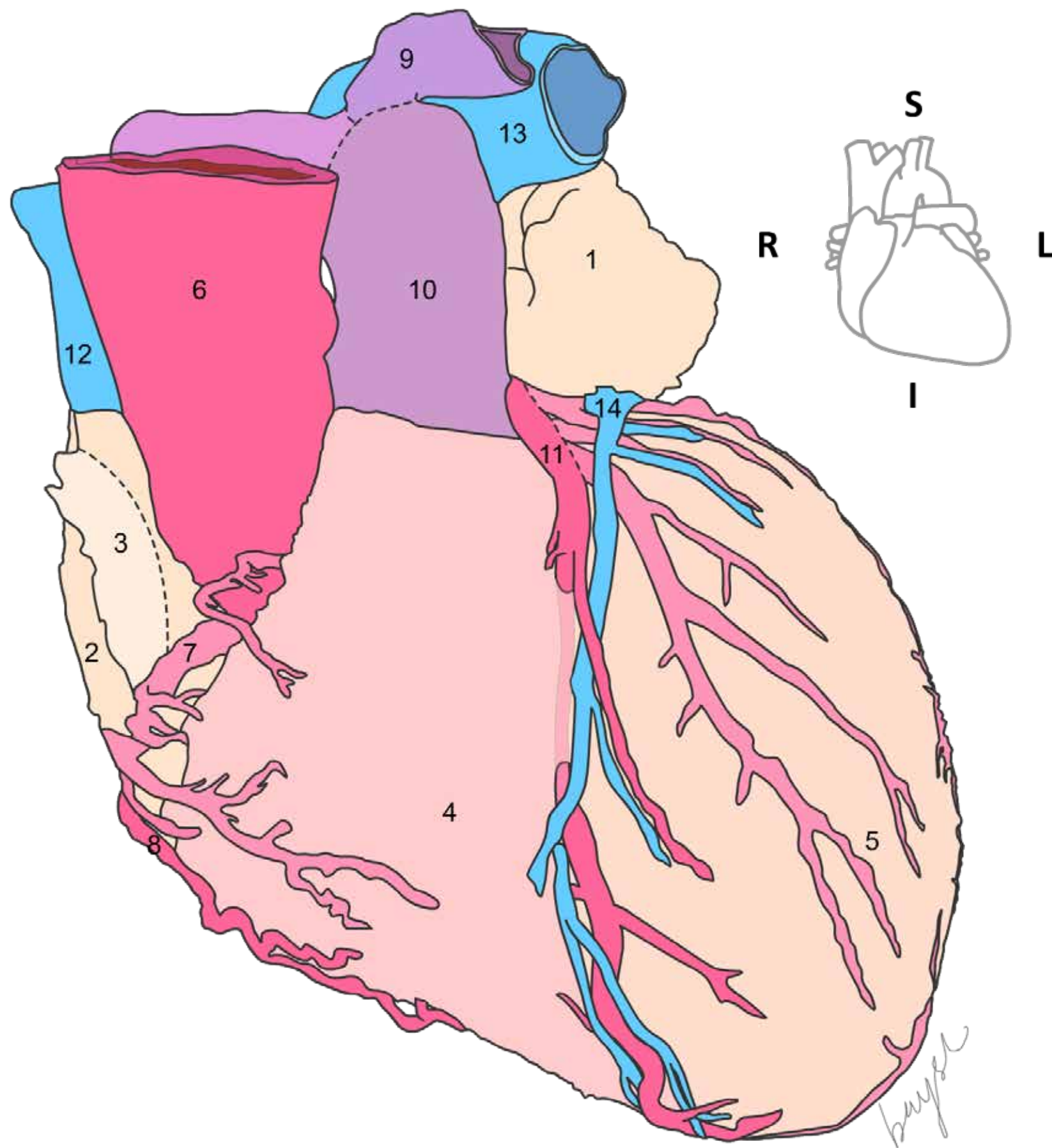


VASCULATURE OF THE HEART



- | | | |
|----------|---|--|
| Muscles | } | 1. Left auricle |
| | | 2. Right atrium |
| | | 3. Right auricle |
| | | 4. Right ventricle |
| | | 5. Left ventricle |
| Arteries | } | 6. Arch of aorta |
| | | 7. Right coronary artery (RCA) |
| | | 8. Marginal artery |
| | | 9. Left pulmonary artery (LCA) |
| | | 10. Pulmonary trunk |
| | | 11. Anterior interventricular branch of the left coronary artery |
| Veins | } | 12. Superior vena cava |
| | | 13. Left pulmonary vein |
| | | 14. Great cardiac vein |

Anterior view of the heart, showing Right coronary artery in the coronary sulcus, Ascending aorta, Right marginal branch of RCA, Pulmonary trunk, Anterior interventricular branch of LCA, Left marginal artery and Circumflex branch of LCA.

Pulmonary trunk arises from right ventricle and lies anterior to aorta.

Coronary vessels arise from the ascending aorta. The right coronary artery arises from the anterior sinus and the left coronary artery from left posterior sinus.

Clinical Correlation: The coronary arteries are rather small and can become occluded quite easily. If a small branch is involved, the area of the heart deprived of blood supply will become a scar – an infarct. If there is an occlusion of the right coronary artery, which supplies Sinoatrial node (SA node) and atrioventricular node (AV node), arrhythmias will occur. Bypass surgery is commonplace.

Q: Do coronary vessels anastomose?

Q: Which vein accompanies the anterior descending artery?

Q: What does dominant coronary artery mean?

Q: Which area does the posterior interventricular branch supply?

Q: What is the role of sympathetic supply on coronary vessels?