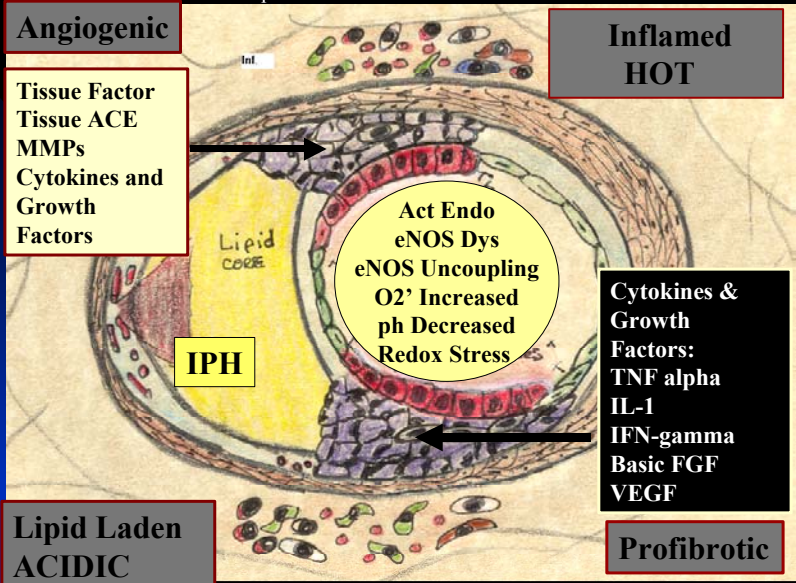


VULNERABLE HOT PLAQUES: "ON FIRE"

Thin-Cap Fibrous Atheroma



Angiogenic

Tissue Factor
Tissue ACE
MMPs
Cytokines and
Growth
Factors

**Inflamed
HOT**

**Cytokines &
Growth
Factors:
TNF alpha
IL-1
IFN-gamma
Basic FGF
VEGF**

**Lipid Laden
ACIDIC**

Profibrotic

PRONE TO RUPTURE !