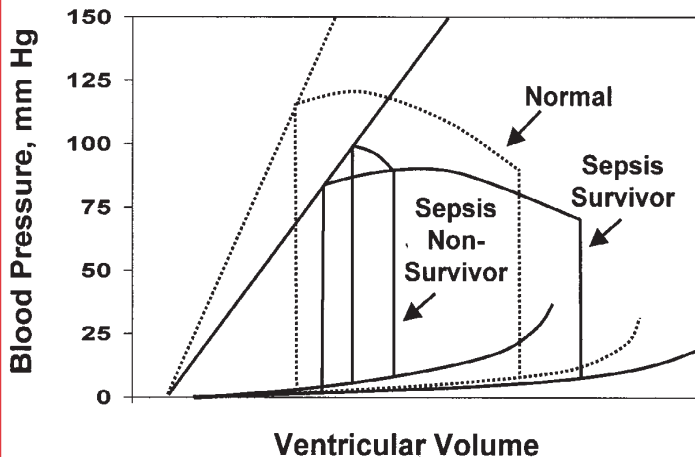


Figure 1



Theoretical ventricular pressure/volume loops for normal subjects and for survivors and nonsurvivors of sepsis. In both survivors and nonsurvivors, contractility is decreased by a decreased slope of the end-systolic pressure-volume relationship. Diastolic ventricles of survivors dilate as the normal compensatory response to decreased systolic contractility. Pathologic alterations of the myocardium prevent diastolic dilation in nonsurvivors.

Adapted from: Walley KR. *Ventricular Dysfunction During Sepsis*. Berlin, Germany: Springer; 1995.