Cardiac Science

1. Non-Surgical Treatments

Medications:

- o **Antihypertensives**: ACE inhibitors (e.g., Enalapril), beta-blockers (e.g., Metoprolol), calcium channel blockers (e.g., Amlodipine).
- o Antiarrhythmics: Amiodarone, Digoxin.
- Anticoagulants: Warfarin, Apixaban, or Heparin to prevent blood clots.
- o **Antiplatelets**: Aspirin or Clopidogrel for preventing platelet aggregation.
- Cholesterol-Lowering Drugs: Statins like Atorvastatin or Rosuvastatin.
- Diuretics: For managing fluid overload in heart failure.
- Vasodilators: Nitroglycerin for angina.

• Lifestyle Management:

- o Diet and exercise programs for managing heart disease.
- Smoking cessation and stress reduction therapies.

2. Diagnostic Procedures

Electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG):

o Measures electrical activity of the heart.

Echocardiography:

Ultrasound imaging of the heart for structural and functional assessment.

• Stress Tests:

Treadmill or pharmacologic stress tests to evaluate heart function under stress.

• Holter Monitoring:

o Continuous ECG monitoring to detect arrhythmias.

• Cardiac CT and MRI:

o Detailed imaging of heart anatomy and blood vessels.

• Coronary Angiography:

o X-ray imaging of coronary arteries using contrast dye.

• Blood Tests:

o Cardiac markers (e.g., Troponin, CK-MB) for detecting heart attacks.

3. Interventional Cardiology

Angioplasty and Stenting:

Balloon angioplasty with stent placement to open blocked arteries.

• Atherectomy:

o Removal of plaque buildup in arteries.

• Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI):

Non-surgical treatment for coronary artery disease.

Valvuloplasty:

Balloon procedure to repair a narrowed heart valve.

4. Electrophysiology Treatments

Pacemaker Implantation:

Device to regulate abnormal heart rhythms.

• Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD):

o Device to prevent sudden cardiac arrest by correcting life-threatening arrhythmias.

• Catheter Ablation:

o Procedure to destroy areas causing abnormal heart rhythms.

• Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy (CRT):

o Device implantation to improve heart pumping efficiency.

5. Surgical Treatments

Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG):

o Bypass surgery to restore blood flow to blocked coronary arteries.

• Valve Repair or Replacement:

 Surgery to repair or replace damaged heart valves using mechanical or biological valves.

• Heart Transplant:

o Replacement of a failing heart with a donor heart.

Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Implantation:

Mechanical pump to support heart function in advanced heart failure.

Septal Myectomy:

Surgery to treat hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

6. Vascular Treatments

Peripheral Angioplasty and Stenting:

o Procedures to open narrowed peripheral arteries.

• Endovascular Aneurysm Repair (EVAR):

o Minimally invasive surgery to treat abdominal aortic aneurysms.

• Carotid Endarterectomy:

o Surgery to remove plaque from carotid arteries and reduce stroke risk.

7. Heart Failure Management

Medical Management:

o Optimization of medications like beta-blockers, ACE inhibitors, or diuretics.

Advanced Therapies:

o LVAD or total artificial heart (TAH) for end-stage heart failure.

Cardiac Rehabilitation:

o Exercise, nutrition, and counseling to improve recovery and quality of life.

8. Pediatric Cardiology

• Congenital Heart Defect Treatments:

 Surgical or catheter-based procedures to repair defects like atrial septal defect (ASD) or ventricular septal defect (VSD).

• Fetal Cardiology:

Monitoring and interventions for congenital conditions diagnosed during pregnancy.

9. Preventive Cardiology

• Risk Assessment:

Screening for hypertension, diabetes, or high cholesterol.

• Lifestyle Interventions:

Weight management, physical activity promotion, and smoking cessation.

• Preventive Medications:

Statins or aspirin for high-risk individuals.

10. Advanced Therapies

- TAVR (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement):
 - o Minimally invasive valve replacement for aortic stenosis.
- MitraClip Procedure:
 - o Non-surgical repair of mitral valve regurgitation.
- Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO):
 - o Life-support technology for severe heart failure or cardiogenic shock.