

# Coronary Heart Disease





Heart and cerebrovascular disease rank third after cancer and pneumonia as a cause of death in Hong Kong. According to statistics from the Department of Health, Heart disease claimed 6561 registered deaths in 2020 and coronary heart disease deaths accounted for 66.6% of all deaths caused by heart disease in 2015.

#### What is Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)?

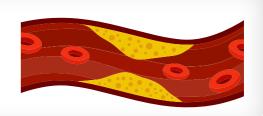
Coronary arteries are a system of blood vessels that supply heart muscles with oxygen and nutrients to keep the heart functioning. If the coronary arteries become narrowed or blocked, blood flow to the heart will diminish and the supply of oxygen to the heart muscles will decrease or stop.



Normal coronary arteries



**Excessive cholesterol** buildup in the coronary arteries



Narrows the arterial lumen and reduces blood supply to the myocardium \*Leading to CHD

## Risk Factors

## Uncontrollable risk **Factors**

- Age
- Gender (Higher risk in Males)
- Genetics

# Chronic illness

- Hypertension Diabetes
- Hyperlipidemia

## Lifestyle

- Unhealthy eating
- Lack of exercise Overweight and obesity
- Smoking
- Chronic stress

### **Environmental** factors

- Air pollution
- Noise pollution

## Common signs and

#### symptoms

- · Chest pain or feeling tightness, or heaviness in the chest (The pain can spread down one or both arms, or up to neck, jaw, shoulder or back)
- Shortness of breath
- Paleness, sweating or weakness
- Nausea or vomiting

\*The pain is usually induced by physical exertion, emotionally unstable and when the temperature drops.

## **Treatment**

Treatment methods vary depending on the stage of CHD



#### Medications

- Antihypertensive drugs
- Antihyperlipidemic drugs
- Aspirin and other antiplatelet drugs



## Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)

The cardiologist guides a catheter to the narrowed part of the heart artery. A tiny balloon is inflated to help widen the blocked artery and improve blood flow and a stent may be placed in the artery during PCI.



#### Coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG)

is an open-heart surgery A surgeon takes a healthy blood vessel from another part of the body to create a new path for blood in the heart. The blood then goes around the blocked or narrowed coronary artery.





