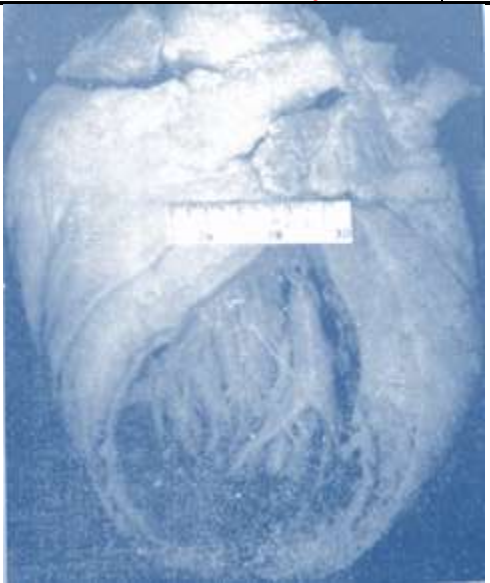



XV. Diseases of the Cardiovascular System



Infarct (recent) 1-3.251			
Pericardium	Shows a patch of fibrinous exudate		
Heart	Is opened & normal in size		
Interventricular septum:	Is ruptured and shows an infarct (at anterior part)		
Myocardium of left ventricle:	Shows a recent haemorrhagic infarct at apex		
Endocardium over the infarct:	Is dull		
 <p><i>Figure44</i> Nature Recent Infarct Specimen No. 1-3.251 Reference P. 129</p>		 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute antero-apico-septal myocardial infarction in a 43 y/o male. • There is biventricular hypertrophy and a mural thrombus at the apex. • There was history of obesity, smoking and type II diabetes. The patient died suddenly. • There was severe atherosclerosis-induced narrowing of the major coronary vessels. 	

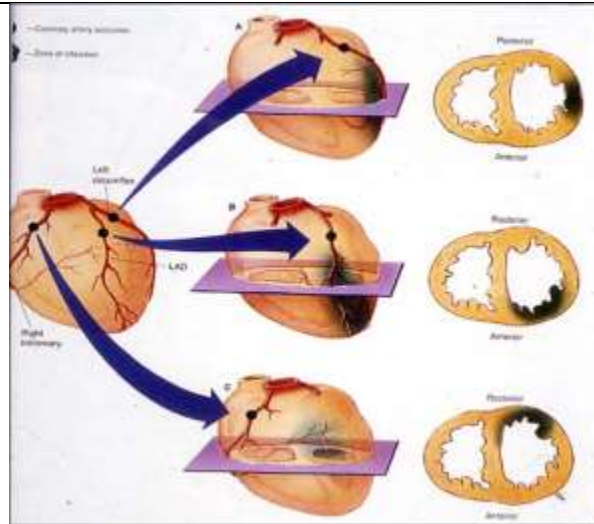


Fresh mural thrombus attached to the left ventricular wall of this 66 y/o male who had acute myocardial infarction.

- Following a myocardial infarction (MI), the contractility of the affected muscle is abnormal and often leads to circulatory stasis.
- The **damaged endocardium, in the presence of stasis, creates a thrombogenic surface and easily leads to the formation of a mural thrombus.**
- The thrombus can embolize and cause further problems downstream.
- The image shows a large mural thrombus attached to the right ventricular wall.
- The patient was a 58 y/o male with severe atherosclerosis-induced narrowing of the major coronary vessels who suffered MI.

N.B.

- The infarct was due to occlusion of a branch of the coronary artery (anterior descending, left) by thrombosis superimposed upon an atheroma.
- The sites of infarcts depend upon the branches of the coronary vessels affected by the obstruction.
- With few exceptions, the following is a guide:
 - **Anterior descending branch (left coronary) →**
 1. Anterior part of interventricular septum.
 2. *Apical and anterior part of wall of left ventricle.*
 - **Circumflex branch (left coronary) →**
 - *Median portion of wall of left ventricle.*
 - **Right coronary artery →**
 1. Posterior half of interventricular septum.
 2. Posterior part of wall of left ventricle.



Infarct (Old) I -3.252.				
Heart	Is opened About normal in size			
Left ventricle	Shows: A mural thrombus in the cavity			
The infarct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An infarct in the anterior wall • Small in size • Healed • Appears as an area of pale white fibrous tissue • Greyish-white in most parts 			