

Cardiac Pressures



PLAY PICMONIC

Pulmonary Capillary Wedge Pressure (PCWP)

Lungs Caterpillar Wedge Pressure-gauge

Pulmonary capillary wedge pressure, also known as PCWP, approximates left atrial pressure and left ventricular diastolic pressure. It estimates the severity of left ventricular failure by assessing left ventricular filling, which is represented by the left atrial pressure. An increased PCWP indicates severe left ventricular failure and severe mitral stenosis

Pulmonary Artery Catheter (Swan-Ganz Catheter)

Lungs Archery-artery Catheter-cat

Pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP) is measured by a pulmonary artery catheter (Swan-Ganz catheter).

Left Atrium - 4-12

Left A-tree (4) Fork (12) Dozen

Normal PCWP or left atrial pressure is between 4 to 12 mmHg.
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Left Ventricle - 120/<12

Left Vent (120) / Less Than (12) Dozen

Normal left ventricular pressure is 120/<12 mmHg.

Right Ventricle - 25/<5

Right Vent (25) Quarter / Less Than (5) Hand

Normal right ventricular pressure is 25/<5 mmHg.

Right Atrium - <5

Right A-tree Less Than (5) Hand

Normal right atrial pressure is <5 mmHg.

Aorta - 120/80

A-orca (120) / (80)

The normal aortic pressure is 120/80 mmHg.