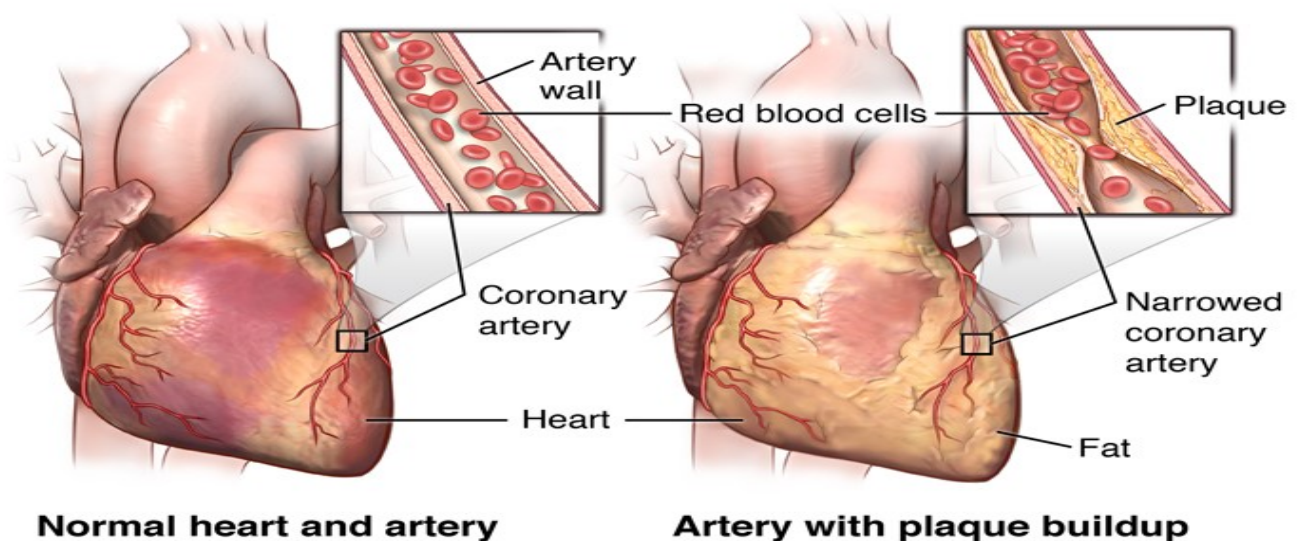


ANGINA

The main underlying cause of Angina is atherosclerosis. Atherosclerosis causes a decrease in the lumen of the coronary artery. The person is carrying out an activity, the heart or myocardium has an increase oxygen demand, but the decreased coronary artery blood flow means that the demand can not be adequately met. The mismatch between myocardial oxygen supply and demand results in angina pain. The pain stops the person, induces the person to rest, so allowing adequate oxygenation of the myocardium now that oxygen demand has been lowered.

Angina often feels like a heaviness or tightness in your chest, and this may spread to your arms, neck, jaw, back or stomach as well. Some people describe a feeling of severe tightness, while others say it's more of a dull ache. Some people experience shortness of breath too.



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