

Cardiac Venous Drainage

Apex / augmenting / circumflex / collateral / groove / minute / musculature / oblique / remnant / sinus / tributary / venous channel

Instructions: Fill in the gaps below using the words above.

Venous Drainage of the Heart. The heart is drained mainly by veins that empty into the coronary _____ and partly by small veins that empty into the right atrium. The coronary sinus, the main vein of the heart, is a wide _____ that runs from left to right in the posterior part of the coronary _____. The coronary sinus receives the anterior interventricular vein or great cardiac vein at its left end, and the posterior interventricular or middle cardiac vein and small cardiac veins at its right end; the left posterior ventricular vein and left marginal vein also open into the coronary sinus.

The great cardiac vein is the main _____ of the coronary sinus. It begins near the _____ of the heart and ascends with the anterior interventricular branch of the LCA. At the coronary groove it turns left and runs around the left side of the heart with the _____ branch to reach the coronary sinus. The great cardiac vein drains the areas of the heart supplied by the left coronary artery. The middle and small cardiac veins drain most of the areas supplied by the right coronary artery.

The _____ vein of the left atrium is a small, relatively unimportant vessel postnatally that runs over the posterior wall of the left atrium and merges with the great cardiac vein to form coronary sinus. The oblique vein is the _____ of the embryonic left SVC, which occasionally persists in adults, replacing or _____ the left SVC.

Several small anterior cardiac veins begin over the anterior surface of the right ventricle, cross over the coronary groove, and usually end directly in the right atrium; sometimes they enter the small cardiac vein.

The smallest cardiac veins (L. venae cordis minimae) are _____ vessels that begin in the capillary beds of the myocardium and open directly into the chambers of the heart, chiefly the atria. Although called veins, they are valveless communications with the capillary beds of the myocardium and may carry blood from the heart chambers to the myocardium. They may also provide a _____ circulation for parts of the heart _____.