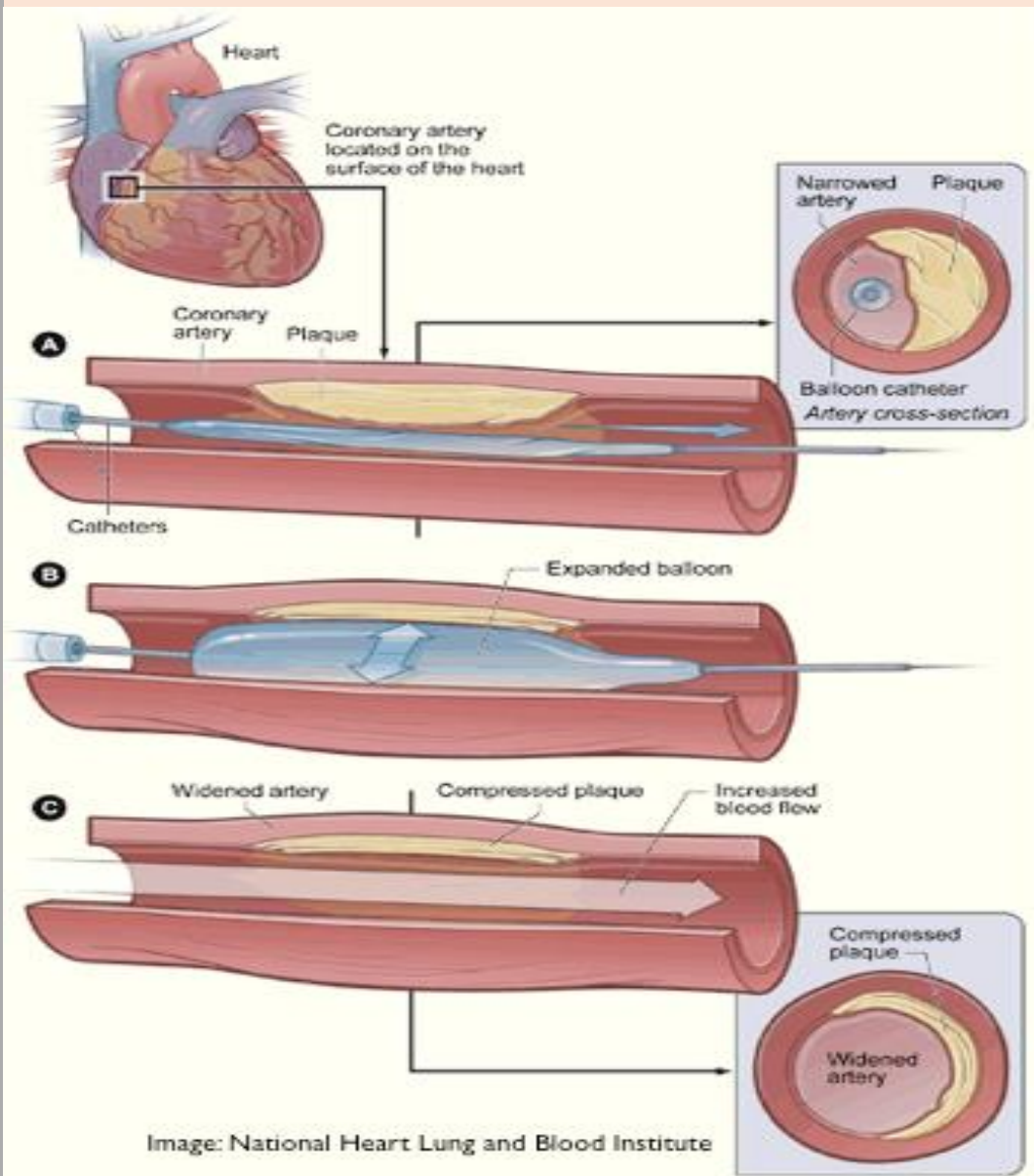


# Hemet Heart Medical Center Patient Education

## **Angioplasty**



### **What is a Coronary Angioplasty?**

- A Coronary Angioplasty procedure is used to open narrowed coronary arteries.
- Narrowing or hardening of the arteries occurs because of the buildup of a fatty substance called plaques. The buildup is called atherosclerosis.

### ***Why is the procedure done?***

- *It is done to improve blood flow to the heart.*
- *This procedure can improve symptoms of chest pain and shortness of breath.*

### ***How is a Coronary Angioplasty done?***

- A [Coronary Angiogram](#) may be needed prior to the Angioplasty procedure to determine where the coronary blockage is.
- During the Angioplasty procedure a catheter, or small tube, is threaded through the coronary arteries from an artery positioned in the blocked artery. The balloon expands to push the plaque against the artery wall and widen the artery.

### ***For more Information..***

visit the [National Heart Lung and Blood Institute](#)

visit the [Mayo Clinic](#)