

BLOOD FLOW IN THE HEART

1. Blood enters right atrium from superior and inferior vena cavae.
2. Blood in right atrium flows through right AV valve (tricuspid) into right ventricle.
3. Contraction of right ventricle forces pulmonary semilunar valve open.
4. Blood flows through pulmonary valve into pulmonary trunk.
5. Blood is distributed by right and left pulmonary arteries to the lungs, where it unloads CO₂ and loads Oxygen.
6. Blood returns from lungs from pulmonary veins to left atrium.
7. Blood in left atrium flows through left AV valve (mitral) into left ventricle.
8. Contraction of left ventricle (simultaneous with Step 3) forces aortic semilunar valve open.
9. Blood flows through aortic valve into ascending aorta.
10. Blood in aorta is distributed to every organ in the body, where it unloads O and loads CO₂.
11. Blood returns to heart from venae cavae

