

XV. Diseases of the Cardiovascular System


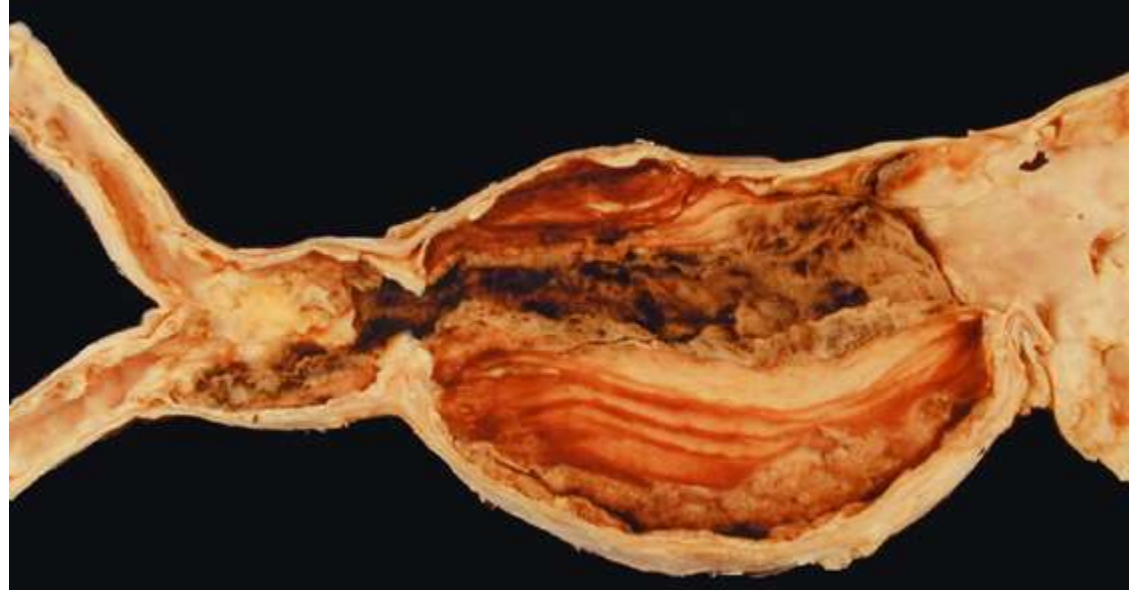
Syphilis, Aortitis, Aneurism		I- 6.33242	
Heart:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is enlarged 		
Left ventricle:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertrophied (slightly) 		
Aortic ring:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dilated 		
Aortic valve:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cusps: No gross change 		
Arch of aorta:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows saccular aneurismal dilatation • Sac-wall: Shows early thrombosis 		
Aorta:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows pale yellow patches • Few wavy lines • Small linear depressions • Grey raised plaques 		


N.B.:

Aneurisms of the aorta may be:

1. **Saccular**, caused entirely by syphilis.
2. **Fusiform**, caused also by syphilis (but occasionally by extensive atheroma as in abdominal aorta).



Syphilitic Aortitis			
Heart	Is opened Enlarged		
Left ventricle	Myocardium: Is hypertrophied		
Aorta	Shows fusiform aneurismal dilatation Is markedly-adherent to the pulmonary artery		
	Syphilitic changes:	Arborization Bark-tree appearance	
N.B.: Characteristics of syphilitic aortic aneurism:			
Orifice of aneurismal sac:	Smooth rolled edge		
Adjoining part of aorta:	Syphilitic changes in various stages.		
Walls of aneurismal sac:	Of thin white fibrous tissue.		
Cavity of sac:	Contains layers of thrombi: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent. • Old. Laminated (in parts). • Organized (in parts). 		
			

Aortic Aneurism	
Aorta (abdominal):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows a saccular aneurismal dilatation
The aneurism:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate in size • Saccular in form • Is filled with a reddish-grey thrombus
<p>NB.: Possibilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It may be syphilitic; but, syphilis is rare in the abdominal aorta. 2. It could also be a dissecting aneurism. This is not a true aneurism but it is due to the splitting of media as a result of haemorrhage caused by an atheroma. 3. It may be medionecrosis of the aorta causing rupture of vasa vasorum. 	
	

	<p>Figure 66 Nature Thrombosis with Aneurism Specimen No. 1-6.33243 Reference P. 147</p>
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