

Pressure Wave and Pulse

At the end of Diastole, the elastic arteries have recoiled, and the heart is at rest. Another cardiac cycle is about to begin.

Blood is pumped into the Elastic Aorta during ventricular systole, which distends under pressure. Once the heart is back in ventricular diastole, the elastic artery recoils, and the blood is propelled through the artery, resulting in a pressure wave.

As the elastic arteries continue to recoil, the blood is propelled through the vessels resulting in an advancing pressure wave. Continued elastic recoil propels blood further through the artery. Blood Pressure continues to decline. The pulse occurs further along the artery.

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The end of diastole is approaching. Elastic arteries have propelled the blood to distal locations, where a pulse may not be discernable. In addition, pressure in the walls of the arteries is now low.

We are ready for a “repeat performance!”

