



Aetiopathology of Hypertension

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Why study HPT

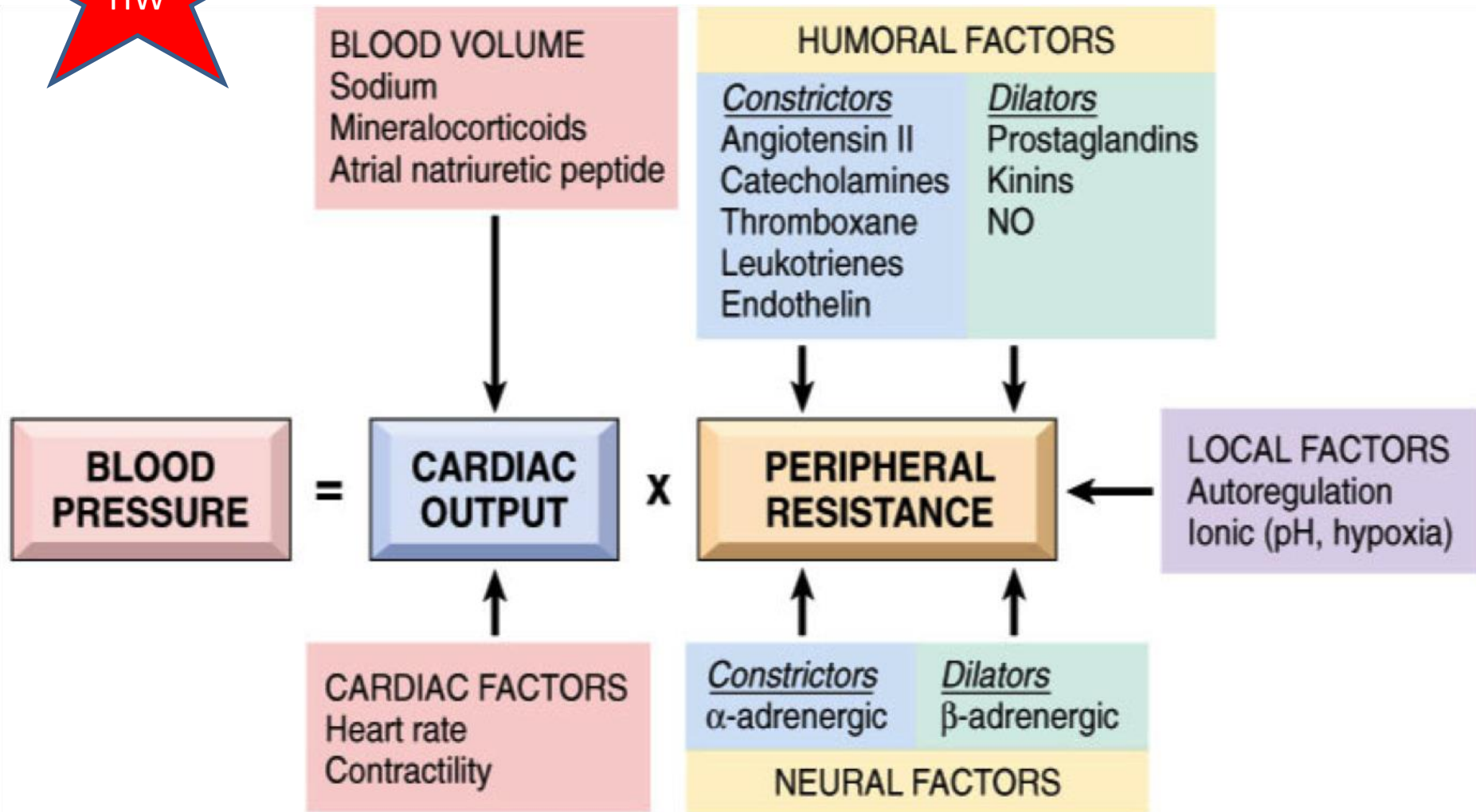
- $\frac{1}{4}^{\text{th}}$ of the adult population has HPT
- SL-18.8%-male;19.3% female
- Morbidity & mortality
- Exam

Objectives

- Describe the regulation of normal blood pressure
- Describe the mechanism of essential hypertension
- List the causes of secondary hypertension
- Describe the pathological changes in hypertension .

Regulation of normal blood pressure

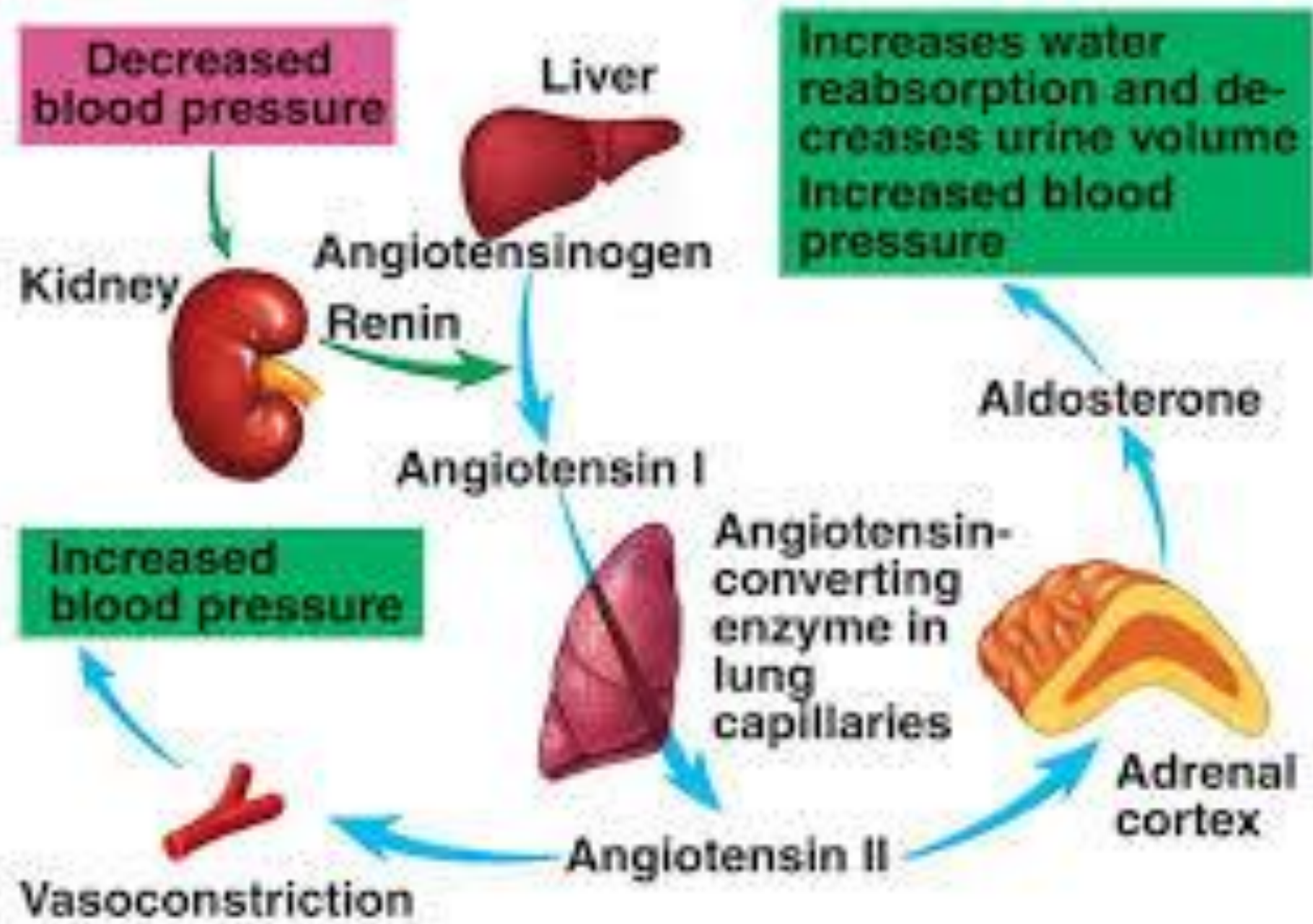
HW



Hypertension

Mechanisms that Regulate BP

- Renal System- **Renin angiotensin system-Major role**
- Sympathetic Nervous System
- Vascular Endothelium
- Endocrine System



Regulation of normal blood pressure cont.

➤ Endocrine System

➤ Adrenal medulla-Catecholamines

➤ Adrenal Cortex – Aldosterone – stimulates kidneys to retain Na^+

➤ Increased Na^+ stimulates posterior pituitary – ADH – reabsorbs ECF/water

Regulation of normal blood pressure cont.

- Vasorelaxants produced by kidneys

NO , PG

- Other organs that contribute

Volume expansion in atria



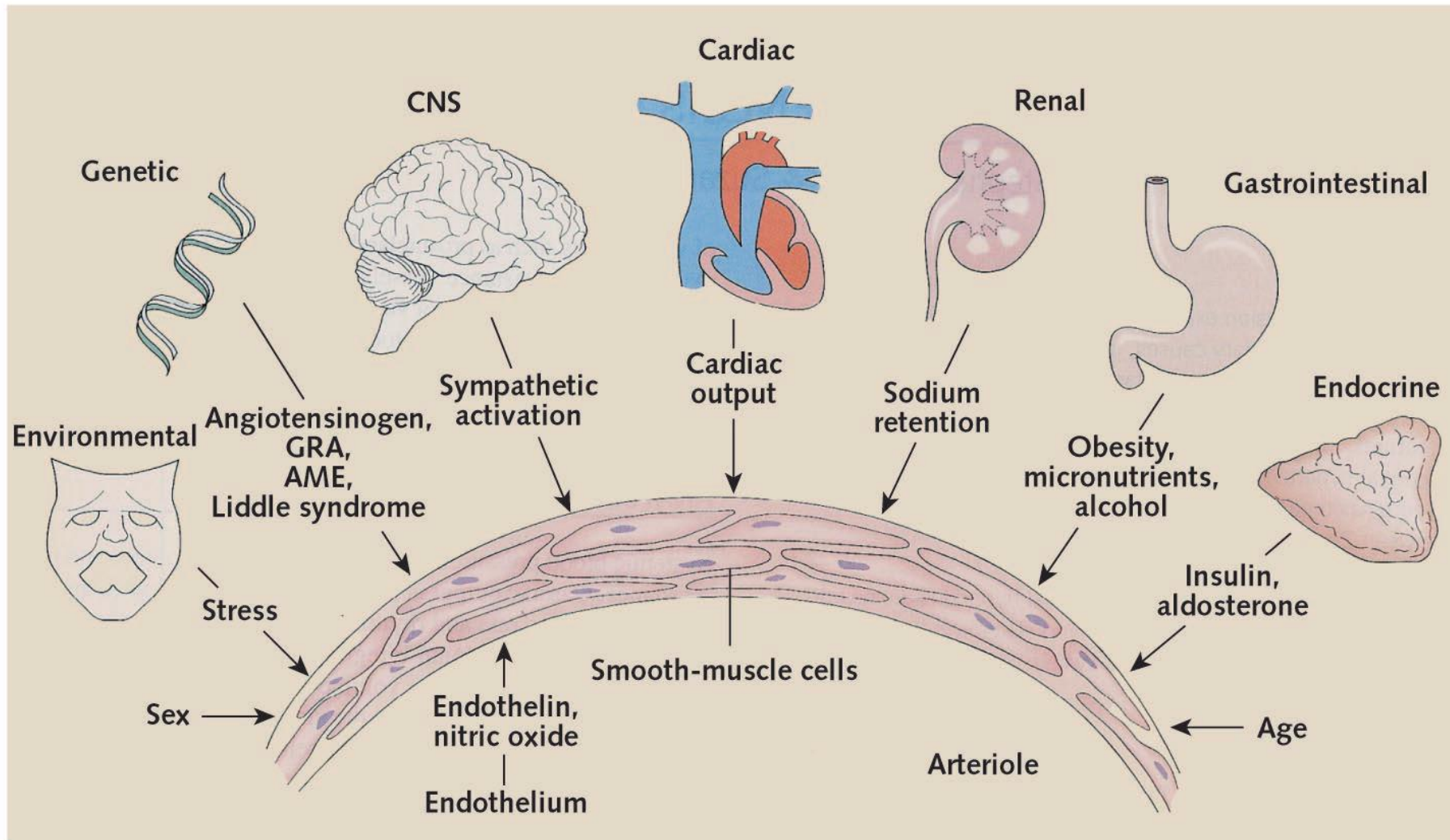
Atrial natriuretic peptide (endogenous inhibitor of RA system)



Inhibit Na absorption in DCT → diuresis

Vasodilatation

Pathophysiologic mechanisms of hypertension.



AME apparent mineralocorticoid excess; CNS central nervous system; GRA glucocorticoid-remediable aldosteronism.

Hypertension

1) Essential (Primary , Idiopathic) (90-95%)

2) Secondary hypertension (5-10%)

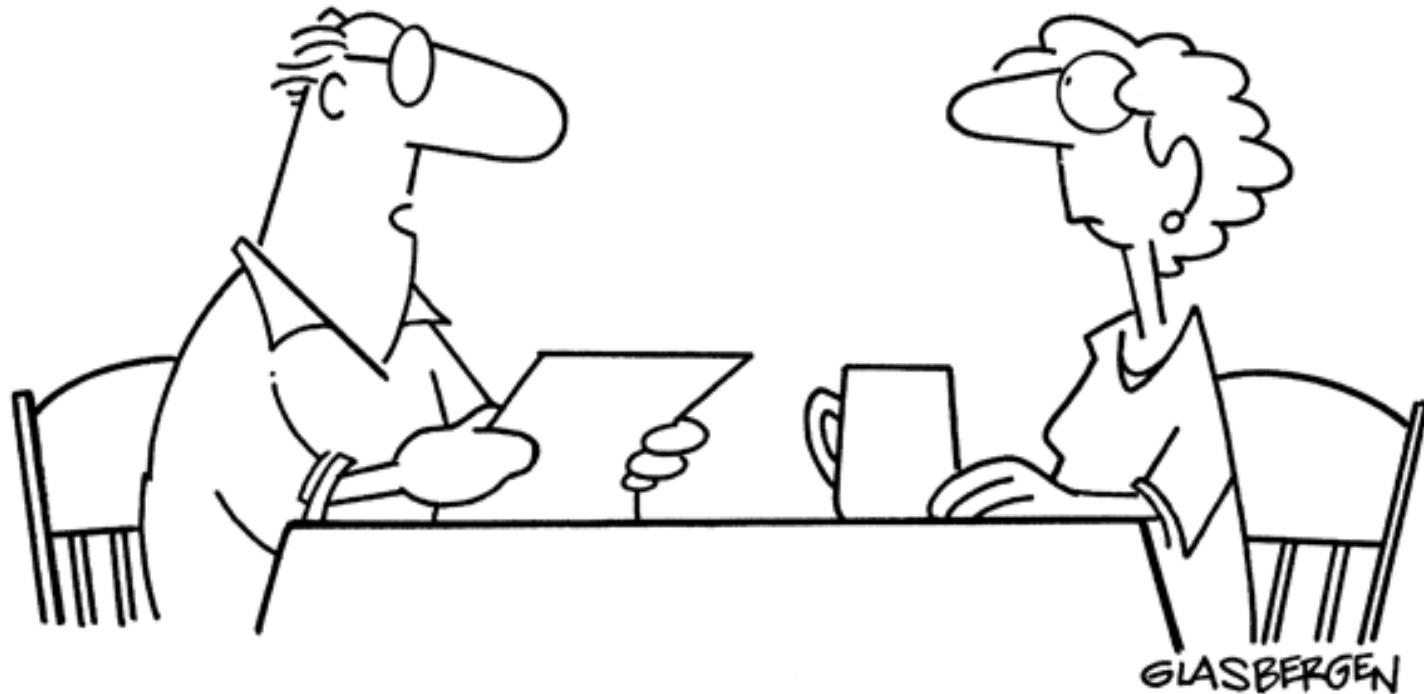
Benign vs accelerated/malignant hypertension

Malignant Hypertension

- Severe HPT
- Rapidly rising
- SBP>200mmhg;DBP>120mmhg
- Renal failure
- Retinal haemorrhages & exudates
- +/- papilledema
- If untreated death within a short time

Causes of secondary hypertension

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“My blood pressure is 180/90 which mathematically is equal to 2/1 which doesn’t seem so high!”

Causes of secondary hypertension



MCQ

1) Renal diseases (3-4%)

a) Renal vascular diseases - ↑ *Renin secretion*

(Narrowing of arteries activate the renin- angiotensin system.)

Renal artery stenosis (Atheroma , fibromuscular dysplasia)

Arteritis

Renal artery embolism

b) Renal parenchymal diseases - ↑ *Na retention*

Acute GN

Chronic GN

Chronic pyelonephritis

Polycystic kidney diseases

c) Renal neoplasm - *renin secretion*

Causes of secondary hypertension cont.

2) Endocrine causes (1%)

Pheochromocytoma - Catecholamines

Primary aldosteronism - Aldosterone

(Conn's syndrome)

Cushings syndrome - Cortisol excess

Acromegaly

Thyroid dysfunction

3) Coarctation of aorta - ↑ Renin secretion

4) Drug induced

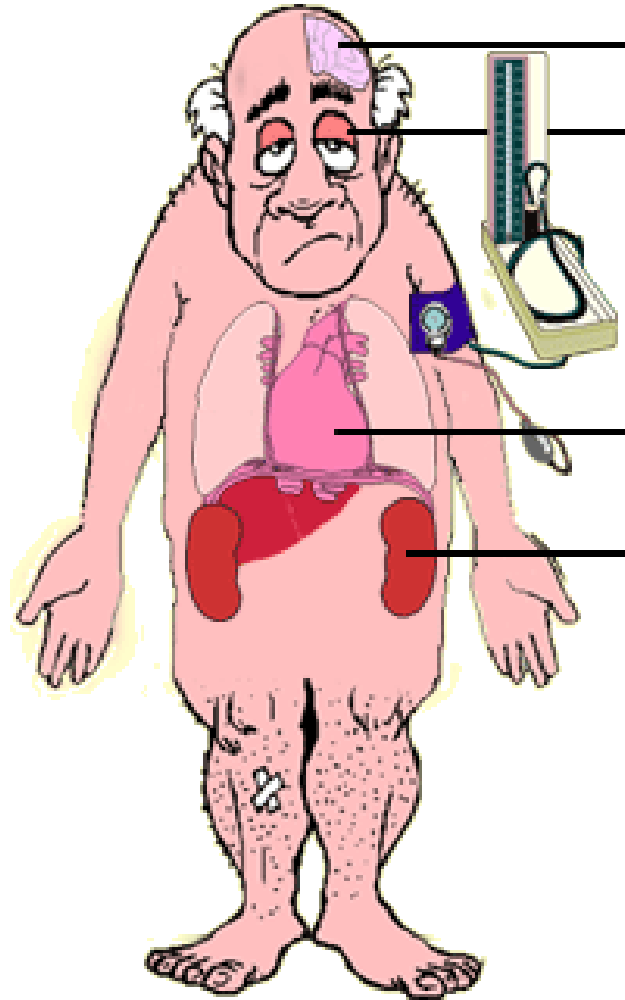
5) Pregnancy induced

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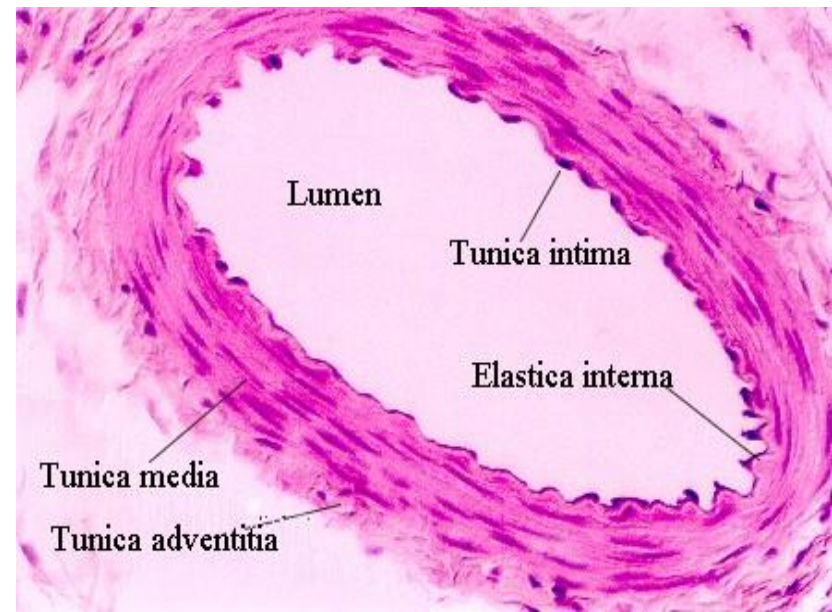
Pathological changes

- 1) Blood vessels
- 2) Heart
- 3) Kidney
- 4) Brain



1. Blood vessels

1. Large & medium 2. Small



1. Large & medium sized arteries

Medial hypertrophy

↑ atherosclerosis

degenerative changes in the media

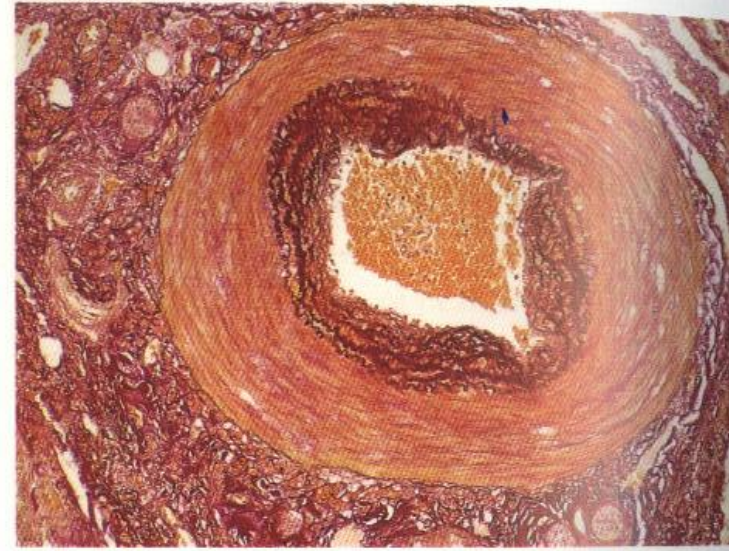
Risk: aortic dissection/CNS bleeding

Hypertrophy of the media

- Causes thickening of the vessel



- Narrowing of the vessel lumen
- This increases the response to stimuli (vascular amplifier)



2.Small vessels

- **Hyaline arteriolosclerosis**
- **Hyperplastic arteriolosclerosis**
- Necrotizing arteriolitis

Hyaline arteriolosclerosis

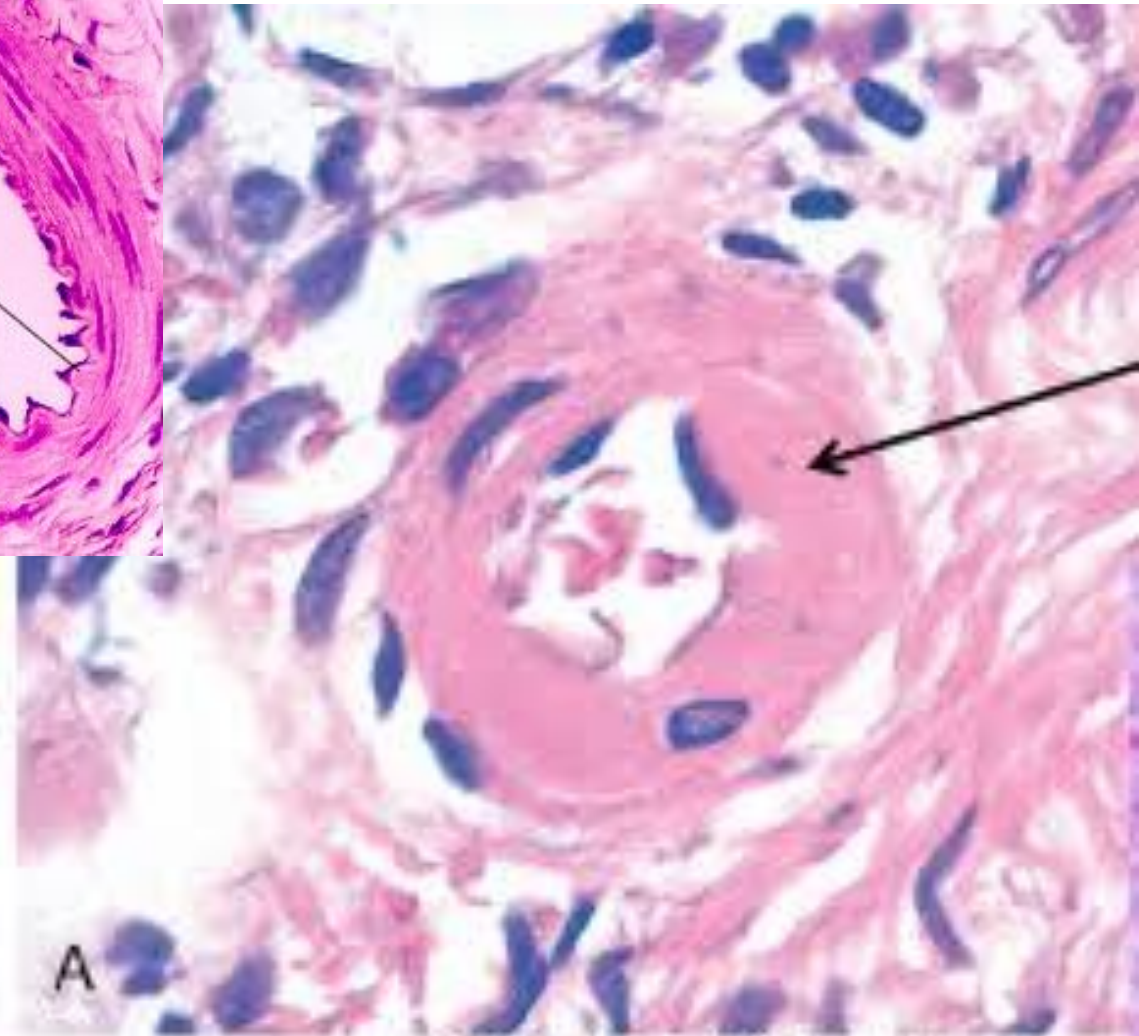
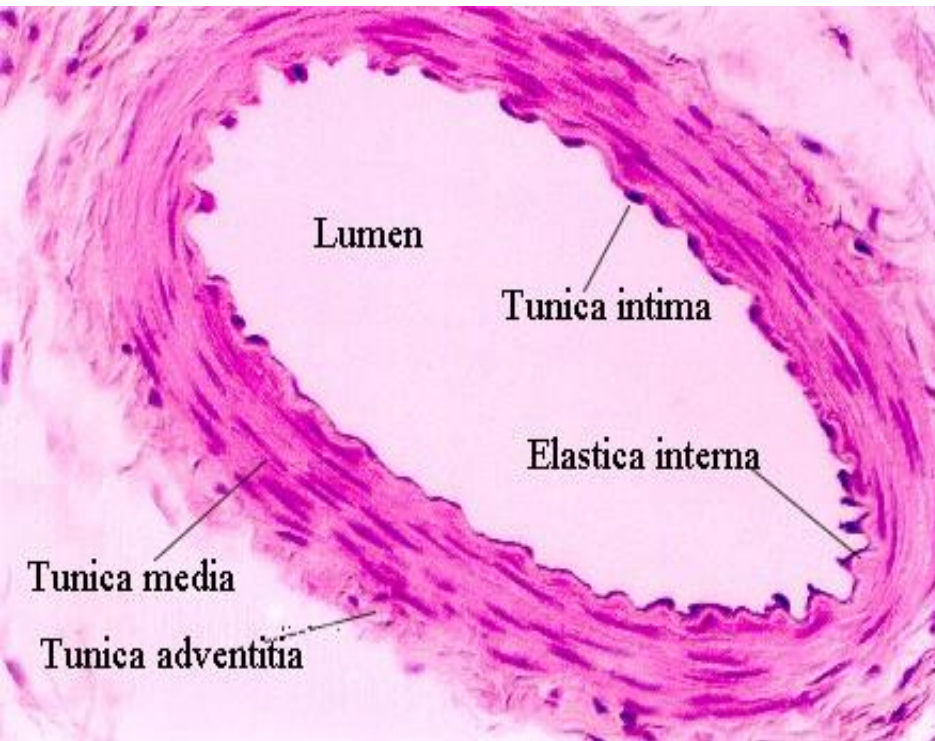
- In benign hypertension
- Also in elderly and diabetic patients
- Affects small arteries and arterioles
- Thickening of the vascular wall due to deposition of a homogenous pink hyaline material



narrowing of vascular lumina

Occurs due to leakage of plasma protein &
EC matrix production by SMC

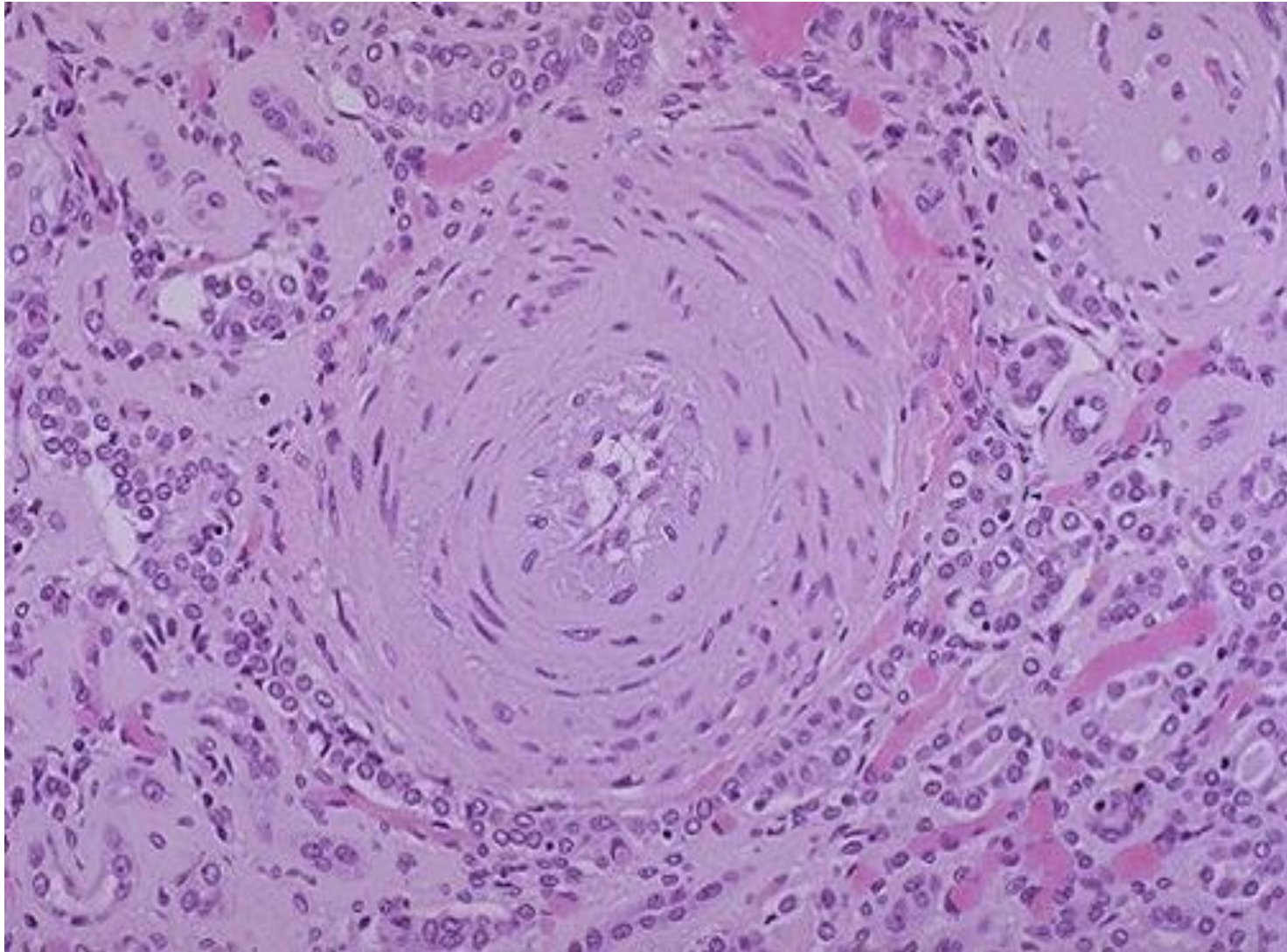
Hyaline arteriolosclerosis



Hyperplastic arteriolosclerosis

- Commonly in malignant hypertension
- Due to proliferating smooth muscle and thickened duplicated BM.
- Onion skin , concentric , laminated thickening of the blood vessel
- Narrowing of the vascular lumen

Hyperplastic arteriolosclerosis



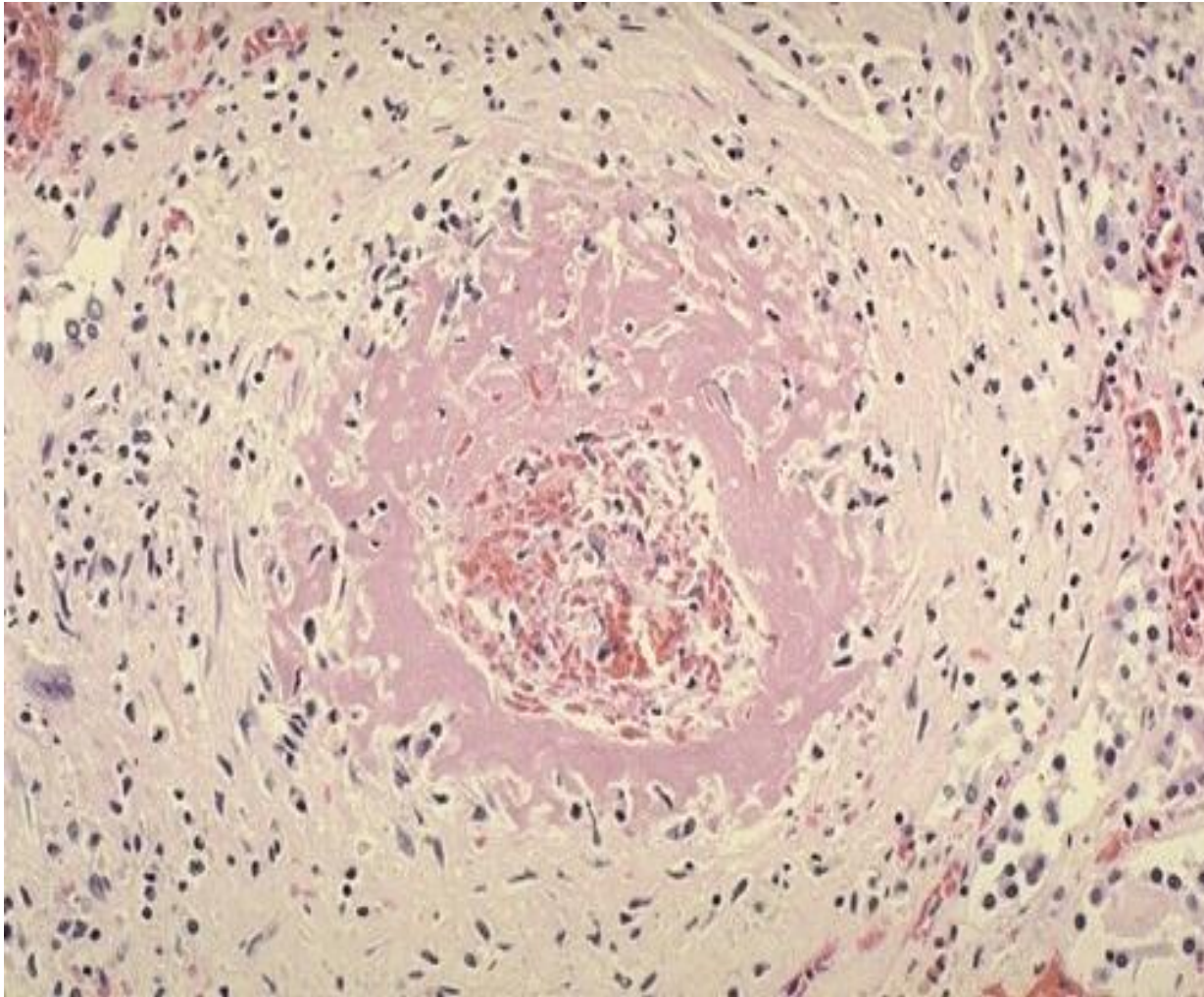
Necrotizing arteriolitis

- In malignant hypertension
- Fibrinoid necrosis of vessel wall



Haemorrhage and microinfarcts of
the affected organ

Necrotizing arteriolitis



Benign vs Malignant arteriolosclerosis



Normal

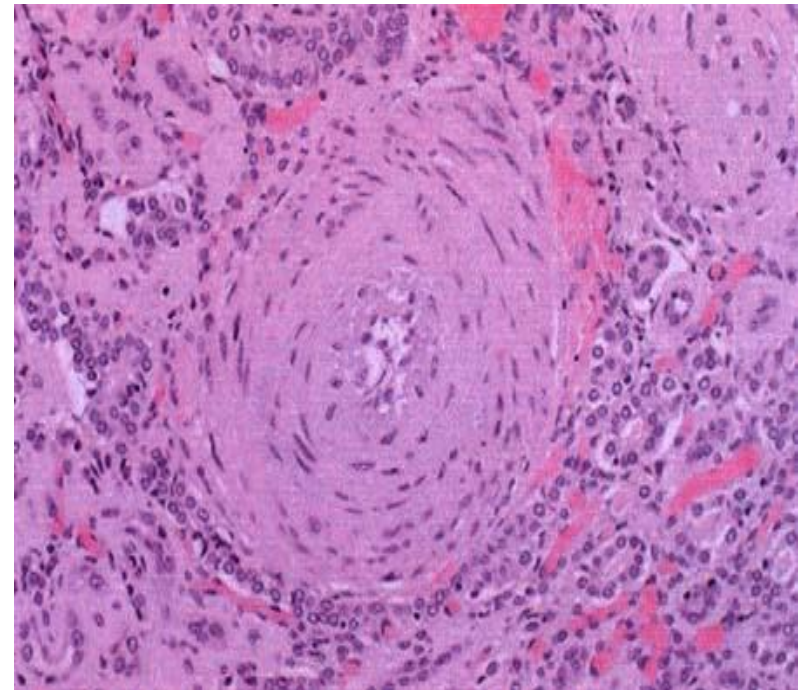
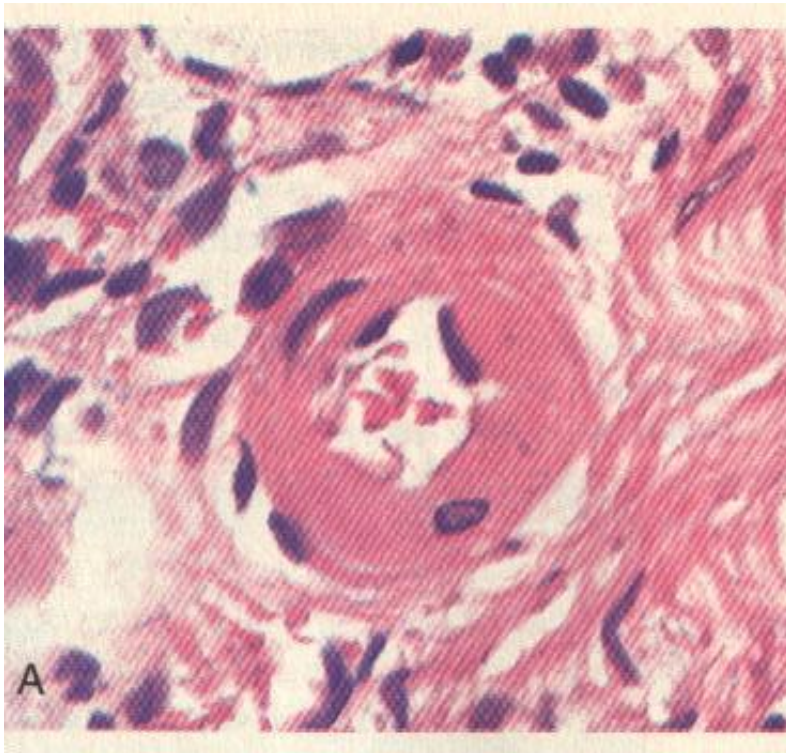


Hyaline arteriosclerosis

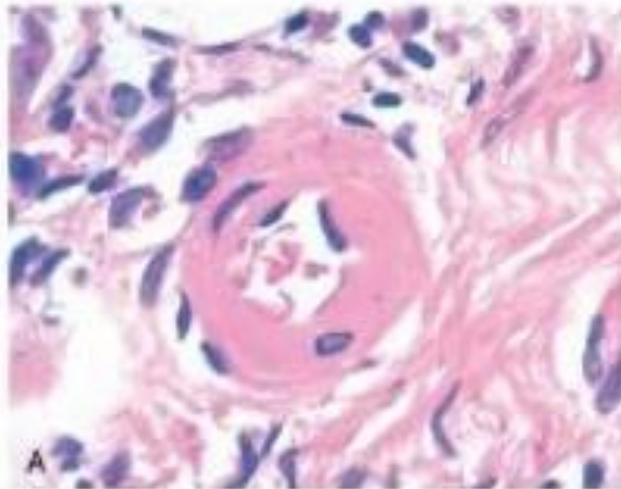


Hyperplastic arteriosclerosis

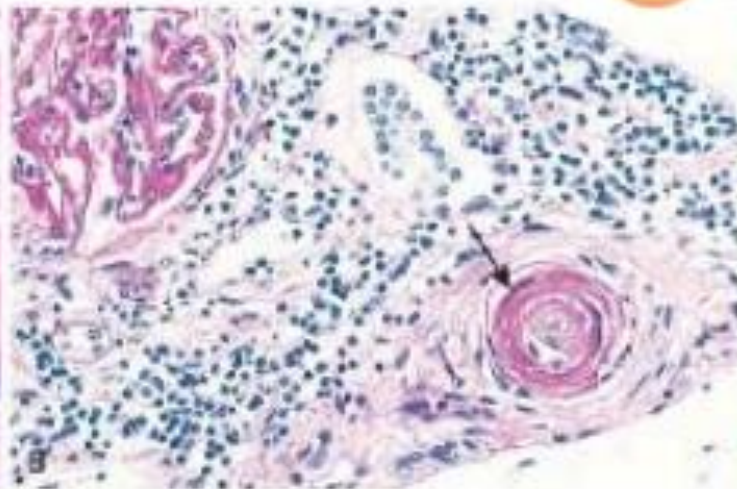
Benign vs Malignant arteriolosclerosis



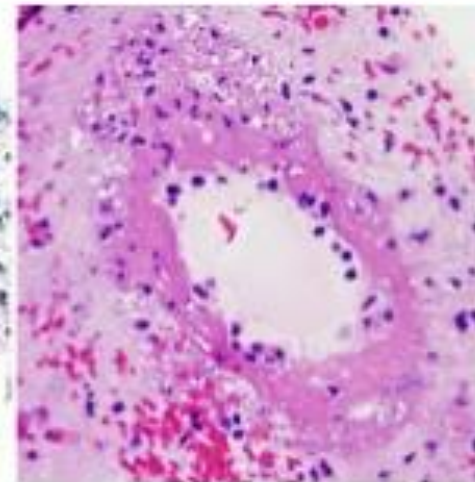
Hypertension: Microscopic Features



hyaline arteriosclerosis



hyperplastic arteriosclerosis



fibrinoid necrosis

2) Pathological changes in the Heart



Macroscopy-

- Enlarged
- Weight - > 500 gm (normal - 300gm)
- L/ventricle - thickening of the wall
>2cm (Normal - 1.3 - 1.5cm)

This impairs diastolic function.

(Ventricle is perfused during diastole)

- Later congestive heart failure

Hypertensive changes in the heart



The left ventricle is markedly thickened in this patient with severe hypertension that was untreated for many years. The myocardial fibers have undergone hypertrophy.

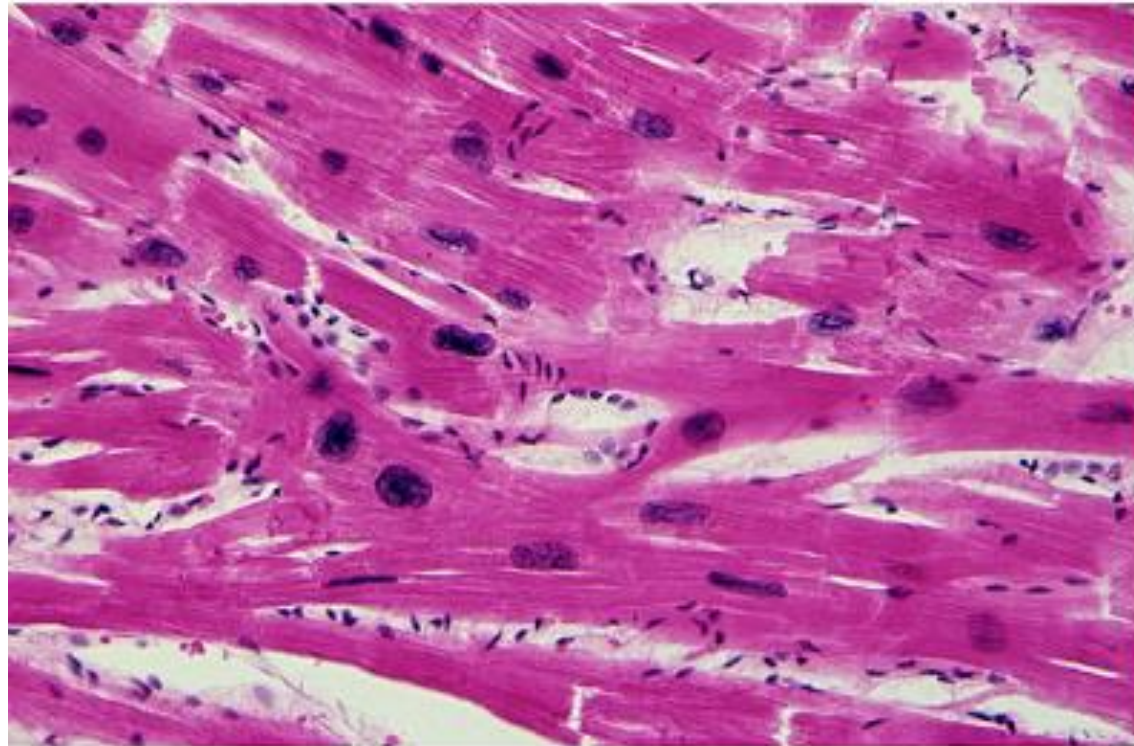


This left ventricle is thickened (slightly over 2 cm in thickness)

2) Pathological changes in th Heart

Micro -

- Cellular and nuclear enlargement
- Variation in cell size
- Interstitial fibrosis



How coronary perfusion is affected in hypertension

- Increased demand due to hypertrophy.
- Impaired diastolic function
- Coronary atheroma



Poor perfusion



IHD

3)Renal changes

- Benign Nephrosclerosis
- Malignant Nephrosclerosis

3) Renal changes

A) Benign nephrosclerosis

Macroscopy

- Symmetrically contracted kidneys
- Fine granular surface
- c/s - cortex thinned

Kidney in benign hypertension



Microscopy

1) Vascular -

- Hyaline arteriolosclerosis - arterioles

2) Parenchyma

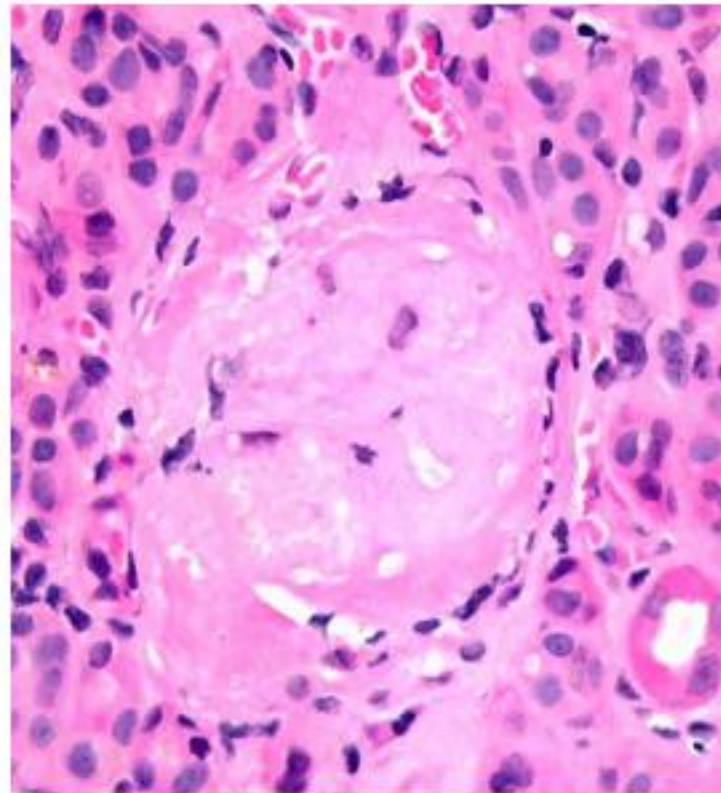
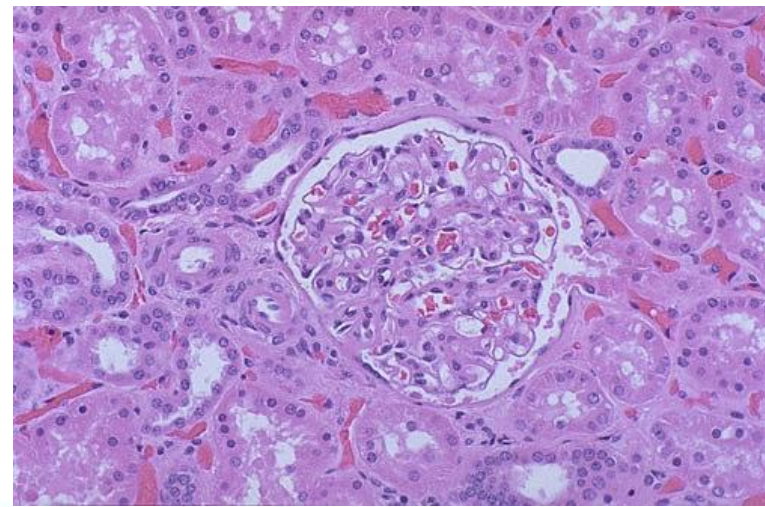
- Interstitial fibrosis
- Tubular atrophy
- *Glomeruli*

Periglomerular fibrosis

Glomerular collapse

Sclerosis

Benign Nephrosclerosis,



Glomerulosclerosis

B) Malignant nephrosclerosis

Macro-

- Pinpoint haemorrhages on the surface
-flea bitten kidney-



Micro -

1)Vascular

- Fibrinoid necrosis of arterioles

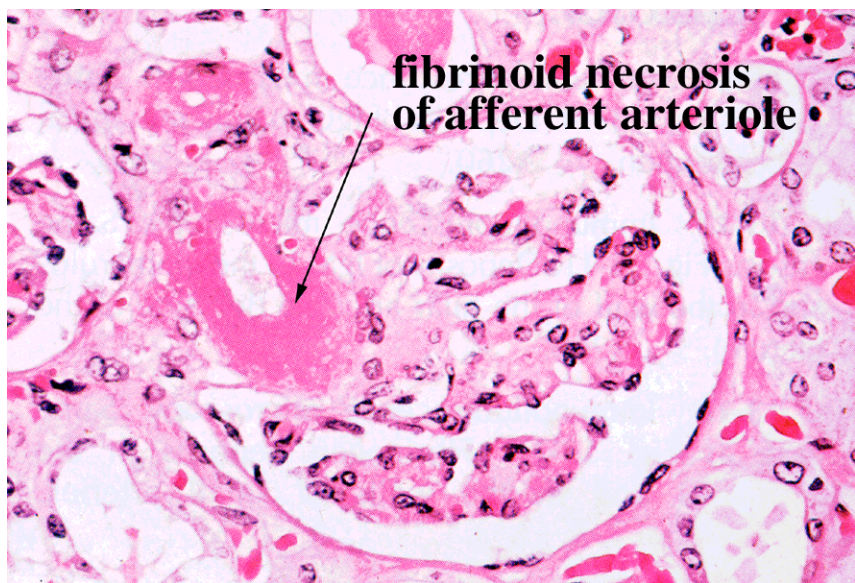


Rupture / luminal thrombosis → Small infarcts

- Hyperplastic arteriolosclerosis
Interlobular arteries and arterioles

2)Parenchyma

- Glomeruli - Thrombosed capillaries/necrosis
Fibrinoid necrosis
ischaemic atrophy/infarction



Hypertensive cerebrovascular disease

- ICH
- Lacunar infarcts
- Slit haemorrhages
- Hypertensive encephalopathy

4)Central nervous system

- 1)Hyaline arteriolosclerosis —→ Infarction
- 2) Microaneurysm formation in small penetration vessels —→ Haemorrhage
- 3) Atherosclerosis—→Infarction and haemorrhage
- 4)Hypertensive encephalopathy
 - Oedematous brain
 - Fibrinoid necrosis of vessels
 - Petichial haemorrhages

Complications of hypertension

Benign HPT

- Cerebrovascular disease
- Coronary artery disease
- Cardiac failure
- Peripheral vascular disease
- May lead to renal failure

Malignant HPT

- Renal failure
- Heart failure
- Aortic dissection
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Hypertensive encephalopathy

