

**Author(s):** Louis D'Alecy, 2009

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# Coronary Blood Flow

M1 – Cardiovascular/Respiratory  
Sequence

Louis D'Alecy, Ph.D.

Fall 2008



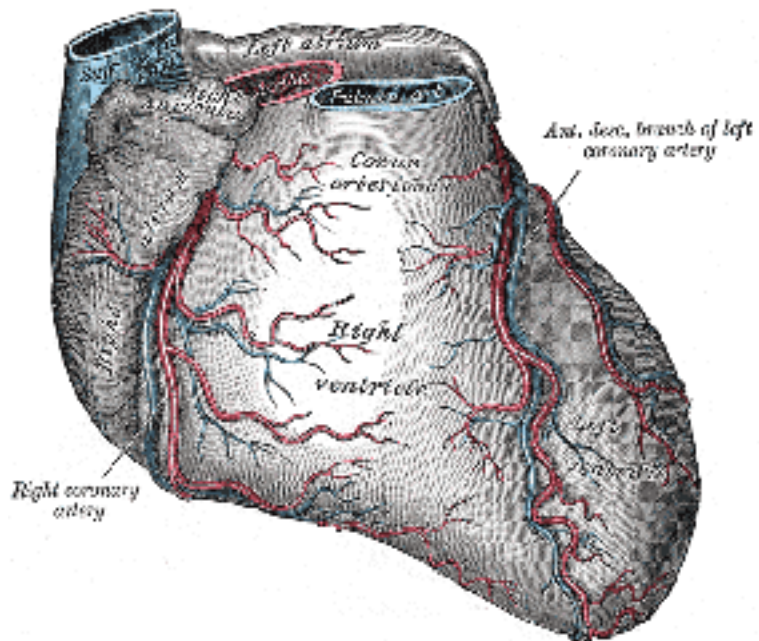
Wednesday 11/05/08, 11:00

# **Coronary Blood Flow**

**26 slides, 50 minutes**

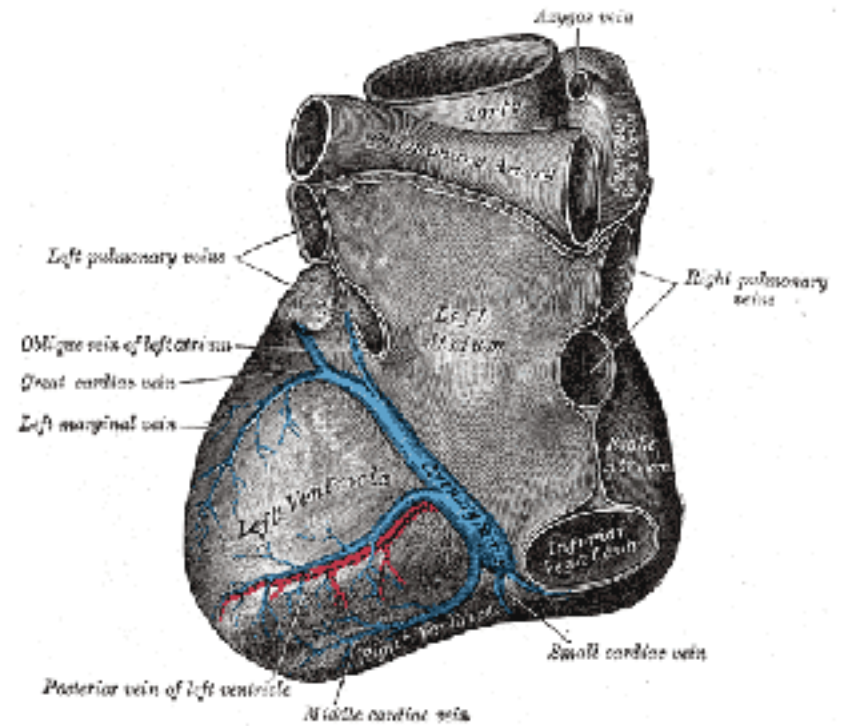
1. Vascular anatomy
2. Determinants of coronary flow
3. Flow mediated dilation
4. Ischemia
5. Coronary Flow Reserve

# Surface Anatomy



PD-TNEL Gray's Anatomy

Anterior view



PD-TNEL Gray's Anatomy

Posterior view

# Heart statistics

300g/70,000g = 0.0043 or < 0.5% Body Weight

Coronary flow = 4% of cardiac output = 80 mL/min/100g

“Resting “ flow ~ 30X flow/100g tissue of skeletal muscle

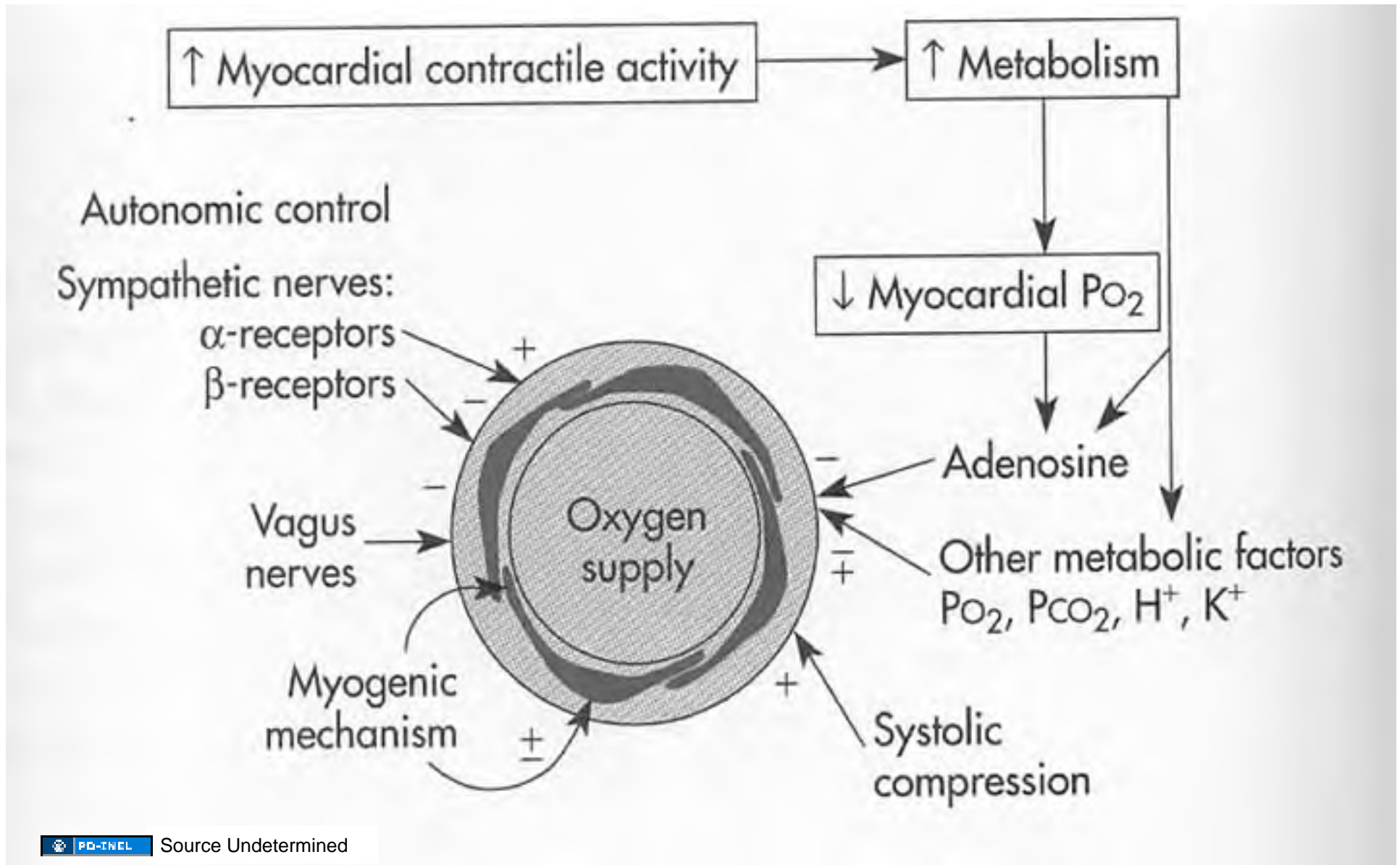
Highest oxygen extraction in body

(arterial oxygen 20 vol % to coronary sinus 8 vol %)

(typical mixed venous oxygen higher at 17 vol %)

Must increase flow to increase oxygen delivery

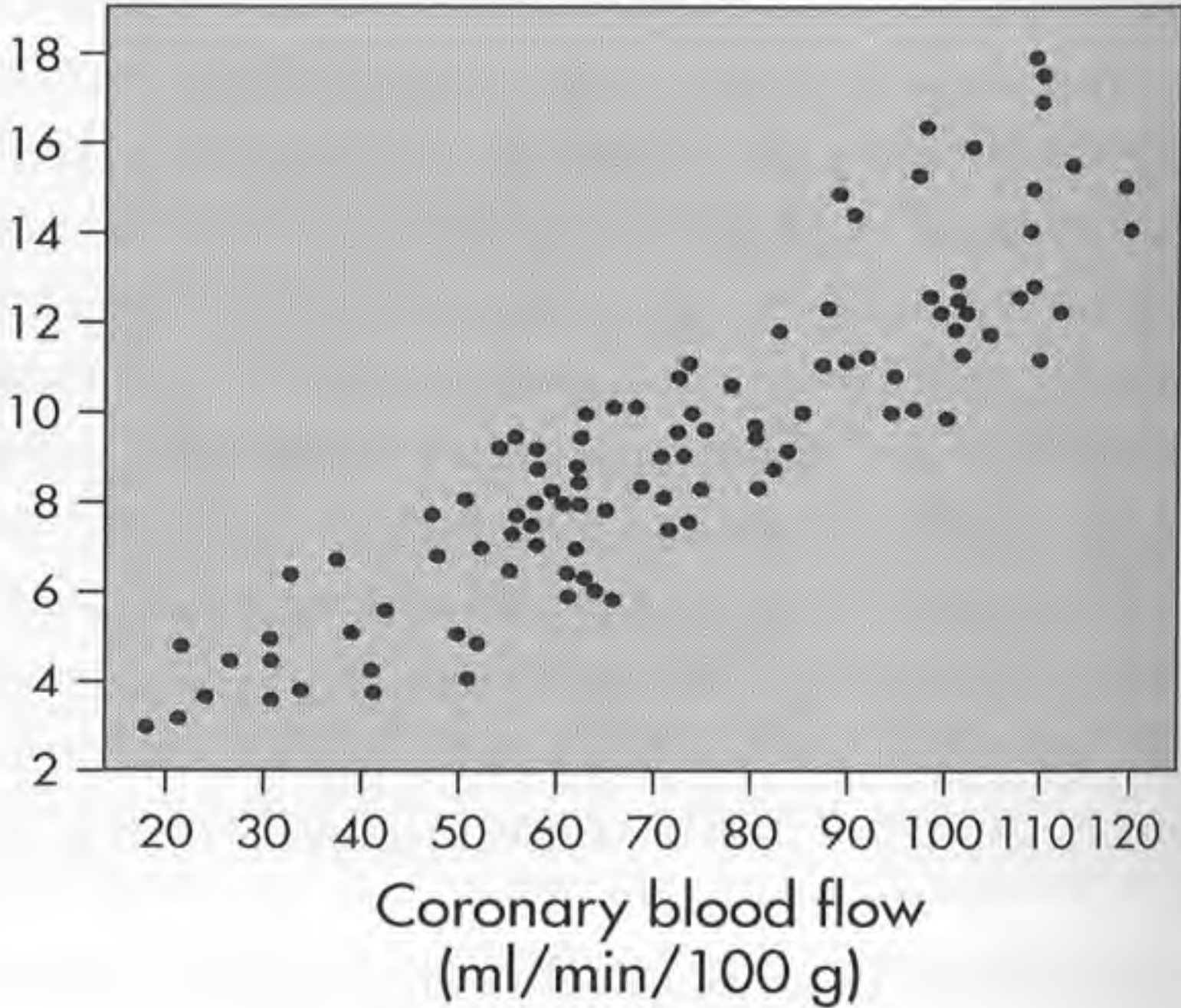
**Vol % = mL O<sub>2</sub> / 100 mL blood**



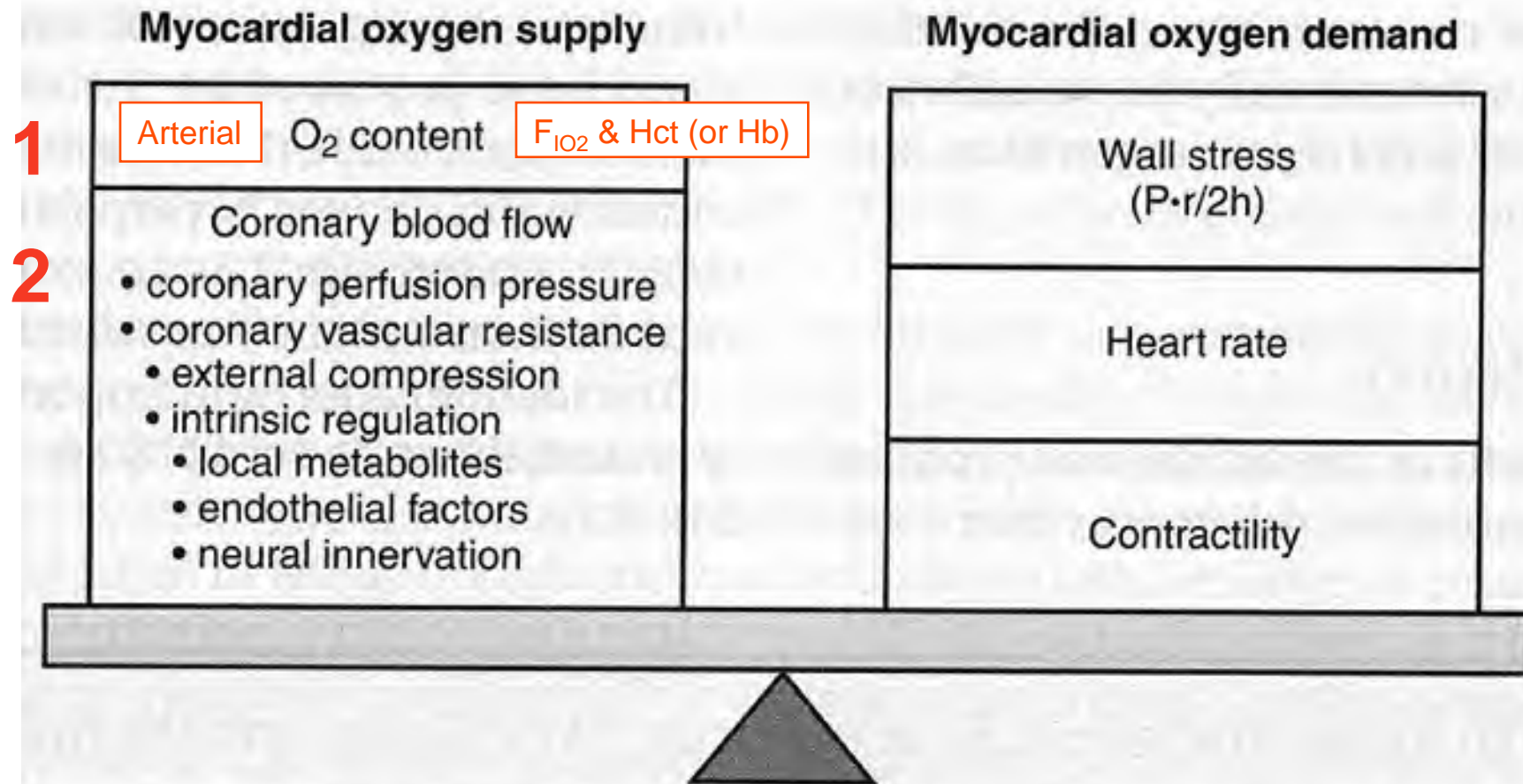
**Cross section of coronary artery.**



Myocardial oxygen consumption  
(ml/min/100 g)



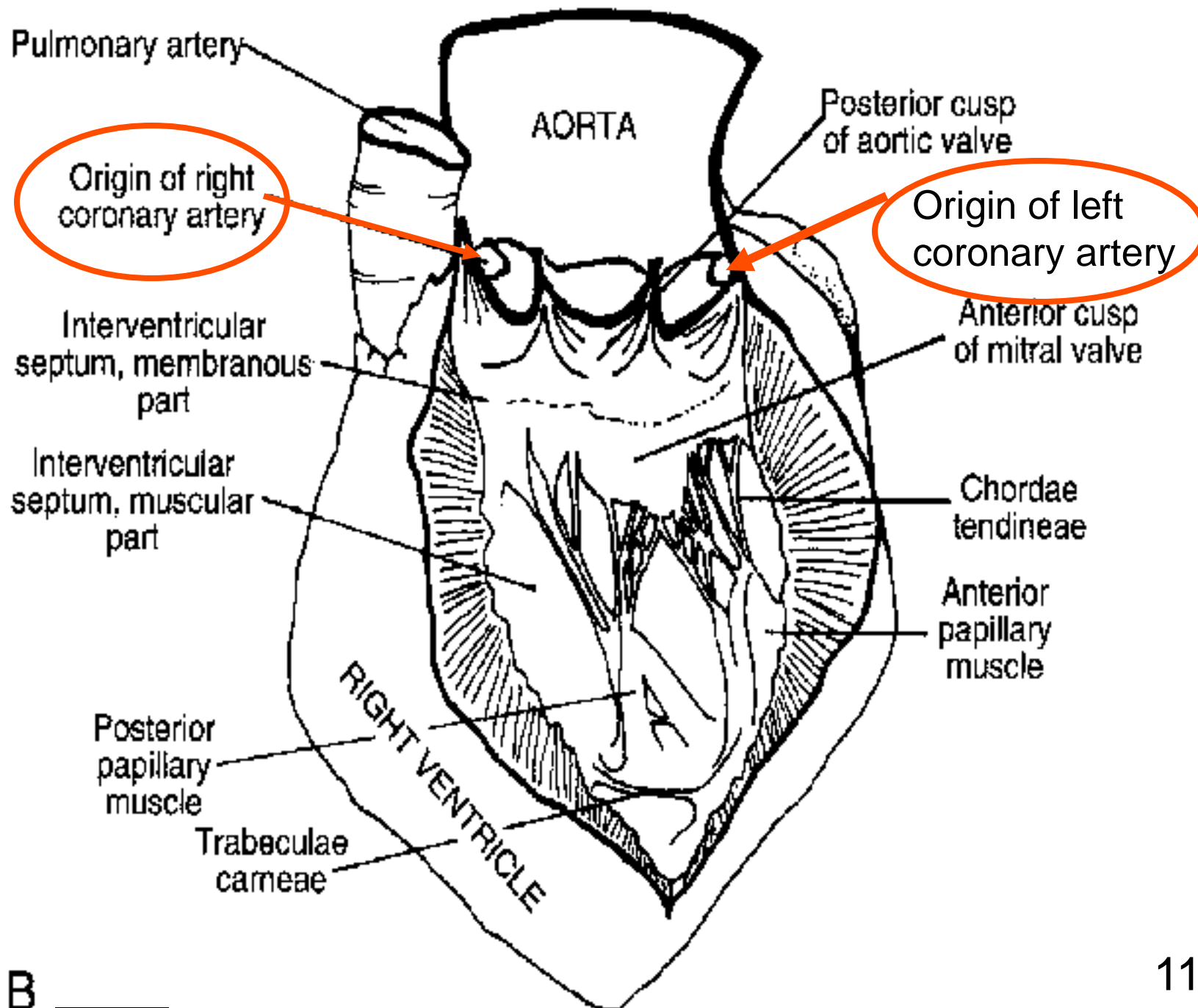




**Figure 6.1. Major determinants of myocardial oxygen supply and demand.** h, ventricular wall thickness; P, ventricular pressure; r, ventricular radius.

# DETERMINANTS OF CORONARY BLOOD FLOW

- 1      **DIASTOLIC PERFUSION PRESSURE  $\Delta P$**
- 2      **SYSTOLIC COMPRESSION (“Resistance”)**
- 3      **METABOLIC CONTROL (Resistance)**
- 4      **NEURAL CONTROL (Resistance)**



B

120 mmHg

aortic pressure

left ventricular pressure

0

Systolic compression

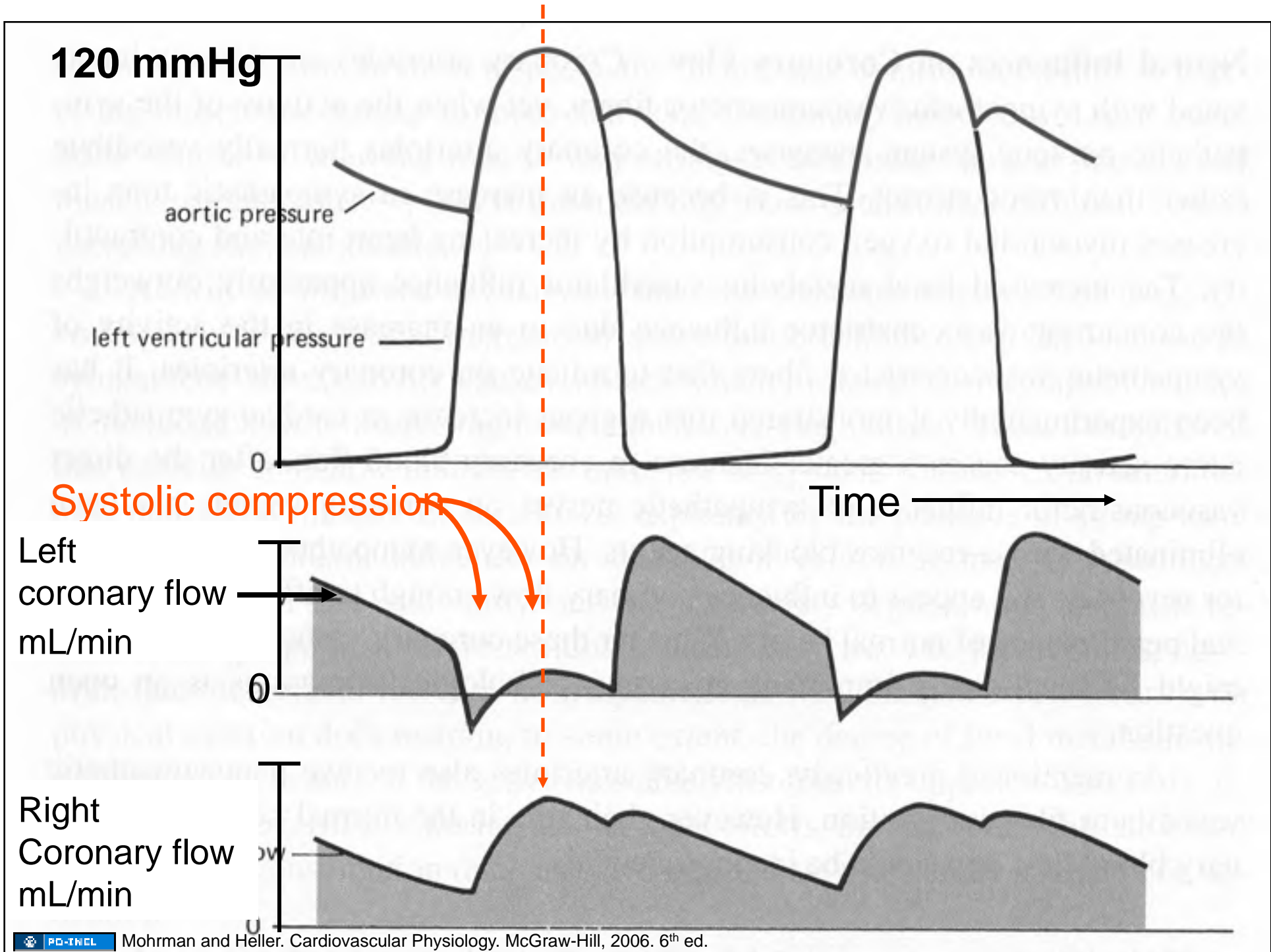
Time

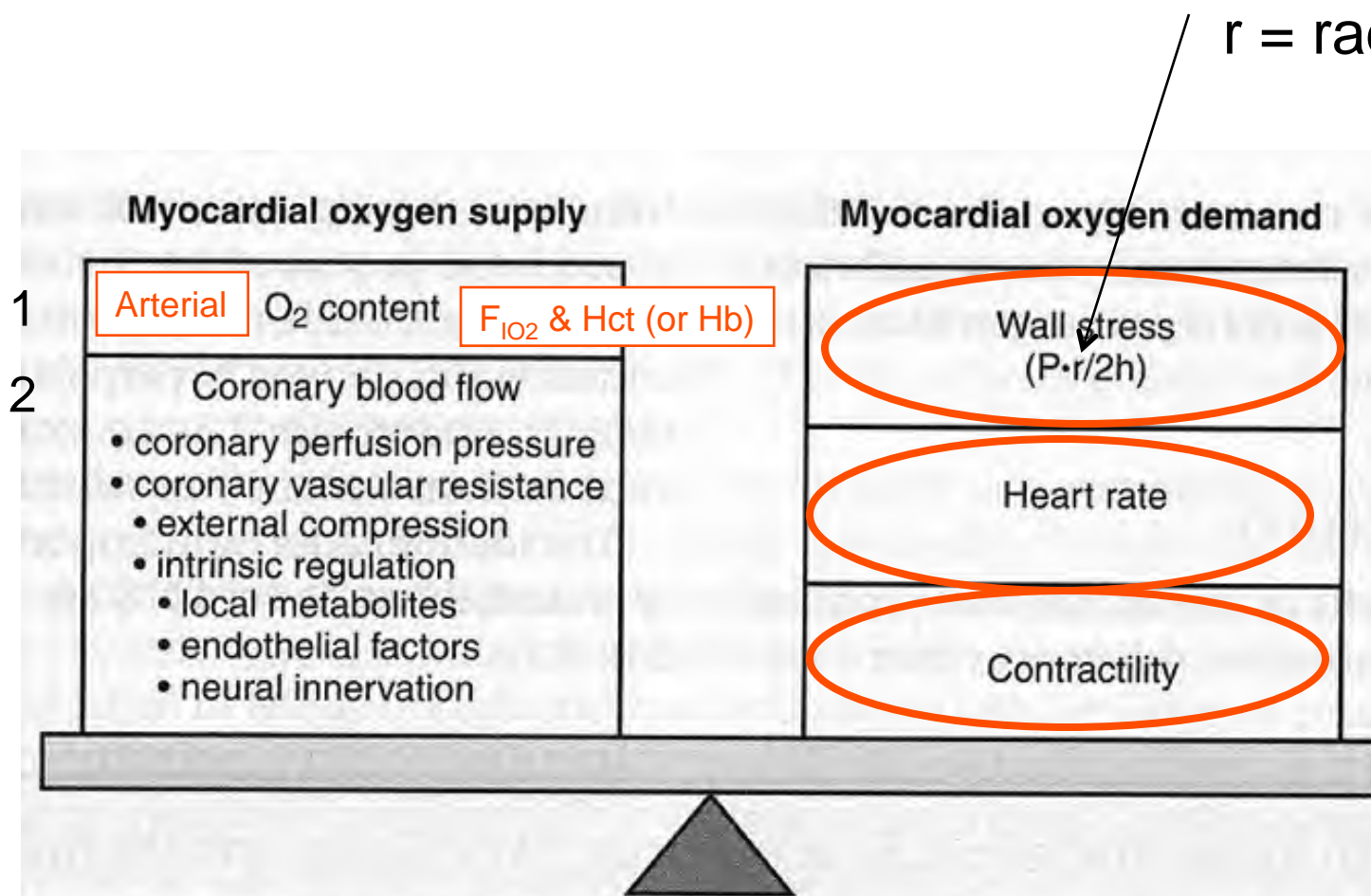
Left  
coronary flow  
mL/min

0

Right  
Coronary flow  
mL/min

0





If r ↑, more tension is need for the same pressure.

Thus an enlarged heart has greater demand.

**Figure 6.1. Major determinants of myocardial oxygen supply and demand.** h, ventricular wall thickness; P, ventricular pressure; r, ventricular radius.

**\*\*\*\*Pressure X Rate Product**



# Law of LaPlace

$$T = P \times r$$

Tension = Press X radius  
“Cost” .

$$2T = P \times 2r$$

If radius (r) ↑, more tension is need for the same pressure.

Thus an **enlarged** heart has **greater demand (cost)**.

# Tissue Blood Flow and Tissue Vascular Resistance

(**\*\*\*Assume Perfusion Pressure is Constant \*\*\***)

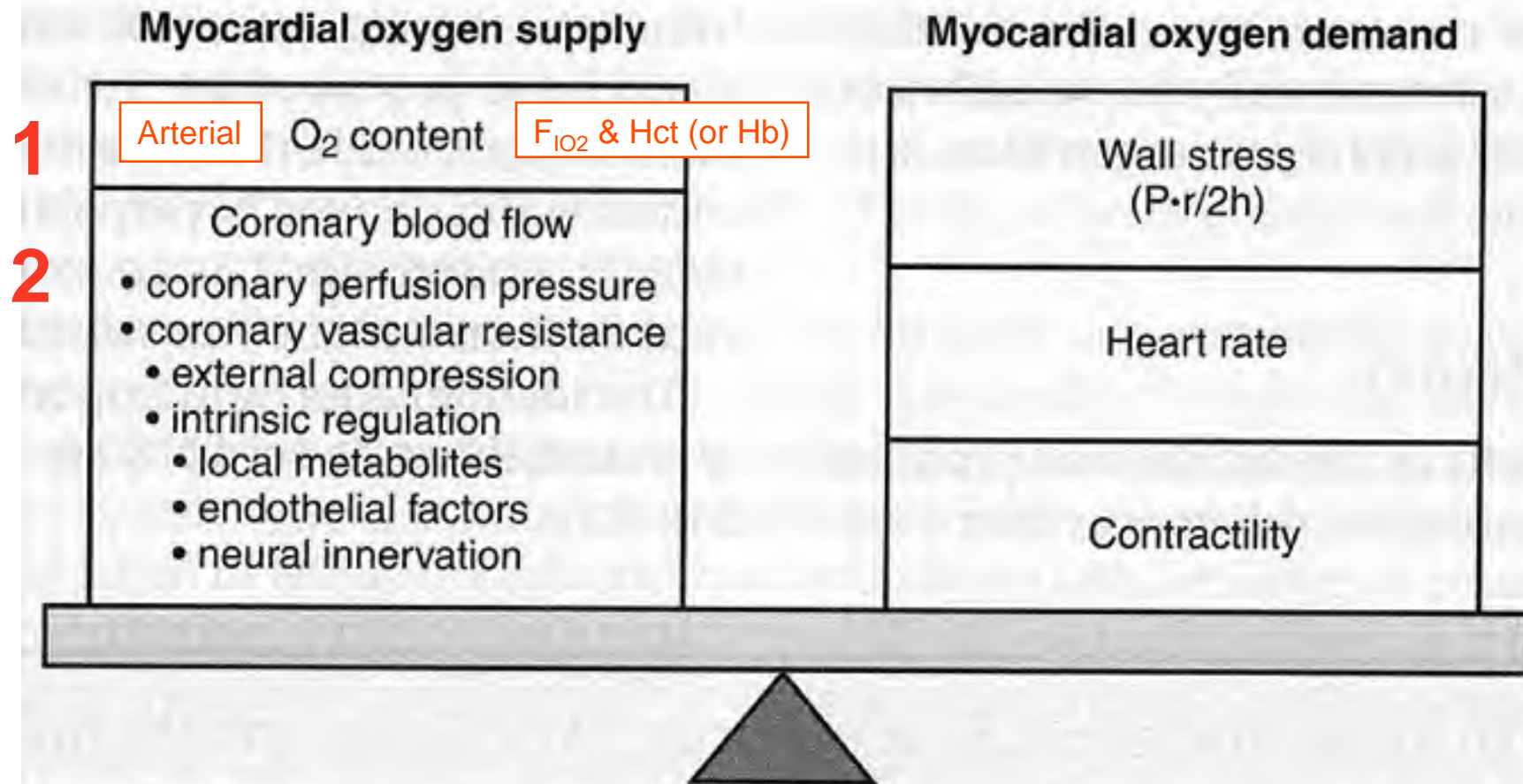
- **Vasoconstriction**

- $\Rightarrow \Downarrow r \Rightarrow \Uparrow R_{\text{tissue}} \Rightarrow \Downarrow F_{\text{tissue}}$

- **Vasodilation**

- $\Rightarrow \Uparrow r \Rightarrow \Downarrow R_{\text{tissue}} \Rightarrow \Uparrow F_{\text{tissue}}$

$$F_{\text{tissue}} = \frac{\text{Perfusion Pressure}}{R_{\text{tissue}}}$$



**Figure 6.1. Major determinants of myocardial oxygen supply and demand.** h, ventricular wall thickness; P, ventricular pressure; r, ventricular radius.

# Isolated Vascular Effects

1. **Sympathetic alpha adrenergic vasoconstriction  $\alpha_1$**
2. **Sympathetic beta adrenergic vasodilation**
  - $\beta_1$  (evidence for innervated VSM)
  - $\beta_2$  non-innervated VSM
3. **Parasympathetic cholinergic vasodilation**

**BUT HOW DOES IT WORK IN VIVO ?????**

## **Parasympathetic Activation**

**Stimulate parasympathetic to heart >> Ach >> SA node  
>> ↓↓ HR >> ↓↓ metabolism >> ↓↓ Coronary Blood flow**

**BUT**

**PACE heart (i.e. fixed heart rate) >> no change in HR >>  
no change metabolism ----- Therefore  
Stimulate parasympathetic to paced heart >> >>  
Ach vasodilation >> ↑↑ coronary blood flow !!**



# BUT HOW DOES IT WORK IN VIVO ????

## Sympathetic Activation

Stimulate sympathetic nerves to heart >> ↑↑ Norepi >>  
>> ↑↑ inotropism >> ↑↑ metabolism ++ >> ↑↑ HR >>  
↑↑ Coronary Blood flow

BUT

Block  $\beta_{1\&2}$  receptors and Stimulate sympathetics to heart  
>> ↑↑ Norepi (stress) >> no change in HR >> >> no change  
metabolism >> >> no change in inotropism >> potential for  
>> ↓↓ Coronary Blood flow  
by “unmasked”  $\alpha_1$  adrenergic vasoconstriction

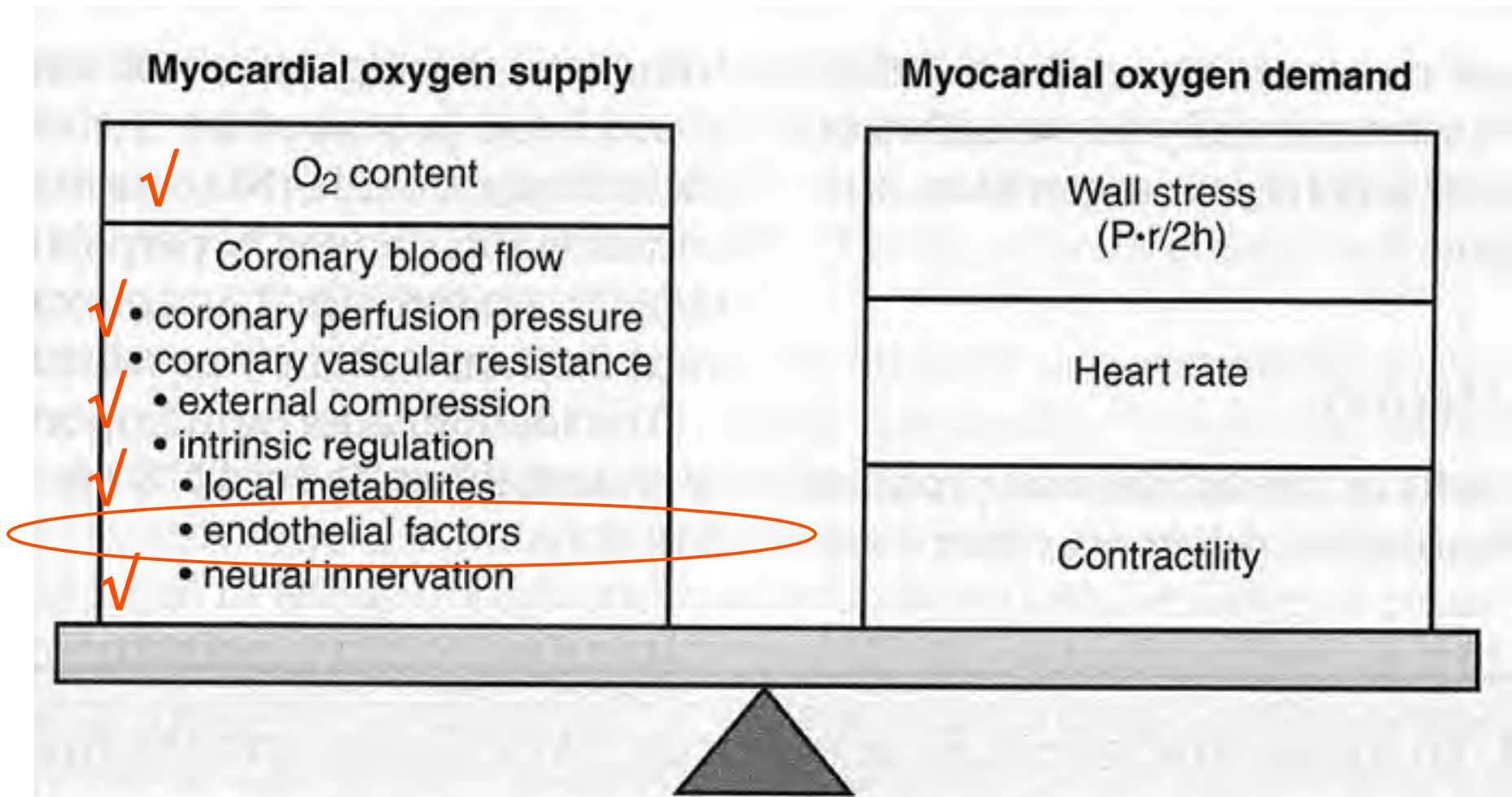
Can Metabolic control still dominate??

Flow Mediated Dilation

(FMD)

&

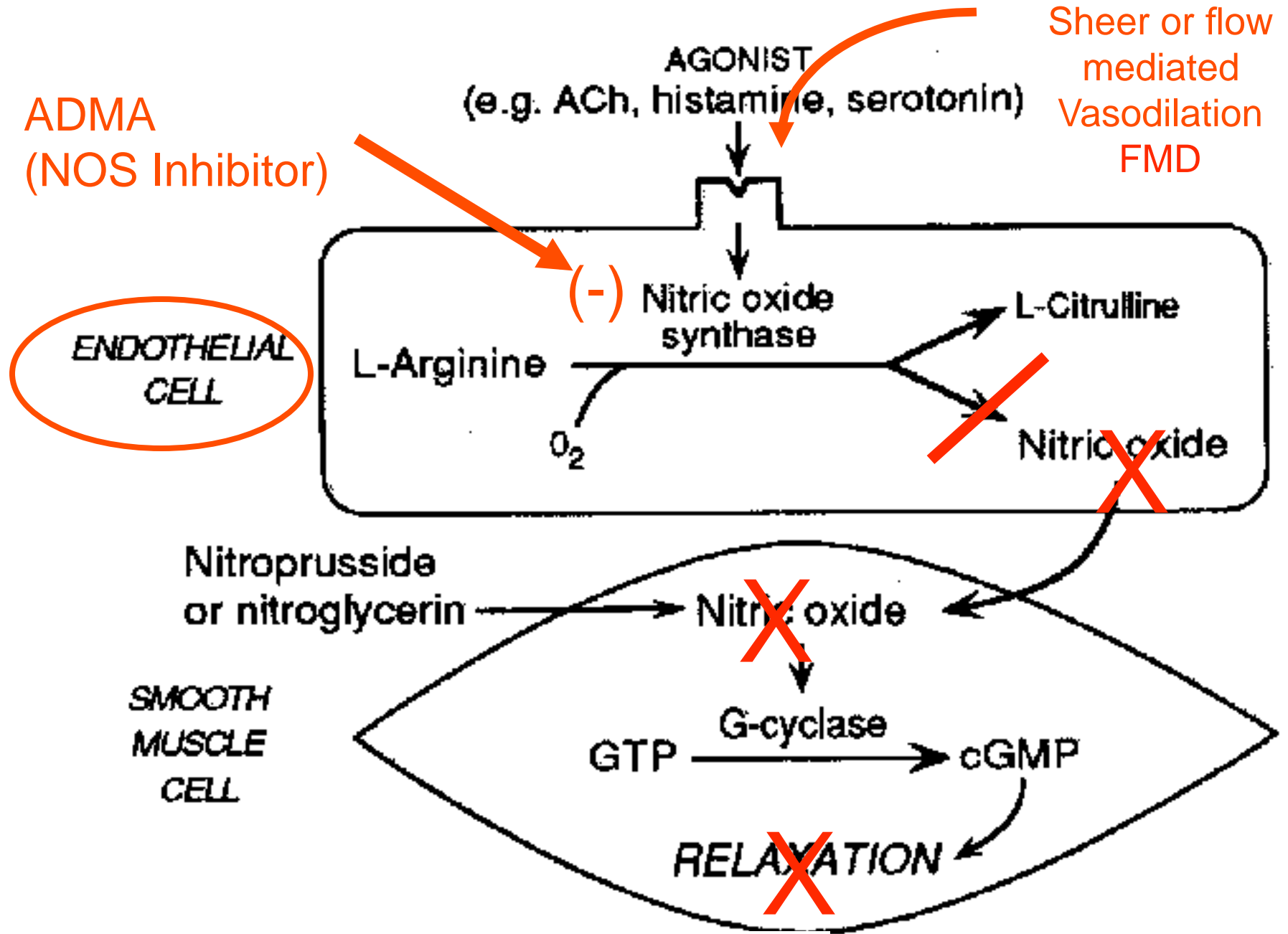
Coronary Stenosis



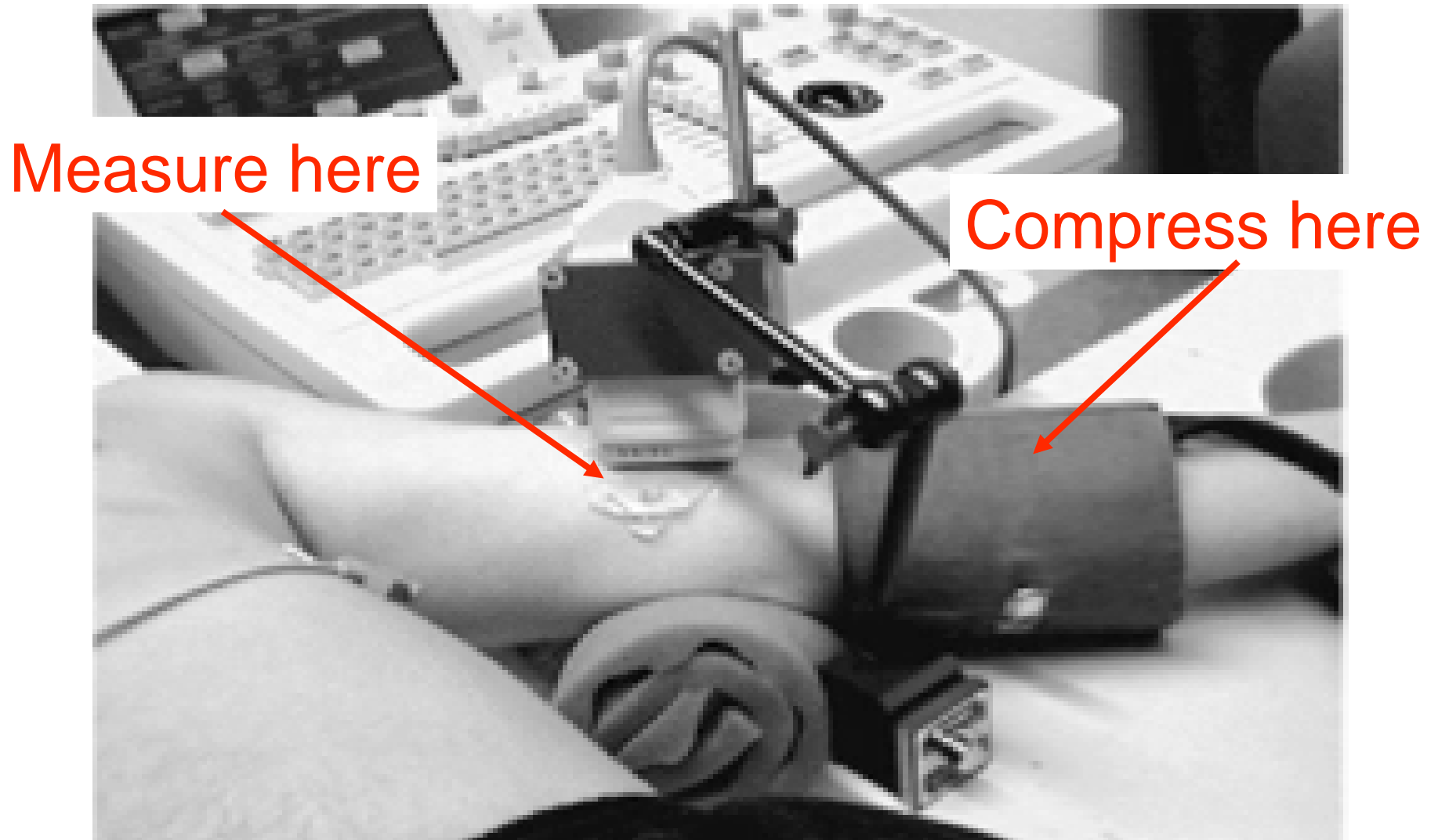
**Figure 6.1. Major determinants of myocardial oxygen supply and demand.** h, ventricular wall thickness; P, ventricular pressure; r, ventricular radius.

PD-TNCL Lilly, L. Pathophysiology of Heart Disease. Lippincott, 2007. 4<sup>th</sup> ed..

**FMD = Flow Mediated Dilation**



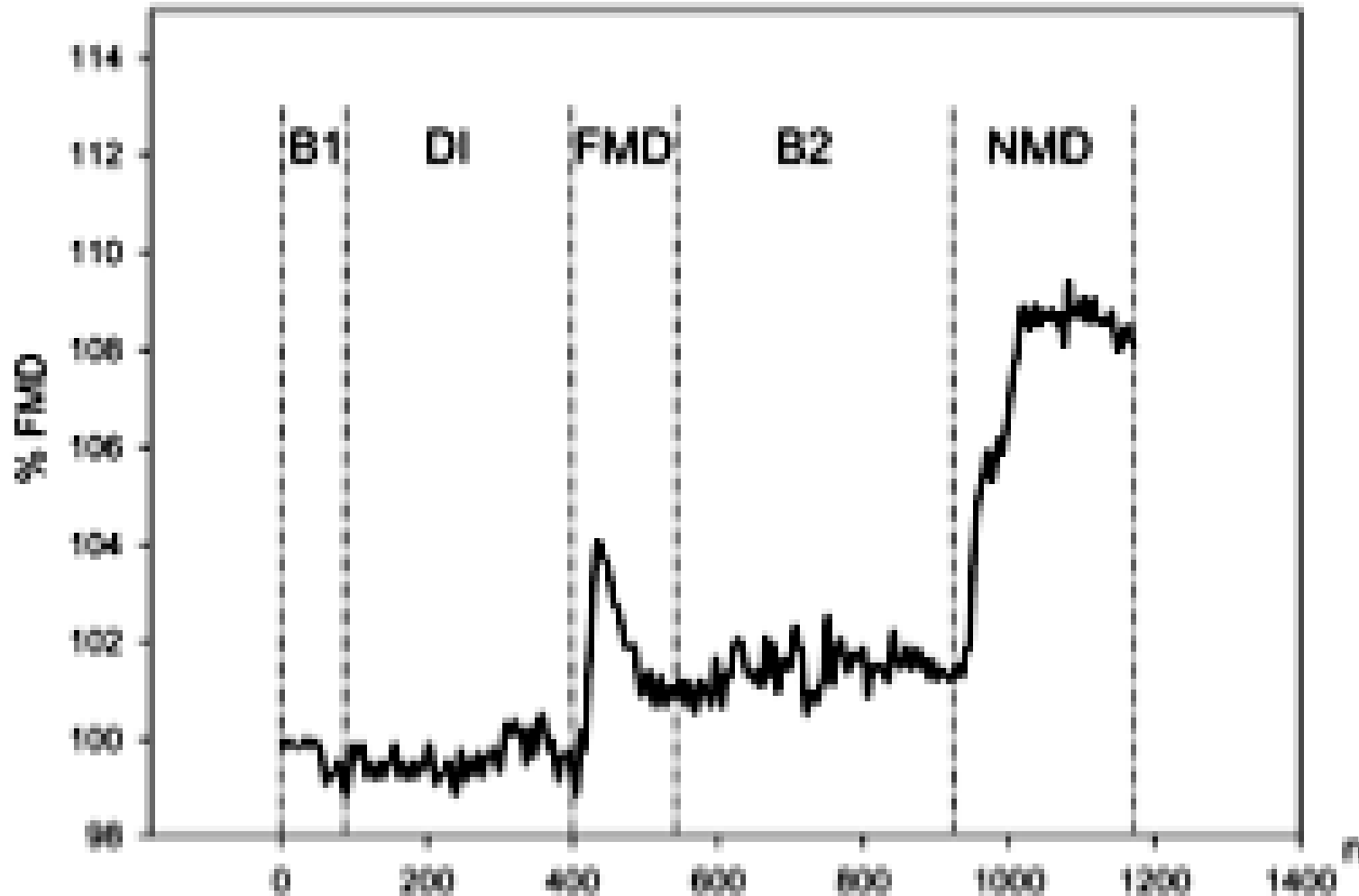
# FMD Setup of Arm, ultrasound, & cuff on fore arm

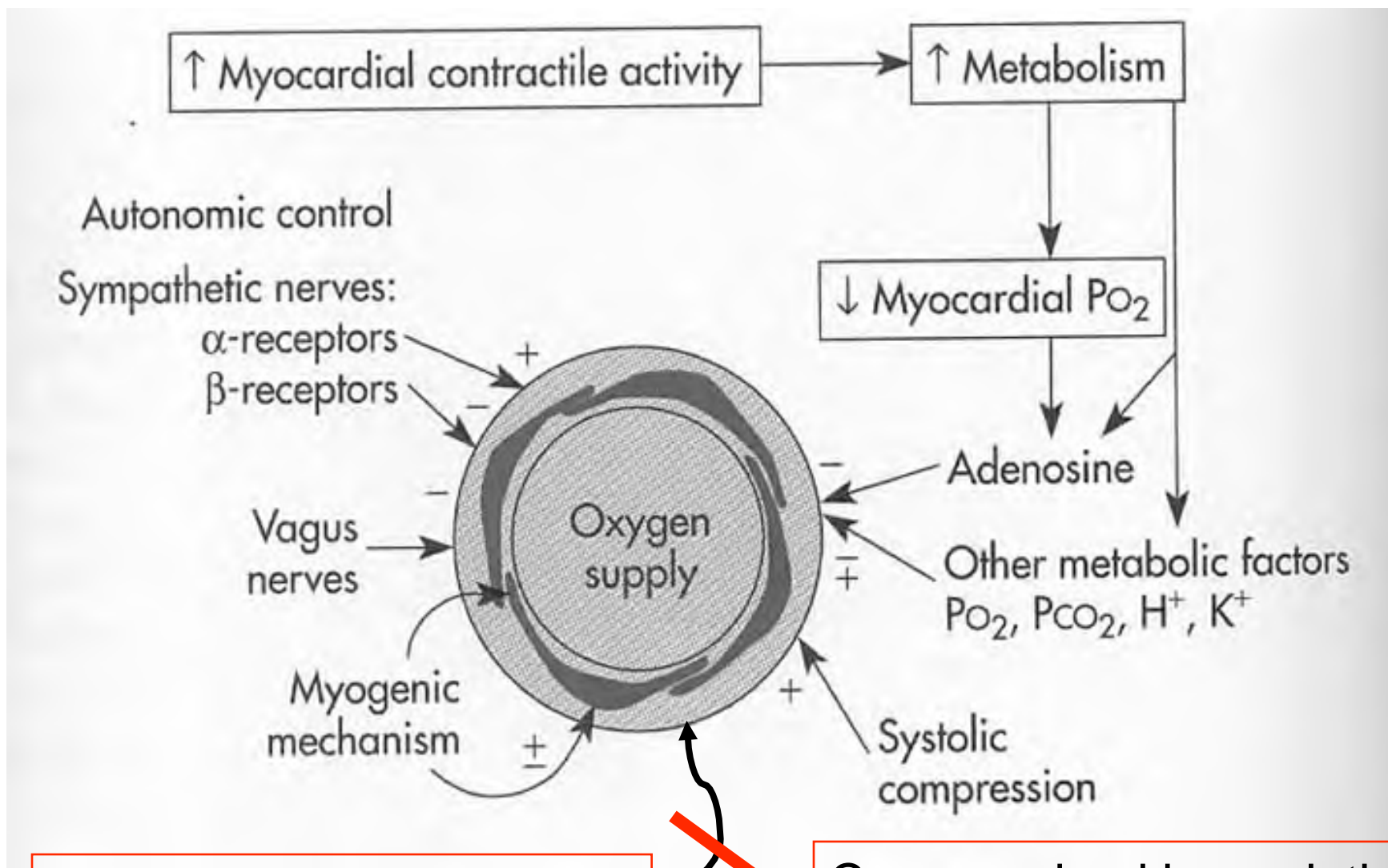




FMD = flow mediated dilation

NMD = nitroglycerine (Max)mediated dilation





NO mediated vasodilation

Compromised by endothelial dysfunction (?ADMA?)

lated that in normal individuals, the relaxation effect of EDRF-NO outweighs the direct  $\alpha$ -adrenergic constrictor effect of catecholamines on arterial smooth muscle, such that vasodilatation results. However, in patients with dysfunctional endothelium (e.g., atherosclerosis), an *impaired release of endothelial vasodilators* leaves the direct catecholamine effect unopposed, such that relative *vasoconstriction* occurs instead. The resultant decrease in coronary blood flow and myocardial oxygen supply contributes to ischemia. Of note, in patients with risk factors

# Ischemia

- blood flow to a tissue or organ that is **inadequate** to maintain **function**.
- i.e. myocardial ischemia (MI)

With the same perfusion pressure, the same measured flow means the overall (series) resistance is the same regardless of a focal lesion!  
**BUT \*\*\* You have used up vasodilator reserve !!!!!**

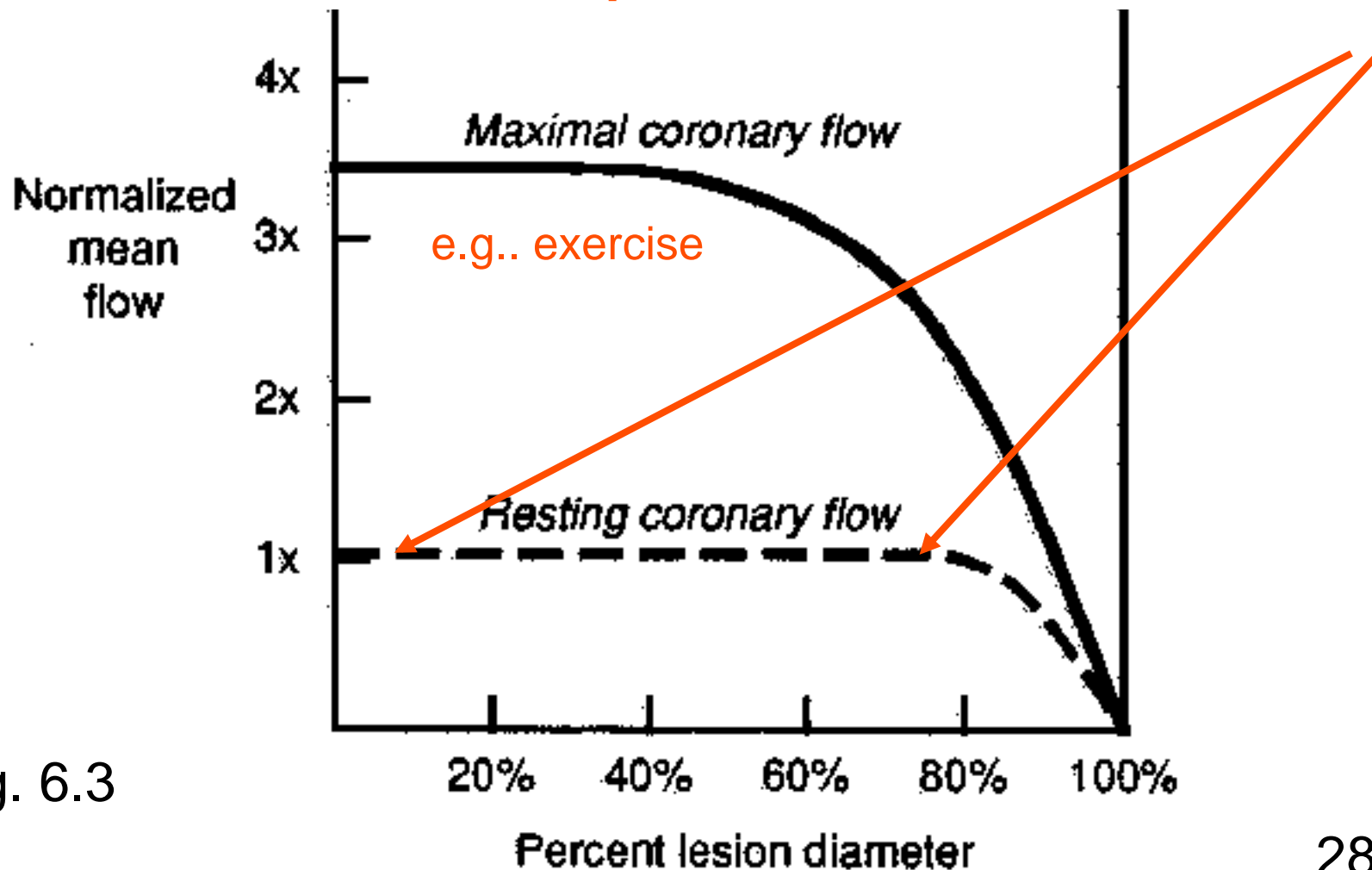
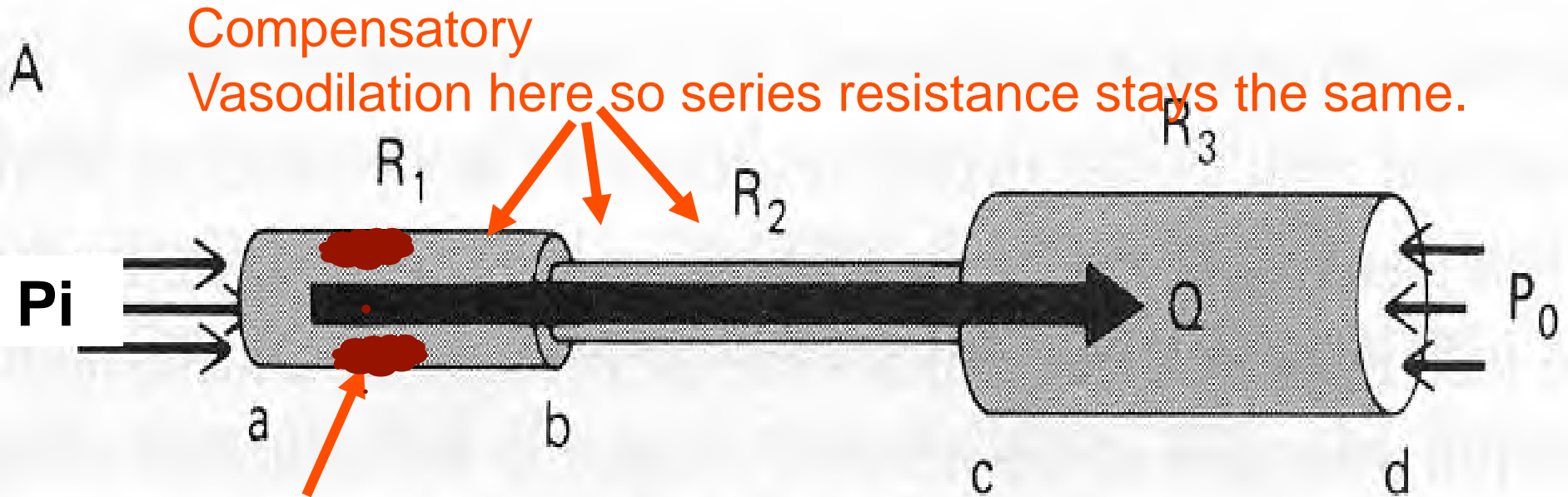


Fig. 6.3

# Series Resistance Network



Lesion here

$$R_s = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$$

$$\Delta P = P_i - P_0$$
$$\dot{Q} = \Delta P / R_s$$

# Additional Source Information

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Slide 5: Gray's Anatomy; Grey's Anatomy

Slide 7: Source Undetermined

Slide 8: Source Undetermined

Slide 9: Lilly, L. Pathophysiology of Heart Disease. Lippincott, 2007. 4th ed.

Slide 11: Lilly, L. Pathophysiology of Heart Disease. Lippincott, 2007. 4th ed.

Slide 12: Mohrman and Heller. Cardiovascular Physiology. McGraw-Hill, 2006. 6th ed.

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