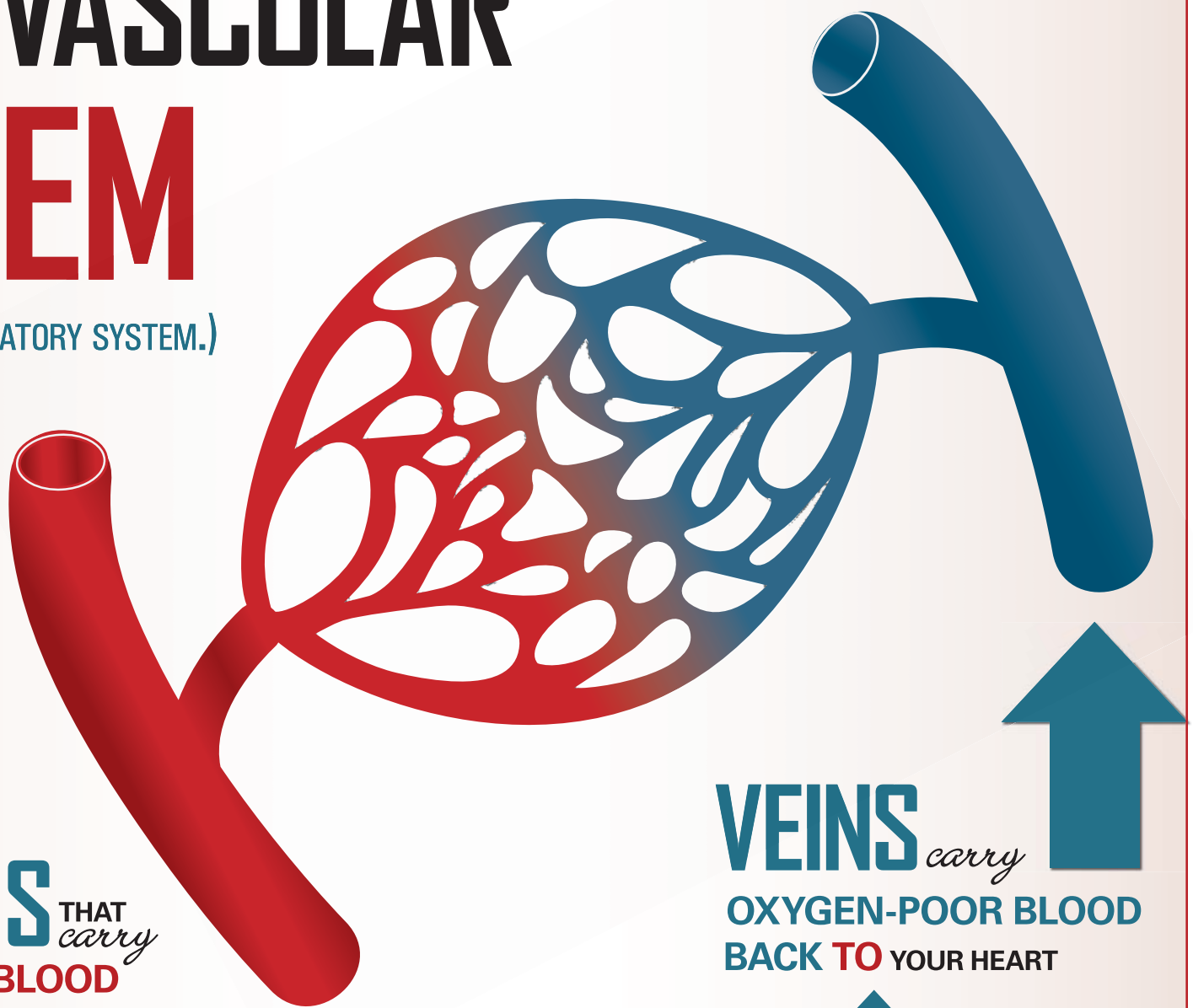


# AN *Incredible* MACHINE

## THE **CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM**

(Your heart & CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.)

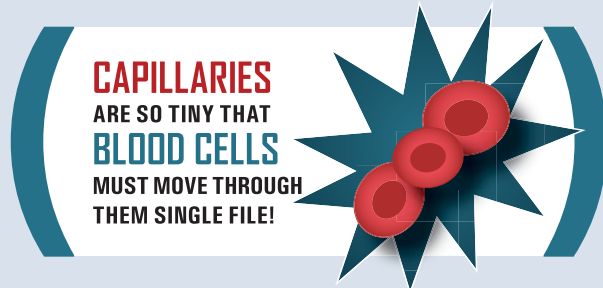


THE BODY *contains*

**20 MAJOR ARTERIES** THAT *carry* OXYGEN-RICH BLOOD AWAY FROM YOUR HEART

**VEINS** *carry* OXYGEN-POOR BLOOD BACK TO YOUR HEART

**ARTERIES** BRANCH INTO SMALLER VESSELS CALLED **ARTERIOLES**



**VENULES** EVENTUALLY JOIN TO FORM **VEINS**

**ARTERIOLES** BRANCH INTO EVEN SMALLER VESSELS CALLED **CAPILLARIES**

**CAPILLARIES** DELIVER OXYGEN & NUTRIENTS TO THE **BODY'S CELLS** AND PICK UP CARBON DIOXIDE & WASTE

**CAPILLARIES** MOVE THE BLOOD BACK THROUGH WIDER VESSELS CALLED **VENULES**

IF ALL THE VESSELS IN YOUR BODY WERE LAID **END TO END** THEY WOULD EXTEND ABOUT

**60,000 MILES (96,500 KM)**



THAT'S MORE THAN **2 TIMES** THE DISTANCE AROUND THE EARTH!

 **TEXAS HEART<sup>®</sup> INSTITUTE**  
at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital

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