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| ..\7_2004\dossier_herz\ab\schlaffe_klappen.jpg  **Untight valves**  **Calcified valves** |  |  | **Problem number 1:**  The valves can become calcified. The blood accumulates, the pressure increases.  Or the valves don’t shut tightly any more, so that some of the blood flows back. |
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| ..\7_2004\dossier_herz\ab\einengung.jpg  **Narrowing** |  |  | **Problem number 2:**  The coronary arteries become blocked by deposits.  When they are completely closed up a heart attack occurs. |
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| dossier_herz\ab\muskelwaende.jpg  Heart muscle becomes thinner and less firm |  |  | **Problem number 3:**  The heart muscle becomes thinner with age and less firm. The pump’s efficiency therefore decreases. |
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