Unit 2b Key Area 7

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| **Atherlosclerosis** | the formation of plaques (atheromas) beneath the endothelium of an artery |
| **Atheromas lead to** | reduction in the artery’s lumen, restricted blood flow, increased blood pressure and hardening of arteries |
| **Thrombin promotes** | the conversion of fibrinogen into threads of fibrin |
| **Fibrin produces** | a mesh that clots the blood and seals the wound, providing a scaffold for scar tissue |
| **An embolus is** | a thrombus (clot) which has broken loose and is carried along in the blood |
| **Coronary thrombosis** | occurs when an embolus blocks a coronary artery and may lead to myocardial infarction (heart attack) and cell death |
| **A stroke is caused** | by a thrombus blocking an artery in the brain |
| **Peripheral arteries** | are arteries other than those found in the heart or brain |
| **Deep Vein Thrombosis** | is the formation of a thrombus (blood clot) in a vein (most commonly the lower leg) |
| **A pulmonary embolism** | is a serious condition which occurs when an embolus blocks a pulmonary artery  |
| **Cholesterol is required** | for the synthesis of steroids and is a basic component of cell membranes |
| **Cholesterol is produced** | in the liver from saturated fats present in a normal balanced diet |
| **Low Density Lipoproteins (LDL)** | are produced by the liver and is involved in delivering cholesterol to the cells |
| **High Density Lipoproteins (HDL)** | transports excess cholesterol from the body cells to the liver for elimination |
| **A higher ratio of HDL: LDL** | is important to reduce blood cholesterol levels, decreasing chances of atherosclerosis and CVD |
| **Regular exercise and low fat diet leads to**  | higher levels of HDL-cholesterol |
| **Drugs called Statins** | lower blood cholesterol levels by inhibiting the enzyme required to synthesise cholesterol by the liver |
| **Familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH)** | an inherited disorder that shows an autosomal dominant patter of inheritance |
| **FH sufferers has a mutated gene which** | affects the number or function of LDL receptors which leads to very high LDL-cholesterol levels in the blood |