



HISTOLOGY OF THE BLOOD VESSELS

Color index:

Slides.. **Important** ..Notes ..Extra..

Revised by

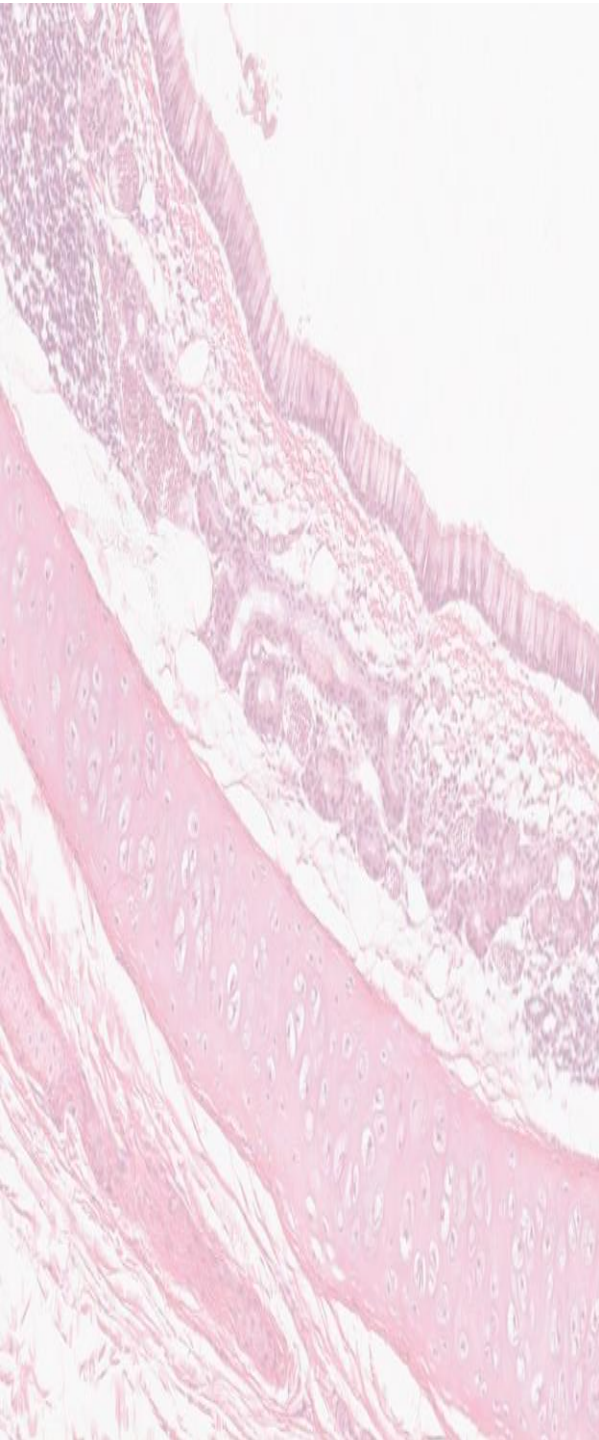
شوق الأحمري & طراد الوكيل

وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ

Objectives:

The microscopic structure of the wall of the blood vessels including:

- ✓ Elastic arteries.
- ✓ Muscular (medium-sized) arteries.
- ✓ Medium-sized veins.
- ✓ Blood capillaries.



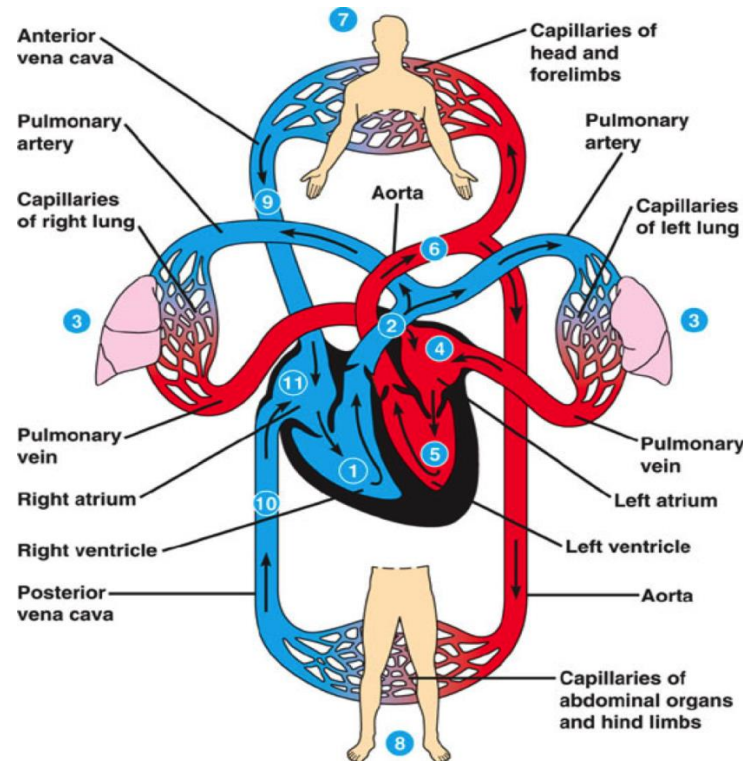
Since the blood vessels are a continuation of the heart, so the structure of their walls should be similar with difference in thickness.

Blood vessels

1- Arteries :

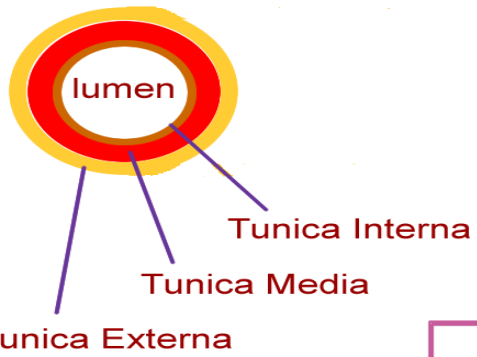
- Elastic artery.
- Muscular (distributing) (medium-sized) artery.
- Arterioles.

2- Blood capillaries



3- Veins :

- Venules
- Small veins
- Medium-sized veins
- Large veins



General Structure of Blood Vessels:

The wall is made of three concentric layers

Tunica means Layer.

Tunica intima

Is the innermost layer

Composed of:

- 1- Endothelial cells:
Simple squamous epithelium
- 2- Basal Lamina
- 3- Subendothelial layer:
loose C.T.
- 4- Internal elastic lamina:
fenestrated elastic sheet

fenestrated يعني في فتحات

Tunica media

Intermediate layer

Composed of:

- 1- Smooth muscles.
 - 2- Elastic fibers.
 - 3- Type III collagen
(reticular fibers).
 - 4- Type I collagen
- * Large muscular arteries have external elastic lamina, separating the tunica media from the tunica adventitia.

But the internal elastic lamina is in all arteries.

Tunica adventitia

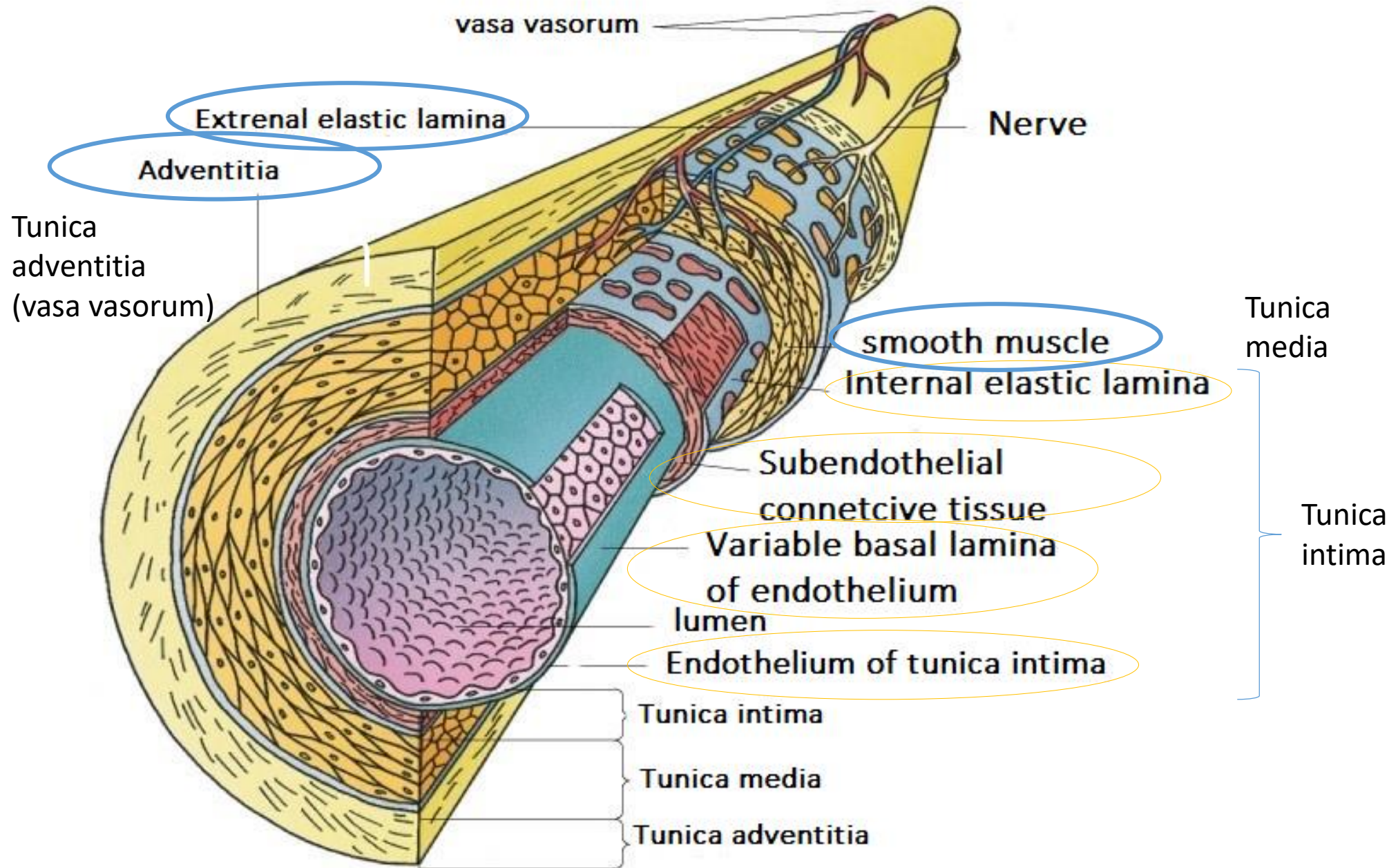
Outermost layer

Composed of connective tissue containing:

Vasa vasorum

They are small arterioles in tunica adventitia and the outer part of tunica media. They are more prevalent in the walls of veins than arteries because venous blood contains less oxygen and nutrients than arterial blood

Greater numbers of Vasa Vasorum are found in the veins than the ones found in arteries, because the arteries carry oxygenated blood which can be beneficial for them as nutrition source unlike the veins so they need another source of blood which is the Vasa Vasorum



Elastic Arteries

Examples: Aorta - Common Carotid Artery - Subclavian Artery - Common Iliac Artery - Pulmonary Trunk.

Microscopic structure:

1. T. Intima:

- Endothelium and basal lamina.
- Subendothelial C.T.
- Internal elastic lamina: (**not prominent**) (indistinct).

Why the internal elastic lamina is not prominent? Because the entire layer is rich in elastic fibers forming a lamina and this is the main distinguish feature between the elastic and muscular arteries

2. T. Media: *It Consists Of:

- A- Fenestrated **elastic membranes** (sheets) (lamellae):
 - It is the main component of T.M.

Also here the elastic fibers are enormous in number and form a membrane (lamina)

B- In between, there are:

- 1- Smooth muscle cells. 2- Collagen fibers (type I collagen).
- 3- Reticular fibers (type III collagen). 4- **Elastic fibers**.

3. T. Adventitia:

- Much thinner than T.M. (Tunica media)
- It is composed of loose C.T.
- Contains vasa vasorum → send branches to the outer part of T.M.

Muscular Arteries (Medium-sized Artery)

Examples: Brachial - Ulnar – Renal.

Microscopic structure:

1. T. Intima:

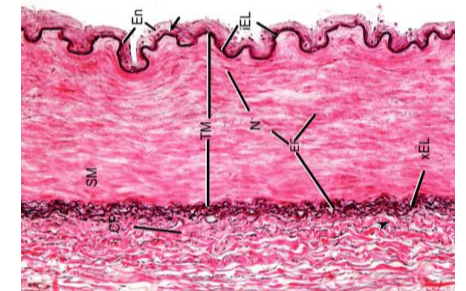
- Endothelium.
- Subendothelial C.T. layer.
- **Internal elastic lamina:**
Is prominent.

Displays an undulating surface

2. T. Media: (Thicker than T. Adventitia or similar in thickness)

*Components:

- A- **Smooth muscle** cells (SMCs):
 - are the **predominant component**.
- B- In between there are:
 - Elastic fibers.
 - Type III collagen fibers.
 - Type I collagen fibers.
- C- **External elastic lamina:** may be identifiable.



3. T. Adventitia: Loose C.T

Medium-sized Vein

Thickness of the wall:

thinner than the accompanying artery.

T. Intima: *Usually forms **valves**.
*No internal elastic lamina.

T. Media:

- **Thinner than T. Adventitia.**
- Consists of:
 - 1- Fewer SMCs.
 - 2- Types I & III Collagen fibers.

T. Adventitia:

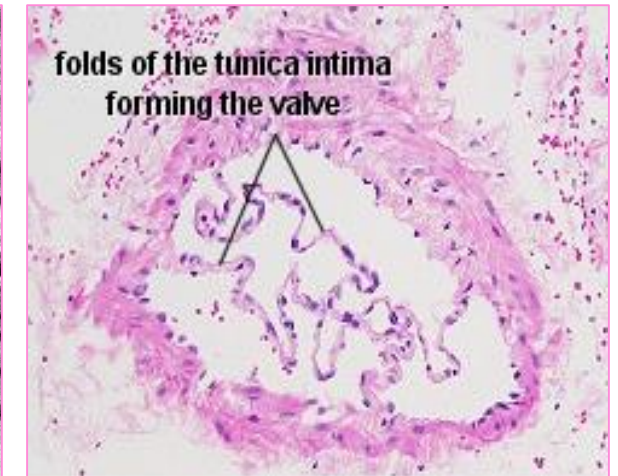
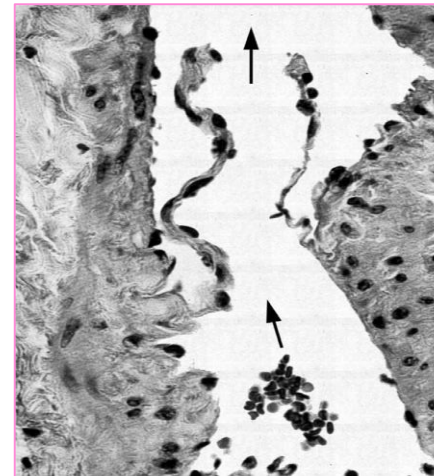
- **Thicker than T. Media.**

Valves Of Veins

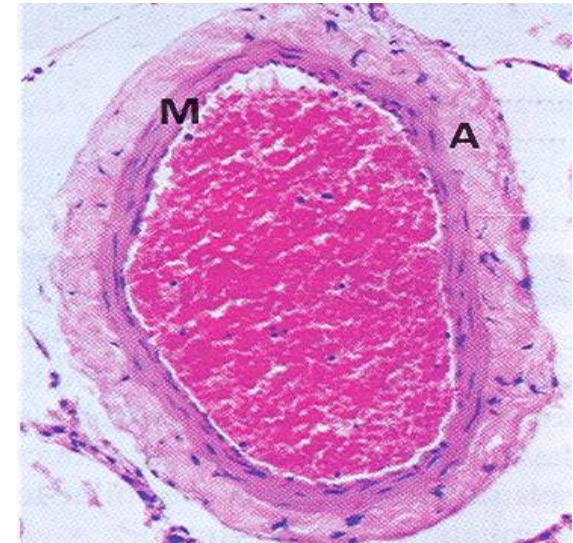
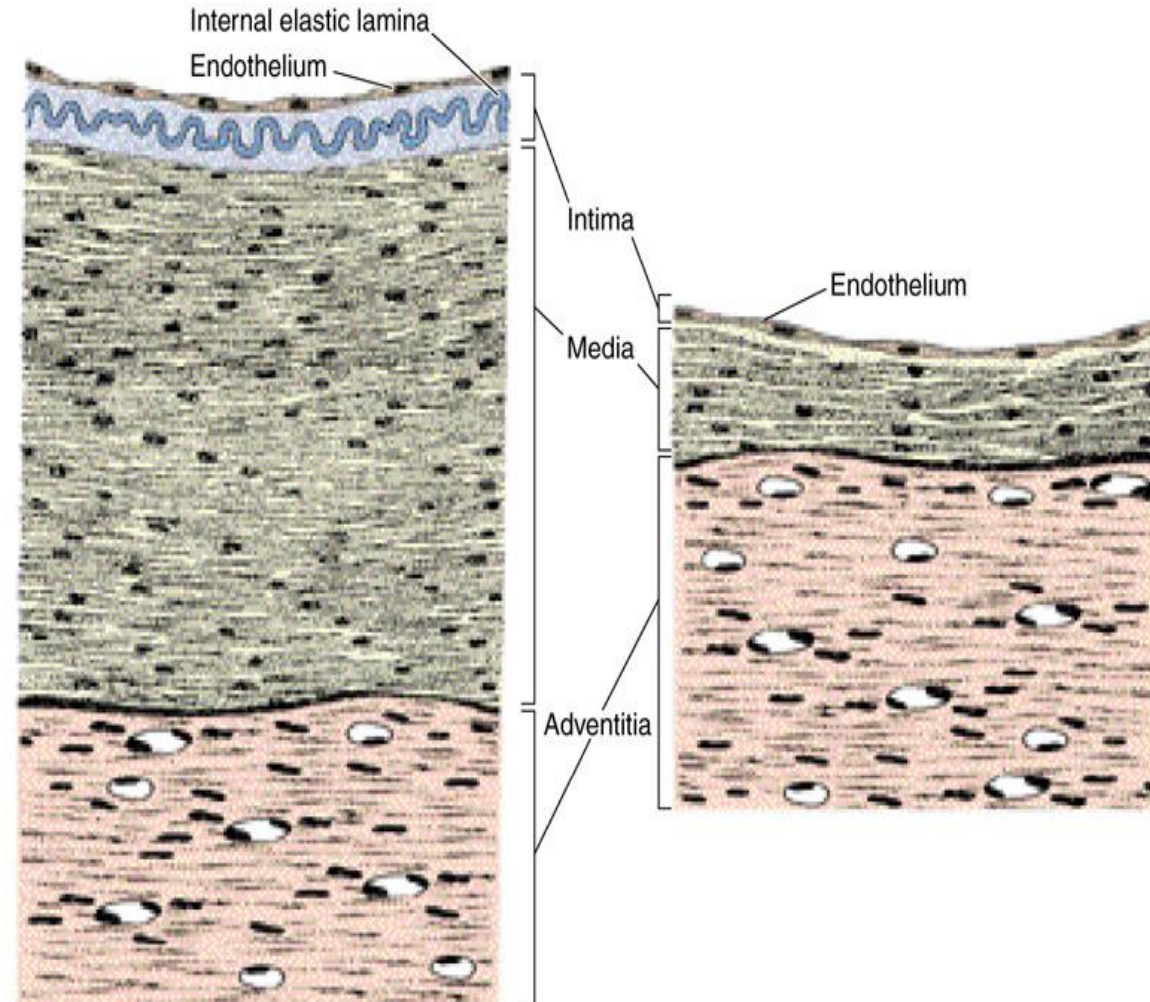
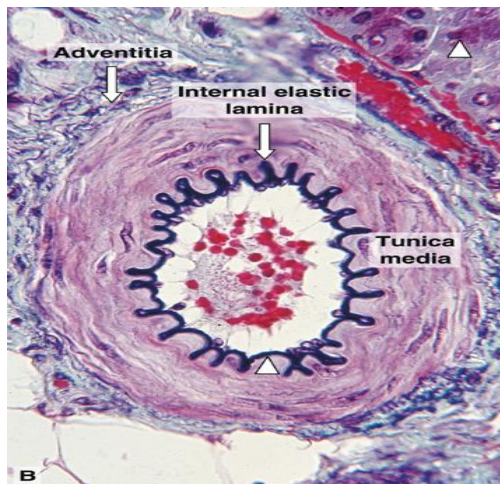
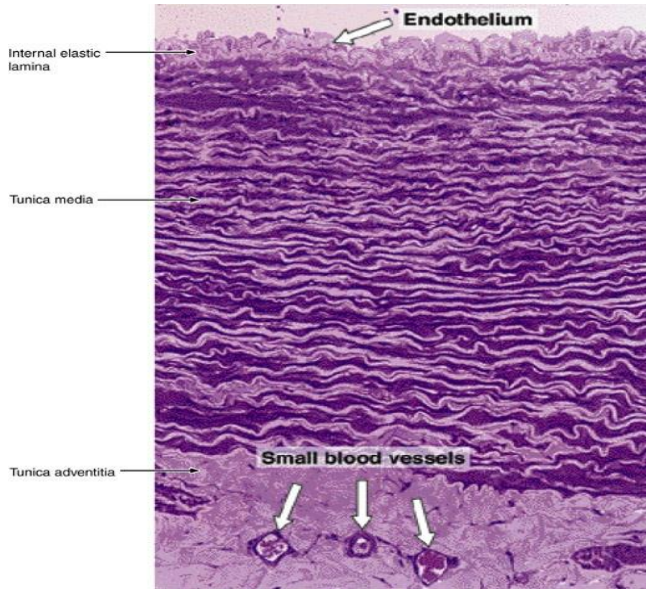
- Valve of a vein is composed of 2 leaflets.
- Each leaflet has a thin fold of the **T. Intima**.

Components:

- 1- Endothelium
- 2- Core of C.T.



MEDIUM-SIZED ARTERY AND MEDIUM-SIZED VEIN



we see blood in the lumen of veins (unlike arteries) because the blood is not pushed.

BLOOD CAPILLARIES

Diameter: usually 8-10 μm .

Microscopic structure:

1. Single layer of **squamous endothelial cells**.
2. **Basal lamina:** surrounds the external surface of the endothelial cells.
3. **Pericytes:**
 - Have processes.
 - Share the basal lamina of the endothelial cells .

3 Types of BLOOD CAPILLARIES

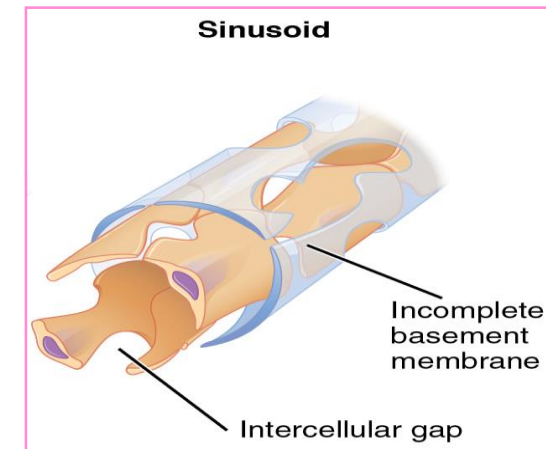
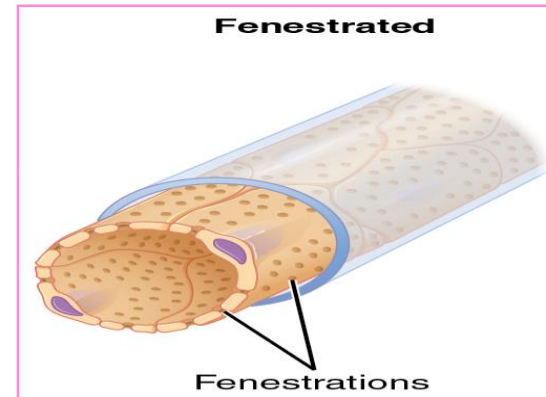
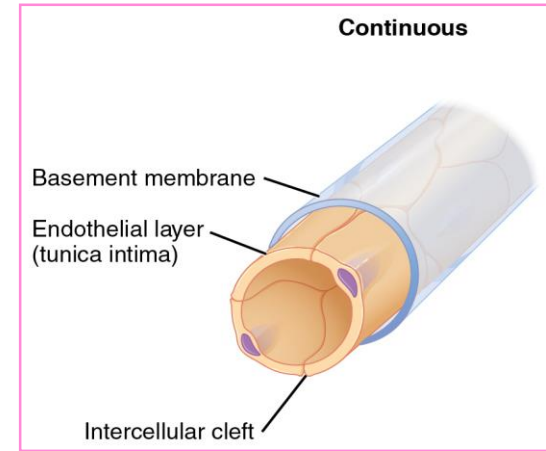
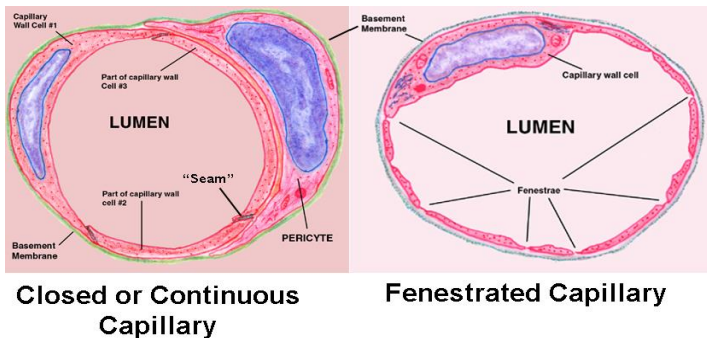
Continuous blood capillaries

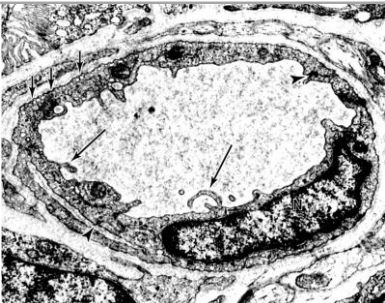
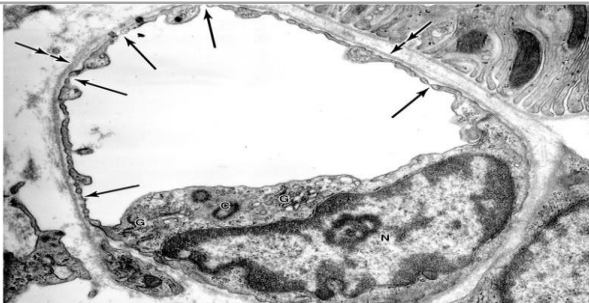
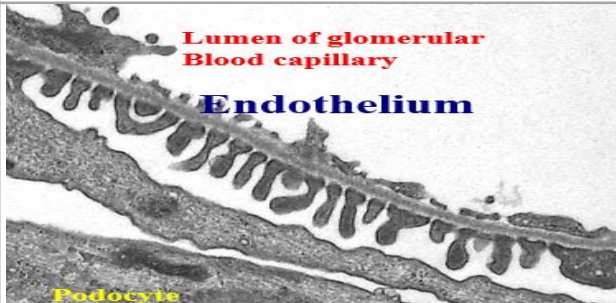
Fenestrated blood capillaries

Sinusoidal blood capillaries

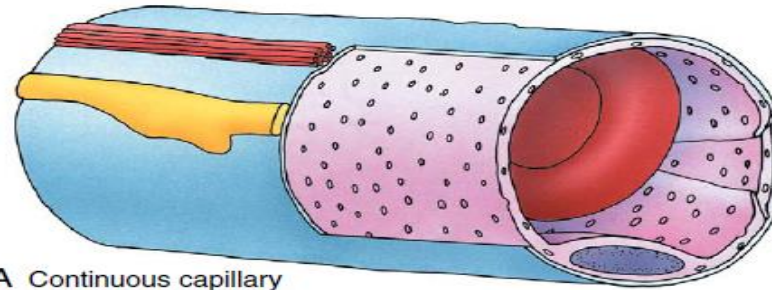
with diaphragms

without diaphragms

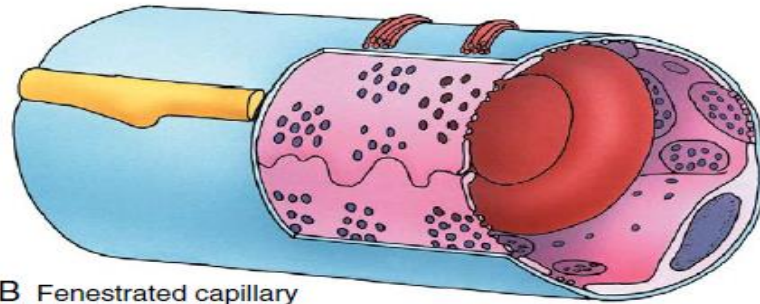


Type of blood capillary:	Continuous Blood Capillaries	Fenestrated Blood Capillaries with Diaphragms	Fenestrated Blood Capillaries without Diaphragms	SINUSOIDAL CAPILLARIES
<p>Microscopic structure:</p>	<p>No pores or fenestrae in their walls.</p> <p><i>This type of capillaries do not contain fenestrae why? Because the fluid leakage could damage organs such as lungs and brain</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The walls of their endothelial cells have pores (fenestrae). These pores are covered by diaphragm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The walls of their endothelial cells have pores (fenestrae). These pores are NOT covered By diaphragm. 	<p>Diameter: irregular (30-40 μm).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their endothelial cells have fenestrae without diaphragms. They possess: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discontinuous endothelial cells. - Discontinuous basal lamina. <p>Macrophages may be located in or along the outside of the endothelial wall.</p>
Distribution:	In muscles ,pulmonary capillaries, C.T, and nervous tissue.	In intestine, pancreas and endocrine glands	In renal glomerulus.	Red bone marrow, liver, spleen and certain endocrine glands.
EM:				<p><i>here the entire wall contain fenestrae why? Because areas like the red bone marrow they make RBCs and WBCs and therefore the wall of the its capillaries must contains large pores so these large cells can diffuse</i></p>

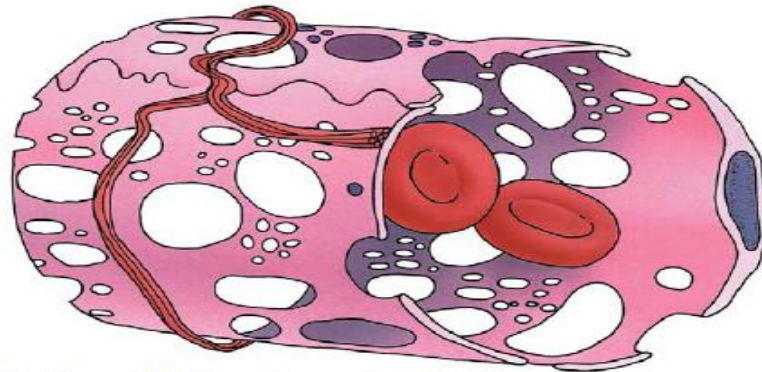
Extra picture for understanding
the types of capillaries



A Continuous capillary



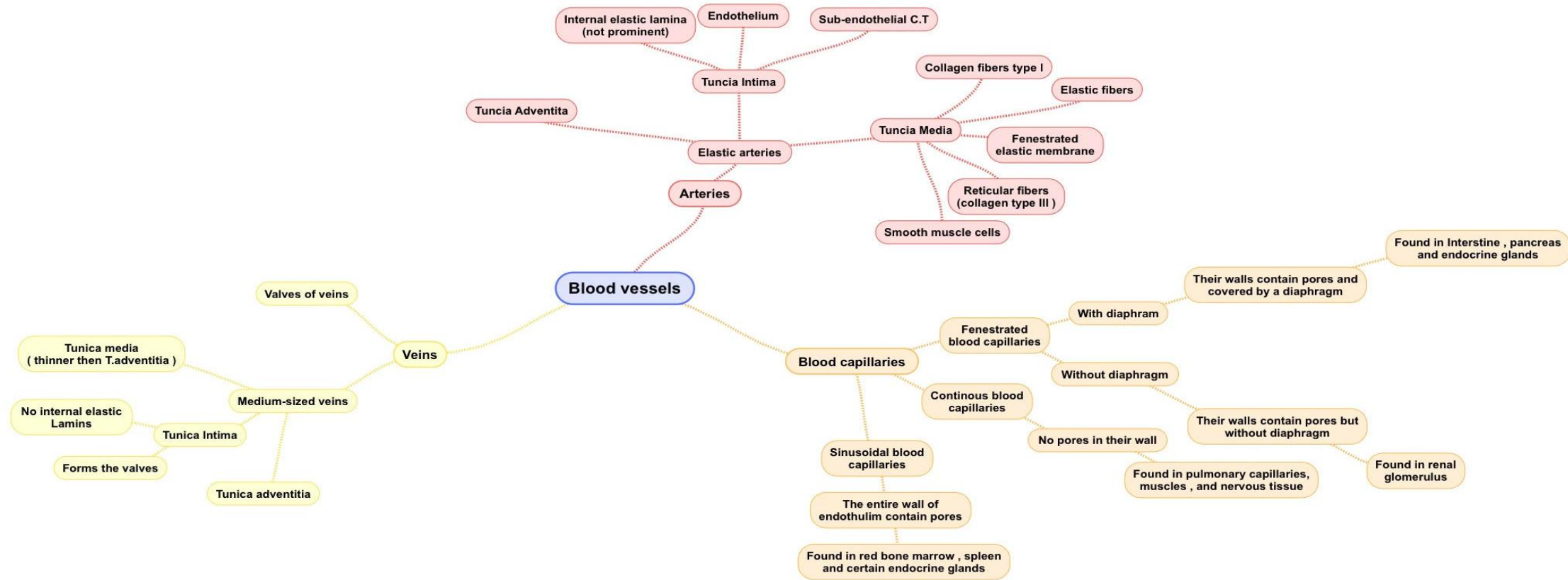
B Fenestrated capillary



C Sinusoidal (discontinuous) capillary

Figure 11-12 The three types of capillaries: continuous, fenestrated, and sinusoidal (discontinuous).

Summary



MCQ'S

1- The medium sized vein:
a. The wall is thicker than medium sized artery
b. Have internal elastic lamina
c. Form valves

2-The T.adventitia in muscular artery is composed of?
a. Loose connective tissue
b. Vasa vasorum
c. Macrophages

3-Squamous endothelial cells of blood capillaries are?
a. Double layer
b. Single layer
c. Triple layer

4- The Distribution of Fenestrated Blood Capillaries without Diaphragms ?
a. Intestine
b. Pancreas
c. Renal glomerulus.

5- The Microscopic structure of Continuous Blood Capillaries?
a. Have pores (fenestrae).
b. No pores or fenestrae in their walls.
c. Pores are covered by diaphragm.

6- Vasa vasorum are small arterioles in:
a. T. Adventitia and outer T.Media
b. T. Media only
c. T. intima

7- The internal elastic lamina found in elastic arteries is:
a. Prominent
b. Not prominent
c. None of them

8- Which of the following contains sinusoidal capillaries?
A- Pulmonary capillaries
B- Endocrine glands
C- Red bone marrow

1-C
2-A
3-B
4-C
5-B
6-A
7-B
8-C



Thank you & good luck

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