

# Renal Clearance

Unit V

Chapter 28

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# Clearance

- “Clearance” describes the rate at which substances are removed (cleared) from the plasma.
- Renal clearance of a substance is the volume of plasma completely cleared of a substance per min by the kidneys.

# Clearance Technique

$$C_s \times P_s = U_s \times V$$

$$C_s = \frac{U_s \times V}{P_s} = \frac{\text{urine excretion rate}}{\text{Plasma conc}}$$

Where :

- $C_s$  = clearance of substance S
- $P_s$  = plasma conc. of substance S
- $U_s$  = urine conc. of substance S
- $V$  = urine flow rate

# Osmolar Clearance

osmolar clearance ( $C_{\text{osm}}$ ) = total clearance of solutes from the **blood**  
= Volume of plasma cleared of solutes each minute

$$C_{\text{osm}} = \frac{U_{\text{osm}} \times V}{P_{\text{osm}}}$$

where:

$U_{\text{osm}}$  = urine osmolarity

$V$  = urine flow rate

$P$  = plasma osmolarity

## example

If plasma osmolarity is 300 mOsm/L, urine osmolarity is 600 mOsm/L, and urine flow rate is 1 ml/min. Calculate the volume of plasma cleared of solutes each minute?

plasma osmolarity = 300 mOsm / L

urine osmolarity = 600 mOsm /L

urine flow rate = 1 ml/min



$$C_{\text{osm}} = \frac{U_{\text{osm}} \times V}{P_{\text{osm}}}$$

$$C_{\text{osm}} = \frac{600 \times 1/1000}{300}$$

$$= 0.002 \text{ L/min}$$

= 2 ml of plasma are being cleared of solute each minute

# “Free” Water Clearance ( $C_{H_2O}$ )

Free-water clearance ( $C_{H_2O}$ ) = rate of solute-free water excretion  
is calculated as the difference between water excretion (urine flow rate) and osmolar clearance

$$C_{H_2O} = V - C_{osm} = V - \frac{(U_{osm} \times \dot{V})}{P_{osm}}$$

If:  $U_{osm} < P_{osm}$ ,  $C_{H_2O} = +$  indicating water is being removed

If:  $U_{osm} > P_{osm}$ ,  $C_{H_2O} = -$  indicating water conservation

# Question

Given the following data, calculate “free water” clearance :

urine flow rate = 6.0 ml/min

urine osmolarity = 150 mOsm /L

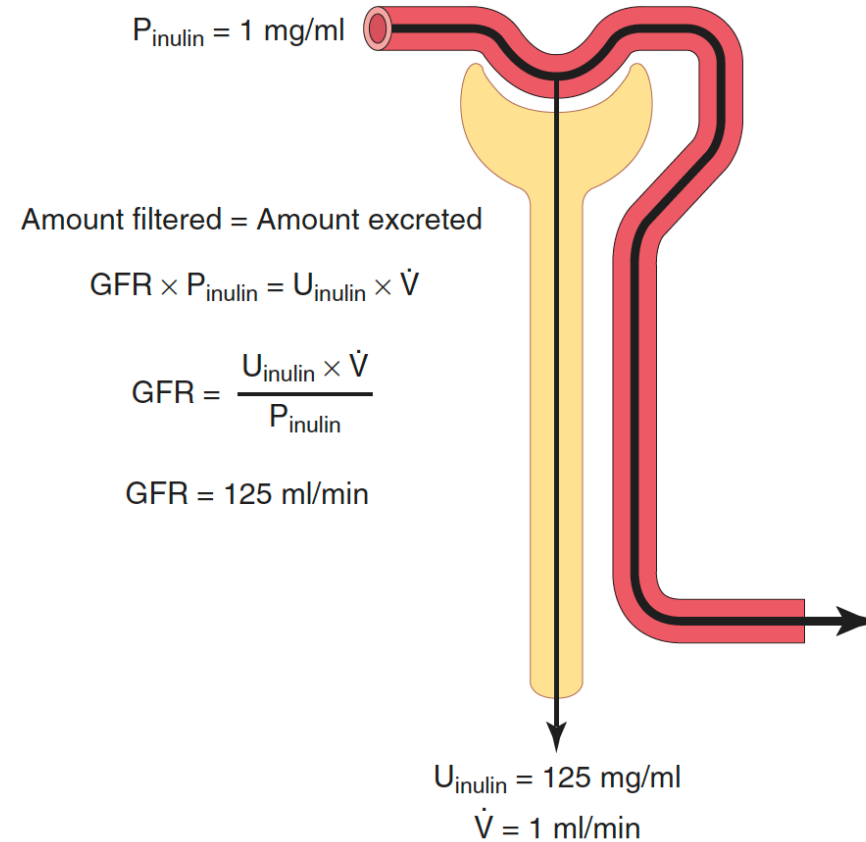
plasma osmolarity = 300 mOsm / L

→ Is free water clearance in this example positive or negative ?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CH}_2\text{O} &= V - \frac{U_{\text{osm}} \times V}{P_{\text{osm}}} &&= 6.0 - \frac{(150 \times 6)}{300} \\ &&&= 6.0 - 3.0 \\ &&&= + 3.0 \text{ ml / min (positive)} \end{aligned}$$

# Use of Clearance to Measure GFR

For a substance that is freely filtered, but not reabsorbed or secreted (inulin, <sup>125</sup>I-iothalamate, creatinine), renal clearance is equal to GFR

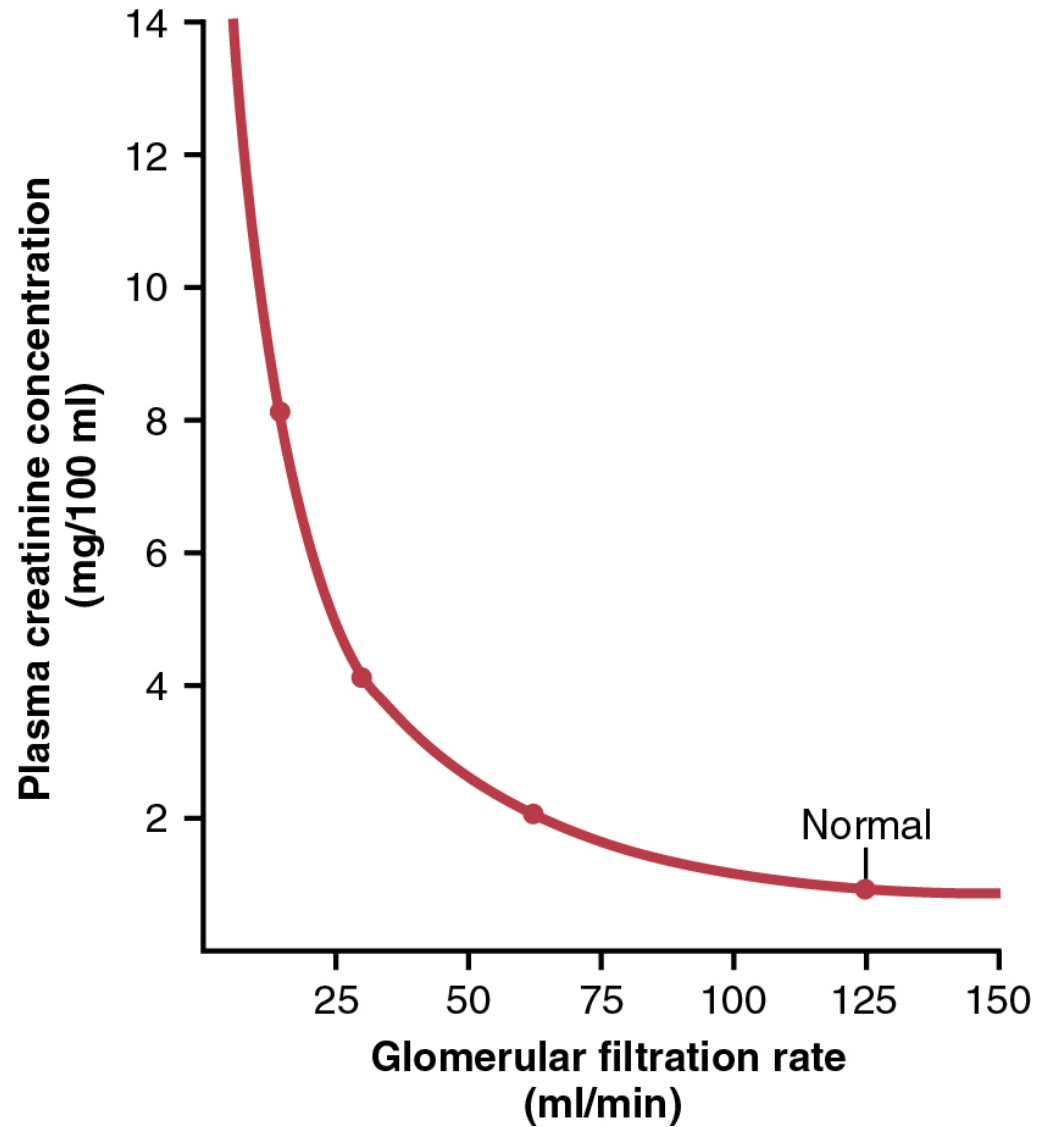




## **Creatinine clearance and plasma creatinine concentration can be used to estimate GFR**

- cleared from the body fluids almost entirely by glomerular filtration
- not require intravenous infusion
- is not a perfect marker of GFR because a small amount of it is **secreted** by the tubules → amount of creatinine excreted > amount filtered
- a slight error in measuring plasma creatinine

Plasma creatinine  
can be used to  
estimate changes  
in GFR



# Use of Clearance to Estimate Renal Plasma Flow

Theoretically, if a substance is completely cleared from the plasma, its clearance rate would equal renal plasma flow (RPF)

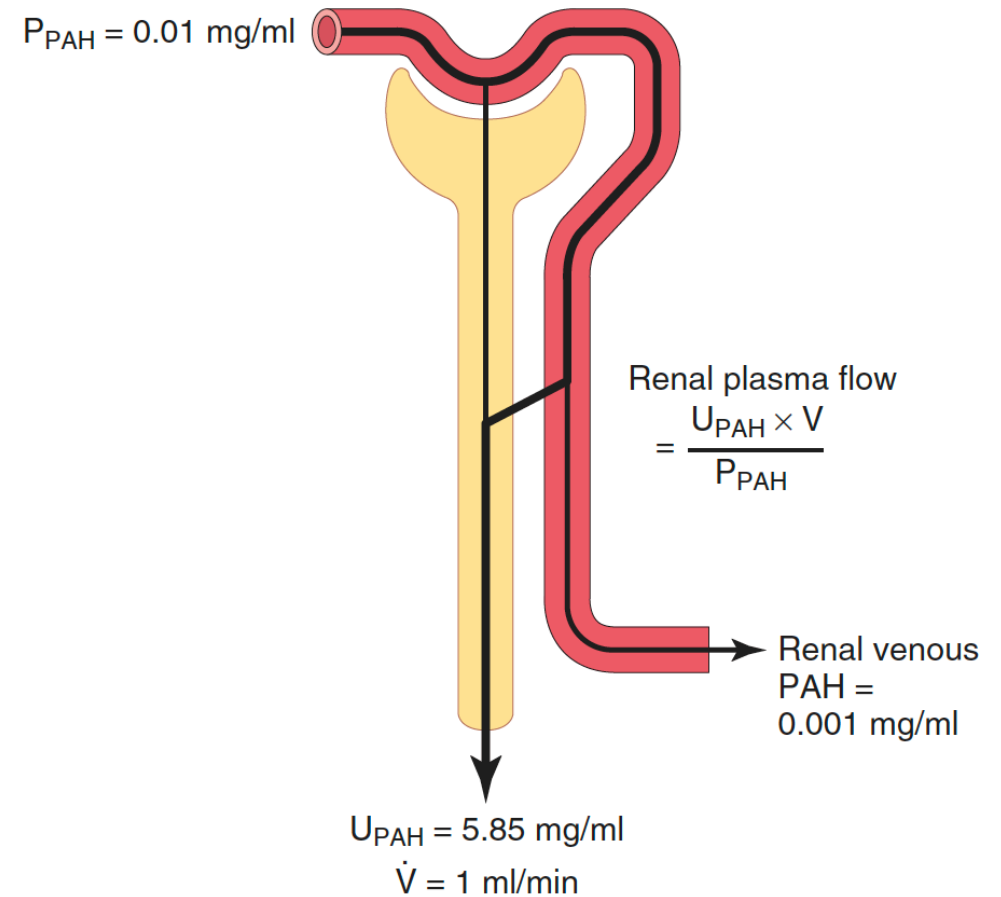
**Paraminohippuric acid (PAH) is 90% filtered and secreted and is almost completely cleared from the renal plasma**

amount of substance delivered to kidneys in blood = amount excreted in urine

$$(RPF \times P_s) = (U_s \times V)$$

$$RPF = U_s \times V / P_s = C_s$$

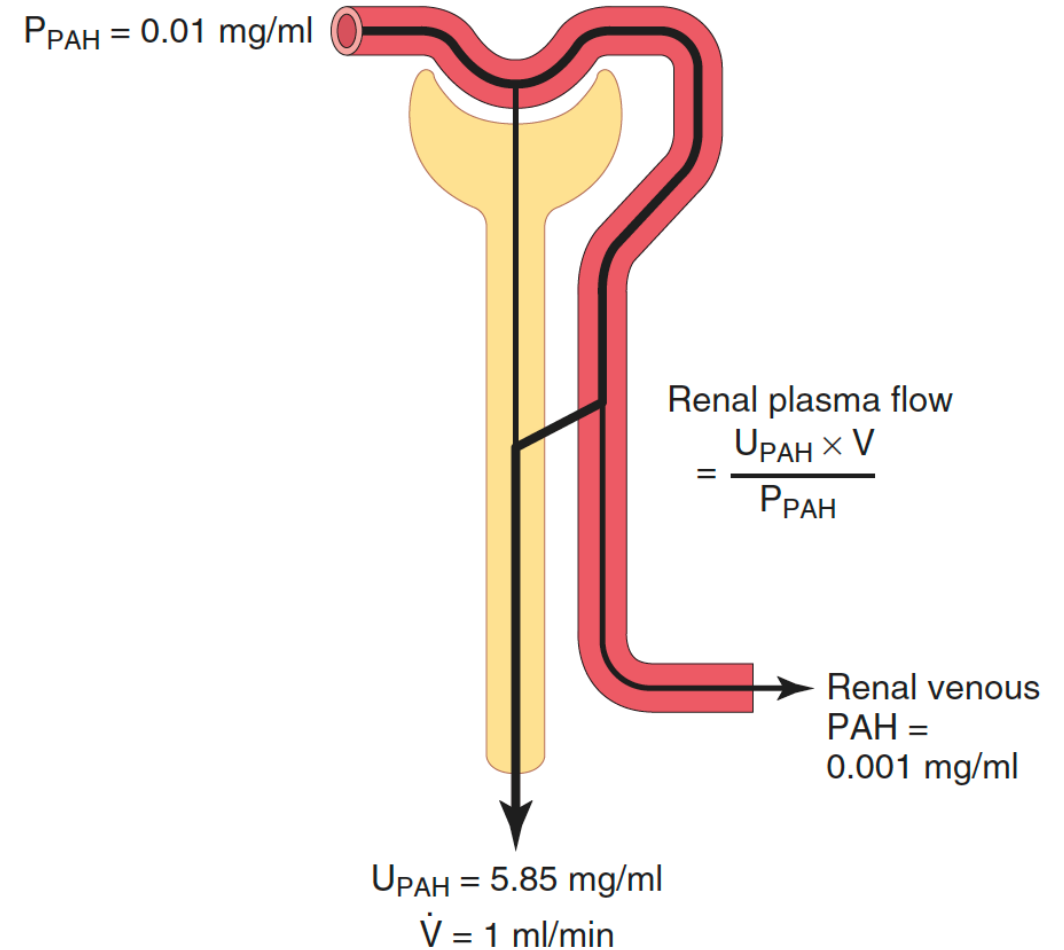
**C<sub>x</sub> = renal plasma flow**



# To calculate actual RPF , one must correct for incomplete extraction of PAH

$$E_{\text{PAH}} = \frac{A_{\text{PAH}} - V_{\text{PAH}}}{A_{\text{PAH}}}$$
$$= \frac{0.01 - 0.001}{0.01} = 0.9$$

normally,  $E_{\text{PAH}} = 0.9$   
i.e., PAH is 90% extracted



## **Filtration fraction is calculated from GFR divided by RPF**

RPF =PAH clearance

GFR =inulin clearance

If the RPF is 650 ml/min and the GFR is 125 ml/min, the filtration fraction (FF) is calculated as

$$FF = GFR/RPF = 125/650 = 0.19$$

# Calculation of Tubular Reabsorption

If the rates of **glomerular filtration** and **renal excretion** of a substance are known, one can calculate whether there is a net reabsorption or a net secretion of that substance by the renal tubules.

if the rate of **excretion** of the substance ( $U_s \times V$ ) < the **filtered** load of the substance ( $GFR \times P_s$ ), then some of the substance must have been **reabsorbed** from the renal tubules.

if the **excretion rate** of the substance > **filtered load**, then the rate of excretion = **sum of the rate of glomerular filtration plus tubular secretion.**

# Calculation of Tubular Reabsorption

$$\text{Reabsorption} = \text{Filtration} - \text{Excretion}$$

$$\text{Filt } s = \text{GFR} \times P_s$$

$$\text{Excret } s = U_s \times V$$

Urine flow rate = 1 ml/min

Urine concentration of sodium ( $U_{Na}$ ) = 70 mEq/L

= 70  $\mu$  Eq/ml

Plasma sodium concentration = 140 mEq/L

= 140  $\mu$  Eq/ml

GFR (inulin clearance) = 100 ml/min

Calculate

1-Filtered sodium load

2- Urinary sodium excretion

3- Tubular reabsorption

Answer

1-filtered sodium load= GFR  $\times$   $P_{Na}$

=100 ml/min  $\times$  140  $\mu$  Eq/ml = 14,000  $\mu$  Eq/min.

2-Urinary sodium excretion = $U_{Na}$   $\times$  urine flow rate=70  $\times$ 1 =70  $\mu$

Eq/min.

3- tubular reabsorption of Na= filtered load - urinary excretion

14,000  $\mu$  Eq/min – 70  $\mu$  Eq/min = 13,930  $\mu$  Eq/min.



# Acid-Base Regulation

## Chapter 31 Unit V

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## **Introduction**

Multiple acid-base buffering mechanisms are involved in maintaining normal  $H^+$  concentrations in both the extracellular and intracellular fluid:

1-blood

2-cells

3-lungs

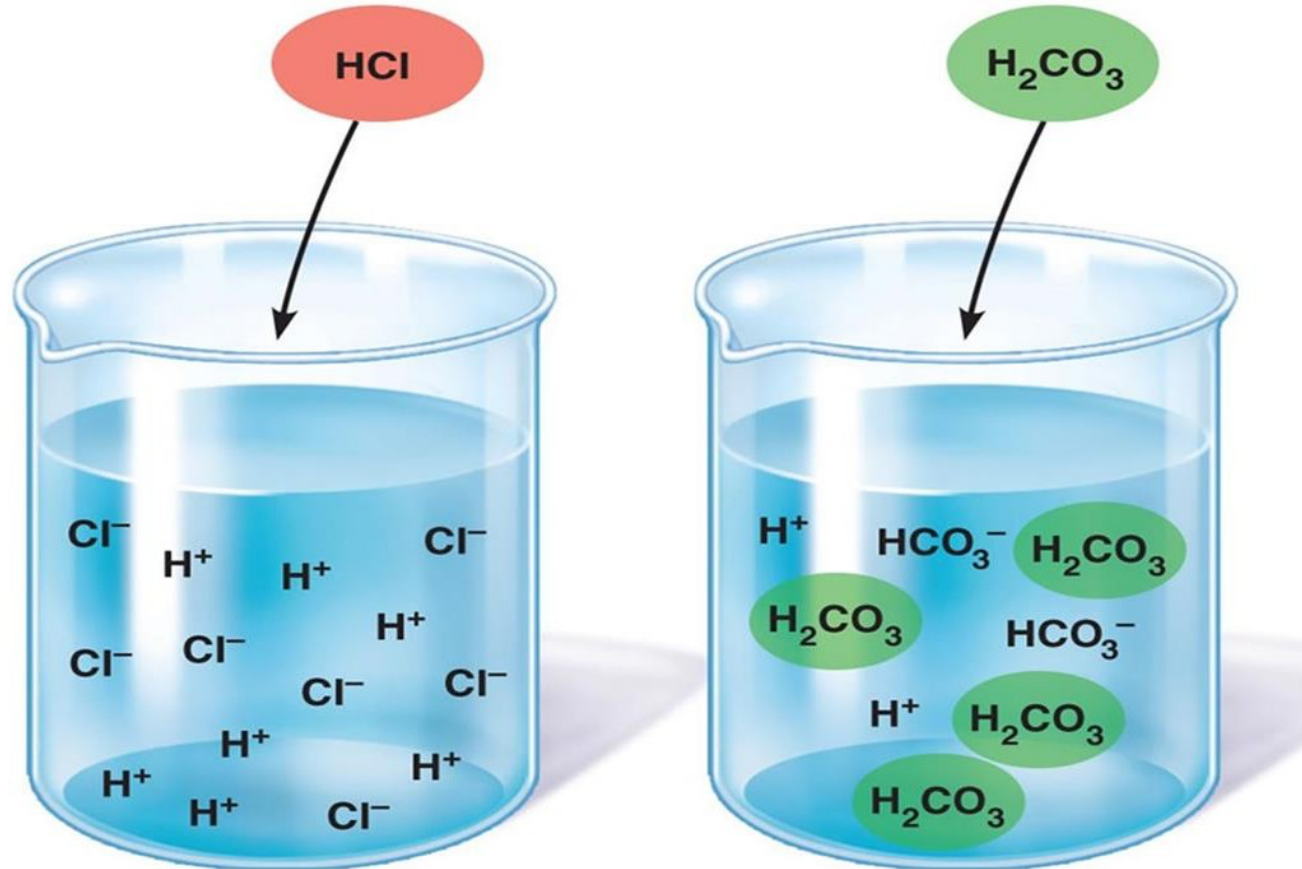
4-kidneys

# Acid-Base Fundamentals

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- **An Acid** = a molecule that can release  $H^+$  in a solution.
  - $H_2CO_3$  (carbonic acid)
  - $HCl$  (hydrochloric acid)
- **A base** = a molecule that accepts  $H^+$  in a solution.
  - Bicarbonate ions ( $HCO_3^-$ ).
  - Hydrogen phosphate ( $HPO_4^{2-}$ )
  - Proteins in body function as bases because some of amino acids that make up proteins have net negative charges that readily accept  $H^+$ .

# Strong vs weak Acid/Base



A strong base is one that reacts **rapidly** and strongly with  $\text{H}^+$   $\rightarrow$  quickly removing  $\text{H}^+$  from a solution.

Example is  $\text{OH}^- + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}$

weak base e.g  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  because it binds with  $\text{H}^+$  much more weakly than does  $\text{OH}^-$ .

Most acids and bases in ECF that are involved in normal acid-base regulation are **weak** acids and bases

**Strong acids** dissociate rapidly and release large amounts of  $\text{H}^+$  in solution

**Weak acids** dissociate incompletely and less strongly releasing small amounts of  $\text{H}^+$  in solution

**Alkalosis= excess removal of H<sup>+</sup> from the body fluids**

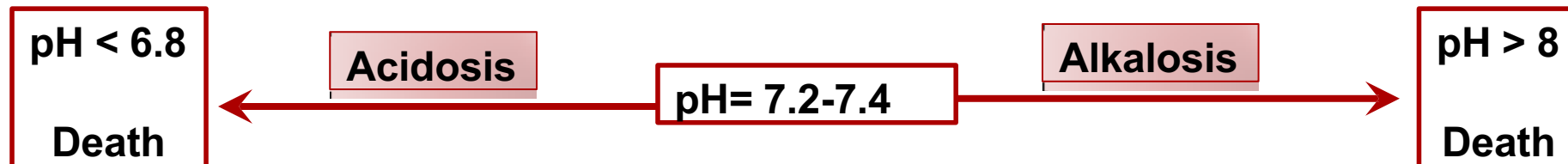
**Acidosis= excess addition of H<sup>+</sup>**

# [H<sup>+</sup>] & the pH

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- [H<sup>+</sup>] is precisely regulated at 0.00004 mEq/L (important for enzyme functions)
- H<sup>+</sup> ion concentrations are expressed as pH.
- $\text{pH} = -\text{Log} [\text{H}^+]$ 
  - If the [H<sup>+</sup>] increase → pH will decrease (more acidic)
  - If the [H<sup>+</sup>] decrease → pH will increase (more alkaline)

Normally pH= 7.2-7.44



**Table 31-1** pH and H<sup>+</sup> Concentration of Body Fluids

	H <sup>+</sup> Concentration (mEq/L)	pH
Extracellular fluid		
Arterial blood	$4.0 \times 10^{-5}$	7.40
Venous blood	$4.5 \times 10^{-5}$	7.35
Interstitial fluid	$4.5 \times 10^{-5}$	7.35
Intracellular fluid	$1 \times 10^{-3}$ to $4 \times 10^{-5}$	6.0-7.4
Urine	$3 \times 10^{-2}$ to $1 \times 10^{-5}$	4.5-8.0
Gastric HCl	160	0.8

Intracellular pH usually is < plasma because the metabolism of the cells produces acid especially (H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>).

Hypoxia of and poor blood flow to tissues → acid accumulation and ↓intracellular pH.

# Acid Production by the Body

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- The body produces large amounts of acids on daily basis as by products of metabolism.
  - Metabolism of dietary proteins.
  - Anaerobic metabolism of carbs and fat.
- Acids in the body are of two kinds:
  1. Volatile ( $\text{CO}_2$ )
  2. Non-volatile “fixed” (sulfuric acid, lactic acid)



# The Body's Defense Against Changes in $[H^+]$

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## **Three main systems:**

### **1. *Body fluid buffers.***

Works within seconds (bind acid/base).

### **2. *Lungs***

Works within minutes (eliminate CO<sub>2</sub>).

### **3. *Kidneys***

Works within hours-days (EXCRETE ACID/BASE).

The most powerful of the three.

# Chemical Buffer Systems in the Body

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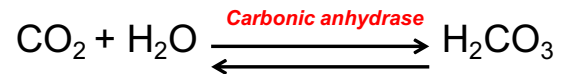
- ***There are 3 chemical buffers in the body;***
  1. The Bicarbonate buffer system.
  2. The phosphate buffer system.
  3. Proteins.
- They are the 1<sup>st</sup> line of defence against changes in pH i.e.  $[H^+]$ , act within seconds.
- Some are more powerful extracellularly and others are more powerful intracellularly.

# The Bicarbonate Buffer System

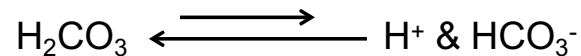
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- The main ECF buffer system
- Composed of:
  - A weak acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ).
  - Its conjugated base ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ ).

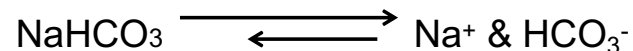
**1.  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  forms in the body by the reaction of  $\text{CO}_2$  &  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$**



**2.  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  ionizes weakly to form small amounts of  $\text{H}^+$  &  $\text{HCO}_3^-$**



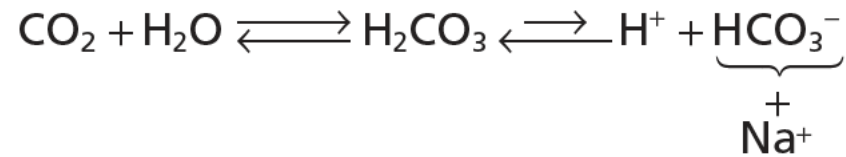
**3. The second component is  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  which dissociates to form  $\text{Na}^+$  &  $\text{HCO}_3^-$**



# The Bicarbonate Buffer System

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***Putting it all together;***



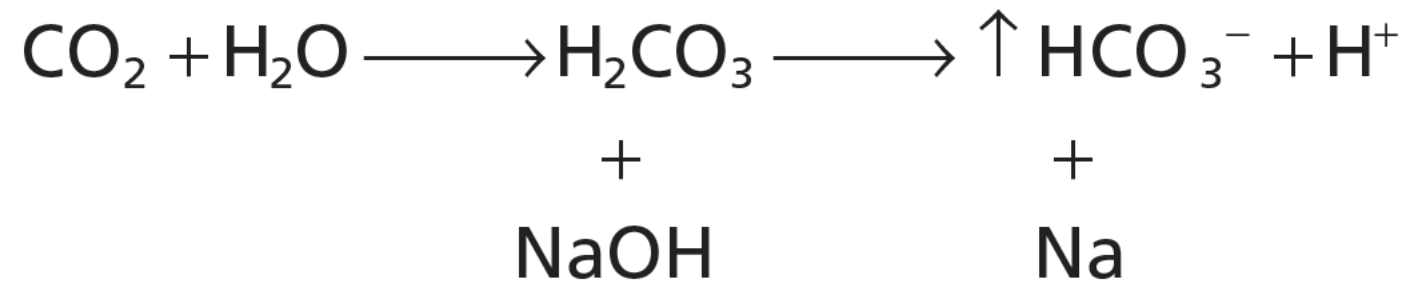
***Adding ACID (HCl)***



***lung***

***Weak acid***

***Adding base (NaOH)***



# ~~The Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation~~

## ***What is the HHE?***

- It is an equation that enables the calculation of pH of a solution.

## ***What is it?***

$$pH = pK + \log \frac{HCO_3^-}{0.03 \times P_{CO_2}}$$

K = dissociation constant, pK = 6.1

0.03 = solubility of CO<sub>2</sub>

# The Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation



$$pH = pK + \log \frac{[\text{HCO}_3^-]}{0.03 \times PCO_2}$$

pK = dissociation constant = 6.1  
0.03 = solubility of CO<sub>2</sub>

## • *What do we understand from this equation?*

1.  $pH \propto \frac{\text{HCO}_3^-}{\text{PCO}_2}$

**Regulated by kidneys** (referring to HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>)  
**Regulated by lungs** (referring to PCO<sub>2</sub>)

*Each element of the buffer system is regulated*

- ↑↑ HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> will ↑↑ pH
- ↑↑ PCO<sub>2</sub> will ↓↓ pH

# Other Buffering Systems

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## **The phosphate buffer:**

- Plays a major role in buffering intracellular & renal tubular fluid.
- Composed of;
  - $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$  (dihydrogen phosphate/ACID)
  - $\text{HPO}_4^{2-}$  (Hydrogen phosphate/BASE)

## **Proteins: PLENTIFUL**

- Contributes to buffering inside cells  $\rightarrow$   $\text{H}^+$  /  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -diffusion to the cell.
- E.g. Hb.

# Summary of Body's Buffering Systems

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- Buffer systems do not work independently in body fluids but actually work together.
- A change in the balance in one buffer system, changes the balance of the other systems.
- Buffers do not reverse the pH change, they only limit it.
- Buffers do not correct changes in  $[H^+]$  or  $[HCO_3^-]$ , they only limit the effect of change on body pH until their concentration is properly adjusted by either the lungs or the kidney.



