

Heart Failure and the Cardiomyopathies for the USMLE Step One Exam
Part II: *the Neurohumoral Response and Applied Pharmacology*



PDF available at
12DaysinMarch.com



Tutorial Services
(check website for details)

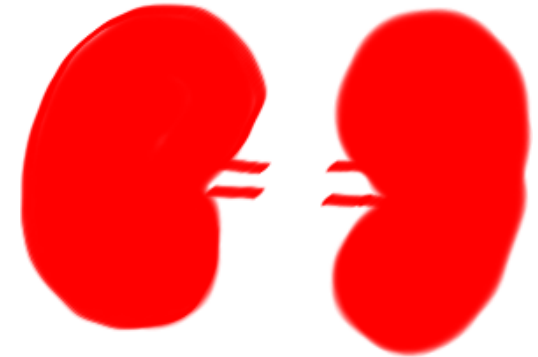
Howard J. Sachs, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
University of Massachusetts Medical School
www.12DaysinMarch.com
E-mail: Howard@12daysinmarch.com

CHF:

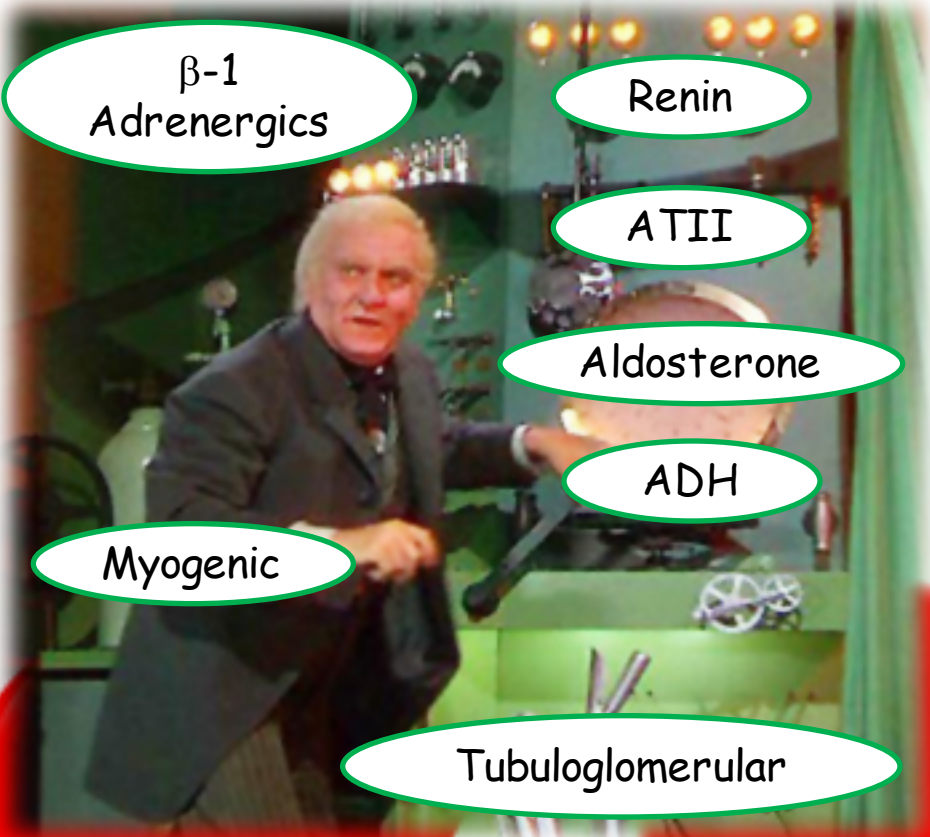
Heart is Failing

Work Harder!!!

Feed Me!!!



the Neurohumoral Response



β -1
Adrenergics

Renin

ATII

Aldosterone

ADH

Myogenic

Tubuloglomerular

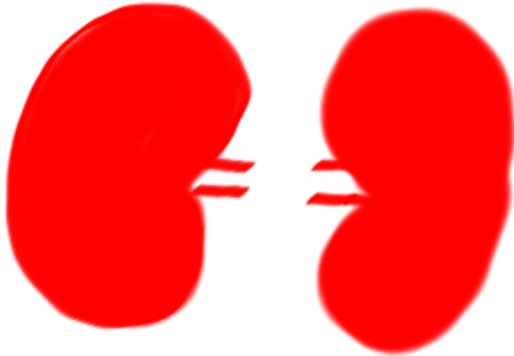
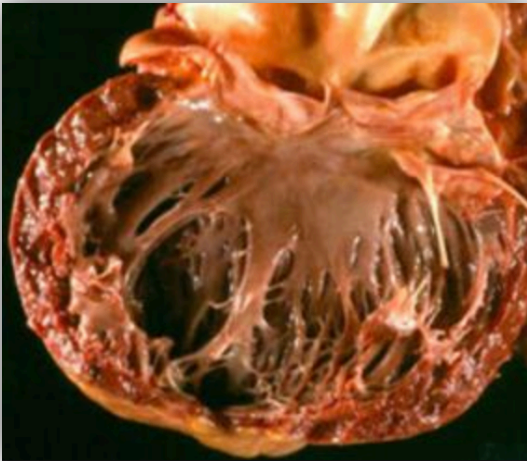
the Neurohumoral Response

Feed Me!!!

CHF:
Heart is Failing

Work Harder!!!

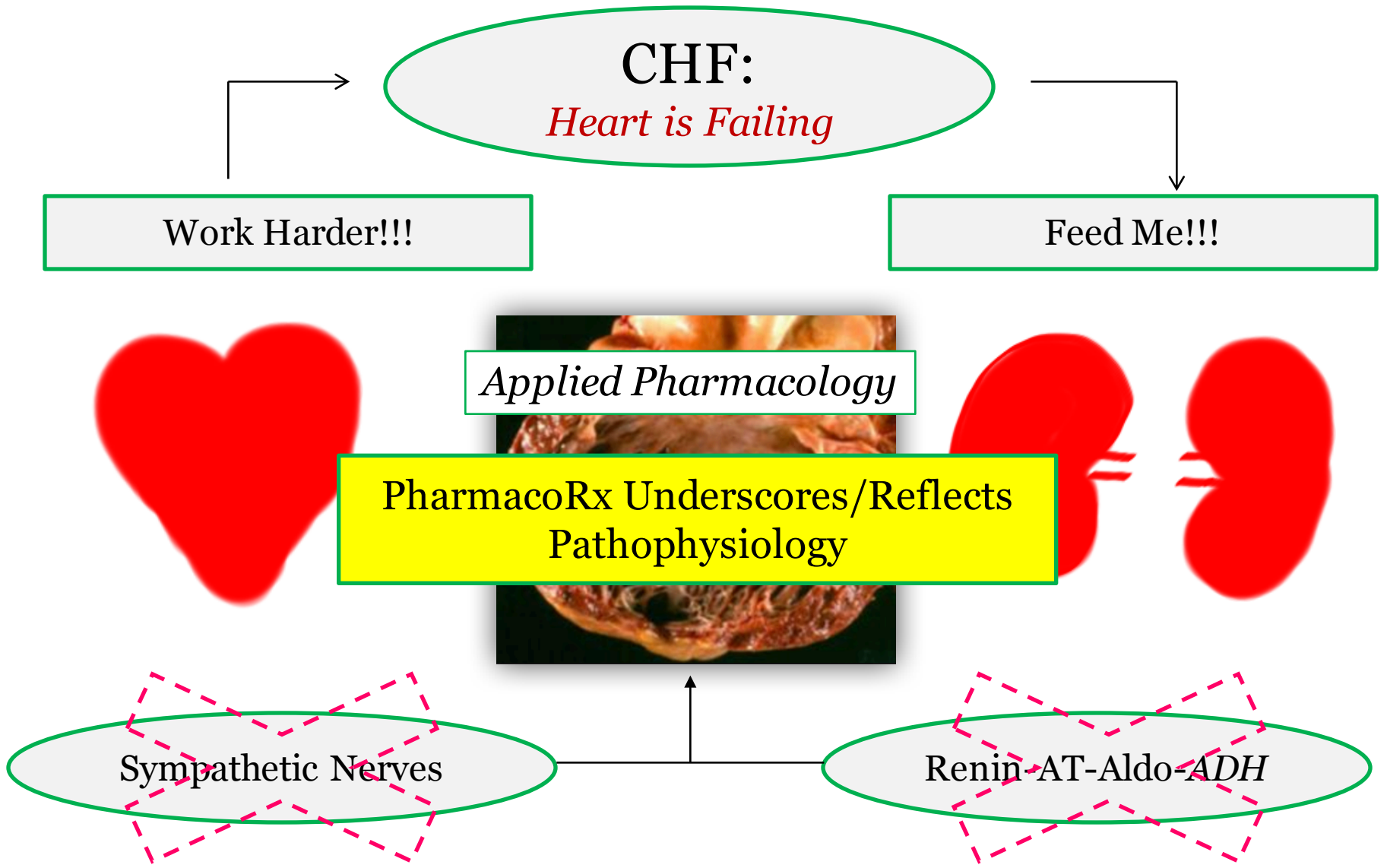
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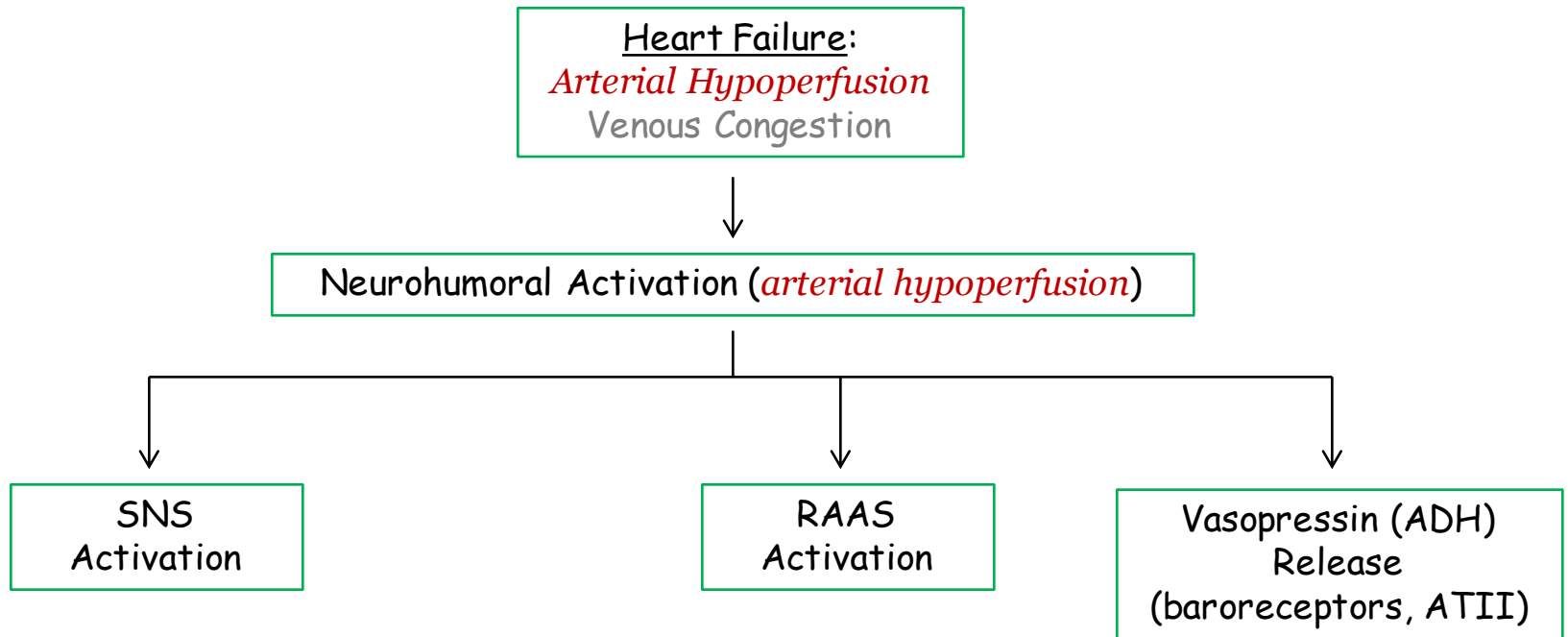


Sympathetic Nerves

Renin-AT-Aldo-ADH

Neuro.....*Humoral*
Response



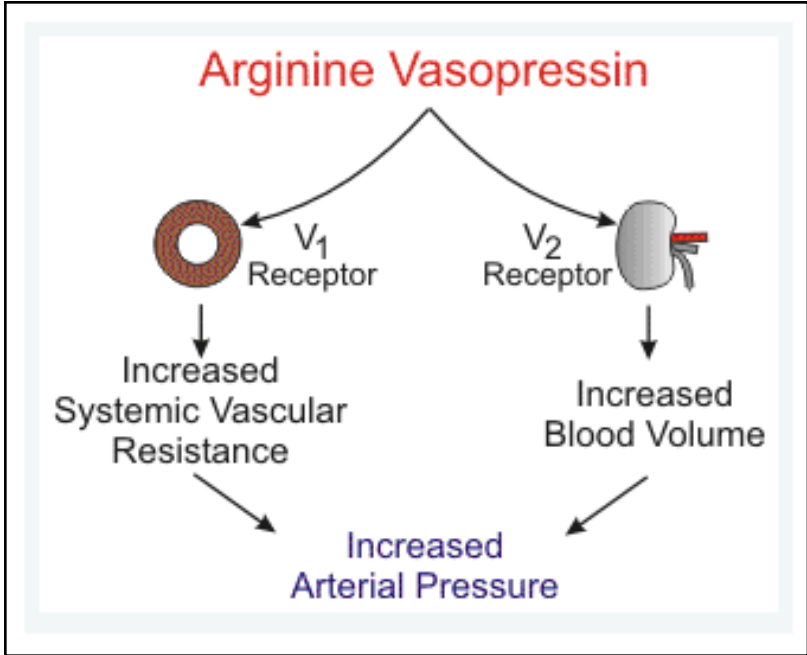
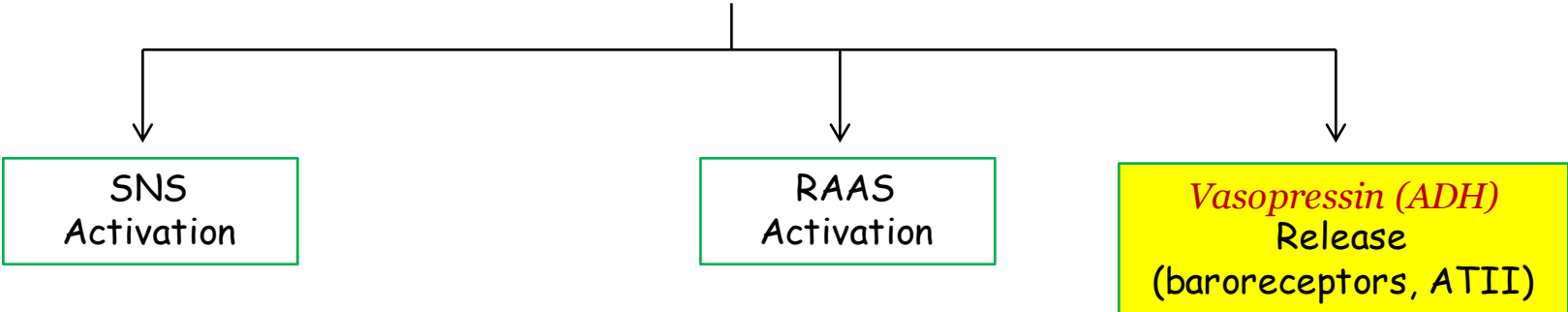


The response is similar to any other cause of renal (or visceral) hypoperfusion

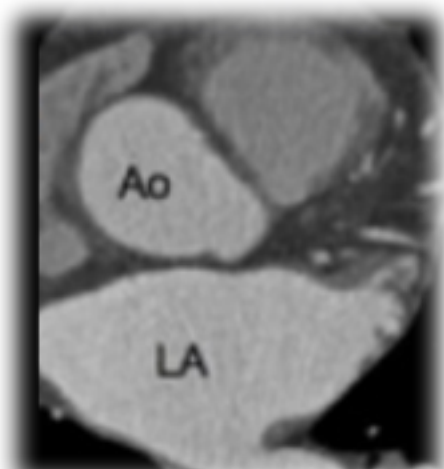
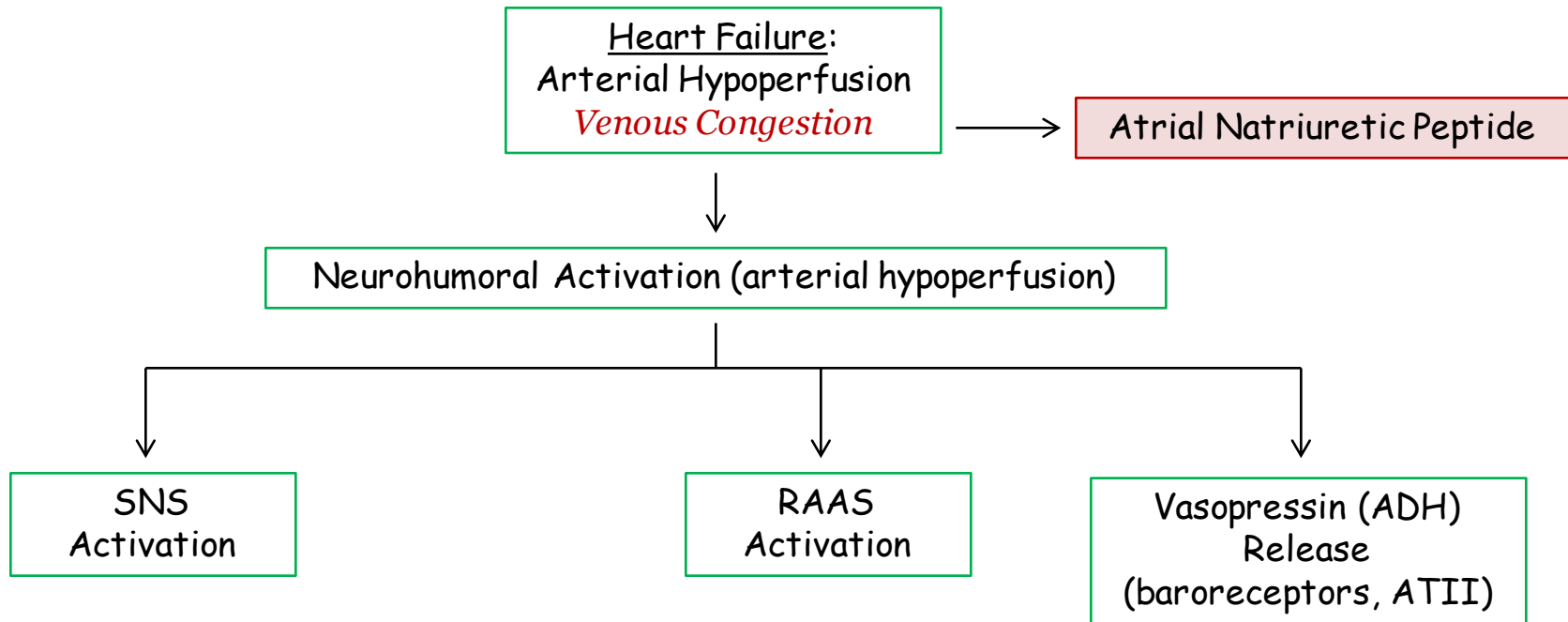
Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion



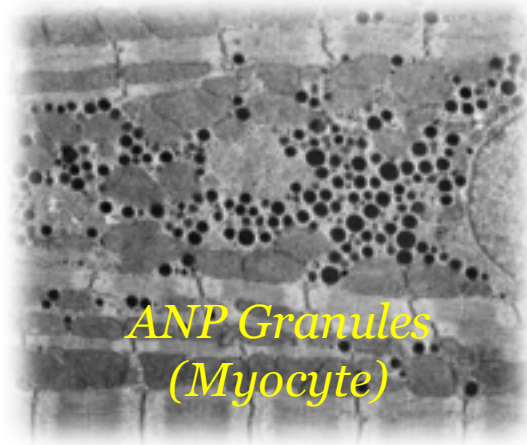
Neurohumoral Activation (*arterial hypoperfusion*)

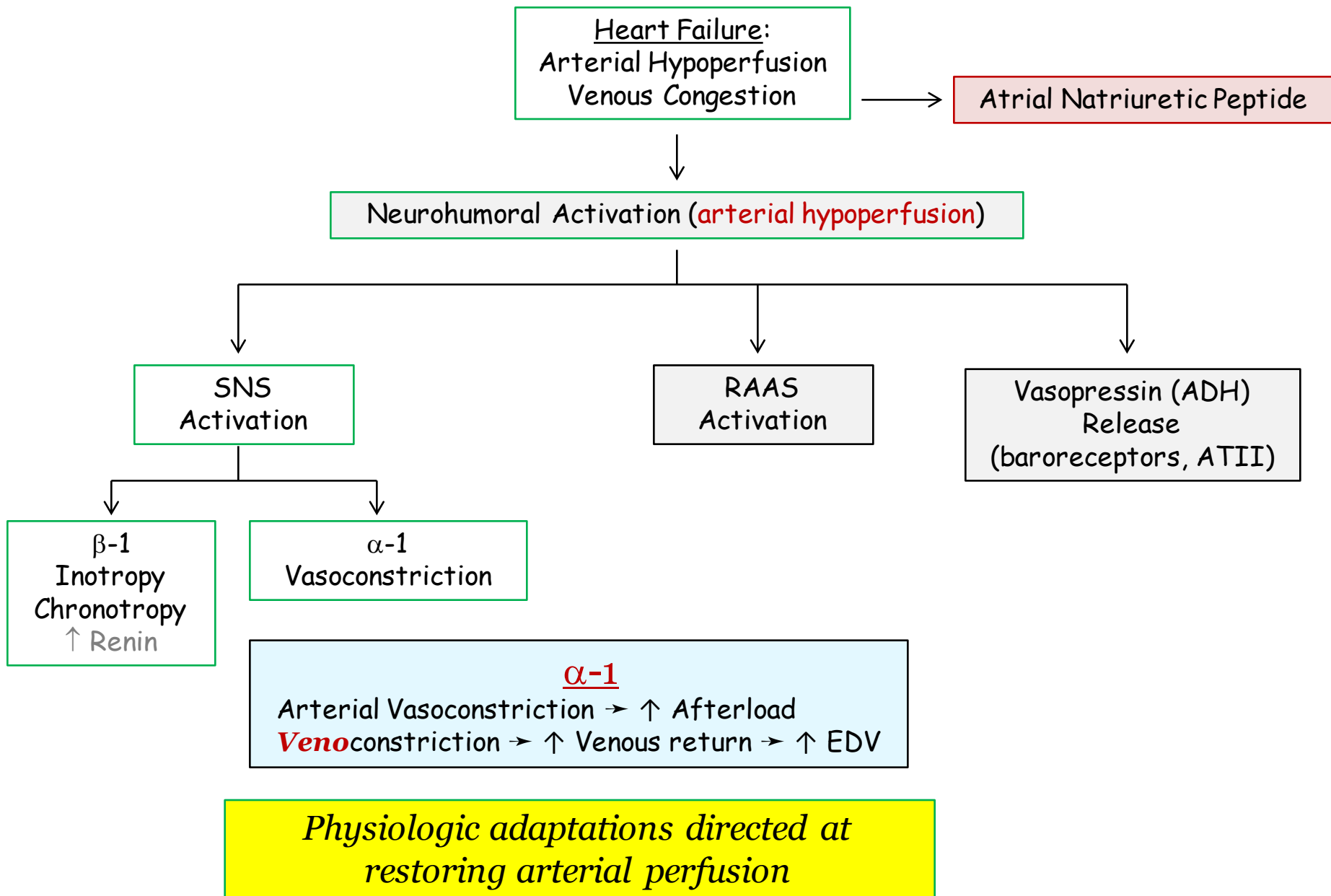


V₁ receptor = Vasopressin (vasopressor functions)
V₂ receptor = ADH



Stretching of
Cardiac Myocytes





Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion

Atrial Natriuretic Peptide

Neurohumoral Activation (arterial hypoperfusion)

SNS
Activation

RAAS
Activation

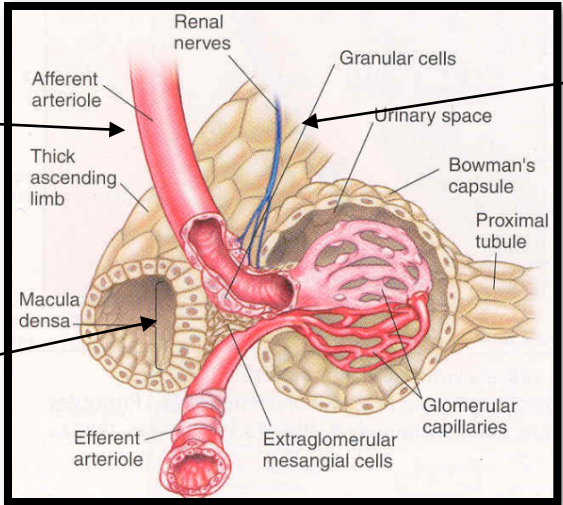
β -1
Inotropy
Chronotropy
 \uparrow Renin

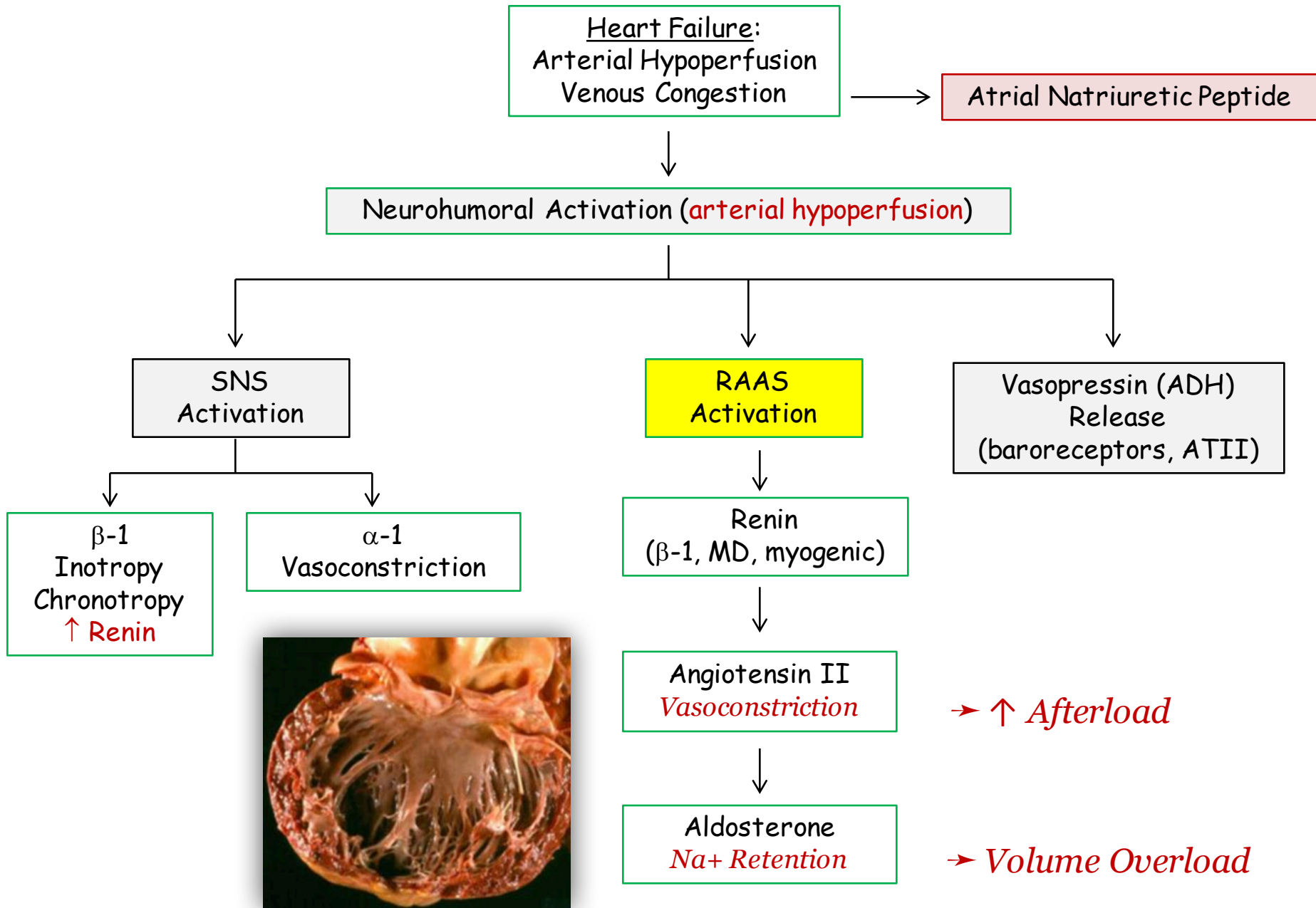
Renin
(β -1, MD, myogenic)

Afferent Arteriole:
Vasoconstriction

Macula Densa:
 \downarrow NaCl

Renal Autonomic Nvs:
 β -1 Stimulation







Otto Frank

~The Volume of Blood Ejected
Depends on the Volume of
Blood Present at EDV~

Preload



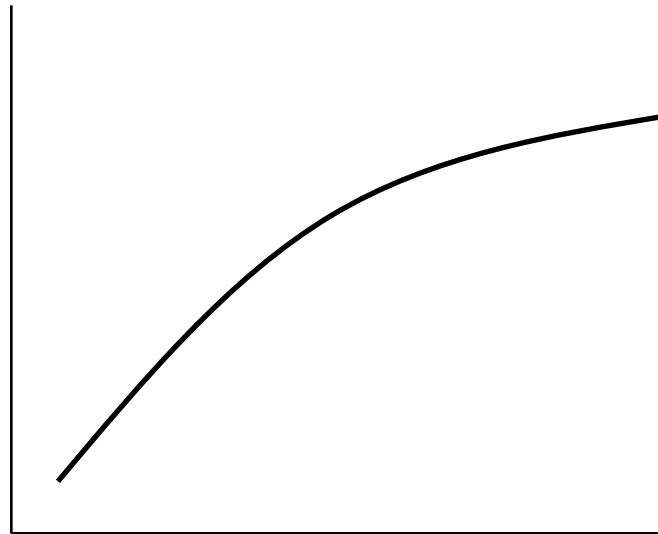
Ernest Starling



Definition:

Maximum tension depends on resting length

Tension
Pressure

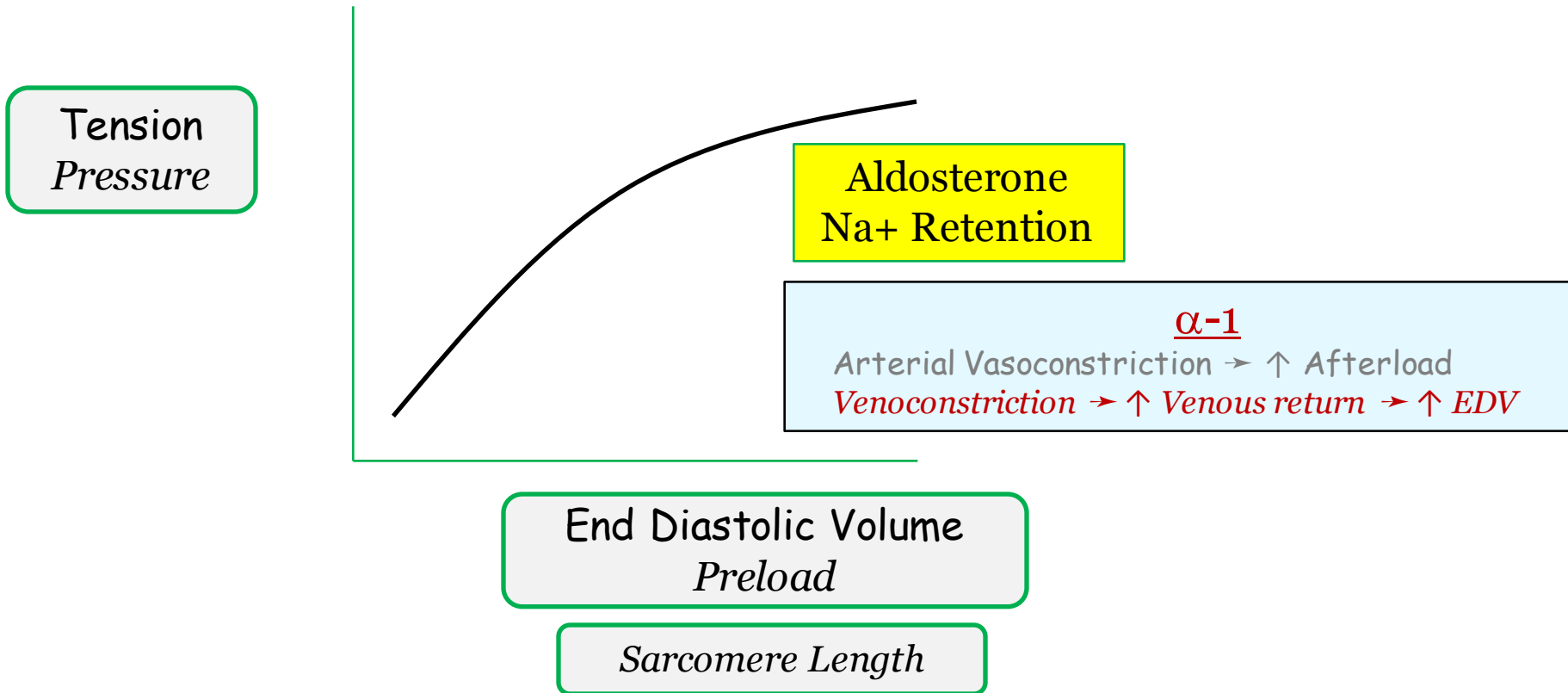


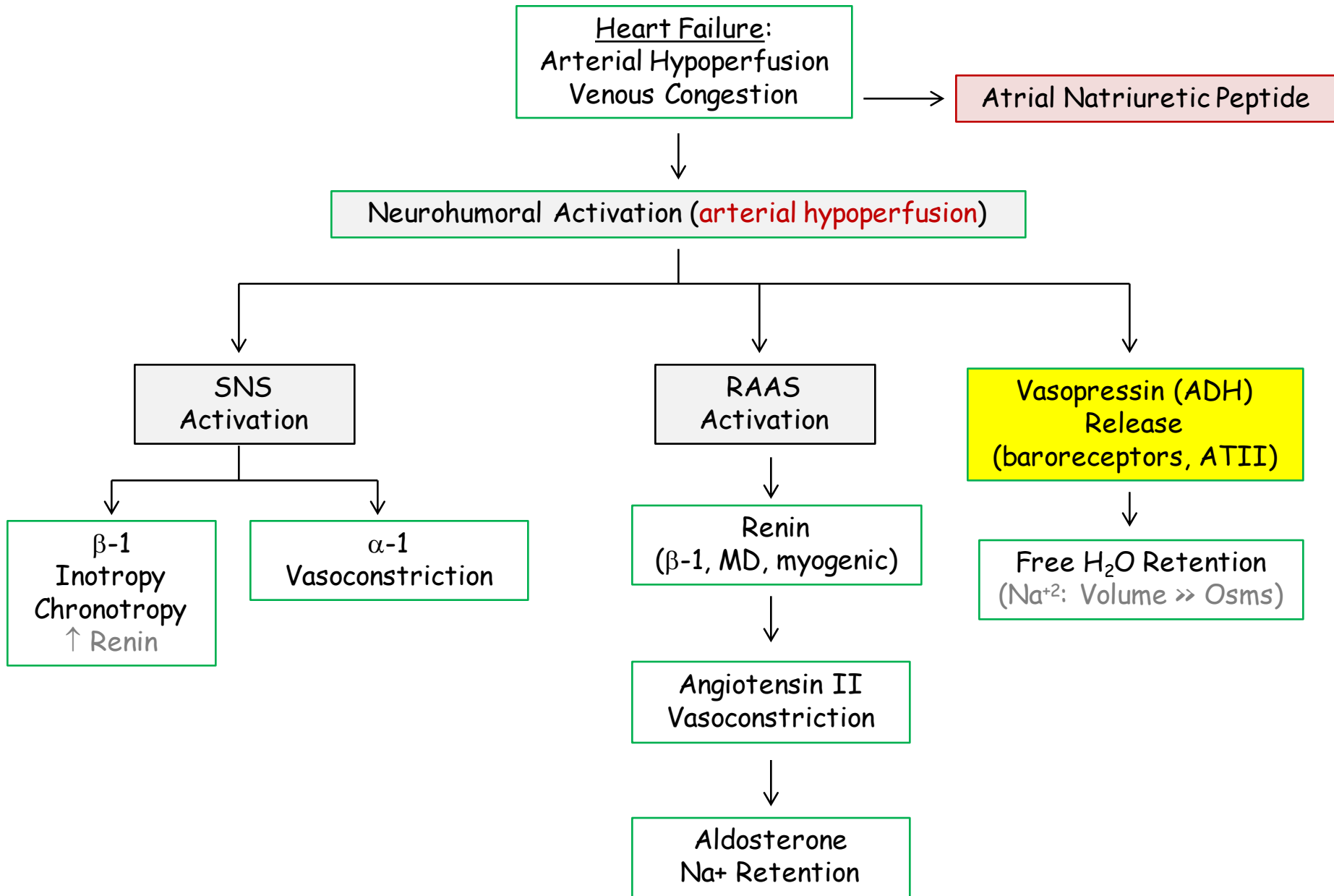
End Diastolic Volume
Preload

Sarcomere Length



Definition:
 Maximum tension depends on resting length





Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion

Atrial Natriuretic Peptide

Neurohumoral Activation

Arterial Hypoperfusion

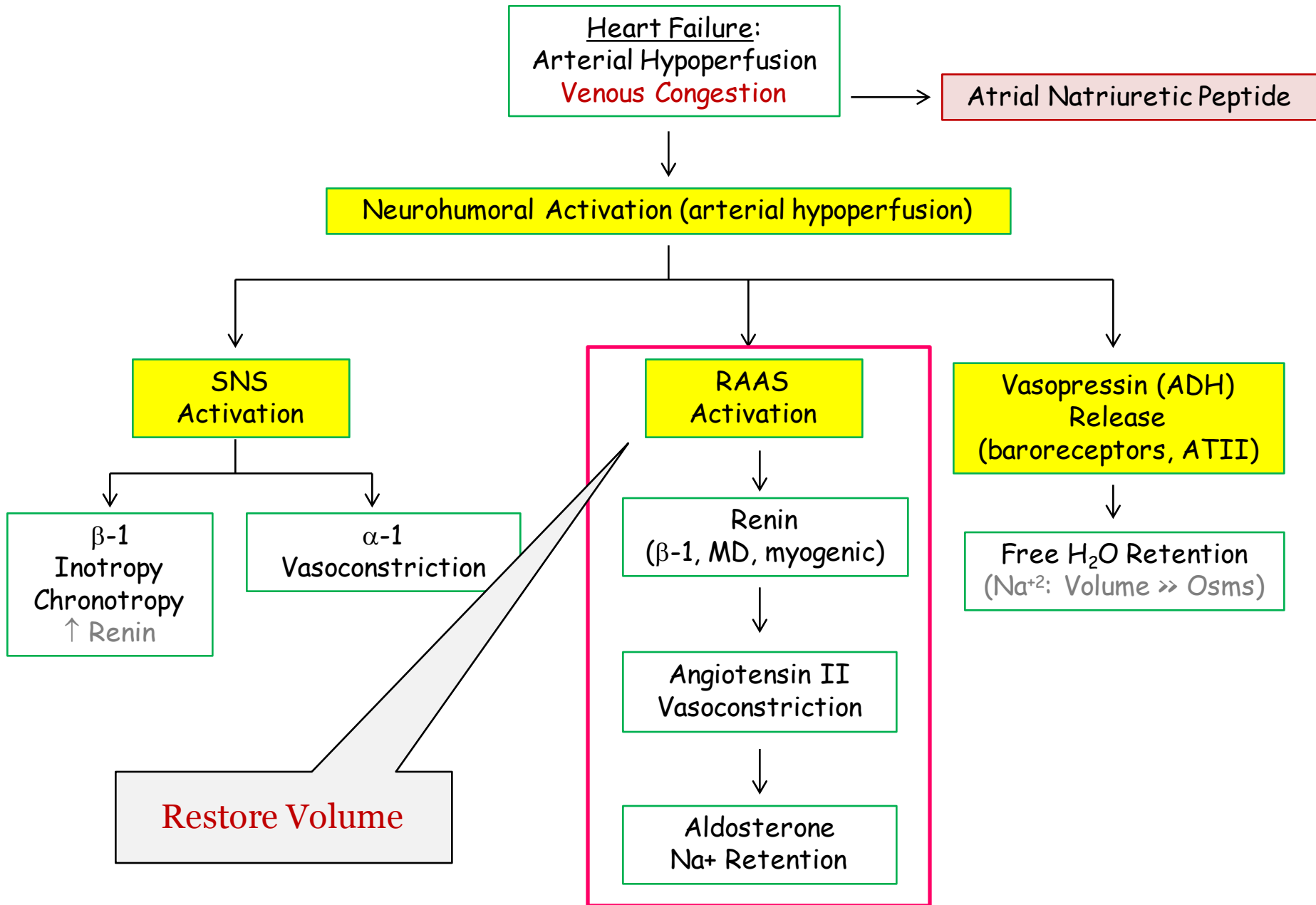
SNS
Activation

RAAS
Activation

Vasopressin (ADH)
Release
(baroreceptors, ATII)

Free H₂O Retention
(Na⁺: Volume >> Osm)

	Ref Range & Units	
📊 NA	135 - 145 mmol/L	129 (L)
📊 K	3.5 - 5.3 mmol/L	4.3
📊 Cl	97 - 110 mmol/L	95 (L)
📊 CO ₂	24 - 32 mmol/L	29
📊 Anion Gap	5 - 15	5
📊 Glucose	70 - 99 mg/dL	85
📊 Creatinine	0.50 - 1.20 mg/dL	0.52



Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion

Neurohumoral Activation (arterial hypoperfusion)

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β -1
Inotropy
Chronotropy
 \uparrow Renin

α -1
Vasoconstriction

Renin
(β -1, MD, myogenic)

Free H₂O Retention

\uparrow HR and
Contractility

Vasoconstriction

Angiotensin II
Vasoconstriction

Aldosterone
Na⁺ Retention

Volume Expansion
(\uparrow EDV)

Neurohumoral: Overlap between SNS and RAAS

**Implication:
Pathophysiology**

Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion

Neurohumoral Activation (arterial hypoperfusion)

SNS
Activation

β -1
Inotropy
Chronotropy
 \uparrow Renin

Increase
cardiac work

α -1
Vasoconstriction

Increase cardiac
work
Decrease renal
perfusion

RAAS
Activation

Renin
(β -1, MD, myogenic)

Angiotensin II
Vasoconstriction

Aldosterone
Na⁺ Retention

Vasopressin (ADH)
Release
(baroreceptors, ATII)

Free H₂O Retention

Volume overload
Hyponatremia

Volume overload
Cardiac remodeling

**Implication:
Treatment**

Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion

Atrial Natriuretic Peptide

Endopeptidase inhibitor

Neurohumoral Activation (arterial hypoperfusion)

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α -1
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(β -1, MD, myogenic)

Free H₂O Retention

Increase cardiac
work

Increase cardiac work
Decrease renal perfusion

Angiotensin II
Vasoconstriction

Volume overload
Hyponatremia

β -1 (plus α -1) adrenergic antagonist

(+) Inotropic Support:
Digoxin
Dobutamine

\downarrow Preload/ \downarrow Afterload:
Nitrates/Hydralazine

Aldosterone
Na⁺ Retention

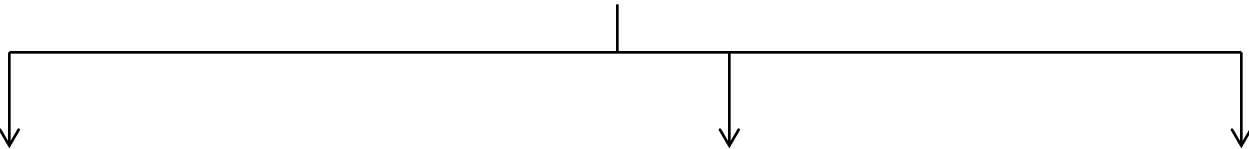
Volume overload
Cardiac remodeling

ACE-I/ARB; diuretic; aldosterone-antagonist

Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion



Neurohumoral Activation (arterial hypoperfusion)



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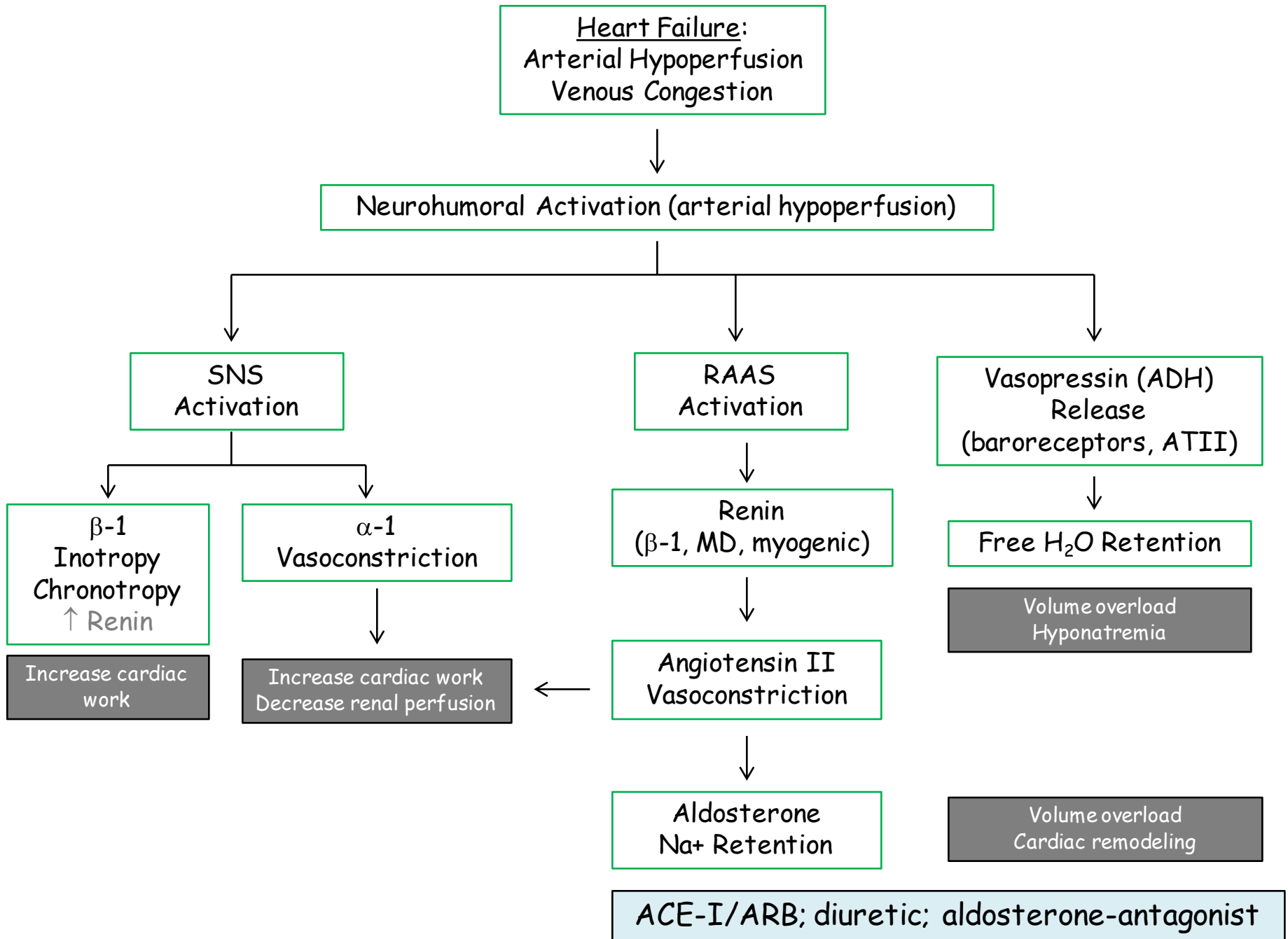
Increase cardiac work
Decrease renal perfusion

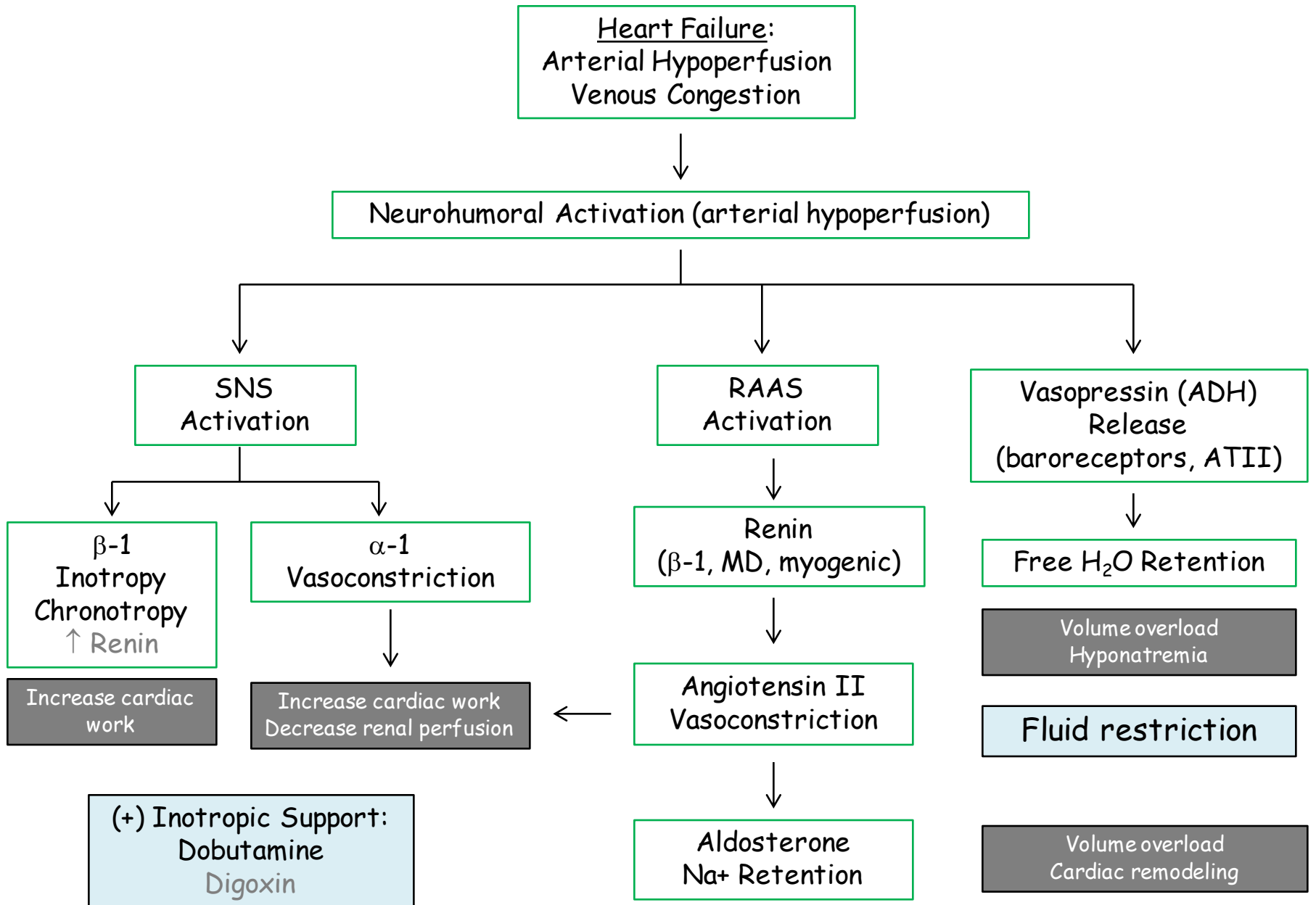
Renin
(β -1, MD, myogenic)

Free H₂O Retention

β -1 (plus α -1) adrenergic antagonist \rightarrow Metoprolol, Carvedilol

\downarrow Preload/ \downarrow Afterload
Nitrates/Hydralazine





Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion



Neurohumoral Activation (arterial hypoperfusion)

Survival Benefit
Note: survival benefit is a *different question* than symptomatic treatment

n (ADH)
se
rs, ATII)

β-1
Inotropy
Chronotropy
↑ Renin

Increase cardiac work

Vasoconstriction

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Decrease renal perfusion

(β-1, MD, myogenic)

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Atrial Natriuretic Peptide

Endopeptidase inhibitor

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Aldosterone
Na⁺ Retention

Free H₂O Retention

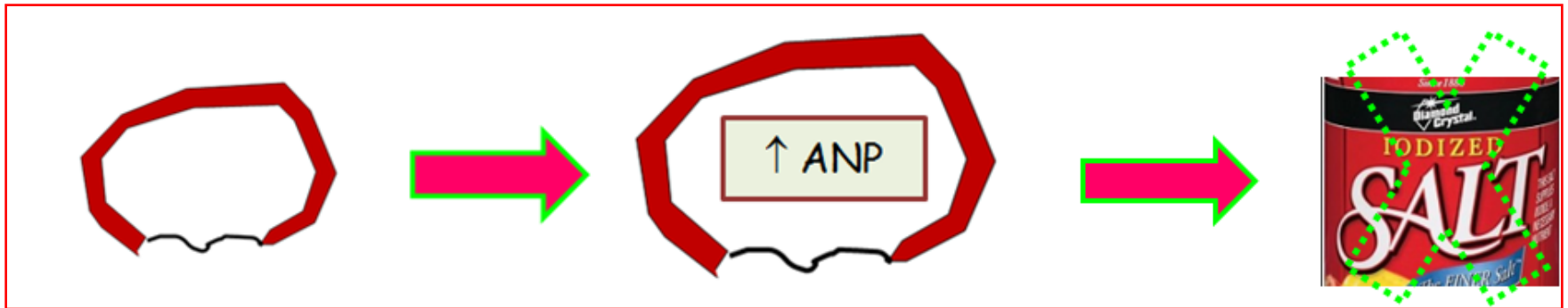
Volume overload
Hyponatremia

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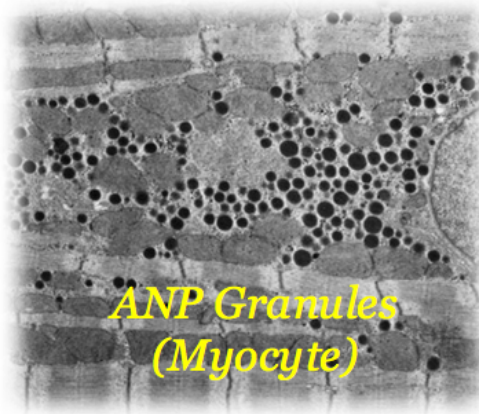
Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion

→ Atrial Natriuretic Peptide

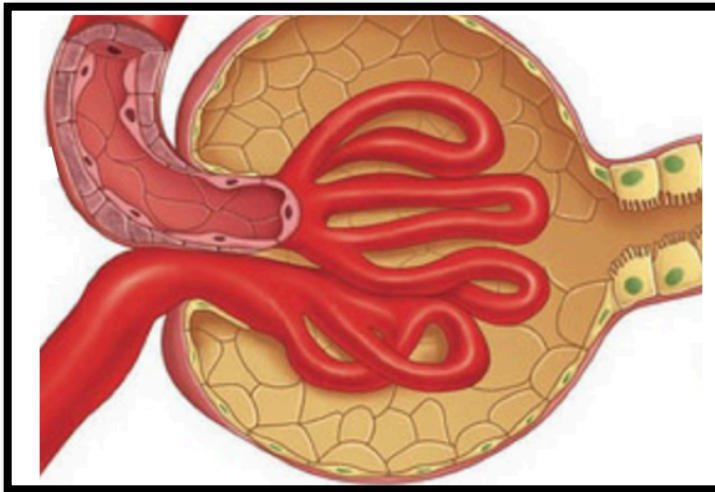
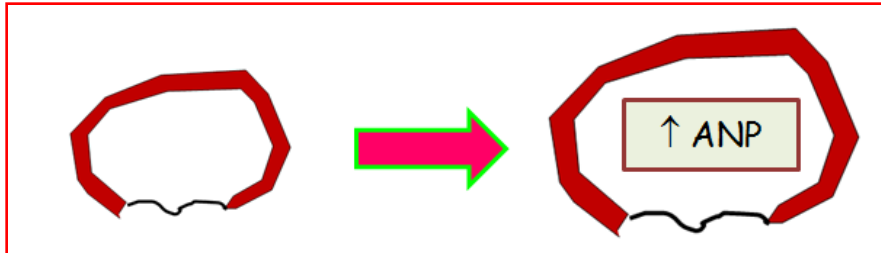
Atrial Natriuretic Peptide



- ANP/BNP is rarely mentioned as a diagnostic test (for CHF).
- They allude to it in setting of decompensated HF as a **peptide** with X, Y, Z *properties* (TBD...)
- Released in response to myocardial wall **stretch** (volume expansion).



ANP: The Perfect Response

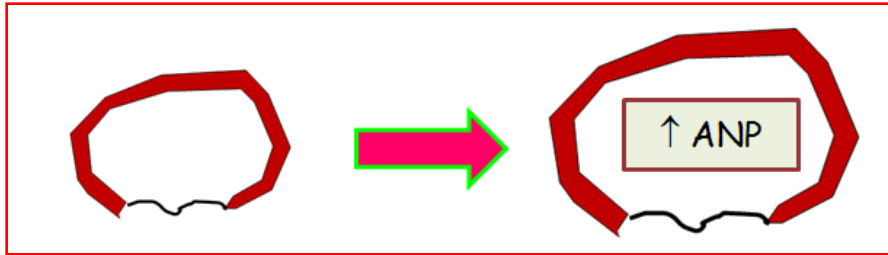


Afferent vasodilation with efferent vasoconstriction

Result: ↑ **GFR** → ↓ **Renin** (*inhibit* ATII, aldosterone, ADH)

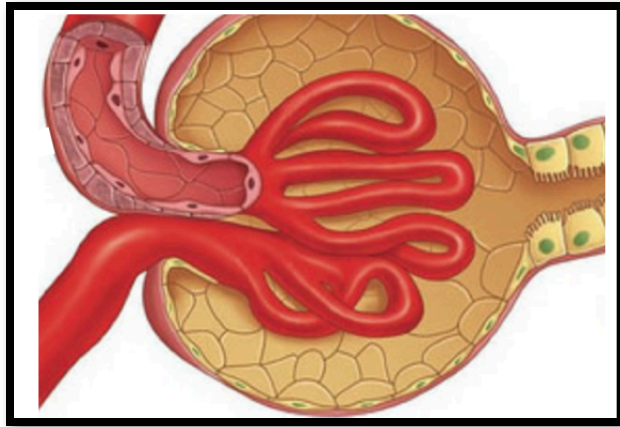
Natriuresis: Directly inhibits Na^{+2} reabsorption in the PCT

ANP: The Perfect Response



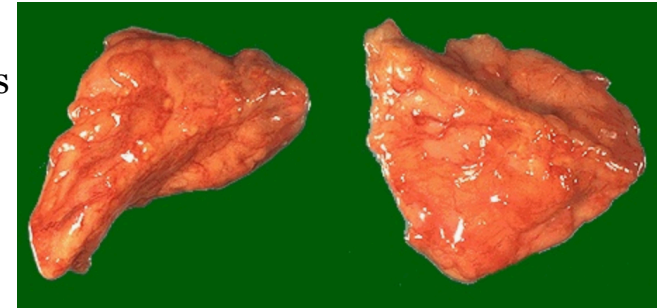
Directly inhibits

aldosterone release



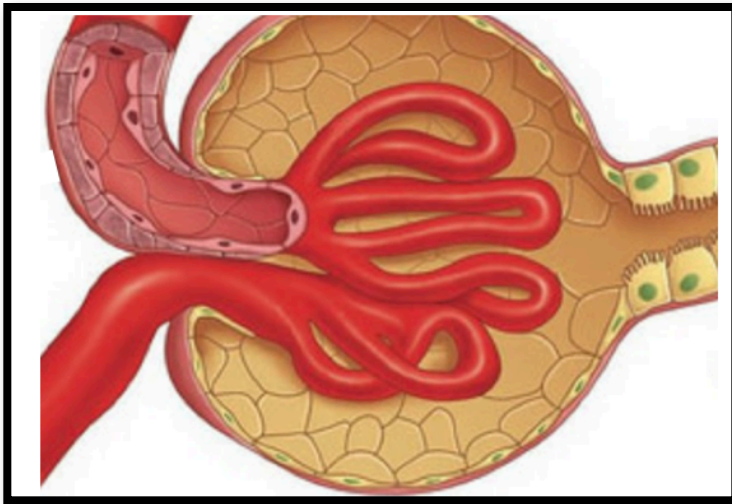
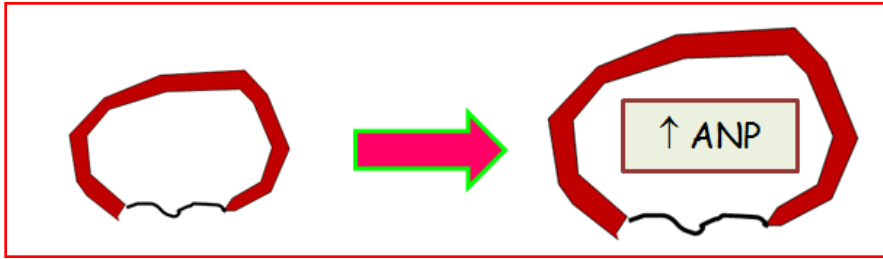
Indirectly (via ↓ renin) decreases

aldosterone synthesis



Result: Decrease Na/water absorption

ANP: The Perfect Response



Arteriolar Vasodilation (↓ *Afterload*)

Smooth muscle Cell
Endothelium

Direct (↑cGMP) and indirect (↓ *ATII*)

Suppresses ADH Release (↓ *ATII*) Attenuates ADH binding to V2 receptor

ADH
R
Gs
AC
V2 RCPT
cAMP
ATP
protein kinase A
Phosphorylation
AQP2
Aquaporin 2

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Arteriolar Vasodilation
(↓ afterload)

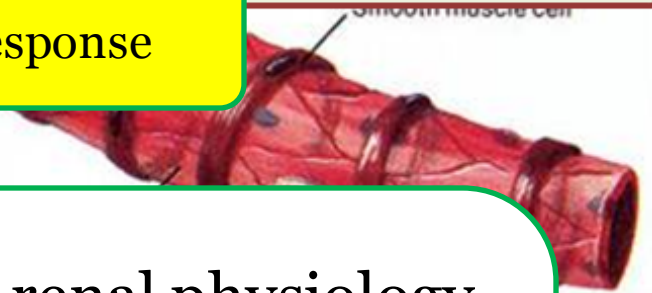
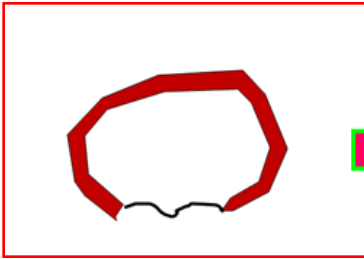
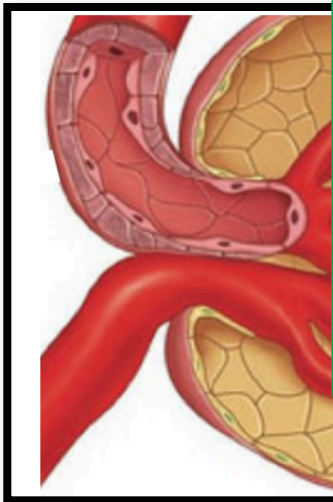
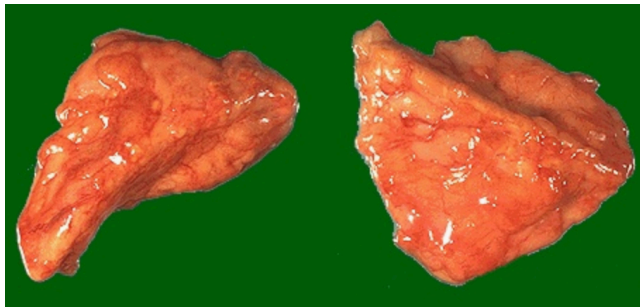
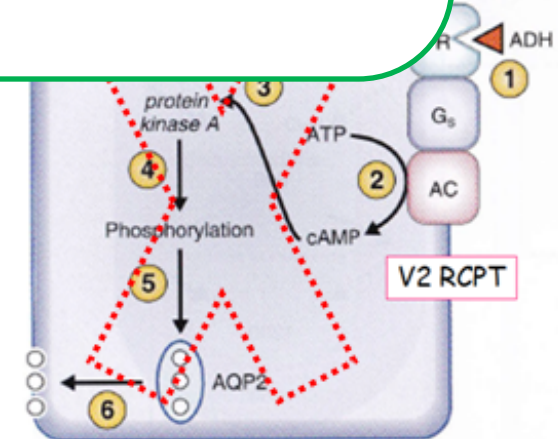
ANP: The Perfect Response

ANP: an exercise in cardio-renal physiology
Renal afferent vasodilation (↑ cGMP)

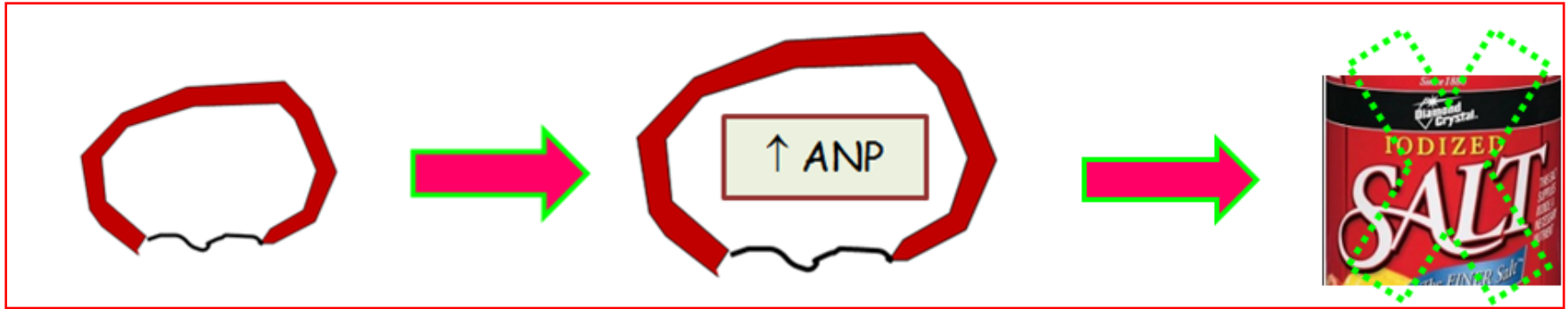
↑ GFR → ↓ RAAS:

- ↓ ATII → ↑ vasodilation and ↓ ADH stimulation
- ↓ Aldosterone → ↓ Na retention
- ↓ ADH: inhibit free H₂O retention

ADH
V2 RCPT



Natriuretic Peptide Therapeutic Implications



Natriuretic peptides are metabolized by a 'neutral endopeptidase' (also described as a *metalloprotease*) - *neprilysin*.

Neprilysin Inhibitors prevent degradation of ANP with net result: *natriuresis, vasodilation*

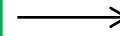
Language: 'an **endopeptidase inhibitor** is initiated resulting in prolonged activity of an **endogenous polypeptide hormone**'

Whereas rx with Synthetic Natriuretic Peptide (*nesiritide*) did NOT produce favorable clinical trial results, sacubitril (*in combination with valsartan*) resulted in:

Decreased Mortality and Readmission for CHF (HF_rEF only)

Implication:
Treatment

Heart Failure:
Arterial Hypoperfusion
Venous Congestion



Atrial Natriuretic Peptide

Endopeptidase inhibitor
PLUS ARB

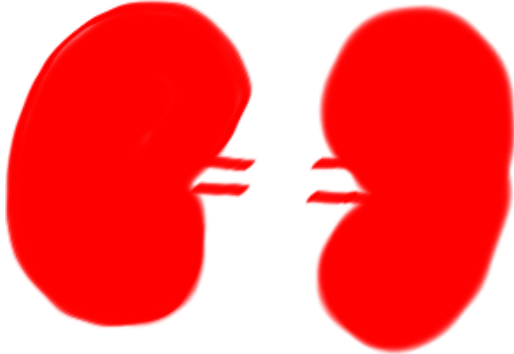
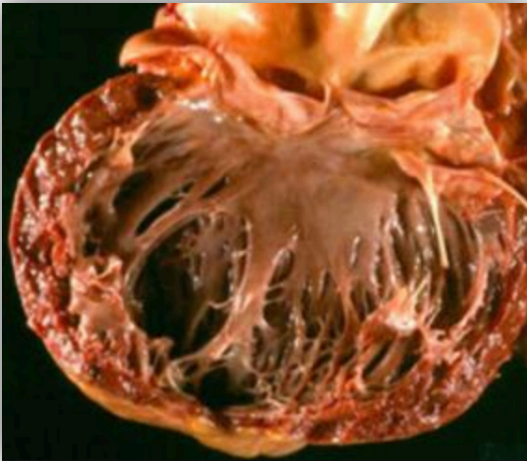
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CHF:
Heart is Failing

Work Harder!!!

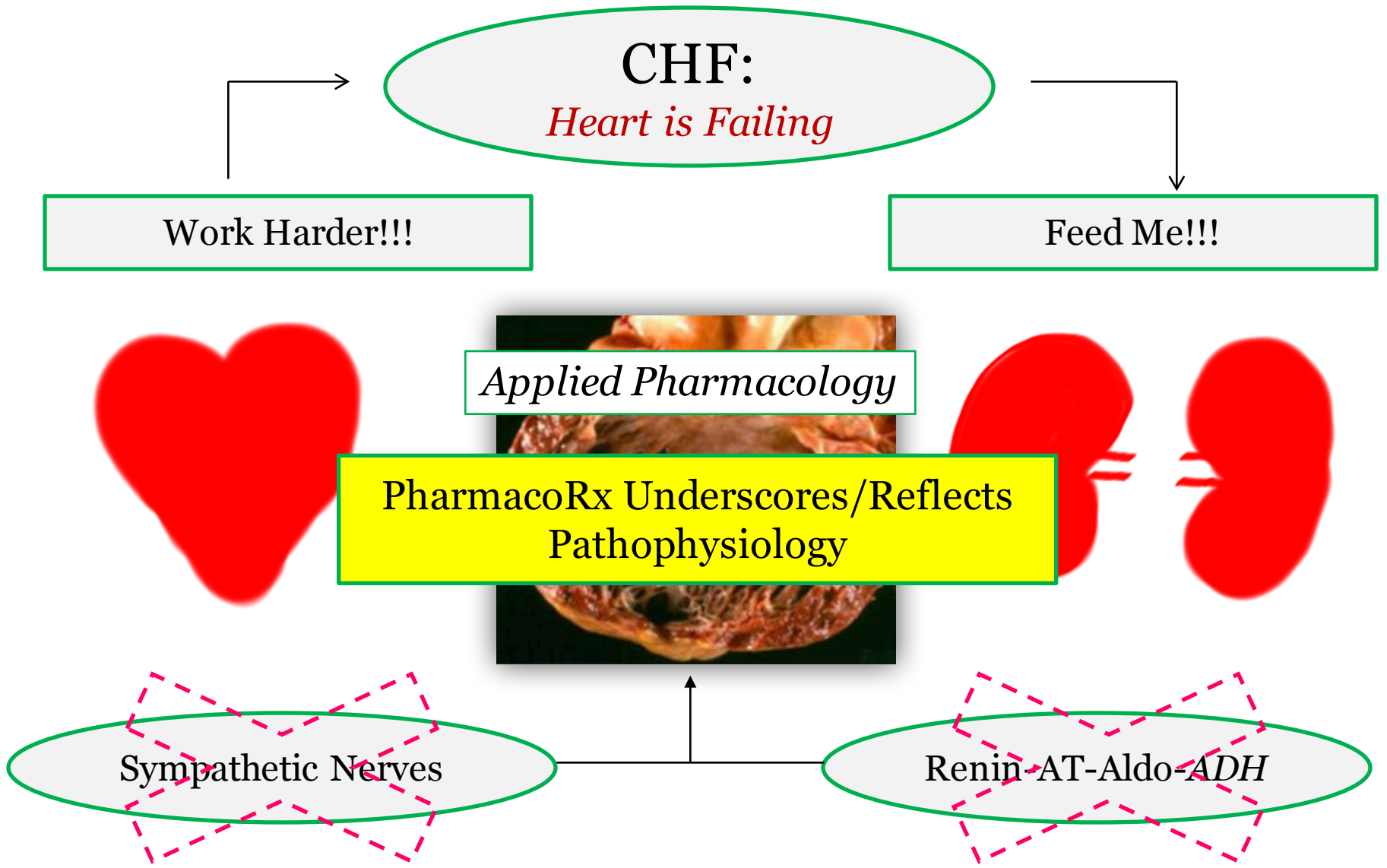
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Volume overload
Hyponatremia

Aldosterone
Na⁺ Retention

Volume overload
Cardiac remodeling

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Tutorial Services
(check website for details)

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