

Robinson Veterinary Services

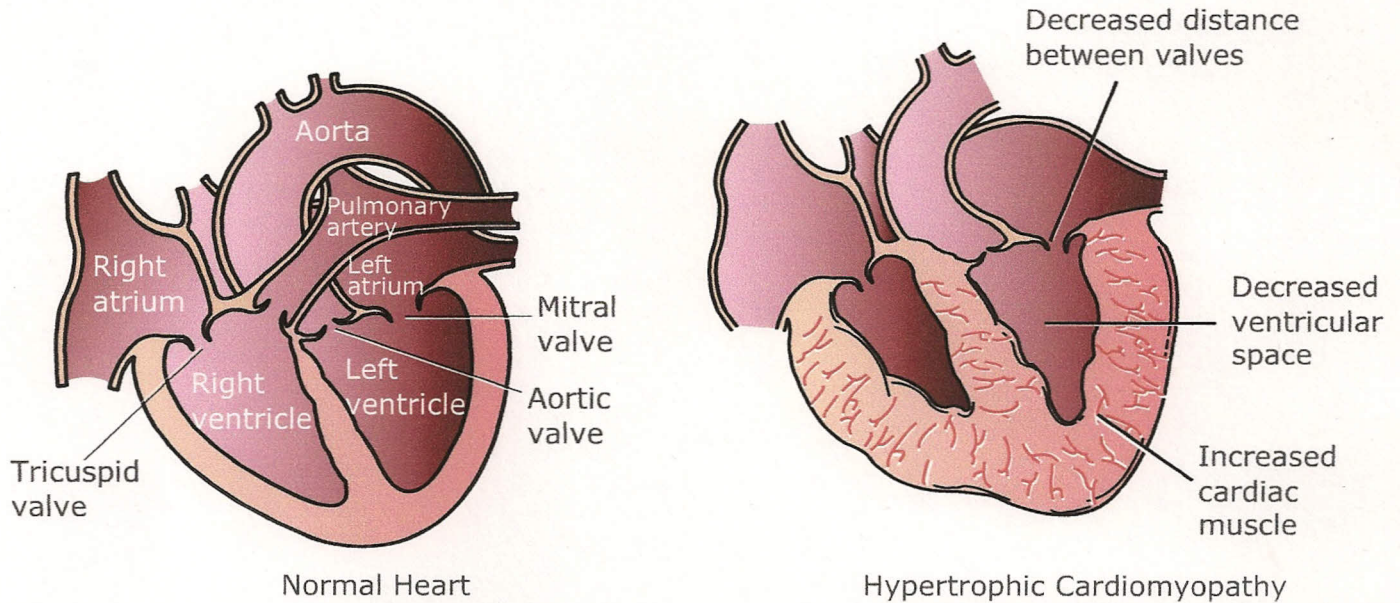
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Cardiomyopathy - Hypertrophic: Comparison of a normal heart and a heart with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.



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Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is a form of heart disease when walls of the heart thicken or become hypertrophied. As the walls thicken, there is less room within the heart chambers to hold blood, so less blood is pumped to the body with each heartbeat. This causes the heart walls to thicken even further. As the walls thicken, the valves become functionally smaller, restricting blood flow further, and resulting in a heart murmur. The disease is diagnosed by means of an ultrasound examination of the heart. Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is most often associated with other diseases such as hyperthyroidism or hypertension (high blood pressure). Further information about treatment can be found in our Client Education Handout Series.