**Medical Terminology of Cardiovascular Disease**

Angio/o- vessel

Arteri/o- artery

Brad/y- slow

Cardi/o- heart

Cereb/o- brain

Cor- heart

Cyan/o- blue

Gram/o- record or picture

Hemangl/o- blood vessels

My/o- muscle

Orrhex’s- rupture

Phleb/o- vein

Scler/o- hard

Tach/y- fast

Thromb/o- clot

Vas/o – vessel

Varix- swollen vein

Vena- vein

Xanta/o- yellow

**Cardiovascular Diagnostic Terms**

Aneurysm- weakened portion of the blood vessel wall

Arteriosclerosis- general term for thickening of the walls of the blood vessel with a resulting loss of vascular elasticity and narrowed lumen

Atheroma- the lipid deposits in the intima of the arteries, producing a yellow swelling on the endothelial surface, characteristic of arthrosclerosis

Atherosclerosis- thickening of the blood vessel walls specifically caused by the presence of plaque

Cardiac arrest- sudden unexpected loss of heart function, breathing and consciousness

Cardiac cachexia- cardiovascular disease associated with malnutrition/ wasting syndrome characterized by extreme skeletal muscle wasting, fatigue and anorexia

Cardiomegaly- enlargement of the heart

Cerebrovascular accident (CVA)- term for cerebral stroke

Congestive heart failure- impairment of the ventricles capacity to eject blood from the heart or to fill with blood

Coronary heart disease (CHD)- the narrowing of blockage of the coronary arteries usually caused by atherosclerosis

Dyslipidemia- an abnormal amount of lipid in the blood

Embolism- blood clos that breaks from the cellular surface and freely moves through the circulation

Fatty streaks- the fist grossly visible lesion in the development of atherosclerosis which appears as an irregular yellow-white discoloration on the luminal surface of an artery

Homocysteine- a homologue of cysteine, produced by demethylation of methionine and an intermediated in the biosynthesis of 1-cystine, 1 methionine. Elevated levels have been associated with certain forms of heart disease

Hypercholesterolemia- the presence of an abnormally large amount of cholesterol in the blood

Hyperlipoproteinemia- an increased amount of lipoprotein concentration of the blood

Hypertension (HTN)- condition of chronically elevated blood pressure

Ischemia- inadequate supply of oxygen

Myocardial infarction (MI)- necrosis of the myocardial cells as a result of oxygen deprivation

Myocarditis- inflammation of the muscular walls of the heart

Plaque- swelling in artery walls made up of (mostly) macrophage cells or debris and containing lipids (cholesterol and fatty acids)

Thrombus- blood clot

**Cardiovascular Symptomatic Terms**

Angina syndrome; angina pectoris- severe constricting pain or sensation of pressure in the chest, often radiating from the precordium to a shoulder (usually left) and down the arm resulting from ischemia of the hart muscle usually caused by coronary disease

Anoxia- absence of almost complete absence of oxygen from inspired gases, arterial blood or tissues

Asystole- absence of contraction of the heart

Bradycardia- slowness of the heartbeat usually defined as a rat of less than 50 beats/ minute

Cardia edema- the build of up fluids in interstitial tissue as a result of CHF

Claudication- pain caused by too little blood flow during exercise

Ischemia- inadequate supply of oxygen

Cerebral- insufficient blood flow to the brain

Myocardial- insufficient blood flow to the heart muscle

Palpitation- forcible or irregular pulsation of the heart, perceptible to the patient, usually with an increase in frequency or force with or without irregularity in rhythm

Systole- contraction of the heart, especially of the ventricles by which the blood is driven through the aorta and pulmonary artery to traverse the systemic and pulmonary circulations

Tachycardia- rapid beating of the heart

Vasoconstriction- narrowing of the blood vessels

Vasodepression- reduction of the tone in the blood vessels with vasodilation and resulting in lowered blood pressure

Xanthoma- a yellow nodule of plaque especially of the skin, composed of lipid- laden histiocytes

**Cardiovascular Abbreviations**

CABG- coronary artery bypass grafting

AHA- American heart association

AI- adequate intake

ASHD- artherosclerosis heart disease

atr- atrophy

AV- arteriovenous

BP- blood pressure

brady- slow

BV- blood vessel/ blood volume

CAD- coronary artery disease

cardio- related to the heart

CBC- complete blood count

CCCR- closed chest cardiopulmonary resuscitation

CCU- coronary care unit

CHD- coronary heart disease

CHF- congestive heart failure

Chol- cholesterol

CP- chest pain

CRP- cardiopulmonary resuscitation

CVA- cerebrovascular accident

ECG/ EKG- electrocardiogram

FFA- free fatty acid

fib- fibrillation

HCVD- hypertensive cardiovascular disease

HTN/HPN- hypertension

MI- myocardial infarction

MS- multiple sclerosis

MVR- mitral valve replacement

HTG- hypertriglyceridemia

OHS- open heart surgery

PA- pulmonary artery

PT- prothrombin time

RHD- rheumatic heart disease

SOB- shortness of breath

tach- tachycardia

TG- triglyceride

Throm- thrombus

Vent- ventral; ventricle