

XV. Diseases of the Cardiovascular System

4. Adhesive Pericarditis - Chronic Rheumatic Valvulitis - Cardiac Hypertrophy and Dilatation

	<i>Visceral pericardium</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows thick adhesions • Is roughened by excess of fibrous tissue • Pale white 	
	<i>Heart</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is enlarged (markedly) 	
	<i>Myocardium</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertrophied 	
	<i>Left auricle</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dilated • Shows a mural thrombus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large ○ Granular Friable (in parts) ○ Adherent (in parts) 	
	<i>Chorda tendinae</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortened • Thick • With scarred apices 	



	<i>Tricuspid orifice</i>	Narrowed	
	<i>Pulmonary valve</i>	<i>Cusps</i>	Thick Rigid
		<i>Opening:</i>	Narrowed
	<i>Mitral valve</i>	Cusps	Are exposed Thick Rigid Opaque
	<i>Aortic valve</i>	<i>Opening</i>	Is stenosed

N.B.:

- Almost **all the valves** are affected in this case.
- The association of **aortic stenosis and adherent pericardium** → marked **general cardiac hypertrophy**.

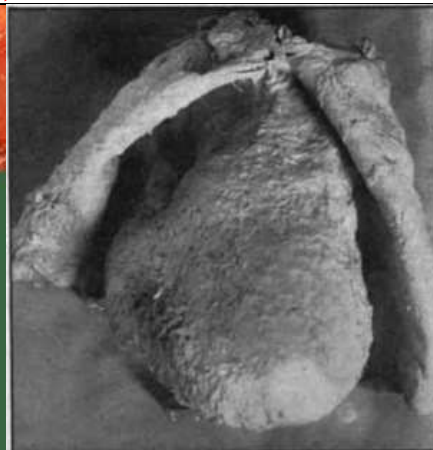


5. Rheumatic Pericarditis (Serofibrinous pericarditis)

	<i>Pericardium</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has lost its natural glossy appearance • Fibrin appears on visceral and parietal layers • Pinkish-yellowish shaggy appearance
	<i>Heart</i>	About normal in size

NB:

- An excess of clear serous fluid was present in the pericardial sac (**effusion**).
- The fluid was moderate in quantity, serous in nature as well as being fibrinous (**Fibrin forms a conspicuous element**).



Aschoff Body in Acute Rheumatic Carditis

