

Blood Vascular System of Uromastix-1

Dr Anita Kumari

The blood vascular system of Uromastix is closed and consists of three main parts: 1. The Heart 2. The Blood Vessels (Arteries and Veins) 3. The Blood.

It is a reddish coloured, triangular and muscular organ with its broad base forward or anterior and the pointed apex backward. It lies forward in the mid-ventral line in the pleuroperitoneal cavity below the sternum.

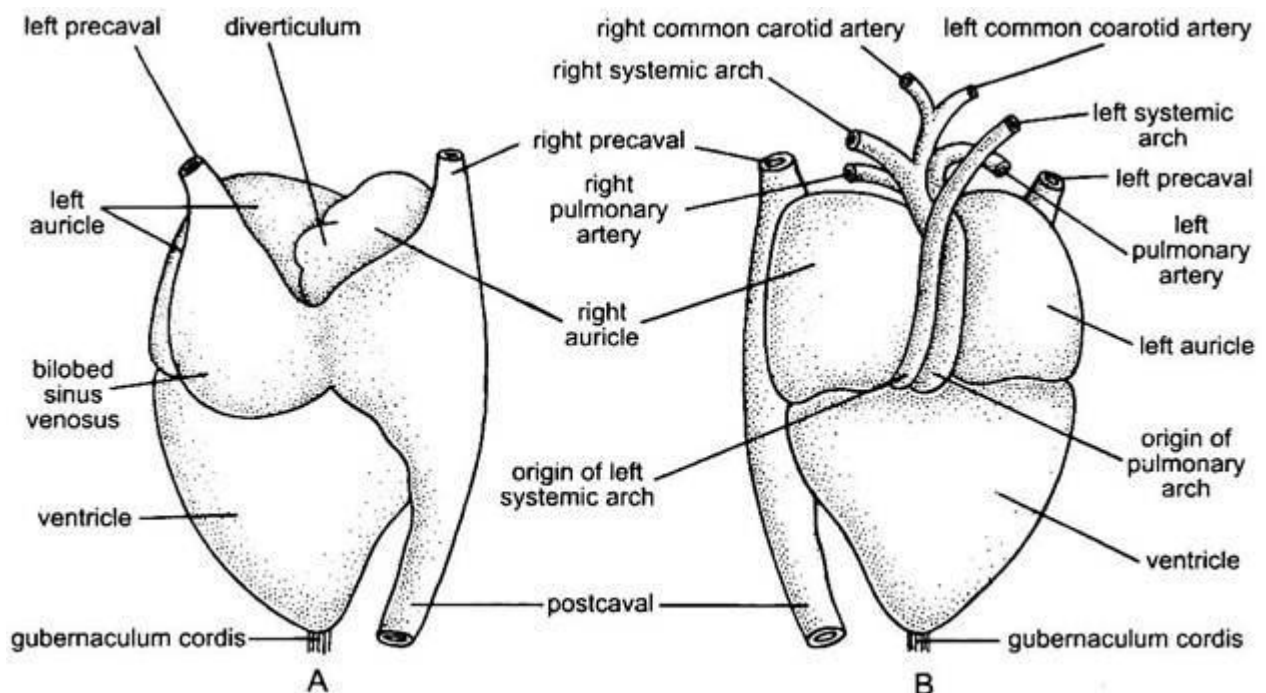


Fig. 21.25. *Uromastix*. External features of heart. A – Dorsal view, B – Ventral view.

(i) Pericardium:

The heart is enclosed in a thin, firm, two-layered transparent sac, the pericardium, to which it is attached at its apex by a small cord, the gubernaculum cordis. It keeps the heart in position within the pericardium. The outer layer of pericardium is called the parietal pericardium, while the inner layer is termed visceral pericardium.

The pericardial fluid protects the heart from mechanical injuries and shocks and also allows it free movement.

(ii) Heart Chambers:

The heart consists of four chambers: a large dorsal sinus venosus, two auricles (right and left) and a ventricle.

(a) Sinus Venosus:

The sinus venosus is a large thin-walled and bilobed chamber situated on the dorsal side of the heart covering both the auricles from above. It is formed by the union of a pair of precavals and a single postcaval veins.

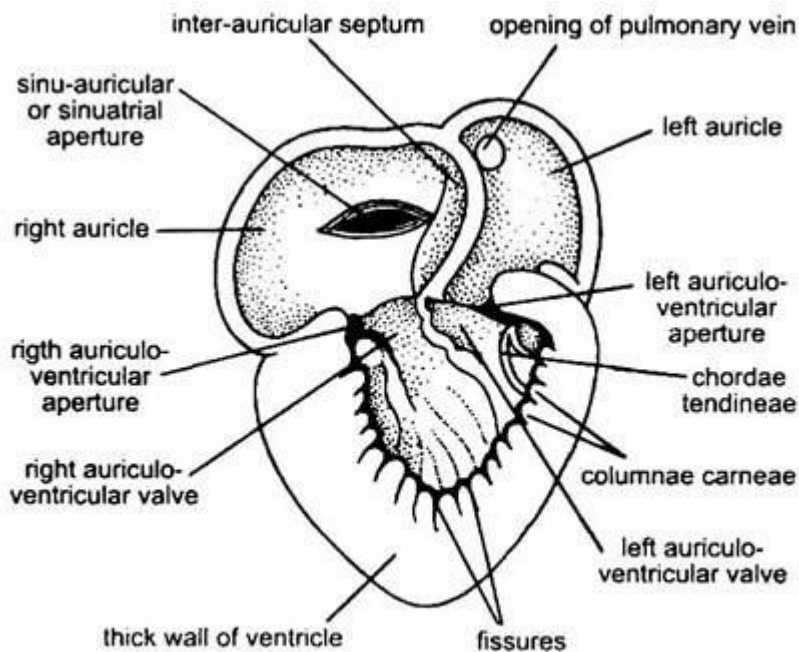


Fig. 21.26. *Uromastix*. Internal structure of heart in ventral view.