

ANATOMY OF A HEART ATTACK

A heart attack can happen in several ways, including a spasm of a coronary artery or a free-floating clot getting lodged in a narrowed coronary artery. In the example shown here, an atherosclerotic plaque in a coronary artery has been damaged, activating the body's natural clotting response. The clot blocks the already narrowed artery, stopping blood flow and causing a heart attack.

