JULY 2007 QUESTION 19

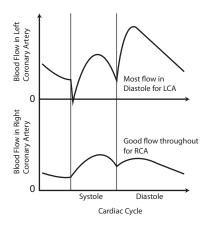
Describe the effects of a tachycardia on myocardial oxygen supply and demand to a normal heart

Myocardial oxygen supply

Is depedent on the oxygen content of the blood and the flow

Oxygen content = Hb(Sats)1.34 + dissolved oxygen

Ccoronary blood flow is 200-250 ml/min which equals approximately 5% CO flow = pressure difference/resistance, the heart demonstrates autoregulation flow is not constant however throughout the coronary system wall tension in the left ventricle creates a starling resistor model during systole blood flow may become retrograde in the LV as a result



During tachycardia

the oxygen content is not significantly changed,

oxygen is perfusion limited

only at extreme tachycardia (pulmonary capillary transit time <0.3 seconds) will result in changes Blood flow is significantly affected however

during tachycardia diastole is decreased

therefore there is less filling time and the LV may recent inadequate flow

Myocardial oxygen demand

Dependent on Wall tension Heart rate Contractility External work Basal metabolic rate

During tachycardia

by definition increased heart rate will increase demand

myocardial O2 consumption is very high at 8ml/min/100g, of tissue (up to 20 times skeletal muscle) extraction ratio is as high as 75%, the heart cannot compensate by extracting more