

# ANATOMY OF THE HEART

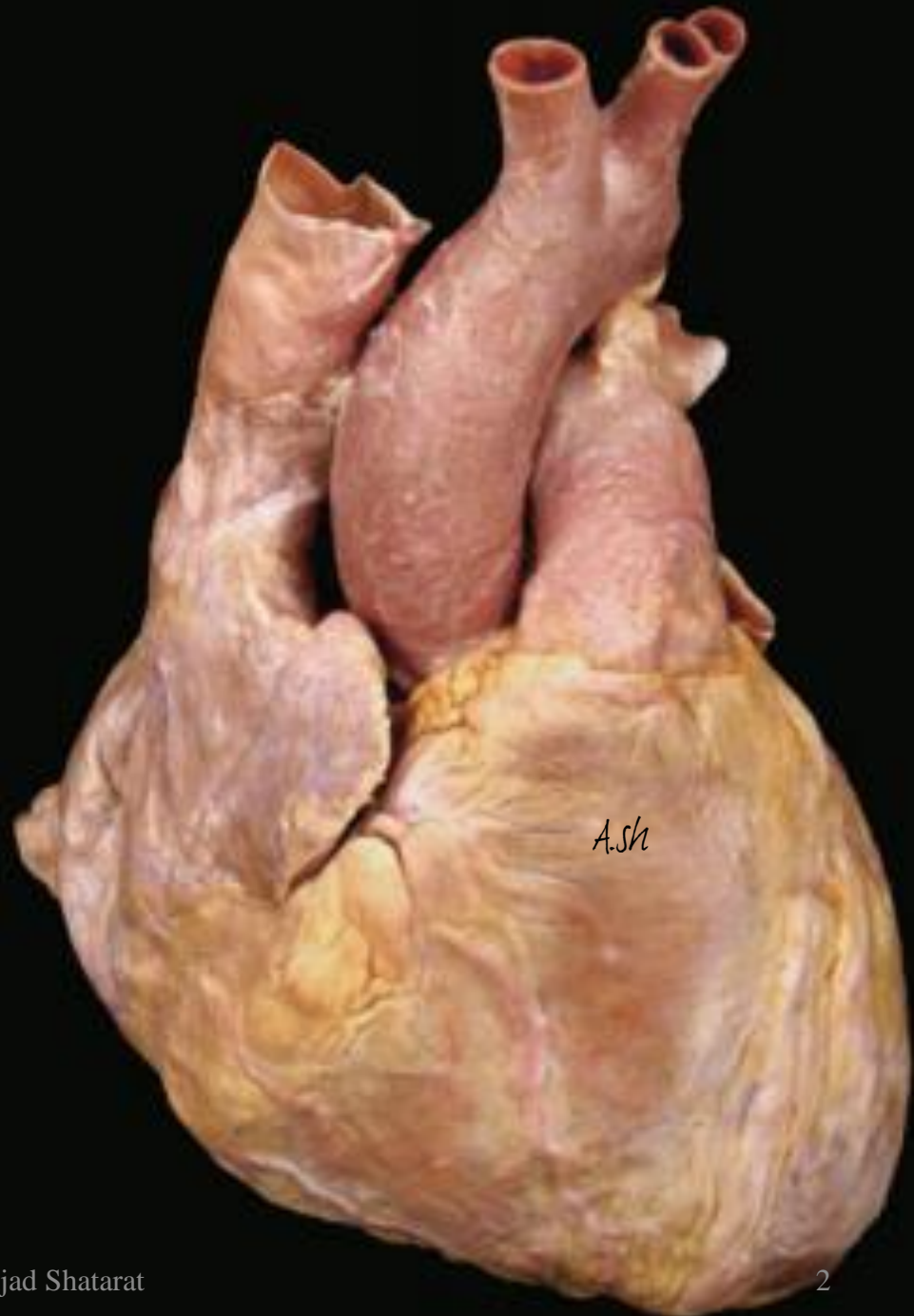
# The Heart

- The heart, slightly larger than one's loosely clenched fist
- It is a double, self-adjusting suction and pressure pump  
(Moore, clinically oriented Anatomy)

The heart is a pair of valved muscular pumps combined in a single organ  
(Gray's Anatomy)

- The general shape of the heart is that of a pyramid that has fallen over and is resting on one of its sides.

It has:  
AN APEX  
A BASE  
4 SURFACES & BORDERS



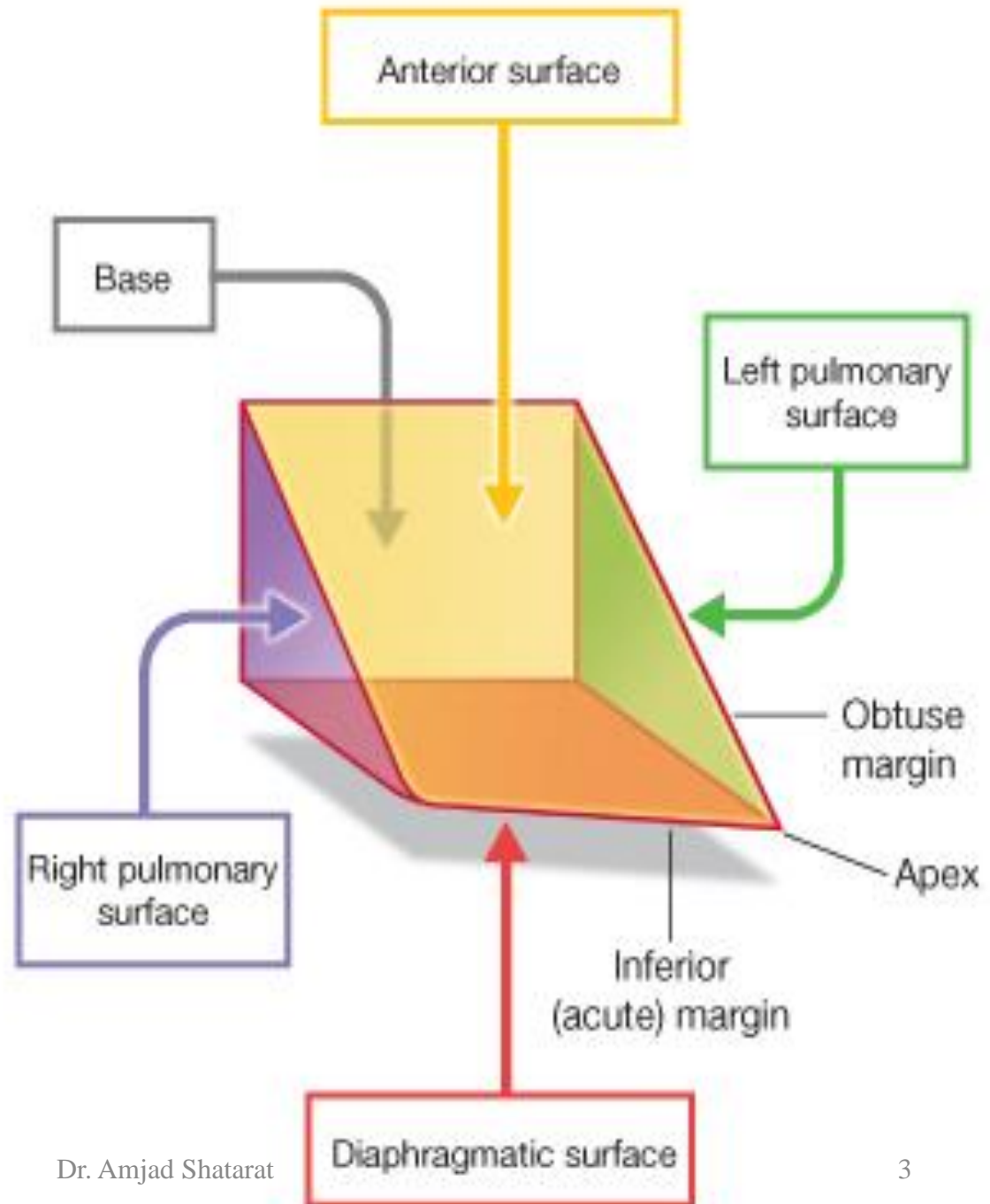
**The surfaces of the pyramid consist of:**

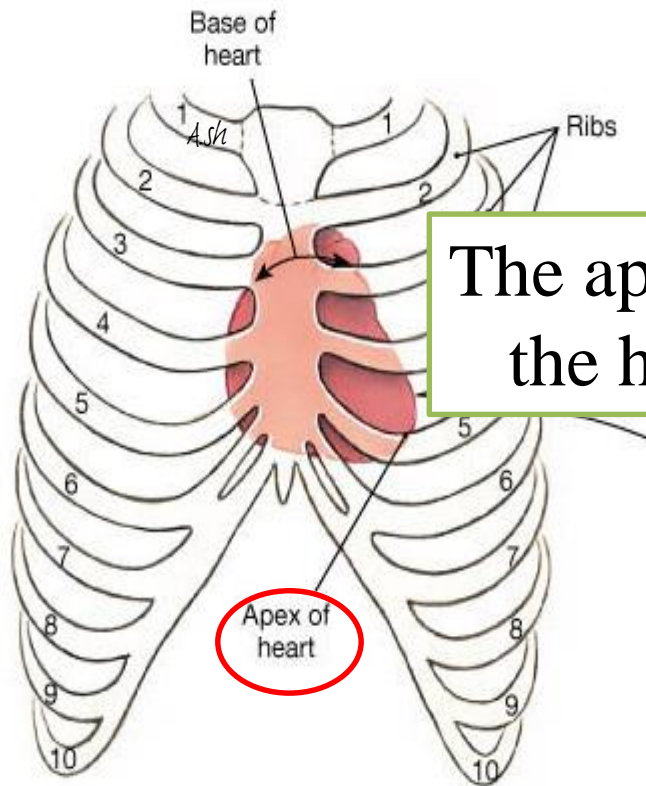
**1-a diaphragmatic (inferior)**

**2-anterior (sternocostal) surface**

**3-right pulmonary surface**

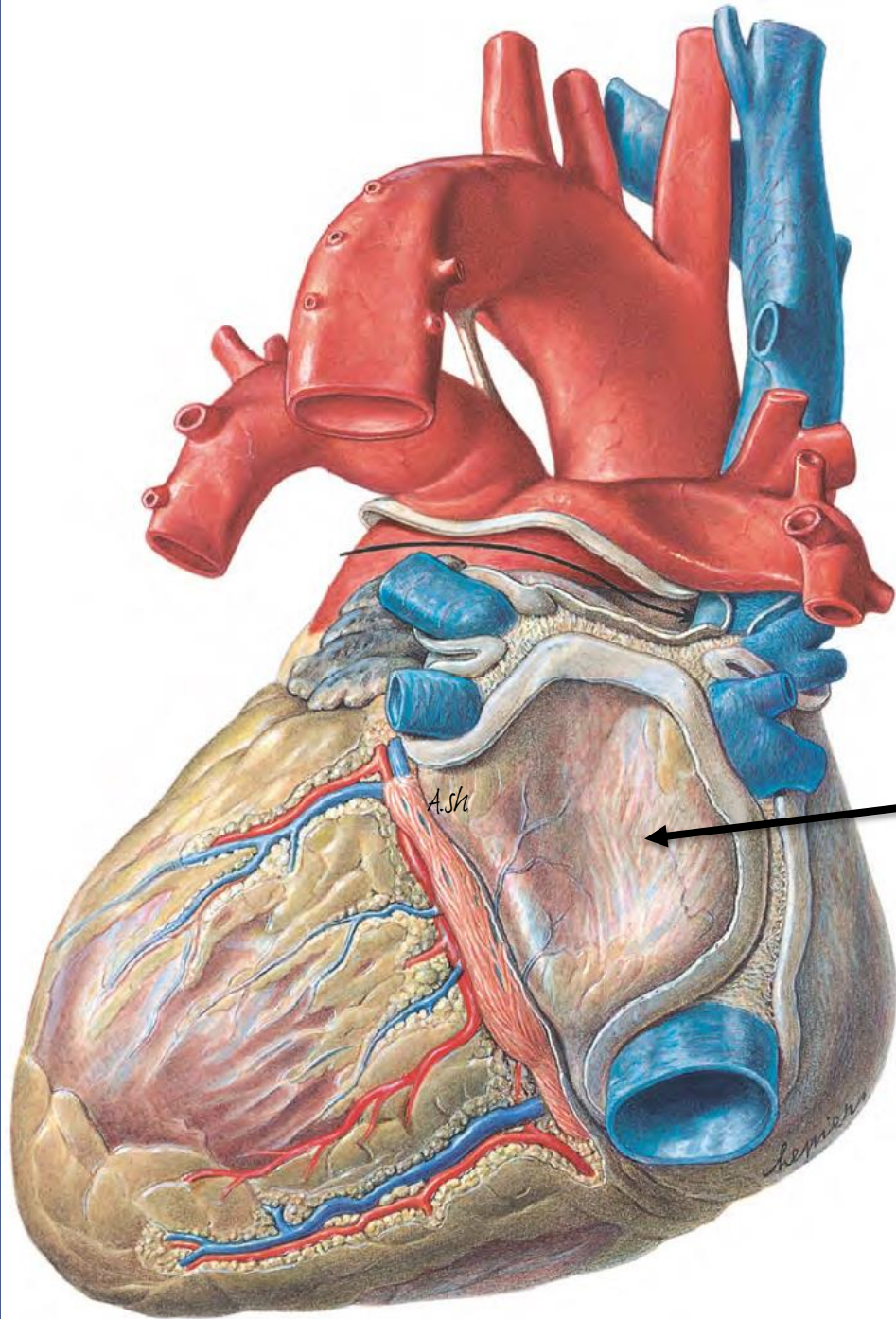
**4-left pulmonary surface**





## The apex of the heart

- Is formed by the **inferolateral** part of **the left ventricle**
- It is directed downward forward, and to the left
  - Lies posterior to **the left 5th intercostal space** usually approximately **9 cm** (**a hand's breadth**) from the median plane
- It is where the sounds of **mitral valve closure** are maximal (apex beat); the apex underlies the site where the heartbeat may be **auscultated** on the thoracic wall



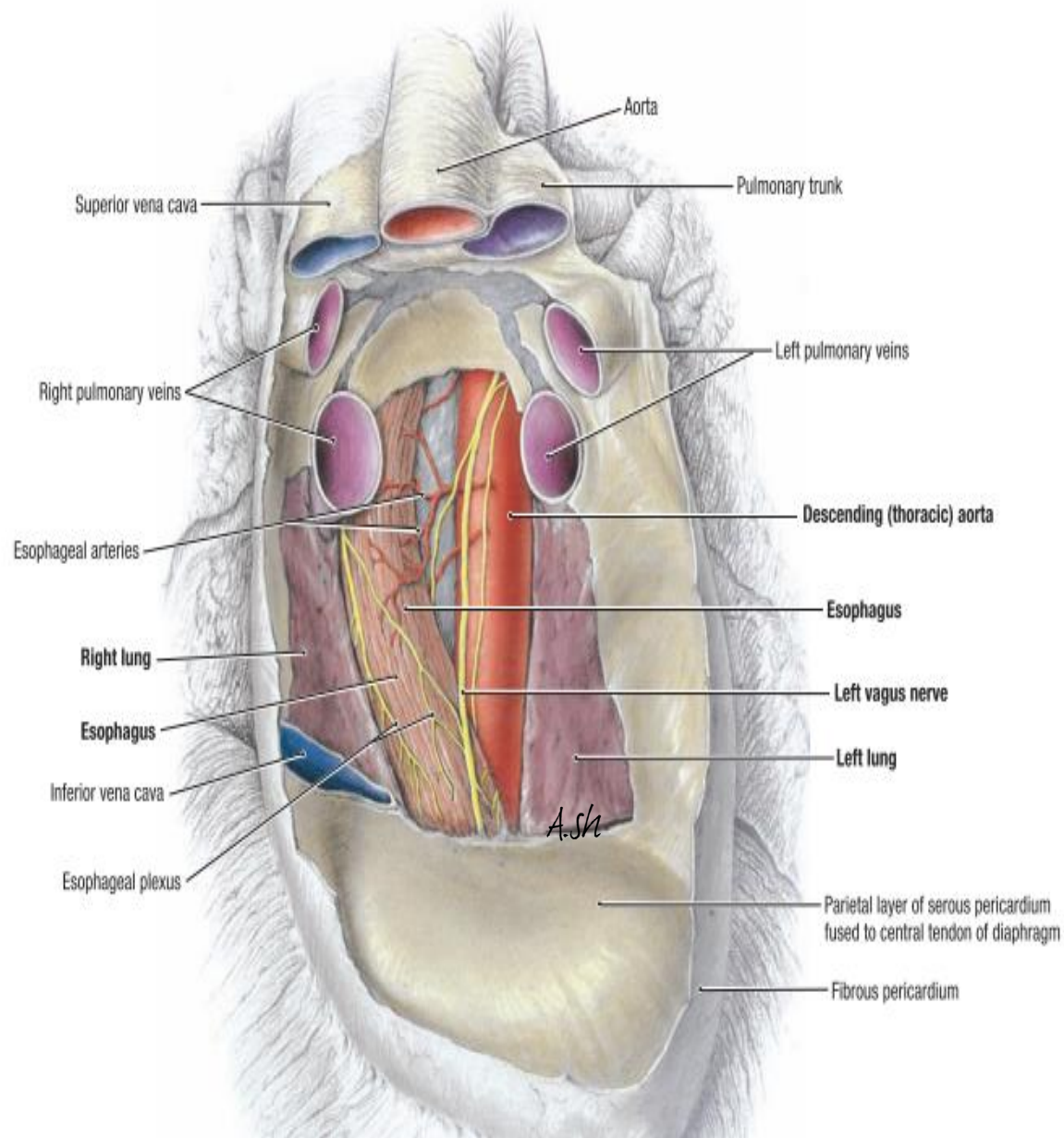
## The base of the heart

- Is the heart's posterior aspect
  - Is formed mainly by ***the left atrium***, with a lesser contribution by the right atrium.



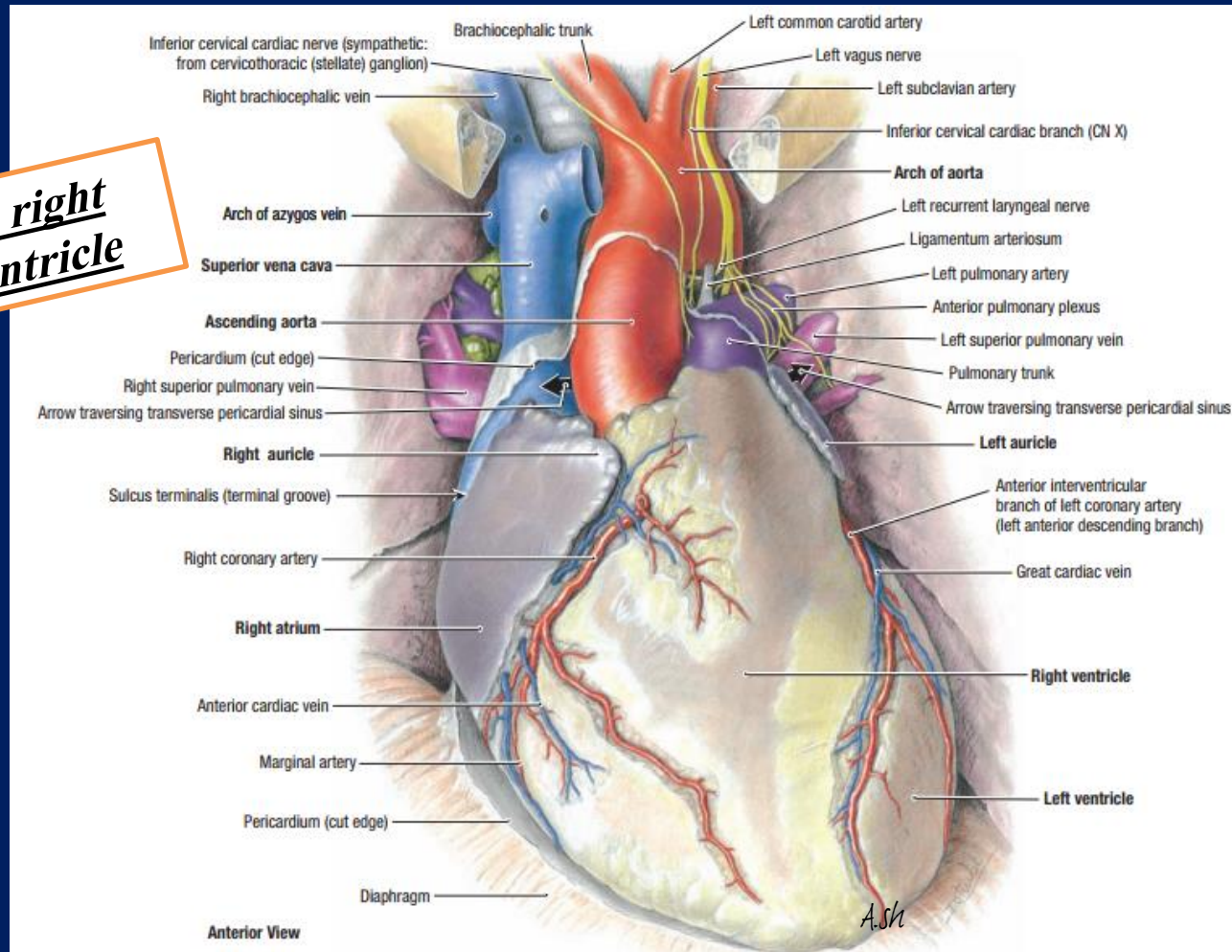
# The base of the heart

Faces posteriorly toward the  
bodies of  
**vertebrae T6–T9**  
and  
is separated from them by  
**the pericardium**  
**oblique pericardial sinus**  
**Esophagus**  
**aorta**



# *The sternocostal surface*

*is formed mainly by the right atrium and the right ventricle*

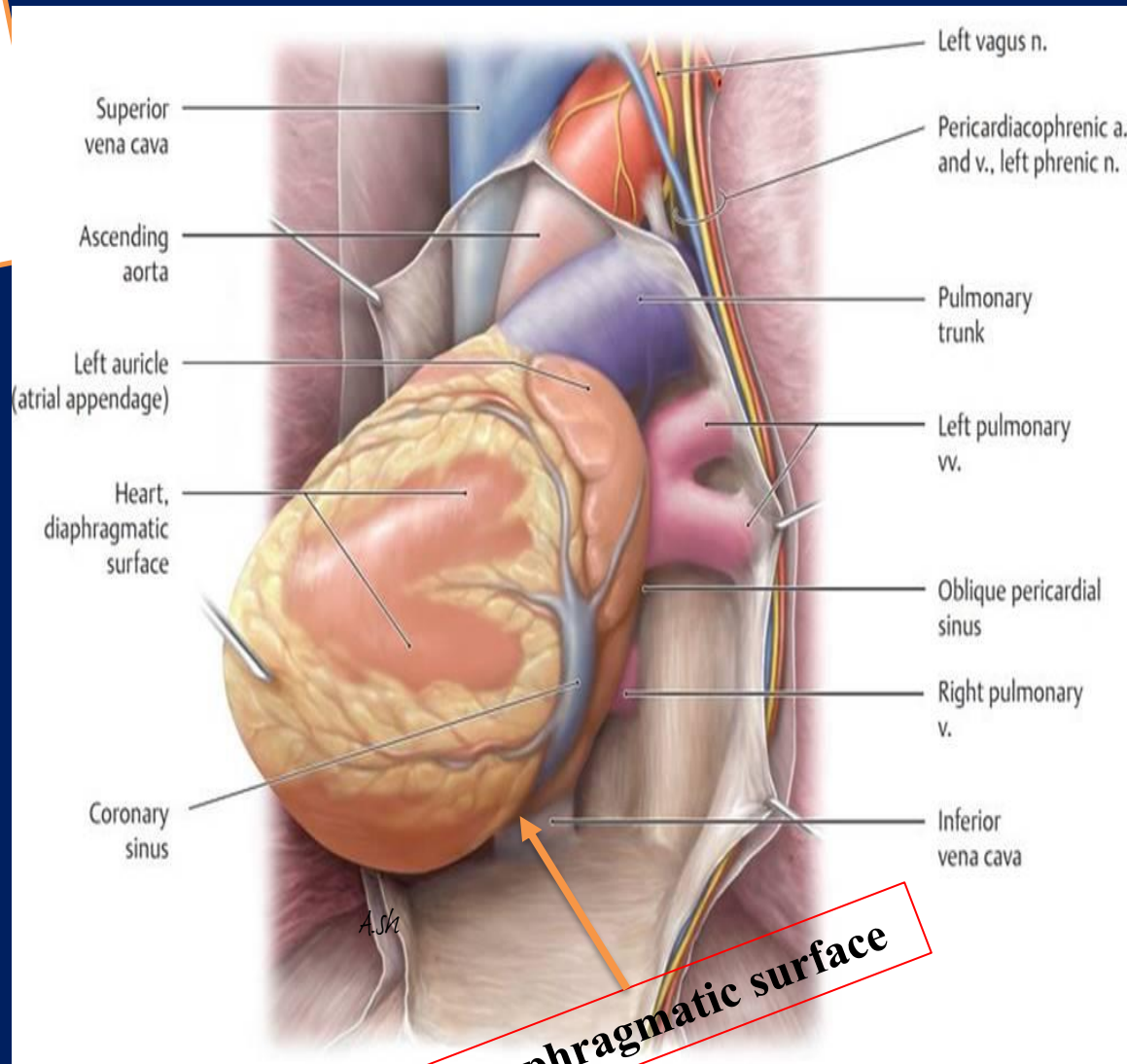


# The diaphragmatic surface

It is formed mainly by  
**the right and left ventricles**  
separated by the  
**posterior interventricular groove**

The **inferior surface of the right atrium**, into which the inferior vena cava opens, **also forms part of this surface**

it is related mainly to the  
central tendon of the  
diaphragm



**The diaphragmatic surface**



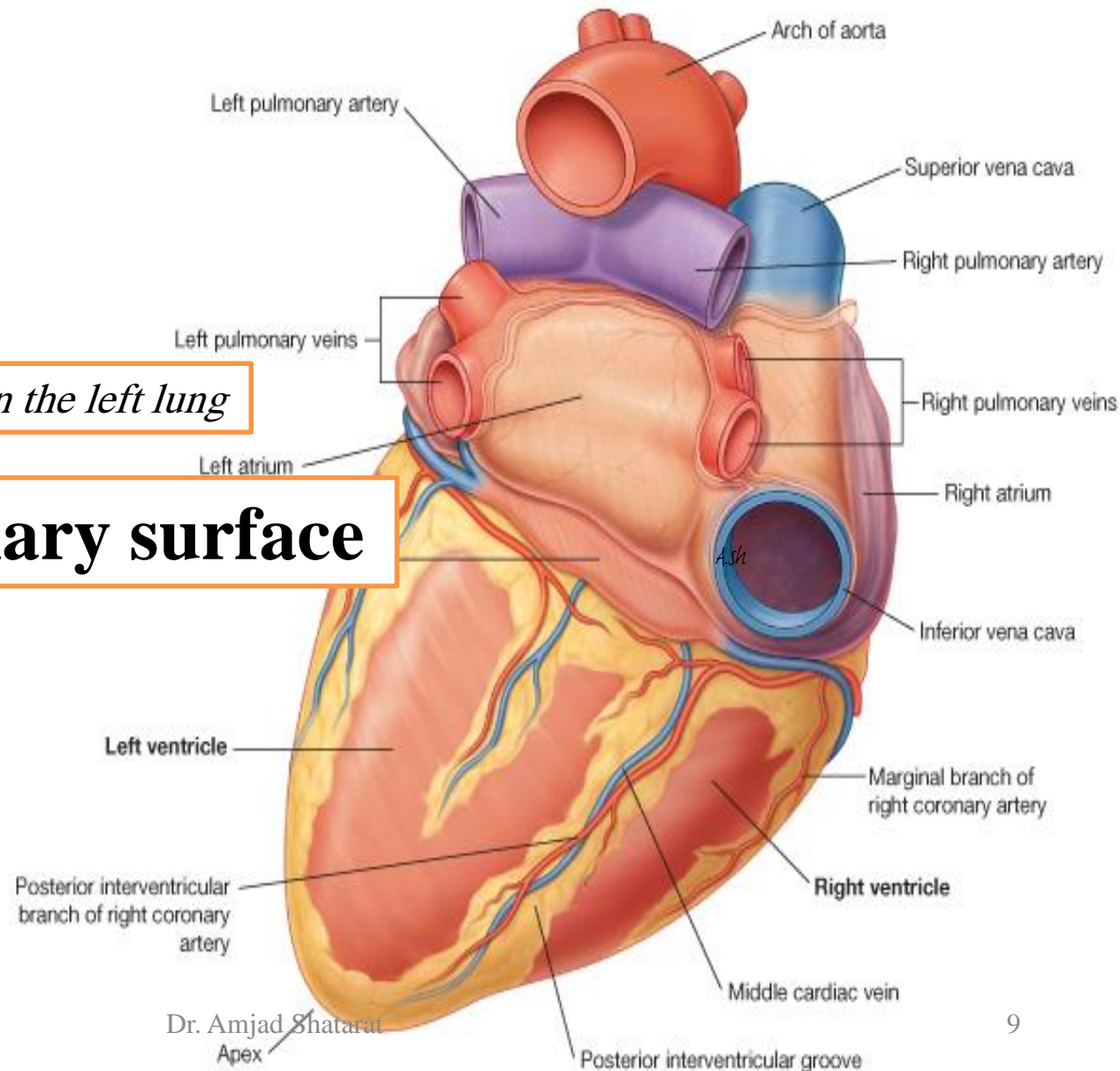
# The left pulmonary surface

faces the left lung, is broad and convex, and consists of  
**the left ventricle**  
**and a portion of the left atrium**

*it forms the cardiac impression in the left lung*

# The right pulmonary surface

faces the right lung, is broad and convex, and consists of  
**the right atrium**

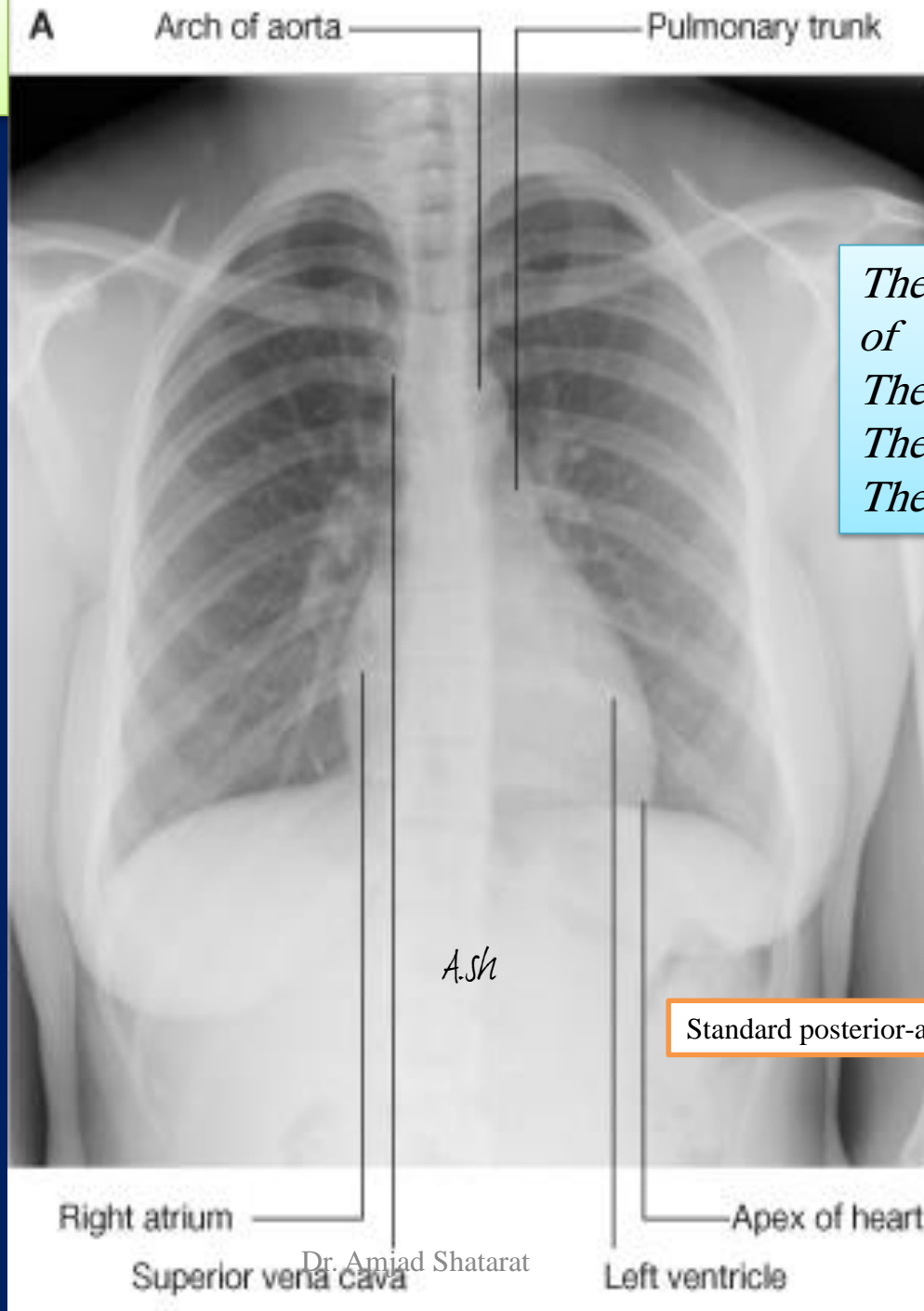


# Borders of the Heart on an X-ray

*The right border in a standard posterior-anterior view consists of:*

*The superior vena cava*  
*The right atrium*  
*The inferior vena cava*

*The inferior border  
consists of  
The right ventricle  
The left ventricle at  
the apex*



*The left border consists of*  
*The arch of the aorta,*  
*The pulmonary artery*  
*The left ventricle*

### Standard posterior-anterior view of the chest

# The coronary sulcus

circles the heart, separating the atria from the ventricles

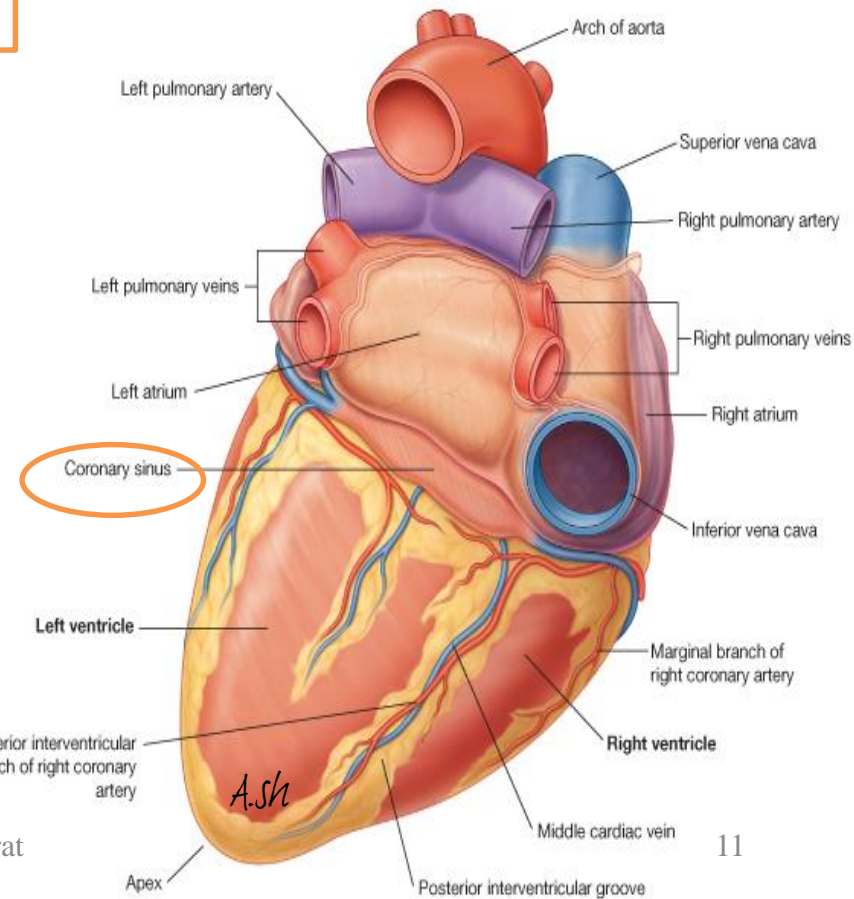
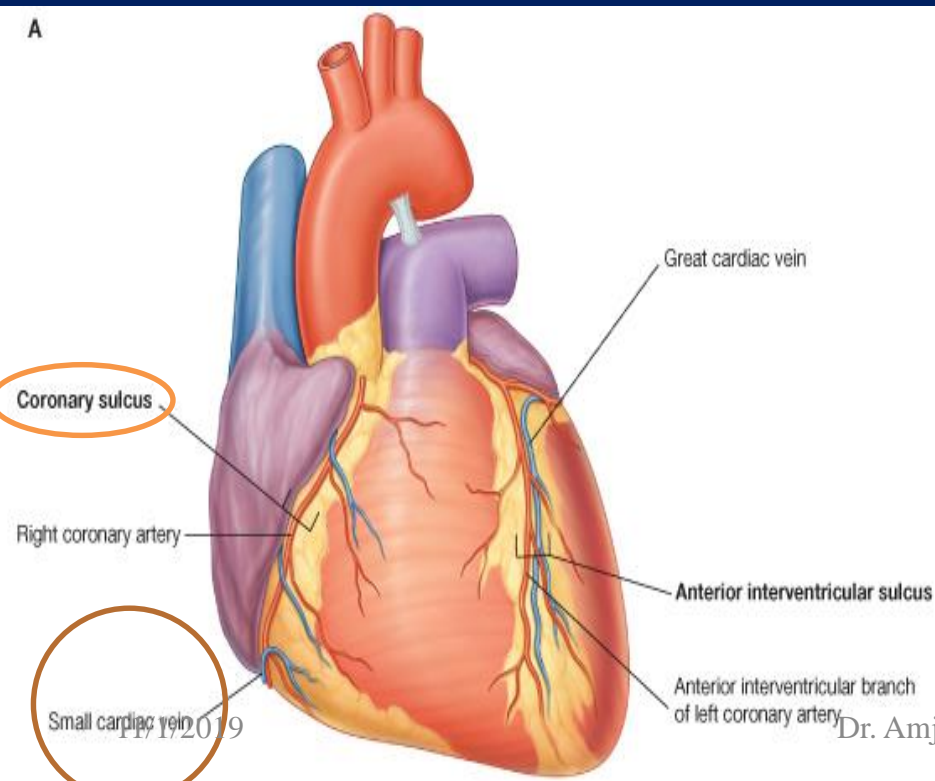
*It contains*

*The right coronary artery*

*The small cardiac vein*

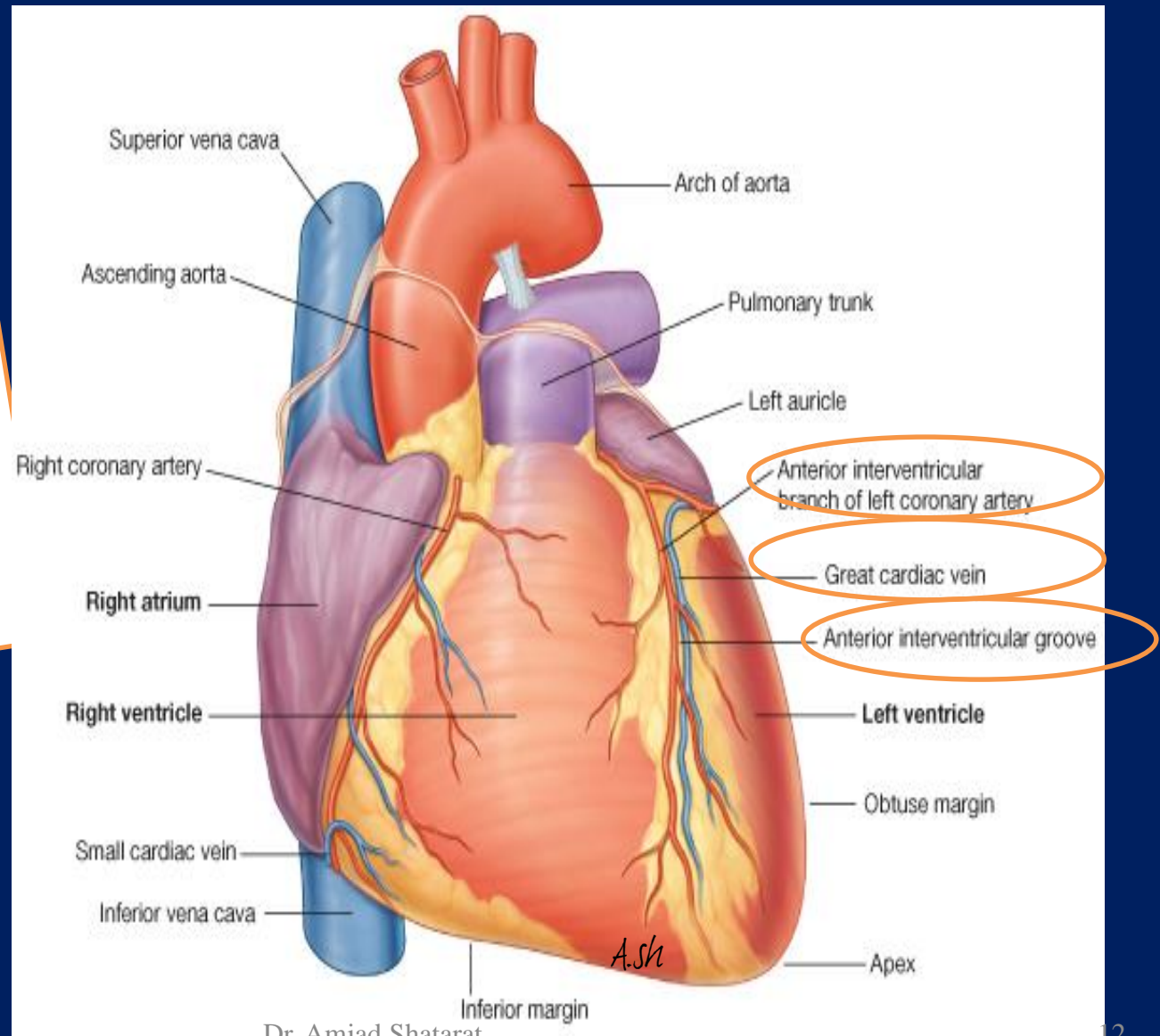
*The coronary sinus*

*The circumflex branch of the left coronary artery*



# The anterior interventricular sulcus

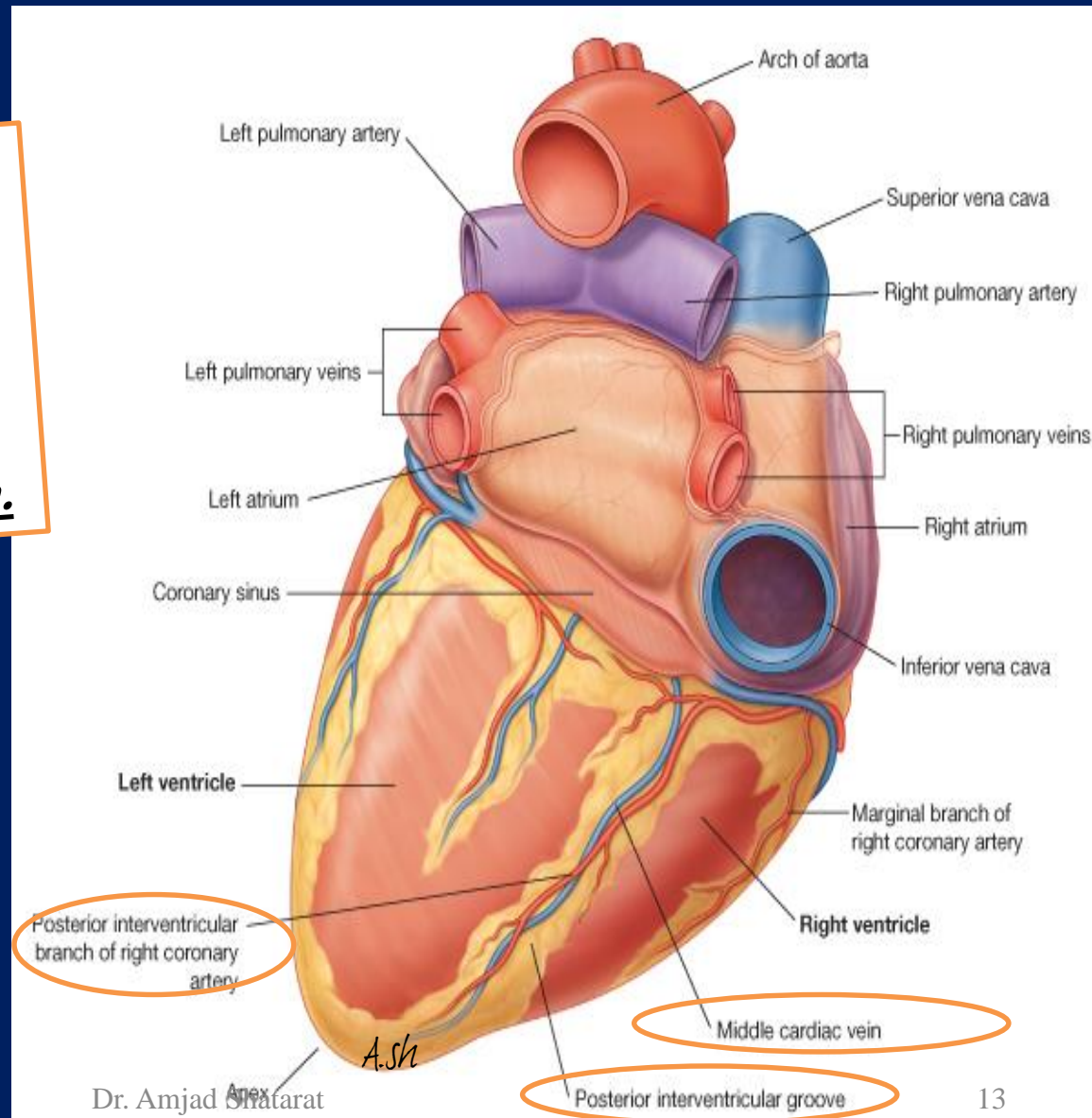
- ❖ Is on the anterior surface of the heart
- ❖ contains;
  - *the anterior interventricular artery*
  - *The great cardiac vein*





# The posterior interventricular sulcus

- Is on the diaphragmatic surface of the heart and contains:
  - **The posterior interventricular artery** and
  - **The middle cardiac vein.**



The walls of the heart are composed of cardiac muscle,

**1- The myocardium;** covered externally with serous pericardium

**2-The epicardium;** and lined internally with a layer of endothelium

**3-The endocardium.**

## Fibrous skeleton of the heart

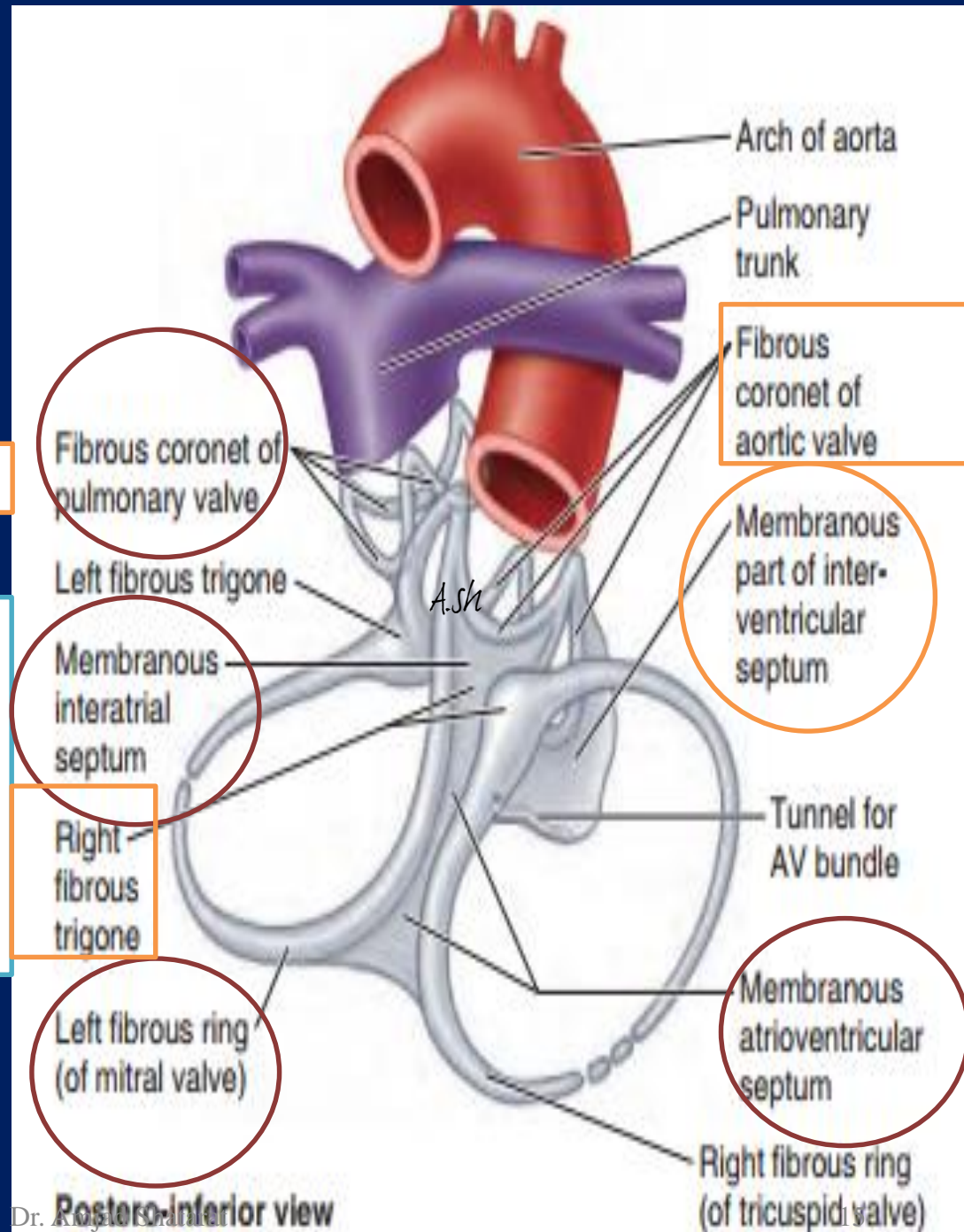
- This is a complex framework of dense collagen forming four fibrous rings (L. anuli fibrosi)

1-That surround the orifices of the valves

And

2- Right and left **fibrous trigone**  
(formed by connections between rings)  
and

3-The membranous parts  
of the  
**interatrial and interventricular septa**



- The fibrous skeleton of the heart:
- Keeps the orifices of the AV and semilunar valves patent and prevents them from being overly distended by an increased volume of blood pumping through them.
- Provides attachments for the leaflets and cusps of the valves.
- Provides attachment for the myocardium
- Forms an electrical “insulator,” by separating the myenterically conducted impulses of the atria and ventricles so that they contract independently and by surrounding and providing passage for the initial part of the **AV bundle of the conducting** system of the heart



## Chambers of the Heart

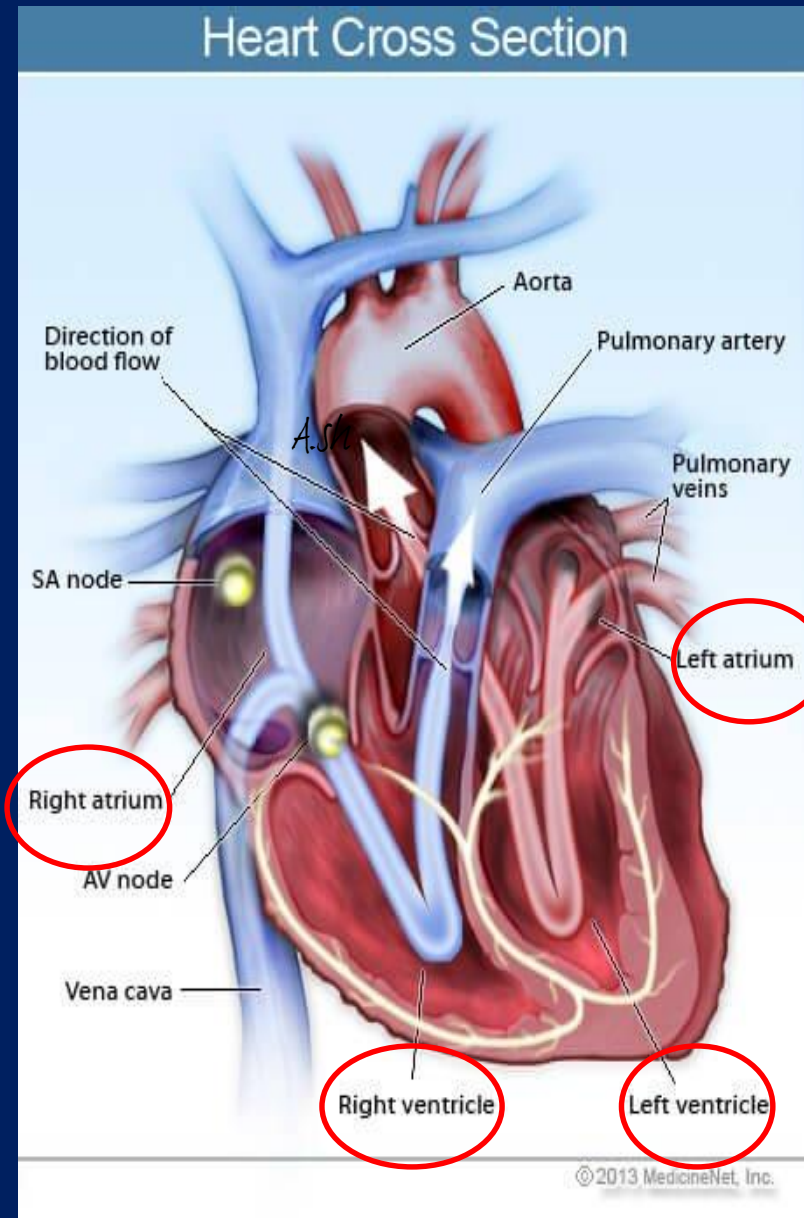
The heart is divided by septa into **four chambers**:

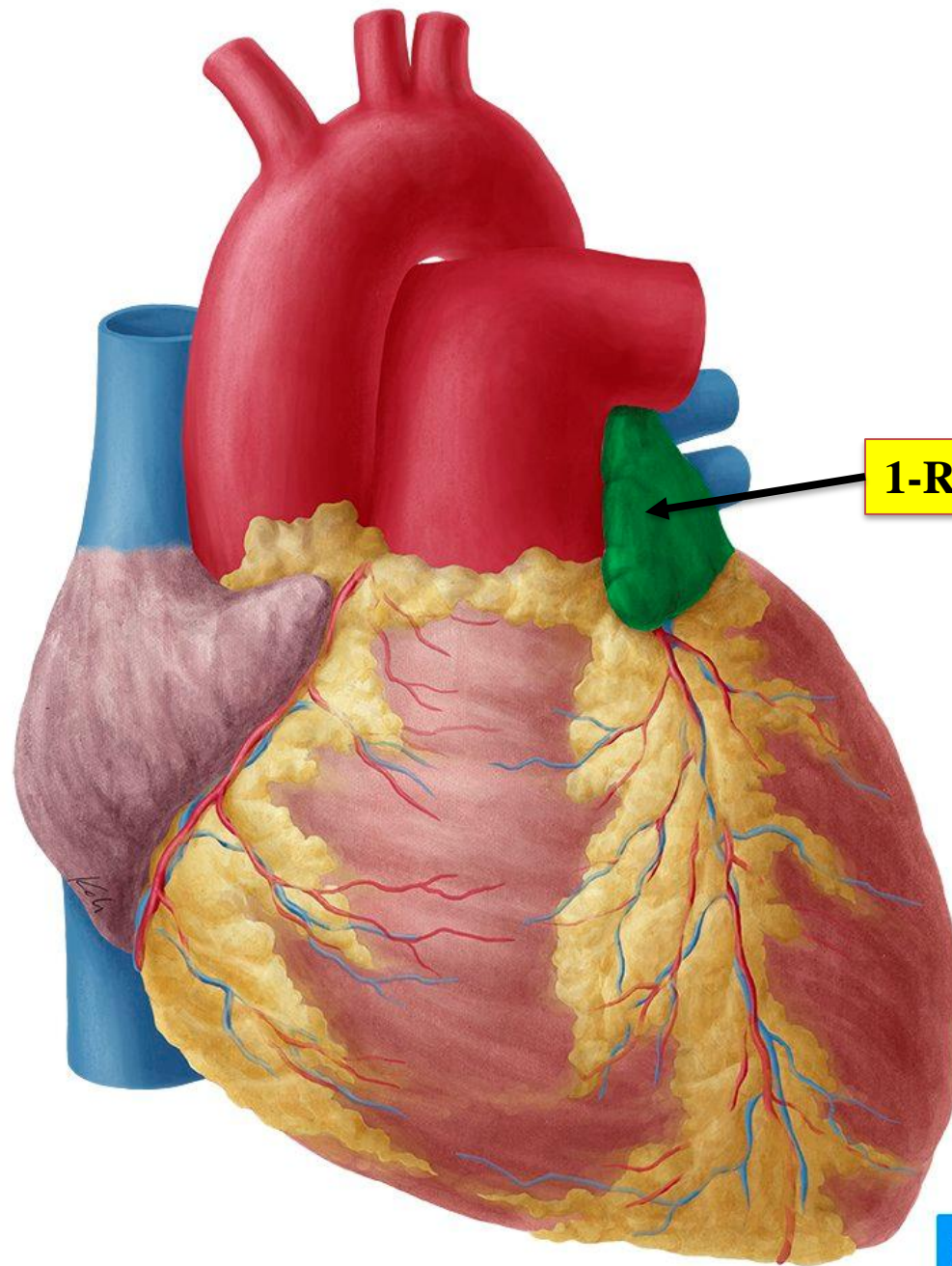
**1-THE RIGHT ATRIUM**

**2-LEFT ATRIUM**

**3- THE RIGHT VENTRICLE**

**4-LEFT VENTRICLE**





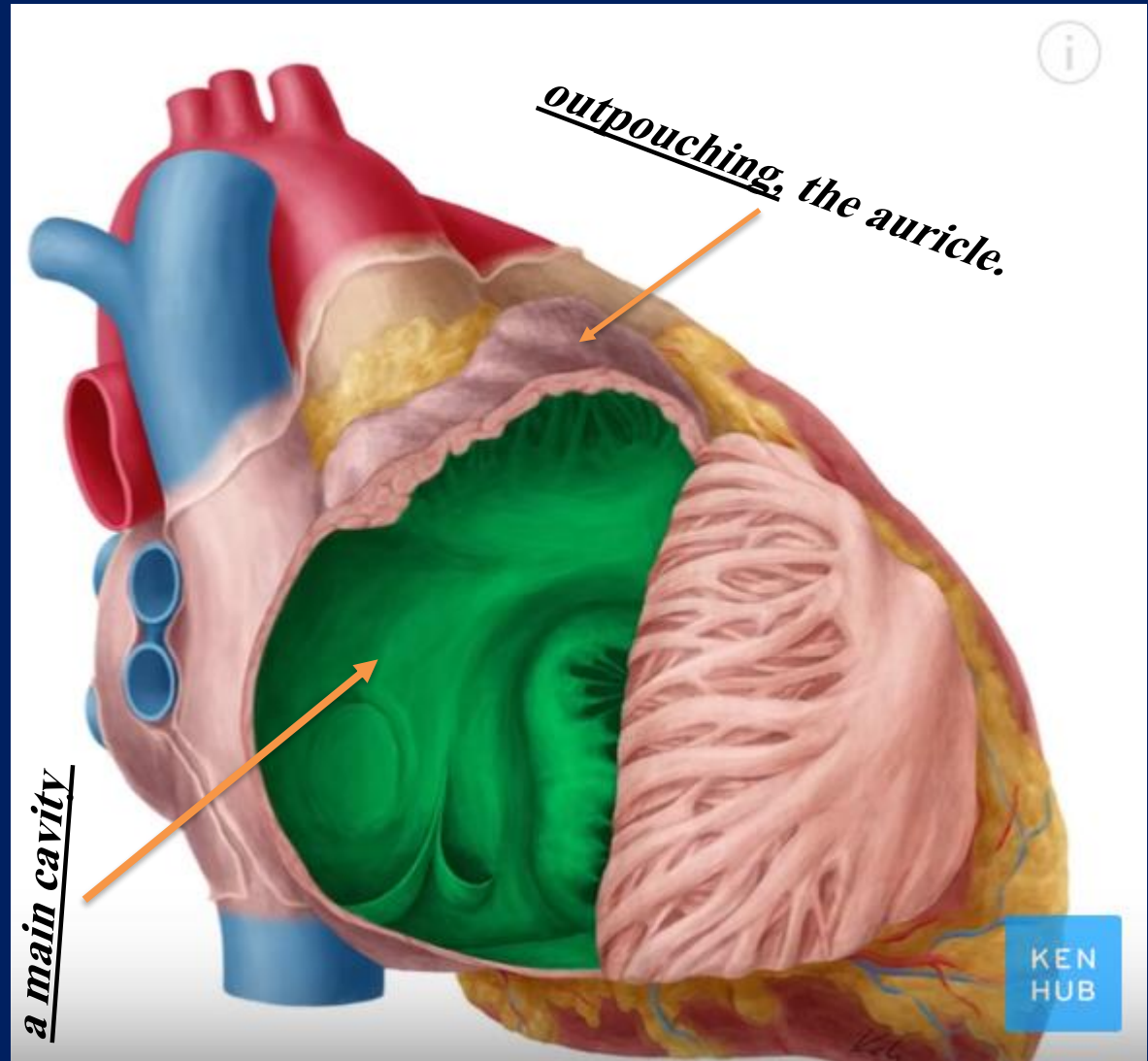
**1-RIGHT ATRIUM**

The right atrium consists of a main cavity and a small outpouching, the auricle.

#### Note

The term “auricle” is often improperly used instead of atrium. The true auricle is then regrettably called “auricular appendage” instead of atrial appendage, which is morphologically correct.

The term “auricular fibrillation” is clinically incorrect and should be atrial fibrillation

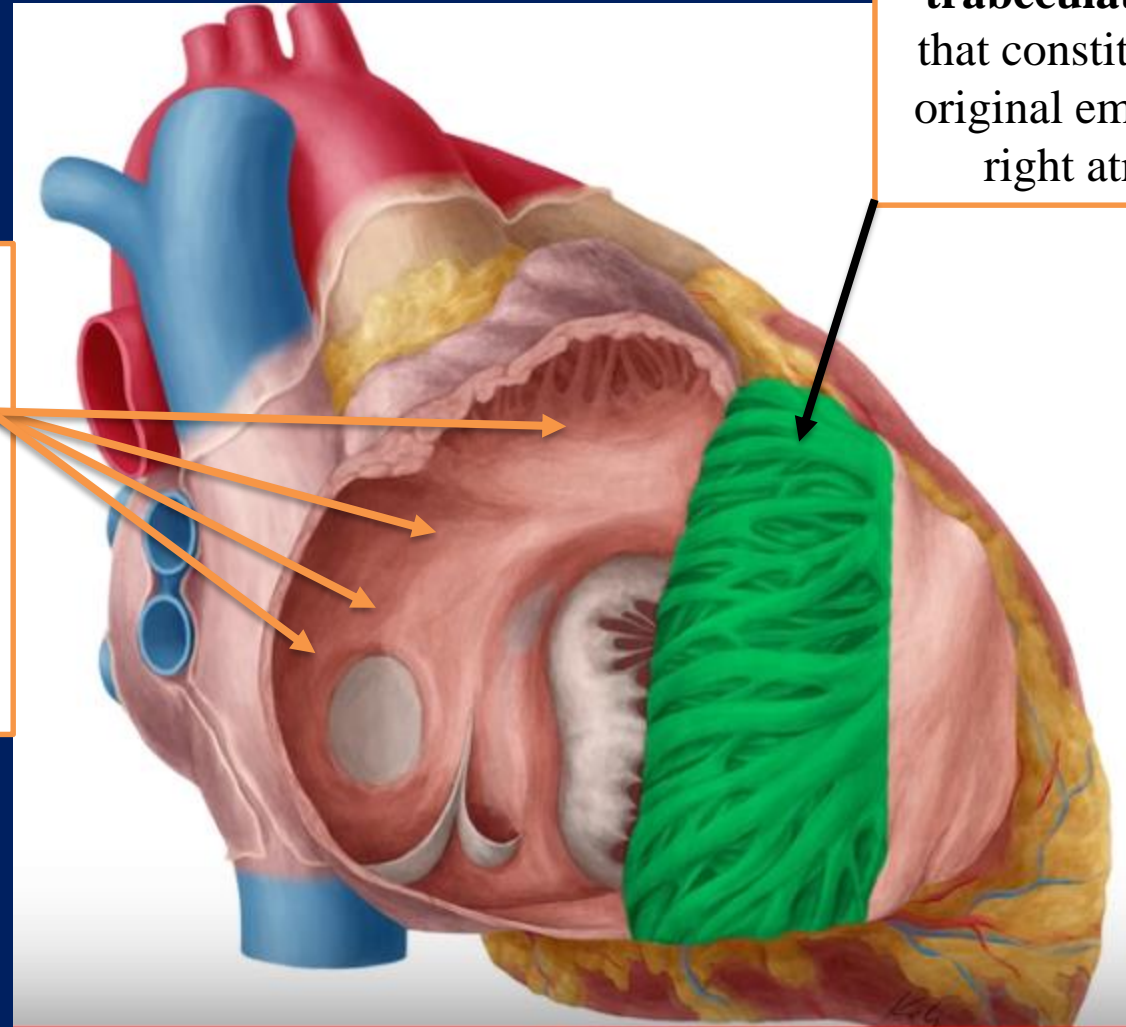




The right atrium consists of two parts:

2-a thin-walled  
anterior  
**trabeculated** part  
that constitutes the  
original embryonic  
right atrium

(1) a posterior smooth-  
walled  
part derived from the  
**embryonic sinus venosus**  
**(the sinus venarum)**  
into which enter the  
superior and inferior venae  
cavae





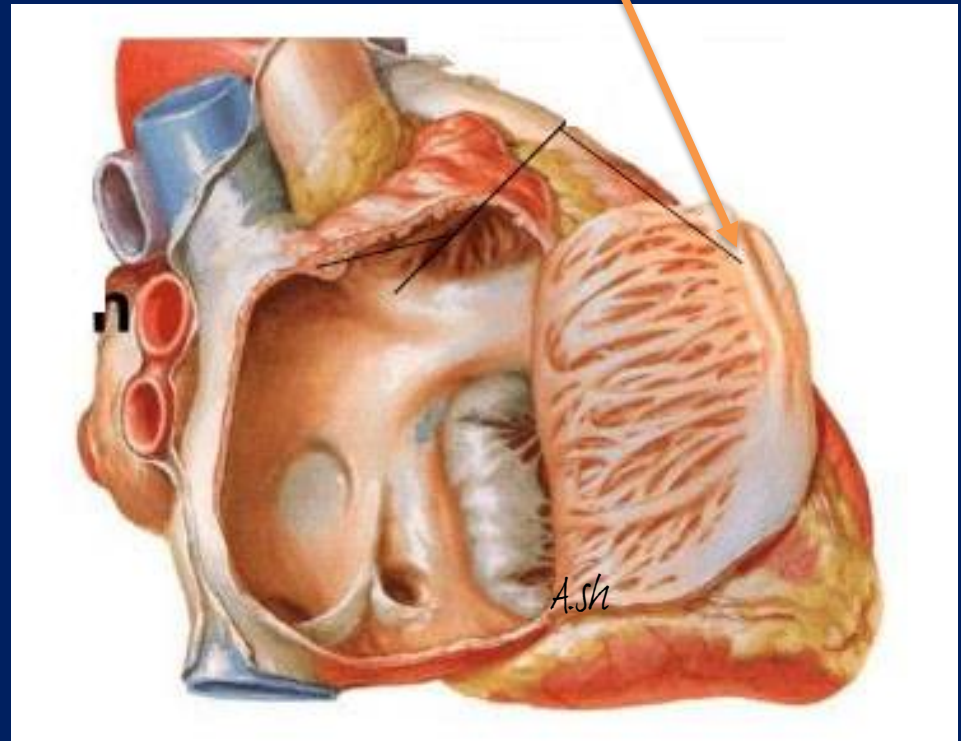
Internally, the two parts of the atrium are separated by a ridge of muscle

## The crista terminalis

### The crista terminalis

is most prominent superiorly, next to the SVC orifice, then fades out to the right of the IVC ostium.

Its position corresponds to that of the  
*sulcus terminalis externally*



Crista Terminalis

Pectinate  
Muscles

A.sh

❖ From the lateral aspect of the crista terminalis, a large number of **pectinate muscles** run laterally and generally parallel to each other along the free wall of the atrium.

Crista Terminalis

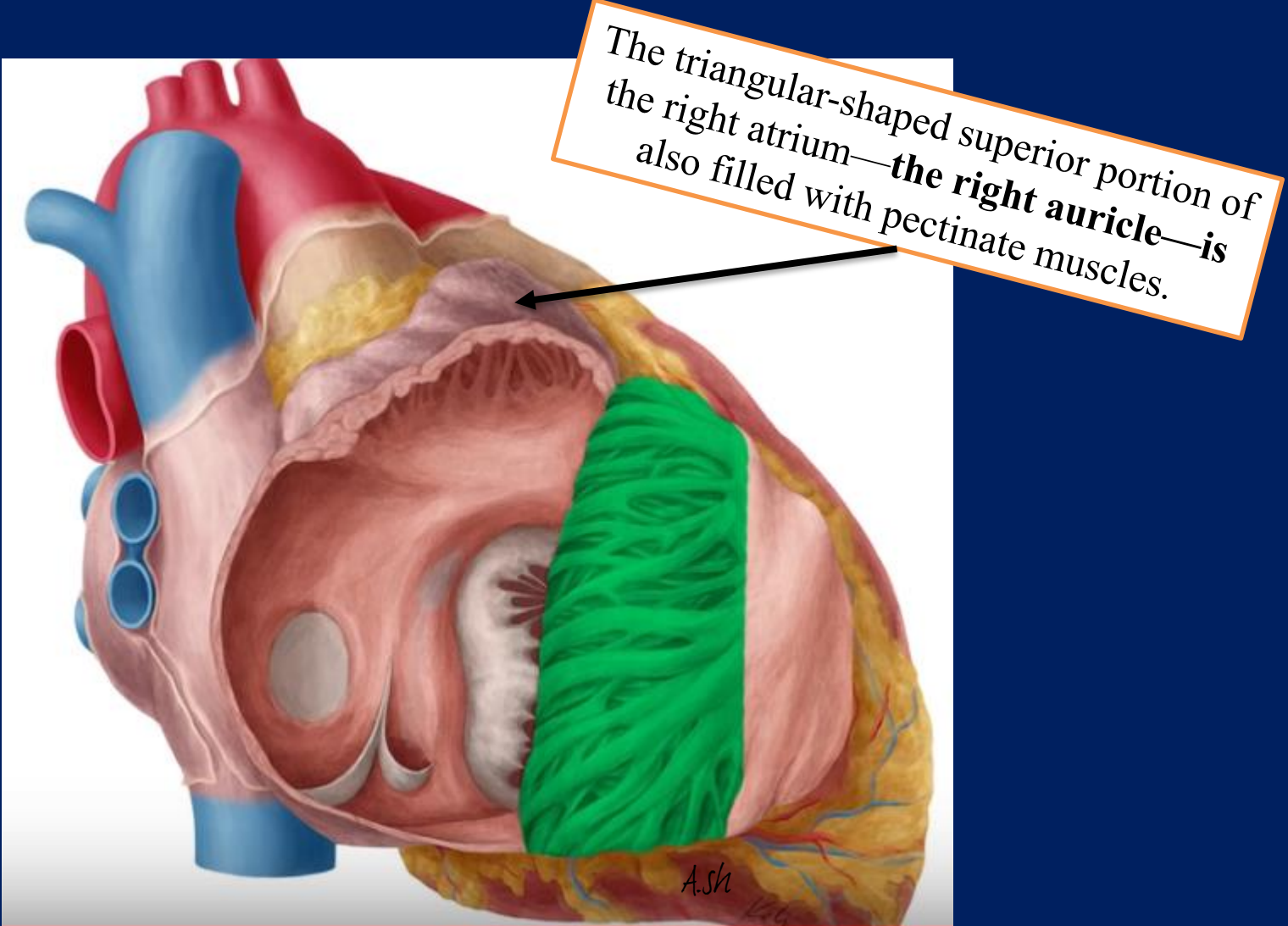
Pectinate  
Muscles

A.sh

Dr. Amjad Shatarat

11/1/2019

The ear-like right auricle is a conical muscular pouch that projects from Rt. atrium like an add-on room, increasing the capacity of the atrium as it **overlaps the ascending aorta.**



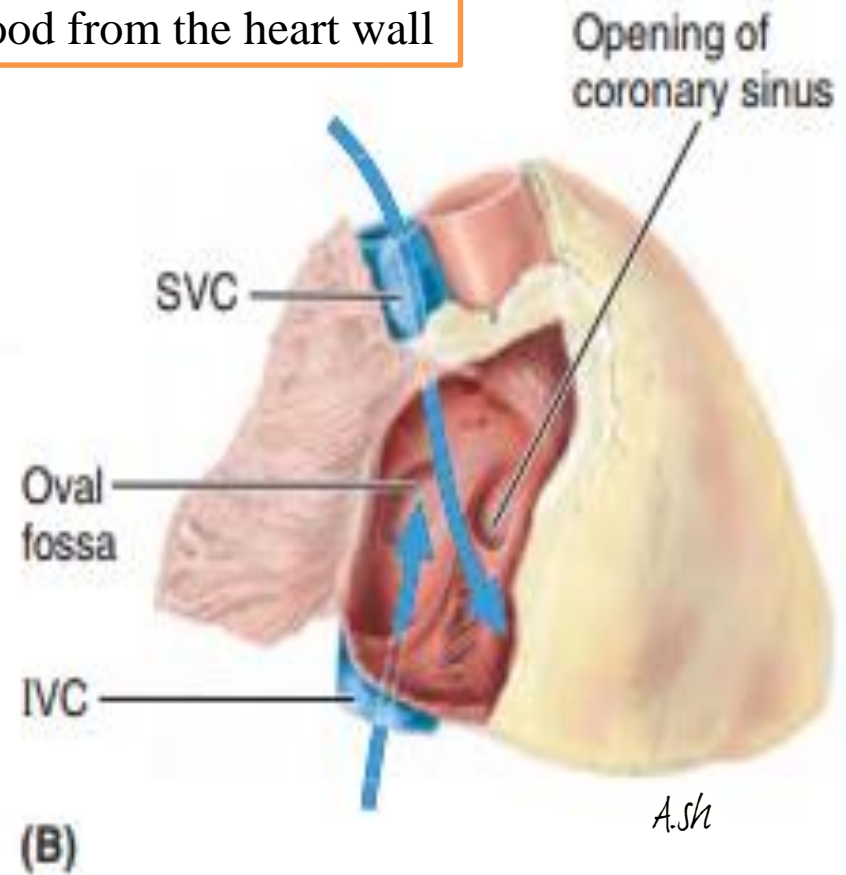
The right auricle usually is not well demarcated externally from the rest of the atrium. The right auricle is a convenient, ready-made **point of entry for the cardiac surgeon and is used extensively.**

**1-The superior vena cava** opens into the upper part of the right atrium

**2-The inferior vena cava** opens into the lower part of the right atrium

**3-The coronary sinus**, which drains most of the blood from the heart wall

**4-The right atrioventricular orifice** is guarded by **THE TRICUSPID VALVE**



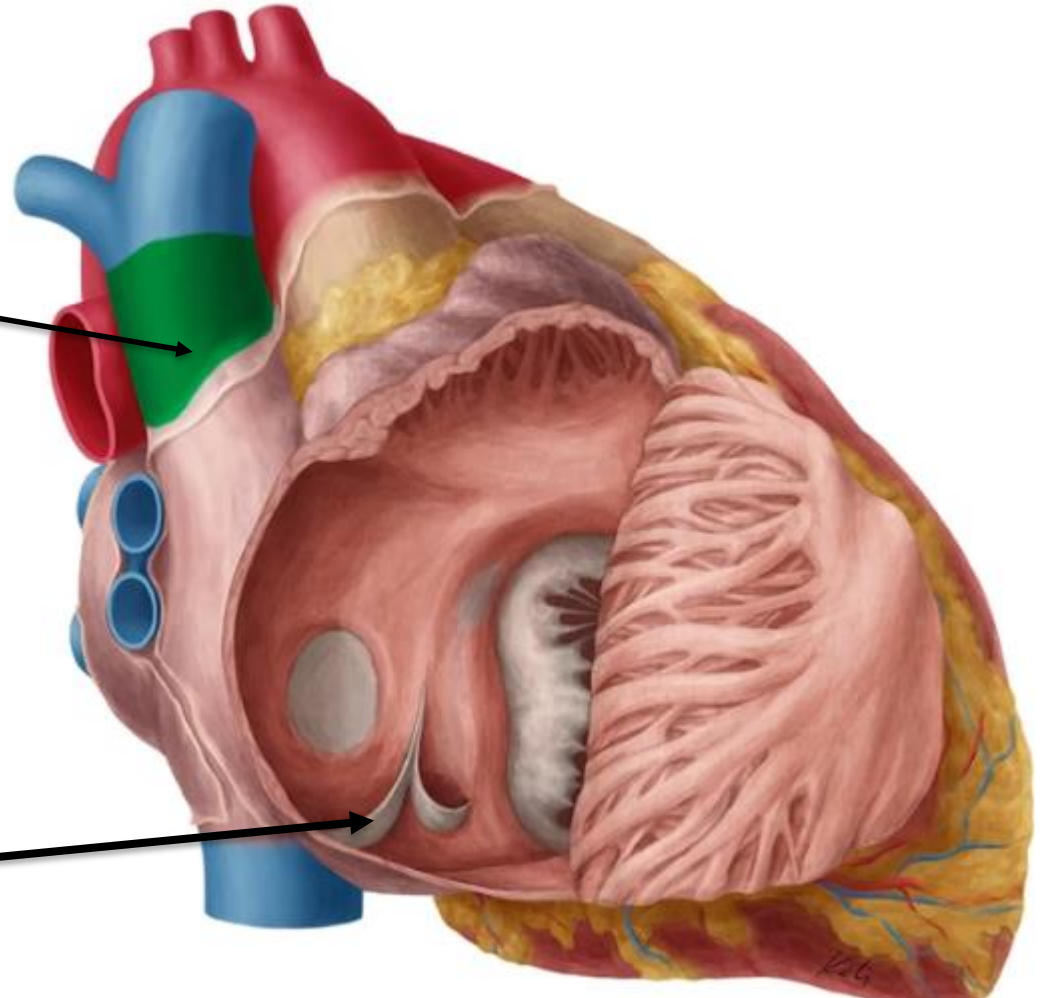


# 1-The superior vena cava

- ❖ returns blood from head, neck and upper limb and also receives blood from the chest wall and the esophagus via the azygos system

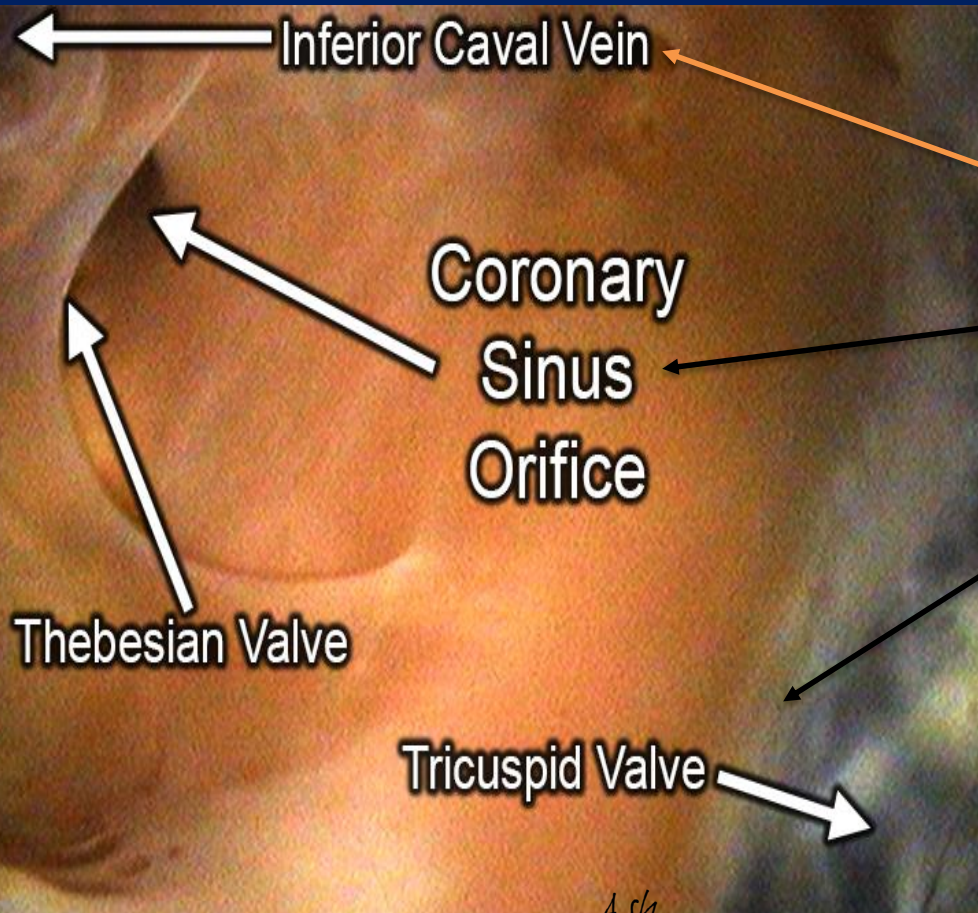
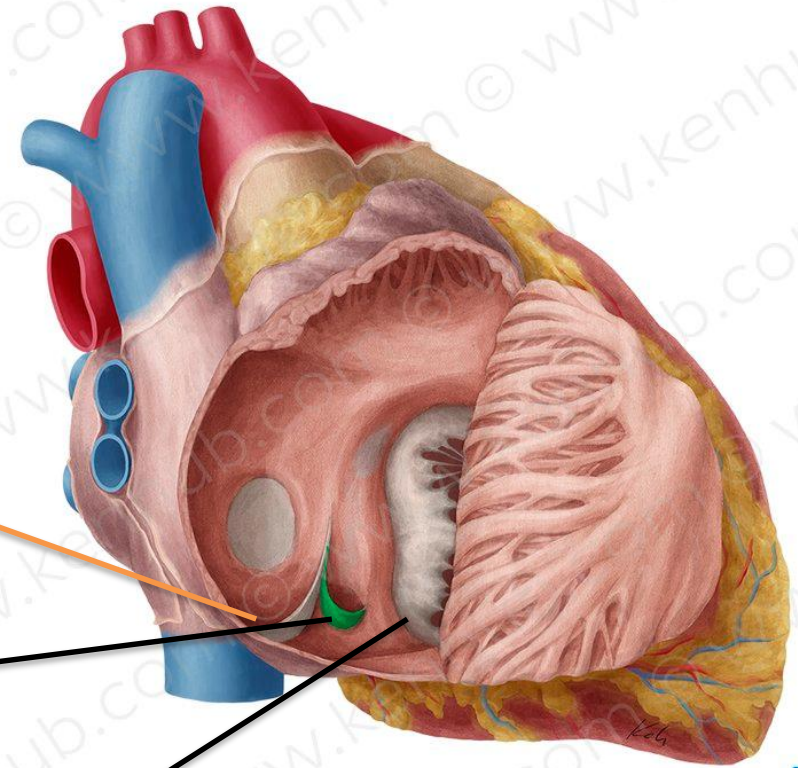
## 2-The inferior vena cava

- is larger than its superior counterpart:
- it drains blood from all structures below and **including the diaphragm** into the lowest part of the atrium near the septum.
- Anterior to its orifice is a flap-like valve  
**the Eustachian valve or valve of the inferior vena cava**



It is large during fetal life, when it serves to direct richly oxygenated blood from the placenta through the foramen ovale of the atrial septum into the left atrium

**3-The coronary sinus** opens into the venous atrial component between the orifice of the inferior vena cava, the fossa ovale and the vestibule of the atrioventricular opening



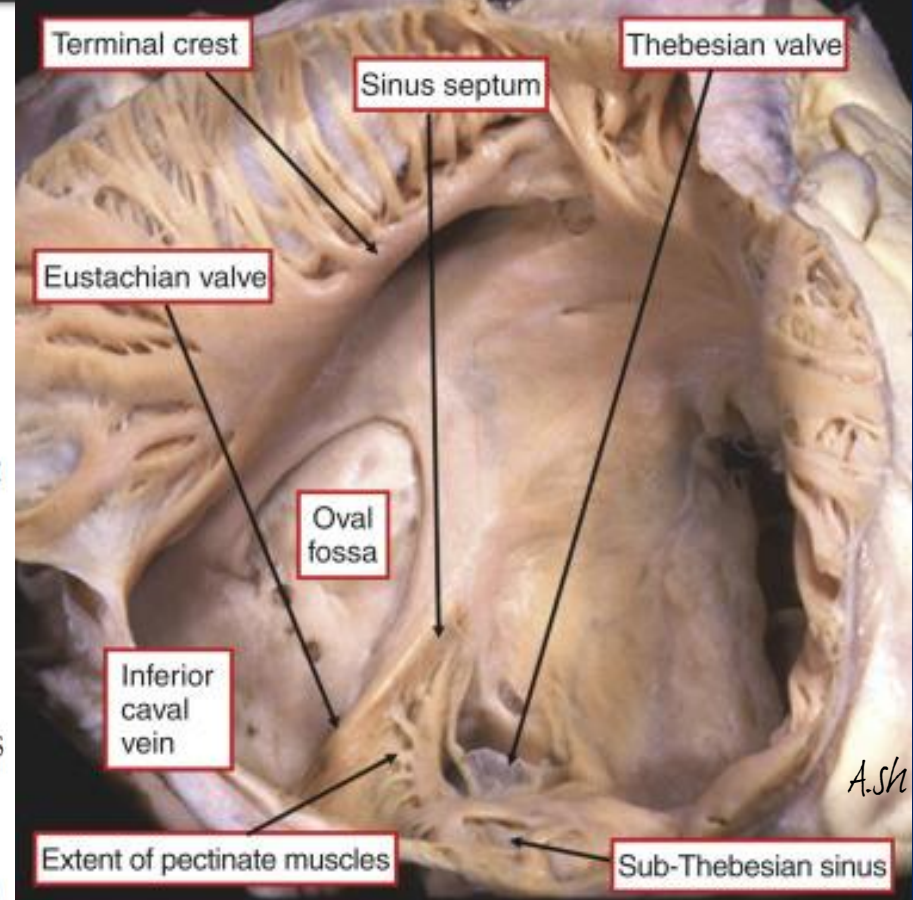
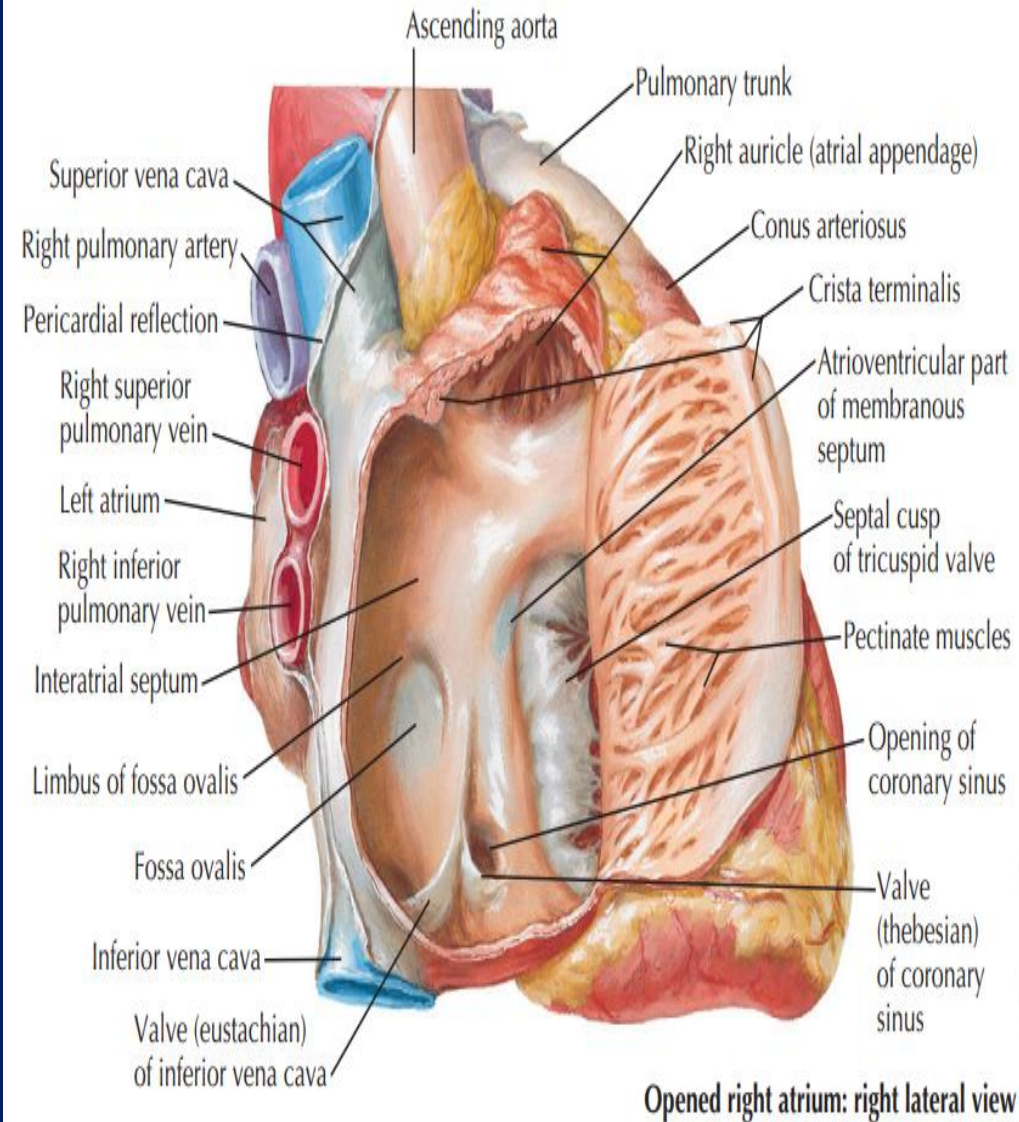
The coronary sinus is often guarded by a thin, semicircular valve that covers the lower part of the orifice

## **Thebesius' valve**

also known as the  
**Thebesian valve**



## RIGHT ATRIUM AND RIGHT VENTRICLE



4-Several small venous ostia, draining the minimal atrial veins, are found scattered around the atrial walls. They return a small fraction of blood from the heart, and are most numerous on the septal aspect.

**The anterior cardiac veins**  
and, sometimes, **the right marginal vein** may enter the atrium through larger ostia



## Fetal Remnants in the right Atrium

### The fossa ovalis and anulus ovalis.

These latter structures lie on the atrial septum, which separates the right atrium from the left atrium

**The fossa ovalis** is a shallow depression, which is the site of the foramen ovale in the fetus

**The anulus ovalis** forms the upper margin of the fossa.

