

XV. Diseases of the Cardiovascular System

3 - Suppurative Pericarditis				
	<i>Visceral pericardium:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is coated with a purulent exudate • Pus appears dirty yellow and is slightly haemorrhagic • The exudate is thick in parts, thin in other parts 		
	<i>Heart</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About normal in size (or slightly enlarged) • Irregular rough external surface 		

N.B.:

- During dissection, **pus was separating the pericardial sac-walls.**
- Pyogenic infection of the pericardium is caused by **pneumococcus, streptococcus, staphylococcus, gonococcus, influenza bacillus and colon bacillus.**
- The particular micro-organisms spread to the Pericardium by way of:
 1. **Lymphatics** from neighboring inflamed organs.
 2. Through blood stream when the site of the primary infection is far from the respiratory tract (middle ear of tube infection).
- **Purulent pericarditis may also be due to mycotic, parasitic or tuberculous infection.**





organized inflammation over the surface of the heart
→ contracts down → atrial fibrillation
fibrotic → loses ability to relax
can't fill up with blood → stroke



The heart is surrounded by a thick layer of organizing purulent