

Neointimal hyperplasia

Neointimal [hyperplasia](#) refers to proliferation and migration of [vascular smooth muscle](#) cells primarily in the tunica intima, resulting in the thickening of arterial walls and decreased arterial lumen space.

Neointimal hyperplasia is the major cause of restenosis after percutaneous coronary interventions such as stenting or angioplasty.

The term neointima is used because the cells in the hyperplastic regions of the vascular wall have histological characteristics of both intima and normal artery cells.

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