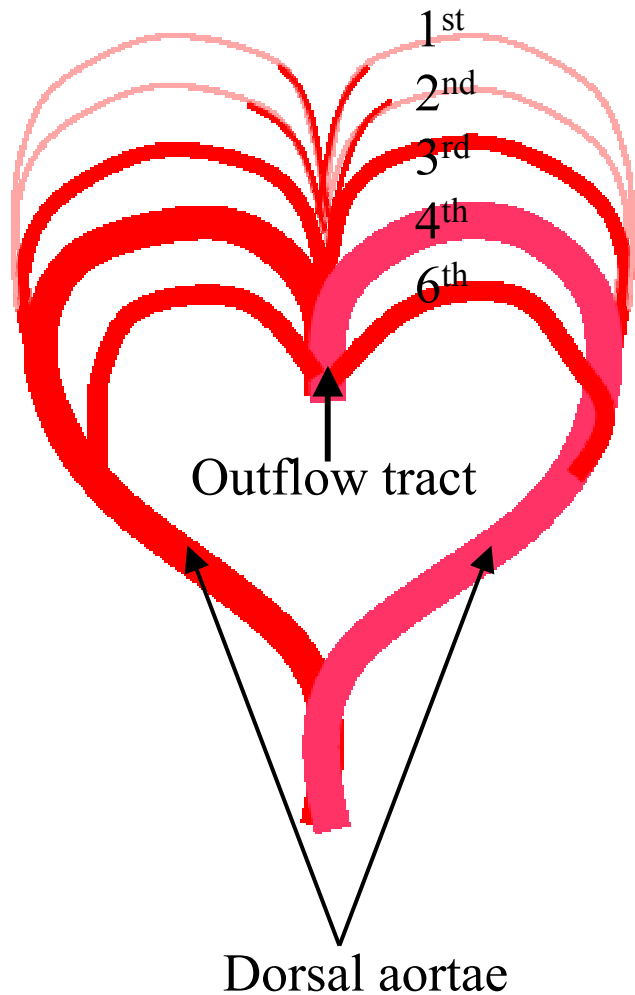


The Aortic Arches  
and  
The Foetal Circulation

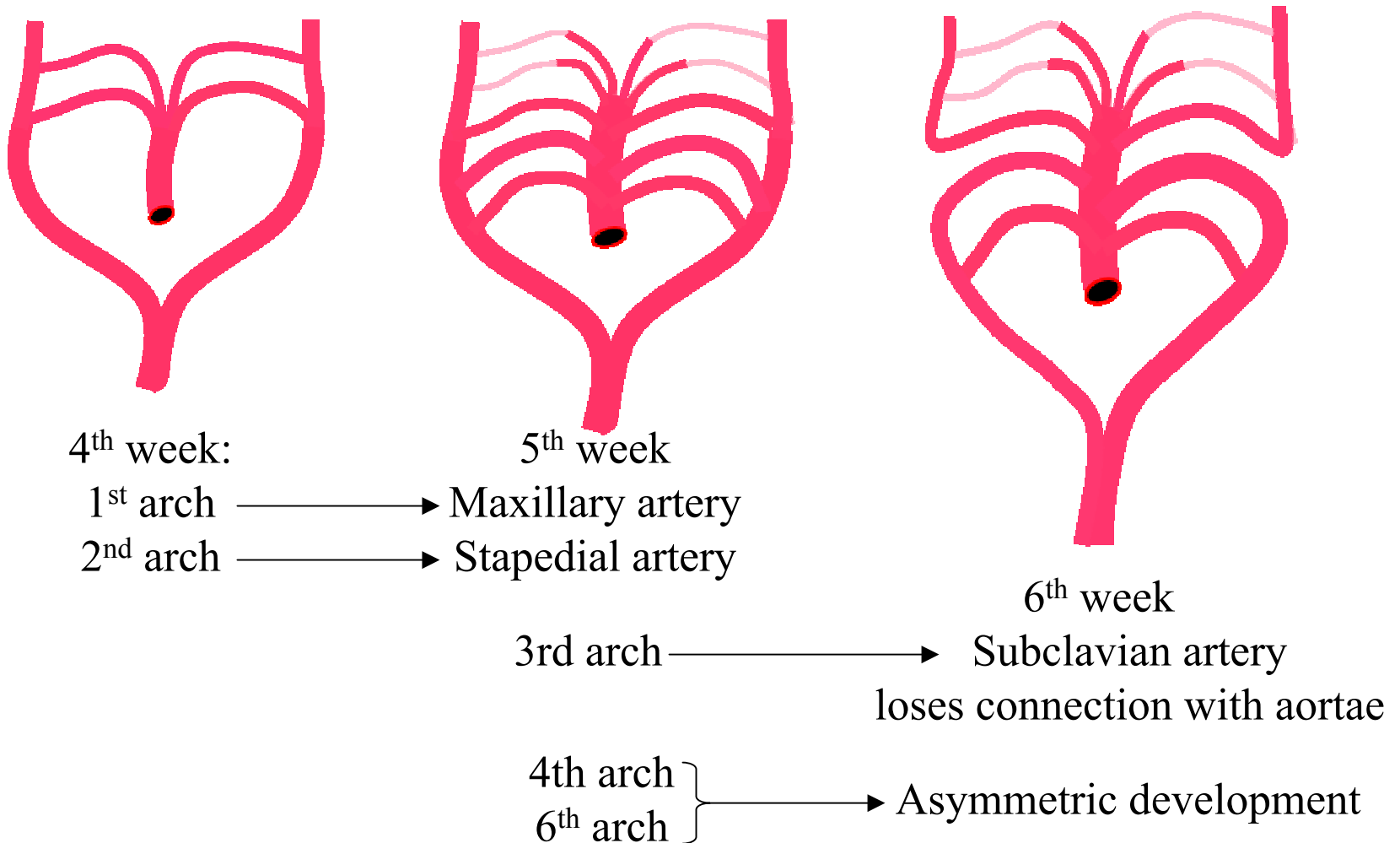
Alfred Cuschieri  
Department of Anatomy  
University of Malta

# The Aortic Arches

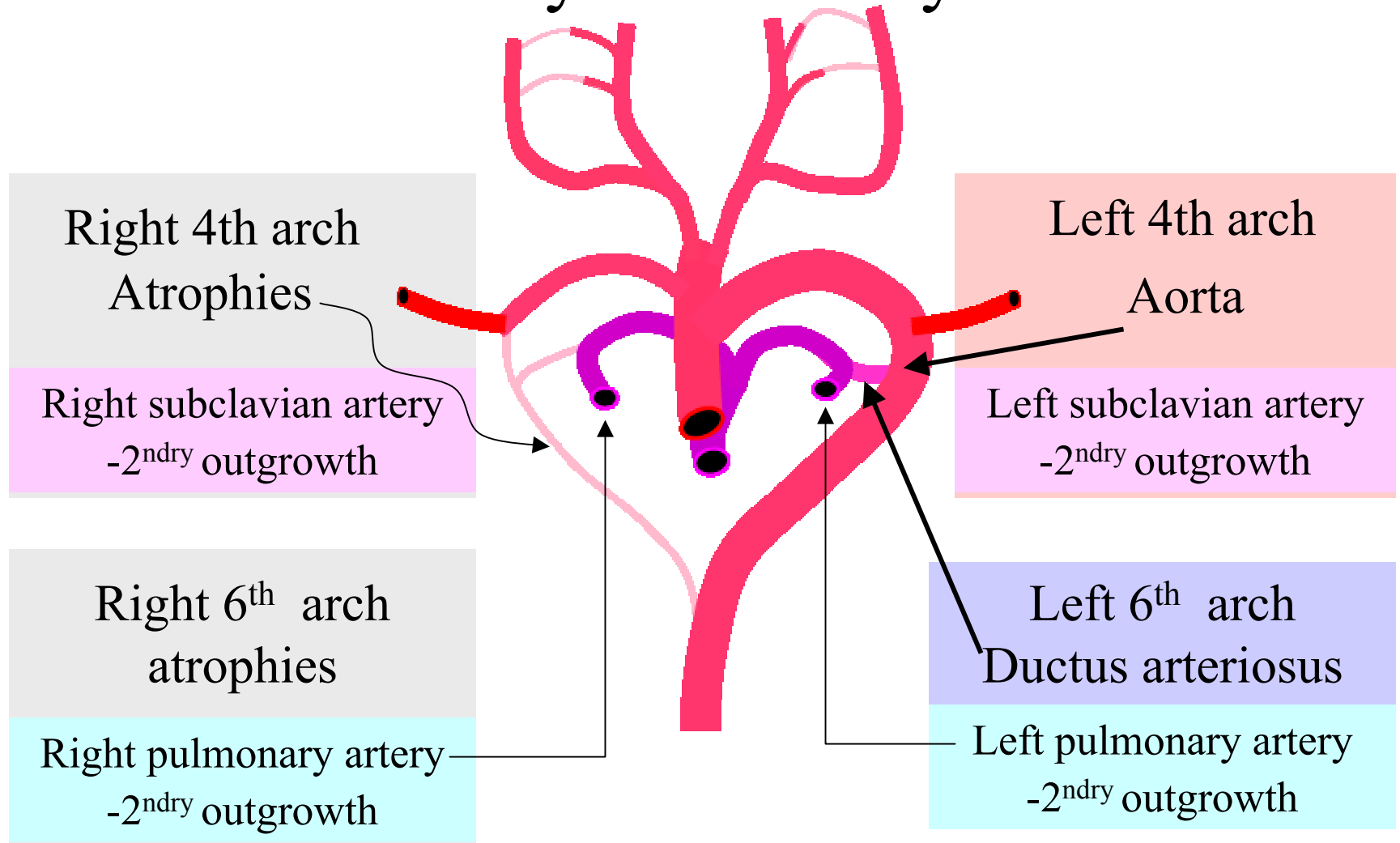


- Connect the outflow tract of the heart to paired dorsal aortae.
- Lie in the branchial arches and supply them.
- Develop in cranio-caudal sequence.
- They are labelled 1 to 6 but the fifth branchial arch fails to develop.

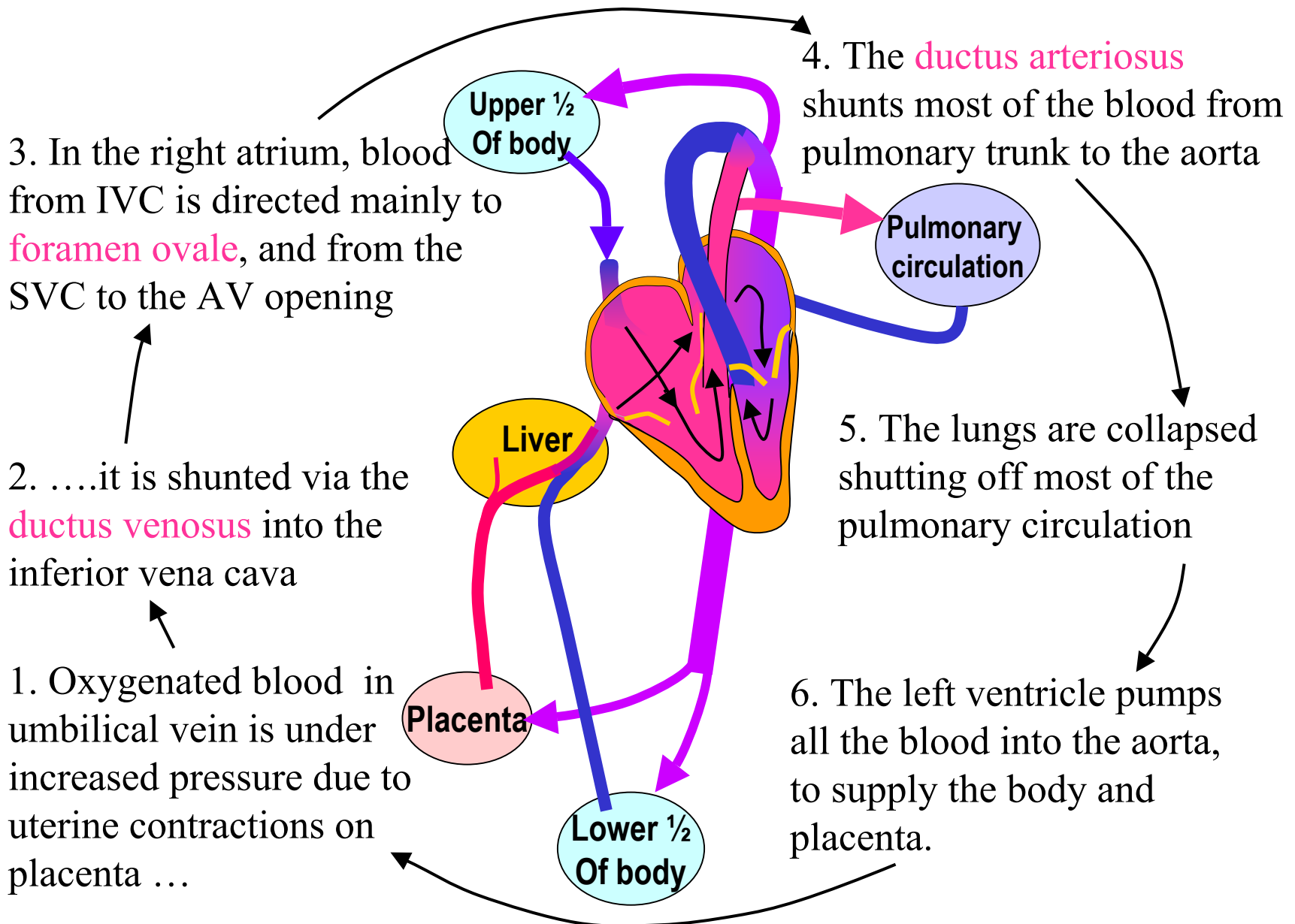
# Changes in Aortic Arches



# 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Aortic Arches Develop Asymmetrically



# The foetal circulation



# The foetal circulation has three shunts

