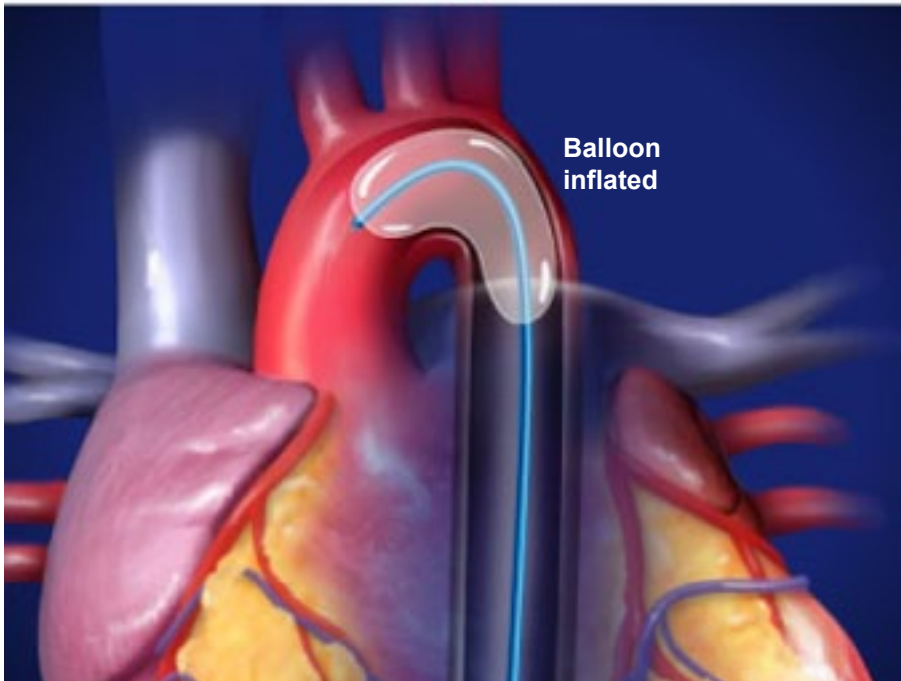
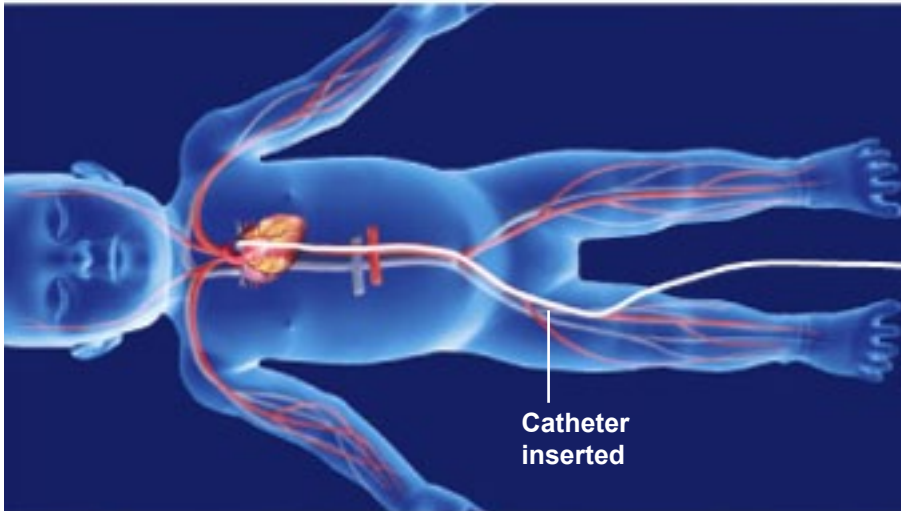
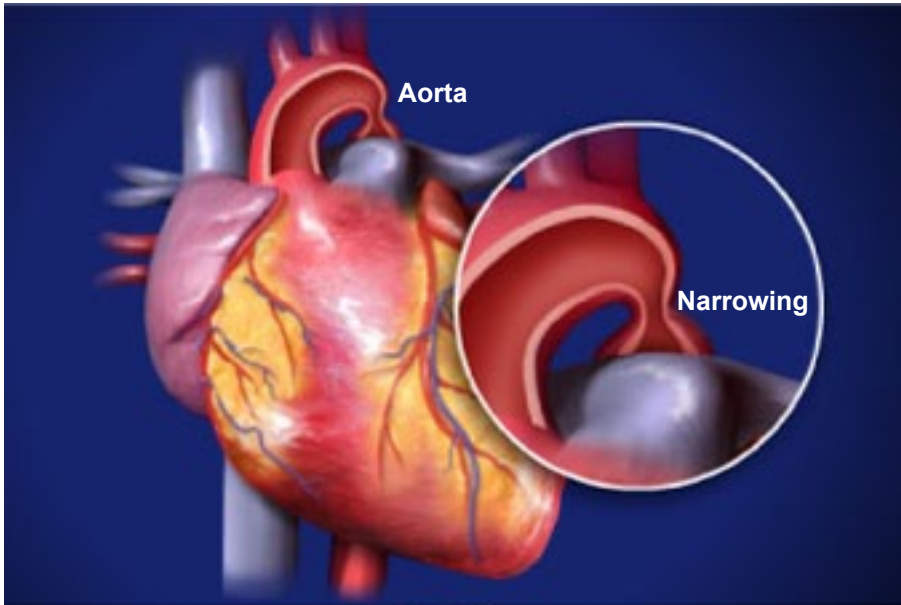




## Aortic Coarctation Balloon Angioplasty



### Overview

This nonsurgical procedure widens a narrowed aorta. During the procedure, a balloon is inflated inside the narrowed aorta to expand the blood vessel. Widening the aorta will improve blood flow to the body.

### Preparation

In preparation for the procedure, general anesthesia is administered. A small tube called a catheter is inserted into one of the large arteries in the patient's leg.

### Catheter Guided into the Aorta

With the aid of a fluoroscope, the cardiologist carefully guides the catheter through this large blood vessel and into the aorta.

### Balloon Inflated

The cardiologist positions a balloon in the narrowed portion of the aorta. The balloon is slowly and repeatedly inflated to widen the aorta. The cardiologist may also choose to place an expandable mesh stent in the aorta to hold the aorta open.

### End of Procedure and Aftercare

When the procedure is complete, the catheter is removed and the leg is bandaged. The patient will remain in the hospital for at least a day. Regular check-ups by a cardiologist will be required to ensure that the aorta remains open and the heart functions properly.