

Glossary

B.4.2. The Cardiac Systole

Isovolumetric contraction phase	Period during the cardiac systole (= contraction) when, at the start of the systole, both the atrio-ventricular (AV) valves are closed and the semilunar (SL) valves are closed. This is important as this will make the pressure increase fast during the contraction. (Iso = <i>same</i> and volumetric = <i>volume</i> ; i.e., the volume inside the ventricles remains the same)
Ejection phase	Period during the cardiac systole (= contraction) when the pressures inside the ventricles (right and left) have become higher than in the aorta and the pulmonary artery. This will lead to the opening of the semilunar valves and 'ejection' (= pumping) of blood into these arteries.
Isovolumetric relaxation phase	Period during the cardiac systole (= contraction) when, at the end of the systole, both the atrio-ventricular (AV) valves are closed and the semilunar (SL) valves are closed. This is important, as this will make the pressure decrease fast at the end of the ventricular contraction. (Iso = <i>same</i> and volumetric = <i>volume</i> ; i.e., the volume inside the ventricles remains the same).