

**embolism**

may be:

**Solid.**

**Pulmonary thromboembolism**

results from DVT and is most common form of thromboembolic disease

95% of cases it originates from deep leg veins proximal to the popliteal fossa, and rarely from lower leg veins

DVT is characterized by

- Hotness
- Redness
- Tenderness
- swelling

can occlude:

- the main pulmonary artery,
- lodge at the bifurcation of the right and left pulmonary arteries (saddle embolus),
- pass into the smaller, branching arterioles

fate:

- (60%–80%) of pulmonary emboli they undergo organization.
- a large embolus that blocks a major pulmonary artery can cause sudden death.
- Embolic obstruction of medium-sized arteries can cause pulmonary hemorrhage.....not pulmonary infarction
- Multiple emboli occurring through time can cause pulmonary hypertension\* and right ventricular failure (cor pulmonale).

leads to hypoxia, hypotension\*, and right-sided heart failure

**Systemic thromboembolism**

origins

- Intracardiac mural thrombi(80%).
- Aortic aneurysms.
- Thrombi overlying ulcerated atherosclerotic plaques.
- Fragmented valvular vegetations .
- The venous system (paradoxical emboli).

when an embolus passes through an atrial or ventricular defect and enters the systemic circulation.

Common arteriolar embolization sites

- the lower extremities (75%).
- central nervous system (10%).
- intestines.
- Kidneys
- spleen

**Fat Embolism**

caused by Soft tissue crush injury or rupture of marrow vascular sinusoids (eg, due to a long bone fracture)

release microscopic fat globules into the circulation

characterized by:

- pulmonary insufficiency.
- neurologic symptoms.
- anemia\*
- thrombocytopenia\*
- diffuse petechial rash\*
- fatal in 10% of cases.

Clinical signs and symptoms appear 1 to 3 days after injury.

pathogenesis involves:

mechanical obstruction: occlusion of pulmonary and cerebral microvasculature.

biochemical injury: triggering platelet aggregation.

\*fatty acid release from lipid globules, which causes local toxic endothelial injury.

\*granulocyte recruitment (with free radical, protease, and eicosanoid release)

**Liquid.**

**Amniotic Fluid Embolism**

characterized by:

- sudden severe dyspnea.
- cyanosis
- hypotensive shock,
- seizures and coma.

If the patient survives the initial crisis

pulmonary edema typically develops, along with disseminated intravascular coagulation

mortality results from

- mechanical obstruction of pulmonary vessels .
- biochemical activation of the coagulation system and the innate immune system caused by substances in the amniotic fluid

**Gaseous.**

obstruct vascular flow and cause distal ischemic injury.

Can occur during

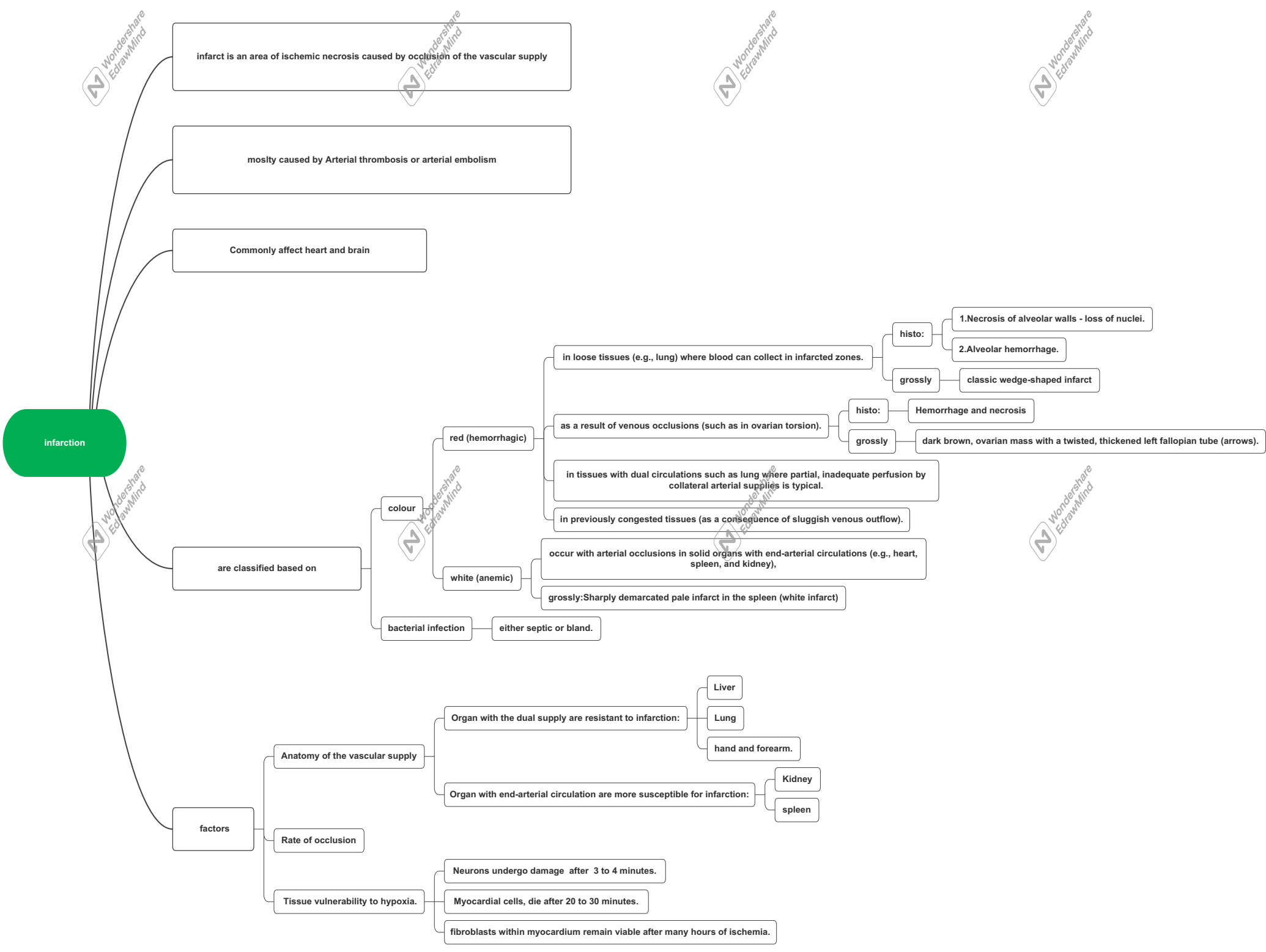
bypass surgery, laparoscopic procedures, chest wall injury or introduced into the cerebral arterial circulation by neurosurgery.

in the pulmonary vasculature cause:

- edema.
- hemorrhages.
- focal atelectasis or emphysema

in the CNS can cause

mental impairment and even sudden onset of coma.



infarction

infarct is an area of ischemic necrosis caused by occlusion of the vascular supply

mosty caused by Arterial thrombosis or arterial embolism

Commonly affect heart and brain

are classified based on

colour

red (hemorrhagic)

in loose tissues (e.g., lung) where blood can collect in infarcted zones.

as a result of venous occlusions (such as in ovarian torsion).

in tissues with dual circulations such as lung where partial, inadequate perfusion by collateral arterial supplies is typical.

in previously congested tissues (as a consequence of sluggish venous outflow).

white (anemic)

occur with arterial occlusions in solid organs with end-arterial circulations (e.g., heart, spleen, and kidney),

grossly:Sharply demarcated pale infarct in the spleen (white infarct)

bacterial infection

either septic or bland.

factors

Anatomy of the vascular supply

Organ with the dual supply are resistant to infarction:

Liver

Lung

hand and forearm.

Organ with end-arterial circulation are more susceptible for infarction:

Kidney

spleen

Rate of occlusion

Tissue vulnerability to hypoxia.

Neurons undergo damage after 3 to 4 minutes.

Myocardial cells, die after 20 to 30 minutes.

fibroblasts within myocardium remain viable after many hours of ischemia.

histo:

- 1.Necrosis of alveolar walls - loss of nuclei.
- 2.Alveolar hemorrhage.

grossly

classic wedge-shaped infarct

histo:

Hemorrhage and necrosis

grossly

dark brown, ovarian mass with a twisted, thickened left fallopian tube (arrows).