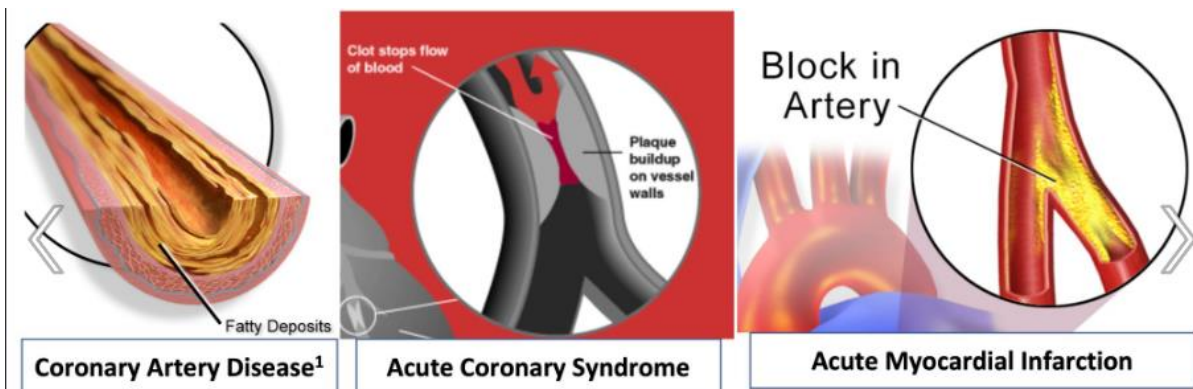


Demystifying journey from Coronary Artery Disease to Heart Attack

Heart Attack or Myocardial Infarction (as it is called in medical parlance) – is the end stage of a disease entity coronary artery disease.

From the onset of coronary artery disease (deposition of cholesterol within small and medium sized arteries of heart) till one reaches the stage of heart attack is a long journey of 5-15 years (depending on lifestyle of the person affected)

There are 3 stages of the spectrum of ischemic heart disease.



¹-"Medical gallery of Blausen Medical 2014". WikiJournal of Medicine 1 (2). DOI:10.15347/wjm/2014.010. ISSN 2002-4436.

1. Coronary artery disease – atherosclerotic plaque (deposits of cholesterol and triglycerides) build-up narrows or partially blocks the blood flow through one or more of the 3 important coronary arteries. Chest discomfort (angina) is the most common symptom. On progression, it can lead to a heart attack or other complications like arrhythmia or heart failure.

2. Acute Coronary Syndrome – The American Heart Association describes acute coronary syndrome as an umbrella term for situations where the blood supplied to the heart muscle is abruptly blocked. It is an absolute medical emergency. The heart muscle is dying.
3. Acute Myocardial infarction – This is actual death of heart muscle (myocardium) resulting from acute obstruction of one of coronary artery branches.

[#heartdisease](#) [#heartattack](#) [#heartfailure](#) [#heart](#) [#cholesterol](#)