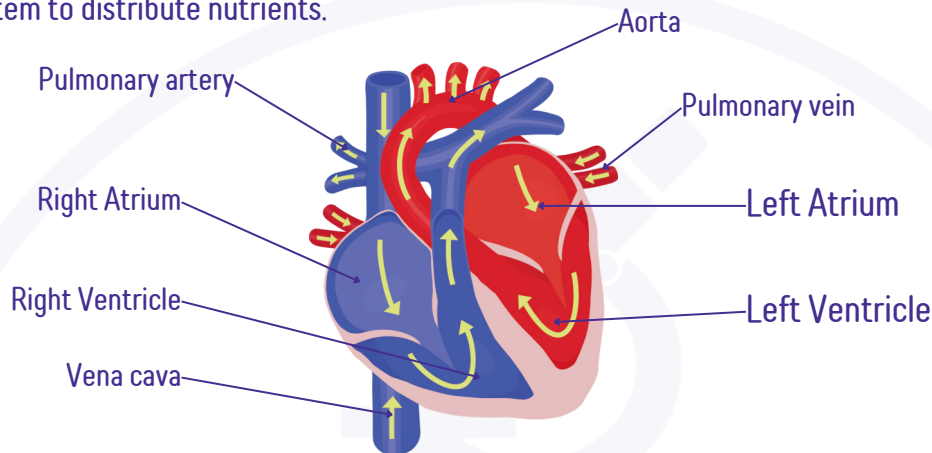


THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

Key Concepts

- The circulatory system transports blood, oxygen, and nutrients to tissues and removes waste products like carbon dioxide.
- The heart acts as a pump, maintaining blood flow through arteries, veins, and capillaries.
- Blood is composed of plasma (the liquid portion), red blood cells (carry oxygen), white blood cells (fight infections), and platelets (help in clotting).
- The circulatory system works closely with the respiratory system to exchange gases and the digestive system to distribute nutrients.



Key Facts to Remember

- Red blood cells carry oxygen using a protein called hemoglobin.
- The heart has four chambers: two atria and two ventricles.
- Veins carry blood to the heart; arteries carry it away.
- Capillaries are tiny blood vessels where the exchange of oxygen, nutrients, and waste occurs.
- Plasma is the liquid part of blood, carrying nutrients, hormones, and waste products.
- Platelets help blood clot to prevent excessive bleeding.
- White blood cells fight infections by attacking bacteria, viruses, and other harmful substances.

Quick Questions

1. What do red blood cells carry?
2. How many chambers does the heart have?
3. Do veins carry blood to or from the heart?
4. What type of blood vessel is involved in exchange of materials?
5. What is the function of plasma?
6. What helps blood to clot?
7. What do white blood cells do?
8. What protein carries oxygen in red blood cells?

Fun Fact

If all your blood vessels were laid out, they'd stretch around the Earth twice!

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