Infarction

Elliot J. Roth
Department of Physical Medicine and
Rehabilitation, Northwestern University,
Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

Definition

An infarction is an area of tissue that has died as a result of insufficient oxygen to maintain its viability, usually caused by atherosclerosis giving rise to an obstruction of blood supply to the tissue. Coronary artery occlusion can cause myocardial infarction. Carotid or intracerebral artery occlusion can cause a stroke by cerebral infarction. Infarctions can also occur in the intestines, kidneys, spleen, or other organs by the same mechanism.

Cross-References

- ▶ [Atherosclerosis](#)
- ▶ [Cerebrovascular Disease](#)
- ▶ [Coronary Disease](#)
- ▶ [Embolism](#)
- ▶ [Ischemia](#)
- ▶ [Ischemic Stroke](#)
- ▶ [Myocardial Infarction](#)
- ▶ [Peripheral Vascular Disease](#)
- ▶ [Thrombosis](#)

References and Reading

Antman, E. M., et al. (2004). ACC/AHA guidelines for the management of patients with ST-elevation myocardial infarction. A report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines (Committee to revise the 1999 guidelines for the management of patients with acute myocardial infarction). *Circulation*, 110, e82–e293.