



The assessment of pulmonary arterial pressure and its clinical relevance: a 100-year journey from Europe, over the United States to Australia

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The elevation of pulmonary arterial pressure is a clinically important, robust, prognostic relevant haemodynamic marker in several diseases and conditions <https://bit.ly/3lrN9rF>

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When Werner Forssmann performed the first right heart catheterisation on himself in the 1920s in Germany, his main goal was to inject drugs directly into the right ventricle [1] without injuring the wall of the heart or the coronary vessels. He may not have immediately realised that his method would form the basis for measuring the pressure in the pulmonary arteries and diagnosing pulmonary hypertension (PH). Some years later, it was André Cournand and Dickinson Woodruff Richards in the USA who performed pioneering physiological investigations on the pulmonary circulation by using right heart catheterisation [2], for which these three scientists together received the Nobel Prize for physiology or medicine in 1956.