

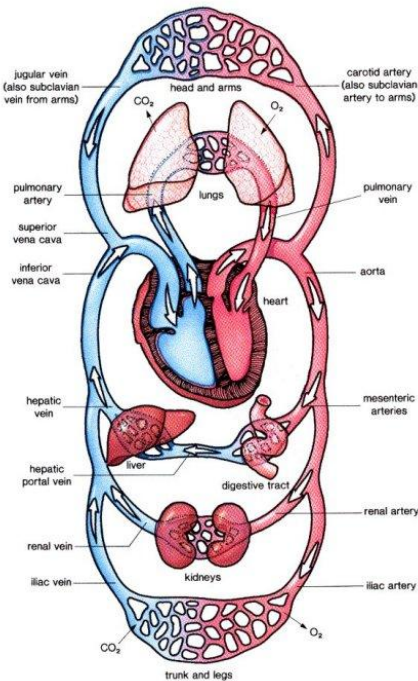
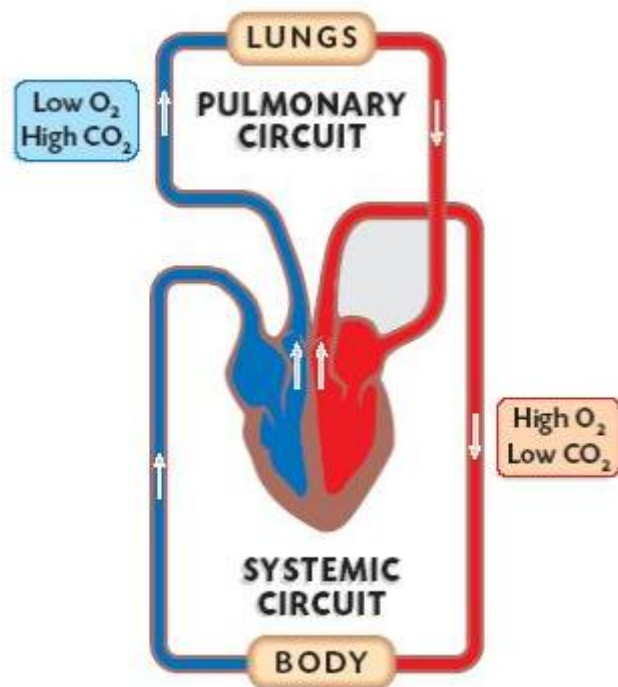
Circulation in the human body

The heart has four chambers including the superior atria and the inferior ventricles. In biological diagrams, chambers or vessels that carry deoxygenated blood are coloured in blue, while vessels and chambers that carry oxygenated blood are coloured in red.

Two types of circulation in the body

The first goes to the lungs and is called the **pulmonary circuit** or the **pulmonary circulation**. Deoxygenated blood leaves the right ventricle of the heart and travels through the pulmonary artery to the lungs where blood is oxygenated. Blood then returns to the left atrium of the heart by pulmonary veins.

The other main circulation in the body is called the **systemic circuit** or the **systemic circulation**. In this circulation, blood travels from the left ventricle of the heart and goes to tissues all over the body.



Arteries are vascular tubes that take oxygenated blood away from the heart while **Veins** are vessels that return deoxygenated blood to the heart.

The first vessel that leaves the heart is the **Aorta** which is part of the arterial system. **Arteries** receive blood from the Aorta and take blood throughout the body. They branch and become smaller until they become **Arterioles**. As they become smaller they become capillaries, the site of exchange.

On the return flow, the capillaries enlarge and turn into Venules, which take blood to the Veins. Blood from the inferior portion of the heart returns to the heart by the inferior vena cava, while blood from the superior portion of the heart returns to the heart by the superior vena cava