

Vocabulary

Theme 6 – Cardiovascular System

alleles (n)

- the genetic sequence on a chromosome represented with two letters, one from each parent

aorta (n)

- the largest artery, which leads from the lower left chamber of the heart to arteries all over the body

arteries (n)

- the largest blood vessels that carry blood away from the heart; part of the cardiovascular system

blood pressure (n)

- the force of circulating blood on the walls of the arteries

blood type (n)

- a classification of blood based on the presence and absence of antibodies and inherited antigenic substances

capillary (n)

- tiny blood vessels that transport blood, nutrients, and oxygen to cells; part of the cardiovascular system

cardiovascular or circulatory system (n)

- a network of organs that works together to supply oxygen and nutrients to the entire body

coronary artery disease (heart disease) (n)

- a disease that involves the reduction of blood flow to the heart muscle due to a build-up of plaque in the arteries of the heart

dominant allele (n)

- an allele that overrides another, ultimately determining the expression of a trait (example: Bb or BB = brown eyes)

genotype (n)

- the genetic makeup of an organism described by the set of genes present

heart (n)

- a hollow, muscular organ in the chest that pumps blood throughout the body; part of the cardiovascular system

heart attack (n)

- a medical emergency that occurs when a blood clot blocks blood flow to the heart

heart rate (n)

- the frequency of the heartbeat, measured by the number of contractions per minute

heterozygous (adj)

- having two different alleles of a gene(s)

homozygous (adj)

- having two identical alleles of a particular gene(s)

hypertension (high blood pressure) (n)

- a condition in which the blood vessels have persistently raised pressure

phenotype (n)

- the set of observable characteristics of an individual resulting from its genotype

pulmonary circulation (n)

- the passage of blood from the heart to the lungs, then back to the heart

Punnett square (n)

- a chart that displays all possible genotypes in the offspring of two parents

recessive allele (n)

- an allele that tends to be masked by another, expressed only when the genotype is homozygous (example: bb = blue eyes)

stroke (n)

- a medical emergency that occurs when a blood vessel carrying oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts

systemic circulation (n)

- the passage of blood from the heart to the rest of the body, then back to the heart

veins (n)

- blood vessels that carry blood from tissues of the body back to the heart; part of the cardiovascular system

venules (n)

- small veins; part of the cardiovascular system