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# Pulse Wave Velocity

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Pulse Wave Velocity*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C122087.

The rate at which a pressure wave moves distally through an artery, which is a direct measure of arterial stiffness. Clinically, this value is calculated by placing two pressure catheters a known distance apart (pulse wave distance), measuring the pressure wave's travel time between sensors (pulse transit time), and then dividing the distance by the transit time.