**Physics of Medical Devices** 

Fourth lecture Electrocardiograph I

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# The heart and potential source

## Anatomy of the Heart

- The heart, a fist-sized muscular organ located in the mediastinum, is the central structure of the cardiovascular system.
- It is protected by the bony structures of the sternum anteriorly, the spinal column posteriorly, and the rib cage.
- The heart is roughly conical, with the base of the cone at the top of the heart and the apex (the pointed part) at the bottom.



Location of the heart



Layers of the heart

### Heart Valves:

Properties of Heart Valves

Fibrous connective tissue prevents enlargement of valve openings and anchors valve flaps.

■ Valve closure prevents backflow of blood during and after contraction.



#### Heart Chambers and Great Vessels

- ✓ The heart is a hollow muscle with an internal skeleton of connective tissue that creates four separate chambers.
- $\checkmark$  The superior chambers of the heart are the right and left atria.
- Their primary function is to collect blood as it enters the heart and to help fill the lower chambers.
- ✓ The more thickly muscled lower chambers of the heart are the ventricles.



*Heart–Anterior section (arrows show direction of blood flow)* 

## Coronary Arteries and Veins

- The coronary arteries and veins provide blood to the heart muscle and the electrical conduction system.
- The left and right coronary arteries are the first to branch off the aorta, just above the leaflets of the aortic valve.



#### Anatomy of the Cardiovascular System

- The cardiovascular system is a closed system consisting of the heart and all the blood vessels.
- Arteries and veins are connected by smaller structures that transport substances needed for cellular metabolism to body systems and remove the waste products of metabolism from those same tissues.
- Arteries carry blood away from the heart and, with the exception of the pulmonary arteries, transport oxygenated blood.
- Veins move blood toward the heart. With the exception of the pulmonary veins, they carry blood that is low in oxygen and high in carbon dioxide.



**Blood vessels-Cross-section**