

AIMS TRENDS IN THE EVOLUTION OF AOARTIC ARCHES

- The aortic arches have undergone modification in different groups of vertebrates.
- This is mainly to develop a better type of arterial system by separating the venous and arterial blood.
- This has led to the loss or addition of certain basic arches.
- Moreover, the history of aortic arches differs greatly in different vertebrate classes and there is a gradual reduction in their number from lower to higher vertebrates.
- Some arch is completely lost whereas the others have undergone modification as a result of changes in the respiratory system.
- This is just the reverse of evolutionary trends exhibited by the heart of chordates.
- As the evolutionary scale is ascended, the number of chambers in the heart is increased.

