

## 20.1. CARDIOVASCULAR DRUGS

### 20.1.1. Introduction

**Cardiovascular disease** is a class of diseases that involve heart and blood vessels. Cardiovascular disease includes coronary artery diseases such as angina and myocardial infarction (commonly known as a heart attack). Other cardiovascular diseases are stroke, hypertensive heart disease, rheumatic heart disease, cardiomyopathy, atrial fibrillation, congenital heart disease, endocarditis, aortic aneurysms, peripheral artery disease, and venous thrombosis.

**Cardiovascular drugs** are agents affecting the function of heart and blood vessels. Drugs acting on the cardiovascular system are the most widely used medicines.

### 20.1.2. Classification

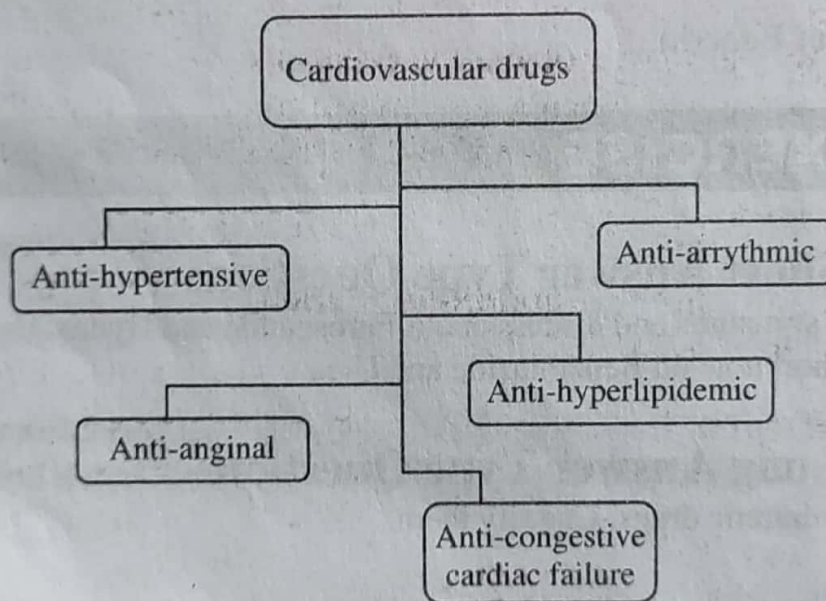


Figure 20.1: Classification of Cardiovascular Drugs

### 20.1.3. Individual Compounds

The following drugs are studied in detail:

- 1) Ethylnitrite,
- 2) Glyceryl trinitrate,
- 3) Alpha methyldopa,
- 4) Guanethidine,
- 5) Clofibrate, and
- 6) Quinidine.