

| FEATURES                    | MEDIUM SIZED / MUSCULAR ARTERIES   | LARGE / ELASTIC ARTERIES   |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| LOCATION                    | Occur in both Elastic Arteries and Arterioles  | Occur close to the heart   |
| FUNCTIONS                   | Distributing Arteries / distribution of blood to various regions and organs of the body            | Conducting Arteries / conduct blood from heart to the muscular / medium sized arteries             |
| EXAMPLES:                   | Axillary, Brachial, femoral, popliteal arteries  | Aorta and its main branches  |
| Subendothelial Layer.       | Comparatively lower density.   | High density   |
| Internal Elastic LAMINA.    | Internal Elastic LAMINA is very prominent  | Internal Elastic LAMINA is not distinguishable due to abundance of elastic fibers in Tunica media. |
| Tunica MEDIA                | Comparatively Thin   | Thick  |
| Composition of Tunica MEDIA | Predominantly made up of smooth muscle fibers and elastic and reticular fibers in variable amount. | Predominantly made up of elastic tissue.   |
| External Elastic lamina     | Prominent, seen as a network of elastic fibers at junction of Tunica Media and Adventitia          | Cannot be identified   |
| Tunica Adventitia           | Considerably thick, nearly equal in thickness to tunica media                                      | Thin   |
| Thickness                   | Thinner, diameter of lumen > lumen   | Thicker, thickness of wall is more.  |
| Vasoconstriction            | Undergoes vasoconstriction to control the flow and the pressure of blood                           | Do not undergo vasoconstriction  |
| Risk of Atherosclerosis     | Comparatively low  | High.  |

