

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## Neuroendocrine Regulation

- the anterior, intermediate, and posterior lobes of the pituitary are effectively 3 separate endocrine organs, secreting 14 or more hormonally active substances

- the 6 established hormones secreted by the **anterior pituitary** are,

- |    |                              |                  |
|----|------------------------------|------------------|
| a. | thyroid stimulating hormone  | TSH <sup>§</sup> |
| b. | adrenocorticotrophic hormone | ACTH             |
| c. | growth hormone               | GH               |
| d. | follicle stimulating hormone | FSH <sup>§</sup> |
| e. | leutinizing hormone          | LH <sup>§</sup>  |
| f. | prolactin                    | PRL              |

**NB:** <sup>§</sup> these are **glycoproteins**, c.f. the others which are simple polypeptides

- the hormones of the **posterior pituitary** are,

- |    |             |     |
|----|-------------|-----|
| a. | vasopressin | ADH |
| b. | oxytocin    |     |

- the pituitary is under control from,

1. **hypothalamic** hormones

- |      |   |      |
|------|---|------|
| i.   | thyrotropin releasing hormone               | TRH  |
| ii.  | corticotropin releasing hormone             | CRH  |
|      | • <b>serotonin</b>                          |      |
| iii. | luteinizing hormone releasing hormone       | LHRH |
| iv.  | growth hormone releasing hormone            | GHRH |
| v.   | growth hormone releasing inhibiting hormone | GHRH |
|      | • <b>somatostatin</b>                       |      |
| vi.  | prolactin releasing factor                  | PRF  |
| vii. | prolactin release inhibiting factor         | PRIF |
|      | • <b>dopamine</b>                           |      |

2. **negative feedback** from target endocrine glands/hormones

- |      |         |
|------|---------|
| i.   | thyroid |
| ii.  | adrenal |
| iii. | gonads  |



## Endocrinology & Metabolism

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Effect	Starvation	Sepsis	Trauma
BMR	-	+	+
Malnutrition	slow	rapid	rapid
<b>Primary Hormones</b>			
• glucagon	+	+	+
• catecholamines	-	+	+
• glucocorticoids	-	+	+
<b>Energy substrates</b>			
• glucose	-	+	+
• triglycerides	-	+	+
• FFA	+	+	+
• ketones	+	-	-
• lactate	-	+	+
• alanine/glutamine	+	+	+
<b>Energy supply sites</b>			
• adipocytes	+	±	+
• muscle	+	+	-
• protein reserves	-	-	+
<b>Metabolic processes</b>			
• glycogenolysis	+ (early)	-	-
• gluconeogenesis	+ (early)	+	+
• proteolysis	+ (early)	+	+
• lipolysis	+	+	+
• ketogenesis	+	+	-
• ureagenesis	±	+	+

■ **Role of TPN**

- a. starvation
  - beneficial
  - reverses process
- b. sepsis
  - little effect unless sepsis controlled
- c. trauma
  - preserves protein substrate supply
  - does not prevent negative nitrogen balance

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ADRENAL CORTEX

- the only steroids secreted in physiologically significant amounts are,
  - a. mineralocorticoid - aldosterone
  - b. glucocorticoids - cortisol, corticosterone
  - c. androgens - dehydroepiandrosterone, androstenedione
- hypothalamus secretes CRH, which in turn increases pituitary secretion of ACTH
- ACTH release is also increased by,
  1. ADH & oxytocin
  2. angiotensin II
  3.  $\beta$ -adrenergic agonists
- **cortisol** has direct negative feedback on both CRH release & the pituitary response to CRH
- ACTH release is also decreased by somatostatin,  $\beta$ -END and enkephalins
- ACTH is the **only** known stimulus to adrenal cortisol synthesis (? SNS input)
- plasma half-life ~ 10-15 min
- ACTH binds to specific receptors on the plasma membrane
  - adenylate cyclase / cAMP / activated protein kinases
- normal daily output of **cortisol** ~ 40-80  $\mu\text{mol/d}$ 
  1. maximum level ~ 220-770 nmol/l 08:00-09:00
  2. minimum level < 220 nmol/l 22:00-24:00
- normal daily output of **aldosterone** ~ 0.1-0.7  $\mu\text{mol/d}$
- response to **stress** →
  1. cortisol levels > 500 nmol/l
  2. loss of diurnal rhythm
  3. maximal output of adrenal cortex ~ 550  $\mu\text{mol/d}$ 
    - plasma levels ~ 1600 nmol/l
- cortisol concentrations appropriate for acute illness are **unknown**
- there is **no correlation** between plasma cortisol levels and the severity of disease
- in critically ill patients, cortisol replacement should be considered if,
  1. baseline cortisol < 350 nmol/l
  2. short synacthen rise < 250 nmol/l

## Addison's Disease

### ■ Aetiology

- a. **primary** adrenal insufficiency > **90%** destruction of functioning tissue
  - i. autoimmune ~ 70% of cases  
~ 50% of whom have positive plasma Ab's
  - ii. infection
    - TB
    - overwhelming septicaemia
    - histoplasmosis, coccidioidomycosis, cryptococcosis
    - viral (CMV) - especially in AIDS
  - iii. haemorrhagic/coagulopathic adrenal necrosis
    - overwhelming sepsis → Waterhouse-Friderichsen syndrome
    - meningococcaemia (usually children), *Pseudomonas*, *H. influenzae*
    - adults during pregnancy, or with anticoagulant therapy
    - retroperitoneal haemorrhage following trauma or ruptured AAA
  - iv. surgical removal - breast carcinoma
  - v. rare causes - bilateral metastatic carcinoma  
- amyloidosis  
- sarcoid
- b. **secondary** adrenal insufficiency
  - i. hypopituitary syndromes
    - post-partum necrosis - Sheehan's syndrome
    - pituitary apoplexy - acute haemorrhagic infarction of adenoma
  - ii. pituitary suppression by **exogenous steroids**
    - increases with ↑ doses > physiological range  
↑ duration of therapy (may be seen after 5 days)
    - daily dose > 37.5 mg hydrocortisone  
> 7.5 mg prednisolone  
> 2 mg dexamethazone
  - iii. pituitary suppression by steroid secreting tumours
- c. interference with **hormone synthesis**
  - i. congenital hypoplasia - C<sub>21</sub>, C<sub>11</sub>, C<sub>17</sub>
    - C<sub>21</sub>-hydroxylase - adrenal virulisation ± hypoaldosteronism
    - C<sub>11</sub>-hydroxylase - hypertension & virulisation
  - ii. enzyme inhibitors - metyrapone, mitotane, aminoglutethamide  
- **ketoconazole**, etomidate
  - iii. cytotoxics
- d. enhanced metabolism
  - **rifampicin** induces cytochrome P<sub>450</sub> & may unmask latent hypoadrenalism

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Precipitating Factors

- a. surgery, trauma, sepsis
- b. severe acute illness
- c. cessation of steroid therapy
- d. commencement of thyroid hormone replacement
- e. coagulopathy

## ■ Clinical Features

- a. weakness, fatigue ~ 100%
- b. excess pigmentation ~ 90%
- c. hypotension ± hypovolaemia ~ 90%
- d. vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain ~ 60%
- e. biochemistry
  - i. mild **hyponatraemia**, hypoosmolality ~ 90%
  - ii. **hyperkalaemia** ( $\text{Na}^+:\text{K}^+$  ratio < 25:1) ~ 70%
  - iii. **hypoglycaemia**
  - iv. mildly elevated urea
  - v. mild anion gap **acidosis** - renal impairment, hypovolaemia, lactate, etc.  
+ mild type IV RTA
  - vi. hypercalcaemia
- f. FBE
  - i. normocytic anaemia - may be masked by hypovolaemia
  - ii. **eosinophilia** & lymphocytosis
- g. short Synacthen test \* Synacthen 250 µg IMI
  - i. no response - primary adrenal failure
  - ii. normal response - hypopituitarism
- h. thyroid function tests
  - R<sub>x</sub> for **myxoedema** must include hydrocortisone to guard against adrenal crisis
  - may have ↑ TSH with low-normal T<sub>4</sub> levels, reversible with cortisol
- i. CT scan - may show haemorrhage or carcinomatous infiltration

• crisis patients may appear clinically "septic", however **eosinophilia** and **hypoglycaemia** are unusual findings in sepsis *per se*

• patients with primary **ACTH deficiency**,

1. are not hyperpigmented - absence of excess ACTH & MSH
2. not hyperkalaemic - adrenal responds to angiotensin II

Short Synacthen Test <sup>1</sup>		
Sample 1	09:00 <sup>2</sup>	• 220-770 nmol/l
Sample 2	09:30	• > 270 nmol/l <i>increase</i>
Sample 3	10:00	• > 500 nmol/l <i>minimum</i>
<sup>1</sup> Synacthen 0.25 mg IM		
<sup>2</sup> in Addison's baseline levels are frequently < 100 nmol/l		

**NB:** if secondary adrenal insufficiency is suspected (ACTH < 10 ng/l), then

Synacthen 1 mg IM daily / 3 days  
SST performed 48 hours post last dose

■ **Treatment**

- a. O<sub>2</sub> and ventilatory support
- b. IV fluids
  - i. colloids to restore blood volume
  - ii. saline to replace Na<sup>+</sup> deficit
  - iii. hypoglycaemia → D<sub>50</sub>W ~ 50 ml / 5 mins
  - iv. **hyperkalaemia** rarely requires specific therapy *per se*
- c. hydrocortisone → 200 mg stat, then 100 mg q6h
  - theoretically, a loading dose of 10 mg, followed by 8-10 mg/hr is sufficient
  - this gives a total dose of 200 mg / 24 hrs, which is normal maximal production
- d. inotropes / vasopressors prn - may have decreased sensitivity
- e. treatment of primary cause, or initiating factor

■ **Major Surgery**

- excess replacement is associated with,
  1. ↑ susceptibility to infection
  2. poor wound healing
  3. ↓ glucose tolerance

**NB:** the normal adrenal response to major surgery ~ 75-150 mg / 24 hrs

R<sub>x</sub> hydrocortisone 25 mg stat, followed by 25 mg qid

## Cushing's Syndrome

### ■ Aetiology

- a. *iatrogenic steroid administration* = most common
- b. *pituitary adenoma* ~ 70% (of remainder)
- c. ectopic ACTH ~ 15%  
→ biochemical effects, **not** clinically Cushingoid
- d. adrenal adenoma / carcinoma ~ 15%

### ■ Clinical Features

- a. truncal obesity ~ 90%
- b. hypertension ~ 80%
  - ↑ renin substrate, ↑ vascular reactivity, ↑ blood volume 2° fluid retention
- c. plethoric face ~ 75%
- d. hirsutism ~ 70%
- e. proximal myopathy ~ 60%
- f. osteoporosis ~ 60%
- g. bruising, striae ~ 50%
- h. poor wound healing ~ 40%

**NB:** patients with excess "ACTH" from **rapidly** growing tumours (eg. oat cell) usually present with hypokalaemia, muscle weakness & wasting, and hyperpigmentation; cf. ACTH from **slowly** growing tumours (ovary, thyroid medullary, thymic, pancreatic, bronchial adenoma), which present with classical Cushingoid features

### ■ Electrolyte Abnormalities

- a. high  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  & glucose
- b. low  $\text{K}^+$  &  $\text{Ca}^{++}$
- c. metabolic **alkalosis**

### ■ Secondary Endocrine Effects

- a. insulin resistance / glucose intolerance
- b. 2° **hyperparathyroidism** ∞ ↑ urinary  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  excretion / ↓ GIT absorption
- c. antagonism of GH effects
- d. ↑ ACTH → ↑ pigmentation
- e. androgen excess

## ■ Laboratory Investigations & Diagnosis

1. increased urinary **17-(OH)-steroids**
  - urinary 24 hr cortisol reflects freely filtered, ie. unbound cortisol and reflects hypercortisolaemia
  - may be falsely positive with stress or depression, & negative with renal failure
2. high plasma cortisol and loss of **diurnal variation**
  - normal range ~ 140-690 nmol/l
  - trough level ~ 2400 hrs
  - peak level ~ 0600 hrs
3. dexamethasone suppression test
  - normal pituitary secretion is suppressible. cf. autonomous adenoma
  - suppressible function **excludes** Cushing's with 98% specificity
    - i. **low dose**
      - day 1 - baseline 09:00 plasma cortisol, **optional**  
- dexamethasone 2mg orally at 23:00
      - day 2 - 09:00 plasma cortisol < 140 nmol/l  
< 50% of baseline on day 1
      - false positives - depression, alcohol abuse, "stress", OCP, 20-35% of obese
    - ii. **high dose**
      - plasma cortisol & ACTH - daily 09:00 for **7 days**
      - day 1,2 - baseline, no dexamethasone
      - day 3,4 - dexamethasone 2 mg/d
      - day 5,6,7 - dexamethasone 8 mg/d
      - failure to suppress usually indicates **ectopic ACTH** or neoplasm
      - LIGW states suppression not achievable in **critically ill** ??
4. ACTH level
  - i. low → adrenal autonomy  
(< 20 pg/ml) suppression by exogenous steroids
  - ii. normal / high → pituitary
  - iii. very high → ectopic ACTH
5. localisation procedures
  - i. pituitary ~ 50% demonstrable by MRI  
- selective inferior petrosal vein sampling for ACTH
  - ii. adrenal - majority demonstrable by CT

## ■ Management

1. resection of ***pituitary microadenoma***
  - usually trans-sphenoidal approach
  - Roizen, "anecdotally higher CVP and greater blood-loss, cf. other microadenoma"
2. unilateral / bilateral ***adrenalectomy***
  - preoperative suppression of hypothalamic/hypophyseal axis
    - ***glucocorticoid*** supplementation postoperatively
    - ***mineralocorticoid*** supplementation after several days
  - ~ 10% will have an undiagnosed ***pituitary adenoma***, (Nelson's syndrome)
    - i. rapid enlargement following adrenalectomy
    - ii. ↑ pigmentation due to ACTH/MSH secretion
    - iii. field defects / hypopituitarism from mass effect
3. ***radiotherapy***
4. ***medical therapy***
  - tumour (pituitary, adrenal, ectopic) not amenable to surgical resection
  - following unilateral adrenalectomy for adenoma/carcinoma, the other gland frequently enlarges & hypersecretes
    - i. ***ketoconazole*** ~ 200-300 mg q6h
      - inhibits cytochrome P<sub>450</sub> dependent steroid synthesis
      - \* also affects hepatic function, ∴ monitor LFT's
    - ii. metyrapone, mitotane - inhibition of steroid synthesis
    - iii. spironolactone - aldosterone antagonist
    - iv. cyproheptadine - hypothalamic ***serotonin*** (CRH) antagonist

**NB:** the aim of therapy is ***complete*** adrenal suppression,  
    \ may require perioperative ***steroid replacement***

## Phaeochromocytoma

- rare *neuroectodermal* tumour → "autonomic hyperreflexia"
- produces different features in children and adults,
  - a. episodic or sustained hypertension
  - b. malignant hypertension
  - c. palpitations, tachyarrhythmias
  - d. angina, CCF
  - e. headaches
  - f. nausea, vomiting, weight loss
  - g. abdominal or thoracic pain
  - h. profuse diaphoresis

### ■ "Rule of Tens"

**NB:** *all* of the following occur with ~ **10% incidence**,

1. *not* associated with hypertension
2. occur in children
3. occur as a familial tendency \* **MEN II**, MEN IIb
  - medullary carcinoma of the thyroid (*parafollicular*)
  - *phaeochromocytoma* & *parathyroid adenoma*
4. multiple tumours
5. extra-adrenal location
6. extra-abdominal location if extra-adrenal

### ■ Diagnosis

- a. elevated urinary metabolites \* 24 hr urine
  - i. spot metanephrine > 0.8 µg per mg of creatinine
  - ii. \*metanephrine > 2.2 µg / mg creatinine
  - iii. \*VMA > 5.5 µg / mg creatinine
- b. raised urinary free catecholamines
- c. elevated plasma catecholamines
- d. CT with <sup>131</sup>I-labelled MIBG (<sup>131</sup>I-meta-iodobenzylguanidine)

## ■ Complications

- a. malignant hypertension
- b. intracranial haemorrhage
- c. arrhythmias
- d. cardiomyopathy, IHD/AMI, LVF
- e. decreased intravascular volume

## ■ Emergency Management

- a. phentolamine 2-5 mg IV prn
- b. IV fluid expansion
- c. nifedipine 10 mg SL
- d.  $\pm$  low dose  $\beta$ -blockers

## ■ Preoperative Preparation

**NB:** a-blockers + b-blockers + a-methyltyrosine

1. control hypertension           BP < 160/90 mmHg for 48 hrs
2. orthostatic hypotension       BP ~ 80/45 mmHg
3. no ST/T wave changes on ECG for > 2 weeks
  - ?? this may take weeks to months to achieve
4. VPB's < 1 per 5 mins

## ■ Anaesthetic Management

**NB:** \* avoid drugs which release endogenous catecholamines, histamine, etc.

- intraoperative problems, **prior** to tumour removal,
  - a. hypertensive episodes
    - intubation, laryngoscopy
    - surgical stimuli
    - tumour manipulation
  - b. haemorrhage from surgical site
  - c. arrhythmias
  - d. LVF
  
- intraoperative problems, **following** to tumour removal,
  - a. **hypotension**
    - relative lack of catecholamines
    - unopposed  $\alpha/\beta$ -blockade
    - blunted reflexes
    - relative hypovolaemia
  - b. hypovolaemia
    - blood loss
    - vasodilatation
  - c. **hypoglycaemia**
    - relative lack of catecholamines
    - insulin resistance
    - $\beta$ -blockade
  - d. persistent hypertension/tachycardia up to 2 weeks postoperatively
  - e. incomplete removal
    - return of signs/symptoms

**NB:** *all patients* should have repeat urinary screen 2/52 following removal

## Conn's Syndrome

**Def'n:** benign **adenoma** of the zona glomerulosa of the adrenal cortex  
rarely due to bilateral hyperplasia or carcinoma

- a. hypertension                    - mild diastolic hypertension  
    ± headaches
- b. **hypokalaemia**                - may be severe  
    - weakness ± paralysis  
    - polyuria 2° nephrogenic DI  
    - U waves, PVC's, arrhythmias
- c. metabolic alkalosis
- d. polyuria                         ∞ hypokalaemic nephrogenic DI  
    ± polydipsia
- e. biochemistry
  - i. hypokalaemic metabolic alkalosis
  - ii. hypernatraemia                - Na<sup>+</sup> retention + water loss (DI)
  - iii. low plasma renin activity    - ie. not 2° hyperaldosteronism
- f. oedema                         \* classically **absent**
  - exhibit intrinsic renal "escape" from mineralocorticoid
  - may occur in longstanding cases 2° to CCF & azotaemia

### ■ Diagnosis

1. diastolic hypertension **without** oedema
2. hypersecretion of **aldosterone**- no decrease with volume expansion
3. hyposecretion of **renin**                    - low PRA  
    \* no rise with volume depletion

### ■ Hypokalaemic Alkalosis

1. diuretics                         - low Na<sup>+</sup> & Cl<sup>-</sup>  
    - high urea
2. vomiting                         - very low Cl<sup>-</sup>, low/normal Na<sup>+</sup>  
    - high urea
3. diarrhoea | laxatives           - low Cl<sup>-</sup>, normal Na<sup>+</sup>  
    - high urea
4. mineralocorticoid excess      - normal/**high** Na<sup>+</sup> & Cl<sup>-</sup>  
    - normal urea
5. citrate metabolism & correction of acidosis following massive blood transfusion

## Secondary Hyperaldosteronism

1. nephrotic syndrome<sup>§</sup>
2. cirrhosis<sup>§</sup> \*see below
3. CCF<sup>§</sup>
4. pre-renal failure<sup>§</sup>
5. renal artery stenosis
6. bronchogenic carcinoma

**NB:** <sup>§</sup>decreased *effective* circulating blood volume

• HPIM classifies these as follows,

1. ***normotensive*** states
  - i. pregnancy
  - ii. diuretic therapy
2. ***hypertensive*** states
  - i. 1° reninism - renin secreting tumours
  - ii. 2° reninism - renal artery stenosis (FMD, atheroma)  
- arteriolar nephrosclerosis  
- accelerated hypertension
  - iii. diuretic therapy
3. ***oedematous*** states
  - i. cirrhosis
  - ii. nephrotic syndrome
  - iii. CCF
4. Bartter's syndrome

### ■ Cirrhosis

- the diminution of effective plasma volume activates the renin-angiotensin system with elevation of plasma ***aldosterone***, further enhanced by the decreased metabolism in the liver
- however, early theories that hyperaldosteronism *per se* is responsible for the sodium retention in cirrhosis have been questioned
- there appears to be ***dissociation*** of aldosterone & distal tubular sodium reabsorption
- the dominant factor appears to be decreased distal delivery of filtrate
- this may relate to,
  1. impaired intrarenal ***PGE<sub>2</sub> synthesis***
  2. direct renal effects of angiotensin II
  3. direct effects of the SNS
  4. decreased kinin synthesis

## ■ Bartter's Syndrome

1. autosomal recessive - frequently symptomatic in childhood
2. renal juxtaglomerular apparatus **hyperplasia**
3. high plasma **renin** activity, angiotensin I/II & aldosterone secretion
4. **normal BP**
  - decreased vascular response to noradrenaline & angiotensin II<sup>§</sup>
5. **hypokalaemia** ± alkalosis  
± hypomagnesaemia
  - weakness & periodic paralysis
  - polyuria → nephrogenic DI
  - overproduction of **prostaglandins** → altered Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> handling

**NB:** the principal defect is reduced NaCl absorption in the **thick ascending LOH**  
→ volume depletion → ↑ renin-angiotensin-aldosterone

- ↑ NaCl delivery to the late DT + ↑ aldosterone → severe K<sup>+</sup> wasting
- defective function of TA-LOH results in **hypomagnesaemia** & exacerbation of K<sup>+</sup> wasting
- **hypokalaemia** → ↑ PGE<sub>2</sub>, PGI<sub>2</sub>  
→ further ↑ renin secretion
- angiotensin-II & aldosterone → ↑ renal kallikrien  
→ ↑ plasma **bradykinin**
- **normal BP** reflects,
  - a. ↓ vasopressor activity of angiotensin-II - ? diminished by downregulation
  - b. vasodepressor actions of PGE<sub>2</sub> & bradykinin

## ■ Treatment

- a. oral K<sup>+</sup> supplementation
- b. propranolol /atenolol - ↓ renin release
- c. captopril - ↓ angiotensin II
- d. spironolactone - antagonise angiotensin
- e. PG synthesis inhibition - indomethacin, ibuprofen  
- aspirin

**NB:** → ≡<sup>T</sup> **opposite to RTA**

## HYPOPITUITARISM

## SIMMOND'S DISEASE

### ■ Aetiology

- a. hypophysectomy
- b. irradiation
- c. chromophobe adenoma
- d. post-partum pituitary necrosis- Sheehan's syndrome
- e. sarcoidosis
- f. TB meningitis
- g. head injury

### • presentation is *age dependent*,

- a. child → dwarfism, failure to thrive
- b. adult → ***hypothyroidism*** + loss of 2° sex characteristics
  - characteristic order of function loss,
    - i. hypothyroidism
    - ii. loss of 2° sex characteristics
    - iii. bitemporal hemianopia
    - iv. coma
      - hypothyroid
      - hypoglycaemia
      - Addison's

**NB:** *aldosterone* production usually masks ACTH & cortisone deficiency  
*central DI* occurs late in the disease course

## CARCINOID SYNDROME

**Def'n:** clinical syndrome due to *malignant* and *metastatic* carcinoid tumour which releases vasoactive substances in sufficient quantities to cause *systemic effects*,

1. serotonin, histamine
2. bradykinin, kallikriens
3. PGE & PGF

- only ~ 5% of patients with a tumour develop the *carcinoid syndrome*
- the *primary* site is usually either,
  1. jejunum or ileum
  2. bronchus
  3. ovary

### ■ Clinical Presentation

1. episodic flushing
2. cyanosis
3. *asthma*
4. vomiting, abdominal pain, *diarrhoea*
5. fever
6. tachyarrhythmias
7. telangectasia\*
8. tricuspid regurgitation\*
9. pulmonary stenosis\*                      \*occur later

### ■ Investigations

- a. *hypoglycaemic* episodes
- b. hypoalbuminaemia
- c. increased urinary excretion of **5HIAA** ( $\geq 10$  mg/day)

### ■ Indications for Surgery

- a. primary resection
  - b. debulking of metastases
  - c. vascular surgery
- medical therapy is aimed at blockade of active hormonal agents,
1. *somatostatin* ~ 50 µg IV or SC
  2. 5HT<sub>1</sub> receptors - *ketanserin* ~ 5-10 mg/hr
  3. 5HT & H<sub>1</sub> receptors - *methotrimeprazine* 2.5-5.0 mg IV  
- cyproheptadine 4-8 mg 6 tds
  4. H<sub>2</sub> receptors - *ranitidine* / cimetidine
  5. bradykinin - steroids reduce release
  6. kallikrein - *aprotinin* 200,000U over 60 min preop

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## THYROID DYSFUNCTION

- functions of thyroid hormones,
  1. regulation of basal  $VO_2$  → ↑ NaK-ATPase, mitochondrial function
  2. regulation of lipid and CHO metabolism
  3. normal growth & maturation \* especially CNS
- **thyrotrophin releasing hormone** acts predominantly in the adenohypophysis to release **TSH**
- however, also found in,
  1. neurohypophysis, brain, brainstem, medulla, spinal cord
  2. pancreas, GI tract
  3. adrenal
  4. placenta
- other actions include partial opioid antagonism and inhibition of pancreatic secretion
- **thyroid stimulating hormone** is released in response to TRH and is inhibited by,
  1.  $T_3 / T_4$
  2. somatostatin
  3. glucocorticoids
  4. **dopamine** TRHIH
- $T_3$  has ~ 3x the potency of  $T_4$  & 85-90% of the circulating  $T_3$  is formed peripherally from  $T_4$
- hence, virtually all of the activity of peripheral  $T_4$  is due to  $T_3$  → ie.  $T_4 \equiv$  **prohormone**
- normally ~ 45% of  $T_4$  → **r $T_3$**  which is effectively inactive
- ratio of r $T_3$ : $T_3$  increased by,
  1. severe systemic illness
  2. malnutrition
  3. drugs - propylthiouracil, propranolol, glucocorticoids  
- amiodarone

Thyroid Hormone Binding				
Protein	Concentration (mg/dl)	Half-life (days)	<b>T<sub>4</sub></b> binding %	<b>T<sub>3</sub></b> binding %
Albumin	3,500	13	13	53
<b>TBG</b>	2	5	<b>67</b>	46
TBPA	15	2	10	1
Total percentage protein bound:			99.98%	99.8%
Normal Plasma level:			13-23 pmol/l	4-8 pmol/l

■ Thyroid Function Tests

		<b>Hypo- thyroid</b>	Lower limit	Normal	Upper limit	<b>Hyper- thyroid</b>
TSH	mU/l	> 4.5	0.2-0.4	0.5-3.5	3.6-4.5	< 0.2
Free T <sub>4</sub>	pmol/l	< 8	8-12	13-23	24-26	> 26
Free T <sub>3</sub>	pmol/l			4-8	8.1-10	>10

- in pituitary (secondary) hypothyroidism, the TSH is low relative to FT<sub>4</sub>
- TSH levels are suppressed by adequate replacement in 1° hypothyroidism, but allow 8 weeks
- in early 1° hypothyroidism, plasma TSH is a more sensitive marker than FT<sub>4</sub>
- patients on adequate replacement have plasma FT<sub>4</sub> levels at the upper range of normal
- FT<sub>3</sub> is insensitive in 1° hypothyroidism as levels only fall late in the disease

- artefactual increases in **total T<sub>4</sub>** occur with increases in TBG,

1. OCP, pregnancy
2. hepatitis
3. biliary cirrhosis

- decreases in TBG occur in,

1. androgen therapy, corticosteroids
2. chronic liver disease
3. severe systemic illness      \* malnutrition, CRF, autoimmune

**NB:** *free hormone* levels should always be used, as they correlate better with metabolic state and are uninfluenced by alterations of protein binding

- may also perform **TRH stimulation** test to assess 2° hypothyroidism & TSH response

■ Other Tests

1. ultrasound      - thyroid masses, cystic, nodular, multinodular  
                             - needle biopsy
2. radionuclide scan
3. autoantibodies    - anti-thyroglobulin, anti-thyroid microsomal  
                             - thyroid stimulating
  - especially for multinodular lesions
4. CT neck/thoracic inlet

## Sick Euthyroid Syndrome

• severe illness, caloric deprivation, physical trauma, physiological stress may result in,

1. altered regulation of TSH secretion
  - ↓ serum TSH → diagnosis of primary hypothyroidism difficult
  - TSH decreases markedly at 24-48 hrs, then tends to return to normal
2. ↓ peripheral conversion to  $T_3$  → ↑  $rT_3$ 
  - inhibitor of peripheral **5-monodeiodination** ? cortisol, starvation
3. ↓ protein binding of thyroid hormones
  - circulating inhibitor of thyroid hormone binding to TBP's
  - artefactual decrease in resin uptake of  $T_3$  & ∴ the FTI is also low
4.  $FT_4$  levels are low/normal & plasma  $t_{1/2\beta}$  ~ 1-5 days  
cf. normal ~ 7 days
5. **euthyroid state** is maintained by increased tissue  $T_3$  receptors

**NB:** ↓ serum  $T_3$   
 $T_4$  may be low, normal, or rarely ↑'d

- the presence of a very low  $T_4$  in severe non-thyroidal illness → **poor prognosis**
- measurements of  $T_3$ ,  $T_4$  and levels of hormone binding are usually adequate

**NB:** when direct assays of  $FT_4$  are low, studies giving replacement show **no improvement** in survival, therefore these patients are considered **euthyroid**

• differentiation from hypothalamic hypothyroidism can be helped by 3<sup>rd</sup> generation sensitive TSH assays,

- a. non-thyroidal illness > 0.05  $\mu$ U/ml
- b. hypopituitary insufficiency < 0.05  $\mu$ U/ml

**NB:** prolonged **dopamine** infusion may produce true **secondary hypothyroidism** due to direct dopamine suppression of TSH secretion, some would provide thyroxine replacement in this group

• when the calculated FTI is low, presumably due to inhibition of TBP's, a euthyroid state is established by a **normal TSH**

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**NB:** abnormal thyroid function studies in acutely ill patients, **without** clinical signs of thyroid disease, should **not** be treated but reviewed after the acute illness has resolved (LIGW)

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## Hyperthyroidism

### ■ Causes

1. disorders associated with **thyroid hyperfunction**
  - i. **intrinsic** → thyroid autonomy
    - hyperfunctioning thyroid adenoma
    - toxic multinodular goitre
  - ii. **extrinsic** → abnormal thyroid stimulator
    - excess TSH - **rarely** with pituitary adenoma
    - **Graves' disease** - most common, diffuse multinodular goitre
      - LATS, LATS-p, TSI, and TBII
    - trophoblastic tumour - choriocarcinoma (TSH-like)
2. disorders **not** associated with thyroid hyperfunction
  - i. disorders of hormone storage
    - subacute thyroiditis - with or without neck pain
    - chronic thyroiditis with transient thyrotoxicosis (CT/TT)
  - ii. extrathroidal source of hormone
    - thyrotoxicosis factitia - exogenous ingestion
    - ectopic thyroid tissue - struma ovarii
      - functioning follicular carcinoma
3. **pregnancy** ~ 5%, up to 3-6 months post-partum

### ■ Grave's Disease

- 3 clinical manifestations, which may appear separately or in combination,
  1. hyperthyroidism with diffuse multinodular goitre
  2. dermatopathy
  3. ophthalmopathy

**NB:** **most common cause**, diffuse multinodular goitre

- circulating IgG class Ab's attach to TSH receptor - LATS, LATS-p, TSI, and TBII
- high association with other **autoimmune** diseases,
  1. pernicious anaemia
  2. IDDM
  3. Addison's disease
  4. myasthenia gravis

- phases of exacerbation/remission, frequently progressing to thyroid failure & **hypothyroidism**

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Toxic Multinodular Goitre

- results from an **autonomous nodule** & often seen in elderly patients with a long history of goitre
- onset is often slow & may present with,
  1. myopathy
  2. resistant atrial fibrillation

## ■ Major Clinical Manifestations

- a. nervousness, agitation, insomnia
- b. weight loss, increased appetite
- c. diarrhoea ± fluid & electrolyte disturbances if severe
- d. warm moist skin, heat intolerance
- e. muscular weakness
  - especially proximal mm.
  - common in **apathetic** form & in elderly
- f. cardiac dysrhythmias
  - AF, VEB's, sinus tachycardia
- g. cardiac / papillary muscle dysfunction ± mitral valve prolapse
- h. congestive heart failure
- i. menstrual abnormalities
- j. Grave's disease → **ocular signs**
  - i. sympathetic overstimulation
    - widened palpebral fissure
    - stare, lid-lag
    - failure to wrinkle brow on upward gaze
    - tremor of eyelids on closing

**\*opposite** of Horner's
  - ii. ophthalmoplegia
    - inability of upward / outward gaze
    - failure to converge, proptosis
  - iii. congestive oculopathy
    - chemosis, conjunctivitis
    - periorbital swelling, corneal ulceration
  - iv. other manifestations
    - optic neuritis | atrophy
    - hypertrophy of lacrimal glands
- k. **apathetic** form
  - most commonly seen in the elderly
    - resistant AF, CCF
    - ± proximal myopathy

## ■ Investigations

1. biochemistry
  - hypercalcaemia, hyperglycaemia
  - hypokalaemia, hypomagnesaemia
  - **type I RTA** → metabolic acidaemia
  - ↑ ALP and hyperbilirubinaemia often occur
2. blood picture ± mild leukocytosis
3. TFT's
  - plasma TSH is unrecordable and non-responsive to TRH
  - FT<sub>4</sub> / FT<sub>3</sub> levels are elevated
  - rarely FT<sub>3</sub> levels are increased in isolation in **T<sub>3</sub> thyrotoxicosis variant**

## ■ Management      General

- when the thyroid is functioning abnormally the **cardiovascular system** is the one most stressed
  - although **b-blockade** will control the rapid HR, this carries the risk of precipitating CCF
  - however, decreasing the **ventricular rate** will usually improve LV filling and function
  - occasionally patients require emergency surgery with uncontrolled hyperthyroidism, and control of the rate with propranolol (or esmolol) is unavoidable
  - its use in this situation should be cautious, with the aid of PAOP measurement
  - the aim, however, is not to anaesthetise anyone prior to control of their hyperthyroidism, ie. "life-threatening" cases only
  - control may be achieved by the use of "anti-thyroid" medications, such as **propylthiouracil** or methimazole, both of which decrease the synthesis of thyroxine
  - PTU also decreases the peripheral conversion of T<sub>4</sub> → T<sub>3</sub>
  - there is now a trend toward preparation with β-blocker and iodides alone
  - the later approach is quicker, 7-14 days, c.f. 2-6 weeks for the former
  - both methods treat the symptoms and achieve **devascularisation** of the gland
  - however, the later does not treat the abnormalities of LV function
  - regardless of the approach, anti-thyroid medication should be administered chronically and through the morning of surgery
  - prior to the euthyroid state being achieved, control during surgery may be achieved with **propranolol** ~ 0.2 to 10.0 mg IV, providing CCF does not supervene
  - fluid and electrolyte balance should also be restored
  - treatment with β-blockers **does not** invariably prevent the onset of **thyroid storm**
  - some recommend **anticholinergics** be avoided, due to the inhibition of sweating and tachycardia
- 
- patients possessing large goitres and obstructed airways can be handled in the same way as for any patient with **upper airway obstruction**,
    - a. premedication should avoid excessive sedation
    - b. an airway should be established, often with the patient awake
    - c. a firm armoured tube should be used
    - d. ? the patient should not be paralyzed prior to intubation

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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- preoperative CT scanning may be desirable to determine the extent of **compression** and **retrosternal extension**
- the most important perioperative **complications** of thyroid surgery include,
  1. thyrotoxic storm
  2. recurrent laryngeal nerve injury
  3. hypocalcaemic tetany
- bilateral recurrent laryngeal nerve injury results in **stridor** and airway obstruction due to unopposed adduction of the vocal cords and closure of the glottic aperture
- immediate intubation is required, usually followed by **tracheostomy**
- unilateral recurrent laryngeal nerve injury often goes unnoticed due to compensation by the patent side

## Thyroid Storm

1. without treatment → **mortality ~ 10-20%**
2.  $F > M$  - usually unrecognised or poorly controlled Grave's disease
3.  $\uparrow T_3$  &  $FT_4$  - but levels **do not** correlate with the severity of the state  
- results more from loss of **end-organ** ability to modulate response
4. **precipitating factors** ~ 50%
  - i. intercurrent illness - especially infection
  - ii. trauma
  - iii. operative procedures
  - iv. uncontrolled **diabetes mellitus**
  - v. **labour** and pre-eclampsia/eclampsia
5. associated with surgery
  - excessive palpation of the gland
  - incomplete preparation
  - inadequate doses of  $\beta$ -blockers perioperatively
6. uncommon factors
  - radio-iodine in unprepared patients
  - iodide drugs - amiodarone, haloperidol
  - large doses of thyroid hormones ~ 3-7 days onset

**NB:** now **uncommon** in association with thyroid surgery

## ■ Clinical Presentation

1. **fever**  $\geq 41^{\circ}\text{C}$ 
  - \* usually absent in uncomplicated thyrotoxicosis
  - usually moist warm skin
2. **CVS**
  - dyspnoea and fatigue
  - sinus **tachycardia** (may be  $> 160$  bpm)
  - resistant AF, **ventricular arrhythmias**
  - **congestive failure**, cardiomegaly  $\pm$  ECG changes of LVH
  - mitral valve prolapse (both treated and active disease)
3. **CNS / MSS**
  - tremor, increasing restlessness, nervousness and insomnia
  - progressing to **delerium**, then **coma** and death
  - hyperactive tendon reflexes, hyperkinesia
  - muscle weakness, especially in **apathetic** form
  - syndrome  $\equiv$  UMN lesion with asymmetrical reflexes
  - **rhabdomyolysis**
4. **GIT**
  - nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea
  - poor **oral bioavailability** of drugs, rapid intestinal transit
  - severe abdominal pain, suggesting intra-abdominal pathology
  - **jaundice** is a poor prognostic sign
5. **neck**
  - goitre & thyroid bruit if Grave's disease, **difficult intubation**
  - dysphagia, **aspiration risk**
6. **biochemistry**
  - $\sim 15\%$  have **hypercalcaemia**, but rarely an emergent problem
  - \* **hypokalaemia & hypomagnesaemia** may be severe, especially in apathetic form
  - \* don't use digoxin for control of AF  $\rightarrow$  amiodarone
7. **FBE**
  - leukocytosis common

## ■ Differential Diagnosis

1. **drug induced**
  - amphetamine overdose, cocaine
  - MAO inhibitors & hypertensive crisis
2. **drug withdrawal**
  - delerium tremens
  - opioid withdrawal
3. **hyperthermic synd.**
  - MH, MNS, heat stroke
4. **phaeochromocytoma**
5. **panic attack, mania/hypomania**

## ■ Management

### 1. **ABC**

- supportive measures
- IV fluids, dextrose, *thiamine* & B group vitamins

### 2. **b-adrenergic blockade**

- antagonises the effects of thyroid hormones and decreases the sensitivity to circulating catecholamines
- inhibits the peripheral conversion of  $T_4 \rightarrow T_3$
- tachycardia, fever, hyperkinesia & tremor respond promptly
- improves proximal myopathy, periodic thyrotoxic paralysis, bulbar palsy and thyrotoxic hypercalcaemia
- **propranolol** ~ **0.5 mg** increments IV with CVS monitoring (up to 10 mg)
- oral doses 20-120 mg q6h but may need to ↑ dose due to ↑↑ clearance
- $\beta_1$ -selective antagonists **do not** inhibit the conversion of  $T_4 \rightarrow T_3$  as effectively, but may be preferred in the presence of CCF or airways disease
- **reserpine** has been largely superseded, but may be of benefit in propranolol resistant hyperthyroidism

### 3. **steroids**

- usually administered as a **relative deficiency** may be present
- also, potential for associated autoimmune disease, ie. Addison's
- inhibit the peripheral conversion of  $T_4 \rightarrow T_3$
- hydrocortisone ~ 100 mg IV q6h

### 4. **thioamides**

- **no** parenteral preparation is available
- theoretical advantages of PTU have **not** been supported in clinical trials
- i. **propylthiouracil**
  - rapid onset, though, GIT absorption is impaired and unreliable during a crisis
  - blocks the iodination of tyrosine and the peripheral conversion of  $T_4 \rightarrow T_3$
  - administered orally or via NG tube ~ 1g loading dose  
~ 200-300 mg q4-6h
- ii. **methimazole**
  - **does not** inhibit the peripheral conversion of  $T_4 \rightarrow T_3$
  - use only if PTU contraindicated
  - less rapidly absorbed but longer acting
  - doses are ~ 1/10<sup>th</sup> those for propylthiouracil ~ 100 mg loading dose
- iii. **carbimazole**
  - metabolised to methimazole, relative potency ~ 0.6:1
  - transient **leukopenia** is common but agranulocytosis rare

5. **iodine**
  - large doses inhibit the synthesis and release of thyroid hormones  
→ **Wolff-Chaikoff effect**
  - administration delayed <sup>3</sup> **1 hr** after thioamides ? why
  - Lugol's iodine, saturated solution potassium iodide (SSKI), potassium iodide, or sodium iodide
  - NaI ~ 1g IV q12h or continuous infusion, or equivalent doses of other agents
6. **lithium**
  - same effects as iodine and may be used in allergic patients
  - doses 500-1500 mg daily but takes 5-7 days for steady state
  - requires monitoring plasma levels ~ 0.7-1.4 mmol/l
7. **digoxin**
  - following the correction of **hypokalaemia** if AF is present
  - requires larger doses due to ↑ clearance & ↓ efficacy
  - usually ineffective alone ± β-blockers, verapamil, amiodarone, reserpine
  - **amiodarone** also inhibits peripheral de-iodination of T<sub>4</sub>
8. other measures
  - i. IVT, electrolytes, glucose
  - ii. treat fever, but **not aspirin**, as this displaces T<sub>3-4</sub>
  - iii. vitamins, especially **thiamine**
  - iv. **cholestyramine** binds thyroxine in the GIT
  - v. **activated charcoal** in thyroxine overdose
  - vi. **plasma exchange** in refractory cases, following 24-48 hrs aggressive R<sub>x</sub>
  - vii. **dantrolene** has been used with symptomatic improvement



## ■ Clinical Features

- a. ↓ BMR ~ 40-50%
- b. CNS
  - slow mentation, lethargy
  - sensitivity to *sedatives / opioids*
  - tendency to hypothermia, cold intolerance
  - \* CMRO<sub>2</sub> not decreased, except with *hypothermia*
- c. CVS
  - i. ↓ LV function ~ 50-60% decrease in contractility  
~ 40% decrease in CO  
~ 60% pericardial effusion  
- cardiomegaly and increased CAD
  - ii. ↓ blood volume ~ 10-25%
  - iii. baroreceptor dysfunction ↓ responses ∝ IPPV, hypovolaemia, valsalva etc.
  - iv. bradyarrhythmias, AF
  - v. accelerated *athersclerosis*
- d. respiratory - ↓ MBC, ↓ DL<sub>CO</sub>
  - ↓ *central respiratory drives* ~ 10-15% of normal O<sub>2</sub> drive  
~ 30-40% of normal CO<sub>2</sub> drive → ↑ P<sub>aCO2</sub>
  - obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome
- e. gastrointestinal
  - i. decreased appetite, increased weight
  - ii. gastric stasis & ↓ airway reflexes → ↑ *aspiration risk*
  - iii. constipation
- f. decreased motor activity, stiffness & muscle cramps, prolonged relaxation of DTR's
- g. connective tissue → *myxoedema* (\*pretibial = hyperthyroidism)
  - i. dry & thickened skin & hair, loss of outer 1/3 of eyebrows
  - ii. deepening of voice
  - iii. thickened tongue
  - iv. amyloidosis
  - v. carpal tunnel syndrome
- h. drugs
  - impaired liver / renal function → ↑ t<sub>1/2β</sub>'s
  - ↓ MAC for volatile agents
  - ↑ sensitivity to sedatives / opioids

## ■ Investigations

- a. electrolytes
  - ↓ blood volume / ↑ ECF fraction
  - **hyponatraemia** - ↑ ADH secretion
    - ↓ tubular Na<sup>+</sup> reabsorption / ↓ free water clearance
- b. FBE
  - normochromic normocytic anaemia
  - **pernicious anaemia** ~ 12%
- c. AGA's     ↑ P<sub>aCO2</sub> / ↓ pH  
                  ↓ P<sub>aO2</sub>
- d. ECG
  - low amplitudes, flattened / inverted T waves
  - ↓ phase 4 depolarization, ↑ APD & QT<sub>c</sub>
  - bradyarrhythmias, AF                   ± J-waves if hypothermic
- e. TFT's
  - ↑ TSH               - except pituitary hypothyroidism
  - ↓ FT<sub>4</sub> / FT<sub>3</sub>
- f. CXR
  - cardiomegaly, effusion, CCF

## ■ Clinical Assessment

- a. severity
  - bradycardia
  - hyporeflexia & slow recovery, "hung-up" reflex
  - temperature
  - skin, hair, facies, voice
- b. CNS
  - conscious state
  - airway protection reflexes
- c. CVS
  - bradycardia
  - IHD, CCF, pericardial effusion
  - if heart normal size, then ?? hypothalamic origin
  - may be **hypertensive** 2° hypercarbia
- d. respiratory
  - hypoventilation ± hypercarbia
  - pulmonary oedema
  - recurrent infection
  - OSAS     ± 2° pulmonary hypertension

## Myxoedema Coma

- likely scenarios,
  1. hypothyroidism unmasked by *concurrent illness*
  2. known hypothyroid and *emergency surgery*
- precipitating factors,
  1. surgery, trauma
  2. anaesthesia, sedatives, narcotics
  3. sepsis, hyperthermia
  4. any severe illness

**NB: mortality  $\leq$  50%**

### ■ Treatment

- a. assisted ventilation with *slow* correction of *hypercarbia*
- b. IV dextrose for *hypoglycaemia* - 50% not D<sub>5</sub>W
- c. water restriction  $\pm$  hypertonic saline for *hyponatraemia*
- d. passive rewarming for *hypothermia*  $\leq$  0.5°C/hr
- e. T<sub>3</sub> ~ 5-20  $\mu$ g IV in 100 ml N.saline slowly over 30-60 min, or  
T<sub>4</sub> ~ 200-500  $\mu$ g IV ( $\rightarrow$  more constant T<sub>3</sub> levels)  
\*\* *no* studies as to best dose or form of replacement
- f. *hydrocortisone* ~ 400 mg on first day, then reducing
  - assess adrenal function with *short Synacthen* test once euthyroid
  - correction of hypothyroidism may unmask underlying associated adrenal deficiency
- g. screen for *sepsis*
- h. treat underlying illness
- i. avoid sedatives, narcotics, etc.

## ■ Management for Emergency Surgery

- a. ABC
  - avoid sedatives, narcotics | use conservative doses
  - intubate if airway reflexes absent      ? antacids, ranitidine
- b. **hydrocortisone** ~ 100 mg IV q6h for first 24 hrs
  - acute adrenal crisis may be precipitated in severe hypothyroidism with thyroxine
- c. commence **T<sub>3</sub>** replacement if,
  - i. no active IHD      ? how to be sure
  - ii. no depression of conscious state      - pre-coma or coma
  - iii. surgery can be delayed several hours to assess the effect of T<sub>3</sub>
  - iv. continuous ECG monitoring available

→      ~ 5-20 µg in 100 ml N.saline IV slowly over 30-60 min

**NB:** otherwise **withhold** until after surgery and give low dose slowly

- excessive thyroxine doses may precipitate myocardial ischaemia / infarction even in the presence of normal coronary vessels
- therefore, use T<sub>3</sub> with 5%NSA as the carrier & monitor FT<sub>3</sub> & TSH levels
- LIGW suggests T<sub>3</sub> →
  1. **loading dose**      ~ **10 µg**
  2. **infusion**      ~ 20 µg/d

## Simple (nontoxic) Goitre

- causes,
  1. idiopathic
  2. excess TSH
    - iodine deficiency
    - ingested goitrogen
    - biosynthetic defect
  3. early toxic MNG
    - should be detected by newer sensitive assays
- NB:**  $R_x$  ↓ TSH stimulation
  - remove offending agent
  - I<sup>-</sup> supplementation
  - L-thyroxine ~ 100-200 μg/day

## Thyroid Nodules

### ■ Adenomas

1. papillary
2. follicular
  - most common & most likely to be functional
3. Hurthle cell

**NB:** *functional nodules* of any type are *less* likely to be malignant

### ■ Carcinoma

- males > females
- previous irradiation to the neck
  1. follicular epithelium
    - i. anaplastic
      - rare, highly malignant & rapidly fatal
    - ii. follicular
    - iii. papillary
      - ~ 60%, bimodal frequency of presentation
      - simple excisions ≡<sup>t</sup> radical neck resections
  2. parafollicular C cells
    - more aggressive
    - familial incidence
    - **MEN II** → medullary carcinoma
      - + *phaeochromocytoma*
      - + parathyroid adenomas

## DIABETES MELLITUS

### Aetiology

- a. **primary, idiopathic, diabetes mellitus**
- i. type I
- "juvenile onset"  $\leq 40$  years onset  
peak  $\sim 12-14$  years
  - absolute insulin deficiency  $\geq 90\%$  loss of islet mass
  - plasma insulin/C-peptide levels are unmeasurable & elevated glucagon
  - HLA & autoimmune associations  $\leq 85\%$  antipancreatic B cells  
 $\sim 50\%$  antipancreatic T cells
  - family history *rare*, MZ concordance  $\sim 50\%$
- ii. type II
- "maturity onset"  $\geq 40$  years onset  
peak  $\sim 60$  years
  - have both **insulin resistance** and relative **insulin deficiency**
  - hyperglycaemia does not occur until insulin secretion decreases
  - exaggerated glucagon response to ingested nutrients
  - obesity & gestational DM are associated & are risk factors
  - **strong** family history, MZ concordance  $\sim 100\%$
- b. **secondary diabetes mellitus**
- i. drugs - corticosteroids, thiazide diuretics, oestrogen therapy  
-  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic agonists (inotropes)
- ii. adrenal - Cushing's syndrome, Conn's syndrome  
- pheochromocytoma
- iii. pancreatic disease - chronic pancreatitis, haemochromatosis  
- pancreatic calcification (hyper- $\text{Ca}^{++}$ )  
- cystic fibrosis  
- glucagonoma, somatostatinoma, carcinoma  
- hypocalcaemia  
- amyloidosis  
- congenital  $\beta$ -cell absence
- iv. viral pancreatitis - rubella, coxsackie B<sub>4</sub>, mumps
- v. pituitary tumours - acromegaly, Cushing's disease
- vi. hyperlipidaemias - III, IV, V
- vii. others - Down's syndrome  
- G6PD deficiency  
- acute intermittent porphyria  
- muscular dystrophy  
- many congenital syndromes

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Insulin

- synthesised from *proinsulin* in  $\beta$ -cells of pancreas,
  - a. storage  $\sim 200^U$
  - b. plasma activity  $\sim 10-15\%$  cf insulin
    - but *more* effective in suppressing hepatic glucose production
  - c. forms equal amounts of *insulin* & *C-peptide*
  
- basal insulin release,
  - a. during fasting limits ketosis & catabolism  $\sim 1$  U/hr
  - b. total daily secretion of insulin  $\sim 40$  U (50% removed by liver)
  
- only  $\sim 7\%$  of plasma insulin activity is suppressed by anti-insulin Ab's
- the remaining 93% constitutes *nonsuppressible insulinlike activity, NSILA*
  - a. somatomedins  $\sim 5\%$ 
    - insulinlike growth factors - IGF I & II
  - b. nonsuppressible insulinlike protein - NSILP

Factors Influencing Insulin Release	
Stimulation <sup>1</sup>	Inhibition
<i>glucose &amp; fructose</i>	somatostatin
amino-acids • leucine, arginine	insulin
drugs • sulphonylureas • theophylline (PDE inhibitors) • acetylcholine	drugs • diazoxide, thiazide diuretics • phenytoin • 2-deoxyglucose
<b>b-agonists</b> $\uparrow$ glucose & $K^+$ uptake	$\alpha_1$ -agonists
GIT hormones • gastrin, secretin • cholecystokinin-pancreozymin • enteroglucagon (GIP)	
<i>glucagon</i>	
<sup>1</sup> insulin production in a normal adult $\sim 40$ U/d, though only $\sim 50\%$ reaches the systemic circulation	

## ■ Insulin Resistance

- state in which normal amounts of insulin (0.5U/kg/day) produce a subnormal biological response
- clinically this is not usually considered until patients are on  $> 2$  U/kg/day

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Diagnosis

- sample should be *venous plasma* not whole blood, as later levels may be ~ 13% lower
- fasting level < 6 mmol/l, or random level < 8 mmol/l → diagnosis excluded
- WHO criteria,
  1. fasting venous *plasma glucose*  $\geq 7.8$  mmol/l (NB: plasma 15% > whole blood)  
 $\geq 2$  occasions
  2. glucose tolerance test
    - loaded with CHO ~ 150 g/day for 3 days
    - fasted > 8/24 overnight - apart from H<sub>2</sub>O  
\* no smoking, no alcohol, no exercise
    - blood samples taken at time 0, 1 and 2 hrs post **75g** of dextrose (300 ml 25%)
    - if the **2 hr** venous plasma glucose is,
      - i. < **7.8** mmol/l → normal
      - ii.  $\geq 11.1$  mmol/l → diabetic
        - at least one other test value  $\geq 11.1$  mmol/l
        - ie. a minimum of 2 values are required during the test interval
      - iii. **7.8 - 11.0** mmol/l → diagnosis of *impaired glucose tolerance*
        - if one other value during the 2 hr test is  $\geq 11.1$  mmol/l
        - **do not** get *microangiopathy*, but are at risk of large vessel disease
        - rate of progression to diabetes is ~ 3% pa untreated  
~ 1.3% with dietary control  
~ 0.1% with oral hypoglycaemics
- believed the degree of hyperglycaemia is relevant to the risk of microangiopathy
- selection of 11.0 mmol/l is taken as some individuals below this show *spontaneous remission*
- causes of an abnormal GTT,
  1. prolonged inactivity
  2. major stress with previous 3/12 - AMI, stroke, trauma, surgery
  3. minor stress within previous 2/52 - "flu-like" illnesses
  4. dietary irregularity - starvation  
- recent weight change > 2 kg
  5. hepatocellular disease
  6. endocrinopathies
  7. hypokalaemia - inhibits insulin release
  8. pyridoxine deficiency
  9. drugs - thiazides, adrenergic agonists

## ■ Other Investigations

- a. plasma lipid studies
- b. glycosylated Hb       $Hb_{A1c}$ 
  - normal individuals have levels < **6%**
  - control to this level in diabetics is associated with excessive *hypoglycaemia*
  - debate as to the optimal level for control
- c. ECG
- d. E,C&U
- e. ophthalmology review

## ■ Type I Diabetes

- a. *juvenile onset*      - usually but not essential
  - b. an *autoimmune* disease with a MZ *concordance* ~ **40-50%**
    - auto-Ab's to *glucose transporter* of  $\beta$ -cells
  - c. a relative or absolute deficiency of insulin
  - d. a tendency to both,
    - i. ketotic hyperglycaemic coma
    - ii. hyperglycaemic, hyperosmolar, non-ketotic coma
- insulin levels are low or immeasurable, as are those of C-peptide
  - increase insulin requirement in postmidnight hours → "dawn phenomenon"
  - results in early morning hypoglycaemia due to nocturnal surges in GH secretion

## ■ Type II Diabetes

- a. usually an adult onset & frequently associated with *obesity*
    - also pregnancy, drugs and other endocrine abnormalities
  - b. MZ *concordance* ~ **100%**
  - c. peripheral *insulin resistance*
  - d. no tendency toward ketoacidosis or hyperosmolar, non-ketotic coma
- management varies from diet, to oral hypoglycaemics  $\pm$  insulin

## ■ Oral Hypoglycaemics

### • *sulphonylureas* act by,

1. increasing release of insulin from the pancreas
  - primarily by  $\uparrow$   $\beta$ -cell *sensitivity* to glucose  $\propto$   $\uparrow$  membrane  $gK^+$
  - they **no not**  $\uparrow$  insulin production & are not useful in IDDM
2. improving peripheral utilisation of glucose
  - ? increased receptor numbers, or increased binding

• alcohol may potentiate their action, cf. thiazides which are antagonistic

• newer agents, ***glyburide & glipizide*** have a longer duration of hypoglycaemic effect (~ 24 hrs) and fewer drug interactions

• ***chlorpropamide*** has the longest half-life & these agents may produce hypoglycaemia for up to **50 hrs** post-administration

• therefore hypoglycaemic episodes due to these agents require **observation**

• side-effects,

- a. rashes, pruritis
- b. hyponatraemia ("SIADH"), hypoglycaemia
- c. "disulphiram-like" reaction to alcohol
- d. nausea, vomiting, cholestasis
- e. haemolytic anaemia, bone marrow aplasia

• the ***biguanides*** act by,

1.  $\downarrow$  ***hepatic gluconeogenesis***
2.  $\uparrow$  glucose utilisation through ***anaerobic metabolism***
3.  $\downarrow$  intestinal absorption of glucose

• unlike the sulphonylureas, these agents are unlikely to result in weight gain

• ***contraindicated*** with,

- a. renal insufficiency - entirely renally excreted
- b. pregnancy
- c. liver disease
- d. alcoholism
- e. cardiopulmonary insufficiency- anaerobic metabolism

• side-effects,

- a. diarrhoea
- b. ***lactic acidosis***
- c. rarely hypoglycaemia

## ■ Complications: Acute

1. hypoglycaemia ± coma
2. ketoacidosis ± coma
3. hyperglycaemic, hyperosmolar, non-ketotic coma

## ■ Complications: Chronic

1. **cardiovascular**
  - i. ↑ atherosclerosis - IHD, AMI, HT, CVA, PVD, foot ulcers
  - ii. microangiopathy
    - retinopathy - capillary microaneurysms, haemorrhages  
- venous dilatation, waxy exudates  
- new vessel formation  
- fibrotic bands, retinal destruction, blindness
    - peripheral & autonomic neuropathy
  - iii. hypertension
  - iv. cardiomyopathy - infiltrative/ischaemic with diastolic dysfunction
2. **other ocular**
  - cataracts, Horner's syndrome, Argyll-Robinson pupil
  - cranial nerve palsies - III, IV & VI are common
3. **renal**
  - range from mild renal impairment to ESRF 2° progressive GN
  - recurrent UTI, papillary necrosis, CRF
  - higher rate of renal transplant rejection
4. **joint-collagen tissue abnormalities**
  - stiff joint syndrome - TMJ and atlanto-axial immobility
  - poor wound healing - decreased tensile strength / rate of tissue healing
  - necrobiosis lipoidica - breakdown of collagen
  - lipodystrophy, xanthelasma
5. **immune deficiency**
  - nosocomial infections - wound, respiratory tract, UTI
6. **neuropathic**
  - i. peripheral neuropathy - trophic changes, ulcers, infections  
- neuropathic joints
  - ii. autonomic neuropathy - postural hypotension, CVS instability  
- silent MI, asymptomatic hypoglycaemia  
- bladder retention, impotence  
- gastric stasis, diarrhoea, diminished sweating
7. **psychological**
  - chronic disease state & recurrent hospitalisation

## ■ Degree of Control

**NB:** the evidence that **tight control** of the BSL reduces the rate of progression, or that poor control accelerates the progression, is **suggestive** but **not definitive**

- high concentrations of glucose promote non-enzymatic **glycosylation** reactions, which may be in part responsible for,
  1. ↓d tissue elastance
    - stiff joint syndrome
    - poor wound healing
    - ↓ myocardial compliance
  2. ↑ macroglobulin synthesis - ↑ blood viscosity
  3. ↑ ICF volume
    - production of nondiffusible species (sorbitol etc) with intracellular swelling
    - newer therapies (aldose-reductase inhibitors) aim to reduce formation
  
- however, **insulin** may be directly toxic to small blood vessels and retinopathy initially **worsens** with tight control
- chronic therapy does reduce the leakiness of the glomerular capillaries to albumin, and the retinal capillaries to fluorescein dyes
- problems secondary to high levels of peripheral insulin are absent with administration into the **portal system**
  
- tight control does improve wound tensile strength & decrease infections in animal models
- hyperglycaemia, neuropathy, atherosclerosis & microangiopathy may contribute to wound failure
- insulin is necessary in the early stages of the inflammatory response, but appears to have no effect on collagen formation after the first 10 days
- epithelial wounds do not require leukocyte infiltration and collagen formation for healing and are thus not impaired in the diabetic patient
  
- **infections** account for
  - ~ 2/3 of postoperative complications
  - ~ 20% of perioperative deaths,
  - a. altered leukocyte function
    - ↓ chemotaxis & ↓ phagocytic activity of granulocytes
    - ↓ intracellular killing of pneumococci & staphylococci
  - b. function is returned to near-normal levels with tight control BSL < 12.5 mmol/l
  
- Cruse *et al.* (Arch.Surg 1973) in a review of 23,649 surgical patients,
  - a. diabetic wound infection ~ **10.7%** cf. 1.8% in non-diabetics
  - b. when **age** is accounted for, the difference in incidence **is not** statistically significant
  
- NB:** ie. diabetes increases in frequency with **age**  
wound infection increases with **age**

## Endocrinology & Metabolism

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- 430 consecutive patients from *out-of-hospital arrest*, mean BSL levels at presentation,
  - a. patients who never wakened ~ 341 ± 13 mg/dl (~ 19 mmol/l)
  - b. patients who wakened ~ 262 ± 7 mg/dl (~ 14.5 mmol/l)
    - i. with CNS deficit ~ 286 ± 15 mg/dl (~ 16 mmol/l)
    - ii. with CNS intact ~ 251 ± 7 mg/dl (~ 14 mmol/l)
  - c. consistent with *hyperglycaemia* → worse neurological outcome
  - d. supported by studies of *global ischaemia*, not those of focal ischaemia
- NB:**
  1. ? does hyperglycaemia worsen neurological outcome, or is it simply a marker of more profound physiological derangement & prolonged resuscitation
  2. current recommendation for diabetics undergoing procedures with potentially decreased CBF is to maintain **BSL < 14 mmol/l** (250 mg/dl)
- in a 1980 study of 340 diabetics vs. 2522 nondiabetics undergoing **CABG**,
  1. moderate increase in *operative mortality* ~ 1.8% vs. 0.6%
  2. requirement for *inotropic support & IABP* ~ 5x ↑
- reasons for these differences include,
  1. more extensive and *diffuse* CAD
  2. higher incidence of,
    - i. preoperative hypertension
    - ii. cardiomegaly
    - iii. diffuse hypokinesia
    - iv. previous MI
  3. IDDM patients with CAD have stiffer LV's → ↑ LVEDP
  4. autonomic dysfunction → ↓ preload regulation
  5. CPB, hypothermia and stress reactions decrease the responsiveness to insulin
    - results in marked *hyperglycaemia*, even without glucose in the IVT
    - washed cells have been advocated as **ACD** significantly increases BSL
    - insulin administration has little effect until rewarming
    - *lactate* containing solutions are gluconeogenic & poorly absorbed
  6. IDDM with poor LV function may have operative *mortality* ~ 10-15%

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Emergency Surgery & Ketoacidosis

- the likelihood of intraoperative cardiac arrhythmias, CCF or hypotension are markedly reduced if the metabolic decompensation can be at least partially reversed
- however, delaying surgery where the underlying condition will continue to exacerbate ketoacidosis is futile, \

- resuscitate - ABC
- fluid / volume** resuscitation
  - colloid ~ 10-20 ml/kg prn
  - crystalloid ~ 15 ml/kg/hr → 5 ml/kg/hr over 4-5 hours
    - **0.9% saline** + KCl 20 mmol/l<sup>§</sup>
    - **0.45% saline** - if Na<sup>+</sup> > 150 mmol/l
  - dextrose - when BSL < 20 mmol/l  
\* total body **deficit**
- insulin** ~ 10-20<sup>U</sup> IV ~ 0.25<sup>U</sup>/kg  
+ infusion **U/hr** ~ **BSL (mmol/l)/8**
- potassium**<sup>§</sup> ~ 20 mmol/hr ~ 0.3 mmol/kg/hr
  - 30-50 mmol/hr if HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> used
  - ± HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> and Mg<sup>++</sup>
    - NaHCO<sub>3</sub> - consider if persistent pH < 7.0  
- give 1 mmol/kg in 500 ml (~ 1.4%) over 1 hr  
\* **no** evidence for benefit
    - KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> - consider if [plasma] < 0.7 mmol/l  
- give as K<sup>+</sup> salt 7-10 mmol/hr
    - MgSO<sub>4</sub> - no need unless tachyarrhythmia
- treat underlying cause**

- the actual amount of insulin given is less important than regular **monitoring** of the BSL, H<sup>+</sup> & K<sup>+</sup>
- the number of insulin binding sites is limited, thus the rate of decline of plasma glucose is limited to a fairly constant → ↓ max ~ **4-5.5 mmol/l/hr**
- the **anion gap** component of the acidaemia may be due to any, or a combination of,

1. ketoacids
2. lactic acid
3. organic acids due to renal insufficiency

- hyperchloraemic, normal anion gap acidosis may result from DKA treated with N.saline only
- **bicarbonate** therapy is controversial,

1. respiration and myocardial function are depressed at pH < 7.0
2. rapid correction with HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> may result in,
  - i. paradoxical CSF & ICF acidosis due to diffusion of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - ii. altered CNS oxygenation & decreased CBF
  - iii. production of unfavourable osmotic gradients

## Regimens for Control

### ■ General

1. two distinct disease entities → different perioperative management
2. different regimens permit almost any degree of blood glucose control,
  - i. **frequent measurement** of BSL is recommended
  - ii. the tighter the desired control, the more frequently BSL must be monitored
3. there is debate as to how "tight" perioperative control should be,
  - i. chronic tight control of type I → ↓ complications
  - ii. some benefit has been shown for
    - **pregnancy**
    - **CABG**
    - focal/global **CNS ischaemia**
  - iii. the extent of benefit in relation to risks for other cases is **uncertain**
4. excepting these cases, diabetes *per se* may not be as important to outcome as the end-organ **complications** thereof,
  - i. cardiovascular dysfunction
    - atherosclerosis (CAD / PVD)
    - hypertension
    - cardiomyopathy
  - ii. renal dysfunction
    - nephrosclerosis
  - iii. joint-collagen tissue abnormalities
    - joint immobility, "stiff-joint syndrome"
    - impaired tissue healing
  - iv. immune dysfunction
    - nosocomial infections
  - v. neuropathies
    - peripheral / autonomic

**NB:** the combined presence of **diabetes, hypertension & renal dysfunction** carries a significantly worse prognosis

### ■ Classical Non-Tight Control

**NB: aim:** to prevent hypoglycaemia, ketosis & hyperosmolar states

1. fast from 2400 hrs the night before surgery, a glass of orange juice being beside the bed for emergency use
2. commence IVT at 0600 with D<sub>5</sub>W at a rate of **125 ml/70kg/hr**
3. administer ½ the usual morning insulin dose s.c.
4. continue this IVT throughout the operative period
5. monitor BSL in the recovery and treat with a **sliding scale q4h**

### ■ Tight Control

**NB:** *aim:* to achieve a BSL ~ 4.5-11.0 mmol/l, possibly improving wound healing

1. determine preprandial BSL the preceeding evening
2. commence IVT with D<sub>5</sub>W at a rate of **50 ml/70kg/hr**
3. commence an insulin infusion = 50<sup>U</sup> / 50 ml N.Saline, use a metered pump set the infusion to run at,

$$Insulin(U/Hr) = \frac{BSL (mmol/l)}{8.0}$$

4. repeat BSL every 4 hours & adjust infusion to a BSL ~ 5.5-11 mmol/l
  - denominator should be 5.0 in patients taking **corticosteroids**
  - 100 mg/dl ~ 5.55 mmol/l → denominator ~ 150 mg/dl
5. determine the BSL preinduction and repeat 2/24ly for the next 24 hours

**NB:** alternatively feedback could be performed by a **mechanical pancreas**

## Hyperglycaemic Ketoacidosis

**Def'n:** pre-coma / coma resulting from an imbalance in the *insulin:glucagon ratio*, resulting in,

1. extracellular hyperglycaemia
2. intracellular glucose deficit
3. ketoacidosis
4. marked fluid & electrolyte shifts

- the fall in insulin:glucagon ratio, due to absolute or relative insulin deficiency, results in,
  - a. hyperglycaemia
  - b. ↑ lipolysis
  - c. ↑ hepatic ketogenesis
  - d. ↑ catecholamines, cortisol, GH, and glucagon

**NB:** small amounts of insulin will prevent ketosis (cf. basal pancreatic secretion)

- normal hepatic glucose production ~ 50 mmol/hr/70kg fasting  
~ 100 mmol/hr/70kg without insulin
- production actually returns to normal as ketoacidosis develops
- normal peripheral metabolism ≤ 150-300 mmol/hr/70kg

**NB:** ∴ hyperglycaemia is predominantly due to decreased *peripheral utilisation*

### ■ Clinical Features

- |   |   |                           |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| a. thirst, polyuria, blurred vision, leg cramps | ∞ | osmotic diuresis          |
| b. nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain             | ∞ | ileus, gastric stasis     |
| c. hypotension, tachycardia, dehydration        | ∞ | fluid losses              |
| d. Kussmaul's breathing                         | ∞ | acidaemia                 |
| e. ketotic breath                               | ∞ | acetone, β-OH-butyrate    |
| f. drowsiness, coma                             | ∞ | hyperosmolality           |
| g. warm, dry skin                               | ∞ | vasodilatation            |
| h. hypothermia                                  | ∞ | ↓ VO <sub>2</sub> & ↓ CNS |

- NB:**
1. abdominal pain is due to reversible *autonomic neuropathy*, other causes → pancreatitis, appendicitis, perforated viscus
  2. if ketoacidotic patient is *hyperthermic*, then suspect *sepsis*

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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■ Precipitants

- a. unknown ~ 30%
- b. acute infection ~ 30%
- c. undiagnosed diabetic ~ 15%
- d. no insulin in known diabetic, especially with poor diet control
- e. trauma | surgery

Typical Early Biochemical Abnormalities		
<p><b><u>Acidaemia</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pH ~ 6.9 - 7.15</li> <li>• P<sub>aCO2</sub> ~ 8-15 mmHg</li> <li>• HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ~ 5 mmol/l</li> <li>• ketoacidosis ~ 5 mmol/l</li> <li>• lactic acidosis ~ 10-15 mmol/l</li> <li>~ 4-6 mmol/l</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acetoacetate (N &lt; 0.3)</li> <li>• β-OH-butyrate (N &lt; 1.2)</li> </ul>
<b><i>hyperglycaemia</i></b>	~ 20-40 mmol/l	
<b><i>hyperkalaemia</i></b>	~ 5-8 mmol/l	• total <i>deficit</i> ~ 200-700 mmol
hyperosmolar <b><i>hyponatraemia</i></b>	~ 130 mmol/l	• 2° to high glucose & lipids
hyperosmolality	~ 310-350 mosm/l	
hyperuricaemia		• protein breakdown
↑ FFA	~ 2-4 mmol/l • if higher may	→ low Na <sup>+</sup> ~ 110 mmol/l
uraemia	~ 25 mmol/l	
high creatinine	~ 0.3-0.5 mmol/l	

■ Late Biochemical Abnormalities

- following treatment these may progress to,
  1. hypernatraemia
  2. ***severe hypokalaemia***
  3. hypophosphataemia
  4. hypochloraemia, or hyperchloraemic metabolic acidosis
  5. hypomagnesaemia

■ Other Features

- a. fluid loss ~ 3-8 litres
- b. full blood count
  - i. high Hct
  - ii. leukocytosis ~ 15-90,000/ $\mu$ l with left shift
    - \* with or **without** infection
    - B<sub>12</sub> or folate deficiency
- c. NaCl usually normal - vomiting → low Cl<sup>-</sup>, and lower Na<sup>+</sup>
- d. K<sup>+</sup> normal or low \* severe deficiency  $\geq$  400 mmol
- e. uraemia
  - $\uparrow\uparrow$  creatinine
  - low **urea:creatinine ratio**  $\propto$  ketones
- f. anion gap > 17
  - predominantly ketones
  - + some lactate
  - $\pm$  SO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup> & PO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>
- g. increases in
  - amylase (salivary glands)
  - triglycerides, VLDL and CM
  - uric acid
  - LFT's (ketones interfere with assays, acute fatty liver)
- h. phosphate
  - initially high but with R<sub>x</sub> may fall precipitately like K<sup>+</sup>
  - no proven benefit on mortality
  - replacement may reduce the time to recovery and insulin needs
- i. ketones drag H<sup>+</sup> with them in urine, up to 10 mmol H<sup>+</sup>/hr
- j. **lactic acidosis** may mask a small ketoacidosis → a **low redox state**
  - $\uparrow$   $\beta$ OHB - which is **not** measured by ketone tests
  - $\downarrow$  AcAc - which is measured by ketone tests
  - normal ratio  $\beta$ OHB:AcAc ~ 3:1
  - $\geq$  9:1 in reduced redox states
  - levels during starvation ~ 2-4 mmol/l
  - ketoacidosis > 5 mmol/l
  - may be as high as 15 mmol/l in severe DKA and totally account for anion gap

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## Treatment

- a. resuscitate - ABC
- b. fluid/volume resuscitation
  - i. colloid ~ 10-20 ml/kg prn
  - ii. crystalloid\*
    - **0.9% saline** - total body Na<sup>+</sup> deficit (200-700 mmol)
    - **0.45% saline** - if corrected Na<sup>+</sup> > 150 mmol/l
  - iii. dextrose
    - when BSL < 20 mmol/l
    - total body *deficit* in energy substrate

Fluid Requirements	
Hour	Crystalloid*
1 <sup>st</sup>	• 15-20 ml/kg
2 <sup>nd</sup>	• 10-15 ml/kg
3 <sup>rd</sup>	• 5-10 ml/kg
4 <sup>th</sup>	• 5-10 ml/kg
5 <sup>th</sup> & over	• 2-5 ml/kg

- c. **insulin** ~ 10-20<sup>U</sup> IV ~ 0.25U/kg  
 + infusion (U/hr) ~ BSL (mmol/l)/8
  - results in receptor *saturation* & ↓ BSL at ~ **3-5 mmol/l/hr**
  - efficacy of insulin reduced in shock states, ∴ must resuscitate first
  - 20-30% bound to plastic/glass surfaces, ∴ some use protein carrier
- d. **potassium** ~ 20 mmol/hr ~ 0.3 mmol/kg/hr  
 - total body deficit ~ 100-200 mmol/l (rarely < 700)
  - NB: 30-50 mmol/hr if HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> used ± H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> and Mg<sup>++</sup>
- e. HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
  - consider if,
    - i. persistent pH < 7.0, or
    - ii. **normal AG** hyperchloraemic acidosis develops
      - give 1 mmol/kg in 500 ml (~1.4%) over 1 hr
      - **no** evidence for benefit
- f. Na/K-H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> - consider if [plasma] < 0.7 mmol/l  
 - give as K<sup>+</sup> salt 7-10 mmol/hr
- g. MgSO<sub>4</sub> - no need unless tachyarrhythmia
- h. **treat underlying cause**

## ■ Other Management

- a. repeated monitoring
  - plasma glucose &  $K^+$  monitored hourly if  $[K^+] < 3.0$  or  $> 6.0$  mmol/l
  - otherwise monitor 2 hrly for first 6 hrs, then prn
  - vital signs, UO, CVP,  $Na^+$ ,  $K^+$ , glucose, pH,  $P_{aO_2}$
- b. low dose **heparin**
- c. other Ix
  - i. CXR
  - ii. ECG & CKI
  - iii. blood cultures and sepsis workup
  - iv. coagulation studies
- d. **antibiotics** for evidence of infection only

## ■ Causes of Hypokalaemia

- a. osmotic diuresis → major cause
- b. vomiting
- c. neutralisation of ketones
- d. extracellular shift with acidosis
- e. renal  $Na^+/K^+$  exchange ~ 2° hyperaldosteronism
- f. total body  $K^+$  deficit ~ **200-700 mmol**  
~ 15-55 grams !

## ■ Complications of Rapid Correction

1. **hypokalaemia**
2. hypernatraemia
3. hypophosphataemia
4. **hypomagnesaemia** & dysrhythmias
5. **cerebral oedema** \* especially children

## ■ Causes of Death

- a. mortality ~ **5-10%**
- b. adults
  - i. precipitating cause - *sepsis*, AMI, CVA
  - ii. respiratory failure, aspiration pneumonitis, ARDS
  - iii. hypokalaemia
  - iv. vascular thrombosis
- c. children
  - i. cerebral oedema \* too rapid treatment  
- especially if BSL lowered to < 14 mmol/l
  - ii. hypokalaemia

## Euglycaemic Ketoacidosis

**Def'n:** ketoacidosis in a diabetic patient with euglycaemia or mild hyperglycaemia

- ~ 18% of diabetic emergencies
- occurs in young, known *type I diabetics*
- rapid onset, within hours
- clinical features include,
  1. present with *hyperventilation* but usually "look well"
  2. coma and dehydration are rare
  3. investigations
    - i. severe ketoacidosis
    - ii. relatively "normal" glucose  $\leq 20$  mmol/l
    - iii. osmolality only mildly elevated

## ■ Treatment

- a. IVT with normal saline, then 5% dextrose
- b. insulin in *normal doses*

**NB:** ?? absence of marked hyperglycaemia due only to rapid onset, normal kidneys and ECF volume, with subsequent glycosuria

## Hyperosmolar, Hyperglycaemic, Non-ketotic Coma

**Def'n:** hyperglycaemia & dehydration, *without* ketosis

hyperosmolarity  $\geq 320$  mosm/l  $\rightarrow$  **mortality ~ 50%** (40-70%)

**NB:** Osmolarity  $\sim (2 \times \text{Na}^+) + \text{glucose} + \text{urea}$

True  $\text{Na}^+$   $\sim \text{measured Na}^+ + [(\text{glucose} - 6)/3]$

### ■ Pathogenesis

1. insulin deficiency  $\rightarrow$  hyperglycaemia, but enough to **prevent ketosis**
2. impaired renal function  $\rightarrow$  exaggerating high glucose and hyperosmolality
3. fluid restriction  $\propto$  impaired thirst mechanism  
CNS disease or sedatives
4. osmolality  $\geq 350$  mosm/kg  $\rightarrow$  **coma**
  - correlation of osmolality & coma difficult due to variable contribution of urea
  - if **urea** is excluded, then **coma** generally occurs  $> 320$  mosmol/kg

### ■ Presentation

- a. precipitating event
  - infection
  - AMI, stroke
  - haemorrhage, trauma
- b. drugs
  - diphenylhydantoin, propranolol, immunosuppressants, thiazides, cimetidine
  - all impair insulin **secretion** or insulin **action**
- c. fever
  - with or without infection
- d. neurological
  - disorientation, tremors
  - seizures  $\sim 30\%$
  - coma  $\sim 50\%$
  - **seizure activity**
    - usually due to **cortical vein thrombosis**
    - rarely 2° hyperosmolality
- e. dehydration
  - $\sim 99\%$
  - + tachycardia, hypotension
  - + hyperventilation

**NB:** classically an elderly NIDDM patient with an intercurrent illness, clinical features relate to,

- i. hyperglycaemia - polyuria, polydipsia, hypotension
- ii. hypertonicity - confusion, disorientation, coma

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

Investigations <sup>1</sup>			
glucose	~ <b>50-60</b>	mmol/l	• ~ <b>2x</b> DKA
acetone (ketones)	~ 4-6	mmol/l	• normal or slightly elevated • equal to <i>fasting</i> levels
osmolality	~ <b>380</b>	mosm/l	• often > 50%
pH	~ 7.3-7.4		• normal or mild acidosis
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	~ 17-22	mmol/l	
Na <sup>+</sup>	~ 144	mmol/l	~ 160 mmol/l "corrected"
K <sup>+</sup>	~ 5	mmol/l	
urea	~ 10-15	mmol/l	→ <i>low</i> U:C ratio
creatinine	~ 0.4	mmol/l	
average fluid deficit	~ 10	litres	
DIC			• occasionally
<sup>1</sup> average values, Arieff 1972, HPIM 12 <sup>th</sup> Edition			

## ■ Treatment

- a. ABC
- b. expand ECF initially with N. saline, then 0.45% saline, according to CVP and U/O
  - Na<sup>+</sup> deficit ~ 400 mmol / H<sub>2</sub>O deficit ~ 4-18 l → ~ 60 mmol/l ideal
- c. infuse insulin at *slow rate* ~ **3-4 U/hr**
  - elderly are sensitive to insulin
  - a rapid fall in plasma glucose may result in *cerebral oedema*
  - ∴ aim to reduce
    - i. glucose: *rate* ≤ 3 mmol/l/hr  
*minimum* ≥ 10-15 mmol/l
    - ii. osmolality: rate ≤ 2 mosmol/kg/hr
- d. replace K<sup>+</sup> / Mg<sup>++</sup> / HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>
  - if plasma [K<sup>+</sup>] ~ 4-5 mmol/l → ~ 20 mmol/hr  
     < 4 mmol/l → ~ 40 mmol/hr
- e. low dose Heparin ??? anticoagulate
- f. investigate & treat cause

## ■ Causes of Death

- a. primary underlying disease
- b. cerebral infarction
  - thrombosis
  - haemorrhage
- c. cerebral oedema

## HYPOGLYCAEMIA

### ■ Clinical Features

1. **adrenergic** stimulation
  - ↑ HR, palpitations, diaphoresis
  - anxiety, tremor, irritability
  - hunger, nausea
  - symptoms may be absent in diabetics with severe **autonomic neuropathy**
  - also in patients on **β<sub>2</sub>-blockers** → ↓ glycogenolysis
2. **neuroglycopenia**
  - headache, blurred vision, paraesthesiae, weakness, confusion, dizziness, etc.
  - hemiplegia, seizures, coma
  - cerebral oedema & death

### ■ Investigation

1. fasting plasma glucose < **2.8 mmol/l** generally significant
2. insulin:glucose ratio < 50 normally
3. plasma C-peptide & pro-insulin
4. prolonged 72 hr fast
  - plasma obtained 6 hrly for first 24 hrs, then 4 hrly
  - plasma glucose, insulin & C-peptide levels
5. 6 hr glucose tolerance test

### ■ Management

1. dextrose 50% ~ 0.5 ml/kg
2. dextrose 20% ~ 50-100 ml/hr 10-20g/hr
3. **glucagon** ~ 0.5 mg IM/IV
  - standard dose of 1 mg → excessive rise in BSL and N&V

## Causes of Fasting Hypoglycaemia

### ■ Underproduction of Glucose

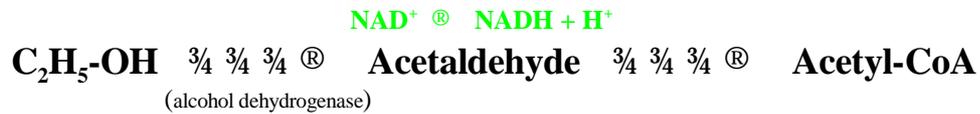
1. substrate deficiency
  - severe malnutrition, wasting
  - post-gastrectomy, gastroenterostomy
  - late pregnancy
  - ketotic hypoglycaemia of infancy
  - prematurity
2. enzyme deficiencies
  - G-6-phosphatase, F-1,6-diphosphatase
  - liver phosphorylase, glycogen synthase
  - pyruvate carboxylase
  - idiopathic leucine sensitivity
3. acquired liver dysfunction
  - severe hepatitis, FHF any cause
  - hepatic congestion, cirrhosis
  - uraemia (multiple mechanisms)
  - hypothermia
4. endocrine
  - hypopituitarism (ACTH, GH)
  - Addison's
  - glucagon deficiency
  - autonomic nervous dysfunction
  - hypothyroidism
5. drugs
  - alcohol
  - propranolol, salicylates

### ■ Overutilisation of Glucose

1. **hyperinsulinism**
  - i. islet cell tumours ~ 85% benign / ~ **15% malignant**
  - ii. exogenous insulin
  - iii. sulphonylureas
  - iv. infant of diabetic mother
  - v. immune disease with insulin and/or receptor Ab's
  - vi. drugs - quinine, disopyramide, pentamidine
  - vii. endotoxic shock
2. **normal insulinism**
  - i. factitious - leukocytosis
  - ii. tumours - adrenal cell carcinoma, ? carcinoid  
- Ca of stomach, hepatoma, fibrosarcoma
  - iii. systemic carnitine deficiency
  - iv. enzyme deficiencies - oxidation of fatty acids, 3-OH-3-MG-CoA lyase
  - v. cachexia with fat depletion

## Alcoholic Hypoglycaemic Ketoacidosis

- a disorder of CHO metabolism after heavy alcohol intake
- ethanol is metabolized by *alcohol dehydrogenase* to acetaldehyde and then to Acetyl-CoA
- results in reduction of  $\text{NAD}^+$  to NADH and increased  $\text{H}^+$



- glycolysis and gluconeogenesis are impaired because of the deficiency of  $\text{NAD}^+$
- regeneration of  $\text{NAD}^+$ , through complete metabolism of ETOH through the CAC would limit hepatic metabolism of alcohol
- *ketogenesis* allows continued ETOH metabolism close to the  $v_{\text{max}}$  of alcohol dehydrogenase
- *starvation* and lack of glucose intake are usually present
- hypoglycaemia stimulates *lipolysis*, which then results in both a *lactic acidosis & ketoacidosis*
- this may produce coma before, or after the blood alcohol returns to a low level
- the presentation therefore comprises,
  1. coma
  2. *hypoglycaemia*
  3. ketoacidosis
  4. lactic acidosis
- predisposition is predominantly from heavy alcohol intake, other factors frequently include,
  1. younger individuals
  2. exercise
  3. diabetes
  4. Addison's disease
  5. hypopituitarism
  6. hyperthyroidism

### ■ Treatment

- IV fluids (rehydrate)
- glucose
- thiamine*
  - required as cofactor for *pyruvate dehydrogenase*
  - when ketoacids fall, will require gluconeogenesis for brain

**NB:** insulin is *not* required & in fact *contraindicated*

## DIABETES INSIPIDUS

- suspected clinically with the presence of *polyuria & hypernatraemia*

Diagnostic Features			
Severe Forms			Mild Forms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• polyuria <math>\geq 200</math> ml/hr</li> <li>• hypotonic urine <math>\sim 1001-1005</math> SG</li> <li>• urine osmolality <math>\sim 50-200</math> mosm/kg</li> <li>• urine <math>[Na^+] &lt; 20</math> mmol/l</li> <li>• high serum osmolality &amp; raised <math>[Na^+]</math></li> <li>• unresponsive to <i>water deprivation</i></li> <li>• absence of hypervolaemia</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• polyuria</li> <li>• SG <math>&lt; 1020</math></li> <li>• urine <math>\leq 700</math> mosm/l</li> <li>• raised serum osmolality</li> </ul>

## Central DI

- a. *idiopathic* ~ 30%
- b. *traumatic* ~ 30%
  - CHI, neurosurgery
- c. ischaemia
  - i. hypoxic brain damage
  - ii. vascular lesions
    - post-partum necrosis
    - aneurysm
    - hyperviscosity syndrome
- d. infection - TB
- e. inflammatory - sarcoidosis
  - other granulomatous diseases
- f. neoplastic - 1° or 2°
  - commonly breast or lung

## Nephrogenic DI

- a. congenital / familial
  - *x-linked* recessive
  - variable expression in female carriers
- b. acute renal failure
  - i. post-obstructive renal disease
  - ii. recovery phase of ATN
  - iii. pyelonephritis
  - iv. post-transplantation
  - v. polycystic kidney disease
- c. drugs
  - methoxyflurane, enflurane, F<sup>-</sup> ion
  - diuretics, lithium
  - demeclocycline
- d. biochemical
  - i. hypercalcaemia
    - hyperparathyroidism, malignancy
  - ii. hypokalaemia
    - Conn's syndrome
    - Bartter's syndrome
    - chronic depletion
- e. systemic disease
  - amyloidosis
  - multiple myeloma
  - sickle cell disease
- f. ADH resistant DI of pregnancy
  - high *vasopressinase*

## Treatment

- a. fluid and electrolyte replacement
- b. ADH analogues
  - vasopressin (IV, SC, nasal)
  - DDAVP
- c. other drugs
  - thiazides
  - chlorpropamide, chlorthalidone

## HYDROGEN ION

**Def'n:** elemental gas, atomic number and molecular weight = 1.0

<b>Average Concentrations</b>			
arterial blood	~ 39	nmol/l	7.4
venous blood	~ 45	nmol/l	7.35
interstitial fluid	~ 45	nmol/l	7.35
CSF	~ 47	nmol/l	7.33
ICF	~ 100	nmol/l	7.0 range ~ 4.5-7.4
urine (maximal)	~ 30,000	nmol/l	4.5
<b>NB:</b> serum pH survival limits ~ 6.8-8.0			

### ■ Functions / Effects

1. sets intracellular  $H^+/OH^-$  ratio for optimal **enzyme function**
  - protein & amino-acid ionisation status
2. product/substrate in many reactions
  - usually involve  $NAD^+/NADP^+$
  - important by-product of anaerobic metabolism
3. influences  $O_2$  supply to tissues
  - increases respiration
  - shifts  $HbO_2$  dissociation curve to the right \*acutely
  - regional control of blood flow
4. **digestion** of foodstuffs in the stomach
5. alters binding sites on proteins, especially albumin
6. affects myocardial contractility
7. influences  $K^+$  &  $Ca^{++}$  homeostasis & plasma levels

## ■ Sources of Acid

1.  $\text{CO}_2$  ~ 12,500 mmol/d
2. lactate ~ 1,500 mmol/d
3.  $\text{HSO}_4^-$  ~ 45 mmol/d
4.  $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$  ~ 13 mmol/d
5. other acids ~ 12 mmol/d
6. organic acids in disease, eg. ketoacids
7. alkalinising salts -  $\text{K}^+$ , lactate, acetate, citrate (little importance)

## ■ Body Response to Acid

- a. **dilution** - weak
- b. **buffering**
  - i. extracellular -  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ , protein (Hb, alb),  $\text{HPO}_4^{=}$
  - ii. intracellular
 

~ 140 mmol/l	$\text{HPO}_4^{=}$
~ 30 mmol/l	protein
~ 10 mmol/l	$\text{HCO}_3^-$

buffers ~ 90% of respiratory disorders  
~ 60% of metabolic acidosis  
~ 30% of metabolic alkalosis
  - iii. renal
    - $\text{NH}_3$  - conversion of glutamate ~ 60%, free  $\text{NH}_3$  35%, leucine et al 5%
    - other - creatinine,  $\text{HPO}_4^{=}$ ,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$
- c. **exchange** - bone ( $\text{Ca}^{++}$ ) / ICF ions ( $\text{K}^+$ )  
- PTH may play a role → phosphaturia &  $\text{H}^+$  loss
- d. **renal acid excretion** ~ 70 mmol/day
  - i. free  $\text{H}^+$  ~ 40  $\mu\text{mol/l}$  (pH ~ 7.4)
  - ii.  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  reabsorption ~ 4,300 mmol/day
  - iii.  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ~ 30 mmol/day (max ~ 500 mmol/d)
  - iv.  $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4^-$  ~ 20-40 mmol/d (max ~ 40 mmol/d)
  - v. PT ~ 200 mmol/hr
    - influenced by ICF acidosis,  $\text{P}_{\text{aCO}_2}$ , hypokalaemia, luminal pH, functional ECF, reabsorbable anion ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ), carbonic anhydrase activity, PTH
  - vi. DT ~ 30 mmol/hr → pH ~ 4.5
    - influenced by **mineralocorticoid** activity
    - also ICF acidosis ( $\text{P}_{\text{aCO}_2}$ ), hypokalaemia & luminal pH
- e. **pulmonary  $\text{CO}_2$  excretion** ~ 288 l/day  
~ 12,800 mmol  $\text{H}^+$ /day

## Anion Gap

**Def'n:** =  $[\text{Na}^+ + \text{K}^+] - [\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-]$

~ 12-17 mmol/l

Unmeasured cations			Unmeasured anions		
Mg <sup>++</sup>	~ 1.2	mmol/l	albumin	~ 15	mEq/l
Ca <sup>++</sup>	~ 2.2	mmol/l	H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	~ 2	mEq/l
IgG	small		HSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	~ 1	mEq/l
			organic	~ 5	mEq/l
	~ 7.0	mEq/l		~ 23	mEq/l

- **organic anions** include lactate, pyruvate, β-OH-B, acetoacetate, formate, oxalate, salicylate
- aetiology of **large anion gap** includes,

- renal failure - H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>  
\* rarely > 23
- lactic acidosis - types A&B
- ketoacids - diabetes mellitus, starvation, alcohol  
- β-OH-butyrate, acetoacetate
- rhabdomyolysis - organic acids
- drugs
  - aspirin - salicylate, lactate, ketones
  - ethanol - acetoacetate, lactate
  - methanol - formate (**formaldehyde**), lactate
  - paraldehyde - formate, acetate, lactate, pyruvate
  - ethylene glycol - oxalate
  - xylitol, sorbitol - lactate
  - fructose - lactate

**NB:** a normal anion gap **does not** exclude a lactic acidosis

- a low or normal anion gap is typically seen with,
  - hyperchloraemic metabolic acidosis
  - metabolic alkalosis due to HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> gain
  - hypoalbuminaemia
  - myeloma** - IgG has positive charge, ∴ ↓'s AG
  - rarely with increased Mg<sup>++</sup> or Ca<sup>++</sup>
  - artefactually elevated Cl<sup>-</sup> ? hyperlipidaemia

## Acid-Base Correction Factors

a. *metabolic acidosis*

- i.  $P_{aCO_2} \sim$  last two digits of pH  $\sim$  **7.10**
- ii.  $\downarrow HCO_3^- \sim 10$  mmol/l  $\rightarrow \downarrow P_{aCO_2} \sim$  **12 mmHg**
- iii.  $P_{aCO_2} \sim 1.5 \times [HCO_3^-] + 8 \pm 2$  mmHg M&K

b. *metabolic alkalosis*

- i.  $P_{aCO_2} \sim$  last two digits of pH  $\sim$  **7.60**
- ii.  $\uparrow HCO_3^- \sim 10$  mmol/l  $\rightarrow \uparrow P_{aCO_2} \sim$  **7 mmHg**
- iii. less well compensated due to hypoxia 2° hypoventilation

c. *respiratory acidosis*

- i. *acute*  $\uparrow P_{aCO_2} \sim 10$  mmHg  $\rightarrow \uparrow HCO_3^- \sim$  **1-2 mmol/l**
- ii. *chronic*  $\uparrow P_{aCO_2} \sim 10$  mmHg  $\rightarrow \uparrow HCO_3^- \sim$  **4 mmol/l**

d. *respiratory alkalosis*

- i. *acute, or*
- ii. *chronic*  $\downarrow P_{aCO_2} \sim 10$  mmHg  $\rightarrow \downarrow HCO_3^- \sim$  **2.5 mmol/l**  
 ?? 10:4 for chronic fall

**NB:** low  $P_{aCO_2}$  + normal  $\delta P_{A-aO_2}$  = central hyperventilation

low  $P_{aCO_2}$  + high  $\delta P_{A-aO_2}$  = probable pulmonary disease

## Metabolic Acidosis - Aetiology

### ■ Increased Non-Respiratory Acids

#### 1. *increased intake*

##### i. anion gap > 18

- salicylates → salicylate, lactate, ketoacids
- ethanol → acetoacetate, lactate
- methanol → **formate**, lactate
- paraldehyde → **formate**, acetate, lactate
- xylitol, fructose, sorbitol → lactate
- ethylene glycol → oxalate
- NB: rationale for administration of **ethanol** for methanol toxicity is competition for alcohol dehydrogenase & ↓ production of **formate**

##### ii. anion gap < 18

- always due to accumulation of HCl
  - ie. Cl<sup>-</sup> accumulates as HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> falls → **hyperchloraemic**
- usually **hyperkalaemic**
- cationic amino acids → Arginine & Lysine HCl
- ammonium chloride → urea & HCl in the liver
- in liver failure → hyperammonaemia
- IV HCl used to sterilise central lines

#### 2. *increased production* → anion gap > 18

##### i. ketoacidosis

- diabetic ketoacidosis
- alcoholic ketoacidosis
- starvation

##### ii. lactic acidosis \*types A&B ± normal anion gap

- cardiorespiratory failure
- sepsis, major trauma
- toxins, drugs - eg. phenformin, cyanide, salicylate
- enzyme defects
- vitamin deficiency

#### 3. *decreased excretion* → anion gap <> 18

##### i. renal failure with retention of SO<sub>4</sub>/HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup> acids

##### ii. mineralocorticoid deficiency

##### iii. "potassium sparing" diuretics

**NB:** effectively, any decreased renal H<sup>+</sup> excretion → ↑ HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> loss

## ■ Decreased Bases

1. **increased renal losses** \*normal anion gap /  $\uparrow$  Cl<sup>-</sup>
  - i. carbonic anhydrase inhibitors
  - ii. renal tubular acidosis
    - proximal  $\rightarrow$  equilibrium, **no** R<sub>x</sub> with HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
    - distal  $\rightarrow$  requires R<sub>x</sub> with HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
  - iii. early uraemia
2. **increased GIT losses**
  - i. diarrhoea
  - ii. SI fistulae
  - iii. ureterosigmoidoscopy

## ■ Dilutional Acidosis

- if large volumes of low HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> fluids are given a metabolic acidosis will appear
- this is due to the fact that CO<sub>2</sub> readily diffuses into the solution which then attains a pH ~ 4.9
- it then takes the addition of ~ 24 mmol/l of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> to raise the pH to 7.4
- Hartman's solution was designed with this in mind, containing 28 mmol/l of **sodium lactate**, which is metabolised in the liver to HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
- when hepatic blood flow is low and metabolism slow, the plasma lactate level may rise, however lactate itself is **not toxic**

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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■ **Blood Gases**

$\uparrow [H^+]$  , or  $\downarrow [HCO_3^-]$   $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  plasma  $[HCO_3^-]$   $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow P_{aCO_2}$  by dissociation

$\downarrow$  **ratio** of  $[HCO_3^-] / P_{aCO_2}$   $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  pH

	Acute	Chronic
pH	decreased	$\leq 7.4$
$P_{aO_2}$	normal	normal
$P_{aCO_2}$	normal	decreases*
$HCO_3^-$	decreased	$\pm$ decreased
BE.	negative	negative
*12 mmHg/10 mmol $[HCO_3^-]_{pl}$		

**NB:**  $P_{aCO_2}$   $\sim$  last two digits of pH  $\geq 7.10$

$\sim 1.5 \times [HCO_3^-] + 8$

$\downarrow HCO_3^- \sim 10$  mmol/l  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow P_{aCO_2} \sim 12$  mmHg

- decreased pH stimulates ventilation, predominantly via **peripheral chemoreceptors**, decreasing  $P_{aCO_2}$  and compensating the acidosis
- remember  $P_{aCO_2}$  & intracellular pH are the principal stimuli to distal renal excretion of acid
- the kidney increases excretion of titratable acid **despite** the decrease in  $P_{aCO_2}$
- this occurs as the **filtered load** of  $HCO_3^-$  decreases to a greater extent than the reduction in distal tubular  $H^+$  secretion

$\rightarrow$  more  $H^+$  is available for titration against  $NH_3$  and  $HPO_4^{=}$

- the decreased plasma  $[HCO_3^-]$  shows as a **base deficit**

## ■ Treatment

- a. treatment of the *causative factor*
- b. NaCl 0.9%
  - assuming normal renal function
  - if the acidaemia is not affecting cardiac function, giving NaCl will allow the kidney to excrete HCl
- c. Na-Bicarbonate 8.4%
  - *no* studies demonstrate a benefit in outcome, most show deleterious effects
  - 100 mmol produces 2.24l of CO<sub>2</sub> → P<sub>aCO2</sub> will rise if ventilation is fixed
  - is only the R<sub>x</sub> of choice where the origin of the acidaemia is *bicarbonate loss*
  - the dose of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> is usually calculated on the empirical assumption that the ion has a V<sub>dss</sub> ~ 50% of body weight
  - this takes into account diverse buffer reactions in both ECF & ICF
  - initial correction should be < ½ this amount as the initial action is in the ECF
  - M&K state that this assumption is *inaccurate* at low plasma [HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>] levels
  - the AHA recommendations for administration include
    - i. CPR > 10 minutes
    - ii. an increase in V<sub>M</sub> possible (ie. ventilated)
    - iii. AGA's → pH < 7.2
    - iv. R<sub>x</sub> ~ 1 mmol/kg slowly IV
- d. dialysis

## Bicarbonate Administration

**NB:** "unanimous feeling that the routine administration of bicarbonate was counterproductive" AHA ( JAMA 1986)

- **no** studies demonstrate a benefit in **outcome**, most show deleterious effects
- 100 mmol of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  produces 2.24l of  $\text{CO}_2$ , therefore the  $\text{P}_{\text{aCO}_2}$  will rise if ventilation is fixed
- **respiratory acidosis** has a greater negative inotropic effect cf. metabolic acidosis
- $\text{HCO}_3^-$  does not,
  1. improve the ability to **defibrillate** the heart, or
  2. increase response to **circulating catecholamines**
- is only the  $\text{R}_x$  of choice where the origin of the acidaemia is loss of bicarbonate
- the dose is calculated on the empirical assumption that the ion has a  $\text{V}_D \sim 50\%$  of body weight
- this takes into account diverse buffer reactions in both ECF & ICF
- initial correction should be aimed at  $\leq 1/2$  this amount as the initial action is in the ECF
- the AHA recommendations for administration include,
  1. CPR > 10 minutes
  2. when an increase in  $\text{V}_M$  is possible - ie. ventilated
  3. AGA's  $\rightarrow \text{pH} < 7.0$
  4.  $\text{R}_x \leq 1$  mmol/kg slowly IV
  5. VF associated with,
    - i. TCA overdosage
    - ii. hyperkalaemia
  6. cardiac arrest in children
- problems associated with administration include,
  1. paradoxical **ICF acidosis** \*significance argued by M&K
  2. may produce an **ECF alkalosis**
    - i. shifts the  $\text{HbO}_2$  curve to the left, decreasing  $\text{O}_2$  availability at a cellular level
    - ii. shifts  $\text{K}^+$  into cells and may result in,
      - **hypokalaemia** & cardiotoxicity in  $\text{K}^+$ -depleted patients
      - **tetany** in renal failure or  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  depletion
  3. **hyperosmolality**
    - the solution is 1M, ie. 50 ml = 50 mmol
    - the excessive  $\text{Na}^+$  load may result in cardiovascular decompensation  $\pm$  CCF
  4. CSF equilibrates slowly with  $[\text{HCO}_3^-]_{\text{pl}}$ , therefore ventilation may be maintained despite the increase in  $[\text{HCO}_3^-]_{\text{pl}}$ , resulting in a **respiratory alkalosis**
  5. where the acidaemia is due to organic acids, the subsequent metabolism of such acids and regeneration of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  will produce a **metabolic alkalosis**

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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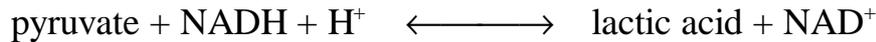
■ Bicarbonate - Clinical Uses

- a. treatment of *hyperkalaemia*
  - i.  $K^+ \geq 6.0$  mmol/l
  - ii. widened QRS / P wave loss
  - iii. respiratory insufficiency
- b. treatment of arrhythmias in *tricyclic overdose*
- c. alkalinising the urine
  - i. drug overdose - phenobarb, salicylates
  - ii. rhabdomyolysis
- d. treatment of  $HCO_3^-$  losing acidosis
- e. ? treatment of severe persistent acidosis, pH < 7.0
  - lactic acidosis
  - prolonged severe ketoacidosis
  - neonatal cardiorespiratory failure + severe acidosis
  - \* no proven benefit, probably harmful

**NB:** non-CO<sub>2</sub> producing agents - carbicarb, THAM, dichloroacetate  
 studies show *no* significant benefit in *outcome*

Body Fluids							
	Vol/day	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	IVT	+ KCl
Plasma		136-144	3.5-5.0	95-110	25		
Gastric	1-5 l	30-120	10-15	140	(pH=1.5)	N.Sal	~ 20-50
Bile	< 1000 ml	145	5	100	35-70	Hart	20
Pancreas	< 1000 ml	140	5	60	90	Hart	20
SI	1-3 l	120	5-10	105	25	Hart	20
LI	100-500 ml	< 80	20-40	< 50	< 45	Hart	20-50
Sweat	~ 400 ml	50	5-10	45		D <sub>4</sub> W-N/5	20

## Lactic Acidosis



- NAD<sup>+</sup> is necessary for the conversion of phosphoglyceraldehyde to 3-phosphoglycerate
- traditional teaching is that under *anaerobic* conditions, this NAD<sup>+</sup> is supplied by the above reaction, allowing glycolysis to continue
- actually, the 'reverse' events predominate,

1. the production of *lactate*  $\propto K_A' \cdot [\text{Pyruvate}] \cdot [\text{H}^+] \cdot [\text{NADH}] / [\text{NAD}^+]$
2. continued anaerobic glycolysis increases both *pyruvate* & NADH:NAD<sup>+</sup>
  - the former is the principal driving force for lactate production
  - a low pH and redox state alone will only marginally increase production
  - however, when present with a raised [pyruvate] produce marked increases
  - production of pyruvate also produces H<sup>+</sup> by,  $\text{PGA} \rightarrow 3\text{PG}$
  - NB: alcohol metabolism reduces NAD<sup>+</sup>:NADH ratio  $\rightarrow \uparrow$  lactate

- normal plasma lactate level at rest,

- a. venous  $\sim 0.3\text{-}1.3$  mmol/l
- b. *arterial*  $\sim 0.3\text{-}0.8$  mmol/l

- normal *lactate:pyruvate ratio*  $\sim 10:1$  (pyruvate  $\sim 0.03\text{-}0.1$  mmol/l)  
 $\rightarrow$  estimate of cytoplasmic redox state

- however, this may not be the same as the mitochondrial redox state

- therefore, lactate production will *increase* with,

- a. high pyruvate production
  - high BMR
  - exercise, catecholamines
  - stress, trauma
  - asthma
- b. intracellular acidosis
  - eg. ischaemia, hypoxaemia
- c. high NADH:NAD<sup>+</sup> ratio
  - intracellular hypoxia
  - mitochondrial dysfunction
  - alcohol excess
- d. low uptake & metabolism
  - liver disease
  - circulatory failure
  - thiamine deficiency (PDH cofactor)

**NB:** the significance of this is that the *plasma lactate* level correlates with disease severity and *mortality*

- daily production  $\sim 1400$  mmol
- the major sites are the GIT and skeletal muscle

- *lactate* is metabolised in the,
  - a. liver ~ 50-80% (Cori cycle)
  - b. kidneys ? %
  - c. heart
  - d. muscle
- lactic acidosis may mask a small *ketoacidosis* in the presence of a low redox state
  - more  $\beta$ -(OH)-butyrate & less acetoacetate
- the  $\beta$ -OB:AA ratio is normally ~ 2-3:1, but may be as high as 7-8:1 in lactic acidosis
- $\beta$ -OB is not measured by ketone tests,  $\therefore$  plasma ketone estimations will be artefactually low

## ■ Laboratory Findings

**Def'n:** plasma lactate  $\geq$  5 mmol/l

1. pH  $\leq$  7.25
2.  $\pm$  high *anion gap* ( $>$  16) ~ 100% if lactate  $>$  10 mmol/l  
~ 50% if lactate 5-10 mmol/l
3. hyperphosphataemia - unreplenished ATP  $\rightarrow$  ADP
4. hyperuricaemia - competition at PT of nephron
5. *normokalaemia* - lactate enters cells
6. leukocytosis - WBC demargination  $\propto$  catecholamines

**NB:** the AG may be normal with a mild lactic acidosis

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Type A      Imbalance of Oxygen Supply/Demand

1. hypermetabolic states
  - extreme exercise, seizures
  - sepsis, trauma
  - MH, MNS
  - catecholamines, theophylline, amphetamines
2. impaired tissue DO<sub>2</sub>
  - i. respiratory
    - low F<sub>I</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, hypoventilation
    - lung disease, V/Q abnormality/shunt
  - ii. CVS
    - hypovolaemia, cardiogenic shock
    - thromboembolism, other embolism
  - iii. vascular
    - vasodilators
    - sepsis
    - spinal shock
    - anaphylaxis
  - iv. haemopoietic
    - severe anaemia
    - methaemoglobinaemia
    - haemoglobinopathies

## ■ Type B      Cellular Metabolic Block

1. common disorders
  - i. diabetes
    - insulin regulates *pyruvate dehydrogenase*
    - catabolism increases [alanine] → ↑ pyruvate
  - ii. liver failure
  - iii. renal failure
  - iv. neoplasia
    - leukaemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's, oat cell Ca
    - overproduction, liver infiltration
    - inhibition of metabolism by metabolites of tryptophan
2. drug induced
  - phenformin, metformin
  - fructose
  - ethanol, methanol, sorbitol, xylol
  - salicylates
  - cyanide
3. enzyme deficiency
  - G6PD
  - F-1,6-diphosphatase deficiency
  - pyruvate decarboxylase
  - pyruvate dehydrogenase
  - thiamine deficiency
4. other
  - septicaemia
  - pancreatitis
  - *d*-lactic acidosis (infusions, short gut syndrome)

## Ketoacidosis

### ▪ Ketone Bodies

- in many tissues *acetyl-CoA* molecules condense to form *acetoacetyl-CoA*
- the liver possesses *deacylase* and free *acetoacetate* is formed
- this  $\beta$ -keto acid is then converted to *b-hydroxybutyrate* and *acetone*
- these two are metabolised poorly and diffuse into the circulation
- together with acetoacetate  $\rightarrow$  *ketone bodies*
  
- *acetoacetate* is also formed from  $\beta$ -hydroxy- $\beta$ -methylglutaryl-CoA (**HMG-CoA**) and this is quantitatively more significant
- tissues *other* than the liver transfer CoA from succinyl-CoA to acetoacetate and metabolise the "active" acetoacetate to  $\text{CO}_2$  &  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  via the citric acid cycle
- ketones are normally metabolised as rapidly as they are formed
- therefore, normal serum concentrations are low **£ 1 mg/dl**
- *acetyl-CoA* accumulates and conversion to ketone bodies in the liver increases if,
  1. the entry of acetyl-CoA into the CAC is depressed due to a decreased supply of the products of glucose metabolism, or
  2. the entry does not increase when acetyl-CoA concentrations rise
  
- the capacity of tissues to oxidise ketones is soon exceeded  $\rightarrow$  ketosis
- acetoacetate &  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate are anions of moderately strong acids and their buffering in plasma is exceeded in a number of conditions resulting in a metabolic acidosis
- 3 conditions lead to deficient *intracellular glucose* supplies,
  1. starvation
  2. diabetes mellitus
  3. a high fat :: low CHO diet
  
- other causes of *ketoacidosis*,
  1. ethanol, isopropyl alcohol - usually associated with glucose deficiency
  2. paraldehyde
  3. von Gierke's disease  $\rightarrow$  G-6-phosphatase deficiency  
 $\rightarrow$  hypoglycaemia, hepatomegaly
    - this usually produces a *lactic* acidosis
    - this is due to the absence of a significant path for the conversion of fat to glucose
    - small amounts of glucose will abolish this ketosis and glucose is antiketogenic

## Metabolic Alkalosis

### ■ Aetiology

**NB:** commonly associated with *hypovolaemia* and/or *hypokalaemia*

\*these are associations, **not** 'causations'

- a. common causes
  - i. diuretics
  - ii. vomiting
  - iii. following correction of hypercarbia
- b. any *fluid loss* replaced with *insufficient*  $\text{Na}^+$   $\rightarrow$   $\text{H}^+$  excretion
- c. *acid loss* is either renal or GIT
- d. **increased proton losses**
  - i. renal
    - $\uparrow$   $\text{Na}^+$  reabsorption (hypovolaemia, dehydration, etc.)
    - Cushing's syndrome, exogenous steroids
    - steroid / ACTH secreting tumours
    - hyperaldosteronism 1° / 2°
    - Bartter's syndrome (JGA hyperplasia)
    - Liddle's syndrome
    - hypercalcaemia / hypomagnesaemia  $\rightarrow$  NDI
    - drugs: steroids
    - diuretics
    - carbenoxolone
  - ii. GIT
    - N/G suctioning
    - protracted vomiting
    - rarely diarrhoea
- e. **increased bases**
  - i. administration of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$
  - ii. metabolic conversion of exogenous acid anions - citrate, lactate, acetate
  - iii. milk/alkali syndrome
  - iv. renal conservation of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ 
    - acidosis
    - hypercarbia
- f. factors tending to **maintain** an alkalosis
  - i. hypovolaemia
  - ii. hypokalaemia
  - iii. hypochloraemia
  - iv. hypomagnesaemia
  - v. chronic hypercapnia
  - vi. mild chronic renal failure

■ Chloride Responsiveness

1. chloride *responsive* alkalosis → ECF Na<sup>+</sup> or Cl<sup>-</sup> deficit
2. chloride *resistant* alkalosis →
  - i. ICF hypokalaemia and acidosis
  - ii. ECF alkalosis with normovolaemia & Cl<sup>-</sup>
  - iii. renal failure

■ Blood Gasses

$\downarrow [H^+]$  , or  $\uparrow [HCO_3^-]$  →  $\uparrow$  plasma  $[HCO_3^-]$  →  $\uparrow P_{aCO_2}$   
 $\uparrow$  *ratio* of  $[HCO_3^-] / P_{aCO_2}$  →  $\uparrow$  pH

	Acute	Chronic
pH	increased	> 7.4
P <sub>aO2</sub>	normal	normal ± low
P <sub>aCO2</sub>	normal	increases <sup>1</sup>
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	increased	increased
BE.	positive	positive
<sup>1</sup> minimally due hypoxic drive		

**NB:** P<sub>aCO2</sub> ~ last two digits of pH ≤ 7.60

$\uparrow HCO_3^- \sim 10 \text{ mmol/l} \rightarrow \uparrow P_{aCO_2} \sim 7 \text{ mmHg}$

\*\* this is the least well compensated form of acid-base disturbance

■ Hypokalaemia & Alkalosis

• Maxwell & Kleeman, mechanisms resulting in *hyperbicarbonataemia*,

1. enhanced proximal tubular HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> reabsorption
2. increased renal tubular ammonia synthesis & ammonium formation
3. chloride depletion - DT inhibition, nephrogenic DI  
→ ↑ aldosteronism
4. ICF flux of H<sup>+</sup> in exchange for ECF K<sup>+</sup>

• other workers feel the evidence relating these is weak, and effects are species dependent  
 • in the presence of *normovolaemia* these effects are mild, however with volume contraction marked alkalosis can result

## ■ Other Alkaloses

1. **diuretic** induced alkalosis
  - the result of **chloride deficiency** and is corrected by replacement
  - the body defends ECF volume by  $\text{Na}^+$  retention but if  $\text{Cl}^-$  is deficient then only  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  is available to maintain electroneutrality
2. **steroid** induced alkalosis
  - the result of increased DT exchange of  $\text{Na}^+$  for  $\text{K}^+$  &  $\text{H}^+$
  - this leads to ECF overload, hypokalaemia and alkalosis
  - chloride replacement does **not** correct this condition as the normal mechanisms for the excretion of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  are inhibited
3. **hypercalcaemia** probably acts via the same mechanism
  - nephrogenic DI & chloride depletion
4. **hypomagnesaemia** may only be associated, eg. thiazides

## ■ Treatment

- a. treat the causative factor
- b. prevent tubular (PCT) loss of  $\text{H}^+$  → increase **functional ECF**
  - i.  $\text{NaCl}$  0.9% ±  $\text{KCl}$
  - ii. NSA-5%, albumin or blood transfusion
  - iii. inotropic support of cardiac output and GFR
  - iv. acetazolamide
- c. prevent DCT loss of  $\text{H}^+$ 
  - i. replace  $\text{K}^+$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  deficits
  - ii. inhibit aldosterone effects with **spironolactone**
  - iii. triamterene, amiloride
- d. addition of  $\text{HCl}$  to ECF
  - i. IV  $\text{HCl}$  infusion
    - ~ 200 mmol/l  $\text{D}_5\text{W}$
    - ~ 10-15 mmol/hr
  - ii.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ 
    - weak acid,  $\text{pK}_a \sim 9.3$
    - doesn't alter pH rapidly or require CVC line
    - $\text{NH}_4^+$  dissociates and is metabolised to urea
    - $\text{H}^+$  thus formed correcting the alkalosis
  - iii. arginine-HCl, lysine-HCl
    - also metabolised to urea and  $\text{HCl}$  by liver

## Hydrochloric Acid Infusion

- CVC infusion of HCl,
  - a. concentration ~ 120-240 mmol/l
  - b. *rate* £ **0.2 mmol/kg/hr**
- complications of infusion include,
  - a. haemolysis
  - b. thrombophlebitis
  - c. reduction in some amino acids
  - d. precipitation of intralipid
  - e. tissue necrosis
  - f. hyperventilation and hypocapnia at > 400 mmol/day
  - g. metabolic, non-anion gap acidosis
- indications include,
  - a. persistent metabolic alkalosis
  - b. ? CVC infection
  - c. ? CVC thrombosis
- requisites for infusion include prior correction of,
  - a. hypovolaemia
  - b. hypokalaemia
  - c. steroid excess
  - d. renal failure



### ■ Effects of Hypocapnia

1. cerebral vasoconstriction
2. placental vasoconstriction
3.  $\uparrow$  TPR
4.  $\downarrow$  cardiac output
5.  $\downarrow$  ICP
6.  $\uparrow$  pain threshold
7. hypoventilation
8. respiratory alkalosis
9. **left shift** of the HbO<sub>2</sub> dissociation curve
10. hypokalaemia  $\rightarrow$  ICF shift
11.  $\downarrow$  HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> reabsorption by the kidney
12.  $\downarrow$  plasma ionized Ca<sup>++</sup>  $\rightarrow$  tetany

### ■ Effects of Hypercapnia

1. cerebral vasodilatation
2.  $\uparrow$  ICP
3.  $\uparrow$  CNS sympathetic outflow
4.  $\uparrow$  cardiac output & BP - indirect effect
5. direct depressant effect upon the CVS
6. cardiac arrhythmias
7. hyperventilation
8. respiratory acidosis
9. **right shift** of the HbO<sub>2</sub> dissociation curve
10. hyperkalaemia
11.  $\uparrow$  HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> reabsorption by the kidney

## Respiratory Alkalosis

- a. normal  $\delta P_{A-aO_2}$  gradient = *non-pulmonary*
  - i. physiological
    - pregnancy
    - high altitude
  - ii. drugs
    - salicylates
    - catecholamines
    - progesterone
    - analeptics
  - iii. CNS disease
    - CVA, trauma, hypoxic/ischaemic encephalopathy
  - iv. thyrotoxicosis
  - v. endotoxaemia
  - vi. psychogenic hyperventilation
  - vii. severe anaemia
  - viii. IPPV
  
- b. high  $\delta P_{A-aO_2}$  gradient = *pulmonary*
  - i. ARDS, septicaemia
  - ii. hepatic failure
  - iii. pulmonary emboli
  - iv. pulmonary oedema
  - v. lung disease + increased work of breathing
    - asthma, emphysema

## SODIUM METABOLISM

- a. alkaline elemental metal
  - b. atomic number = 11
  - c. molecular weight ~ 23
  - d. monovalent cation = the principal *extracellular cation*
- total body content ~ **58 mmol/kg**
    - a. exchangeable ~ 70%
    - b. ECF ~ 50%
    - c. ICF ~ 5-10%
    - d. bone ~ 40-45%
  - concentration ranges vary between tissues,
    - a. plasma ~ 132-146 mmol/l
    - b. ICF ~ 3-20 mmol/l
      - muscle ~ 3-4 mmol/l
      - rbc ~ 20 mmol/l
  - daily requirements ~ **2 mmol/kg/d** (150 mmol/d)
  - minimum requirement ~ 5-10 mmol/d

## Control of Sodium Balance

1. *intake* - essentially unregulated in humans
2. *losses*
  - i. *renal*
    - $\delta$ GFR - MAP, sympathetic NS
    - GTB, TGF, intrarenal PG synthesis, angiotensin II, kinins
    - aldosterone - angiotensin II, hyperkalaemia, ACTH  
± hyponatraemia
    - ANF  $\propto$  atrial stretch, CVP
  - ii. *GIT*
    - normal losses ~ 5-10 mmol/d
    - can markedly increase in disease states, eg. the secretory diarrhoeas (cholera)
  - iii. *sweat*
    - insensible fluid losses are pure H<sub>2</sub>O ~ 400 ml/d
    - [Na<sup>+</sup>]<sub>sw</sub> is directly proportional to rate

**NB:** control of Na<sup>+</sup> excretion is via two variables, *GFR* and *sodium reabsorption*, the later being quantitatively more important

## Control of Tubular Sodium Reabsorption

- a. **glomerulotubular balance**
  - the absolute quantity of  $\text{Na}^+$  leaving the PT **does** alter
  - GTB is not perfect, % reabsorption does change with GFR
- b. **tubuloglomerular feedback**
  - alteration of GFR with NaCl delivery to macula densa
- c. **aldosterone**
  - the single most important controller of  $\text{Na}^+$  balance
  - produced in the zona glomerulosa of the adrenal cortex
  - $\text{Na}^+$  reabsorption dependent on aldosterone is ~ **2%** of the filtered load
    - ~ **522 mmol/d**
    - ~ **30 g NaCl per day**
  - four factors directly stimulate aldosterone secretion
    - i. **angiotensin II** - most important\*
    - ii.  $\uparrow$  plasma  $[\text{K}^+]$
    - iii. ACTH - permissive
    - iv.  $\downarrow$  plasma  $[\text{Na}^+]$  - minor in humans
  - \* keyed to release of **renin** which is determined by
    - i. intrarenal baroreceptors stimulation
    - ii. macula densa
    - iii. renal sympathetic NS
    - iv. angiotensin II - negative feedback
- d. **atrial natriuretic factor**
  - i.  $\uparrow$  GFR::RBF
    - efferent vasoconstriction
    - afferent vasodilatation
  - ii.  $\uparrow$   $K_f$
  - iii.  $\uparrow$  MBF::CBF ratio
  - iv.  $\downarrow$  plasma **renin** - direct & indirect
  - v.  $\downarrow$  plasma **aldosterone** - direct & indirect
  - vi.  $\uparrow$  urinary excretion of
    - $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{K}^+$
    - $\text{Ca}^{++}$ ,  $\text{HPO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{++}$
  - vii.  $\uparrow$  urine volume
  - viii. systemic vasodilation

- e. other factors
  - i. intrarenal physical factors
    - the interstitial *hydraulic pressure*
    - the peritubular hydraulic and *oncotic pressures*
  - ii. distribution of RBF
  - iii. direct tubular effects of *catecholamines*
  - iv. direct tubular effects of *angiotensin II*
  - v. other humoral agents
    - cortisol, oestrogen, growth hormone & insulin → ↑ reabsorption
    - parathyroid hormone, progesterone & glucagon → ↓ reabsorption
- f. *effects of angiotensin II*
  - i. vascular smooth muscle - ↑ tone
  - ii. CNS/PNS
    - facilitation of sympathetic activity
    - stimulates secretion of *ADH*
    - stimulates *thirst*
  - iii. adrenal cortex - ↑ secretion of *aldosterone*
  - iv. kidneys
    - aa. constriction decreasing GFR but ↑ *GRF:RPF ratio*
    - direct tubular effect increasing Na<sup>+</sup> reabsorption

## Hyponatraemia

**Def'n:** plasma  $\text{Na}^+$  < **135 mmol/l**

- determined by TBW,  $\text{TBNa}^+$ , and  $\text{TBK}^+$
- ie. this is a whole body water derrangement
- more commonly **water excess**, less often  $\text{Na}^+$  deficit

a. **iso-osmotic** → **factitious**

- hyperlipidaemia - usually only when plasma TG's > 50 mmol/l
- hyperproteinaemia - multiple myeloma
- IVT arm sample

- plasma water ~ 93% of plasma volume, ∴ increases in **plasma solids** will lower  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}}$  factitiously when **flame emission & indirect ISE** methods are used
- **osmolality** is unaffected, thus **no**  $R_x$  required
- actual  $[\text{Na}^+] = [\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}} \times (\text{measured osmolality}) / (\text{calculated osmolality})$

b. **hyper-osmotic** → - **osmolar gap**

- hyperglycaemia ↓  $[\text{Na}^+] \sim 1 \text{ mmol} / 3 \text{ mmol} \uparrow \text{BSL}$
- mannitol, glycine, glycerol ? ± urea
  - depending upon the concentration used, these may be iso-osmotic
- other solutes not entering cells
  - water is drawn into the ECF from the ICF
  - total body  $\text{Na}^+$  may be normal or depleted

c. **hypo-osmotic**

- hypovolaemic** → persistent ADH effect & fluid replacement deficient in  $\text{Na}^+$ 
  - extrarenal losses - GIT, vomiting/diarrhoea - 3<sup>rd</sup> space
  - renal losses - diuretics, osmotic diuresis - salt losing nephritis - Addison's disease - heparin (aldosterone supression)
- slightly hypervolaemic** → fluid excess ~ 3-4 l, **no oedema**
  - SIADH, reset osmostat
  - severe hypothyroidism, pituitary glucocorticoid deficiency
  - psychogenic polydipsia, inappropriate IV fluids
  - managed by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  restriction alone
- hypervolaemic** → fluid excess > ~ 10 l, **with oedema**
  - CCF<sup>§</sup>
  - nephrotic syndrome<sup>§</sup> §2° hyperaldosterone states
  - cirrhosis<sup>§</sup>
  - renal failure

## ■ Diagnosis

- a. physical examination
  - oedema
  - volume status
- b. plasma biochemistry
  - U&E's
  - glucose
  - measured & calculated *osmolality*
- c. urinary  $[\text{Na}^+]$ 
  - i.  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{U}} < 20 \text{ mmol/l}$ 
    - extrarenal losses with normal renal function
    - $[\text{Cl}^-]_{\text{U}}$  usually parallels  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{U}}$  except in RTA and hypovolaemia, where  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  losses are high and  $[\text{Cl}^-]_{\text{U}}$  low
    - 2° hyperaldosteronism, with a low effective circulating blood volume
  - ii.  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{U}} > 20 \text{ mmol/l}$ 
    - states where there is renal wasting of sodium
    - ARF/CRF
    - SIADH, cerebral salt wasting syndrome
    - Addison's
    - diuretics
    - hypothyroidism
- d. water challenge
  - giving a patient a water load will differentiate between SIADH and *reset osmostat*
  - the later being able to excrete the load, the former reducing  $[\text{Na}^+]$  further
  - obviously if hyponatraemia is severe this is *contraindicated*
- e. saline infusion
  - will normalise those patients shedding  $\text{Na}^+$  rich fluids and being replaced with low  $\text{Na}^+$  fluids
- f. response to fluid restriction
  - will tend to correct the ADH excess group

## ■ Clinical Manifestations

- these depend upon both the **extent** of the derangement and the **aetiology** to a greater extent than the absolute  $[\text{Na}^+]$
- isotonic/factitious hyponatraemias cause little problem, eg. **glycine 1.5%** absorption during TURPS, etc.
- the use of agents such as glycine, which do not alter **tonicity**, avoid the problems associated with water shifts across membranes
- however, they **do not** prevent problems associated with a low  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{ECF}}$
- also, agents which are metabolised, leaving free water behind may produce delayed true hyponatraemia

- a. **CNS** - symptoms and signs are more severe with rapid falls in  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}}$   
> **10%** change
  - i. confusion
  - ii. decreased conscious level
  - iii. coma/convulsions  $\leq 120 \text{ mmol/l } [\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}}$   
~ 50% mortality
  
- NB: mortality ~ 50% where  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}}$  falls below 120 mmol/l within 24 hours
  
- b. **CVS**
  - i.  $\uparrow$  QRS duration @  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}} < 115 \text{ mmol/l}$
  - ii. ST segment elevation @  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}} < 115 \text{ mmol/l}$
  - iii. VT/VF @  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}} < 110 \text{ mmol/l}$
  - iv. volume overload
    - $\uparrow$  BP/HR - unreliable
    - CCF, pulmonary oedema
  
- c. **neuromuscular**
  - i. muscle cramps
  - ii. muscle fasciculations
  - iii. neuromuscular irritability

## ■ Treatment - Severe

- a. ABC
- b. IVT
  - initial ECF resuscitation should be with 0.9% NaCl
  - Na<sup>+</sup> deficit calculated against TBW, viz.

$$\delta[Na^+]_{TBW} = \left[ \frac{140 - [Na^+]_{PL}}{140} \right] \times Weight \times 0.6$$

- although sodium is only in the ECF, **total body osmolality** must be corrected (except - \* below)
- c. hypertonic NaCl ~ 3.0-5.0%
    - the aim is to raise the [Na<sup>+</sup>]<sub>PL</sub> **£ 2 mmol/hr**
    - rates greater than this may be associated with **central pontine myelinolysis**, or **osmotic demyelination syndrome**
    - demyelination is mostly seen in **alcoholics**
      - quadriplegia, bulbar & pseudobulbar signs
    - may use 8.4% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> in an emergency
    - **strong NaCl** 29.2% (5 mmol/ml) may be used to bring plasma Na<sup>+</sup> up to 120-130 mmol/l range if,
      - i. rapid development of severe hyponatraemia & CNS signs, ie. fitting
      - ii. failure of above therapy
      - iii. complicated by fluid overload (CRF)
  - d. loop diuretics
    - help prevent fluid overload & pulmonary oedema
    - may exacerbate hyponatraemia
    - others suggest mannitol better

## ■ Treatment - Mild

- a. discontinuation of aetiological agent
- b. **fluid restriction** ≤ 15 ml/kg/d
  - hypervolaemic (SIADH, reset osmostat)
- c. normal saline
  - hypovolaemic
  - replacement at 0.3x\*
- d. demethylchlortetracycline - blocks renal ADH effects (→ "nephrogenic DI")
- e. high protein, low CHO/fat diet reduces H<sub>2</sub>O intake
- f. underlying pathology

## Hypernatraemia

**Def'n:** plasma  $\text{Na}^+$  > 145 mmol/l

- these are always associated with *increased osmolality*

### ■ Classification

- a. *hypovolaemic* →  $\text{H}_2\text{O loss} > \text{Na}^+$
- most fluid losses have a  $[\text{Na}^+]$  lower than plasma
  - therefore there is a net loss of water greater than  $\text{Na}^+$
  - i. renal
    - diuretics, glycosuria
    - ARF/CRF
    - rarely with diabetes insipidus
    - partial obstruction
  - ii. GIT losses
    - diarrhoea, vomiting
    - fistulae, SBO
  - iii. respiratory losses
    - IPPV with dry gases
  - iv. skin losses
    - fever
    - high ambient temperature
    - thyrotoxicosis
    - vasodilatory states
    - exfoliative skin disorders
- (i)  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{U}}$  increases /  $U_{\text{Osm}}$  decreases
- (ii-iv)  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{U}}$  decreases /  $U_{\text{Osm}}$  increases
- ie., with extrarenal losses there is renal compensation,  
the net effect is a decrease in  $\text{ICF} > \text{ECF}$

b. *iso* → *hypovolaemic*

- these result from pure water loss
- 67% of TBW resides in the ICF
- dehydration increases plasma osmotic pressure, tending to maintain intravascular volume
- ∴ these patients do not become *hypotensive* until  $[Na^+]_{PL} \sim 160-170$  mmol/l
- ∴ this group are sometimes called "isovolaemic"
- produces a mild-moderate decrease in both ECF & ICF
- i. inadequate water replacement
  - iatrogenic
  - inadequate IVT
  - unconsciousness
- ii. reset osmostat
- iii. central diabetes insipidus
  - head injuries
  - post-surgical
- iv. nephrogenic diabetes insipidus
  - 1° = congenital renal resistance to ADH
  - 2° = hypokalaemia, hypercalcaemia  
lithium, methoxyflurane  
multiple myeloma, sickle cell anaemia, nephrocalcinosis, amyloid

c. *iso* → *hypervolaemic* →  $Na^+$  gain >  $H_2O$  gain

- usually not sufficient  $H_2O$  gain to produce oedema
- i. iatrogenic → \* the major cause
  - $NaHCO_3$
  - feeding formulae, TPN
  - drinking sea water
- ii. mineralocorticoid excess
  - Conn's, Cushing's syndrome
  - steroid excess
- the later group usually have 1-3 l of excess TBW
- the increased plasma osmolality increases ADH secretion, which in turn increases ECFV, with subsequent renal escape
- oedema in this group is therefore *rare*
- ECFV is generally increased while ICFV decreases

## ■ Diagnosis

- a. history & examination
- b. plasma biochemistry
- c. urinary  $[\text{Na}^+]$  & urinary osmolality
- d. administration of desmopressin
- e. water deprivation challenge

## ■ Clinical Manifestations

**NB:** as for hyponatraemia, these depend more upon the *rate of change* than the absolute change

### a. CNS

- i. confusion
  - membrane irritability
  - brain shrinkage
- ii. decreased LOC
  - haemorrhage, venous thrombosis
  - spasticity, convulsions
- iii. **coma**
  - generally only seen  $[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}} \geq 160 \text{ mmol/l}$ 
    - acute mortality
      - children ~ 40%
      - adults ~ 70%
    - chronic mortality
      - children ~ 10%
      - adults ~ 60%

### b. CVS

- i.  $\downarrow$  contractility  $\propto [\text{Ca}^{++}]/[\text{Na}^+]^2$
- ii. CCF  $\propto$  volume overload

- c. other
  - loss of weight
  - $\uparrow$  plasma  $\text{Na}^+$
  - $\uparrow$  serum osmolality
  - thirst

## ■ Treatment - Severe

- a. ABC
- b. IVT
  - i. Hartman's solution - slightly hypo-osmolar ~ 260 mosmol/l  
- resuscitation if hypotensive
  - ii. 0.45% saline - use for replacement of H<sub>2</sub>O/Na<sup>+</sup> deficit  
- aim to replace deficit in 24/48 hrs  
≤ 2.0 mmol/l/hr rate of reduction
  - iii. 5% dextrose - for H<sub>2</sub>O losses in Na<sup>+</sup> excess

$$H_2O_{(deficit)} \approx \left[ \frac{[Na^+]_{PL} - 140}{140} \right] \times Weight \times 0.6$$

- c. diuretics - for Na<sup>+</sup> excess
- d. dialysis - for Na<sup>+</sup> excess
- e. cease aetiological drugs
- f. decrease Na<sup>+</sup> intake

## ■ Treatment - Mild

- a. cease/decrease Na<sup>+</sup> intake
- b. cease aetiological drugs
- c. D<sub>5</sub>W
- d. DDAVP - for central DI

## Osmolar Gap

**Def'n:** = the difference between the measured and calculated osmolality  
~ **10 mmol/l** normally, but may be up to 24 mmol/l

- **Calculated Osmolality** ~  $(2 \times [\text{Na}^+] + [\text{urea}] + [\text{glu}]) \text{mmol/l}$   
~ **272-283 mmol/l** normal range
- **Measured Osmolality** = osmometer freezing point depression  
~  $-0.001865^\circ\text{C}/\text{mmol}$   
~ **285-295 mmol/l** normal range

**NB:** 1. some suggest using a value of  $2 \times [\text{Na}^+]$ , as the *osmotic coefficient* of 0.93 and the percentage of plasma water (~ 93%) cancel out  
2. the RCPA uses  $1.85 \times ([\text{Na}^+] + [\text{K}^+] + [\text{urea}] + [\text{glu}])$

- thus, **hyperosmolar** states may exist despite a normal or low  $[\text{Na}^+]$
- OG increases due to an increase in unmeasured osmotically active particles,
  - a. alcohols
    - ethanol, methanol
    - mannitol
    - sorbitol, propylene glycol
  - b. hyperlipidaemia
  - c. hyperproteinaemia (multiple myeloma)
  - d. glycine
- these particles fall into one of two groups,
  - a. **impermeate** solutes → hypertonic state
  - b. **permeate** solutes → isotonic states
- acute changes are more important than chronic
- **hyperosmolality per se** may decrease **insulin** release, therefore raising the BSL and establishing a vicious cycle
- thus, some patients with non-ketotic hyperosmolar coma may not require insulin once the plasma glucose is normalised
- with substances which affect **tonicity**, eg. mannitol,
  1. the reduction in ICFV may result in cellular shrinkage, with confusion and coma
  2. reciprocal expansion of the ECFV may result in CCF
- usually, providing renal function is normal, the ECFV is also decreased due to the subsequent osmotic diuresis

## SIADH

**Def'n:** clinical syndrome produced by continued secretion of ADH in the absence of appropriate *osmotic* or *haemodynamic* stimuli

\*original report by Schwartz & Bartter (AJM 1957)  
of 2 patients with *bronchogenic carcinoma*

### ■ Diagnosis

1. hypoosmolar hyponatraemia
2. urinary  $\text{Na}^+ > 20$  mmol/l
3. urine relatively hypertonic cf. serum
4. normal renal, adrenal, cardiac and hepatic function
5. absence of **drug therapy** resulting in "SIADH"
6. corrected by water restriction alone

**NB:** the definition of **true SIADH** requires the absence of drugs, normal cardiac, renal, adrenal and liver function, and correction by **water restriction** alone

### ■ Aetiology

1. malignancies → autonomous ADH release
  - lung, pancreas, sarcomas, Hodgkin's, thymoma
2. non-malignant pulmonary disease
  - TB, lung abscess, empyema, pneumonia, viral pneumonitis, CAL
3. CNS disease
  - trauma - CHI, fractures
  - vascular accidents - SAH, SDH, thrombosis
  - infections - encephalitis, meningitis (TB, bacterial)
  - GBS, SLE, AIP
4. miscellaneous
  - IPPV
  - hypothyroidism, (? hypoadrenalism)

**NB:** patient age and anaesthetic technique have **no effect** on occurrence of SIADH

### • clinical features relate to **hyponatraemia** and **cerebral oedema**

- a. weight gain, weakness, lethargy, confusion
- b. obtundation, disordered reflexes, convulsions

## ■ Biochemistry

- a. urinary sodium > **20** mmol/l - ie. not Na<sup>+</sup> retaining
- b. serum sodium < 130 mmol/l
- c. serum osmolality < 270 mosm/l
- d. low serum urea, creatinine, urate & albumin
- e. urine **hypertonic** relative to plasma
- f. inability to excrete a water load
- g. ↑ plasma ADH level

## ■ Management

**NB:** → aim ≤ 2 mmol/l/hr change unless seizures

1. fluid restriction
2. N.saline & diuretics
3. hypertonic saline - rarely
4. **demethylchlortetracycline** → ↓ tubular ADH response  
→ "nephrogenic DI"

## ■ Drug Induced ADH Excess

1. chlopropamide, carbamazepine, clofibrate
2. cyclophosphamide, vincristine, vinblastine
3. GA's, opioids
4. TCA's
5. oxytocics

## POTASSIUM

- a. alkaline elemental metal
  - b. atomic number = 19
  - c. molecular weight ~ 39
  - d. monovalent cation = the principal *intracellular cation*
- total body content ~ **55 mmol/kg** (3,850 mmol/70kg)
    - a. exchangeable ~ 90%
    - b. ICF ~ 98%
    - c. ECF ~ 2%
    - d. bone & brain ~ 10%
  - daily requirement ~ 0.5-1.5 mmol/kg/d (35-105 mmol/d/70kg)
  - concentration ranges vary between tissues,
    - a. plasma ~ **3.1-4.2 mmol/l** (highly variable, QEH ~ 3.5-4.8)  
serum ~ 3.8-4.9 mmol/l  
~ linear, semi-log relationship to TBK<sup>+</sup>
    - b. ICF ~ 150 mmol/l
    - c. gastric secretion ~ 10 mmol/l
    - d. sweat ~ 10 mmol/l
    - e. SI, bile & pancreatic ~ 5 mmol/l
    - f. diarrhoea ~ 40 mmol/l

### ■ Daily Balance

- a. **intake** ~ 70-100 mmol/d
  - GIT absorption passive down to luminal [K<sup>+</sup>] ~ 5-6 mmol/l
  - the majority of ingested K<sup>+</sup> is therefore absorbed
- b. **losses** ~ 0.7 mmol/kg/day obligatory
  - i. renal ~ 60-90 mmol/d
    - GFR → filtered ~ 720 mmol/day
    - 50-60% reabsorbed in PCT, secretion into late PT and LOH
    - virtually all remainder reabsorbed by distal tubule
    - **secretion** along late DT & CT → 5-15% of filtered load
  - ii. faeces ~ 10-20 mmol/d
    - this can increase greatly with *diarrhoea* or other SI losses
    - usual [K<sup>+</sup>] ~ 30 mmol/l
    - secretory lesions may also increase losses

## ■ Assessment of Potassium Status

- a. **plasma  $[K^+]$** 
  - difficult to assess, as ECF is only ~ 2% of body mass
  - however, if  $[K^+]_{PL}$  is low and the *pH normal*,  
there is a substantial total body deficit of  $K^+$
  - a  $[K^+]_{PL} < 3.0$  mmol/l usually represents a total deficit ~ 200-300 mmol/70kg
  - hyperkalaemia may, or may not represent an excess body  $K^+$
  - $[K^+]_{PL}$  is most important in the short term due to the effects of  $K^+$  on transmembrane potentials
- b. **radioactive isotope dilution  $^{42}K^+$** 
  - requires 24 hours distribution and several inaccuracies
- c. **urinary  $[K^+]$** 
  - not very useful due to the limited ability of the kidney to conserve potassium
  - a  $[K^+]_U > 40$  mmol/l is suggestive of *hyperaldosteronism*
- d. **ICF  $[K^+]$** 
  - RBC, WBC and muscle
  - subject to artifacts from preparation
  - only really useful for research purposes
- e. **ECG**
  - useful for monitoring acute changes only
  - individual variation & dependent upon rate of change

## ■ Regulation of ECF Potassium Concentration

- ~ 98% of total body  $K^+$  is intracellular due to the action of the membrane bound  $Na^+/K^+$ -ATPase
- thus, the ECF  $[K^+]$  is a function of 2 variables,
  1. total body  $K^+$
  2. ECF/ICF distribution
- due to relatively small extracellular component, even small shifts in internal balance can markedly alter the extracellular  $[K^+]$
- such shifts are under physiological control, particularly in *muscle & liver*
- these tend to offset alterations of extracellular  $[K^+]$

- the major factors in this control are,

1. ***adrenaline***

- results in a net movement of  $K^+$  into cells
- mediated by  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptors → predominantly muscle & liver
- important during exercise or major trauma
- also seen with  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic *tocolysis*

2. ***insulin***

- at physiological concentration, insulin exerts a tonic *permissive* effect
- promotes entry into muscle, liver and other tissues
- more importantly, elevated plasma  $[K^+]$  stimulates insulin release, promoting its own entry into cells
- conversely,  $\downarrow [K^+]$  inhibits insulin release & worsens hyperglycaemia

3. ***glucagon***

- counteracts effects of insulin
- also directly increases  $K^+$  secretion in the late DT & CT

4. ***aldosterone***

- DT of the nephron is the main site of action
- increases secretion, ? independent of  $Na^+$
- facilitates net movement of  $K^+$  into cells, esp. with chronic elevated total body  $K^+$
- this is independent of renal handling of  $K^+$

**NB:** other factors that affect the balance of internal  $K^+$  are not linked to homeostasis of the internal environment but do affect  $K^+$  significantly, of these *plasma*  $[H^+]$  is the most important

## ■ ***Other Influential Factors***

1. acid-base status
2.  $Na^+/K^+$ -ATP'ase      ? endogenous digoxin-like substances
3. Gibbs-Donnan effect
4. non-absorbable anions in the urine
5. diuretics
6. ECF volume & its effects on urine output
7. intestinal secretion

## ■ Functions

### 1. *total body osmolality*

- total body osmolality is related to the total exchangeable  $\text{Na}^+$  &  $\text{K}^+$  and TBW
- changes in either total body  $\text{Na}^+_{\text{E}}$  or  $\text{K}^+_{\text{E}}$  may result in changes in plasma osmolality, viz.

$$[\text{Na}^+]_{\text{pl}} \sim \frac{\text{Na}^+_{\text{E}} + \text{K}^+_{\text{E}}}{\text{TBW}}$$

### 2. *resting membrane potentials*

- the  $[\text{K}^+]_{\text{ECF}}$  is closely regulated due to the primary importance of  $\text{K}^+$  in neuromuscular excitability
- the resting membrane potential being predominantly determined as follows

$$E_M = -61.5 \log \frac{[\text{K}^+]_i}{[\text{K}^+]_o}$$

thus,

- $\uparrow [\text{K}^+]_o \rightarrow E_m$  approaches 0 mV
  - $\downarrow [\text{K}^+]_o \rightarrow E_m$  more negative
    - changes in ICF  $[\text{K}^+]$  having only a small effect
    - acute changes having a greater effect than chronic, as with the latter both ECF & ICF levels are likely to move in the same direction
- influences *excitable tissues*
    - cardiac
    - neural
    - smooth & skeletal muscle
  - intracellular osmotic pressure and electroneutrality
  - protein synthesis  $\sim 1$  mmol/g of protein intake

## Hypokalaemia

**Def'n:** serum  $[K^+]$  < 3.5 mmol/l  
plasma  $[K^+]$  < 3.0 mmol/l                      QEH < 3.5 mmol/l

### ■ Causes

- a. decreased intake                      - NBM
- b. ↑ **renal** losses
  - i. **diuretics**
    - PT agents                      - acetazolamide  
   - mannitol
    - loop diuretics                      - frusemide  
   - bumetanide
    - early DT                      - thiazides
  - ii. other drugs                      - amphotericin B  
   - anionic drugs, eg. penicillins
  - iii. ↑ DT flow
  - iv. hypomagnesaemia
- c. ↑ **GIT** losses
  - i. diarrhoea, fistulae
  - ii. malabsorption syndromes
- d. **skin** losses                      - extreme sweating
- e. compartmental shifts
  - i. alkalaemia                      ↑ pH              ~ 0.1  
   ↓  $[K^+]_{pl}$         ~ 0.5 mmol/l
  - ii. insulin
  - iii. adrenaline
  - iv. familial periodic paralysis
  - v. **hypomagnesaemia**        → ICF depletion of  $K^+$
  - vi. refeeding effect

■ Manifestations

a. **CVS**

i. electrophysiology

- $E_m$  more negative at  $[K^+] \leq 3.0$  mmol/l
- $\uparrow\uparrow$  **APD significantly**  $\rightarrow$  delayed repolarisation
- the following are slightly **increased**
  - $\delta V/\delta t_{max}$  phase 0
  - ERP
  - threshold potential
  - phase 4 depolarization
  - conduction velocity  $v_c$

ii. ECG

- depression of ST segments
- depression/inversion of T waves
- + U waves  $\rightarrow$  "**apparent**" **long QT**

iii. dysrhythmias

- VEB's, VT / VF, AF, SVT
- \*  $\uparrow\uparrow$  sensitivity to **digoxin & hypercalcaemia**
- \* severe depletion  $\rightarrow$  arrest in VF or systole

iv. chronic depletion

$\rightarrow$  **subendocardial necrosis**

b. **neuromuscular**

- i.  $\uparrow$  sensitivity to NDMR's  $\infty$   $\uparrow$  resting  $E_m$
- ii. muscle weakness / paralysis  $\infty$  severe depletion
- iii. chronic depletion  $\rightarrow$  **rhabdomyolysis**

c. **renal**

- i. nephrogenic DI  $\infty$  **ADH resistance**
- ii.  $\uparrow$   $NH_3$  production  $\rightarrow$  ?? generation of alkalosis

d. **endocrine**

- $\downarrow$  insulin release
- $\downarrow$   $[K^+] \leq 2.5$  mmol/l  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  BSL up to 20 mmol/l

e. **acid-base balance**

- allegedly hypokalaemia leads to a **metabolic alkalosis**, due to an,
  - i.  $\uparrow$   $NH_3$  production in DT
  - ii.  $\uparrow$   $[H^+]_{ICF}$  as  $K^+$  moves into ECF
  - iii.  $\uparrow$  PT  $HCO_3^-$  reabsorption
- however, most hypokalaemia states coexist with NaCl deficits, and it is the **Cl<sup>-</sup> deficit** which produces the metabolic alkalosis
- severe hypokalaemia leads to **ADH resistance** and a form of nephrogenic DI, the subsequent **volume depletion** leading a metabolic alkalosis
- hypokalaemia and a metabolic acidosis may occur in patients on carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, or RTA

f. **GIT**

- severe hypokalaemia may lead to intestinal ileus

### ■ Treatment - Severe

- a. ABC
- b. IV KCl
  - i.  $\leq 0.5$  mmol/kg/d **with** ECG monitoring
  - ii.  $\leq 0.25$  mmol/kg/d **without** ECG monitoring
- c. replace  $Mg^{++}$  deficit

### ■ Treatment - Mild

- a. cease aetiological agent
- b. KCl - orally  $\sim 1$  mmol/kg/d
- c. replace  $Mg^{++}$  deficit
- d.  $K^+$  sparing diuretics

### ■ Hypokalaemia & Alkalosis

- if hypokalaemia is associated with hypovolaemic/hypochloraemic alkalosis, then this will **not** be corrected until the  **$Cl^-$  deficit** is replaced
- this results from a deficiency of absorbable anion in the renal tubules
- in response the kidney synthesises more  $HCO_3^-$  to match  $Na^+$  in the ECF, secreting more  $H^+$  and  $K^+$  into the tubules
- some argue hypokalaemia *per se* will **not** generate an alkalosis, but that it will maintain an alkalosis, once generated
- Maxwell & Kleeman, however would support that even in normovolaemia there is a tendency for hypokalaemia to produce an alkalaemia, though, this effect in mild



## ■ Aetiology - 2

*Def'n:* divide according to the origin & time course

- a. **factitious**
  - thrombocytosis, leukocytosis
  - haemolysis
  - KCl administration, IVT arm sample
  - EDTA contamination
  - delayed analysis of sample
  
- b. **acute**
  - i. excessive intake
    - IVT, massive transfusion
  - ii. shift out of cells
    - metabolic acidosis
    - drugs, drug O/D
    - low insulin states
    - familial periodic paralysis
  - iii. tissue damage
    - rhabdomyolysis, burns, MH
  
- c. **chronic**
  - i. chronic renal failure
    - esp. with acidosis, anuria
  - ii. adrenal insufficiency
    - Addison's
    - heparin (aldosterone suppression)
  - iii. K<sup>+</sup> sparing drugs
    - diuretics
    - ACE inhibitors
    - indomethacin

■ Aetiology - 3

**Def'n:** divide according to the intake / output / distribution

- a. **increased intake**
  - rarely a problem
  - except with marginal renal function
  
- b. **decreased losses**
  - renal
    - i. renal failure
    - ii. hypoaldosteronism
      - mineralocorticoid deficiency
      - type IV RTA
    - iii. ↓ distal tubular flow
    - iv. ↓ distal NaCl delivery
    - v. potassium sparing diuretics
      - aldosterone antagonists                      - spironolactone
      - inhibitors of distal Na<sup>+</sup> channels            - amiloride, triamterene
  
- c. **compartmental shifts**
  - i. acidaemia                      - **pH ~ 0.1** / - **[K<sup>+</sup>] ~ 0.5 mmol/l**
    - effect is greater with non-organic acids (HCl), cf. organic acids (lactate)
    - this may be due to the fact that Cl<sup>-</sup> is an obligatory ECF anion, the unaccompanied movement of H<sup>+</sup> into the ECF forcing K<sup>+</sup> from the cell
    - further, the half life for removal of lactate by the liver is shorter than excretion of H<sup>+</sup> by the kidney
  - ii. hypoaldosteronism           - plasma K<sup>+</sup> is multifactorial,
    - K<sup>+</sup><sub>ICF</sub> → K<sup>+</sup><sub>ECF</sub>
    - ↓ DT flow
    - ↓ DT aldosterone effects
  - iii. insulin deficiency           - DKA
  - iv. familial periodic paralysis
  - v. suxamethonium
  - vi. cellular damage
    - haemolysis, rhabdomyolysis
    - severe burns, massive ischaemia
    - exercise
    - thrombocytosis                    > 750,000
    - leukocytosis                        > 50,000
  - vii. increased ECF tonicity
    - the movement of water from cells increases the [K<sup>+</sup>]<sub>ICF</sub> and the gradient for passive diffusion
    - seen with large doses of mannitol given rapidly (1.5-2.0 g/kg)
    - the hyperkalaemia of DKA is due to this effect in addition to the acidaemia & insulin deficiency

## ■ Clinical Effects

### a. CVS

#### i. electrophysiology

- ↓ resting  $V_m$ , phase 0  $\delta V/\delta t_{\max}$ ,  $v_c$
- ↓ phase 4 depolarisation & automaticity
- little alteration in threshold  $V_t$
- ↓ APD, ERP
- ↓ contractility

#### ii. ECG

- peaked T-waves
- widening of QRS
- ↑ PR interval → loss of P-waves

#### iii. rhythm

- effects are increased by decreased  $[Na^+]_{pl}/[Ca^{++}]_{pl}$
- atrial arrest
- AV block
- VT/VF occasionally precede arrest
- severe elevation → arrest in *diastole*

### b. CNS/NMJ

- ascending weakness
- cranial nerves affected last
- decreased sensitivity to NDMR's ( $2^\circ V_m$ )

### c. anaesthesia

- impaired spontaneous ventilation
- risk of suxamethonium hyperkalaemia
- cardiac arrhythmias
- increased toxicity of local anaesthetics

### d. renal

- alleged that the increase  $[K^+]_{pl}$  decreases renal  $H^+$  excretion
- there is *no* convincing evidence for this



## Familial Periodic Paralysis

**NB:** three types, dependent upon the  $K^+$  level

1. ***hypokalaemic*** < 3.0 mmol/l
  - i. inherited - ***familial*** hypokalaemic periodic paralysis
  - ii. acquired - precipitated by large meals
    - post-exercise
    - glucose/insulin infusion
    - catecholamines\* common
2. ***normokalaemic*** ~ 3.0-5.5 mmol/l
  - precipitated by alcohol, exercise and stress
3. ***hyperkalaemic*** > 5.5 mmol/l
  - precipitated by exercise (? release of  $K^+$  from muscle)
  - $K^+$  infusions
  - hypothermia (decreased activity of  $Na^+/K^+$  pump)
  - usually localised to tongue and eyelids

### ■ Causes of Episodic Paralysis

1. myasthenia gravis
2. myasthenic syndrome
3. thyrotoxicosis
4. hyperaldosteronism
5. antibiotics
6. botulinism
7. multiple sclerosis
8. familial periodic paralysis
9. TIA, RIND
10. hysterical

## CHLORIDE ION

- normal plasma range ~ **98-108 mmol/l**
- normal ratio of  $\text{Na}^+:\text{Cl}^-$  ~ 1.4:1
- the kidneys reabsorb  $\text{Na}^+:\text{Cl}^-$  ~ 1:1, therefore syndromes associated with avid  $\text{Na}^+$  retention often have associated *hyperchloraemia*

### ■ Hyperchloraemia

- any hypernatraemic state
- respiratory alkalosis - decreased availability of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$
- metabolic acidosis* with normal anion gap
  - renal
    - RTA
    - CA inhibitors
    - hypoadrenalism
    - early uraemia
  - non-renal
    - diarrhoea
    - ureterosigmoidosis
    - treated DKA
    - exogenous HCl

### ■ Hypochloraemia

- hyponatraemic states
- metabolic alkalosis - increased  $\text{HCO}_3^-$
- respiratory acidosis
- chloride loss
  - gastric suction, vomiting
  - upper GIT obstruction, eg. pyloric stenosis
  - chloride (secretory) diarrhoea

## CALCIUM

- a. elemental alkaline earth metal
  - b. atomic number = 20
  - c. molecular weight ~ 40
  - d. divalent cation - fifth most plentiful cation in the body
- total body content ~ 380 mmol/kg
    - ~ 1100 g/average adult
    - ~ 27.5 mol of Ca<sup>++</sup>
  - a. bone ~ 99%
  - b. ICF ~ 0.004%
  - c. ECF ~ 0.01%
  - d. exchangeable ~ **1%**
- the daily requirement in the adult ~ 0.11 mmol/kg
  - concentration ranges vary between tissues,
    - a. ECF ~ **2.2-2.8 mmol/l**
      - i. **45%** - ionized Ca<sup>++</sup>
      - ii. 15% - complexed to low MW anions (citrate, HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>)
      - iii. 40% - reversibly bound to plasma proteins (alb, glob.)  
- non-filterable fraction
    - b. ICF ~ 1 mmol/l total
      - ~ 10<sup>-4</sup> mmol/l as free ionized Ca<sup>++</sup>
      - ~ 99% bound to enzymes in SR, cisternae, & tubules
- only plasma ionized Ca<sup>++</sup> is biologically active
    - normal range ~ 1.2-1.3 mmol/l
  - the most important influence on protein binding is **plasma pH**
    - ↑ pH → ↑ binding of Ca<sup>++</sup> ∝ exposure of anionic sites on albumin
    - ↓ ionised Ca<sup>++</sup>

## Important Functions of Calcium

- a. **cytoplasm**
  - i. excitation-contraction coupling in *all muscle*
  - ii. enzyme cofactor
  - iii. regulation of mitotic activity
- b. **cell membrane**
  - i. **excitability** of nerve / muscle membrane
    - setting the **threshold**  $V_m$  for excitation
  - ii. **automaticity**
    - smooth muscle
    - SA & AV nodes
  - iii. **neurotransmitter** release at nerve terminals (NMJ)
    - $\propto$  calmodulin & vesicle coupling
  - iv. **neuro-hormonal** release & activity
    - 1.  $\alpha_1$ -adrenergic (NA)
      - smooth muscle
      - hepatic glycogenolysis
      - salivary secretion
    - 2. ACh
      - smooth muscle
      - GIT, GB, bladder contraction
    - 3. ADH
      - vascular smooth muscle ( $V_1$ )
    - 4. angiotensin II
      - aldosterone secretion from Z.G.
    - 5. oxytocin
      - uterine & myoepithelial
    - 6. CCK
      - pancreatic secretion
      - GB contraction
    - 7. histamine ( $H_1$ )
      - bronchial contraction
      - GIT smooth muscle contraction
- c. **extracellular**
  - i. platelet function & haemostasis
  - ii. coagulation cascade
    - I, II, VII, IX, X
  - iii. fibrinolysis
  - iv. complement cascade
  - v. bone & teeth formation
    - $Ca^{++}$  hydroxyapatite



## ■ Secondary Influences

- a. acid-base status
  - i. acidosis -  $\uparrow$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$
  - ii. alkalosis -  $\downarrow$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$
- b. steroids -  $\downarrow$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$
- c. glucagon -  $\downarrow$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$
- d. growth hormone -  $\uparrow$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$
- e. albumin levels  $\sim 0.02$  mmol  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  / gram albumin (0.2 mmol/10g)
- f. renal function
  - GFR
  - tubular excretion
  - 1-hydroxylation of 25-(OH)- $\text{D}_3$
- g. thyroid hormones  $\sim 15\%$  of **hyperthyroid** patients are hypercalcaemic
  - rarely clinically significant

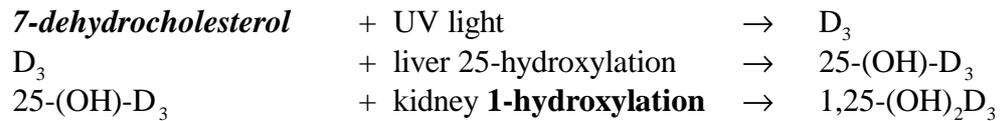
## ■ Hormonal Control of Effector Sites

### 1. **parathyroid hormone**

- i.  $\uparrow$  movement of  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  and  $\text{HPO}_4^-$  out of bone
  - ii.  $\uparrow$  renal tubular reabsorption of  $\text{Ca}^{++}$
  - iii.  $\downarrow$  renal tubular reabsorption of  $\text{HPO}_4^-$
  - iv.  $\uparrow$  production of Vit. D  $\rightarrow$  **indirect effects**
- inhibits proximal tubular  $\text{H}^+$  secretion &  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  reabsorption  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  pH  
 $\rightarrow$  displaces  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  from plasma protein and bone
  - $\uparrow$   $\text{HPO}_4^-$  excretion  $\rightarrow$  aids further reabsorption from bone due effect on  $[\text{HPO}_4^-] \cdot [\text{Ca}^{++}]$  solubility product
  - **NB:** **hyperparathyroidism** causes,
    - i. an elevated plasma calcium with a low to normal phosphate
    - ii. enhanced bone reabsorption with cysts
    - iii. ectopic calcification
    - iv. renal stones
      - renal  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  excretion increases, despite the elevated PTH, as the filtered mass increases  $\gg$  the reabsorptive increase
      - rarely may result in **nephrocalcinosis**

### 2. *vitamin D*

- actually a group of closely related *sterols*,



- by definition this is a *hormone* not a vitamin
- also absorbed from the GIT, the plant form differing only slightly
- **1-hydroxylation** is increased by PTH and a low plasma HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>
- also increased by oestrogen and prolactin (ie. pregnancy)
- the major actions of vitamin D are,
  - ↑ GIT absorption of Ca<sup>++</sup> and HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>
  - ↑ reabsorption of Ca<sup>++</sup> and HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup> from bone
  - stimulates the renal tubular reabsorption of Ca<sup>++</sup>  
(the significance of this is unsettled)
- **NB:** *hypervitaminosis D*, results in an elevated Ca<sup>++</sup> **and** HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>

### 3. *calcitonin*

- secreted by the *parafollicular cells* of the thyroid gland in response to a raised plasma Ca<sup>++</sup>
- lowers the plasma calcium principally by inhibiting *bone reabsorption*
- overall contribution to homeostasis is very *minor*

## Hypocalcaemia

**Def'n:** total corrected  $\text{Ca}^{++} \leq 2.1 \text{ mmol/l}$  (R: 2.10-2.55 mmol/l)  
**corrected calcium**  $\sim \text{total } [\text{Ca}^{++}] + (0.02 \times [44 - \text{albumin (g/l)}]) \text{ mmol/l}$   
**ionized calcium**  $\sim 1.20\text{-}1.30 \text{ mmol/l}$

### ■ Aetiology

- a. **factitious** - hypoalbuminaemia (N: 37-55 g/l)
  - $\text{Ca}^{++} \sim 0.2 \text{ mmol} / \text{ }^{-} 10\text{g}$  per litre
  - K-EDTA tube sample
  
- b. **acute**
  - i. acute post-surgical hypoparathyroidism - **most common**
  - ii. respiratory alkalosis
  - iii. acute pancreatitis
  - iv. rhabdomyolysis, MH
  - v. hypomagnesaemia \*  $\downarrow$  PTH release
  - vi. citrate toxicity
  
- c. **chronic**
  - i. primary hypoparathyroidism
    - iatrogenic - post-thyroid or parathyroid surgery,  $^{131}\text{I}$  therapy
    - infiltrations - neoplasia
      - granulomatous diseases
      - haemosiderosis, Wilson's disease
    - idiopathic hypothyroidism
      - persistent neonatal form
      - branchial dysembryogenesis (DiGeorge's syndrome)
      - \* multiple endocrine deficiency autoimmune candidiasis (MEDAC)
  - ii. chronic renal failure
  - iii. disordered vitamin D metabolism
    - deficiency - reduced intake, liver / renal disease
    - resistance - renal disease, familial
  - iv. high dietary  $\text{PO}_4$  intake

### ■ Polyglandular Autoimmune Syndrome Type 1

- at least 2 of the following, not necessarily simultaneously
  1. mucocutaneous candidiasis  $\sim 3\text{-}6$  yrs of age
  2. hypoparathyroidism  $\sim 5\text{-}8$  yrs
  3. Addison's disease  $\sim 8\text{-}11$  yrs

**NB:** previously called multiple endocrine deficiency autoimmune candidiasis (**MEDAC**)



### ■ Treatment

- a. **Ca Gluconate 10%**  $\equiv^t$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$  0.22 mmol/ml
- administer at ~ 2-4 mmol every 6-8 hrs (1-2 10ml ampoules)  
~ 0.5 ml/kg to a maximum of 20 ml
- b. **CaCl<sub>2</sub> 10%**  $\equiv^t$   $\text{Ca}^{++}$  0.68 mmol/ml x 10 ml
- the injection rate should be slow  $\leq 1$  ml/min
  - faster rates may  $\rightarrow$  high concentration and cardiac arrest
  - this is an **acidifying salt**, therefore undesirable in the setting of renal insufficiency
  - the solution is very irritating and should never be injected into the tissues
  - injections are accompanied by peripheral vasodilation and vessel irritation
- c. Vit. D  $\rightarrow$  calciferol ~ 1.25 mg twice weekly
- d. R<sub>x</sub> associated conditions
- i. hypomagnesaemia
  - ii. hypokalaemia
  - iii. fitting

## Hypercalcaemia

**Def'n:** total corrected  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  > 2.6 mmol/l (R: 2.10-2.55 mmol/l)  
*corrected calcium* ~ total  $[\text{Ca}^{++}] + [0.02 \times (44 - \text{albumin (g/l)})]$  mmol/l  
*ionized calcium* ~ 1.20-1.30 mmol/l

### ■ Aetiology

**NB:** incidence ↑'s in the 3-5<sup>th</sup> decades, F:M ~ 3:1

1. ***factitious***
  - venous stasis sample, post-prandial
  - polycythaemia, dehydration, high plasma albumin
2. **1° hyperparathyroidism**
  - i. ***solitary adenoma*** ~ 80%
  - ii. **MEN I**
    - pituitary adenoma and pancreatic islets
    - hypergastrinaemia with Zollinger-Ellison syndrome
  - iii. ***MEN II***
    - medullary carcinoma of the thyroid (*parafollicular*)
    - ***phaeochromocytoma*** & ***parathyroid adenoma***
  - iv. lithium therapy ~ 10% show ↑ parathyroid function
  - v. rarely carcinoma
3. ***malignancy***
  - i. solid tumour with bony 2°s - breast, prostate
  - ii. ectopic parathormone - lung (~ 10-15%), kidney, ??  $\text{PGE}_2$
  - iii. haematological malignancies - ***m. myeloma***, leukaemia, lymphoma  
\* osteocyte activation factor
4. ***increased bone turnover***
  - ***thiazide diuretics***
  - hyperthyroidism
  - immobilization
  - vitamin A intoxication
5. ***vitamin D***
  - i. vitamin D intoxication \* high  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  &  $\text{HPO}_4^-$
  - ii. ↑  $1,25\text{-(OH)}_2\text{-D}_3$ 
    - ***sarcoid*** & other granulomatous diseases
    - TB, berylliosis
  - iii. idiopathic hypercalcaemia of infancy
6. familial hypocaliuric hypercalcaemia - FHH
  - autosomal dominant trait → > 99% renal calcium reabsorption
  - PTH levels are usually normal, no medical or surgical intervention is required
7. renal failure
  - severe 2° hyperparathyroidism
  - milk/alkali syndrome,  $\text{Al}^+$  intoxication
8. other causes
  - Addisonian crisis
  - phaeochromocytoma
  - excess IVT/ TPN

## ■ Clinical Features

**NB:** initially → polyuria, thirst, fatigue, nausea, vomiting & abdominal pain

- a. CNS
  - mental disturbance, personality change
  - paraesthesia, headache, fever, increased thirst
  - cerebral calcifications (basal ganglia) ± epileptic fits
- b. CVS
  - bradycardia, asystolic arrest
  - ↑ digoxin toxicity
- ECG
  - ↓ QT<sub>c</sub>, bradyarrhythmias, AV blockade
- c. renal
  - polyuria ∞ nephrogenic DI
  - type II RTA ∞ impaired tubular reabsorption
  - **nephrocalcinosis** ~ 60-70%
- d. NMJ
  - ↑ ACh release
  - ↑ excitation / contraction
  - ↑ threshold V<sub>m</sub>
  - \* but **decreased sensitivity** of motor EP
  - weakness, fatigue, paralysis
- e. musculoskeletal
  - weakness, fatigue, paralysis, arthralgia
  - osteitis fibrosa cystica, bone pain, fractures
  - ~ 5x ↑ bone turnover → ↑ ALP
- f. GIT
  - nausea, vomiting, anorexia, weight loss
  - constipation, abdominal pain
  - gastric hyperacidity (↑ **gastrin** secretion), peptic ulcer
  - **pancreatitis**

## ■ Anaesthetic Considerations

**NB:** moderate hypercalcaemia, in the absence of cardiovascular or renal compromise presents no specific intraoperative problems

1. CNS - lethargy, **confusion** may compromise recovery
2. ECG - shortened QT<sub>c</sub> & risk of **AV blockade** etc.
3. biochemistry - associated electrolyte disorders
4. volume status - **polyuria** may result in hypovolaemia
5. NMJ blockade - ↑ sensitivity to nondepolarising agents, difficulty in **reversal**

## ■ Treatment

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| a. ABC                       | - ventilatory/CVS support  |
| b. correct dehydration       | - replace deficit with normal saline   |
| c. initiate diuresis         | - N.Saline at 4-6 l/d<br>- frusemide 20-40 mg IV q4-8h<br>* beware <i>hypokalaemia &amp; hypomagnesaemia</i>                                       |
| d. corticosteroids           | - ↓ GIT absorption / increase excretion<br>- especially sarcoid, Vit.D, granulomatous diseases<br>* <i>not</i> effective in 1° hyperparathyroidism |
| e. diphosphonate             | - etidronate, <i>pamidronate</i>   |
| f. correct hypophosphataemia | - ↑ GIT absorption<br>- ↓ bone uptake & ↑ reabsorption   |
| g. decrease bone release     | - calcitonin<br>- mithramycin  |

## ■ Pamidronate Disodium

- potent inhibitor of bone reabsorption
- effective in hypercalcaemia of malignancy and hyperparathyroidism
- administered as 30 mg/500 ml saline over 4 hours
- studies against 60 mg doses show no advantage
- results in a gradual decline in plasma  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  over several days
- effects may last from weeks to months
- side effects,
  1. mild transient leukopaenia
  2. *fever*  $\leq 2^\circ\text{C}$  ↑ T

## MAGNESIUM

- a. elemental alkaline earth metal
  - b. atomic number = 12
  - c. molecular weight ~ 24.3
  - d. divalent cation - second most plentiful intracellular cation
- total body content ~ **15 mmol/kg**, (~ 1000 mmol/70 kg)
    - a. ICF ~ 45% - highly variable
    - b. ECF ~ 5%
    - c. plasma ~ **0.75-1.1 mmol/l** ~ 35% protein bound
    - d. bone ~ 50%
    - e. exchangeable ~ 65-70%
- NB:** ICF and ECF concentrations may vary *independently* of each other,  
∴ a significant deficit in one may be accompanied by minimal change in the other

### ■ Absorption & Excretion

- average daily requirement ~ 0.04 mmol/day
- the average adult ingests ~ 10-20 mmol Mg<sup>++</sup>/d
  - ~ 3-6 mmol/d of this is absorbed across the GIT
- this occurs predominantly in the upper SI via an active process, possibly linked to Ca<sup>++</sup>
- Mg<sup>++</sup> is excreted principally by the *kidney* → freely filtered
- the majority is reabsorbed in the PT → ~ 3-5% appears in the final urine
- control mechanisms for homeostasis are poorly understood,
  - a. PTH & vit.D increase GIT absorption
  - b. follows Ca<sup>++</sup> flux in bone
  - c. follows K<sup>+</sup> flux across cells
  - d. excreted by GFR, ∴ increased by diuretics
  - e. lost in diarrhoea, intestinal fistulae

### ■ Important Functions of Magnesium

1. neuromuscular function and excitability
2. Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase pump cofactor
3. enzyme cofactor - anabolic functions in brain & liver
4. involved in all phosphate transfer reactions
5. release of hormones - PTH

## Hypomagnesaemia

*Def'n:* plasma  $Mg^{++} < 0.7$  mmol/l

### ■ Aetiology

- a. factitious
    - haemodilution
    - severe hypoalbuminaemia
  - b. common
    - GIT losses
    - diuretics, renal failure
  - c. **acute**
    - i.  $\beta$ -adrenergic agonists - catecholamines
    - ii. diarrhoea, vomiting, SI fistulae
    - iii. acute pancreatitis
  - d. **chronic**
    - i. nutritional
      - NBM
      - prolonged  $Mg^{++}$  deficient TPN
      - protein/calorie malnutrition
      - infants given cows milk ( $HPO_4^-:Mg^{++}$ )
      - enteral treatment of hypocalcaemia, with concomitant  $Mg^{++}$  deficiency and reduced absorption of the later
    - ii. cirrhosis & chronic alcoholism
    - iii. GIT
      - diarrhoea, malabsorption
      - SI fistulae
      - NG aspiration
    - iv. drugs
      - diuretics
      - gentamicin, other aminoglycosides
      - cisplatinium
    - v. endocrine
      - hyperthyroidism
      - hyperaldosteronism
      - hyperparathyroidism + osteitis fibrosa cystica
      - diabetes mellitus
    - vi. renal
      - chronic diseases
      - haemodialysis / haemoperfusion
    - vii. SIADH
    - viii. familial hypomagnesaemia
- $Mg^{++}$  deficiency is therefore frequently accompanied by **hypokalaemia** and **hypocalcaemia**
  - $Mg^{++}$  frequently follows  $K^+$  in the ICF environment
  - when deficits of  $Mg^{++}$  and  $K^+$  coexist,  $Mg^{++}$  repletion is often required to correct the later

**NB:** the interaction of the two ions is thought to be mediated by the effects of adrenal **steroids** on renal excretion

## ■ Clinical Manifestations

- a. enzyme systems      \*  $Mg^{++}$  is a vital cofactor for,
  - i. all  $-PO_4$  nucleotide transfer reactions
  - ii. reversible association of intracellular particles
  - iii. association macromolecules with subcellular organelles  
eg., mRNA to ribosomes→ there is a decrease in *energy substrate utilization*
- b. CNS
  - i. increased irritability
  - ii. disorientation, psychotic behaviour
  - iii. athetosis, nystagmus, tremor
  - iv. twitching, tetany  $\pm$  convulsions
- c. renal
  - i. microlith formation in the thick ALH
  - ii. damage to tubular cells
  - iii.  $\pm$  hypokalaemia / hypocalcaemia
- d. neuromuscular function
  - i.  $\uparrow$  release of ACh from motor neurones
  - ii.  $\uparrow$  sensitivity of the motor EP to applied ACh
  - iii. neuromuscular excitability  $\pm$  tetany
- e. CVS
  - i.  $\pm$  decreased levels of  $K^+$  in cardiac cells
  - ii.  $\pm$  susceptibility to toxicity with *cardiac glycosides*
  - iii. changes to cardiac muscle →  $\downarrow$  contractility
  - iv. *tachyarrhythmias* → AF, SVT, torsade de pointes
- f. *hypocalcaemia* 2° to decreased PTH release

## ■ Treatment

- a. remove causative factor
- b. enteral supplementation      -  $Mg^{++}$  citrate, sulphate & hydroxide
- c. parenteral supplementation →  $MgSO_4$ 
  - the dose is expressed in terms of the hydrated salt,  
**1.0g  $MgSO_4 \cdot (H_2O)_7$       ®      4.06 mmol  $Mg^{++}$**
  - \* acute administration      ~ 0.05-0.15 mmol/kg  
   $\leq$  0.5 mmol/min  
   $\leq$  15-20 mmol/d, in two divided doses
  - available as ampoules      ~ **10 mmol/5 ml** (2.5g)

## Hypermagnesaemia

### ■ Causes

- a. increased intake - most common causes
  - i.  $Mg^{++}$  containing cathartics & antacids
    - especially seen with renal impairment
    - these undergo rapid absorption in patients with large gastro-jejunal stomas
  - ii.  $MgSO_4$  administration - pre-eclampsia/eclampsia
    - SVT, torsade
  - iii. inappropriate IVT / TPN replacement
- b. decreased excretion
  - i. renal impairment - any cause
  - ii. hypoadrenalism
- c. compartmental shifts - rarely a cause
  - i. metabolic acidosis & diabetic ketoacidosis
  - ii. hypothermia

### ■ Clinical Manifestations

- a. CNS
  - a number of effects are  $\equiv$  to those of  $Ca^{++}$  → sedation & confusion
  - the flaccid, anaesthesia-like state following large doses is probably due to peripheral NMJ blockade
- b. NMJ
  - direct depressant effect on skeletal muscle
  - ↓ release of ACh from motor neurones
  - ↓ sensitivity of the motor EP → muscular weakness
  - depressed deep tendon reflexes ± respiratory paralysis (> 7 mmol/l)
    - of these the second is the most important
    - these effects are antagonised by  $Ca^{++}$
- c. CVS
  - ↑ **conduction time** → PR, QRS and QT prolongation (> 5 mmol/l)
  - ↓ discharge rate of SA node
  - may abolish digitalis induced VPC's
  - peripheral vasodilatation ~ direct vascular effect & ganglionic blockade
    - hypotension, conduction disturbances ± complete heart block

## Endocrinology & Metabolism

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- d. neonate - depressed conscious state  
 - hypotonia  
 - respiratory difficulties

**low apgar scores**

**NB:** in infants experiencing **hypoxia** during delivery the unionized fraction increases and toxicity is enhanced

Clinical Manifestations of Hypermagnesaemia	
Plasma Level	Clinical Features
2.0-4.0 mmol/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anticonvulsant    ?? vasodilatation</li> <li>• sedation</li> <li>• mild vasodilatation</li> <li>• ↑ AV &amp; intraventricular conduction</li> </ul>
~ 5.0 mmol/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• loss of <i>monosynaptic reflexes</i></li> <li>• ↑ PR &amp; QRS duration</li> <li>• hypotension</li> <li>• respiratory centre depression</li> </ul>
~ 6.0 mmol/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMJ blockade, severe weakness</li> </ul>
6.0-8.0 mmol/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• respiratory paralysis</li> </ul>
8.0-12.0 mmol/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cardiac arrest    <i>asystolic</i></li> </ul>

■ **Treatment**

- a. ABC
- b. remove causative factor
- c. IV NaCl 0.9%            - providing renal function is normal  
                                      ~ 4-6 l/d  
                                      ± add Ca<sup>++</sup> 2.5-4.5 mmol/l
- d. CaCl<sub>2</sub> / Ca Gluconate    ~ 2.5-5 mmol IV  
                                      \*cases of severe CVS, CNS or respiratory compromise
- e. frusemide                    ~ 20-40 mg IV
- f. haemodialysis

## Therapeutic Uses of Magnesium

- a. hypomagnesaemia
  - weakness & CNS signs
  - torsade de pointes
  - digitalis induced VT
  - suspected severe depletion (alcoholics, malnourished)
- b. enteral preparations
  - cathartics
  - antacids
- c. seizure states
  - pre-eclampsia/eclampsia
  - acute nephritis
- d. SVT
- e. severe acute asthma ? marginal indication

## PHOSPHATE

- involved in most metabolic processes and is a major constituent of bone
- normal adult content ~ 1000g, of which 85% is in bone
- present in plasma as **inorganic phosphate** ~ 0.9-1.5 mmol/l
- there is diurnal variation in the level, even during fasting
- **ethanol** can induce phosphate depletion despite adequate intake
- $\text{HPO}_4^-$  is well absorbed from the GIT
- **urinary excretion** is the major homeostatic regulator for total body phosphate balance
  - a. ~ 5-12% is protein bound,  $\therefore$  ~ 90% is filterable at the glomerulus
  - b. ~ 75% is actively reabsorbed, mostly in the PT in co-transport with  $\text{Na}^+$
- there is no conclusive evidence for tubular secretion of phosphate
- the reabsorptive  $T_{\text{max}}$  for phosphate is very close to normal filtered load
- therefore even small increases in the plasma concentration result in relatively large increases in renal excretion
- there is increased loss with mechanisms which increase  $\text{Na}^+$  loss and also with 1<sup>o</sup> hyperparathyroidism
- the reabsorptive rate and  $T_{\text{max}}$  alter over time, in response to alterations in plasma phosphate levels, not as a result of PTH or Vit.D
- the mechanism for this change is still unclear
- factors affecting **tubular reabsorption** of phosphate are,
  - a. PTH ↓
  - b. Glucagon ↓
  - c. Dietary Phosphate ↓
  - d.  $1,25\text{-(OH)}_2\text{D}_3$  ↑
  - e. Insulin ↑

## Hyperphosphataemia

**Def'n:**  $[\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-] > 1.35 \text{ mmol/l}$

### ■ Aetiology

- a. acute  $\propto$  *release from cells*
  - i. metabolic acidosis
  - ii. diabetic ketoacidosis
  - iii. rhabdomyolysis, haemolysis
  - iv. ischaemic gut
  - v. severe catabolic states
  - vi. malignancies treated with cytotoxic agents
- b. chronic
  - i. renal failure
  - ii. vitamin D toxicity
  - iii. excessive intake (TPN)
  - iv. 1° hyperparathyroidism - rare, usually normal

• occurs more commonly in infants, children and post-menopausal women

• clinical effects include,

- a. hypocalcaemia -  $[\text{Ca}^{++}].[\text{HPO}_4^-] < 5$
- b. ectopic calcification - arteries, skin  
- kidneys, nephrocalcinosis
- c. keratopathy
- d. 2° hyperparathyroidism - renal osteodystrophy

• treatment depends upon renal function,

- a. normal - diuresis
- b. renal failure - oral  $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$  & dialysis

## Hypophosphataemia

*Def'n:*  $[\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-] \leq 0.8 \text{ mmol/l}$

### ■ Aetiology

- a. acute  $\infty$  **entry into cells**
  - i.  $\uparrow$  insulin
    - post-prandial
    - treatment of hyperkalaemia
  - ii.  $R_x$  of acidosis
    - diabetic ketoacidosis
    - rhabdomyolysis
    - hypercapnia
  - iii. TPN in malnourished or anorexic patient
- b. acute  $\infty$  **increased loss / utilization**
  - i. phosphaturia from diuresis
    - osmotic / diuretic
  - ii. severe illness
    - sepsis, hypercatabolic states
- c. chronic
  - i. decreased **intake**
    - prolonged TPN
    - alcoholics, aged & debilitated patients
    - anorexia
  - ii. decreased **absorption**
    - vitamin D deficiency
    - rickets, osteomalacia
    - intestinal dysfunction
    - steatorrhoea / malabsorption syndromes
  - iii. increased **loss**
    - diuresis
    - 1° hyperparathyroidism
    - renal tubular acidosis
  - iv. increased **utilisation**
    - hypercatabolic states
    - multitrauma
    - cancer

### ■ Symptoms

- a. asymptomatic
- b. anorexia
- c. weakness, dizziness
- d. dyspnoea
  - respiratory muscle weakness
- e. paraesthesia
- f. bone pain (osteomalacia)

## ■ Clinical Signs

1. proximal myopathy
2. waddling gait
3. paraesthesia
4. anaemia
5. respiratory insufficiency, failure
6. cardiac failure

## ■ "Clinical Syndromes" of Hypophosphataemia

- a. "GBS-like syndrome"
  - acute muscular weakness
  - respiratory insufficiency / failure to wean
  - nervous system dysfunction
- b. neurological
  - peripheral neuropathy
  - CNS dysfunction
  - paraesthesia, waddling gait
  - epilepsy
- c. haematological
  - low 2,3-DPG & intracellular ATP → *left shift* HbO<sub>2</sub> curve
  - haemolysis
  - WBC dysfunction
- d. metabolic acidosis & osteomalacia
- e. myocardial dysfunction & cardiac failure

## ■ Treatment

- a. H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>(K) ~ 50-100 mmol/day
- b. H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>(K) ~ 30 mmol/2-3 hrs in DKA
- c. also available is (Na)H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>

## Endocrinology & Metabolism

Effects of Electrolyte Imbalance						
		<b>CNS</b>	<b>CVS</b>	<b>Muscle</b>	<b>GIT</b>	<b>Renal</b>
<b>Na<sup>+</sup></b>	• high • low	excite excite	- -	- -	- -	- -
<b>K<sup>+</sup></b>	• high • low	- -	depress excite	weakness weakness	- ileus	- DI-renal
<b>Ca<sup>++</sup></b>	• high • low	depress excite	slow depress	weakness excite	N & V -	DI renal -
<b>HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup></b>	• high • low	- depress	depress depress	- weakness	- -	- -
<b>Mg<sup>++</sup></b>	• high • low	depress -	depress excite	weakness -	- -	- DI renal

## HEAT STROKE

**Def'n:** excessive heat storage due to combination of overheating and failure of the thermoregulatory system → "*cardinal features*"

1. hyperthermia  $\geq 40^{\circ}\text{C}$
2. hot, dry skin
3.  $\pm$  hypotension
4. severe CNS disturbance

• predisposing features,

- a. high environmental temperature
- b. impaired heat response
  - i. age - elderly, neonates
  - ii. obesity
  - iii. underlying disease - CCF, debilitating illness
- c. dehydration
- d. drugs - phenothiazines  
- atropine, anticholinergics  
- diuretics  
- alcohol
- e. excessive physical activity (relative)

■ Clinical Features

- a. CNS - confusion, convulsions, coma
- b. CVS - initially high CO / low SVR / hyperdynamic circulation  
- relative & absolute hypovolaemia  
- later CO & SVR fall, and PVR rises  
-  $\delta\text{ST-T waves} \propto$  myocardial injury
- c. respiratory - hyperventilation  
- initially respiratory alkalosis  
- later respiratory / metabolic acidosis  
- aspiration, ARDS, LVF
- d. muscle - rhabdomyolysis
- e. renal - ATN, myoglobinuric renal failure
- f. metabolic - hyperthermia  
- high  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{HPO}_4^-$ , LDH, CK  
- low  $\text{Ca}^{++}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{++}$  & glucose
- g. haematological - DIC, coagulopathy, liver failure

## ■ Treatment

- a. O<sub>2</sub> and respiratory support
- b. rehydration and CVS support
- c. rapid cooling
- d. prevention of renal failure - hydration and mannitol
- e. prevent *hypoglycaemia*
- f. manage *hyperkalaemia*
  - hyperventilation
  - Ca<sup>++</sup>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
  - insulin/glucose
  - resonium, dialysis
- g. anticonvulsants prn

## Fever / Hyperthermia

- a. *infectious causes*
  - i. common sites
    - surgical wounds
    - UTI, indwelling catheters
    - respiratory tract - upper & lower
    - line infection - IA, IV, CVC, PA
    - GIT - antibiotic induced colitis, ischaemic colitis  
- hepatitis  
- calculous/acalculous cholecystitis
  - ii. uncommon / occult sites
    - SBE
    - subphrenic, other intra-abdominal collection
    - cholangitis, ascending cholangitis
    - sinusitis, periodontal abscess
    - decubitus ulcers
    - prostatitis, endometritis
    - meningo-encephalitis
    - parasitic, eg. malaria
    - TB

- b. *non-infectious causes*
- i. inflammatory
    - pancreatitis
    - vasculitis
    - acute arthritis, gout
    - AMI
    - familial mediterranean fever
    - sarcoidosis
  - ii. autoimmune
    - SLE, RA, PAN, temporal arteritis
    - Wegener's granulomatosis (cANCA<sup>+</sup>)
    - Kawasaki's disease
  - iii. allergic
    - blood transfusion, blood products
    - drug induced fever (see below)
  - iv. blood-borne
    - haemolysis, transfusion reaction
    - DVT, pulmonary embolus
    - internal haemorrhage (CNS, joints, AAA, retroperitoneal)
    - cyclic neutropaenia
  - v. metabolic
    - hypercalcaemia
    - adrenal insufficiency
  - vi. hyperthermic syndromes
    - MH, malignant neuroleptic syndrome
    - heat stroke
    - hyperthyroidism
    - central anticholinergic syndrome
  - vii. neoplasm
    - lymphomas, carcinoma (renal, colon)
    - hepatoma, liver secondaries
    - atrial myxoma
    - carcinoid
  - viii. drugs
    - ↑ production | ↓ heat loss
    - disordered central regulation
    - mixed
      - withdrawal syndromes
      - sympathomimetics
      - epileptogenics
      - salicylates
      - phenothiazines
      - anticholinergics
      - MH & MNS triggers
    - delerium tremens, opioids, other
    - vasoconstriction & muscle activity
    - ↑ VO<sub>2</sub>, reset hypothalamic set-point
    - CNS regulation
    - in overdose
  - ix. others
    - Fabry's disease
    - hyperlipidaemias
    - granulomatous hepatitis

### ■ Mechanisms of Drug-Induced Fever

1. overdose
2. withdrawal syndrome
3. allergic reaction
4. interference with temperature regulation
  - i. central
    - hypothalamic set-point
    - sympathetic outflow
  - ii. peripheral
    - skin vasomotor tone, sweating
5. alteration of BMR
  - i. alteration of cellular activity - basal  $\text{VO}_2$
  - ii. uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation
6. hyperthermic syndrome triggers
  - i. malignant hyperpyrexia
  - ii. neuroleptic malignant syndrome
7. antibiotic induced superinfection



## ■ Cardiovascular

1. increased sympathetic tone -  $\uparrow$  plasma NA/AD and FFA's
2. initially  $\rightarrow$  vasoconstriction, tachycardia &  $\uparrow$  CO  
*later*  $\rightarrow$  bradycardia, hypotension &  $\downarrow$  CO
3. cardiac output -  $\downarrow$  CO  $\sim$  30-40% at 30°C  $\propto$  decrease in  $VO_2$   
- mainly 2° to **bradycardia**, SV well preserved  
- coronary perfusion well maintained
4. ECG changes - exacerbated by **acidosis & hyperkalaemia**
  - i. bradycardia / shivering artefact
  - ii.  $\uparrow$  PR, QRS,  $QT_C$  duration
  - iii. J point elevation  $\leq 33^\circ\text{C}$   
- delayed repolarisation of inferior heart surface
  - iv. AF  $\sim 25\text{-}34^\circ\text{C}$  (commonest arrhythmia)
  - v. AV block  $1^\circ \sim 30^\circ\text{C}$   
 $3^\circ \sim 20^\circ$
  - vi. VF  $\leq 28^\circ\text{C}$
  - vii. asystole  $\leq 20^\circ\text{C}$
5. CPK & LDH levels are elevated
  - ? leakage from cells or microinfarction

## ■ Central Nervous System

- reasonably well preserved to 33°C, below this function deteriorates progressively,
  1. initial confusion  $\rightarrow$  coma at  $\sim 30^\circ\text{C}$  with **pupillary dilatation**
  2.  $\downarrow$  CBF  $\propto$   $\downarrow$  C- $VO_2$   $\sim 6\text{-}7\% / ^\circ\text{C}$   
 $\sim$  similar change cf. whole body  $VO_2$
  3. progressive brainstem depression  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  HR &  $\downarrow$  RR
  4.  $\downarrow$  **temperature regulation**  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  shivering  $\leq 33^\circ\text{C}$   
 $\rightarrow$  loss of temperature control  $\leq 28^\circ\text{C}$
  5. cerebral protection
    - i. greater than achieved by metabolic depression
    - ii. deep circulatory arrest
    - iii. recovery from near drowning

## ■ Pulmonary Changes

1. central depression →  $\downarrow RR \leq 33^\circ\text{C} \sim 4 \text{ bpm} \pm$  respiratory arrest at  $25^\circ\text{C}$   
 $\downarrow \text{CO}_2$  drive  
 \* no change in *hypoxic drive*
2. impaired cough & gag reflexes → *aspiration risk*
3.  $\uparrow V/Q$  mismatch
  - i. impaired hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction
  - ii.  $\downarrow \text{FRC}$  → atelectasis
  - iii.  $\downarrow$  gaseous diffusion capacity
4.  $\uparrow \text{VO}_2$  with *shivering* →  $\downarrow \text{VO}_2 \leq 33^\circ\text{C}$
5.  $\uparrow \text{HbO}_2$  affinity / *left shift* →  $\downarrow \text{O}_2$  availability
6.  $\uparrow$  *gas solubility*
  - i.  $\uparrow \alpha\text{CO}_2 / \downarrow P_{\text{aCO}_2}$  →  $\uparrow \text{pH}$  (but, also  $\uparrow$  neutral point of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )
  - ii. anaesthetic gases →  $\downarrow$  rate of rise of  $F_A/F_I$  & elimination  
 - halothane  $\text{MAC}_{27^\circ\text{C}} \sim 50\% \text{ MAC}_{37^\circ\text{C}}$

## ■ Metabolic

1.  $\downarrow \text{VO}_2 \sim 6\text{-}7\% / ^\circ\text{C}$
2. severe *acidosis* →  $\text{HbO}_2$  curve shifts to the *right*
  - i. respiratory  $\downarrow \text{CO}_2$  elimination due to hypoventilation
  - ii. metabolic  $\downarrow$  tissue perfusion  
 $\downarrow$  hepatic lactate clearance  
 $\downarrow$  renal tubular  $\text{H}^+$  excretion
  - iii. temperature correction of blood gas values offers *no advantage* in management  
 $\rightarrow \delta \text{pH} \sim -0.0147 / ^\circ\text{C}$
3. *hyperkalaemia / hypokalaemia*
  - causes for expected rise in  $\text{K}^+$ 
    - i. decreased activity  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+\text{-ATPase}$  →  $\downarrow \text{Na}^+ / \uparrow \text{K}^+$
    - ii. cellular hypoxia, membrane damage & acidosis
  - however, *hypokalaemia* is more commonly observed
    - i. ?  $2^\circ$  diuresis
    - ii. ICF shift
4. *hyperglycaemia* -  $\downarrow$  insulin secretion &  $\downarrow$  peripheral glucose utilisation  
 - ? mild pancreatitis  
 - hypoglycaemia may ensue in longstanding hypothermia
5.  $\uparrow$  drug  $t_{1/2\beta} \propto \downarrow$  hepatic blood flow & enzyme reaction rates  
 $\rightarrow$  *heparin, citrate & lactate*

## ■ Renal

1. ↓ GFR    ∞    ↓ renal blood flow    ~ 50% at 30°C  
              →    ↓ drug clearance
2. decreased tubular function
  - i. cold diuresis                    - volume of urine initially increased or the same
  - ii. hypoosmolar urine
  - iii. glycosuria, kaluria            → additional diuresis

## ■ Neuromuscular Junction

1. shivering occurs                ~ 33-36°C
2. ↑ muscle tone            →    **myoclonus** ~ 26°C
3. ↑ sensitivity to **both** depolarising & nondepolarising NMBs with mild hypothermia

## ■ Haematological

1. **coagulopathy**
  - i. ↓ coagulation                    ↓ enzyme activity
  - ii. thrombocytopenia            ↑ portal/splenic platelet sequestration  
  ↑ bleeding time
2. increased blood **viscosity**    - dehydration, haemoconcentration & ↑ Hct.  
  - ↓ rbc deformability  
  - ↓ microcirculatory blood flow
3. **immunoparesis**                - ↓ WCC (sequestration) & function
4. marrow hypoplasia

## ■ Immunological

1. decreased neutrophils, phagocytes, migration, bactericidal activity
2. organ hypoperfusion & increased infection risk
3. diminished gag / cough reflexes
4. atelectasis

## ■ Monitoring

- a. central      - lower oesophageal & PA      →    heart  
                    - tympanic membrane              →    brain
- b. rectal        - intermediate  
                    - changes lag behind core/shell during cooling & warming
- c. shell         - skin/peripheral  
                    - may estimate vasoconstrictor/vasodilator responses

**NB:** useful to measure both core & shell,

- core-shell gradient**      →    better assessment of overall body temperature
- adequacy of rewarming & predicts "afterdrop"

## ■ Management

- 1. resuscitation
  - major hazard is peripheral vasodilatation & **hypovolaemia**
- 2. monitoring
  - i. routine BP, HR, RR, GCS
  - ii. T°, ECG, U/Output
  - iii. EC&U, AGA's, FBE
  - iv. **blood cultures** & septic work-up
- 3. rewarming
  - i. **passive**      ~ 0.5-1.0°C / hr in the absence of shivering  
                    ~ 0.5-2.0°C / hr with shivering
    - adequate for the vast majority of cases
    - only require active rewarming if haemodynamically unstable
  - ii. **active**
    - surface - 'Bear hugger' type  
                    - temperatures no greater than 40 °C, cease at ~ 35°C
    - core      - CVVHD, CPB, PD  
                    - should be ceased at ~ 33°C
- 4. antibiotics      - broad spectrum cover pending cultures

## ■ Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest

- a. defibrillation virtually useless < 30°C
- b. extracorporeal rewarming if possible
- c. don't pronounce dead until T > 35°C
- d. normally **hypokalaemic**, if markedly hyperkalaemic then unlikely to succeed

## MORBID OBESITY

*Def'n: body mass index* > **35**      BMI = kg/ht(m)<sup>2</sup>  
    ~ 22-28      normal  
    > 42      MO in pregnancy  
          > **2x** ideal body weight, or  
          > **45 kg** over ideal body weight

### ■ Pathophysiology

1. BMR increased *proportionally* to body weight
2. *cardiovascular*
  - i. ↑ blood volume, plasma volume & cardiac output ∝ ↑ weight
  - ii. adipose BF ~ 20-30 ml/kg at rest → ↑ CO ~ 1.5 l/min / 50 kg
  - iii. HR usually unchanged, \ ↑ CO ∝ - SV
  - iv. ↑ CO ∝ ↑ VO<sub>2</sub> → δCa-vO<sub>2</sub> normal
  - v. later develop progressive *hypertensive* and *ischaemic heart disease*
    - progressive dilatation of LV, ↓ exercise response & ↑ LVEDP
  - vi. reduced *exercise tolerance*
3. *respiratory*
  - i. ↑ VO<sub>2</sub> → ↑ CO<sub>2</sub> production
  - ii. altered lung mechanics ∝ loading of thoracic wall with fat
    - ↓ FRC & ERV predominantly
    - encroachment of closing capacity on FRC
    - ↓ chest wall compliance
    - ↑ work of breathing
  - iii. ↑ V/Q mismatch - increased δP<sub>A-aO<sub>2</sub></sub> ± *hypoxia*
    - the young obese usually have normal blood gases
    - daytime hypoxaemia associated with OSAS
  - iv. tendency to *hypercapnia* with increased loads
    - increase in V<sub>M</sub> & max P<sub>Insp.</sub> with ↑ P<sub>aCO<sub>2</sub></sub> diminished
  - v. central CO<sub>2</sub> / O<sub>2</sub> drive abnormalities →
    - *obesity hypoventilation syndrome* - central
    - *obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome* - central & peripheral
4. *endocrine*
  - i. higher than normal calorie intake
  - ii. ↑ *glucose intolerance*, NIDDM
  - iii. ↑ pancreatic dysfunction

## 5. *gastrointestinal*

- i. gastric stasis / reflux due to hiatal hernia → ↑ *aspiration risk*
- ii. > 90% have fasting gastric volume > 0.4 ml/kg & pH < 2.5
  - risk data from Roberts & Shirley in Rhesus monkeys
  - not supported by subsequent studies (Raidoo *et al.*)
- iii. fatty liver infiltration
- iv. hepatic dysfunction 2° intestinal bypass

## 6. *general*

- i. intubation
  - decreased atlanto-axial movement
  - chin & upper thoracic fat pads
  - large tongue, palatal & pharyngeal fat pads
- ii. technical problems
  - CVC insertion
  - IV access
  - epidural catheters, etc.
  - \* patient transfers
- iii. reduced *immune response*
- iv. skin infections - bacterial & fungal
- v. psychology
- vi. increased risk of,
  - IHD, CVD
  - DVT/PTE
  - perioperative morbidity & mortality
  - infections

## 7. *pharmacokinetics/dynamics*

- i. ↓ percentage body water & muscle mass / ↑ percentage fat
- ii. *hepatic dysfunction* ∝ fatty infiltration
- iii. high incidence of *cholelithiasis* & *pancreatitis*
- iv. *hydrophilic drugs* - NMJ blockers
  - similar absolute volumes of distribution, clearance & elimination half-lives
  - vecuronium administered mg/kg has prolonged activity, suggesting relative overdose → dose based on *lean body mass*
  - atracurium recovery similar to non-obese
- v. *lipophilic drugs* - STP, BZD's
  - ↑  $V_{dss}$  & normal clearance → ↑ elimination half-lives
- vi. fentanyl kinetics similar to non-obese
  - alfentanil/sufentanil → ↑  $t_{1/2\beta}$
- vii. ↑ plasma *pseudocholinesterase* activity → SCh ~ 1.5 mg/kg

## ■ Anaesthetic Management

1. **premedication**
  - H<sub>2</sub> blockers, metoclopramide, clear antacid
  - anticholinergics if fiberoptic intubation anticipated
  - sedatives only when the patient can be monitored
2. **monitoring**
  - ECG → II + V<sub>5</sub>
  - IABP, NIBP difficult and increased inaccuracy
  - F<sub>I</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, S<sub>p</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, spirometry, ETCO<sub>2</sub>, Temp., PNS
3. **airway maintenance**
  - \* always use an ETT, CP & RSI
  - mask SV → ↑ ETCO<sub>2</sub> & ↓ S<sub>p</sub>O<sub>2</sub>
  - ≤ 13% incidence of **difficult intubation**, \ prepare !
  - ? awake fiberoptic if 75% > IBW
  - skilled assistance where possible
4. **general anaesthesia**
  - STP ≤ 7 mg/kg, but allowances for CVS dysfunction
  - ↑ % volatile agents presented to the liver for metabolism → **isoflurane**
  - supposition of prolonged recovery from volatile agents has been **disproven**
  - SV relatively contraindicated → hypercarbia, hypoxia
  - N<sub>2</sub>O would appear logical due to low solubility, but ↓'s F<sub>I</sub>O<sub>2</sub>
  - ↓ FRC & ↑ VO<sub>2</sub> → rapid desaturation, \ initial F<sub>I</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 1.0
  - extubation when fully reversed & awake
5. **regional anaesthesia**
  - SA & epidural dose requirements for MO patients are ~ 70-80% of normal
  - SA block to T<sub>5</sub> results in little change in ventilatory function
  - SA block > T<sub>5</sub> may produce significant desaturation/hypercarbia, accompanying autonomic blockade may result in CVS compromise
  - MO patient should receive supplemental O<sub>2</sub> and minimal sedation
  - monitoring should be the same cf. GA
6. **postoperative considerations**
  - ↑ incidence of complications with
    - PH<sub>x</sub> of CVS or RS disease
    - thoracic or abdominal operations
  - hypoxaemia may persist ≤ 7 days following intra-abdominal surgery & is a universal finding → **all** should have **supplemental oxygen**
  - ↑ incidence of DVT & **all** should have **heparin** prophylaxis ± leg stockings
  - IM drug administration may be unreliable & unpredictable, \ intravascular route should be used
  - PCA is preferable to IV infusions as lesser total dose
  - **epidural** administration is associated with a lower incidence of respiratory complications & ? faster recovery
  - postoperative analgesic doses (opioid + LA) are the same cf. normal patients
  - patients with a strong history of OSAS / OHS should be observed for the first 24-48 hours in a **high dependency area**

## PORPHYRIA

**Def'n:** group of metabolic disorders of porphyrin production,  
2 functional groups,

### 1. *hepatic porphyrias*

- i. porphyria cutanea tarda (PCT)      \* *commonest form*  
    → uroporphyrinogen decarboxylase deficiency
- ii. acute intermittent porphyria (AIP)  
    → uroporphyrinogen synthetase I deficiency
- iii. variegate porphyria (VP)  
    → ? protoporphyrin oxidase deficiency
- iv. hereditary coproporphyria (HC)  
    → coproporphyrin synthetase deficiency

### 2. *erythropoietic porphyrias*

- i. congenital erythropoietic uroporphyria (CEU)\*  
    → uroporphyrinogen synthetase II deficiency
- ii. erythropoietic protoporphyria (EP)  
    → ferrochelatase deficiency

**NB:** all are *autosomal dominant*, except the rare CEU\*

Clinical Features							
Type	AIP	PCT	VP	HC		CEU	EP
photosensitivity	-	+	+	±		+	+
liver affected	+	+	+	+		-	+
CNS involvement	+	-	+	+		-	+
barbiturate sens <sup>y</sup>	+++	-	++	++		-	-
Abnormal Metabolites							
red cells	-	-	-	-		+	+
urine	+	+	+	+		+	-
faeces	-	-	+	+		+	+
urine colour	black	pink brown				red	

■ Clinical Features

- usually relate to either *skin* or *neurological* abnormalities
- the *hepatic porphyrias* are characterised by the 4 "P's",
  1. abdominal *pain*
  2. *peripheral neuritis*
  3. *psychosis*
  4. *port-wine* / purple urine

## Acute Intermittent Porphyria

- **autosomal dominant** disorder of porphyrin metabolism
- most serious of the hepatic porphyrias
- **uroporphyrinogen synthetase** deficiency → accumulation of **porphobilinogen**
- diagnostic features include,
  1. ↑ urinary  $\delta$ ALA and porphobilinogen during an attack
  2. urine turns **black** on standing
  3. ↓ RBC uroporphyrinogen synthetase level

### ■ Clinical Features

- a. usually young to middle aged female
- b. episodes of acute **abdominal pain**
- c. variable neurological defects due to **demyelination**,
  - i. motor weakness
  - ii. areflexia
  - iii. autonomic dysfunction
  - iv. occasional bulbar and cerebellar signs \*Δ GBS
- d. trigger factors
  - starvation, dehydration
  - sepsis
  - pregnancy
  - drugs
- e. alleged trigger drugs \* **barbiturates & benzodiazepines**
  - ketamine, althesin, etomidate
  - ethanol, phenytoin
  - glutethimide, pentazocine
  - steroids and sulpha's
- f. alleged "safe" drugs
  - volatiles, N<sub>2</sub>O
  - fentanyl, morphine, pethidine
  - **propofol**, droperidol, propanidid
  - relaxants, anticholinergics & anticholinesterases
  - promethazine, chlorpromazine

### ■ Management

- a. rehydrate
- b. IV **dextrose** - decreases porphobilinogen production
- c. **haematin** 3-4 mg/kg/day - blocks  $\delta$ ALA synthetase
- d. pain control - chlorpromazine ± opioids
- e. IPPV may be required for respiratory failure

## Reperfusion Injury

**Def'n:** pathophysiological changes occurring in ischaemic organs upon reperfusion

- determinants of severity,
  1. organ type
  2. organ blood flow
  3. ischaemic time
  4. cellular  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  content
  5. ?? plasma glucose at onset of ischaemia
  6. circulatory status upon reperfusion
  7. oxygen content of reperfusing blood
  
- "critical" ischaemic times for vital organs,
  1. brain ~ 10 min
  2. heart ~ 60 min
  3. limbs ~ 120-180 min
  4. gut ??
  
- cellular events leading to tissue damage,
  - a.  $\uparrow$  ATP metabolites
    - ADP, cAMP
    - adenosine, inosine
    - hypoxanthine / xanthine
    - \* *xanthine dehydrogenase* /  $\text{NAD}^+$
  - b. increased substrate
  - c. production of  $\text{O}_2^-$  instead of NADH (low  $\text{NAD}^+$ )
  - d. neutrophil chemotaxis
    - production of  $\text{O}_2$  radicals occurs in initial *reperfusion*
  
- production of  $\text{O}_2$  radicals is *increased* by,
  1.  $\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$
  2. neutrophils, leukotrienes
  3.  $\text{Fe}^{+++}$
  4. hyperthermia
  5. increased  $\text{Ca}^{++}$
  6. nitric oxide
  7. f-met-leu-phen

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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- production of O<sub>2</sub> radicals is *decreased* by,
  1. vitamins E & C
  2. folate
  3. selenium
  4. PGE<sub>1</sub>
  5. lipoxygenase inhibitors
  6. Ca<sup>++</sup> entry blockers
  7. glutathione
  8. SH-group containing compounds
  9. xanthine oxidase inhibitors - allopurinol
  10. hypothermia
  11. low O<sub>2</sub>
  
- potentially harmful *mediators* released during reperfusion,
  1. CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sup>+</sup>, lactate
  2. K<sup>+</sup>, HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>
  3. activated coagulation factors, FDP's, thromboplastins
  4. Hb, myoglobin
  5. prostaglandins, leukotrienes, cellular enzymes
  6. membrane lipids & metabolites
  
- these produce a number of deleterious effects,
  - a. cellular destruction
    - protein, DNA
    - membrane, lysosomes
    - mitochondria
  - b. local effects
    - vasodilatation
    - increased vascular permeability
    - interstitial oedema
    - extravascular matrix disruption
  - c. specific tissue effects
    - reperfusion arrhythmias
    - disruption of BBB
    - rhabdomyolysis
  - d. systemic
    - decreased SVR
    - venodilatation
    - high or low CO
  - e. myoglobin induced renal failure
  - f. metabolic lactic acidosis

- *Clinical Examples*

- a. myocardium after CPB
- b. lower limbs after AOX-clamp- AAA
- c. rhabdomyolysis, crush injuries
- d. prolonged hypovolaemic shock
- e. cardiogenic shock
- f. ARDS
- g. brain after hypoxic event, trauma

## RHABDOMYOLYSIS

**Def'n:** the disintegration or dissolution of muscle,  
associated with the excretion of *myoglobin* in the urine

### ■ Aetiology

1. skeletal muscle *trauma* | *ischaemia* | *exhaustion*
  - i. crush | compartment syndromes
  - ii. burns, electric shock
  - iii. hyperthermic syndromes
    - heat stroke
    - malignant hyperthermia, malignant neurolept syndrome
  - iv. arterial embolism | thrombosis
  - v. tourniquets | antishock trousers
  - vi. drug induced
    - suxamethonium in myopathic disorders
    - myopathic
      - alcohol, salicylates, amphetamines
      - aminophylline, phencyclidine, LSD, heroin
    - overdose of any sedative agent & pressure necrosis
  - vii. envenomation
  - viii. overuse
    - prolonged exercise, pretibial syndrome
    - status epilepticus, tetanus
    - delerium tremens
2. infection / inflammation
  - i. viral myositis
  - ii. gas gangrene | synergistic necrotizing "Cellulitis"
  - iii. Legionnaires' disease
  - iv. acute polymyositis
3. metabolic defects
  - i. severe
    - hypokalaemia  $\leq 2.5$  mmol/l
    - hypophosphataemia
    - hyperosmolality
  - ii. myxoedema | thyrotoxicosis
  - iii. McArdle's syndrome
4. familial myoglobinuria
5. muscular dystrophy

**NB:** systemic release of *myoglobin* by itself is *not nephrotoxic*, however when combined with hypotension and renal hypoperfusion may result in ATN

## ■ Investigations

1. muscle compartment pressures
  - normal < 10 mmHg
  - if > 30-40 mmHg, or > BP<sub>Dias</sub> - 30 mmHg → *fasciotomy*
2. biochemistry
  - high CPK ~ 30-50,000 (CK-MM) > 5x or greater
  - high K<sup>+</sup> & HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup>
  - low HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> & Ca<sup>++</sup>
  - hyperuricaemia
  - ↑ LDH, AST
  - metabolic acidosis - high anion gap
  - thrombocytopenia & haemoconcentration
3. myoglobinuria
  - false negative tests may occur in up to **36%** of cases
  - both haemoglobin & myoglobin test positive to urine "dipstick"

## ■ Crush Injuries & Renal Failure

1. activation of renin-angiotensin system, ↑ catechoamines & ADH
2. nephrotoxicity of *myoglobinuria* & *uricosuria*
  - potentiated by acidification & concentration in tubules
3. acute increase in plasma Ca<sup>++</sup>-PO<sub>4</sub><sup>=</sup> product
  - may result in suppression of renal function
4. *microthrombi* in renal vasculature

## ■ Complications

1. hyperkalaemia
  - weakness
  - bradycardia, cardiac arrest
2. hyperphosphataemia
  - hypocalcaemia, hypomagnesaemia
3. myoglobinuric renal failure
  - ATN
4. muscle infection
  - gangrene
  - tetanus
  - gram (+)'ves
5. systemic inflammatory response
  - reperfusion injury
  - ARDS
  - sepsis syndrome
  - MODS, DIC

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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## ■ Management

1. early, aggressive IVT to support intravascular volume & urine output
  - saline loading → prevent hypovolaemia / dehydration
2. mannitol
  - theoretically increases proximal tubular flow & reduces effects of pigmenturia
  - supported by the "Israeli" school but no controlled trials to support use
3. bicarbonate
  - alkalinisation of urine improves solubility of myoglobin, ∴ reducing cast formation
  - animal studies showing reduction in ATN
  - cf mannitol, no controlled trials to support use
4. acetazolamide
  - increases proximal tubular output & alkalinises tubular lumen
5. treat hyperkalaemia
  - $\text{Ca}^{++}/\text{HCO}_3^-$
  - insulin/dextrose
  - ± dialysis

## ■ Management Israel (Nephron 1990)

1. early aggressive volume replacement, preferably at the scene of injury
  - immediate resuscitation
  - N.saline or Ringer's lactate @ 1500 ml/hr adult  
@ 20 ml/kg/hr child
2. forced mannitol-alkaline diuresis
  - 5% Dextrose + NaCl 70 mmol
  - + mannitol 20% 50 ml = 10g
  - + bicarbonate 8.4% 50 ml = 50 mmol
  - @ **500 ml/hr**
  - 12 l/day → 600g dextrose = **2400 kcal**  
840 mmol NaCl + **600 mmol NaHCO<sub>3</sub>**  
120 g mannitol
3. acetazolamide
  - if plasma pH > 7.45
  - due to enhancement of metastatic calcification

## Intravenous Fluids

### ■ Normal Saline     **0.9%**

- Na<sup>+</sup>            ~ 154 mmol
- Cl<sup>-</sup>            ~ 154 mmol
- pH             ~ 5-7
- osmolality    ~ 308 mmol/l, ie. *hypertonic* (measured)

### ■ 4% Dextrose & 0.18% Saline

- Na<sup>+</sup>            ~ 30 mmol/l
- Cl<sup>-</sup>            ~ 30 mmol/l
- dextrose      ~ 222 mmol/l
- pH             ~ 3.3-5.5
- calories      ~ 160 kcal
- osmolality    ~ 282 mosm/l

### ■ 5% Dextrose

- dextrose      ~ 277 mmol/l     (slightly hypoosmolar)
- pH             ~ 3-5
- calories      ~ 200 kcal

### ■ Hartmann's Compound Sodium Lactate

- Na<sup>+</sup>            ~ 131 mmol/l
- Cl<sup>-</sup>            ~ 111 mmol/l
- K<sup>+</sup>            ~ 5.0 mmol/l
- Ca<sup>++</sup>         ~ 2.0 mmol/l
- lactate        ~ 29 mmol/l
- pH             ~ 5-7 (6.5)
- osmolality    ~ 278 mosm/l    - slightly hypotonic

- advantages,

- more physiological than D<sub>5</sub>W or N.Saline
- less postoperative Na<sup>+</sup> retention
- less acidosis than D<sub>5</sub>W
- enhances H<sup>+</sup>/HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> excretion

- disadvantages,

- lactate converted to glucose
- lactate not metabolised in hepatic failure, hypotensive arrest etc.
- 25-30% retained in the intravascular compartment
- Ca<sup>++</sup>            - coagulation

## ■ Plasmalyte

- Na<sup>+</sup> ~ 140 mmol/l
- Cl<sup>-</sup> ~ 98 mmol/l
- K<sup>+</sup> ~ 5 mmol/l
- Mg<sup>++</sup> ~ 1.5 mmol/l
- Gluconate ~ 23 mmol/l
- Acetate ~ 27 mmol/l
- Osmo ~ 294 mosm/l
- pH ~ 5.5

## ■ Haemaccel

- synthetic polypeptide plasma volume expander, **3.5% gelatin** solution, MW ~ 35,000-45,000
- gelatin prepared from hydrolysis of animal collagen, cross linked by urea bridges
- plasma expansion by ~ **70%** of infused volume
- renal excretion by GFR complete by 48 hours
- useful as a synthetic plasma substitute & as an insulin carrier
  - gelatin ~ 35g
  - Na<sup>+</sup> ~ 145 mmol/l
  - Cl<sup>-</sup> ~ 145 mmol/l
  - K<sup>+</sup> ~ **5.1** mmol/l
  - Ca<sup>++</sup> ~ **6.25** mmol/l
  - HSO<sub>4</sub>/HPO<sub>4</sub> ~ small amounts
  - pH ~ 7.3
  - osmolality ~ 300-306 mosm/l
- advantages,
  - a. cheap, safe, reliable synthetic colloid
  - b. low incidence of adverse reactions
  - c. renal excretion
  - d. long shelf half-life ~ 8 years at 15°C  
~ 3 years at 30°C
- disadvantages,
  - a. allergic reactions ~ 0.146%
    - skin rashes, pyrexia, anaphylactoid reaction
    - ? due to **hexamethylene diisocyanate**
    - renal failure rare
  - b. short t<sub>1/2β</sub> ~ 1.5-6 hrs
  - c. renal excretion
  - d. Ca<sup>++</sup> & K<sup>+</sup> problems in ARF patients

## ■ Dextrans

- polysaccharides produced by fermentation of sucrose by *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* bacteria
- these are then hydrolysed and fractionated into different molecular weights
- advantages,
  - a. stable, cheap, non-toxic
  - b. non-pyrogenic plasma substitutes & expanders

## ■ Dextran 40 - Rheomacrodex

- 10% (100g/l) solution in normal saline or 5% dextrose
- average MW ~ 40,000, osmolality ~ 350-370 mosm/kg, ie. **hypertonic**
- plasma  $t_{1/2\beta}$  ~ 2-3 hrs with ~ 5% being metabolised (70 mg/kg/day)
  - i. plasma volume expansion ~ **1.5-2x** infused volume
  - ii. thromboembolic prophylaxis
  - iii. rheological microcirculatory benefit
  - iv. CPB pump priming
- contraindications,
  - i. thrombocytopenia
  - ii. coagulopathy
  - iii. hypersensitivity
- problems,
  - i. hypervolaemia, circulatory overload, CCF
  - ii. anaphylactoid/anaphylactic reactions ~ 0.07%
    - reduced by Promit (0.001%)
  - iii. renal failure
- does **not** interfere with blood cross-matching or Coomb's testing
- maximum dose ~ 30 ml/kg/day

## ■ Dextran 70 - Macrodex

- 6% (60g/l) solution in normal saline or 5% dextrose
- average MW ~ 70,000, osmolality ~ 335 mosm/kg, ie. mildly **hypertonic**
- plasma  $t_{1/2\beta}$  ~ 6 hrs with ~ 5% being metabolised (70 mg/kg/day)
- problems are the same as for dextran 40, plus, interference with **haemostasis** with large volumes
  - a. fibrinogen coating
  - b. interferes with factor VIII
  - c. decreased platelet adhesion and aggregation

# Endocrinology & Metabolism

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■ NSA-5% Albuminex-5%

- heat treated plasma protein solution
- prepared from fractionated plasma from pooled human donors
- **pasteurised** to kill HBV etc.
- shelf-life ~ 5 years at 2-8°C and 1 year at 25°C
- **Na<sup>+</sup>-octanoate** is added to stabilise the short chain FFA and heat stabilise albumin
- NaOH is added to bring the pH to 7.0
  - protein 50g ~ 100% albumin
  - Na<sup>+</sup> ~ 140 mmol/l
  - Cl<sup>-</sup> ~ 125 mmol/l
  - octanoate ~ 8 mmol/l
  - pH ~ 7.0
  - osmolality ~ 300 mosm/kg
- main problem with SPPS was **anaphylactoid reactions** (~ 0.02%)  
? due to a heat labile **pre-kallikrein factor**
- other plasma substitutes include,
  - a. hydroxy ethyl starch - t<sub>1/2β</sub> ~ 24 hrs  
- reactions ~ 0.08%
  - b. fluosol DA
  - c. FFP
  - d. NSA | Albuminex-20%

Common Intravenous Solutions <sup>1</sup>									
Solution	Na <sup>+</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Ca <sup>++</sup>	Glu	Osm.	pH	Lact.	kJ/l
D <sub>5</sub> W	0	0	0	0	278	253	5	0	840
NaCl 0.9%	150	150	0	0	0	300	5.7	0	0
NaCl 3.0%	513	513	0	0	0	855	5.7	0	0
D <sub>4</sub> W / NaCl 0.18%	30	30	0	0	222	282	3.5-5.5	0	672
Hartmans	129	109	5	0	0	274	6.7	28	37.8
Plasmalyte	140	98	5			294	5.5	(27)	84
Haemaccel	145	145	5.1	6.25	0	293	7.3	0	0
NSA-5%	140	125	0	0	0		7	0	?
NSA-20%									?
Mannitol 20%	0	0	0	0	0	1,098	6.2	0	0
Dextran 70	154	154	0	0	0	300	4-7	0	0

<sup>1</sup> values in mmol/l, irrespective of common presentation volume

## Mixed Venous Oxygen Saturation

- rearranging the Fick equation for O<sub>2</sub> uptake,

$$C_{vO_2} = C_{aO_2} - VO_2/CO$$

- S<sub>vO<sub>2</sub></sub> and mixed venous P<sub>vO<sub>2</sub></sub> are used for the calculation of,
  1. cardiac output
  2. oxygen flux
  3. pulmonary shunt fraction
- S<sub>vO<sub>2</sub></sub> may be used as a rough guide of cardiac output,
  - ~ 75% normal
  - > 60% acceptable
  - < **60%** *cardiac failure*
  - < 40% cardiogenic shock

Low S <sub>vO<sub>2</sub></sub>	High S <sub>vO<sub>2</sub></sub>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• low cardiac output</li> <li>• increased VO<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• low P<sub>aO<sub>2</sub></sub></li> <li>• anaemia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• high CO and low VO<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• sepsis &amp; peripheral shunting</li> <li>• hypothermia</li> <li>• CN<sup>-</sup> toxicity</li> </ul>

### ■ Monitoring Pitfalls

- technical - wedged PA sample & factitious high S<sub>vO<sub>2</sub></sub>
- influenced by many factors
- represents **global** oxygenation & poor indicator of regional ischaemia/organ hypoperfusion
- trends more useful than single figures

## Wilson's Disease

**Def'n:** *autosomal recessive* disorder due to the inability to excrete copper cleaved from ceruloplasmin into the bile, resulting in,

1. accumulation of copper in brain, liver & other organs
2. inhibition of the formation of ceruloplasmin from apoceruloplasmin

### ■ Clinical Features

1. hepatic
  - i. acute hepatitis
  - ii. chronic active hepatitis
  - iii. cirrhosis
  - iv. asymptomatic hepatomegaly
2. CNS
  - i. resting, or intention tremors
  - ii. schizophrenia, manic-depressive psychoses, neuroses
3. Kayser-Fleischer rings

### ■ Diagnosis

1. serum ceruloplasmin < 200 mg/l
  - plus Kayser-Fleischer rings
2. serum ceruloplasmin < 200 mg/l
  - plus liver biopsy elevated copper deposition
3. treatment
  - lifelong penicillamine

## Hyperlipiaemia

### ■ Hypercholesterolaemia

1. familial lipid disorders
2. biliary obstruction
3. nephrotic syndrome
4. hypothyroidism
5. pancreatitis