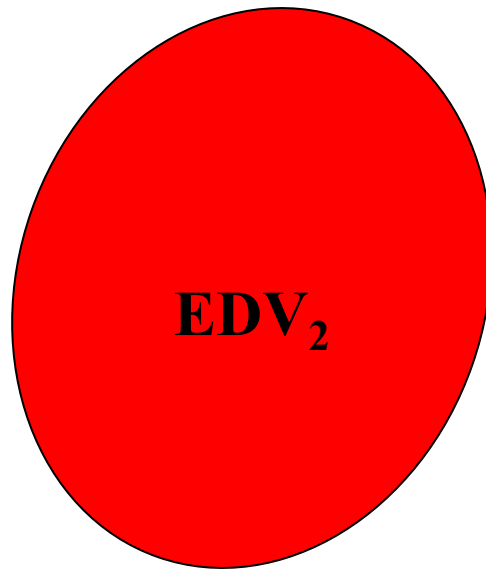


Konec systoly 2

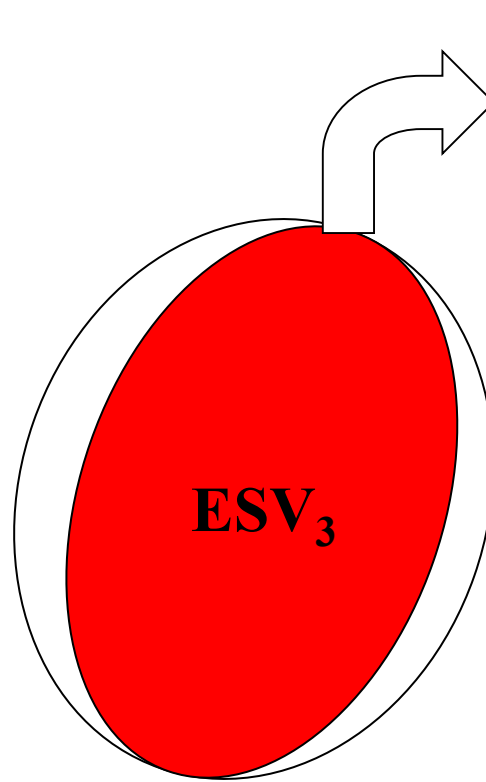


Konec diastoly 2





Konec diastoly 2

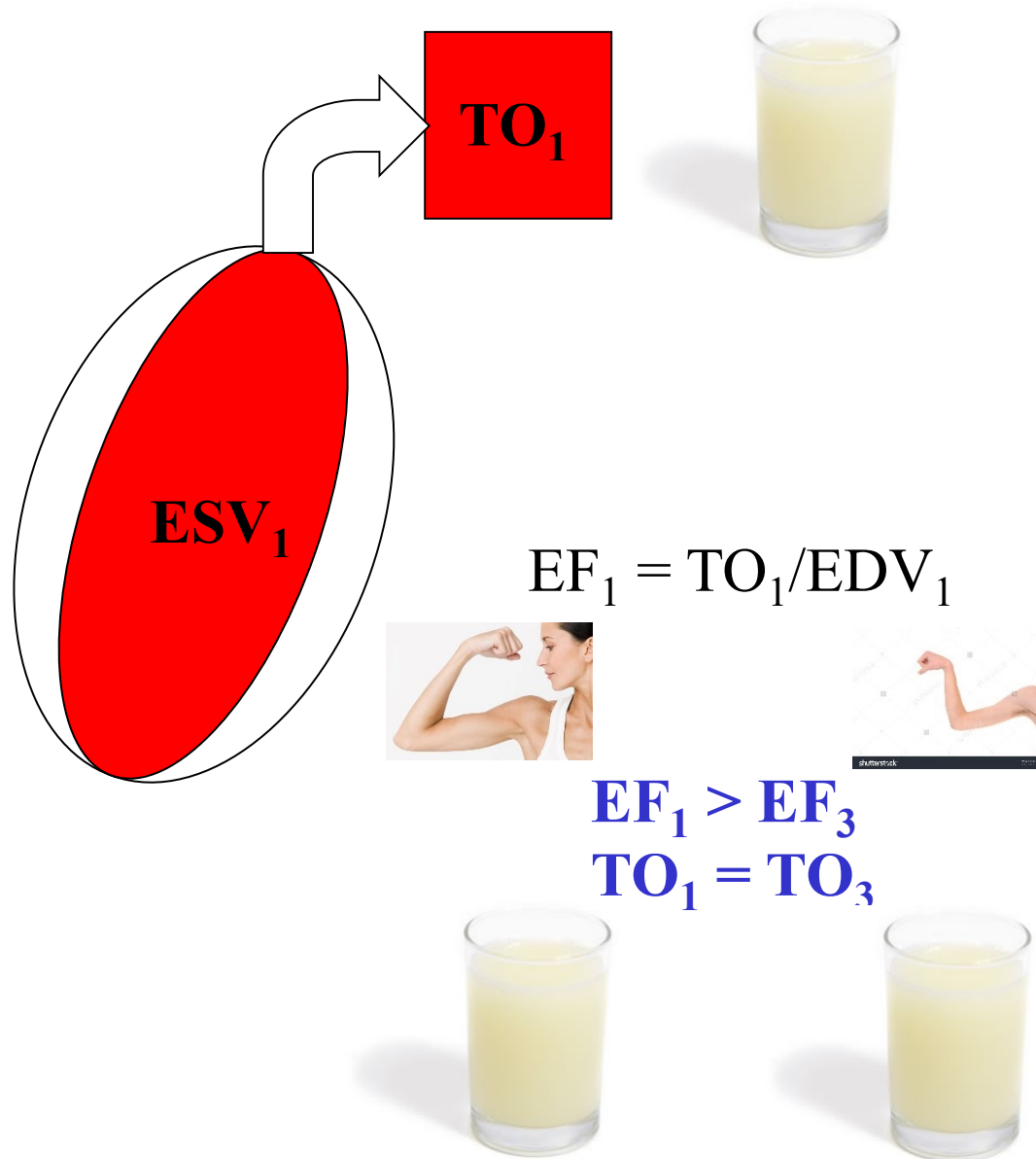


**TO<sub>3</sub>**



$$EF_3 = TO_3 / EDV_3$$

Konec systoly 3



Konec systoly 1

# Consequences of increased preload

- Heart dilatation – RTG, ECHO
- Increased ventricular pressure – enddiastolic pressure (EDP)

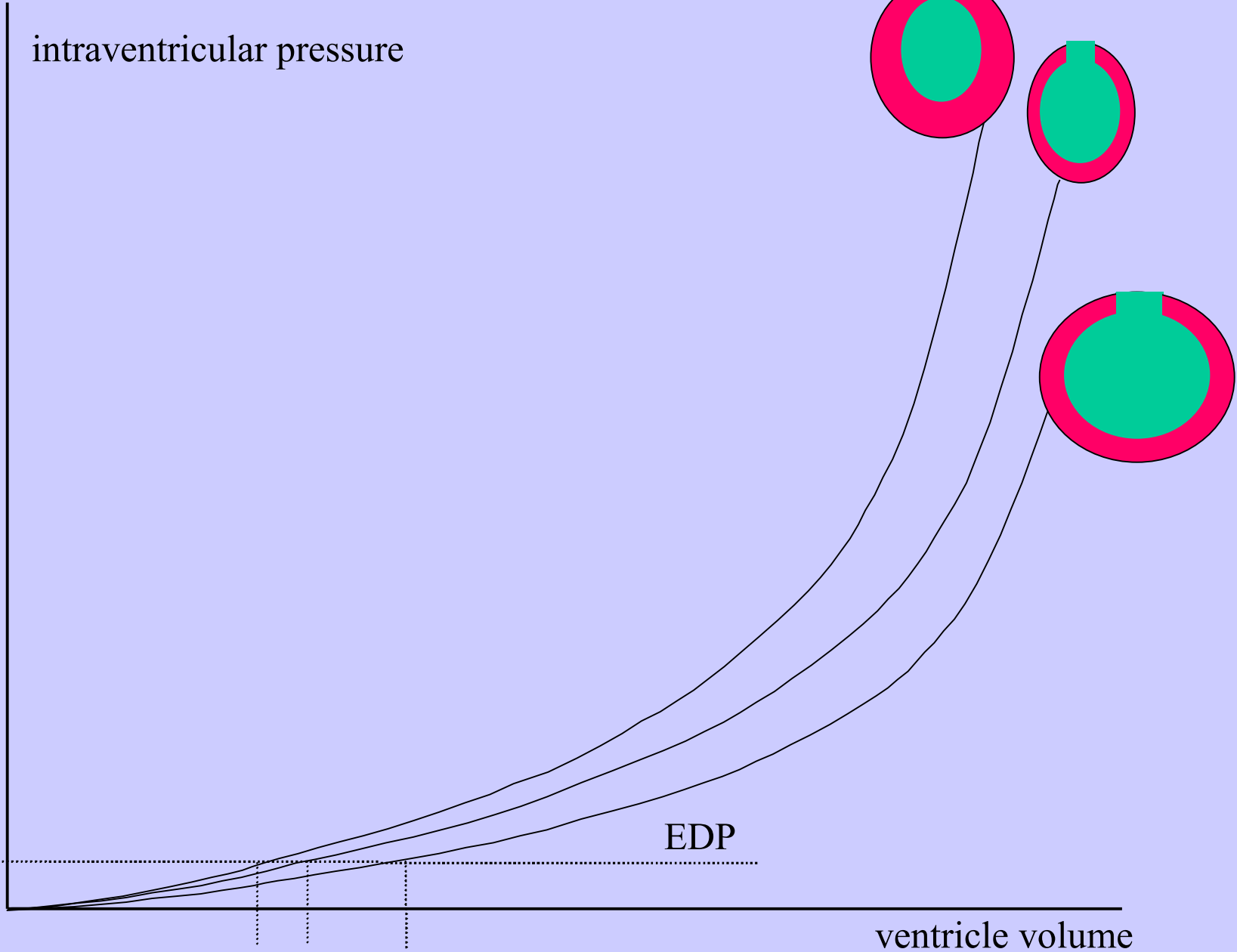
# The relation between the filling of the ventricle and the intraventricular pressure

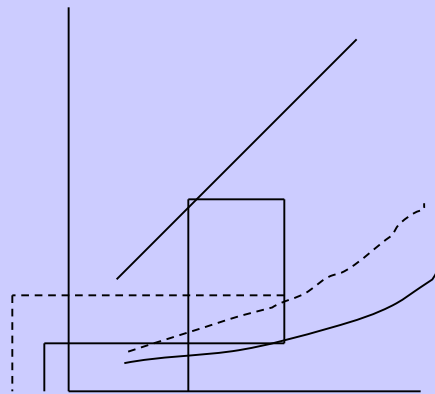
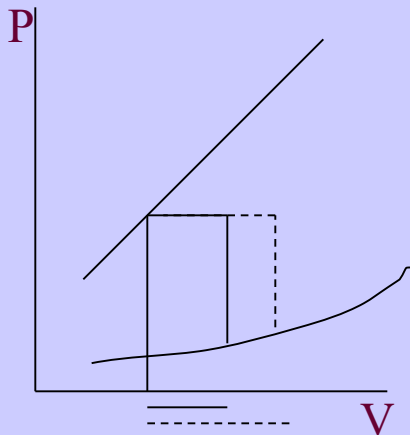
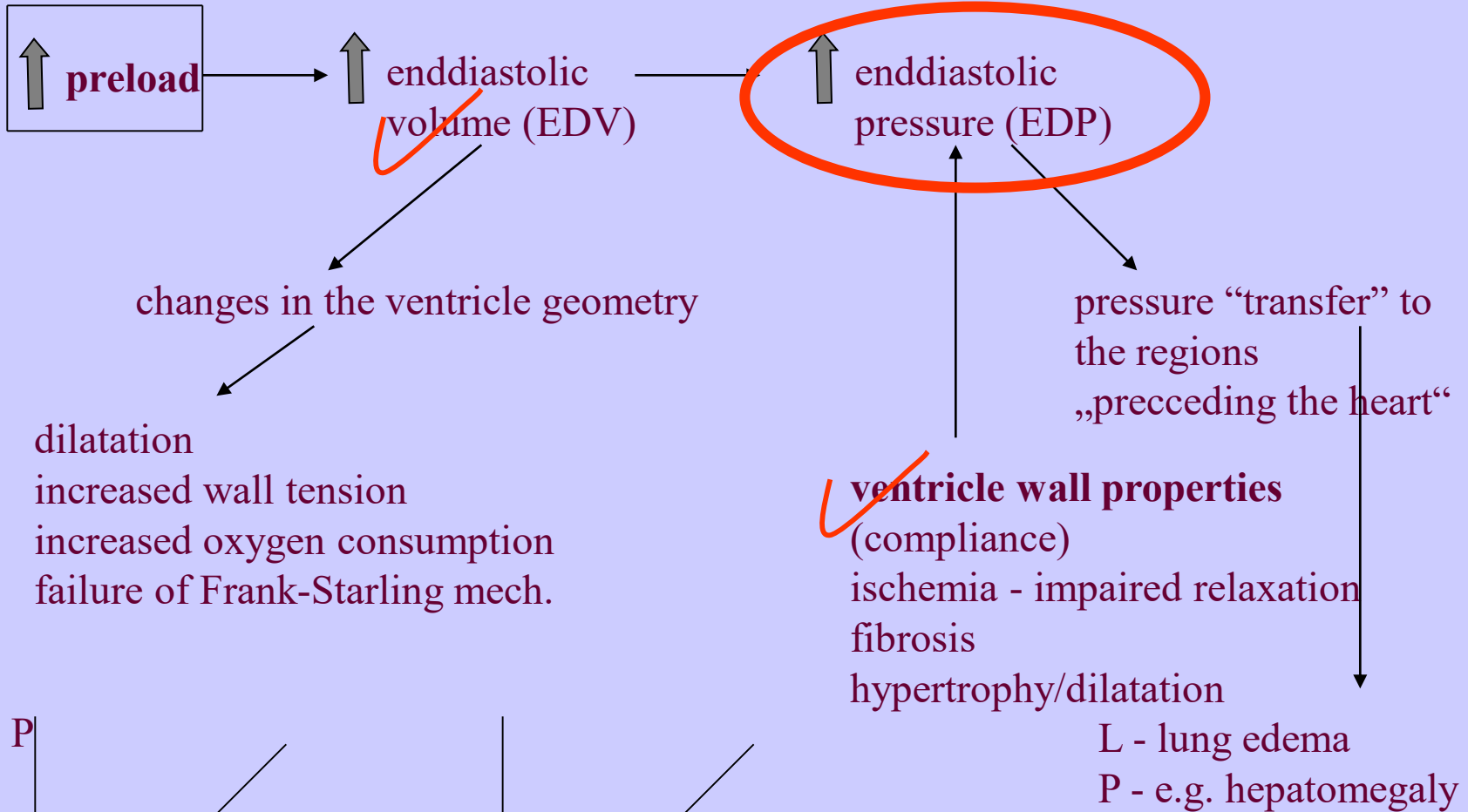
diastolic filling curve

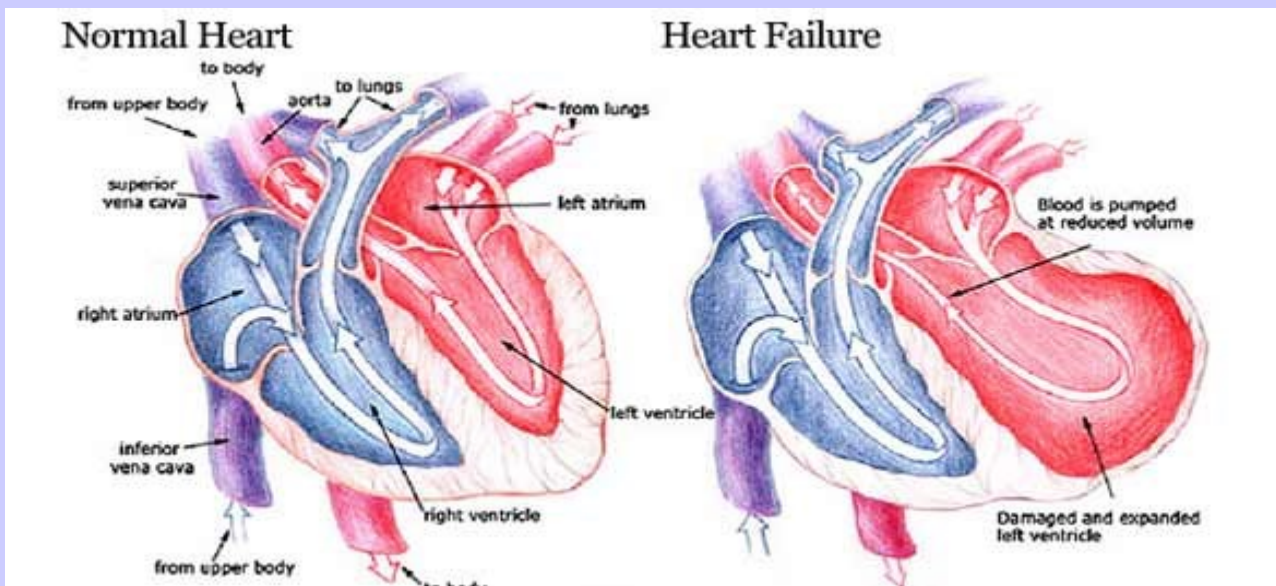
volume: EDV - enddiastolic volume

pressure: EDP - enddiastolic pressure, filling pressure

- amount of the blood in the ventricle
- properties of the ventricle wall





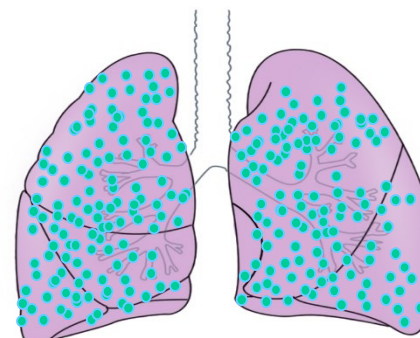
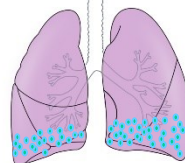
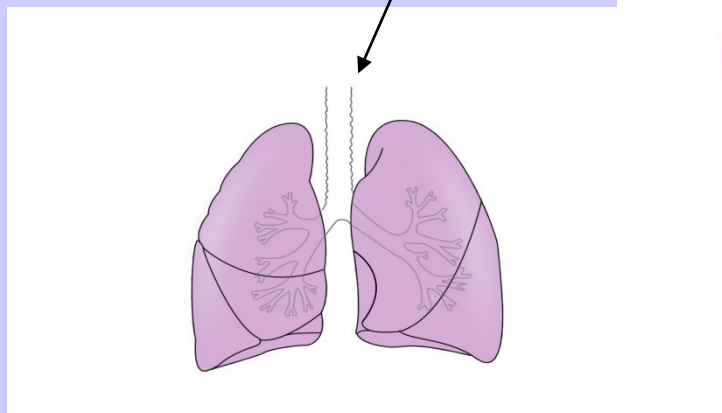


Normální  
EDV/EDP

Vysoký  
EDV/EDP

Městnání na  
plicních bazích

Otok plic





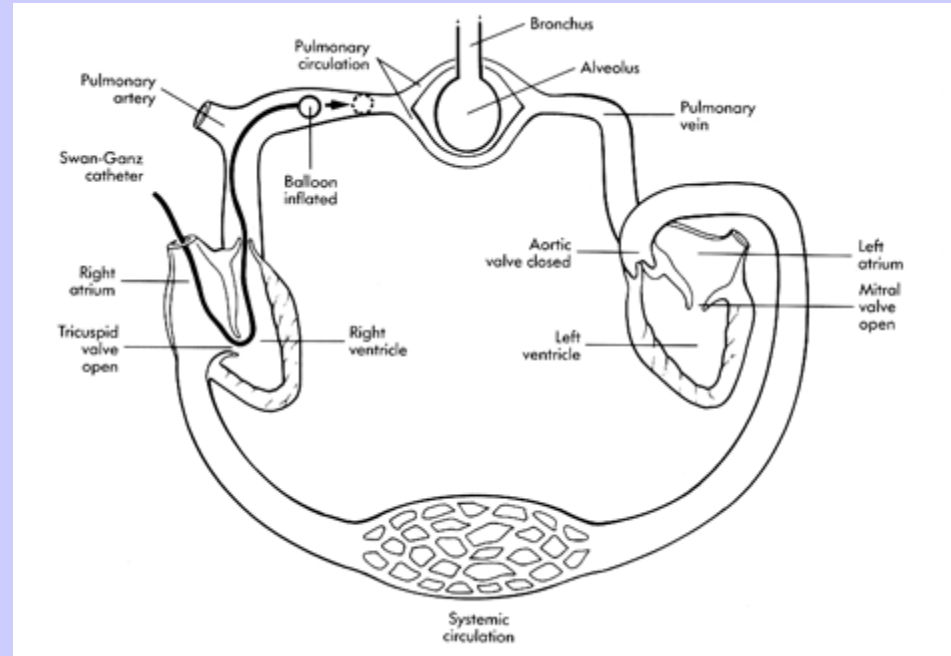
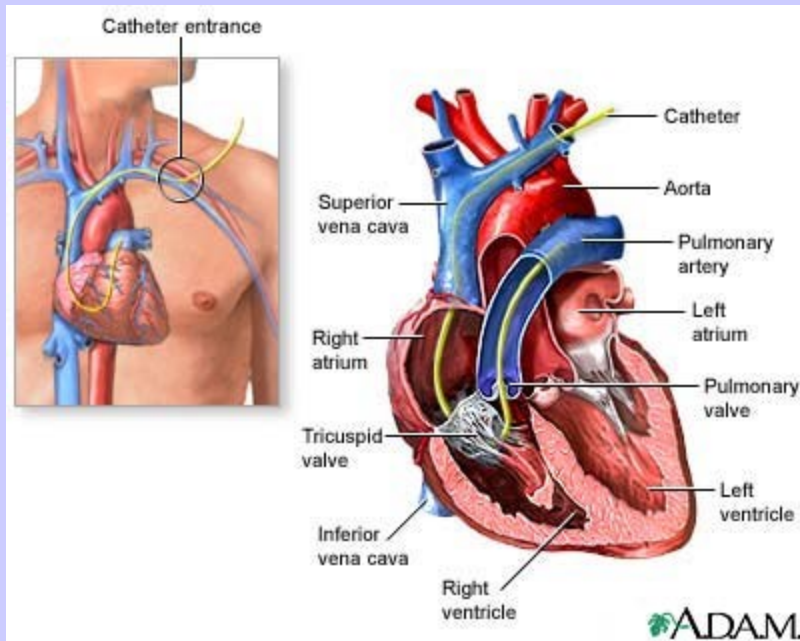
Městnání  
na  
plicích



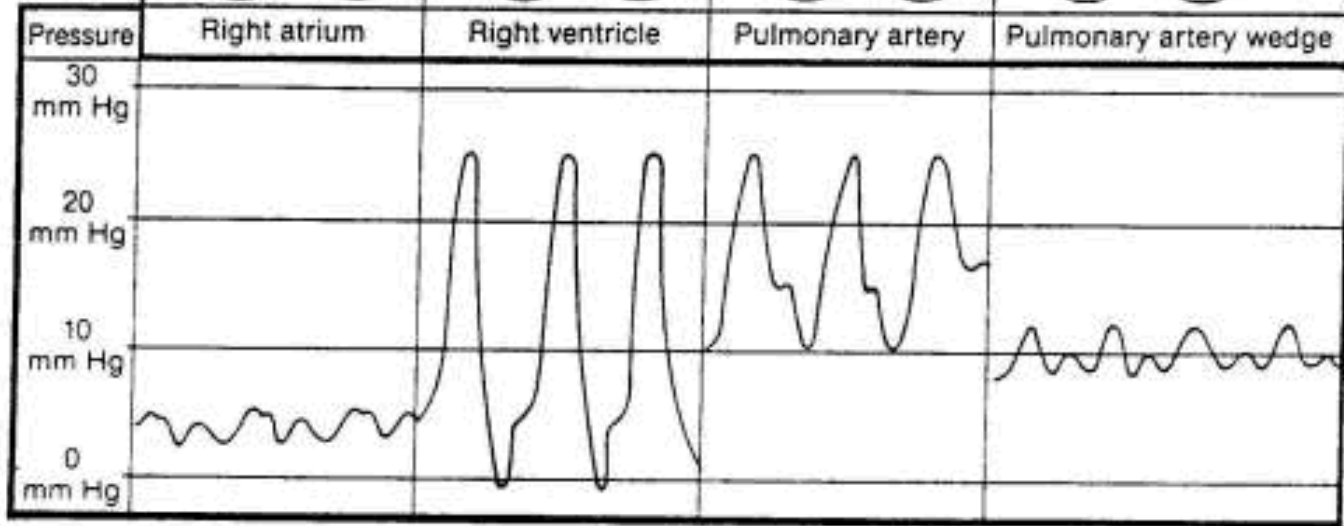
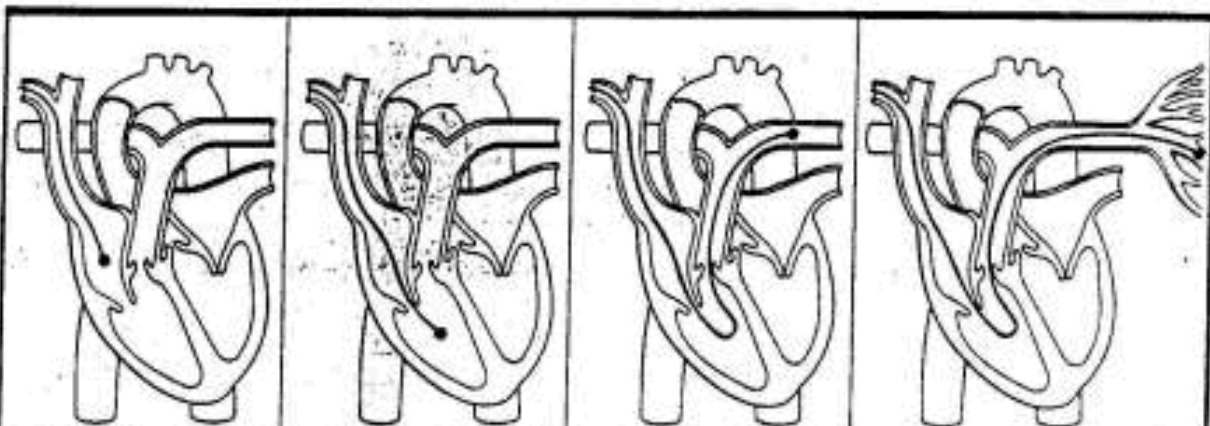
Zvětšení srdce  
(LK)

# EDP measurement

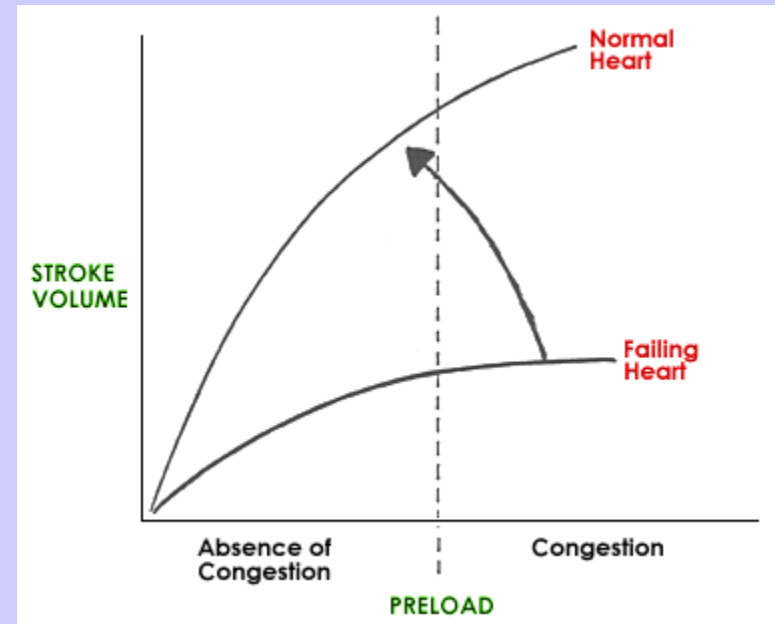
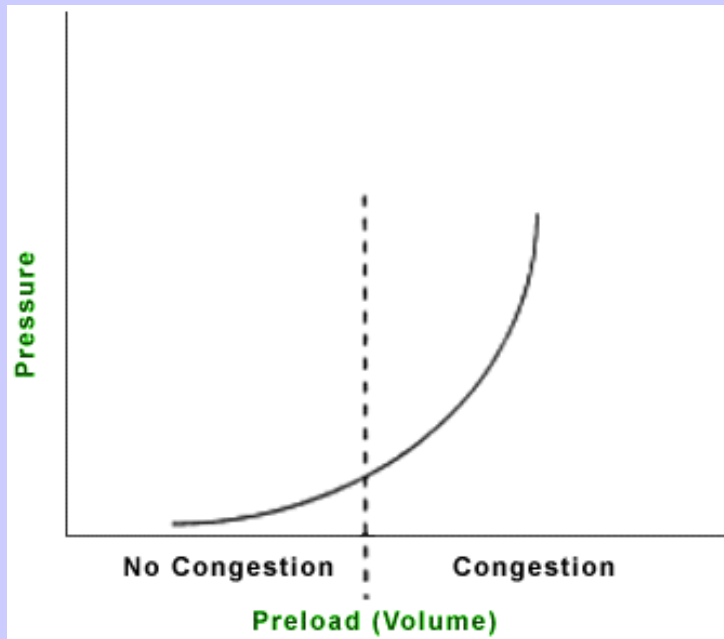
heart catheterization as a pulmonary wedge pressure



Flow-directed catheter



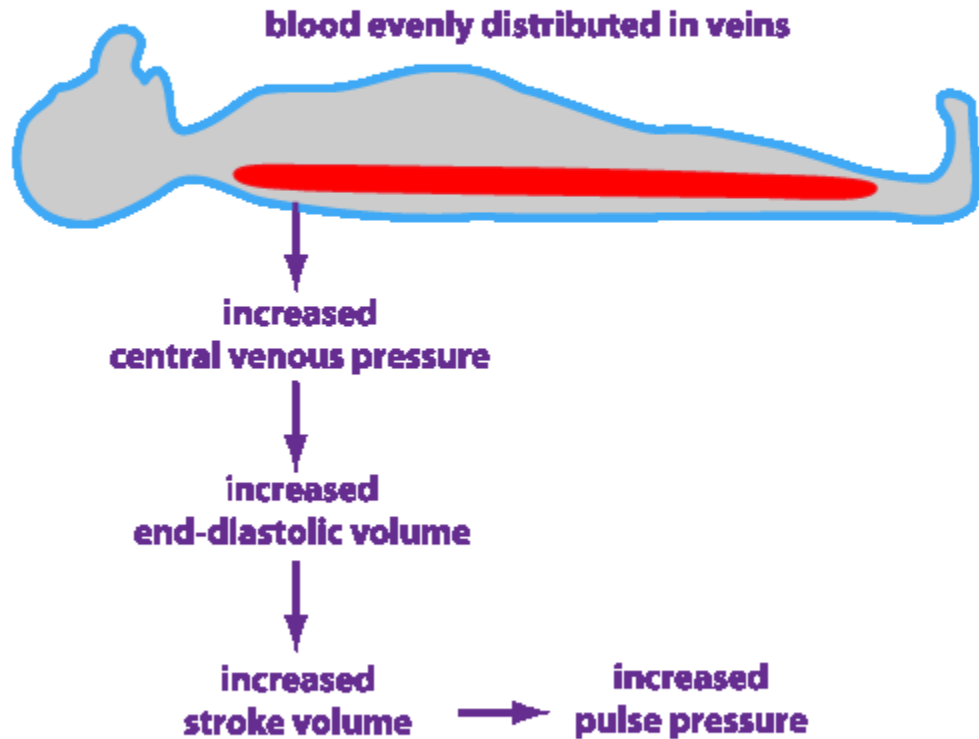
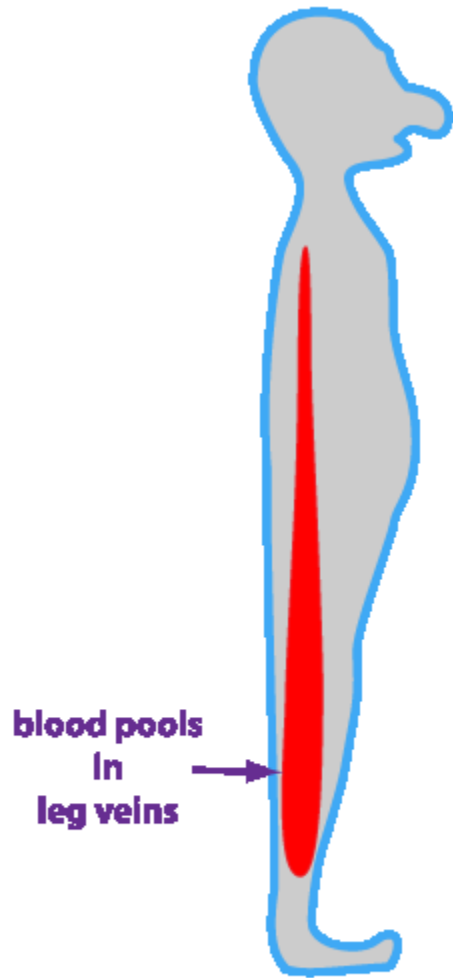
# The relation of EDP and congestion



## Case report A

*Why is dyspnea present at night ??*

*In the supine position the venous return the failing heart increases and thus it accumulates in the lungs.*



# Stroke volume

- preload
- contractility
- afterload

- \* How is the heart filled before the systole
- \* What is its „force“ of contraction
- \* What is resistance against the pumping

# Afterload

- arterial pressure
- systemic vascular resistance
- blood viscosity



# Afterload

the force against which it contracts, the tension or stress developed in the ventricular wall during ejection

- arterial pressure
- systemic vascular resistance
- blood viscosity
  
- geometry of the ventricle (*Laplace* law)

$$T = P \times r / d$$

Increased volume of the ventricle and thinner wall (i.e. dilatation)

increase afterload

contribute to the decrease of CO

increase requirements for oxygen

# High CO

- physiologically – effort, emotions
- Strong vasodilatation (decrease of afterload)  
– fever, sepsis, thyreotoxicosis
- **HYPERKINETIC CIRCULATION**

**High CO can cause heart failure**

# Cardiac cycle

- **Systole** – contraction, ejection, high tension in the wall, energy requirement
- **Diastole** – filling, relaxation, rest, myocardium perfusion
- Both can be disturbed – **dysfunction**

# Pumping disorders of the heart

## Systolic failure (dysfunction)

*The blood ejection from the ventricle is impaired due to the decrease of the contractility*

## Case report A

*The patient has decreased contractility: ischemia, part of the myocardium was replaced by fibrous tissue (scar) after the myocardial infarction;*

*Hypertension increases afterload*

## Case report A

*The patient due to the decreased contractility has decreased EF < 35 %*

*The symptoms of systolic failure*

# Specificity of the regulation in children

- *Higher heart and breath rate*
- *Newborns – very high HR causes important decrease of ventricle filling time with decreased CO. Because of high diastolic ventricle volume in this age the Frank-Starling law has only limited importance.*
- *The increase of myocardium contractility is also limited due to the fact that myocardium contains less myofibrils and there are prevailing non-contractile elements.*

## Diastolic failure – failure with normal EF

*The ventricle filling during the diastole is accompanied by increased pressure*

usually the decrease in the relaxation and later compliance of heart wall

EDP increases

- CHD
- Hypertension with hypertrophy
- Some cardiomyopathies etc.
  
- mainly the congestion symptoms



# Causes of low compliance

- Hypertension with hypertrophy
- CHD
- Some cardiomyopathies (hypertrophic) etc.

**Many patients have mainly diastolic failure**

**That means they have good contraction, the heart keeps normal CO but due to low compliance the EDP is high and leads to the lung congestion and dyspnea**

**Often in patients with LV hypertrophy due to previous (not treated) hypertension**

## Case report A

*The patient has due to the hypertrophy (caused by systemic hypertension) of the LV decreased compliance, i.e. the increase of EDP is higher for the EDV*

*He has also the symptoms of diastolic failure*

## Case report A

*The patient has dilated LV with increased enddiastolic pressure. This pressure propagates to the lungs to cause the congestion and dyspnea.*

*The ventricle in hypertension is at the same time hypertrofized, i.e. less compliant*

# Evaluation / monitoring of hemodynamic heart function

- **EF** (ultrasound)
- **cardiac output** (ultrasound or catheterization)
- **EDP** (catheterization)
- Heart rate (**HR**)
- Blood pressure (**BP**)

# HEART FAILURE

pathophysiologic state in which an abnormality of *cardiac* function is responsible for the **failure** of the **heart** to pump blood at a rate commensurate with the requirements of the metabolizing tissues



**decrease of cardiac output**

*and/or* can do so only from an abnormally elevated diastolic volume



**increase of the ventricular filling pressure (enddiastolic pressure, EDP)**

## Types of heart failure

### According to the ventricle

- left-sided
- right-sided (cor pulmonale due to lung diseases, lung embolism etc.)
- both-sided

### Acc. to the intensity

### According to the course

- acute
- chronic (development of the compensatory mechanisms):  
compensated  
decompensated

### According to the CO

- low-output (most)
- high-output (hyperkinetic circulation)

- **Heart (ventricle) is not capable to pump the blood from one circulation to the other – basic hemodynamics**
- **The organs suffer from shortage of perfusion**

## **HEMODYNAMIC CONCEPT**

- **Various compensatory mechanisms are activated**
- **The blood is not only redistributed but the fluid retention follows with edema development**
- **Changes in other organs and the whole organism**

## **SYSTEMIC CONCEPT**



# Compensatory mechanisms

**The activity and mechanisms of other organs and changes in heart morphology that tend to keep CO at sufficient level to maintain the tissue perfusion**

# Compensatory mechanisms

***short-term action:*** can be positive (evolutionary are made to be active in acute situation, heart failure is somehow modern disease)

***long-term action:*** have negative effects to further deterioration of heart failure

Heart failure is not only failing of the heart as a pump, but it is systemic disorder with activation of hormonal processes, with changed metabolism, changed regulation of water-mineral balance, with cytokines involved, heart changes, changes of gene expression etc.

HEMODYNAMIC ASPECTS

NEUROHUMORAL ASPECTS

CELLULAR AND GENE EXPRESSION

# Main compensatory mechanisms in heart failure

They lead to increase (maintain) CO

1. Sympathetic activity
2. Increase of preload
3. Salt and water retention
4. Myocardium changes

Short-term effective, long-term have deleterious effects themselves and contribute to the symptoms and progression of HF

*Vicious circle*

# Case report

*Why these patients have tachycardia?*

## Sympathetic activity in heart failure



## Negative consequences

### *Tachycardia:*

Increase in oxygen consumption

shortening of the diastole (impairment of diastolic filling and myocardial blood flow)

*Increased risk for arrhythmias*

*Norepinephrine cardiotoxicity* (increase of calcium in myocardium)

*Periphery vasoconstriction*

increase of afterload

CO/blood flow redistribution

*Metabolic action*

hyperlipidemia, hyperglycemia

During the heart failure the  $\beta$  receptors in myocardium are down-regulated



**Activation of sympathetic nerves  
improves CO only in short-term but  
is damaging and exhausting the  
heart**

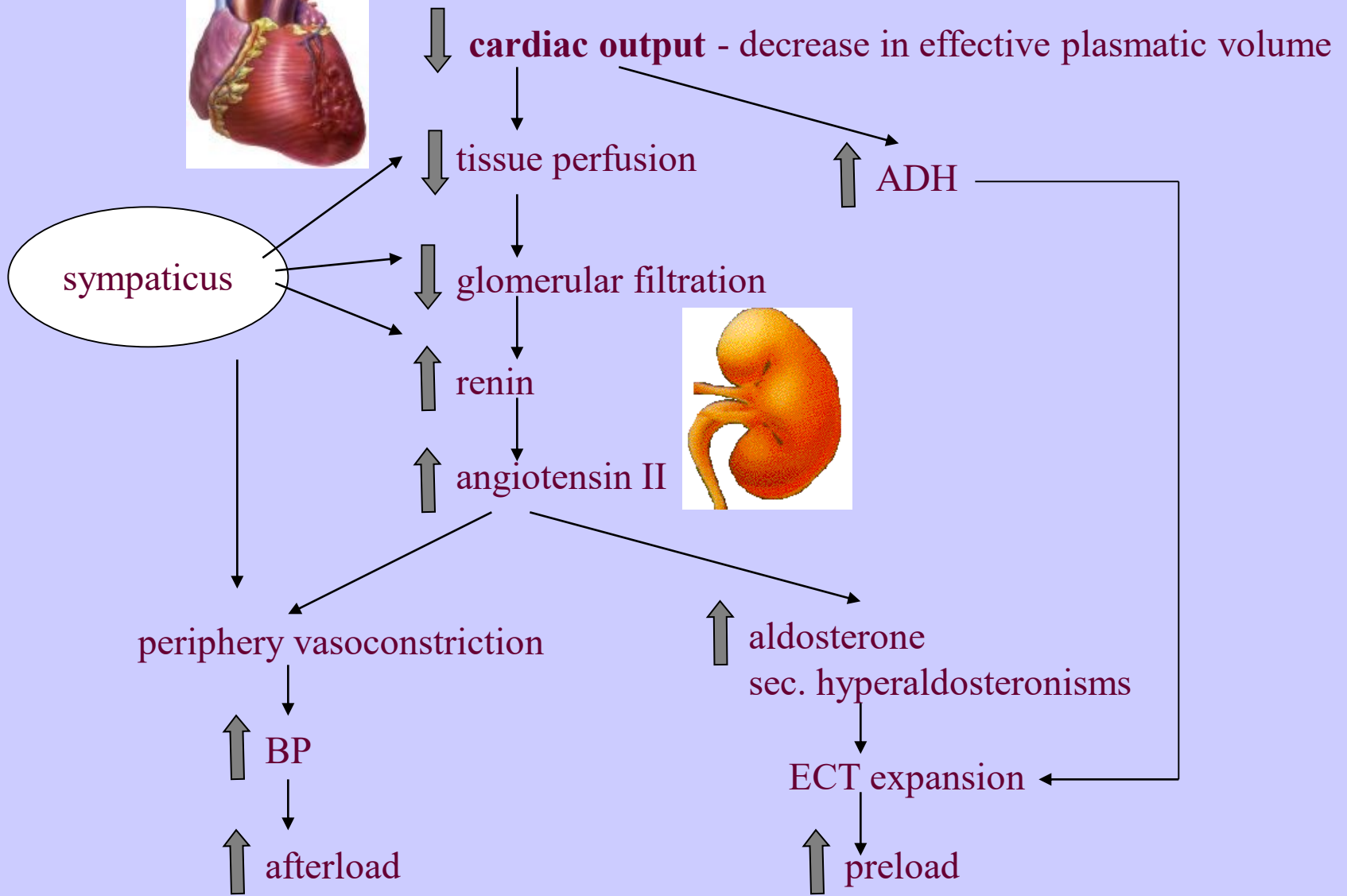
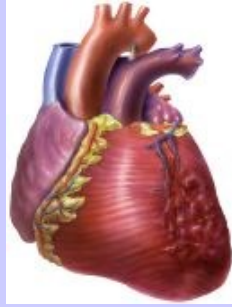
*Low doses of **betablockers** are nowadays used to **treat** and improve the moderately severe heart failure.*

*Extremely activated sympathetic activity is in  
**SHOCK***

## Case report

*Why do the patients have edemas?*

*Why patient A urinates often during the night?*



↓ cardiac output

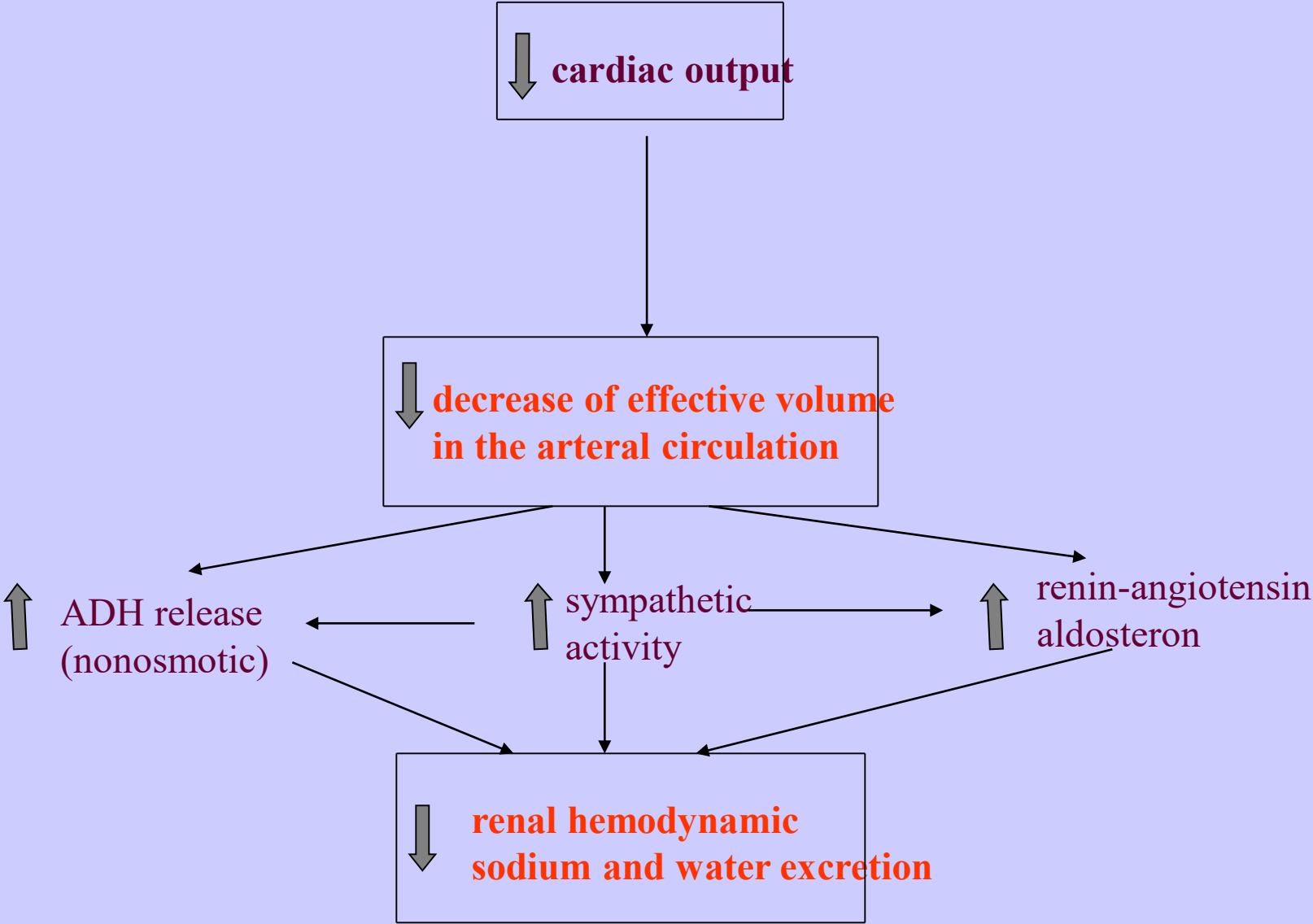
↓ decrease of effective volume  
in the arterial circulation

↑ ADH release  
(nonosmotic)

↑ sympathetic  
activity

↑ renin-angiotensin  
aldosterone

↓ renal hemodynamic  
sodium and water excretion



**Water retention and edema  
in heart failure are caused by the  
activation of  
renin-angiotensin-aldosterone**

## Chronic heart failure. What is it?

- **Heart failure is a pathophysiological error of the organism:**
- To the change of hemodynamic parameters which are under physiological conditions corrected by **short-term** activation of *sympathetic nerves* and *renin-angiotensin-aldosterone* system [RAAS] the organism reacts by their **long-term and inadequate** activation.
- **Their long-term activation has devastating effects on the organisms.**

*Katz AM, In discussion, Am J Cardiol 1988;62:82A*

*Blocking of the RAAS is at present the main treatment of heart failure*

- inhibitors of angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE inhibitors)*
- angiotensin II receptor antagonists*
- aldosterone antagonists*



## **Natriuretic peptides**

A (ANP) – 28 AA, mainly released in the dilated atria

B („braine“, **BNP**) – 32 AA, synthesized in the ventricles, *sensitive marker of heart failure*

### Effects:

glomerulus – increase of GF

tubuli – decrease of sodium reabsorption

inhibition of the secretion of renin and aldosterone

## Heart changes

Reaction to *biomechanical* stress (tension in the wall)  
and to *neurohumoral* stimuli

## REMODELATION

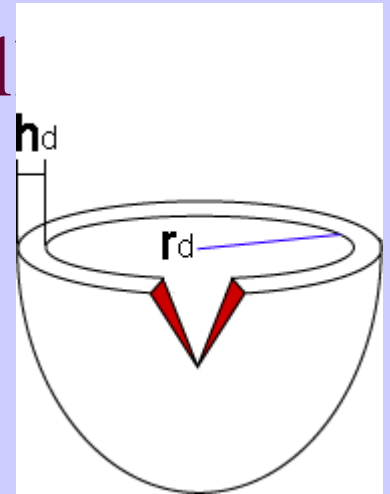
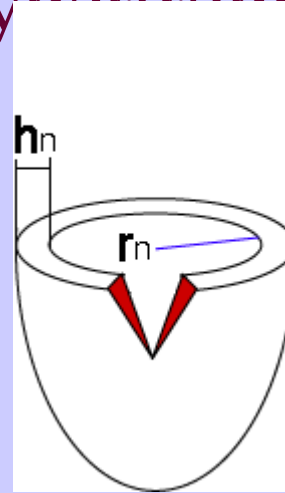
important for further outcome of heart failure

## \* Dilatation

*primary* due to volume burden

thin wall – increased tension in the wall  
(higher  $r$ , lower  $h$ )

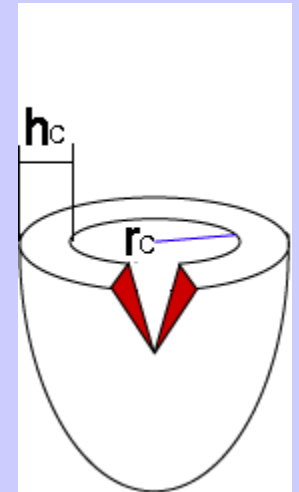
*secondary* from previous hypertrophy  
(eccentric hypertrophy)



## \* Hypertrophy

*concentric* in hypertension

*eccentric* second. in increased volume burden and increased preload



## Consequences of heart changes

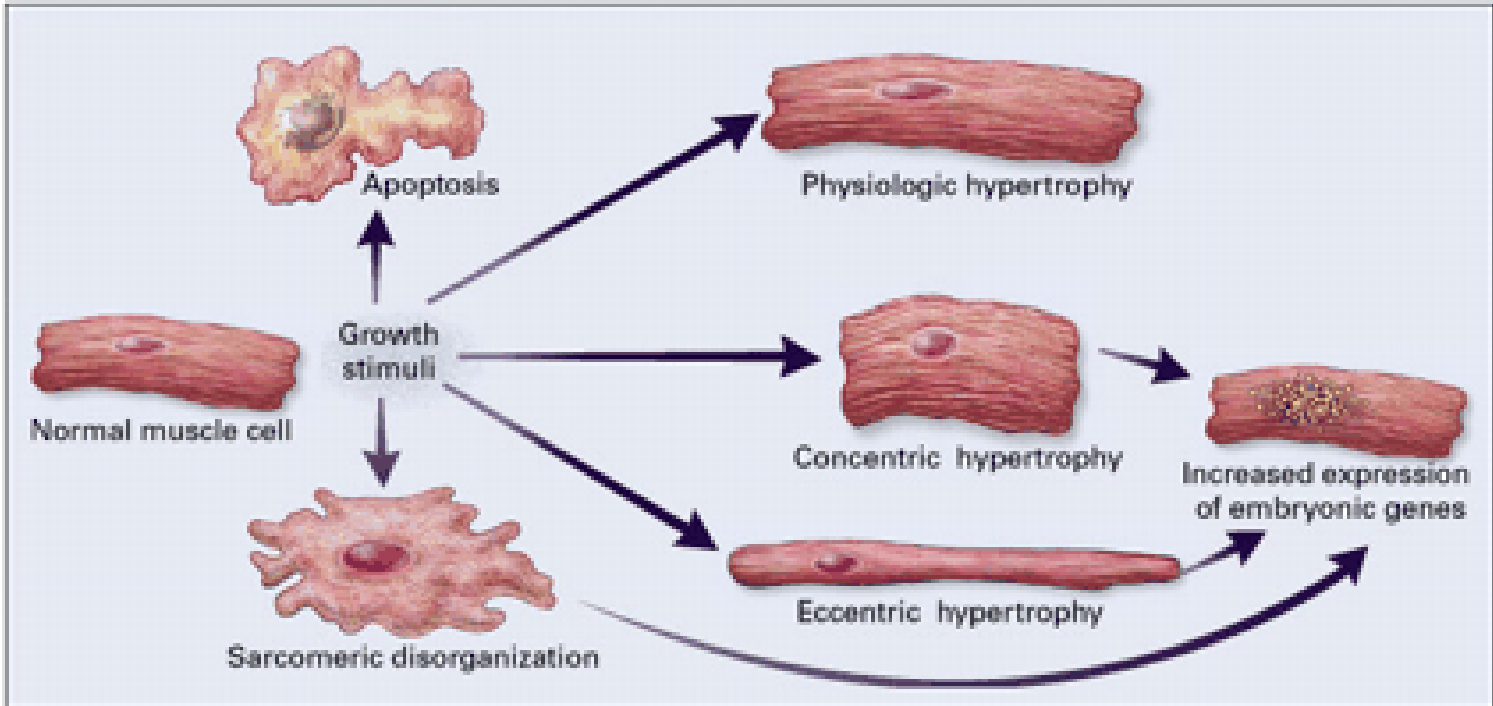
- increased *wall tension* in dilatation - increase in afterload and oxygen consumption
- *impaired oxygen delivery* in hypertrophy
- *decrease of compliance* - diastolic failure
- *overstretched dilatation* impairs contraction and leads to relative valvular insufficiency
- *arrhythmias*
- *prognostic* factor

## Heart changes – cellular and molecular level

Severe heart failure is accompanied by cellular changes :

- deregulated myogenesis (abnormal, „embryonal“ growth)
- apoptosis
- Changes of gene expression

*Further decrease of heart function*



## Cytokines in heart function / heart failure

### Action:

negative inotropic

proapoptotic

fibroplastic

arrhythmogenic etc.

Mainly proinflammatory cytokines:  $\text{TNF}\alpha$ , IL-1, IL-6

Originate in systemic inflammatory reaction

(inflammation, tumor)

locally in heart failure as a response to hemodynamic changes

*Further decrease of heart function*

## Neurohumoral adjustments

influence vasoconstriction, fluid retention, myocardium

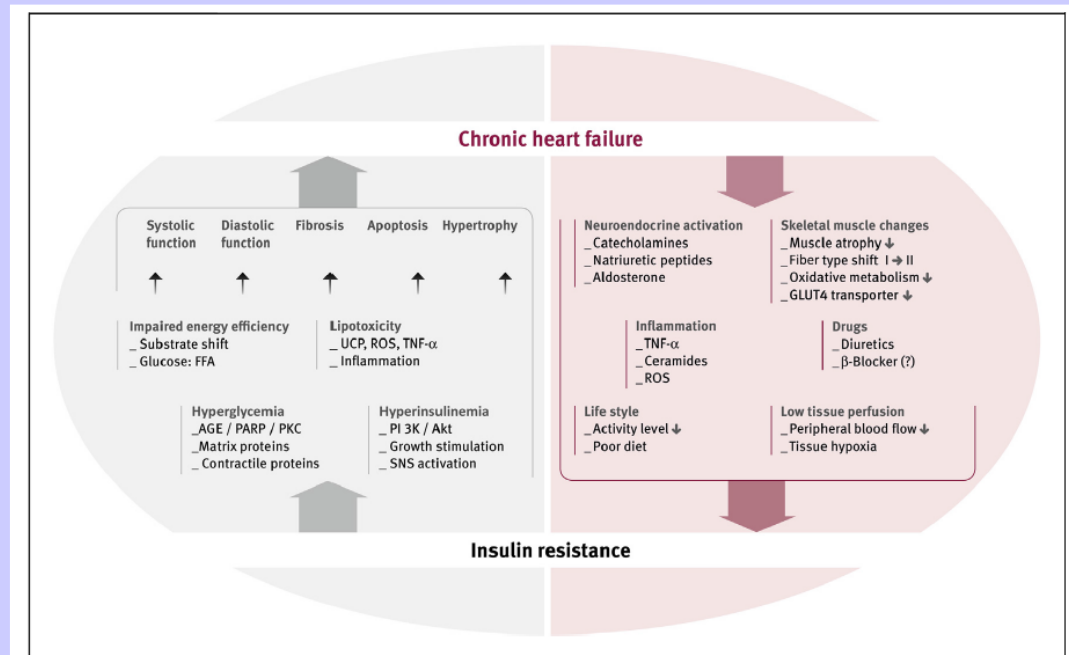
- angiotensin II
  - aldosterone
  - natriuretic peptides
  - norepinephrin
  - ADH
  - endothelin
- 
- prostaglandins keeping the renal perfusion



# Metabolic changes

In the myocardium  
In peripheral tissues

Mainly catabolism



**FIGURE 2** Insulin Resistance: Intrinsic Feature in HF Pathophysiology

The vicious cycle of insulin resistance as an intrinsic component of heart failure (HF) pathophysiology. Several features of HF trigger insulin resistance (right section in red). In turn, insulin resistance induces a range of signals responsible for HF progression. Accordingly, insulin resistance is a major underlying mechanism of the reciprocal interaction between congestive HF and diabetes mellitus, with hyperglycemia only exerting additive effects in overt DM. AGE = advanced glycation end products; PARP = poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase; PKC = protein kinase C; SNS = sympathetic nervous system; TNF = tumor necrosis factor; other abbreviations as in [Figure 1](#).

# Overview of clinical symptoms

# Right-sided failure



**BACKWARD**

**FORWARD**

decreased ejection from RV

decreased flow from RV to the lungs

↑ EDV, EDP in RV

decreased flow to the left atrium

↑ pressure in R atrium

↓ cardiac output

↑ volume and pressure in large veins

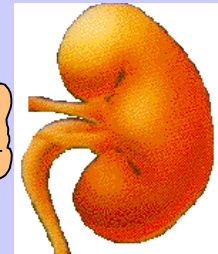
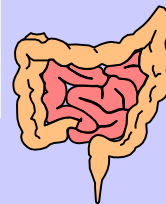
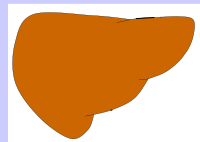
fluid retention

symptoms of decreased CO

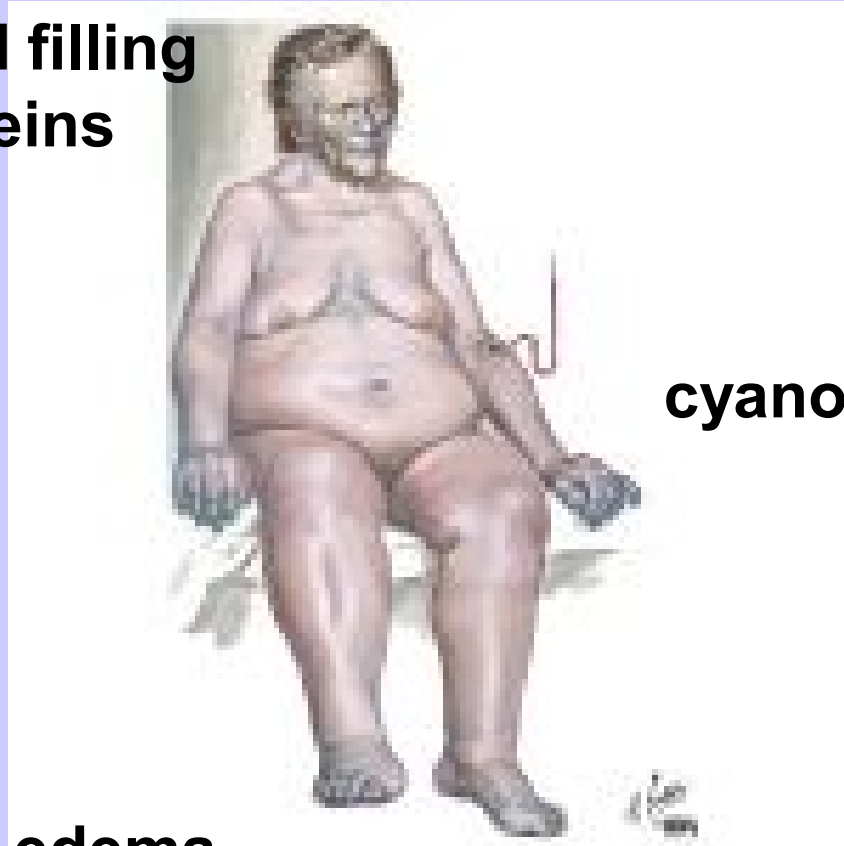
↑ capillary pressure

↑ volume in distensible organs  
(hepatosplenomegaly)

edemas, transsudation (ascites, hydrothorax)



**increased filling  
of neck veins**



**cyanosis**

**edema**



Congestive Heart Failure:  
Peripheral Edema

bumetanide

furosemide

Loop Diuretics

torseamide

ethacrynic acid

# Left-sided failure



## BACKWARD

## FORWARD

decreased ejection from LV

↓ cardiac output

↑ EDV, EDP in LV

↓ kidney perfusion

↓ tissue perfusion

↑ pressure in L atrium

↑ volume and pressure in pulmonary veins

← fluid retention

symptoms of decreased CO

↑ capillary pressure

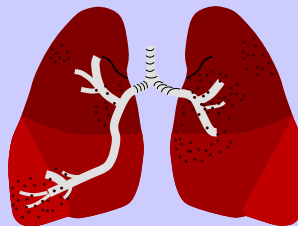
↑ fluid volume in the lung  
↑ fluid transsudation to the alveoli

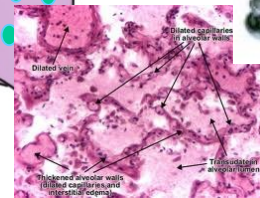
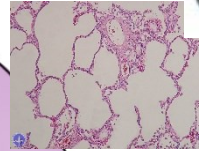
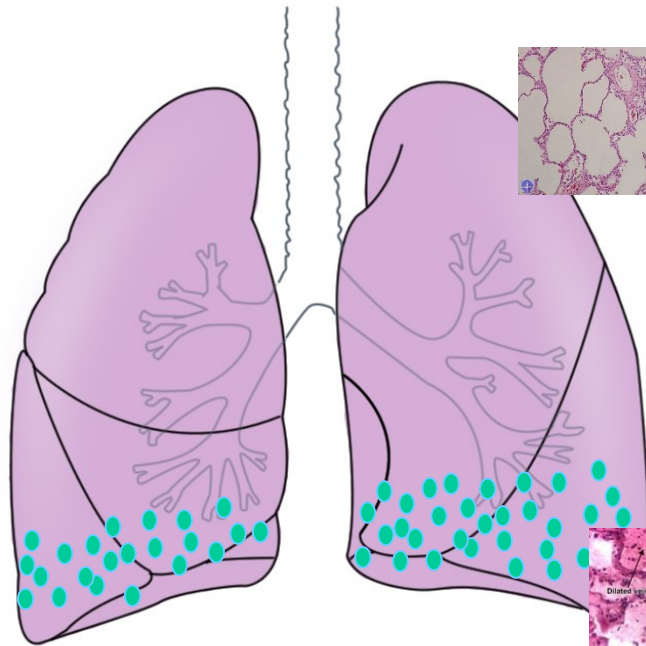
fatigue, weakness

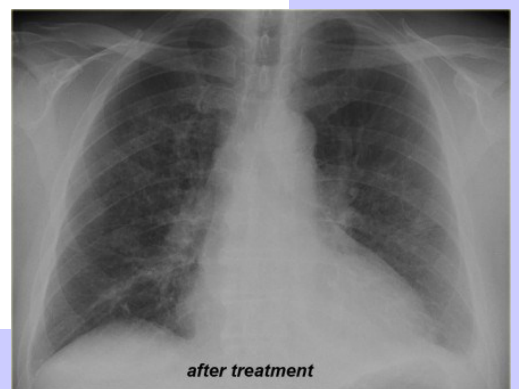
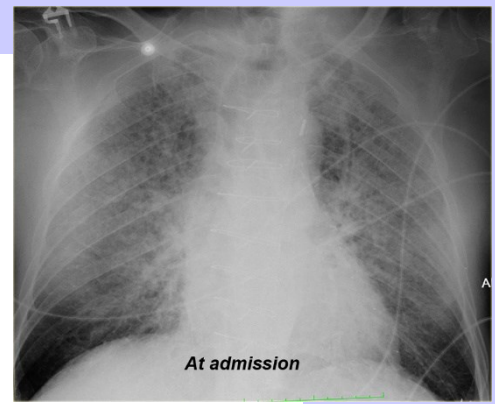
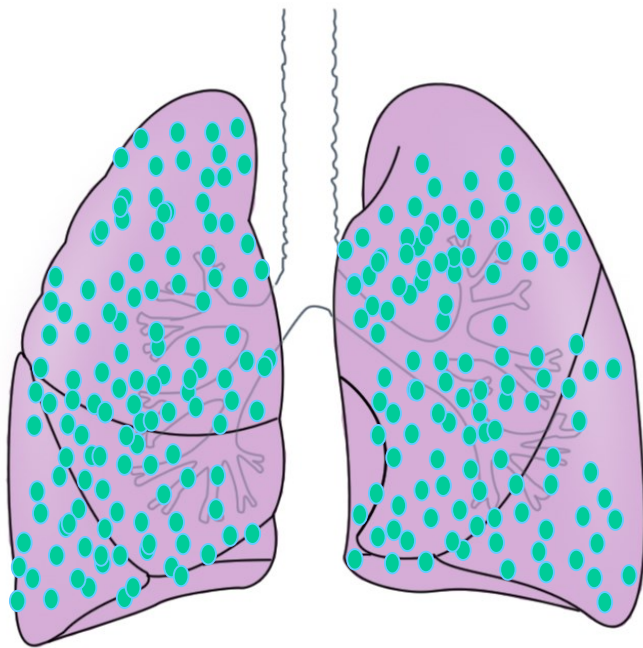
pale skin

impairment of organ functions

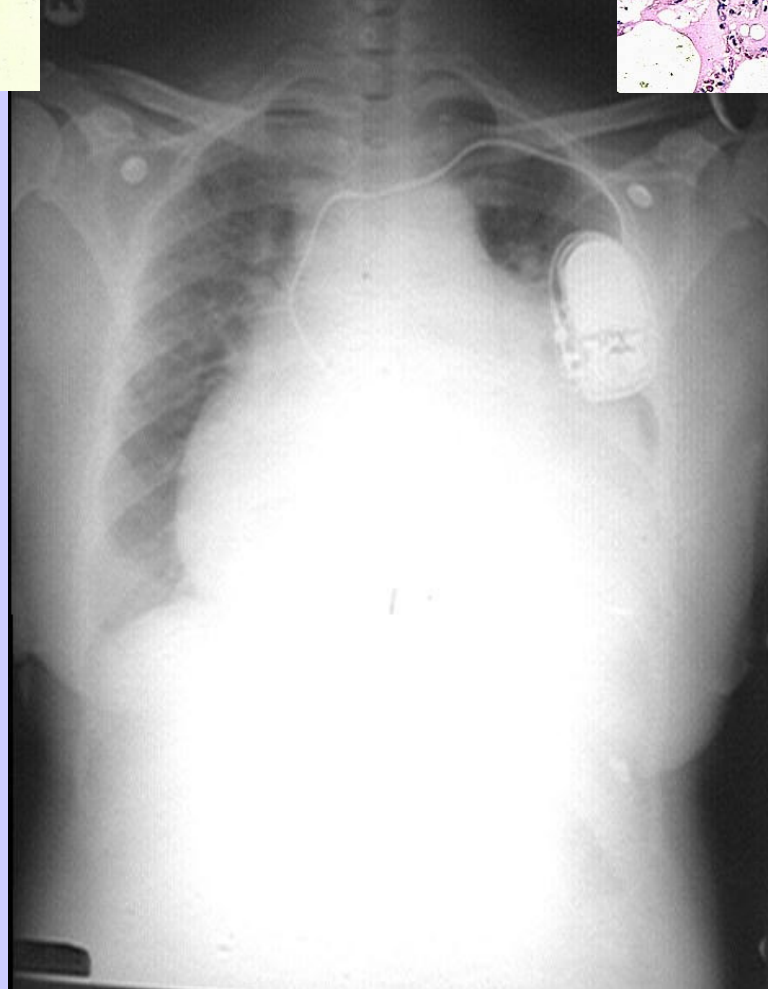
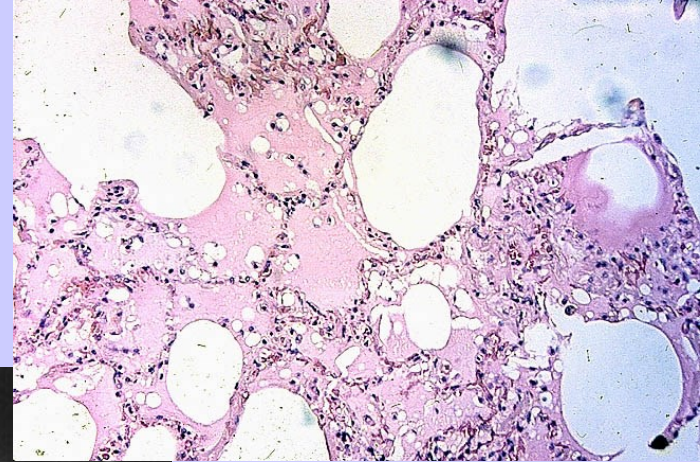
pulmonary edema, dyspnea











# Pulmonary edema

- **Cardiac** – due to the high capillary pressure in the lung capillaries as a consequence of high EDP in LV in heart failure)
- **Non cardiac** – direct damage of pulmonary capillaries and tissue with increased permeability; LV functions and EDP are normal; mainly ARDS



## left-sided failure

increase of filling pressure + fluid retention

## pulmonary edema

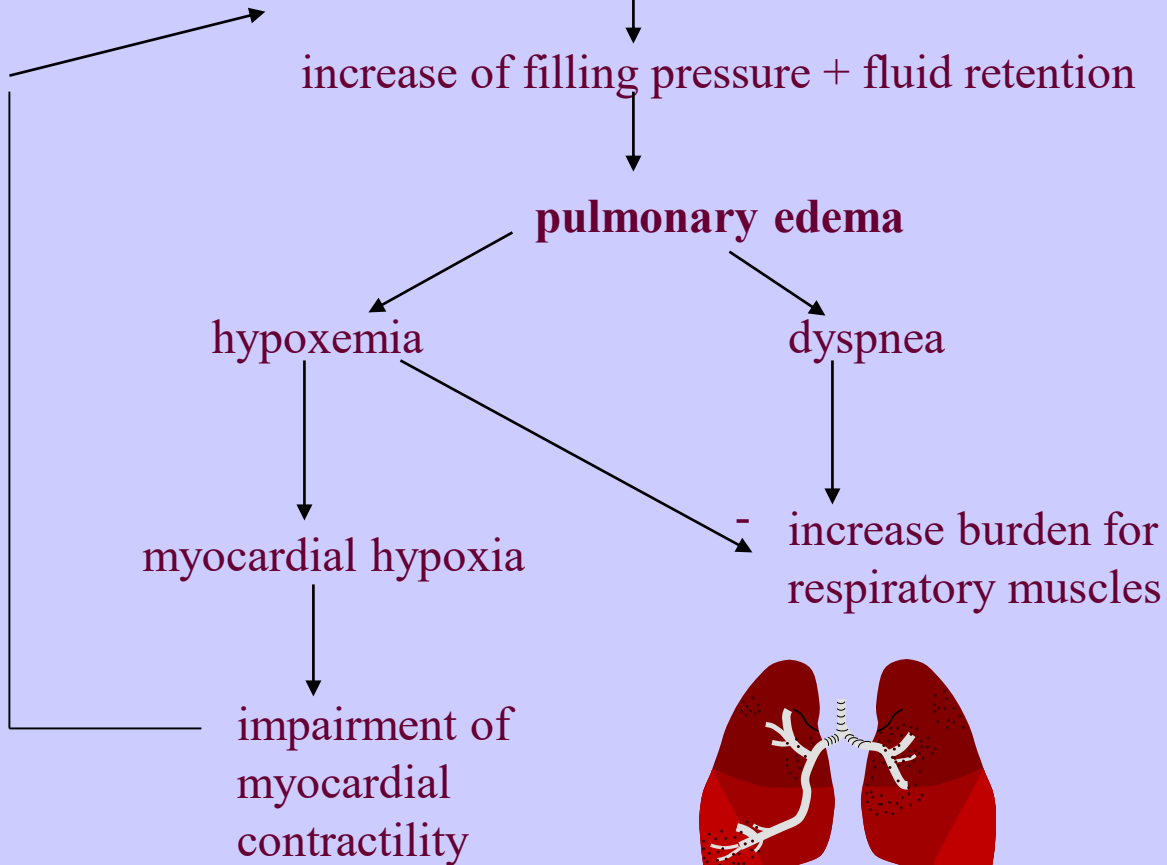
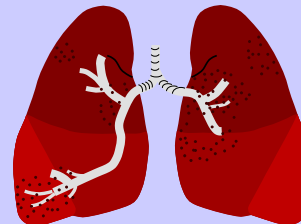
hypoxemia

dyspnea

myocardial hypoxia

increase burden for  
respiratory muscles

impairment of  
myocardial  
contractility



# Bilateral heart failure

- **Direct** damage of the myocardium of both ventricles (e.g. myocardium, cardiomyopathies)
- **Indirect** due to the left sided failure and postcapillary pulmonary hypertension

**Left-sided failure**



**Right-sided failure**

**BACKWARD**

**decreased ejection from LV**

↑ EDV, EDP in LV

↑ pressure in L atrium

↑ volume and pressure in pulmonary veins

↑ capillary pressure

postcapillary  
pulmonary hypertension

fluid volume in the lung

↑ fluid transsudation to the alveoli

pulmonary edema, dyspnea



# Typical features of the heart failure in pediatrics

- **Age dependent, depends on the cause, usually with the clinical picture of general circulatory failure**
- *Newborn, babies – fast development, tachycardia, hepatomegaly, systemic hypotension, severe course*
- *Pre-school and school age – less urgent symptom onset*
- *Adolescents – usually with non specific symptoms in the beginning – decreased performance, fatigue and gradual progression*

# Basic evaluation of the heart failure

- BP, HR
- Skin color and temperature, neck veins, edema – CO, R
- Lung auscultation – L
- Heart auscultation (valves...)
  
- X-ray (shape and size of the heart, lung congestion)
- ultrasound (heart shape and size, valves, perikardium, contractility, ejection fraction...)
- BNP
- ECG (causes, ischemia, arrhythmias)
  
- catheterization– CO, EDP (pulmonary wedge pressure)

# Heart failure classification

## NYHA -New York Heart Association: according to the dyspnea

- Class I: patients with no limitation of activities; they suffer no symptoms from ordinary activities.
- Class II: patients with slight, mild limitation of activity; they are comfortable with rest or with mild exertion.
- Class III: patients with marked limitation of activity; they are comfortable only at rest.
- Class IV: patients who should be at complete rest, confined to bed or chair; any physical activity brings on discomfort and symptoms occur at rest.



# Principles of the treatment

- action against the negative effects of compensatory mechanism
  - betablockers
  - inhibitors of RAAS
- increase of the contractility – digitalis (only in some cases)
- reduction of cardiac work load
- control of excessive fluid retention - diuretics
- vasodilator therapy - improves (decreases) afterload
- perspective: natriuretic peptides, anticytokine treatment, antiendothelins...
- mechanical support
- transplantation

# Conclusions I

- Hemodynamics: decrease of CO and congestion
- CO decrease: weakness, fatigue, cold skin, even deterioration of consciousness in worst cases. Decrease of kidney perfusion!
- Preload increase: high enddiastolic pressure and congestion –  
in the lungs or in the systemic circulation

# Conclusions II

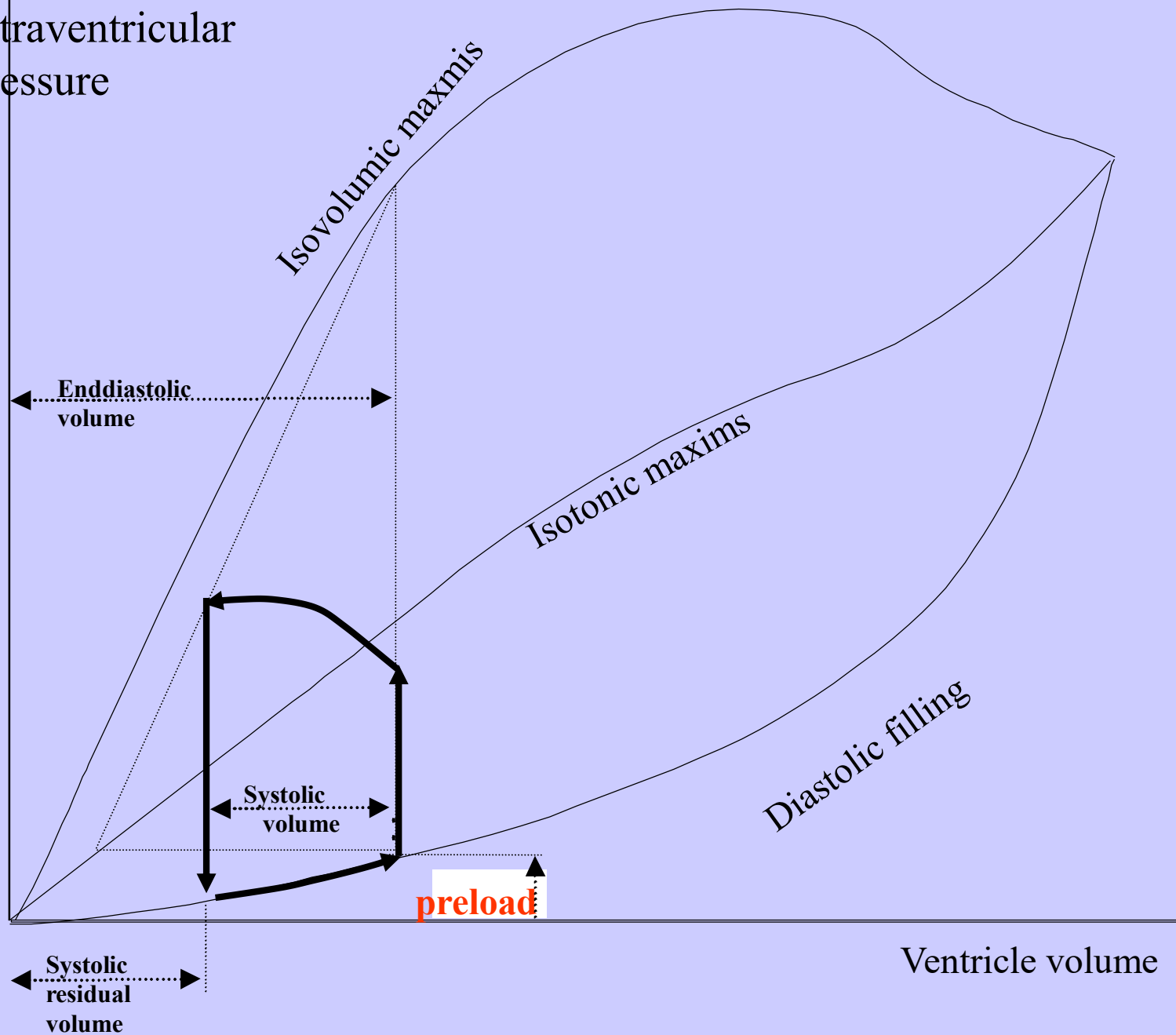
- Failing heart works with low contractility, high enddiastolic pressure
- Systolic failure means low contractility, low ejection fraction
- Diastolic failure means low compliance komory, increase of enddiastolic

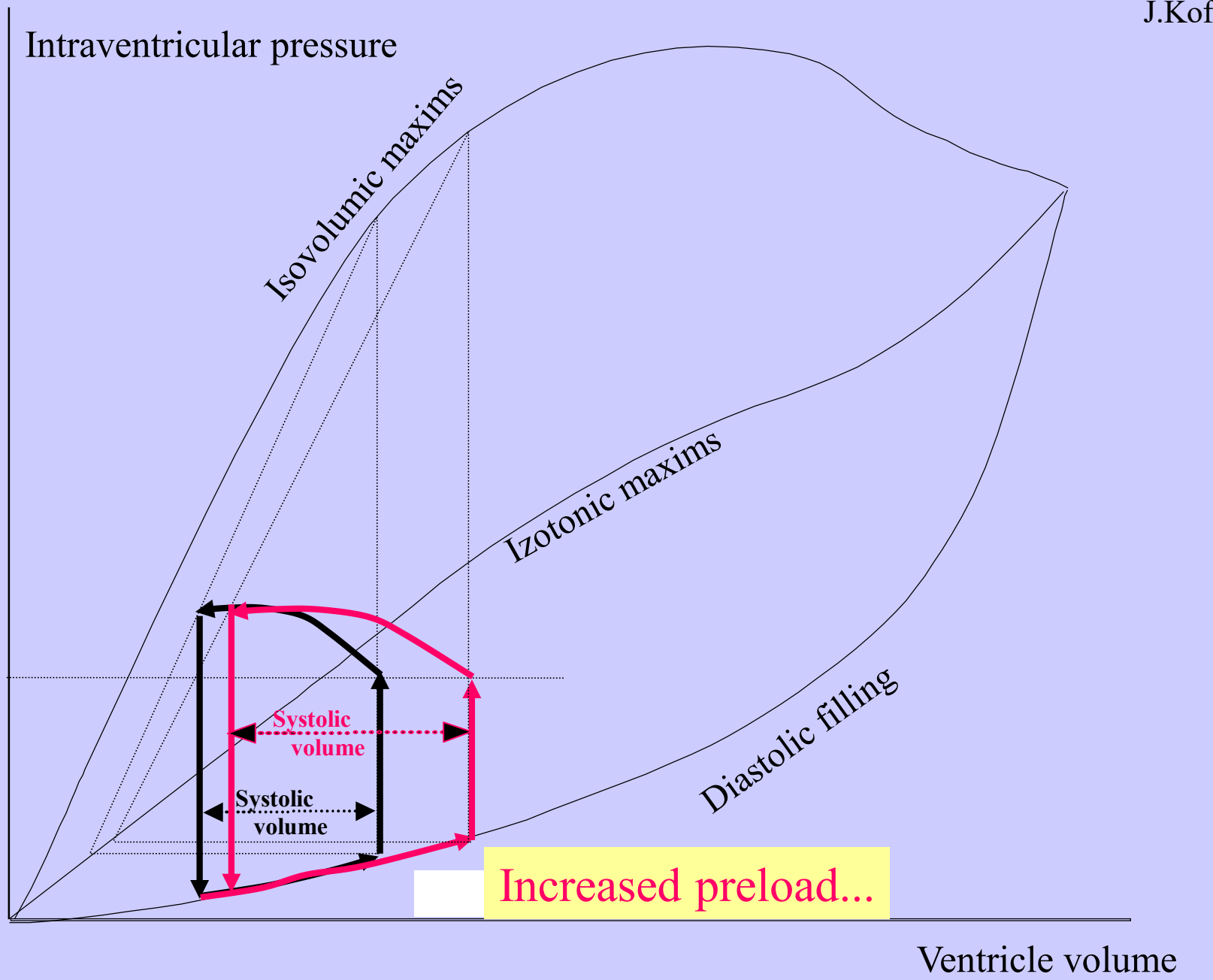
# Conclusions III

- HF is a systemic disease with changes in the heart but also other organs with strong neuroendocrine response and activation
- Compensatory mechanisms have short-term effect, later they contribute to the deterioration of the disease
- Important is mainly activation of sympathetic system and RAAS. The modern treatment acts against them.

**The End**

Intraventricular pressure





...increases cardiac output.

# Stroke volume

- preload

- contractility

- afterload

- \* How is the heart filled before the systole

- \* What is its „force“ of contraction

- \* What is resistance against the pumping

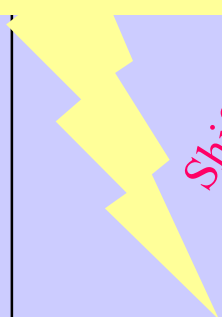


# Contractility

- **„force“ of the contraction in constant filling (preload, i.e. independent of preload)**

Intraventricular pressure

catecholamines



*Shifted isovolumic maxims*  
*Isovolumic maxims*

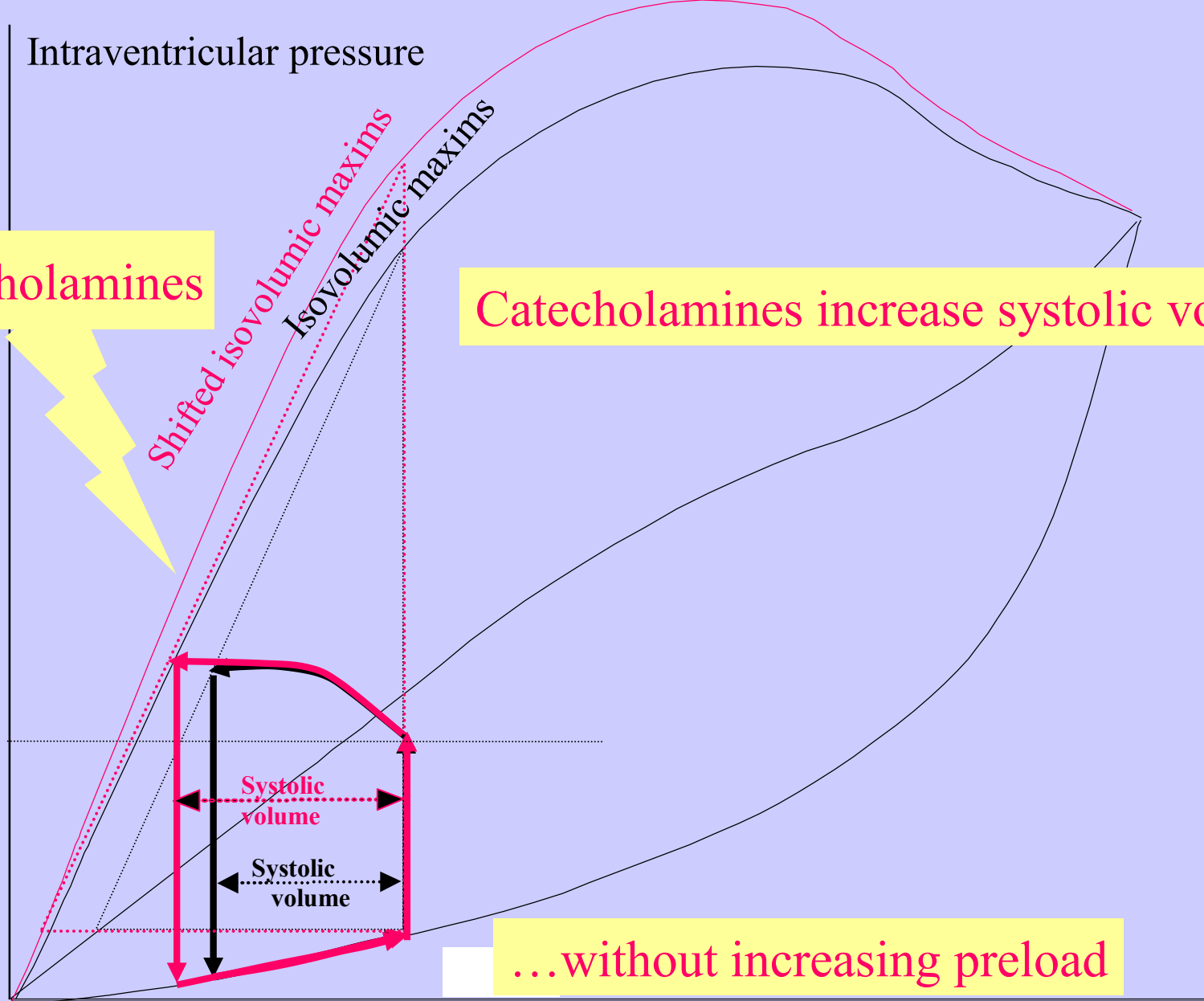
Catecholamines increase systolic volume

Systolic volume

Systolic volume

...without increasing preload

Ventricle volume



Děkuji za pozornost.

# Symptoms of heart failure from the hemodynamic point of view

## Low CO

Weakness, fatigue, decreased organ perfusion  
incl. kidneys, muscles - redistribution of CO

FORWARD

**Blood congestion in organs from which blood is  
collected to the failing ventricle**

Edemas etc.

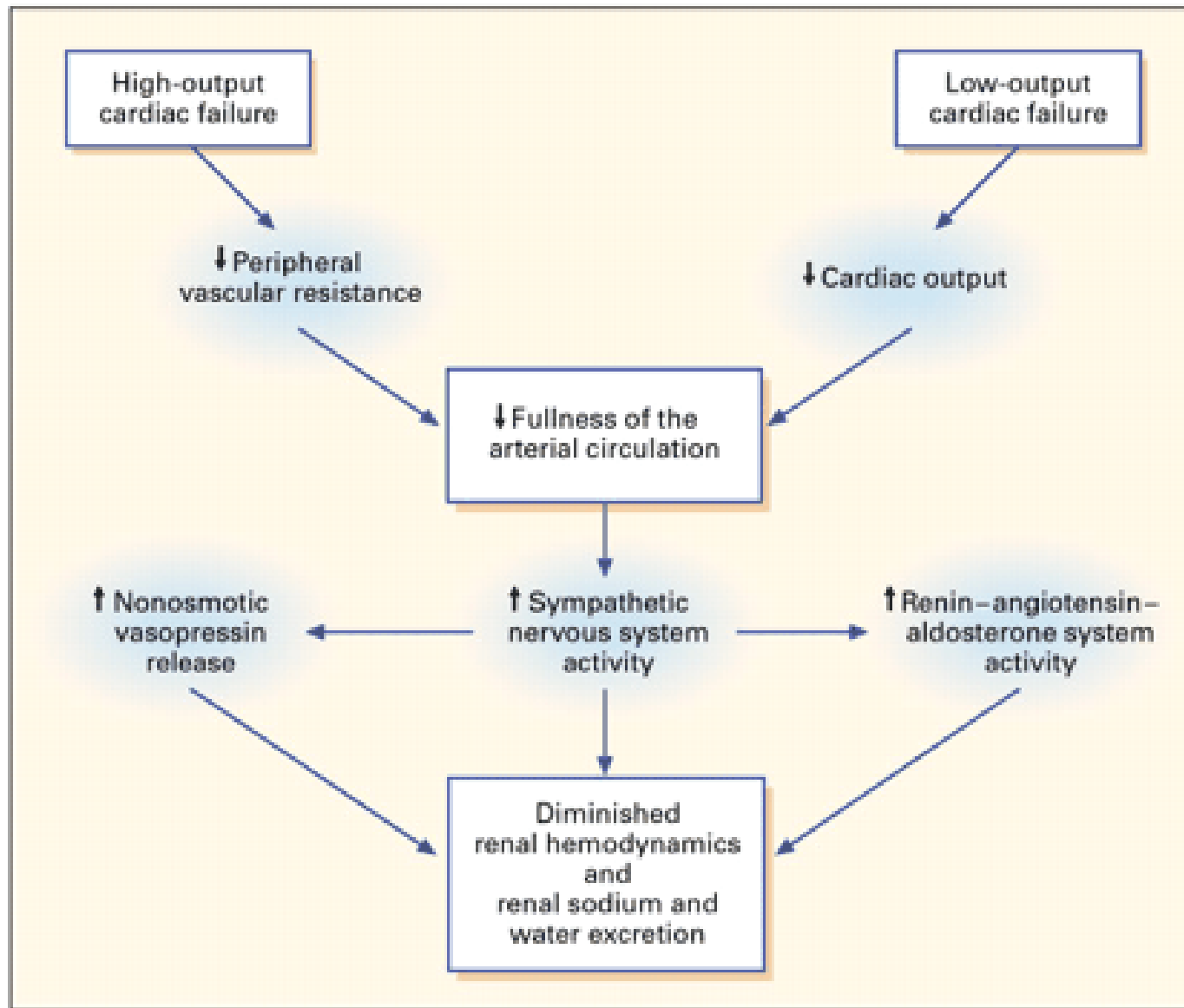
BACKWARD

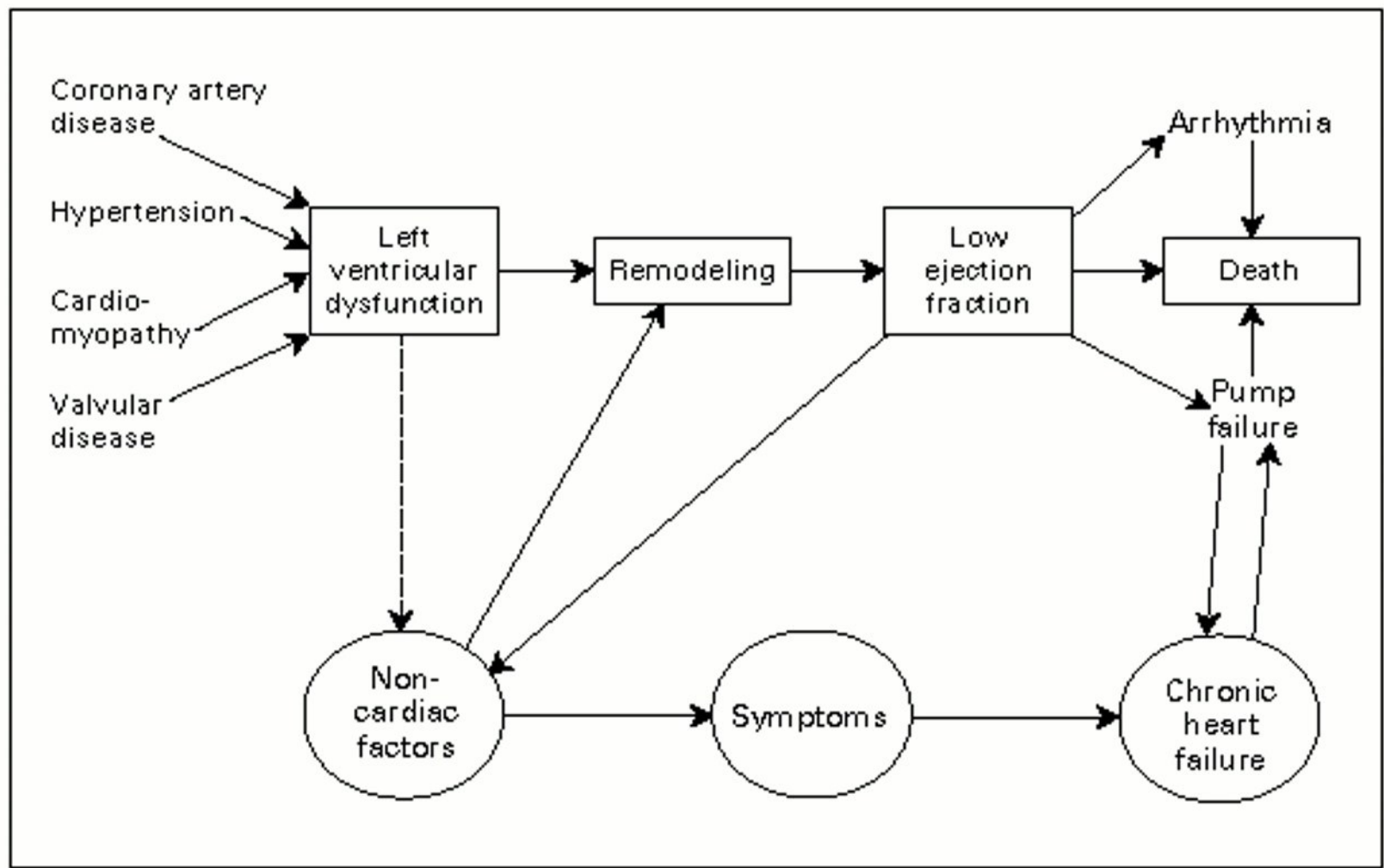
## Water and salt retention

increase in preload

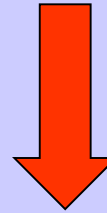
### Negative consequences:

- heart dilatation
- congestion, edemas
- changes in water/mineral equilibrium, sodium retention and potassium depletion – contributes to electrical nestability of the myocardium

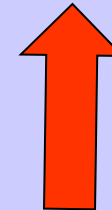




In heart failure CO decreases



Activation of compensatory mechanisms trying to increase CO back to normal values



**How are the distinct mechanism influencing the CO regulated ?**





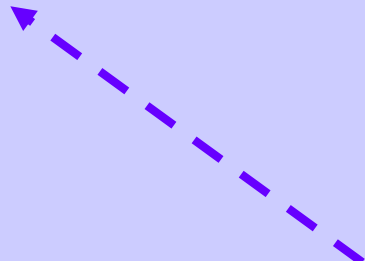
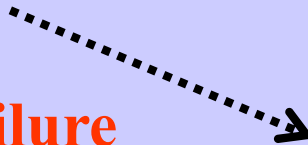
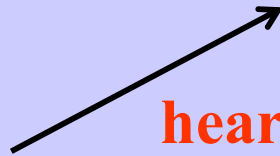
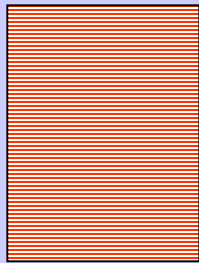
**heart changes**

**heart failure**

**congestion**

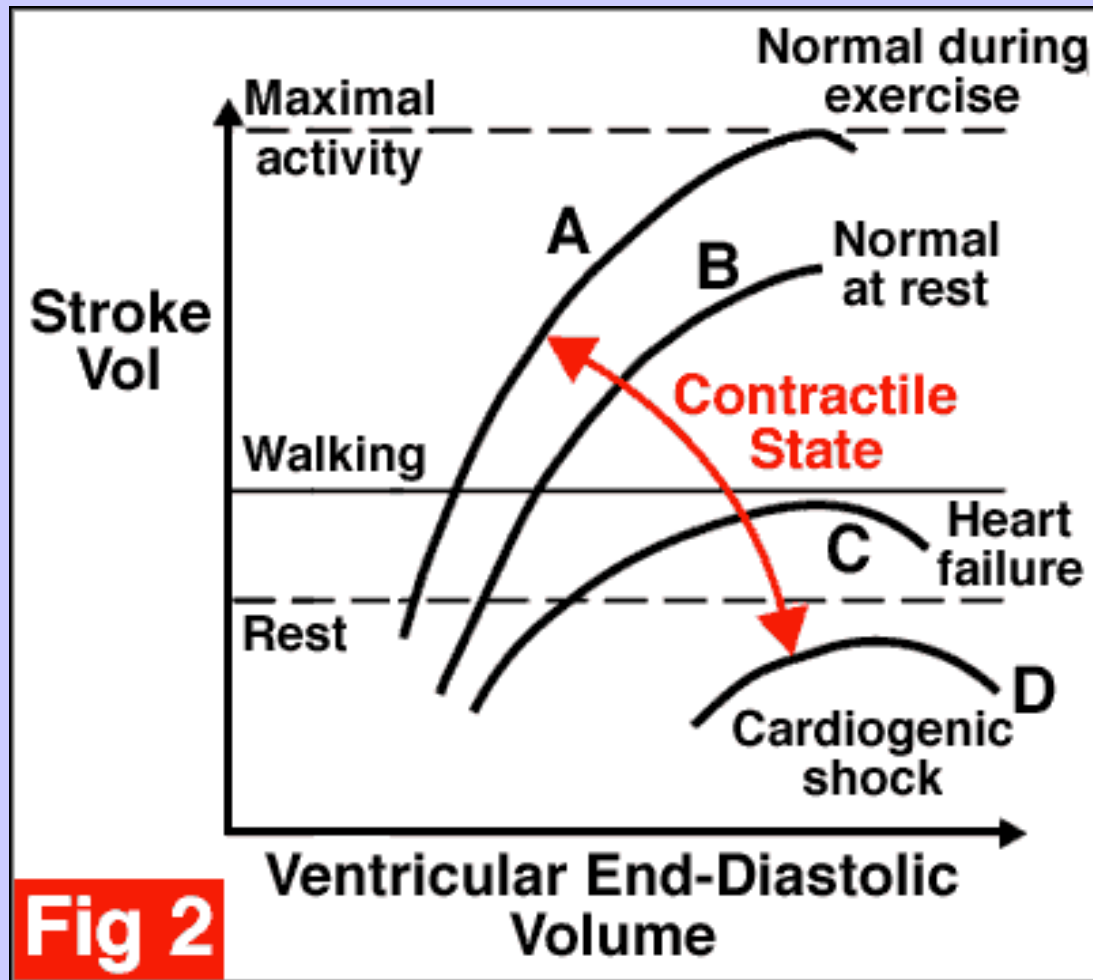
**decreased cardiac output**

**compensatory events**

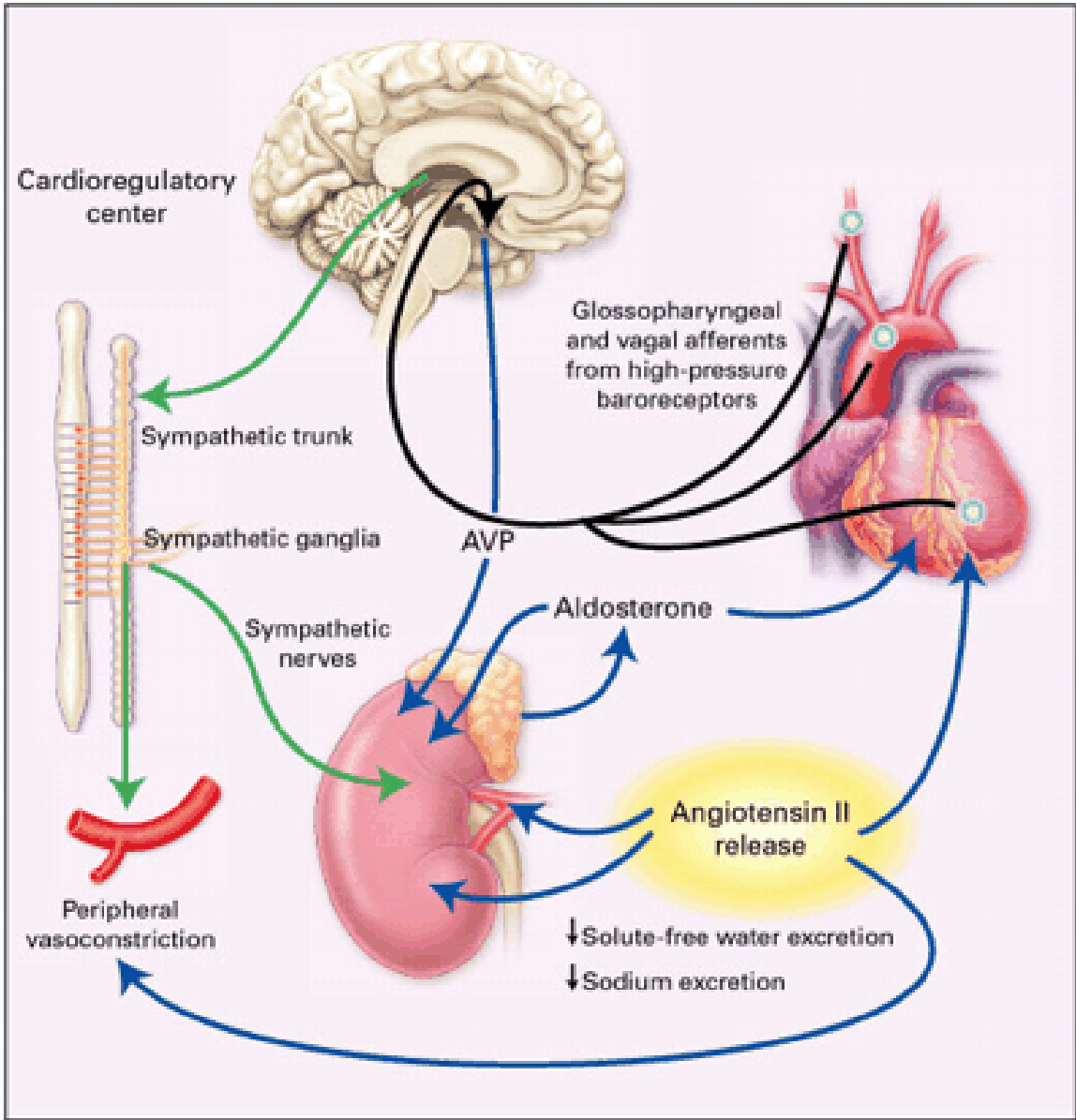


# The relation of EDV and stroke volume (Starling curve)

TO (SV)



EDP



## Heart changes – cellular level

- dysregulated myogenesis (abnormal, „embryonal “ growth)
- apoptosis

*Further worsening of heart function*

## Molecular and cellular changes

Angiotensin II

endotelin

IGF-I

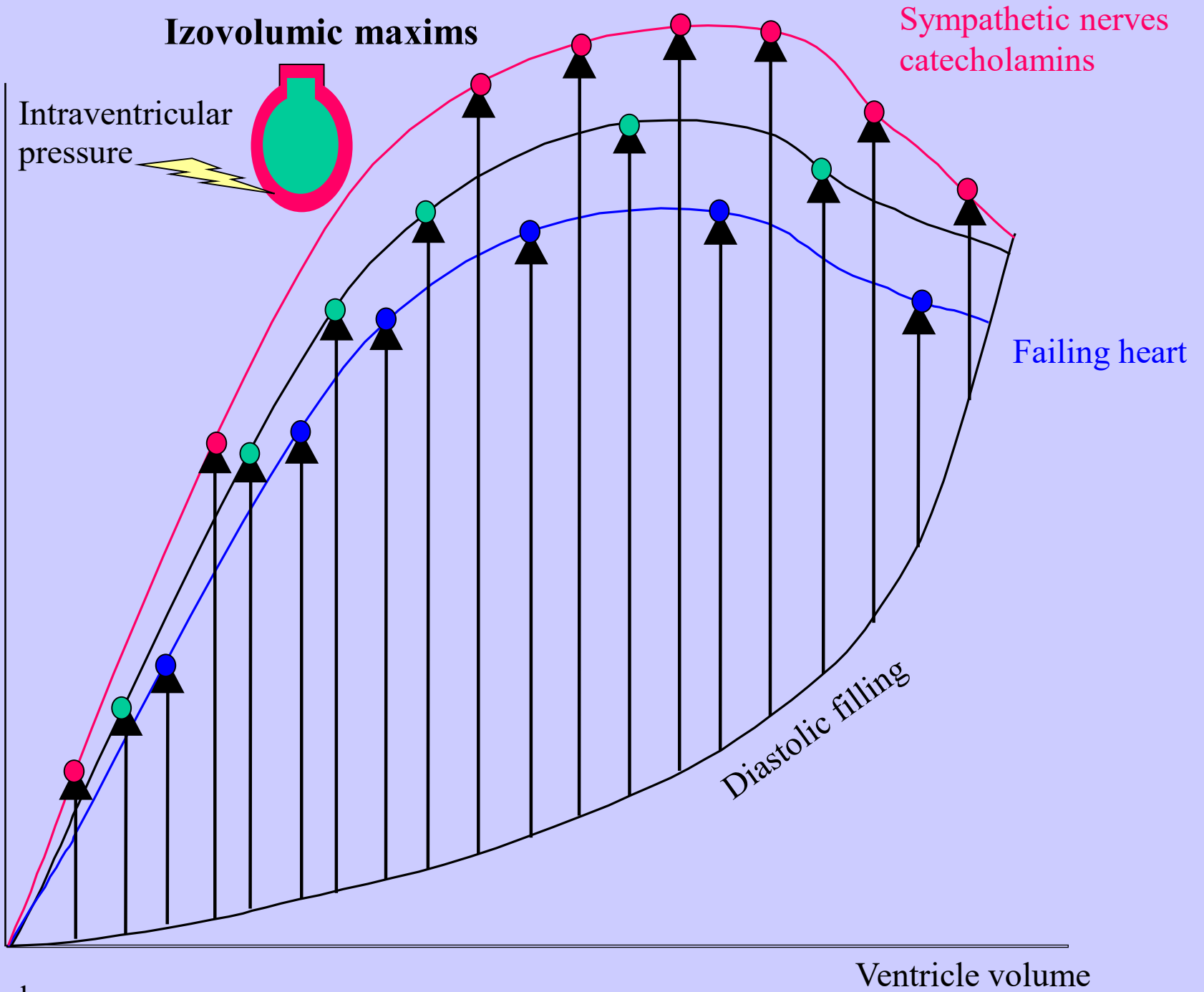
growth factors

cytokins

IL-6

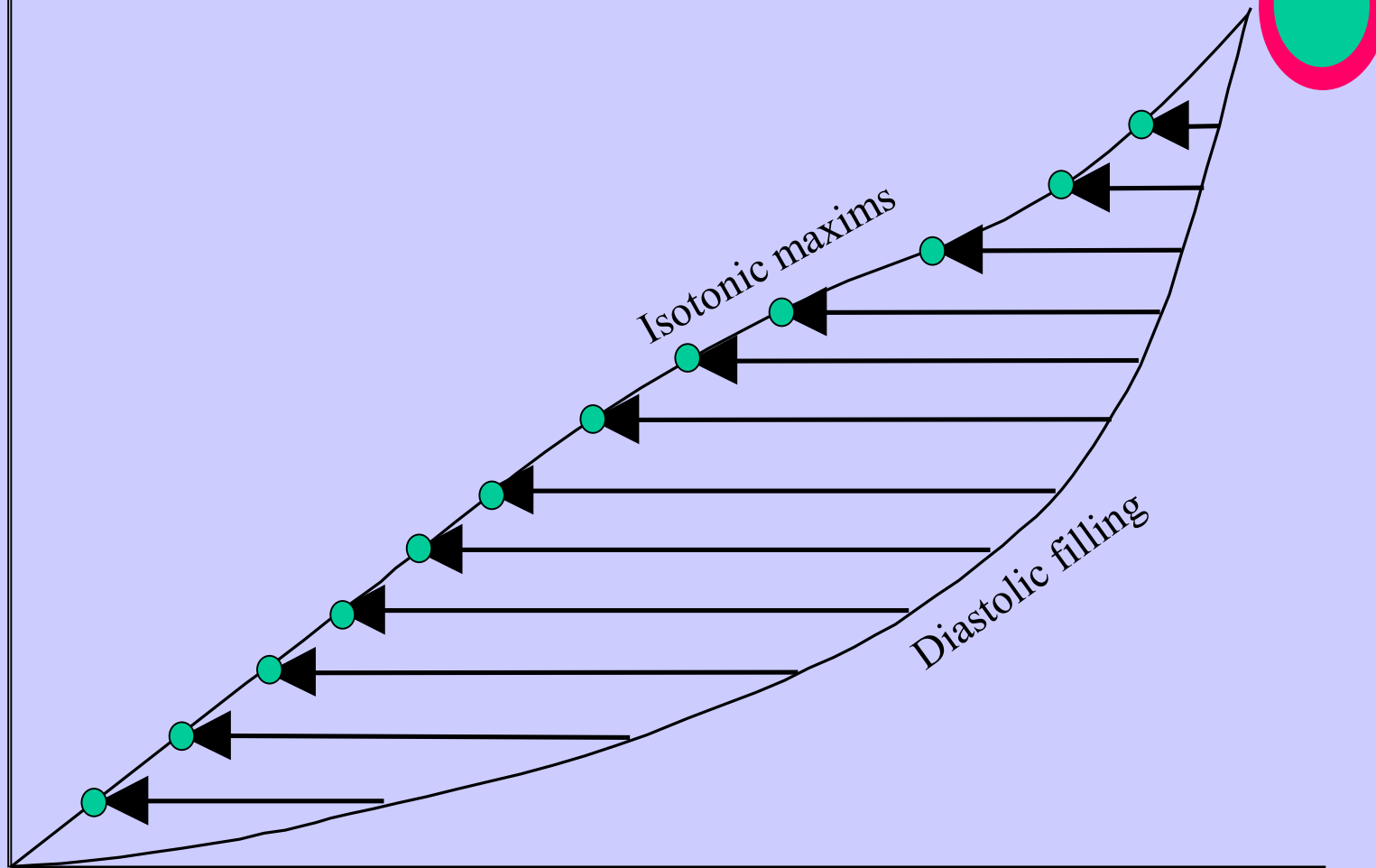
cardiotropin 1 etc.

*Distension* leads to gene expression, e.g. of the genes for natriuretic peptides and fetal genes



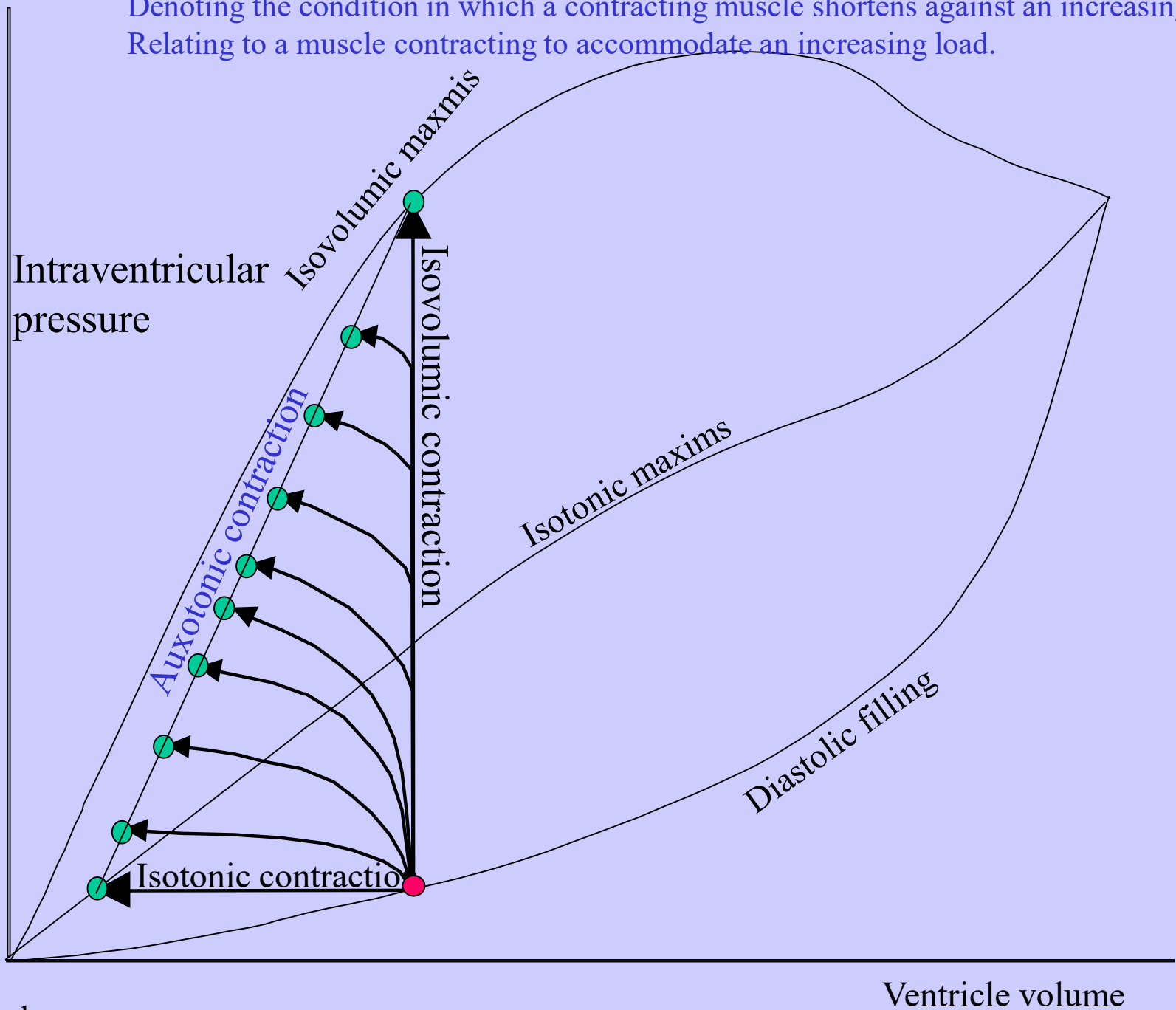
# Izotonic maxims

Intraventricular pressure



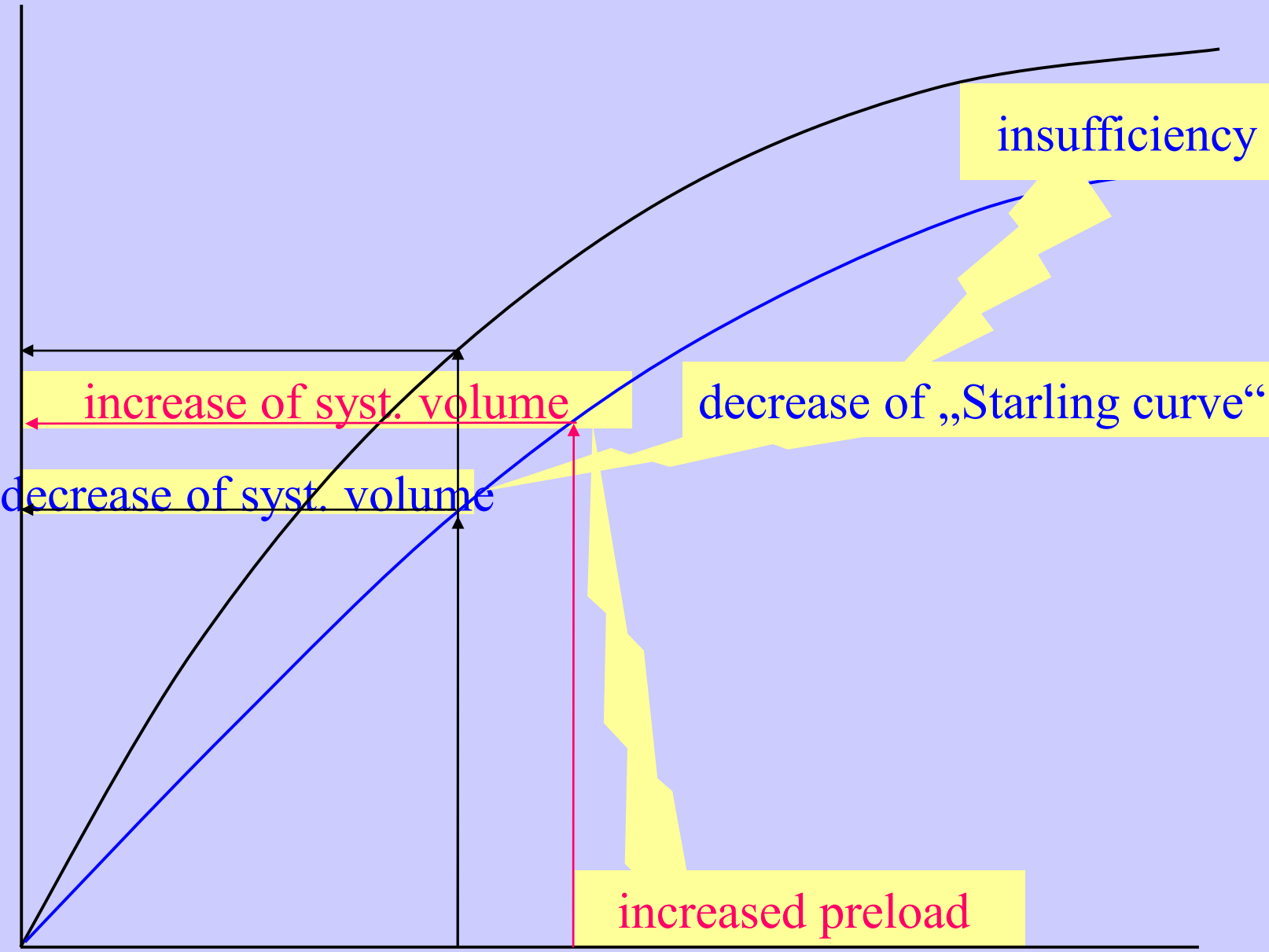
Ventricle volume

Denoting the condition in which a contracting muscle shortens against an increasing load.  
Relating to a muscle contracting to accommodate an increasing load.





Cardiac output



insufficiency

increase of syst. volume

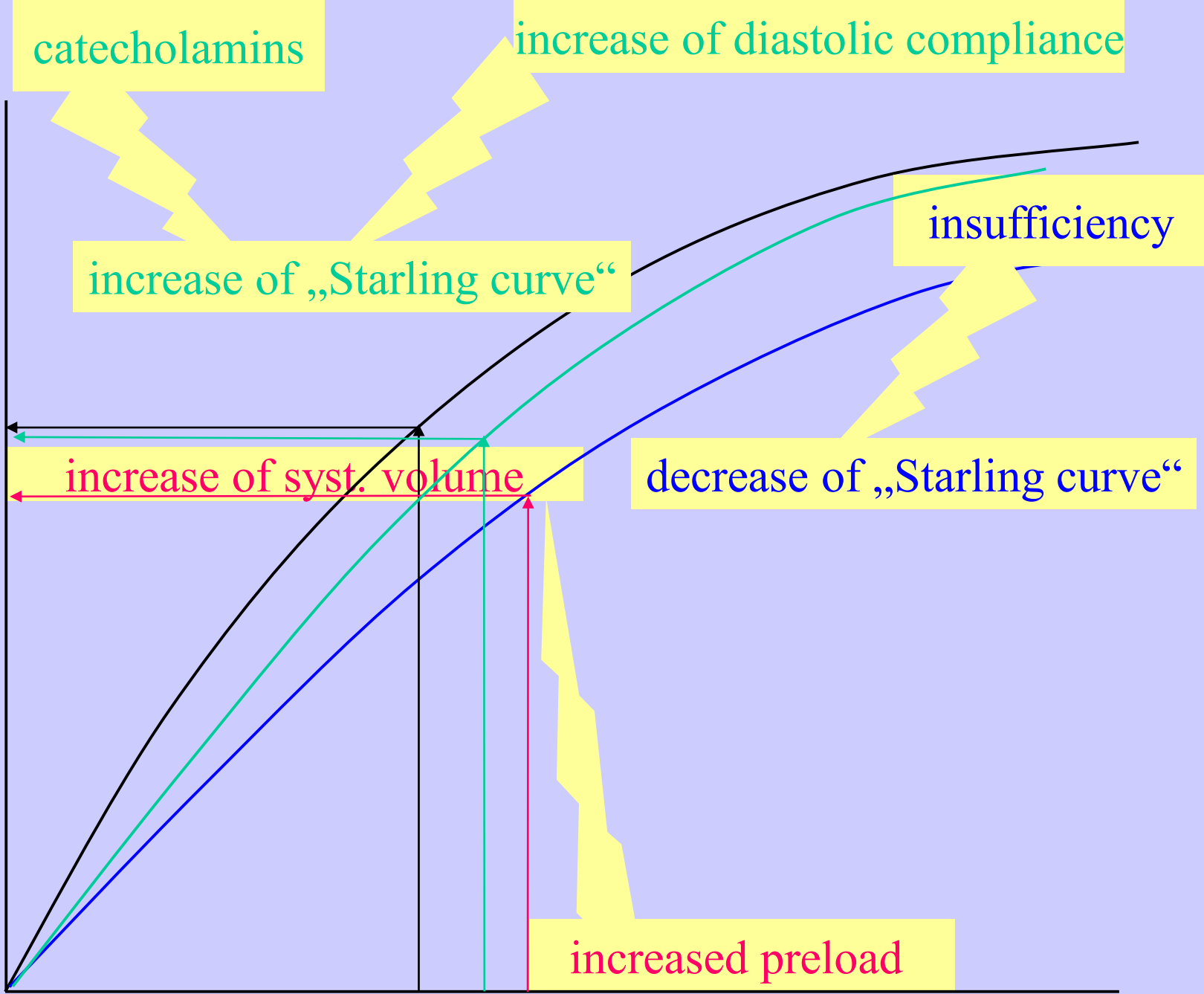
decrease of syst. volume

decrease of „Starling curve“

increased preload

Enddiastolic pressure

Cardiac output



Enddiastolic pressure

whether the principal abnormality is

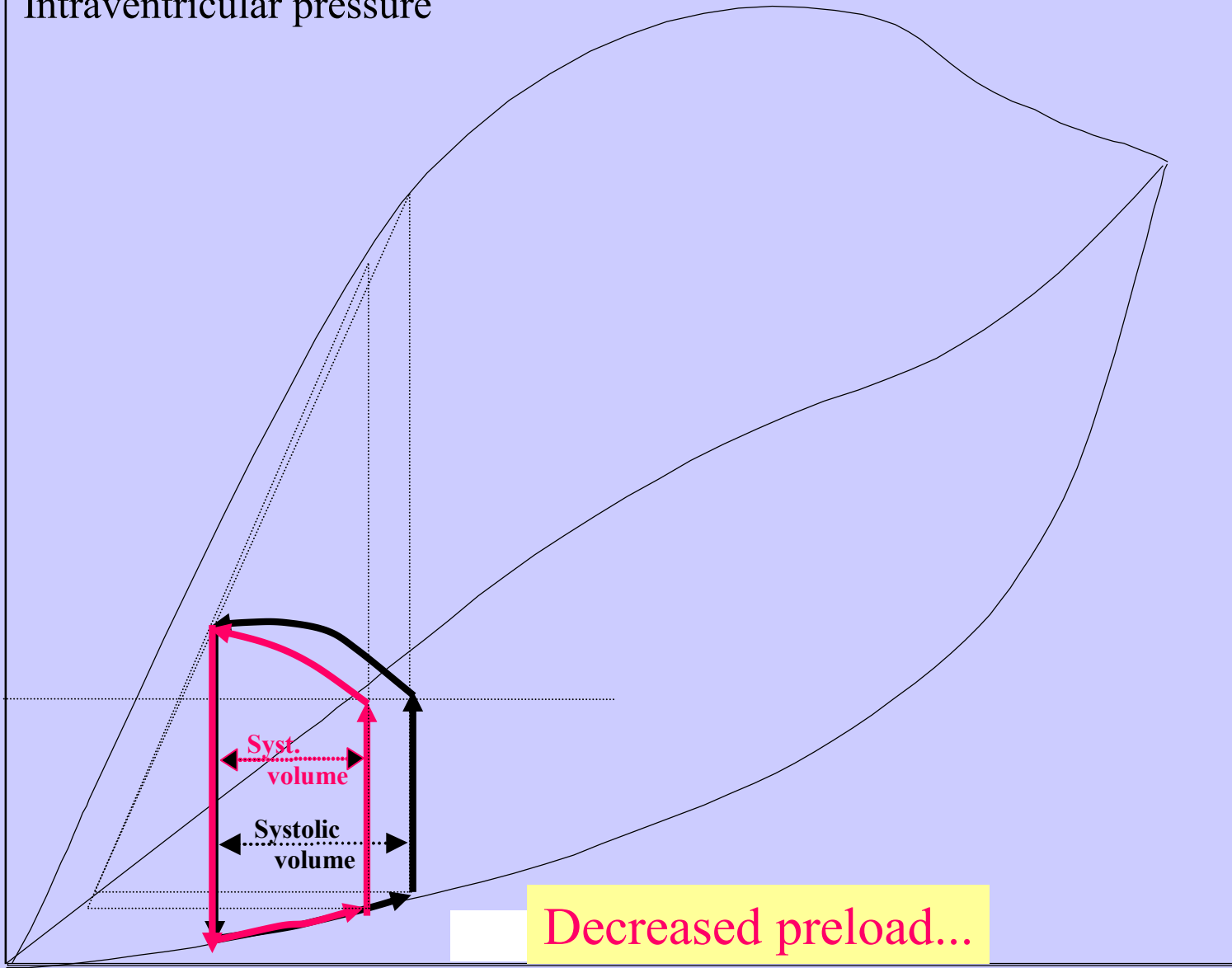
- the **inability to contract normally and expel sufficient blood** (systolic failure)
- or to **relax and fill normally** (diastolic failure)

## Systolic failure

Blood ejection from the ventricle is disturbed

Stroke volume might be maintained at the costs of increased EDV (and EDP)

Intraventricular pressure

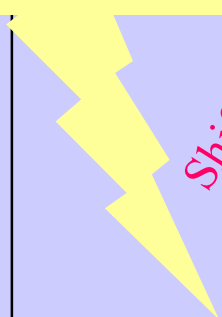


Ventricle volume

...decreases cardiac output.

Intraventricular pressure

catecholamines



*Shifted isovolumic maxims*  
*Isovolumic maxims*

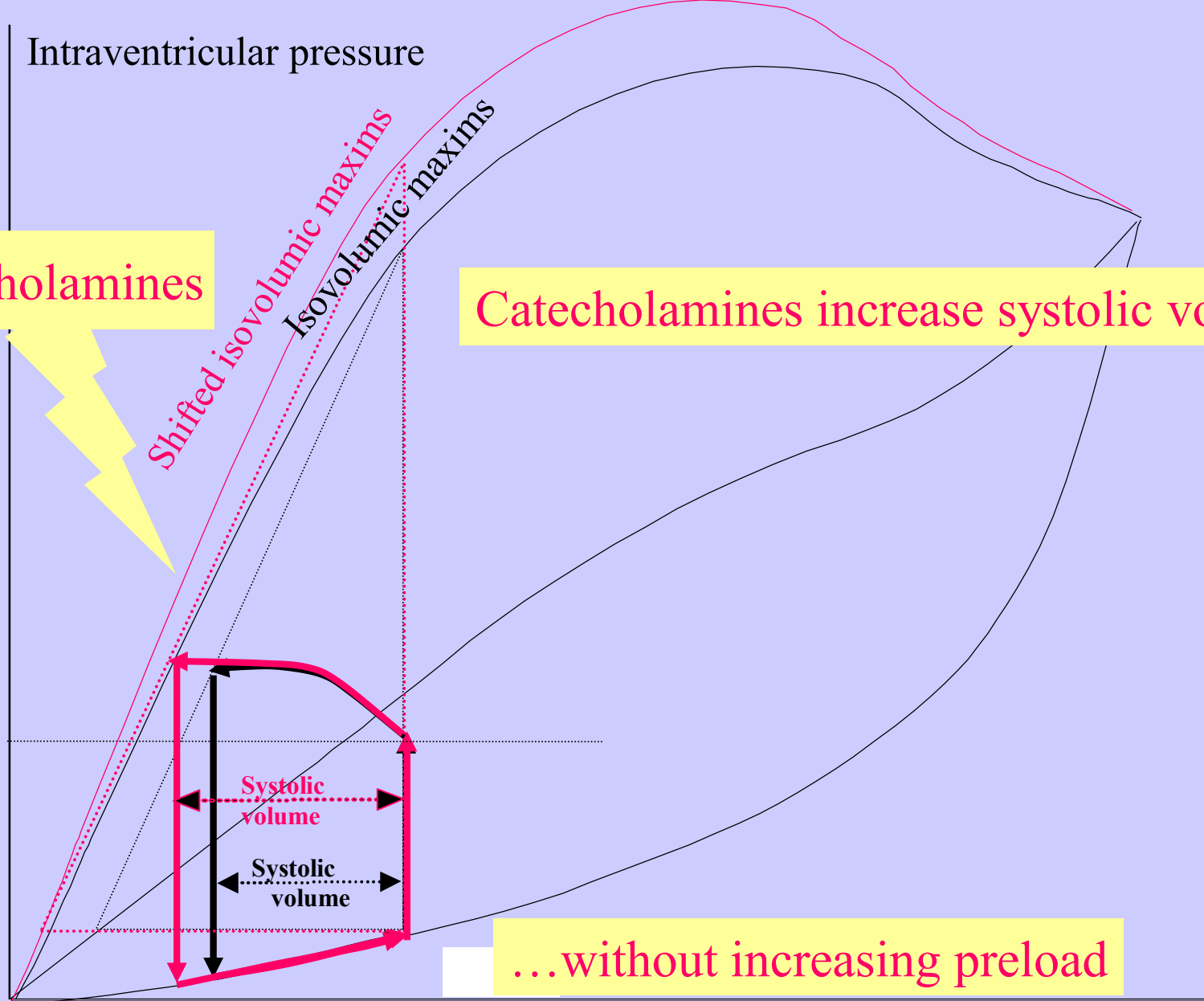
Catecholamines increase systolic volume

Systolic volume

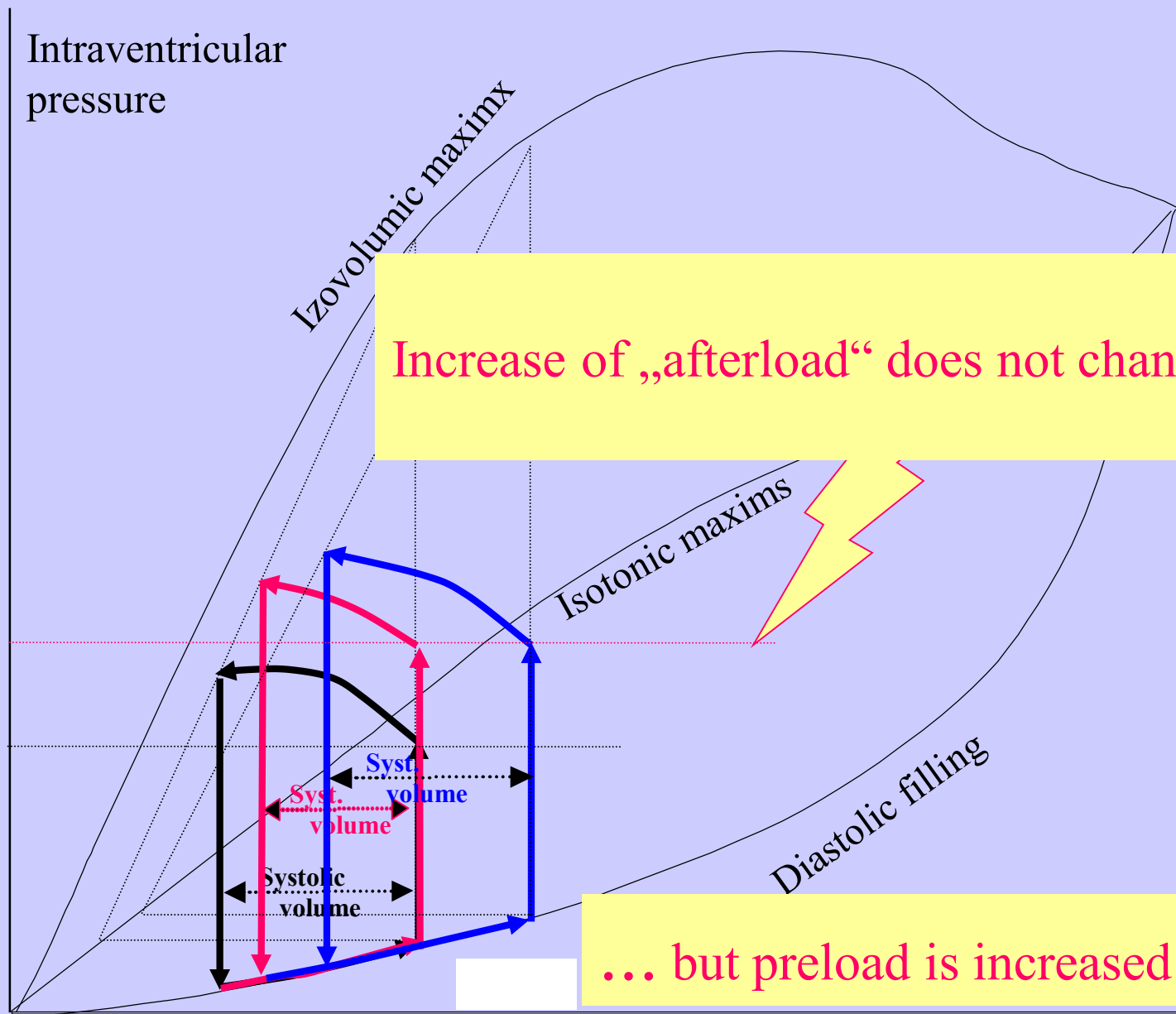
Systolic volume

...without increasing preload

Ventricle volume



Intraventricular pressure



Increase of „afterload“ does not chane SV

... but preload is increased

Ventricular volume

# **TYPES OF HEART FAILURE**

**- LEFT-SIDED**

**- RIGHT-SIDED**

**- BOTH-SIDED**

**according to the failing ventricle**

## Preload

filling of the heart at the end of the diastole

enddiastolic volume = EDV

Frank-Starling mechanisms

*Volume* in the ventricle corresponds to the pressure –  
*enddiastolic pressure, EDP, filling pressure*



# The relation between the filling of the ventricle and the intraventricular pressure

diastolic filling curve

volume: EDV - enddiastolic volume

pressure: EDP - enddiastolic pressure, filling pressure

- amount of the blood in the ventricle
- properties of the ventricle wall

# HEART FAILURE

pathophysiologic state in which an abnormality of *cardiac* function is responsible for the **failure** of the **heart** to pump blood at a rate commensurate with the requirements of the metabolizing tissues



**decrease of cardiac output**

*and/or* can do so only from an abnormally elevated diastolic volume



**increase of the ventricular filling pressure (enddiastolic pressure, EDP)**

# General symptoms of cardiac failure from the hemodynamic point of view

## Low CO

Weakness, fatigue, decreased perfusion of the organs incl.  
the kidneys, muscles

- redistribution of CO

FORWARD

## Accumulation of blood/fluid prior to the failing ventricle

Congestion, edemas

BACKWARD

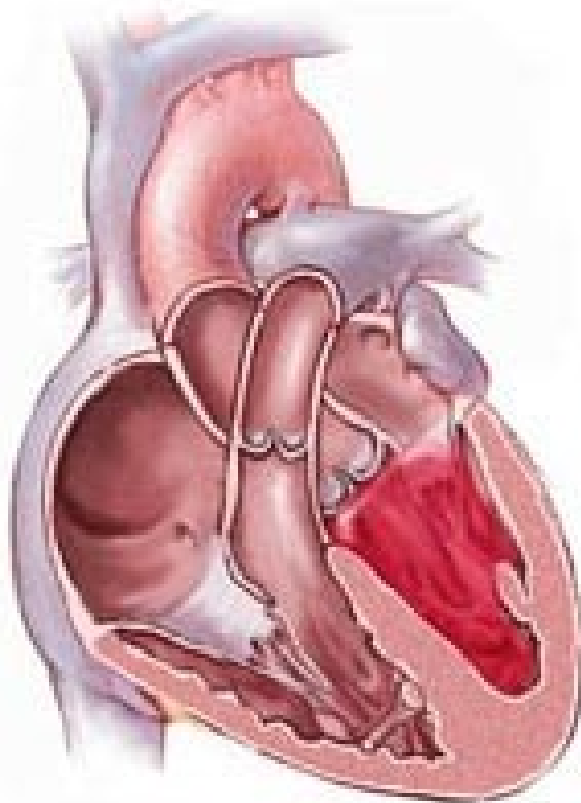
# Systemic changes in heart failure

Apart from hemodynamic changes heart failure is characterized by important involvement of compensatory mechanisms, mainly neurohumoral, which can, however, if persisting, lead to further progression of failure. Another changes involve the heart itself.

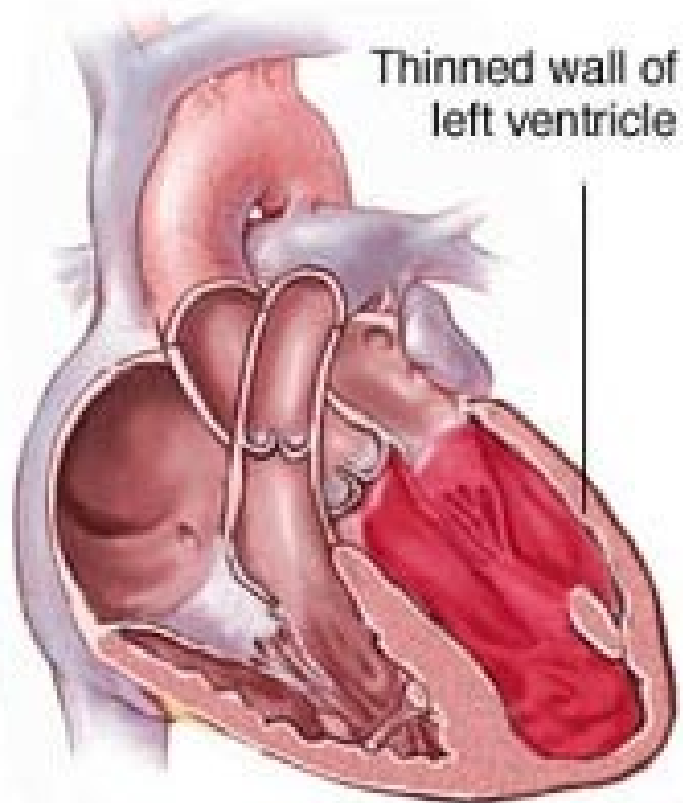
Compensatory mechanisms – can in *short-term* have a positive role, in *long-term* persistence contribute to the worsening of the failure.



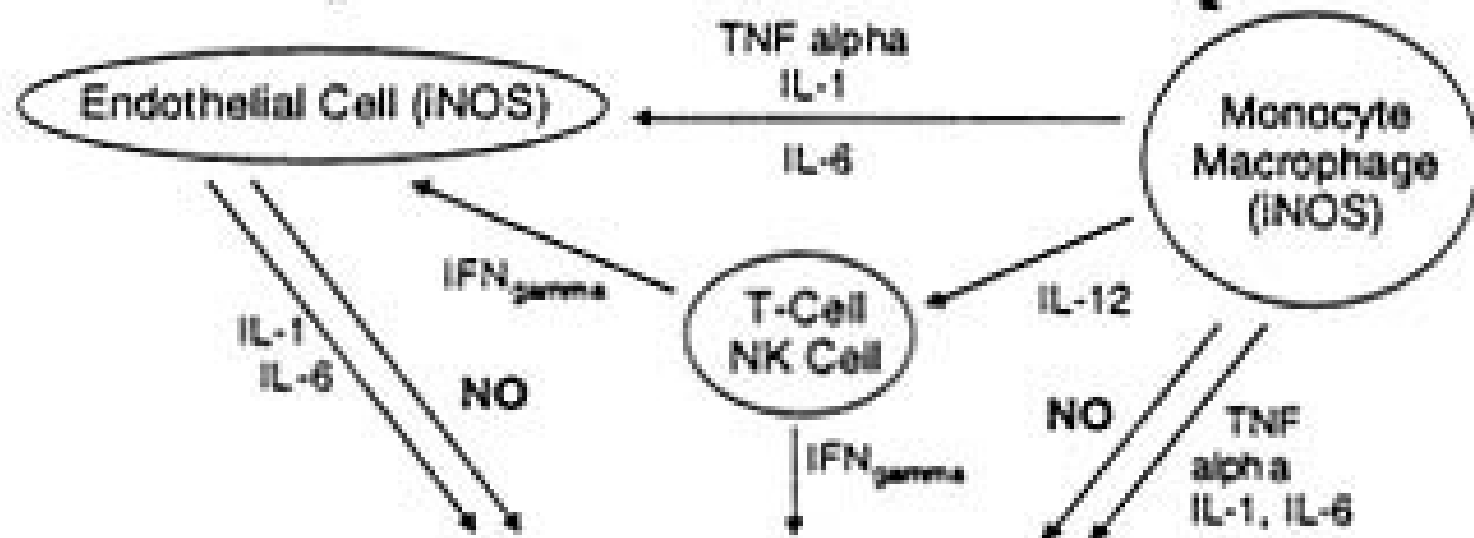
**Normal**



**Enlarged Heart**



# Inflammatory Mediators of Heart Failure



(Incr. iNOS) **Cardiac Myocyte**  
Contractile Dysfunction  
(NO-dependent & NO-independent mechanisms)