



**The Rescue Company 1**  
**Critical Care Study Guide**



## FP-C Examination Content

The Certified Flight Paramedic Examination consists of 125 Questions and the candidate is provided 2.5 hours to complete the examination. The certification process is focused on the knowledge level of accomplished, experienced paramedics currently associated with a Flight and/or Critical Care Transport Teams. The Questions on the examination are based in sound paramedicine. The candidate is expected to maintain a significant knowledge of current ACLS, PALS, NALS, and PHTLS/BTLS standards. This examination is not meant to test entry-level knowledge, but rather to test the experienced paramedic's skills and knowledge of critical care transport.

As you prepare for the examination, please consider there are a variety of mission profiles throughout the spectrum of transport medicine. Please remember this examination tests the candidates overall knowledge of the transport environment, not the specifics of one individual program. We have included a brief outline below of the topics and skills included in the exam. Though some outline topics are within the paramedic's scope of practice, the exam questions will be related to critical care and are of a much higher level of difficulty.

### 1. Trauma Management (9)

- Perform patient triage
- Differentiate injury patterns associated with specific mechanisms of injury
- Identify patients who meet trauma center criteria
- Perform a comprehensive assessment of the trauma patient
- Initiate the critical interventions for the management of the trauma patient
- Provide care for the patient with life-threatening thoracic injuries (e.g., pneumothorax, flail chest, tamponade, and myocardial rupture)
- Provide care for the patient with abdominal injuries (e.g., diaphragm, liver and spleen)
- Provide care for the patient with orthopedic injuries (e.g., pelvic, femur, spinal)
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for trauma management

### 2. Aircraft Fundamentals, Safety and Survival (12)

- Assess the safety of the scene
- Conduct preflight checks to ensure aircraft integrity
- Conduct preflight checks to ensure equipment is present, functional, and stowed
- Observe for hazards during aircraft operation
- Utilize proper safety equipment while in flight
- Maintain a sterile cockpit during critical phases of flight
- Approach and depart the aircraft in a safe manner
- Ensure safety around the aircraft
- Secure the patient for flight
- Participate in crew resource management (CRM)
- Participate in flight mission safety decisions (e.g., Go – No Go, abort)
- Respond to in-flight emergencies
- Fire
- Emergency egress
- Emergent landing
- Adverse weather conditions
- Perform immediate post-accident duties at a crash site
- Build survival shelters
- Initiate emergency survival procedures
- Ensure the safety of all passengers (e.g., specialty teams, family, law enforcement, observer)

- Estimate weather conditions that are below weather minimums

### **3. Flight Physiology (10)**

- Identify causes of hypoxia
- Take corrective measures to prevent altitude related hypoxia
- Identify signs of barometric trauma
- Identify stressors related to transport (e.g., thermal, humidity, noise, vibration, or fatigue related conditions)
- Take corrective action for patient stressors related to transport
- Relate the relevant gas laws to patient condition and treatment
- Relate the stages of hypoxia to patient condition and treatment
- Identify immediate causes of altitude related conditions in patients
- Identify immediate causes of altitude related conditions as they affect the air medical crew
- Provide appropriate interventions to prevent the adverse effects of altitude changes during patient transport

### **4. Advanced Airway Management Techniques (5)**

- Identify the indications for basic and advanced airway management
- Identify the indications and contraindications for specific airway interventions
- Perform advanced airway management techniques
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for airway management
- Implement a failed airway algorithm
- Identify esophageal intubation
- React to intubation complications
- Perform alternative airway management techniques (e.g., needle cricothyrotomy, surgical cricothyrotomy, Seldinger technique, retrograde intubation, LMA)

- Monitor airway management and ventilation during transport
- Use mechanical ventilation

### **5. Neurological Emergencies (10)**

- Conduct differential diagnosis of coma patients
- Manage patients with seizures
- Manage patients with cerebral ischemia
- Initiate the critical interventions for the management of a patient with a neurologic emergency
- Provide care for a patient with a specific neurologic emergency
- Perform a baseline neurologic assessment of a trauma patient
- Perform an ongoing serial evaluation of a neurologic patient
- Assess changes in intracranial pressure using patient level of consciousness
- Perform a focused neurological assessment
- Assess a patient using the Glasgow coma scale
- Manage patients with head injuries
- Manage patients with spinal cord injuries
- Evaluate muscle strength and motor function
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for neurological management

### **6. Critical Cardiac Patient (20)**

- Perform a detailed cardiovascular assessment
- Identify patients experiencing an acute cardiac event (e.g., acute myocardial infarction, heart failure, cardiogenic shock, primary arrhythmias, and hemodynamic instability)
- Use invasive monitoring during transport, as indicated, for the purpose of clinical management

- Provide treatment for patients with acute cardiac events and hemodynamic abnormalities
- Control cardiopulmonary support devices to patient condition as part of patient management (e.g., ventricular assist devices, transvenous pacer, intra-aortic balloon pump)
- Assist in the control of cardiopulmonary support devices to patient condition as part of patient management (e.g., ventricular assist devices, transvenous pacer, and intra-aortic balloon pumps)
- Conduct defibrillation during transport
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for cardiac management

### **7. Respiratory Patient (10)**

- Perform a detailed respiratory assessment
- Identify patients experiencing respiratory compromise
- (e.g., acute respiratory distress syndrome, spontaneous
- pneumothorax, pneumonia)
- Monitor patient's respiratory status using laboratory
- values and diagnostic equipment (e.g., pulse oximetry, capnography, blood gas values, chest radiography)
- Provide treatment for patients with acute respiratory events
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for respiratory management

### **8. Toxic Exposures (6)**

- Conduct a physical examination of a toxicological patient
- Decontaminate toxicological patients when indicated
- Administer poison antidotes when indicated
- Provide emergency care for victims of envenomation (e.g., snake bite, scorpion sting, and spider bite)

- Administer appropriate pharmacology for toxic exposures
- Provide treatment for toxicological patients (e.g., medication overdose, chemical/biological/radiological exposure)

### **9. Obstetrical Emergencies (4)**

- Perform an assessment of the obstetrical patient
- Perform fetal assessment
- React to special transport considerations of the obstetrical patient
- Provide treatment for high-risk obstetrical patients
- Assess uterine contractions
- Conduct interventions for obstetrical emergencies (e.g., pregnancy induced hypertension, hypertonic or titanic contractions, cord prolapsed, placental abruption)
- Assess whether transport can safely be attempted or whether delivery should be accomplished at the referring facility
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for obstetrical patients
- Manage emergent delivery

### **10. Neonates (4)**

- Perform an assessment of the neonatal patient
- Reevaluate the clinical assessment and management of the neonate when initial emergency measures fail
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for neonatal patients
- Implement neonatal resuscitation according to established practice
- Manage the isolette transport
- Provide treatment of neonatal emergencies

### **11. Pediatric (10)**

- Perform an assessment of the pediatric patient
- Identify the pediatric patient experiencing an acute
- respiratory event (e.g., epiglottitis, bronchiolitis, asthma)
- Identify the pediatric patient experiencing an acute
- medical event (e.g., meningitis, overdose, seizures)
- Identify the pediatric patient experiencing an acute
- cardiovascular event (e.g., shock, cardiac anomaly, dysrhythmias)
- Identify the pediatric patient experiencing an acute
- traumatic event (e.g., auto v. pedestrian, falls, child abuse)
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for pediatric patients
- Provide treatment of pediatric emergencies

### **12. Burn Patients (5)**

- Perform an assessment of the burn patient
- Calculate the percentage of total body surface area
- burned
- Calculate appropriate fluid replacement amounts based on the patient's burn injury and physiologic condition
- Diagnose inhalation injuries in burn injury patients
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for burn patients
- Provide treatment of burn emergencies

### **13. General Medical Patient (16)**

- Perform a focused medical assessment
- Identify patients experiencing a medical emergency (e.g., AAA, GI bleed, bowel obstruction, HHNC)
- Use invasive monitoring during transport, as indicated, for the purpose of clinical management
- Provide treatment for patients with medical emergencies
- Manage patient condition utilizing available laboratory values (e.g., blood glucose, CBC, H/H) Administer appropriate pharmacology for the medical patient
- Prevent transmissions of infectious disease
- Provide appropriate pain management
- Evaluate and record patient pain levels

### **14. Environmental (4)**

- Perform an assessment of the patient suffering from an environmental emergency
- Identify the patient experiencing a cold related emergency (e.g., frostbite, hypothermia, cold water submersion)
- Identify the patient experiencing a heat related emergency (e.g., heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps)
- Identify the patient experiencing a diving related emergency (e.g., decompression sickness, arterial gas emboli, near drowning)
- Identify the patient experiencing an altitude related emergency (e.g., HAPE, cerebral edema)
- Administer appropriate pharmacology for environmental emergency patients
- Provide treatment of environmental emergencies

## CFRN Examination Content

The CFRN exam consists of 180 items of which 150 items are scored. The remaining 30 items are pretest items for use in future versions of the exam. Pretest items are distributed throughout the exam, the pretest items are not identified, and your answers to these items will not affect your test score in any way.

This Exam is based on flight nursing practice in the United States. The applicant can assume that an item on the exam is referring to an adult patient unless otherwise noted.

**CFRN Content List** – The CFRN exam contains, but is not limited to the following items.

### Single System Emergencies

#### Cardiopulmonary (27 items)

- Obtain 12-lead ECG
- Evaluate Characteristics of chest pain
- Initiate and manage noninvasive transcutaneous cardiac pacemaker
- Interpret 12-lead ECG
- Determine need for and perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Recognize pericardial Tamponade
- Manage transvenous pacemaker
- Initiate fibrinolytic infusion
- Perform cardioversion/defibrillation
- Auscultate heart sounds
- Initiate ACLS protocols
- Identify patients who are candidates for fibrinolytic agents
- Assist with pericardiocentesis
- Assess for neck vein distention
- Assess peripheral pulses and capillary refill
- Initiate PALS protocols
- Manage IABP during transport
- Perform pericardiocentesis

#### GI/GU and OB Emergencies (11 items)

- Insert and irrigate NG/OG tubes
- Inspect, auscultate, percuss, and palpate the abdomen
- Assess for flank tenderness and ecchymosis
- Perform neonatal resuscitation
- Assess fetal heart tones (Doppler)
- Perform emergency delivery
- Position a patient who has a prolapsed cord during labor
- Position a pregnant patient for uterine displacement
- Determine risk for delivery during transport
- Manage OB hypertensive disorders
- Manage neonates during transport
- Massage uterine fundus postpartum
- Manage vaginal bleeding/drainage
- Palpate for uterine contractions and fetal movement
- Interpret fetal monitoring strips
- Initiate and manage tocolytic therapy

#### Maxillofacial and Orthopedic Emergencies (8 items)

- Assess for upper respiratory distress/difficulty
- Assess for maxillofacial trauma
- Inspect oropharynx
- Manage ocular emergencies
- Reduce orthopedic injuries
- Apply a traction splint
- Preserve amputated body part for reimplantation
- Manage pelvic instability
- Immobilize injured extremities
- Assess neurovascular status of injured or immobilized extremity (e.g. compartment syndrome)

### **Neurological Emergencies (17 items)**

- Perform cranial nerve assessment
- Assess drainage from ears and nose for blood and/or CSF
- Perform or maintain full spinal immobilization
- Assess level of consciousness/mental status
- Assess seizure activity and initiate seizure precautions
- Evaluate reflexes (DTRs and clonus)
- Manage increased intracranial pressure
- Identify patients at risk for increased intracranial pressure
- Assess for nuchal rigidity
- Manage ventilation for a patient with suspected head injury
- Assess sensation and motor function
- Monitor intracranial pressure monitor devices

### **Multi-System Emergencies**

#### **Environmental Emergencies (9 items)**

- Manage fluid resuscitation for burn injury
- Measure/restore core body temperature
- Determine degree and extent of burn injury
- Evaluate decontamination of patient after exposure to hazardous materials
- Manage heat/cold related emergencies
- Plan measures for treating hazardous materials exposure
- Perform escharotomy
- Manage decompression sickness

#### **General/Medical Emergencies (9 items)**

- Assess/manage hematological disorders
- Initiate isolation precautions
- Identify and manage symptoms of hypoglycemia or hyperglycemia
- Assess risk of communicable disease transmission/exposure
- Assess patient for signs of envenomation

- Identify and manage fever
- Assess patient's fluid status
- Maintain patients who are potential organ/tissue donors

### **Patient Management**

#### **Patient Care (12 items)**

- Interpret laboratory results
- Perform bedside laboratory testing (glucose, Hgb/Hct)
- Manage Pain
- Evaluate a chest x-ray
- Apply/manage patient restraints
- Evaluate cervical spine x-rays
- Perform primary and secondary surveys
- Plan priorities of patient care management
- Evaluate patient response to interventions (medications, procedures)
- Initiate use of vasoactive drugs
- Calculate and titrate intravenous medication infusions
- Determine care based on age/weight parameters
- Monitor arterial line pressure
- Assess pulmonary artery (Swanz Ganz) wave forms
- Monitor central venous pressure readings
- Calculate appropriate fluid resuscitation for the pediatric patient
- Plan care based on cultural considerations
- Plan care based on developmental stages and age appropriate considerations
- Manage patient with delayed consequences of trauma (DIC, SIRS, MODS, ARDS)
- Develop transport diagnosis/impression based on assessment
- Determine death

### **Advanced Airway Care (9 items)**

- Determine treatment plans based on colormetric end-tidal CO2 results
- Manage patients based on continuous capnography (wave form)
- Select appropriate measures to provide an airway (basic and advanced)
- Determine treatment plans based on pulse oximetry values
- Manage mechanical ventilation
- Perform a needle cricothyrotomy
- Perform oral intubation
- Choose device for oxygen delivery (nasal cannula, mechanical ventilator, mask)
- Perform nasal intubation
- Perform rapid sequence induction intubation
- Manage patients with surgical airway (Cricothyrotomy and tracheostomy)
- Suction Airway
- Insert nasal and/or oral airway
- Ventilate patient using a bag-valve-mask device
- Maintain neuromuscular blockade with sedation
- Facilitate airway management using alternative airway devices (LMAs, Combitube, bougie)
- Manage BiPAP
- Perform a surgical cricothyrotomy

### **Respiratory (7 items)**

- Evaluate the patient's response to oxygen therapy
- Interpret results of arterial blood gas studies
- Maintain chest tube and drainage systems
- Assess for abdominal breathing patterns
- Assess for inhalation injury
- Perform needle Thoracotomy
- Administer nebulizer treatment
- Assess for pulsus paradoxus

- Inspect, palpate, percuss, and Auscultate chest
- Manage chest wall injury
- Develop plan of care based on mechanism of injury
- Perform tube Thoracotomy

### **Shock/Trauma (7 items)**

- Assess and manage shock
- Administer blood products
- Monitor urinary output
- Perform rapid volume resuscitation
- Initiate ATLS/TNATC protocols
- Perform Trauma Score assessment
- Control visible hemorrhage
- Apply dressings to wounds
- Assess for soft tissue injury
- Manage patient based on type of shock
- Place a central intravenous line

### **Substance Abuse/Toxicological (3 items)**

- Determine need for medication antagonist in an overdose situation
- Perform gastric emptying for toxic substance ingestion
- Plan measures for treating complications of toxic ingestion/inhalation/exposure
- Consult information resources about management of poisoning
- Recognize patients with drug overdose
- Identify substance abuse patients at risk for acute withdrawal symptoms

### **Transport Considerations (6 items)**

- Assess and manage violent behavior
- Manage patient transport stressors
- Determine necessity for diversion
- Determine appropriate mode of transport (rotor, ground, fixed wing)
- Determine emergent versus non-emergent transport status (lights and sirens, code 3)
- Plan for treatment of effects due to illness



## **Safety Issues**

### **Safety (9 items)**

- Assist in safe transport vehicle operation
- Perform vehicle decontamination and disposal of biohazardous waste
- Secure patient in the transport vehicle
- Secure equipment in the transport vehicle
- Manage crew transport stressors
- Communicate with EMS personnel
- Manage radio communication operations
- Report patient's condition to receiving staff
- Teach pre-hospital care workers to prepare a landing zone for helicopter
- Ensure security of aircraft at landing areas
- Assist with extrication
- Assist with flight following
- Assist with navigation

### **Disaster Management (3 items)**

- Triage patient care during a disaster
- Implement steps of disaster plan
- Participate in a plan for mass casualties
- Participate in a plan for effects of Weapons of mass destruction

### **Survival (4 items)**

- Train for transport vehicle emergencies
- Ensure safety of team and patient(s) in post-crash situation
- Participate in emergency operations plan
- Operate emergency locator transmitter (ELT)

## **Professional Issues**

### **Legal (3 items)**

- Notify authorities of reportable situations
- Evaluate patient's capacity to refuse treatment
- Ensure preservation evidence for legal/forensic situations
- Assess for signs of abuse
- Recognize legal requirements for transport (EMTALA, HIPPA)
- Provide documentation of transport care

### **Organizational Issues (3 items)**

- Participate in conflict resolution
- Participate in critical incident stress management
- Participate in quality assurance/improvement activities
- Evaluate applicability of published evidenced-based research to practice

### **Patient/Community Education (3 items)**

- Inform patients/families regarding procedures/patient condition
- Provide public education
- Provide transport safety briefing to patient/family member prior to transport
- Provide support to family after patient death
- Participate in continuing education/in-service
- Orient new staff to work responsibilities

## FLIGHT PHYSIOLOGY

**Boyle's Law** - The volume of a gas is inversely proportional to the pressure of a gas at a constant temperature.

$$(P1)(V1) = (P2)(V2)$$

Ascent=Expansion of gas

Descent=Contraction of gas

### *Effects on Patients*

- Barotitis media
- Barodontalgia
- Barosinusitis
- Barobariatrauma
- GI Complications

### *Effects on Equipment*

- ETT cuffs
- MAST pants
- IV drip rates

**Charles' Law** - At a constant pressure, the volume of gas is directly proportional to the absolute temperature of the gas. It is directly proportional relationship between temperature and volume.

$$V1/T1 = V2/T2$$

Climb 100m = 1degree Celsius drop

### *Effects on Patients/Equipment with Charles' Law:*

- Gas volume expands as temperature increases.

- Gas volume shrinks as temperature decreases.

**Gay-Lussac's Law** - Directly proportional relationship between temperature and pressure

$$P1/T1 = P2/T2$$

Similar to Charles' Law

**Henry's Law** - Deals with the solubility of gases in liquid. The quantity of gas dissolved in 1cc of a liquid is proportional to the partial pressure of the gas in contact with the liquid.

**Graham's Law** - The diffusion rate of a gas through a liquid medium is directly related to the solubility of the gas & inversely proportional to the square root of its density.

Means gases diffuse from a higher concentration to an area of lower concentration.

**Dalton's Law** - The total pressure of a gas mixture is the sum of the partial pressures of all the gases in the mixture.

$$P_t = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + \dots$$

### **Stressors of Flight**

1. Decreased partial pressure of oxygen
2. Barometric pressure
3. Thermal changes
4. Decreased humidity
5. Noise
6. Vibration
7. Fatigue
8. G-forces

## **DEATH**-factors effecting flight stressors

D – Drugs

E – Exhaustion

A - Alcohol

T – Tobacco

H – Hypoglycemia

## **The Principle of Atmospheric pressure**

At sea level, the weight of a one square inch column of air extending to the edge of space is called “one atmosphere”. This refers to “atmospheric pressure”. (ATM) 1 ATM weighs 14.7 lbs (760 mmHg [torr] )

As you ascend the pressure becomes less (0.5 ATM or 380 mmHg at 18,000ft)

As you dive in water you increase the forces (or weight) on your body by 1 ATM for every 33 feet you are submerged, hence the term diving “1 atmosphere”.

## **Altitude Zones**

***Physiologic zone*** – sea level to 10,000 ft

***Physiologically deficient zone*** – 10,000 to 50,000 feet

***Space-equivalent zone*** – 50,000 to 250,000 feet

***Space*** – 250,000 feet

**Hypoxic Hypoxia**-deficiency in alveolar O<sub>2</sub> exchange- AKA altitude Hypoxia

**Hypemic Hypoxia**-reduction in the O<sub>2</sub> carrying capacity in the blood, hemorrhage, anemia, and drugs (sulfanilamide nitrates)

**Histotoxic Hypoxia**-a result of poisoning or metabolic disorders; cyanide, ETOH, CO poisoning

**Stagnant Hypoxia**-reduced cardiac output or pooling of blood; heart failure, PE, Shock

## **Stages of Hypoxia**

***Indifferent stage*** – slightly increased HR and RR, decreased night vision

***Compensatory stage*** – increased BP occurs, impairment of task performance occurs

***Disturbance stage***- dizziness, sleepiness, tunnel vision, and cyanosis

***Critical stage*** – marked mental confusion and incapacitation

## **Changes with altitude**

PaO<sub>2</sub> decreases 5 mmHg per every 1000 ft increase in altitude

## **Oxygen Adjustment Calculation**

$$\frac{(\% IO_2 \times P_1)}{P_2} = \% IO_2 \text{ for altitude}$$

## **Effective Performance Time**

The amount of time a FCM is able to perform useful flying duties in an inadequately oxygenated environment

**Time of Useful Consciousness** The elapsed time from exposure to Oxygen deprived environment to the point where deliberate function is lost

## ACID BASE BALANCE & OXYGENATION MANAGEMENT

Cellular metabolism

### **Aerobic Energy**

Glycolysis >>> Pyruvic acid (2 ATP)

Pyruvic acid >>> Acetyl Coenzyme A

- Krebs Cycle
- Electron Transport Chain (32-34 ATP)

### **Anaerobic Energy**

Glycolysis >>> Pyruvic acid

Pyruvic Acid >>> Lactic Acid

### *ATP production*

Clean or aerobic metabolism of ATP requires glucose and O<sub>2</sub>; the bi-products are CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O

Lack of glucose or O<sub>2</sub> causes an alteration in ATP metabolism; the bi-product is lactic acid

### *Oxygen Delivery*

Cellular aerobic metabolism is dependent on adequate O<sub>2</sub> delivery (FIO<sub>2</sub>)

- ability to carry O<sub>2</sub> (hemoglobin)
- ability to move O<sub>2</sub> (cardiac output)
- ability to extract O<sub>2</sub> to cells

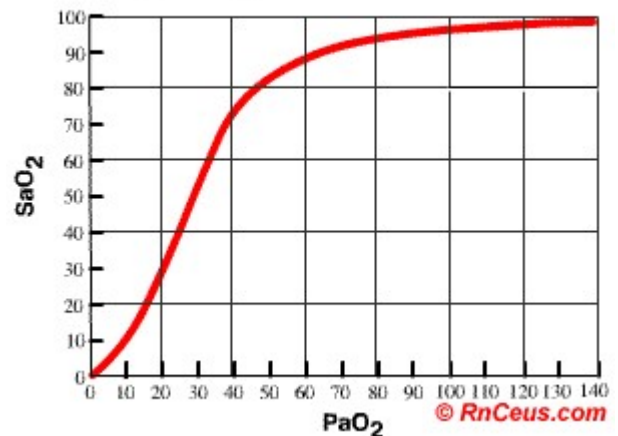
### *Shock*

Shock most simply defined is inadequate tissue oxygenation

### *Acid Base balance – Primary Buffering Systems*

- Carbonic Acid-bicarbonate buffer system operates in the blood, lungs, and kidneys
- Normal relationship between bicarb and carbonic acid is 20:1
- $H^+ + HCO_3 \leftrightarrow H_2CO_3 \leftrightarrow CO_2 + H_2O$

### OxyHemoglobin Dissociation Curve



The lungs can adjust the amount of carbonic acid by blowing off or holding on to CO<sub>2</sub>

The Kidneys can reabsorb or excrete bicarb or  $H^+$  PRN; the kidneys also make new bicarb

Does ETCO<sub>2</sub> = PCO<sub>2</sub>?

Consider

- CO<sub>2</sub> production and diffusion
- Cardiac Output
- Ability to diffuse CO<sub>2</sub> into alveoli
- Minute Volume

### *Acid Base Balance – Secondary Buffering Systems*

- Protein buffering system
- Primarily ICF (phosphates) but ECF also
- Hemoglobin binds with  $H^+$  and CO<sub>2</sub> bound hgb becomes weak acid
- Bone exchanges calcium, phosphate, and releases carbonate; regulates within hours to days of imbalance

*Ionic shifts involve the exchange of intracellular  $K^+$  and  $Na^+$  for  $H^+$*

- Regulates within 2-4 hours of imbalance
- $K^+$  will change approximately 0.6 mEq for every 0.1 change in pH

## Normal ABG Parameters

	Arterial	Mixed Venous
• PH	7.35-7.45	7.31-7.41
• CO <sub>2</sub>	35-45	40-50
• HCO <sub>3</sub>	22-26	22-26
• PaO <sub>2</sub>	80-100	35-45
• SaO <sub>2</sub>	>95%	70-75%
• <del>BE</del> $2/+2 - 2/+2$		

## ABG interpretation – General Rules

HIGH CO<sub>2</sub> – suggests Acidosis

HIGH HCO<sub>3</sub> – suggests Alkalosis

- Look at pH: Always tells you the PRIMARY problem.
  - Normal 7.35 - 7.45
  - Acidosis < 7.35
  - Alkalosis > 7.45
- Look at pCO<sub>2</sub> to confirm or eliminate a respiratory problem
  - Normal 35 – 45
  - Alkalosis < 35
  - Acidosis > 45
- Look at Bicarbonate
  - Normal 22 – 26
  - Acidosis < 22
  - Alkalosis > 26
- Look at pO<sub>2</sub>
  - Normal > 80
  - Hypoxemia < 60

Adjustment for aging                      80 – (age-60)

## Step 1

Look at pH, get Last name from the pH

Acidosis/Alkalosis

- pH 7.22
- pH 7.47
- pH 7.28
- pH 7.50
- pH 7.37

## Step 2

Look at the PCO<sub>2</sub> and HCO<sub>3</sub>, which value represents a condition consistent with the ABG's last name

	Respiratory	Metabolic
• pH 7.19	PCO <sub>2</sub> 66	HCO <sub>3</sub> 25
• pH 7.27	PCO <sub>2</sub> 38	HCO <sub>3</sub> 15
• pH 7.58	PCO <sub>2</sub> 12	HCO <sub>3</sub> 22
• pH 7.48	PCO <sub>2</sub> 42	HCO <sub>3</sub> 33
• pH 7.09	PCO <sub>2</sub> 60	HCO <sub>3</sub> 10

## Compensation vs. Mixed Disturbances

Look at HCO<sub>3</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>:

- do they move in opposite directions (normal compensation)?
- is the magnitude of compensation reasonable (expected in a non mixed disorder) or is it more or less than expected.

Mixed disturbances are suggested by:

- pCO<sub>2</sub>, HCO<sub>3</sub> moving in the same direction
- Greater than expected compensation
- Less than expected compensation
- High anion gap

Base deficit reflects the end point of resuscitation

$$BE = -5/+3$$

# Critical Care Review

## Golden Rules of ABG Analysis

1. For every 10 mmHg change in CO<sub>2</sub>, the pH will change 0.08 in the opposite direction.
2. For every change in bicarbonate of 10 mEq, the pH will change 0.15 in the same direction.
3. Formula for calculating bicarbonate replacement

$0.1 \times \text{Wt in Kg} \times \text{Base deficit} = \text{mEq bicarb needed}$

## Respiratory Acidosis

pH < 7.40 with a CO<sub>2</sub> > 45

See Rule #1

The result of failure to remove CO<sub>2</sub>!

Rapid Causes:

- Failure to get CO<sub>2</sub> to lungs
- Failure to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the lungs

Slow Causes:

- Bronchospasm and COPD
- V/Q Mismatch
- Pulmonary Edema

Ventilator Management:

1)  $V_e = V_t \times \text{Rate}$

Minute Volume; appropriate V<sub>t</sub>

2) Formula 6-10cc/Kg Lean body mass

**V<sub>t</sub> – Dead Space = volume of alveolar ventilation**

**Monitor PIP/PAP**

If the PAP/PIP does not change, ALWAYS increase V<sub>t</sub> before rate!

Consider increasing the rate.

## Respiratory Alkalosis

pH greater than 7.40 with a CO<sub>2</sub> less than 35

Rule # 1 still applies

Usually result of alveolar hyperventilation

Causes:

Tissue Hypoxemia

- a) Decreased Supply
  - Anoxia
  - Anemia
- b) Increased Demand
  - Gram-negative sepsis
  - Hyperthermia

Early Salicylate poisoning

Mechanical Hyperventilation

Anxiety

## Treatment of Respiratory Alkalosis

- Control Anxiety
- Administer anxiolytics PRN
- Decrease Minute Volume – V<sub>e</sub>

## Metabolic Acidosis

pH is less than 7.40 with bicarb less than 22

See Rule #2 and #3

Causes:

Increased organic acid production

- Lactic acidosis
- Ketoacidosis

Decreased organic acid removal

- Renal Failure

Addition of exogenous acids

- Poisoning

Decreased bicarbonate

- Diarrhea
- Renal tubular acidosis
- Hyperchloremia

## Anion Gap

The anion gap is a measure of the difference between Cations and Anions

$$Na^+ - (Cl^- + HCO_3^-) = \text{Anion Gap}$$

Normal = 9-12

## Cations

Calcium  $Ca^{2+}$

Magnesium  $Mg^{2+}$

Potassium  $K^+$

Sodium  $Na^+$

Ammonium  $NH_4^+$

## Anions

Chloride  $Cl^-$

Bicarb  $HCO_3^-$

Nitrate  $NO_3^-$

Phosphate  $PO_4^{3-}$

Cyanide  $CN^-$

The larger the anion gap the more severe the acidosis

Causes:

**Methanol** **Propylene glycol**

**Uremia** **Isoniazide/Iron**

**DKA** **Lactate**

**Ethylene Glycol**

**Salicylate**

Treatment:

- Treat underlying Cause
- Use Rule #3 to replace bicarb
- Correct by 50% with a bolus then the other 50% over an Hour

## Metabolic Alkalosis

pH is greater than 7.40 with bicarb greater than 26

Too little  $H^+$  or too much  $HCO_3$

Usually a result of losing  $H^+$ ,  $K^+$ ,  $Na^+$ ,  $Cl^-$

Causes:

GI loss of chloride

- Emesis
- NG suctioning

NOTES

Renal loss of Cations

- Diuretic therapy
- Steroid Therapy
- Aldosteronism

Cation deficiencies

Antacid poisoning

Treatment of Metabolic Alkalosis

K<sup>+</sup>, Mg<sup>++</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>++</sup> replenishment

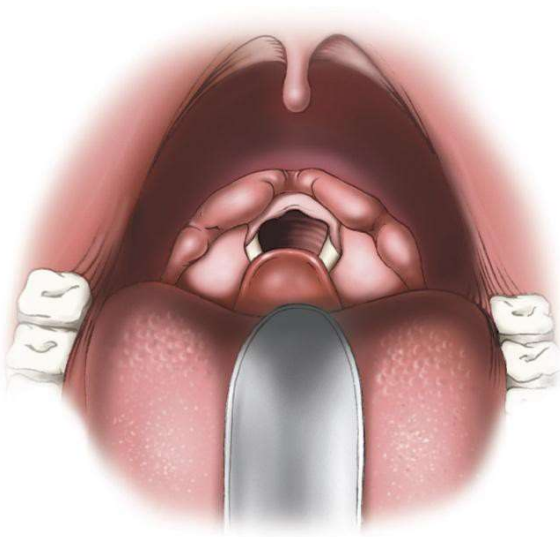
- Kidneys stop excreting H<sup>+</sup> ions and excrete K<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup>

Treat underlying Causes

# Critical Care Review



## AIRWAY



### Indications for Intubation

#### *Airway patency*

- “Gag reflex” vs. Ability to swallow
- Oxygenation or ventilation failure
- Expected clinical course

#### *All algorithms lead to **FAILED***

Inappropriate RSI may be the most costly error made

Any patient near death or any patient with a predicted difficult airway is **not** an RSI candidate

## RSI - CRASH AIRWAY

-Who needs intubation?

### *The first 2 key questions*

-Is my patient near death?

-Is my patient a predicted difficult airway?

1. Will you need pharmacologic agents?
2. How likely are you to “get the tube?”
3. What about when you don’t?

## DIFFICULT AIRWAY - FAILED AIRWAY

-Maintaining SaO<sub>2</sub> over 90% is “key”

### *The 2 key questions*

-Am I going to be able to ventilate?

-Am I going to be able to intubate?

### **Can’t intubate?**

### **Can’t ventilate? =100% mortality rate**

Rescue airway vs. Surgical?

Is SaO<sub>2</sub>>90% and maintainable?

SaO<sub>2</sub><90% = CRIC!

IF SaO<sub>2</sub>>90% = RESCUE AIRWAY until someone rescues you...

## Rapid Sequence Induction

### 7 Ps

1. **P**reparation
2. **P**re-oxygenation
3. **P**retreatment
4. **P**aralysis with induction
5. **P**rotection and positioning
6. **P**lacement with proof
7. **P**ost-intubation management

### *Preparation*

- Less invasive means vs. rapid success
- Anatomical or medical contraindications

### *Predicting Difficulty*

#### **L**ook

**E**valuate 3-3-2 rule

**M**allampati

**O**bststructions

**N**eck Mobility

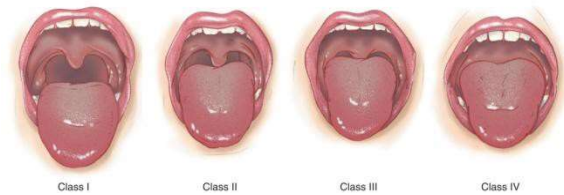
### *Cormack and Lahene Grades*

**GRADE I** - entire glottis opening visible

**GRADE II** - arytenoids cartilages or posterior portion of glottic opening is visible

**GRADE III** - Epiglottis only is visible

**GRADE IV** – Tongue and/or soft palate only is visible



### **Mallampatti Scoring**

**Class I** – soft palate, uvula, anterior & posterior tonsillar pillars

**Class II** – tonsillar pillars hidden by tongue

**Class III** – only the base of the uvula can be seen

**Class IV** – uvula cannot be visualized at all

### **BVM Issues - Cric Issues**

-Suction Mask Seal

-Oxygen Obesity

-Drugs Age

-Airways No Teeth

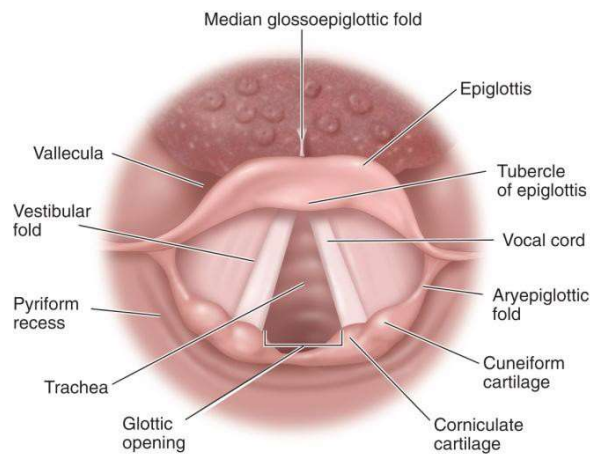
-Stiff

-Surgery

-Hematoma

-Obesity

-Pre-oxygenation



Optimal techniques avoid positive pressure ventilation (NRB vs. BVD)

### Pretreatment: (LOAD)

**Lidocaine** 1.5mg/kg

**Opiates** for analgesia (Fentanyl 3mcg/kg)

**Atropine** in the Pedi patient 0.02 mg/kg

**Defasciculating** neuromuscular blockade

-10% normal RSI dosage of NMBA

### Paralysis with induction

Wait three minutes after premedication, then administer the induction agent followed by paralytics.

### Medication Dosage Onset Duration

**Etomidate** 0.3mg/kg 30-60 sec/ 3-5 minutes

**Fentanyl** 15-30 mcg/kg 60 sec /30-60 minutes

**Ketamine** 1.0-2.0 mg/kg 30-60 sec /15 minutes

**Midazolam** 0.2-0.3 mg/kg 1-2 min /1-2 hours

**Thiopental** 3-6 mg/kg 20-40 sec /5-10 minutes

### Medication Dosage Onset Duration

#### Succinylcholine

1-2 mg/kg	1-2 min	4-6 min
-----------	---------	---------

#### Rocuronium

0.5-1.0 mg/kg	1-2 min	20-40 min
---------------	---------	-----------

#### Vecuronium

0.1 mg/kg	2-3 min	20-40 min
-----------	---------	-----------

#### Atracurium

0.4-0.5 mg/kg	2-3 min	20-45 min
---------------	---------	-----------

#### Pancuronium

0.01- 0.04 mg/kg	3-5 min	60-100min
------------------	---------	-----------

### Pharmacology

*Succinylcholine* –depolarizing (non competitive) neuromuscular blocking agent

*Mechanism of action* - Stimulates motor end plate acetylcholine receptors causing persistent depolarization

**Indications** - Paralysis to facilitate intubation

- limit the possibility of aspiration

**Contraindications** - Penetrating eye injuries, narrow angle glaucoma, Hx of malignant hyperthermia (Dantrolene), burns greater than 24 hours old, hyperkalemia

**Duchenne's muscular dystrophy in children**

## *Protection and Positioning*

**Protect** -Apply cricoid pressure to prevent passive regurgitation. If active regurgitation occurs, release cricoid pressure and place patient in recovery position/log roll.

“Active regurgitation” vs. “Silent regurgitation”

Positioning

## **C-spine issues**

-Kyphosis

-Bull-neck

## **Sizes**

Women 7.0-8.0 ETT

Men 8.0-9.0 ETT

Peds Age + 16 / 4

Miller/straight blade - Inserted under the epiglottis

Mac/curved blade - Inserted in the vallecula

## *Securing at the teeth*

-Women 21cm

-Men 23 cm

## **Proof**

Primary

-Visualized placement

-Lung/Stomach sounds

Secondary

- Aspiration devices

-Cholormetric devices

-Capnometry/Capnography

-X-ray

## **Post-intubation Management**

-Don't forget to ventilate them

-Secure ETT with commercial restraint device

-Continued sedation

-Consider continued paralysis

## *Monitoring*

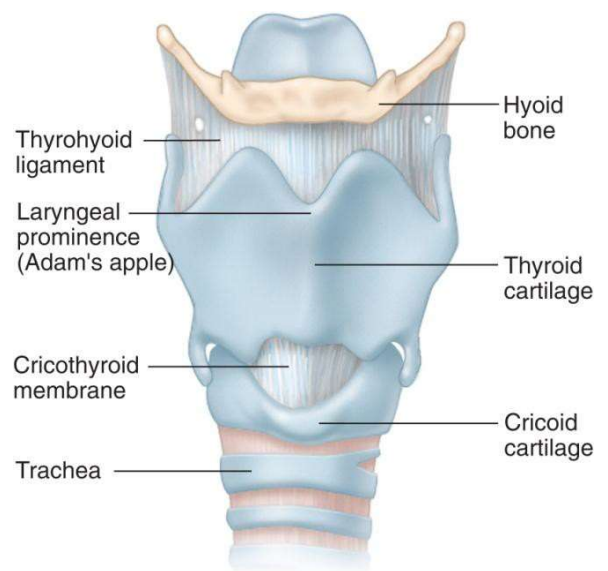
-ECG

-SaO<sub>2</sub>

-ETCO<sub>2</sub>

-NIBP

-Temperature



## **Needle & Surgical Airways**

-Used to secure an airway when other means fail

-Surgical Cric more preferable than Needle Cric

### *Contraindications*

Landmarks – must be able to palpate landmarks

### **Procedure**

1. Identify landmarks
2. Stabilize
3. Make skin incision
4. Identify Cricothyroid membrane
5. Make horizontal incision completing  
Translaryngeal airway

### NOTES

# Critical Care Review

## Hemodynamic Monitoring

Levels of hemodynamic monitoring

Arterial, Central Venous, Pulmonary Artery

PA catheters allow for monitoring of vascular tone, myocardial contractility, intracardiac pressures, cardiac output, and fluid balance.

### Basic Hemodynamic Monitoring

PA pressure waveforms reflect the mechanical events in the cardiac cycle.

### Nervous system control

The kidneys receive 25% of cardiac output each minute

In response to decreased blood flow the bodies will always vasoconstrict

- (unless it can't)

### CHF -

Major revisions in care targeted toward a decrease in ventricular remodeling

Ventricle dysfunction will result in over distention. Over distention promotes the release of BNP a measurable peptide

Divided in systolic and diastolic failure syndromes

### Systolic

-Failure of ventricular muscle to generate adequate contractility to promote forward flow of blood

### Diastolic

-Failure of non distendable ventricle to fill during diastole

## Goals of therapy -Reduce cardiac workload

### Decrease preload

-Nitro, MsO4, Lasix

### Decrease after load

-Nipride, Natracor

### Decrease rate

-Beta Blockade --- Carvidolol only!

Carvedilol is both a beta blocker ( $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ ) and alpha blocker ( $\alpha_1$ ):

### Improve contractility

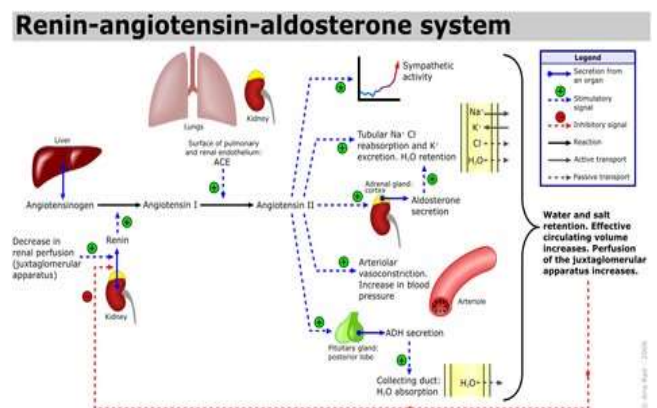
Inotropic Agents

-Dobutamine, Amrinone, Milrinone

### Prevent ventricular remodeling

-ACE Inhibitors

- Enalapril, Captopril, Zestril



**Cardiogenic Shock** — inadequate cardiac pumping resulting in decreased cardiac output and hypotension.

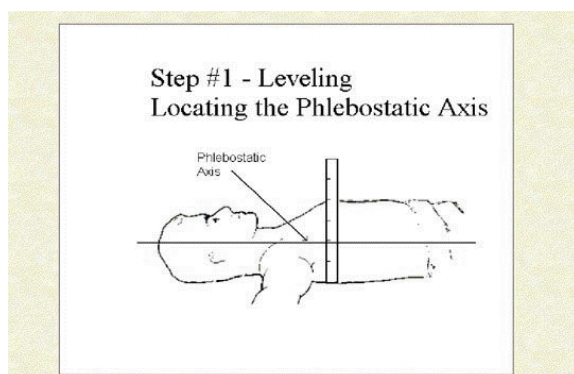
**Pharmacologic management includes**

- Dobutrex, dopamine and Inocor to improve cardiac output
- Vasodilators such as Nipride and nitro and vasoconstrictors such as Levophed
- IABP and LVAD therapy

**Types of Hemodynamic Catheters**

**Pressure Monitoring Setup**

1-Purge and Flush Line, pressurize fluid, place transducer at phlebostatic axis, attach tubing, close stopcock to patient, zero, and open to patient and fast flush



**Arterial Lines**

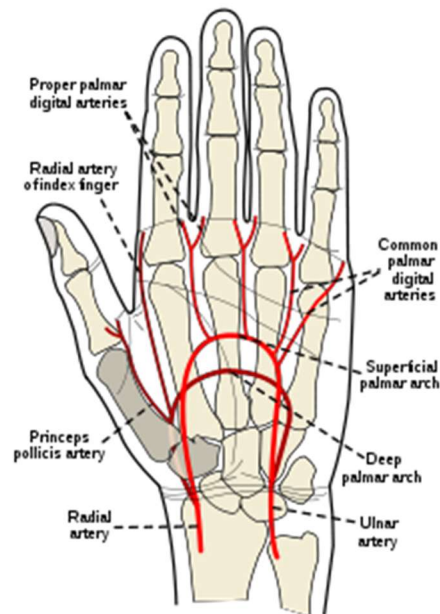
Usually placed in radial or femoral arteries

Allows continuous BP monitoring and rapid recognition of problems requiring intervention from the flight crewmember

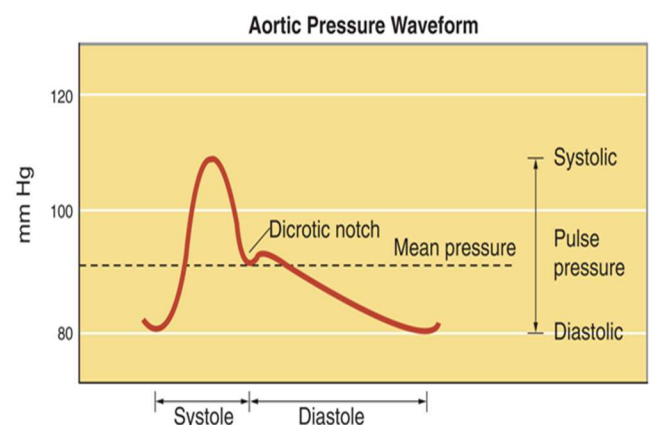
Easy access to blood gases and labs through A-line without sticking the patient

Slurring of the dicrotic notch occurs with aortic valve disease.

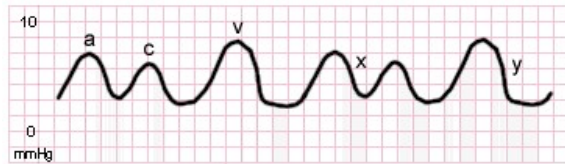
Utilize **Allen Test** prior to establishing A-line



**Arterial Line Waveform**



## CVP/RAP



Measured in the great veins/right atrium, it is a reflection of right atrial pressure.

Normal is 2-6 mmHg.

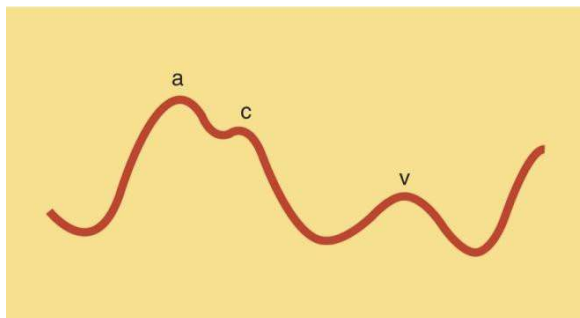
### Decreased

- Hypovolemia, vasodilatation, decreased venous returns, & negative pressure ventilation

### Increased

- Hypervolemia, right-sided heart failure, cardiac tamponade, positive pressure ventilation, COPD, pulmonary HTN, pulmonary embolus, pulmonic stenosis and tricuspid stenosis/regurgitation.

## CVP or RAP waveform

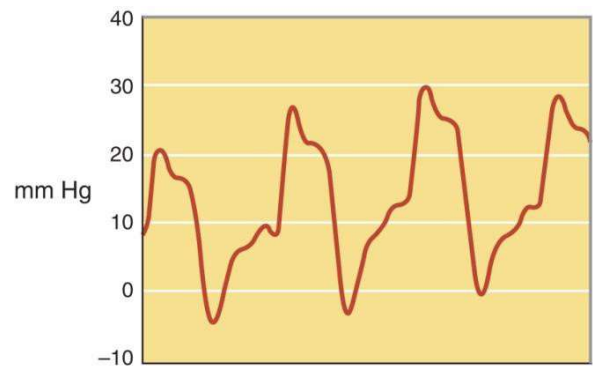


**“a wave”**—atrial contraction.

**“c wave”**—closure of the tricuspid valve

**“v wave”**—passive atrial filling. Tricuspid valve bulges back into atrium during right ventricular systole.

## RV Waveform



**RVP** — not typically monitored, but seen with insertion of the PA catheter

### Increased pressures seen in:

Pulmonary HTN—caused by left heart failure, mitral regurgitation, stenosis, and cardiomyopathy  
Pulmonary disease—COPD and pulmonary embolus

### Normal

-Systolic pressures are 15-25 mmHg

- Diastolic pressures are 0-5 mmHg

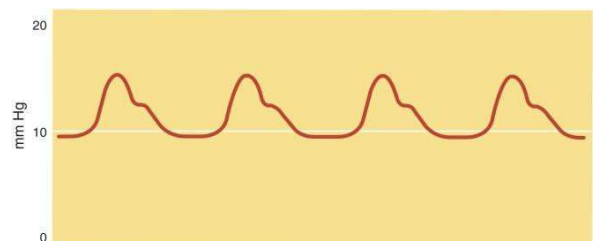
-No dicrotic notch seen on the waveform

-RV waveform has taller, sharper upstrokes

-The diastolic dip on the downstroke reflects ventricular relaxation.

-At end-diastole, atrial kick produces a small rise in pressure.

## PA Waveform



PA pressures reflect right and left sided heart pressures.



### Increased PA pressures seen in:

- Fluid overload, atrial or ventricular defects, pulmonary problems, LV failure, & mitral stenosis/regurgitation

### Normal

-Pulmonary systolic pressure is 15-25 mmHg.

-Pulmonary diastolic pressure is 8-15 mmHg.

Reflects LVEDP and LV function

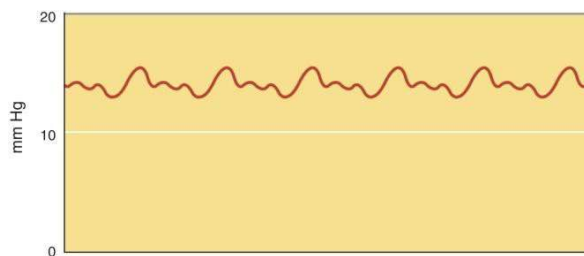
Usually 2-4 mmHg higher than mean PCWP

-May be used to estimate PCWP if unable to obtain an accurate wedge pressure.

-Sharp rise in waveform is systole

-Dicrotic notch is closure of the pulmonic valve and signals the end of systole.

### PCWP Waveform



-Obtained by inflating the balloon until waveform changes.

-Occludes blood flow, eliminating the right side of the heart

-Looks at the left side of the heart

### Elevated

- Left Ventricular failure, constrictive pericarditis, mitral stenosis, regurgitation, and fluid overload.

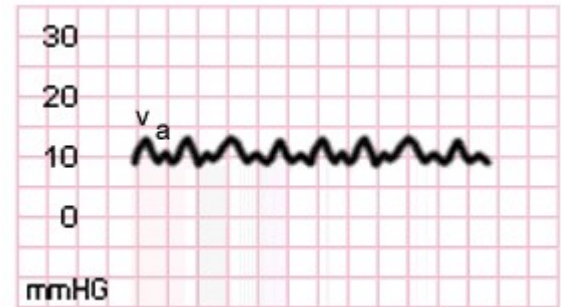
### Decreased

- Hypovolemia and venodilating drugs

### Normal

-PCWP is 8-12 mmHg.

### PCWP Waveform



“a wave”—left atrial contraction/systole

“c wave”—closure of the mitral valve

“v wave”—passive atrial filling. Bulging of the mitral valve during left ventricular systole

“x descent”—left atrial diastole

“y descent”—left atrial emptying. Reflects volume and pressure decline following the opening of the mitral valve and blood emptying into the left ventricle

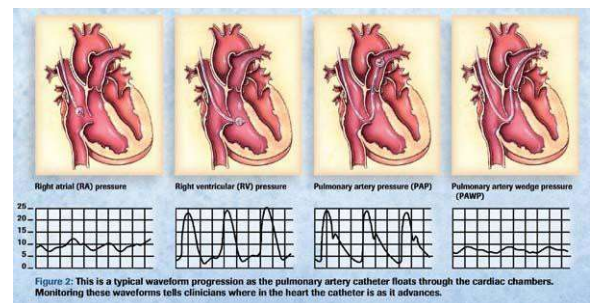
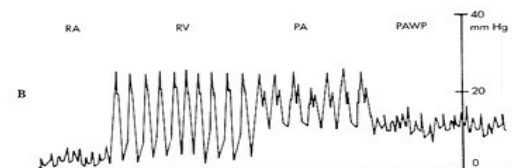


Figure 2: This is a typical waveform progression as the pulmonary artery catheter floats through the cardiac chambers. Monitoring these waveforms tells clinicians where in the heart the catheter is as it advances.



### PA insertion sequence

TABLE 14-2 Normal Ranges and Values for Hemodynamic Measurements	
Assessment Parameter	Normal Range/Value
CVP, mm Hg	2 to 6
SBP, mm Hg	100 to 120
DBP, mm Hg	60 to 80
MAP, mm Hg	70 to 105
Pulse pressure, mm Hg	40 to 60
Heart rate, mm Hg	60 to 100
Pulmonary artery pressure, systemic	15 to 30
Pulmonary artery pressure, diastolic	8 to 15
PCWP	4 to 12
CO, L/min	4 to 8
Pulmonary vascular resistance, dyne-sec/cm <sup>5</sup>	100 to 250
SVR, dyne-sec/cm <sup>5</sup>	800 to 1,200
SV, mL/beat	60 to 100
Svo <sub>2</sub> , %	60 to 80
Scvo <sub>2</sub> , %	≥ 70
Cardiac index, L/min/m <sup>2</sup>	2.5 to 4.2
Stroke volume index, mL/beat/m <sup>2</sup>	30 to 50
Abbreviations: CO, cardiac output; CVP, central venous pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; MAP, mean arterial pressure; PCWP, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure; SBP, systolic blood pressure; Scvo <sub>2</sub> , mixed central venous oxygen saturation; SV, stroke volume; Svo <sub>2</sub> , mixed venous oxygen saturation; SVR, systemic vascular resistance.	

## Cardiac Output

$$CO = HR \times SV$$

Normal values 4-8 liters per minute.

Cardiac index is based on body surface area and is a more accurate, individual measurement.

Normal cardiac index is 2.5-4.2 liters per minute per meters squared.

-Heart rate is the quick, easy way to increase cardiac output. Initial compensatory reaction to decreased cardiac output

-Detrimental effects of increased heart rate include increase myocardial oxygen demand & decreased diastolic filling.

## Stroke volume

-the amount of blood ejected from the ventricles during systole

-Normal stroke volume is 60-135 cc.

-Normal stroke index is 25-45 ml per meters squared. Components of SV are preload, afterload, and contractility

## Preload

-is defined as the amount of stretch on the ventricles at end-diastole. The amount of blood returned to the heart. **Frank Starlings Law**

RA pressure — measures preload for the right side of the heart.

PCWP — measures preload for the left side of the heart.

## Decreased preload

-Hypovolemia or vasodilation

## Increased preload

-Hypervolemia, CHF, or renal failure

## Medications that decrease preload:

-NTG

-MSO4

-Lasix/diuretics

## Medications that increase preload:

-Vasoconstrictors

-Fluid

**Afterload** — the resistance the heart must pump against to eject blood from the ventricles

**PVR** — Pulmonary Vascular Resistance

-measures afterload for the right heart

-**Normal PVR** - 50-250 dynes

- PVRI 225-315 dynes.

### Increased

-pulmonary disease and hypoxia

### SVR — Systemic Vascular Resistance

-measures afterload for the left heart

-**Normal SVR** - 800-1200 dynes

-SVRI 1100-3000 dynes.

### Decreased

-distributive shock states and vasodilators

### Increased

- HTN, IHSS, aortic stenosis and vasoconstrictors

### Medications that decrease SVR:

-Nipride

-Corlopam

Calcium channel blockers

-Dobutrex

-Natreocor

### Medications that increase SVR:

-Dopamine

-Neosynephrine

-Levophed

-Epi

Contractility is the ability of the myocardium to effectively contract.

### Decreased

-electrolyte imbalances, hypoxia, acidosis, ischemia and necrosis

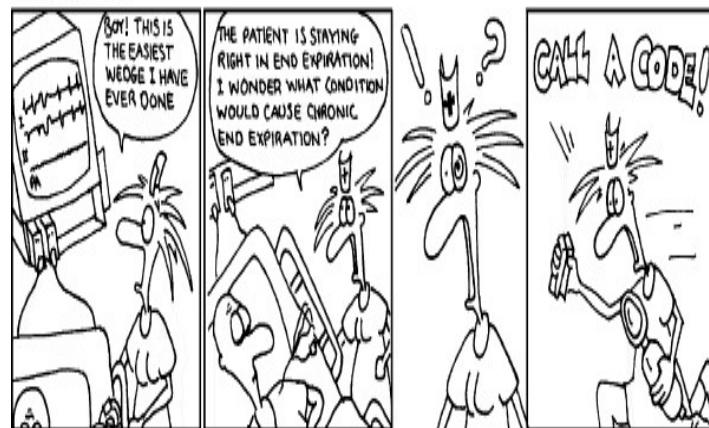
### Increased

-high levels of Calcium, sympathetic nervous system stimulation and medications such as Digoxin or Dobutamine

### Invasive Line Transport Considerations

1. Make sure all air is removed from the system to prevent air embolus and dampened waveforms.
2. Tape the transducer at the phlebostatic axis or on the bicep during transport.
3. Limit the amount of tubing to decrease the chances of dislodgment and artifact due to aircraft vibration.
4. Boyle's law will cause changes in pressure bag necessitating close attention of the flight crew members
5. Needs to be re-zeroed with changes in altitude to ensure accuracy of readings.

### Nurstoons



## Cardiac Pharmacology

### **Beta Blockers**

- Blocks body's response to adrenergic stimuli
- Decreases oxygen consumption of the heart.

### **Indications**

- maintaining HR 60-80 in MI

### **Contraindications**

- heart failure, 1st degree block with PR>.20, 2nd and 3rd degree HB

### **Dobutamine**

- Primarily B1 effects, but produces B2 effects that cause mild vasodilation. More effective than Dopamine for increasing contractility

### **Dopamine**

- has both alpha and beta effects
- low** doses (2-5 mcg/kg/min), increases renal perfusion and urinary Output
- **Moderate** doses (5-10 mcg/kg/min), increases cardiac contractility, HR, and CO
- high** doses, (10-20 mcg/kg/min), primarily alpha effects & increases SVR

### **Levophed**

- has alpha and beta 1 effects
- Increases coronary artery blood flow

**Indicated** - profound hypotension.

**Contraindicated** - patients with occlusive vascular problems and patients with a hypersensitivity to sulfites

Initial dose is 2-12 mcg/min, titrate to desired effect.

### **Neo-Syneprine**

- Potent Alpha stimulator used to increase SVR in profound vasodilatory redistributive shock states such as sepsis

May be given by bolus or steady infusion

Bolus 0.1-0.5mg slow IV q 10-15m PRN

Gtt 100-180mcg/min titrated to BP

- Maintenance gtt of 40-60mcg/min

**Use caution** - in patients with cardiac disease

### **Nipride**

- used to reduce preload and afterload by dilation of arterioles and veins

**Indicated** -HTN crisis, refractory congestive heart failure, increased vascular resistance

**Contraindicated** - decreased cerebral perfusion and hypersensitivity

**Use with caution** - in renal disease, hepatic disease (increased risk of thiocyanate accumulation), and geriatric patients (increased hypersensitivity.)

# Critical Care Review

-Severe peripheral vascular disease

### **Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump**

#### **Goals of IABP therapy are:**

- Decrease the work of the heart
- Decrease myocardial oxygen demand
- Increase coronary perfusion
- Improve cardiac output
- Limits myocardial ischemia
- Prevent cardiogenic shock, limit size of infarctions

#### **IABP uses:**

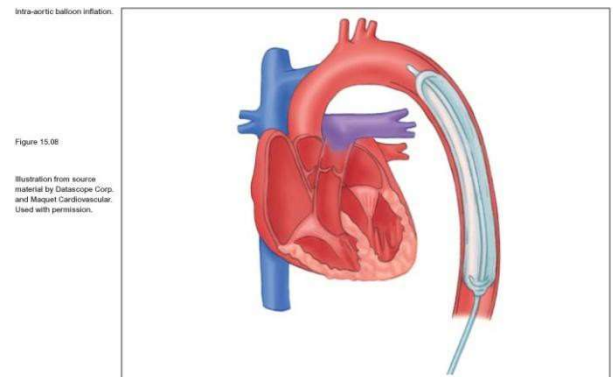
- Support in acute MI with cardiogenic shock
- Circulatory support in post-CABG patients
- Support in high-risk catheterizations
- In severe ischemia as a bridge to revascularization
- Intractable chest pain refractory to conventional care

#### **IABP Therapy**

- Balloon inserted percutaneously in the femoral artery.
- Balloon sits in the descending aorta, just distal to the left subclavian artery and above the renal arteries
- Balloon inflates and deflates based on patient's EKG or arterial pressure waveform
- Ventricular systole, the balloon is deflated
- Ventricular diastole, the balloon is inflated

#### **Contraindications:**

- Aortic insufficiency
- Severe aortic disease



#### **Complications:**

- Ischemia of limb distal to insertion site
- Aortic dissection
- Thrombocytopenia
- Septicemia
- Infection
- Renal complications
- Air/gas emboli

#### **Timing errors:**

**Late deflation** — the balloon is inflated during the beginning of ventricular systole. This increases the work load of the left ventricle. Very harmful for the patient

**Early inflation** — the balloon is inflated before aortic valve closure. Causes reflux of blood into the left ventricle. Decreases cardiac output and increases SVR, Harmful

Late inflation — results in suboptimal augmentation because there is minimal displacement of blood back toward the coronary arteries

Early deflation — vacuum effect and afterload reduction is lost. This occurs because by the time

the aortic valve opens, the pressures in the aorta has equalized

## NOTES

### **Transport Considerations**

-Due to aircraft vibration, the trigger mode may need to be the arterial pressure line. The ECG may have too much artifact to effectively trigger the balloon inflation/deflation

-Balloon will purge on ascent due to Boyle's Law and gas expansion with increasing altitude

-Balloon will purge again on descent due to gas contraction with decreasing altitude.

Watch for patient decompensation during balloon purges. Be prepared to treat patient.

-Make sure that all air is out of the art line to minimize dampening of the waveform since this may be a trigger source in the event of EKG trigger failure.

-In the event of cardiopulmonary arrest in the patient, place the trigger mode on arterial pressure or on internal trigger mode.

-In the event of power failure, the balloon needs to be manually pumped every 30 minutes to prevent thrombus formation on the balloon.

### **TAKE THE SYRINGE!**

-Take extra helium tanks. With altitude changes and balloon purging, you may need those extra tanks.

-Before leaving a facility assure balloon placement by verifying the distal tip of the balloon is 2 cm below the aortic arch, and the proximal end of the balloon does not occlude the renal arteries. Get a **RECENT** chest film.

*-Watch Urinary output and distal pulses closely in transport – renal arteries are occluded*

*- Loss of left radial pulse indicates the balloon has migrated upward covering the subclavian artery*

# Critical Care Review

## Environmental

### The Body's Response to Cold

Peripheral vasoconstriction

Skeletal muscle vasodilation

Increased cardiac output

Shivering

Limited by available glycogen stores

Loss of shivering at 32°C

### Physiologic Response to Hypothermia

Initially metabolism increases to produce heat

Metabolism decreases by half for every drop in core temp of 10°C

Patients BGL will be normal or low with mild chronic hypothermia

BGL is increased with severe hypothermia as insulin stops working

Respiratory minute volume decreases

Respiratory rate is inadequate to blow off CO<sub>2</sub> thus a respiratory acidosis follows

Decreased CO

Increased SVR

Capillary leak decreases intravascular volume

Metabolic acidosis related to anaerobic metabolism

### Hypothermia Stages

#### Mild 32-36°C

Increased BMR, CO, HR begins to fall at 32°C

#### Moderate 29-32°C

Shivering stops, LOC and SVR fall, acidosis, hyperglycemia, CO falls

#### Severe < 28°C

Hypotension Prolonged PR, QRS, QT intervals, coma, hypoventilation, apnea

VF risk highest at 22°C

Osborne waves clear at 25°C

### Hypothermia Treatment

Remove cold and wet environment

Manage airway consider intubation risk for V-fib

Handle gently

Only start CPR if monitor shows VF or Asystole

Defer meds till core temp > 30°C

Passive External Rewarming

Patient allowed to rewarm self with blankets and transport vehicle heater

### Active External Rewarming

Heat placed on external body surfaces

Watch for after drop

### **Active Internal Rewarming**

Heat directly to core

IVF, Hemodialysis, gastric lavage, ECMO

### **Heat Pathophysiology**

Cellular breakdown

Vasodilation necessitates CO thus increasing O<sub>2</sub> demand

Increased sweat evaporation can lead to loss of 1-3L/Hr.

High output failure can lead to MI

Respiratory alkalosis

Neurologic problems related to cerebral edema, Seizures increase metabolism raising temp

Kidneys retain sodium and release K<sup>+</sup>, hypoperfusion leads to ATN

Liver is hypoperfused leading to hypoglycemia

Muscle death causes an increase in CK and rhabdomyolysis

ARDS and DIC result from lysosomal enzymes

### **Methods of Heat Transmission**

**Conduction**-Surface to surface transmission

**Convection**-Loss of heat by air or water movement across the body surface

**Radiation**-Loss to atmosphere

**Evaporation**-Loss of heat by dissipation of sweat

### **Hyperthermic response**

Heat increases

Related to increased metabolic processes

Related to environmental increase

Body compensation

Sweating

Increased respiration

Vasodilation

### **Heat Related Problems**

#### **Heat Cramps**

Occur in heavily exercised muscles in high heat  
Caused by hyponatremia associated with only water replacement

Cool and rehydrate with salt containing solutions

#### **Heat Exhaustion**

Defined as an increase in core temp without neurological impairment

Temp is lower and symptoms less severe than

#### **Heat stroke**

Patient retains ability to sweat

Treatment is aimed at cooling as well as fluid and electrolyte replacement



## **Heatstroke**

A life threatening emergency characterized by failure of the body to dissipate heat effectively

LOC is altered

Core temp. 42° C

Oxygen demand exceeds supply

Respiratory alkalosis. Metabolic acidosis

High output cardiac failure

## **Heatstroke Treatment**

COOL, COOL, COOL

Soak patient and provide fanning

Aggressive airway management

Don't under ventilate

Expose

IV fluids consider Thorazine 25-50mg

Prevent shivering

Place NG consider H2 blockers

Consider phenothiazines (poikilothermic properties)

Place a Foley, Monitor labs- ABGs for acidosis

Watch clotting factors for early onset of DIC

Monitor liver enzymes

Watch urinary output for rhabdomyolysis

Watch sodium for hyponatremia

## **Rhabdomyolysis**

Treat by alkalinizing the urine with NaHCO<sub>3</sub>

## **Hyponatremia**

Replace by correcting sodium slowly

## **Potassium**

Hypokalemia usually the result of respiratory alkalosis

Hyperkalemia usually the result of metabolic acidosis

Malignant Hyperthermia caused by Anesthetics and skeletal muscle relaxants such as Succinylcholine (Anectine)

Calcium is released into muscle fibers causing sustained contraction

A hyper metabolic state occurs increasing temp

May prevent mouth opening

Relieved by reversal of anesthetic and administration of 1-3mg/kg of Dantrolene Sodium (Dantrium)

## NOTES

# Critical Care Review

## OB/GYN EMERGENCIES

### GENERAL TRANSPORT CONSIDERATIONS

1. Place patient in a left lateral recumbent position
2. Note the patient's temperature
3. Note fetal heart tones, fetal movement, contractions
4. Start a large bore IV of LR
5. O2 to maintain sat of 98-100%
6. Note and quantify any bleeding or leaking of fluid

### MATERNAL PHYSIOLOGICAL CHANGES

1. HR increases 15-20 bpm
2. BP decreases in 2nd trimester 5-15mm/Hg
3. BP increases in 3rd trimester 10mm/Hg
4. Cardiac output increases
5. Circulating plasma volume increases 40% thus increasing clotting factors
6. RBCs increase but not to the same percentage as plasma resulting in a dilutional Anemia
7. Heart elevates and rotates
8. WBCs elevate
9. Progesterone relaxes sphincters
10. Decreased functional/residual lung volume

TABLE 21-1 Cardiovascular Changes in Normal Pregnancy		
	Nonpregnant Patient	Pregnant Patient
Cardiac output	5,000 mL	6,000 mL (20%-40% increase)
Stroke volume	80 mL	110 mL (approximately 30% increase)
Pulse rate	80 beats/min	10%-20% increase
Red blood cell mass	5 million cu mm	33% increase
Systemic vascular resistance	1,500 dyne-sec/cm <sup>-5</sup>	20% decrease
Mean arterial pressure	85 mm Hg	No change
Systolic blood pressure	120 mm Hg	120 mm Hg
Diastolic blood pressure	70 mm Hg	80 mm Hg
<i>Adapted from: Sodré PM. Maternal physiology changes during pregnancy. Obstet Gynecol. Available at: <a href="http://www.medstudents.com.br/ginob/ginob5.htm">http://www.medstudents.com.br/ginob/ginob5.htm</a>. Accessed February 12, 2009.</i>		

### OBSTETRICAL TERMINOLOGY – “Secret Handshake”

*Dilation*- Refers to the extent of cervical dilation as judged by palpation. Full dilatation occurs at 10 cm

*Effacement*- Relates to the thickness of the cervix and is expressed as a %. The cervix is normally about 2 cm thick and thins during labor. Thus when thinned to 1 cm the patient would be said to be 50% effaced

*Station*- Refers to the fetal head in relation to the mothers pubic bone and is expressed as a – or + number as measured in cm

## FETAL MONITORING

TABLE 21-3 Heart Rate Parameters	
Rate	Beats/min
Normal	120-160
Abnormal	< 100
• Tachycardia	> 160
• Bradycardia	< 120

Baseline FHT's are 120-160

*Variability*- Single most important predictor of fetal well-being

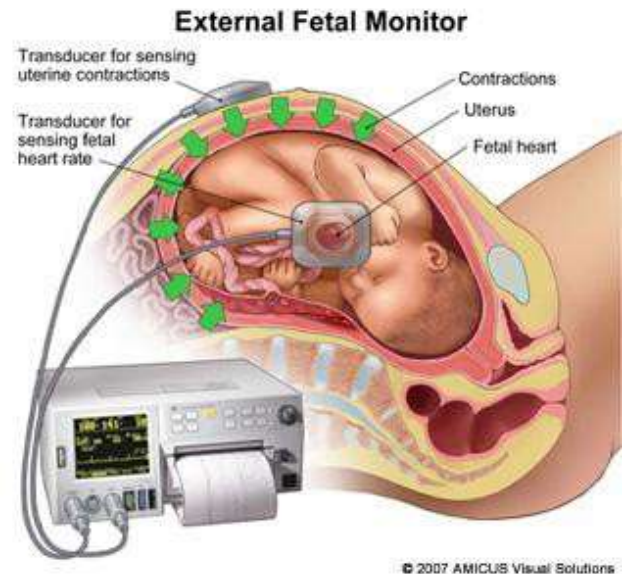
Poor variability caused by

1. Fetal hypoxia
2. Administration of meds to mom
3. Smoking
4. Extreme prematurity
5. Fetal sleep

What are Accels?

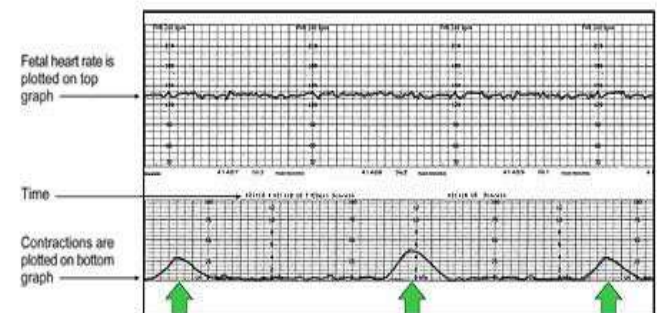
What are Decels?

How do they correspond to labor?



## FETAL MONITORING

### Fetal Heart Monitor Tracing



-Top waveform signifies fetal HR

-Bottom waveform signifies maternal contractions

Variability is judged by erratic waves of the fetal heart tracing and is separated into short and long term variability (suggests neurologically intact)

### Accelerations (Usually GOOD)

-Usually associated with fetal movement

-Hypoxic fetus w/ metabolic acidosis cannot accelerate its HR

### Variable Decelerations (Not good)

-Common during contractions, typically V or W shaped Caused by cord compression

### “Shouldering” is common

-Look for ‘cord’ problems (prolapsed, short, entanglement, nuchal)

### Late Decelerations (BAD)

-Always mean uteroplacental insufficiency causing the fetus to experience a hypoxic Bradycardia

- Associated with PIH, DM, Smoking and late deliveries

### Sinusoidal (VERY BAD)

-Typical of fetal Hypovolemia or anemia

-Commonly associated with accidental tap of the umbilical cord during amniocentesis, fetomaternal transfusion, placental abruption

### Bradycardia

FHR<120 for 5-10 minutes

### Tachycardia

FHR>160 for >10 minutes

### FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO FETAL DISTRESS

1. Assure fetal oxygenation give mom High flow O2 by NRB
2. Maternal Hypotension- Initiate 250-500cc IVF bolus, correct supine hypotension. “Tank her up!”
3. Hypertonic or tetanic contractions- Discontinue oxytocin infusion.
4. Rule out cord prolapse

5. Assess for placental abruption

6. Change positions

TABLE 21-2 Conditions Associated With Fetal Distress During Labor	
Source	Condition
Umbilical cord	Hematoma Knot in cord Nuchal cord Prolapsed cord Cord compression
Placenta	Infarction Abruption
Uterus	Tetanic contractions Hyperstimulation
Fetus	Anemia Infection
Maternal	Hypertension Hypotension Severe anemia Seizures

### MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS

#### SIGNS/SYMPTOMS OF IMMINENT DELIVERY

- Vaginal bleeding
- Contractions greater than q 10 min
- Increasing intensity of contractions
- Urge to push
- Crowning

#### PRE-TERM LABOR

1. Look for signs of imminent delivery
2. Determine the status of the amniotic membranes
3. Determine cervical status
4. Maintain the patient in left lateral recumbent
5. Assess for infection
6. Prophylactic antibiotics for group B strep
7. Administer tocolytics:

-**MgSO4**- watch for toxicity, DTRS, Respirations

-Indomethacin

-Terbutaline

-Monitor fetal heart tones, movement

Pregnancy Induced HTN (PIH) relates to any new onset HTN with pregnancy

Who's at risk?

## MATERNAL MEDICATIONS

### MEDICATION DOSAGE INDICATION

#### Terbutaline

0.25mg sq      q 15 min      Pre-term labor

#### Magnesium Sulfate

4-6g bolus/15-30min 2g/hr maintenance

Preeclampsia, Pre-term labor

#### Oxytocin

20-40 units/1000cc at 125cc/hr Post-partum hemorrhage

#### Hydralazine

2mg iv q 5min to DBP 90-100mmHg

Or 5-10mg q 20min      PIH, Preeclampsia

**Preeclampsia** is characterized by HTN, proteinuria, and edema

**HELLP Syndrome** refers to patients with a myriad of symptoms including Hemolysis, Elevated Liver enzymes, and a Low Platelet count

### PIH, PREECLAMPSIA & HELLP

1. Watch for late decels and decreased variability.
2. Monitor fetal movement.
3. MgSO<sub>4</sub> 4-6g bolus followed by 1-2g/hr
4. Steroids (Celestone) as soon as possible
5. Consider Labetalol 20mg SIVP
6. Consider Hydralazine 2mg SIVP
7. Give Valium prn for seizure activity with MgSO<sub>4</sub>

## ECTOPIC PREGNANCY

1. Every woman of child bearing age with acute abdominal complaints is an ectopic pregnancy until proven otherwise
2. Treatment is usually surgical
3. Maintain ABC's
4. Treat for hypovolemic shock
5. Cross matched blood
6. Give Rhogam if mom is Rh-

## MATERNAL HYPERTENSIVE SYNDROMES

# Critical Care Review

## TRAUMA IN PREGNANCY

**The best way to maximize fetal viability in trauma is to aggressively treat mom like you treat other trauma patients**

*High Index of Suspicion*

-MOI

-Seat Belt

*After benign collision Transport in full spinal precautions with board tilted to left*

*Because of the increase in circulating volume, 30-35% of the blood volume may be lost before signs and symptoms of Hypovolemia surface*

Vigorous fluid replacement, High flow O2

### PLACENTA PREVIA

Characterized by Placental attachment over the cervical opening

Common w/ uterine scarring, multiparity w/ short intervals, post D&C, etc

***Often presents as painless bright red vaginal bleeding***

1. *High flow O2, vitals, fluids*
2. *Assess for contractions, fetal movement/heart tones, hemorrhage.*
3. *Consider tocolytics and blood products.*
4. *Watch for signs of DIC*

### PLACENTAL ABRUPTION

Abruption is characterized by disruption of the uterine wall-placental interface with tearing of vasculature

Often presents as ripping or tearing pain with dark or no evident blood loss

There is a twofold threat for Exsanguination

### Placental insufficiency

*Blood is irritating to the uterus, thus it will initiate contractions*

1. High flow O2, vitals, fluids
2. Assess for contractions, fetal movement/heart tones, hemorrhage.
3. Continually reassess fundal height
4. Consider tocolytics and blood products.
5. Watch for signs of DIC

### UTERINE RUPTURE

***Rapid Recognition is Key!***

1. May be misdiagnosed as Placenta Abruptio
2. Serial fundal height measurements
3. Look for signs of previous Cesarean
4. Rapid transfer with supportive care
5. Oxytocin, 20-40 units in 1000cc may reduce bleeding

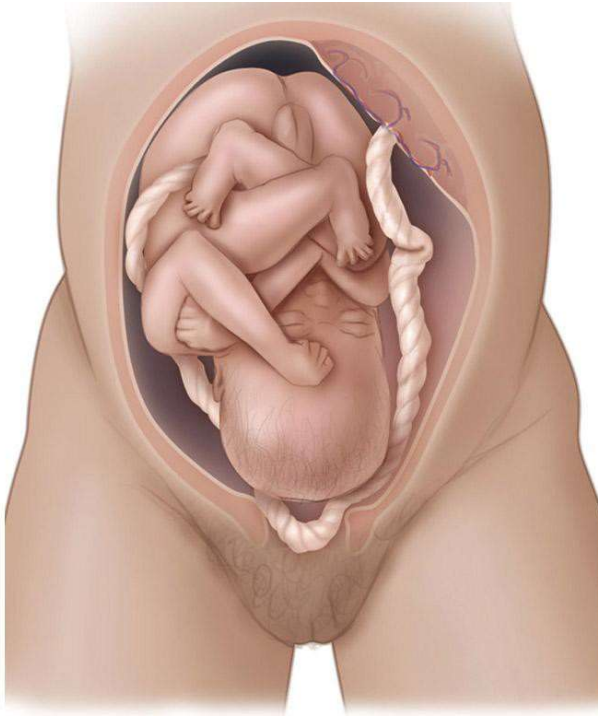
### DELIVERY COMPLICATIONS

#### NUCHAL CORD

-Variable Decelerations

-Gently loosen and draw down over head

-Clamp & cut before shoulders are delivered if it is too tight to remove



#### UMBILICAL CORD PROLAPSE

- Elevate presenting part off the cord with a hand in the vagina to prevent cord compression.
- Trendelenburg or knee to chest position
- Tocolytics to reduce pressure on the cord during contractions.



#### BREECH PRESENTATION

- Fetus should not be touched until the umbilicus has spontaneously delivered.
- Palpate cord for FHR.
- After shoulders have delivered, rotate baby's trunk so that the back is anterior and apply gentle downward traction.
- Apply suprapubic pressure to facilitate delivery of the head (**Mauriceau's maneuver**).
- Do not attempt to deliver a footling breach

#### MECONIUM DELIVERY

#### POSTPARTUM HEMORRHAGE

1. Vigorous fundal massage
2. Rapid infusion of 20-40 units oxytocin Methergine (methylergonovine)
3. Assess blood loss
4. Replace fluids, blood
5. Bimanual uterine compression

#### UTERINE INVERSION

1. Manual replacement if the uterus has not yet contracted down and cervix has not constricted
2. Tocolytics if the uterus has contracted to relax the uterus and allow replacement
3. Oxytocin
4. **DO NOT REMOVE THE PLACENTA!**



## Anaphylactoid Syndrome of Pregnancy

**The old theory** - Amniotic fluid created a pulmonary embolus

**The current research** - Antibody response to a fetal antigen (anaphylaxis)

### Treatment

1. High flow O<sub>2</sub>, Intubate as needed
2. PEEP may be required
3. Fluid resuscitation
4. Hemodynamic monitoring
5. Blood product replacement as needed FFP, Platelets, Cryo
6. Anticipate severe fetal distress if syndrome presents prepartum
7. Prepare for emergent postmortum c-section

## DIC- Disseminated Intravascular Coagulopathy

-Overstimulation of clotting cascade

2 ways to make a clot

**Intrinsic** – endothelium injury  
Causes: ARDS; Septic Shock; Hypotension  
Clotting Factors: 12, 11, 9, and 8

**Extrinsic** – Tissue Injury  
Clotting Factors: 7  
Release of Tissue Thromboplastin, begins clotting cascade

### Why are Mothers so susceptible?

- Highest levels of Tissue Thromboplastin are located in the Brain and Placenta

## Labs-

*Decreased Fibrinogen level*

Increased PT/PTT interval

Increased Fibrin Split Products (FSP)

Increased D-dimer

### Treatment

1. Airway Management
2. Heparin administration
  - inhibits conversion of prothrombin to thrombin
  - inactivates circulating thrombin
  - inhibits conversion of fibrinogen to fibrin
3. Stop ongoing major hemorrhage
  - Get rid of triggering event
4. Volume Replacement
5. Minimize needle sticks
6. Blood Products (FFP, Platelets)
  - Begin administration after heparin and you have reached a PTT between 2 – 2.5

## Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT)

- Some people do not have Anti-thrombin 3  
Heparin will not work with these people will actually do opposite and will lengthen PT/PTT

- These patients need anticoagulant,  
**Argatroban**



## Trauma & Injury –

### *Mechanism of Injury*

**Newton's First Law**—an object in motion will remain in motion and an object at rest will remain at rest, unless acted upon by a force.

**Newton's Second Law of Motion** —Force=mass x acceleration     $F=ma$

**Newton's Third Law of Motion**—for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

### *Head-On Collisions*

#### **Predictable patterns**

- Up and over
- Down and under

*What gets hurt with each?*

#### **Predictable Injuries**

- Ruptured spleens
- Lacerated livers
- Ruptured thoracic aortas

### *Rear-End Collisions*

#### **Predictable Injuries**

- C2 fx of neck
- T12-L1 back injuries
- Femur fx
- Tib/fib fx
- Ankle fx

Evaluate for 2nd impact of vehicle and the predictable injury patterns associated.

### *T-Bone or Lateral Impacts*

#### **Predictable injury patterns**

What gets hurt?

#### **Don't forget secondary injuries**

Patient propelled to opposite side of car

Injuries of the opposite side of body as well

### *Motorcycle Crashes*

#### **Head-on injury patterns**

Up and over

What gets hurt?

### *Side impact or 'lay it down' injury patterns*

- Open fx of the femur
- Pelvic fx's
- Trapped arm breaks ribs

### *Rollover collision*

- axial loading injuries, multiple injury patterns
- this form of accident causes the most lethal injuries

# Trauma Management

## Airway

- secure c-spine
- Conscious ability to swallow
- Oxygenation or ventilation failure
- Expected clinical course

## Breathing

- Adequate oxygenation SpO2 > 90%
- Adequate ventilation CO2 or ETCO2

## *Adequate mechanics*

- Pneumothorax
- Flail chest and pulmonary contusion
- Hemothorax

## Circulation

- Assess cardiac output
- HR more important than BP
- BP won't fall until blood loss > 30-40%
- Think tamponade
- Look for bleeding

## *The five places to look for blood loss*

1. The chest
2. The abdomen
3. The muscles around long bones
4. The retroperitoneum
5. The floor

## *Secure IV access*

## Disability

- Quick neuro exam
- Perform GCS
- PMS x 4
- Pupils

## *Support cerebral perfusion*

## **No hypoxia allowed!**

## **No hypotension allowed!**

## Manage increasing ICP

- Watch for localized signs of herniation
- Mildly Hyperventilate @ rate or 20-24bpm
- Diuretics
- Barbiturates/paralytics

## Expose and evaluate

## Look for occult injury

## Fahrenheit

- Get temp and keep them warm
- Cold Blood will not Clot

## Get a thorough set of vitals

- Trends are more important than isolated numbers

## Head to toe

- Continuously reassess

## Farming Accidents

1. Delayed arrival of medical care and extrication often increase mortality
2. Tractors are much heavier than autos
3. Tractors have a high center of gravity making them prone to rollovers
4. End over end rollovers have a greater potential for patient entrapment
5. High potential for HAZMAT involvement

## Specific Small Vehicle Crashes

### Rapid Vertical Deceleration

Primarily in adults and children under 5

Children —impact on their head

Adults—"Don Juan injury"

### Projectile Penetration

- Impalements/stab wounds
- Firearms
- High Velocity bullets travel at >2000fps

### Blast Injuries

*Primary*—initial air blast

Injuries to air containing organs

*Secondary*—victim being struck by projectiles from blast force

*Tertiary*—victim impacting the ground or another object

## Burn Management

- Airway early
- Mechanism of the burn
- Carbon Monoxide poisoning
- Cyanide toxicity

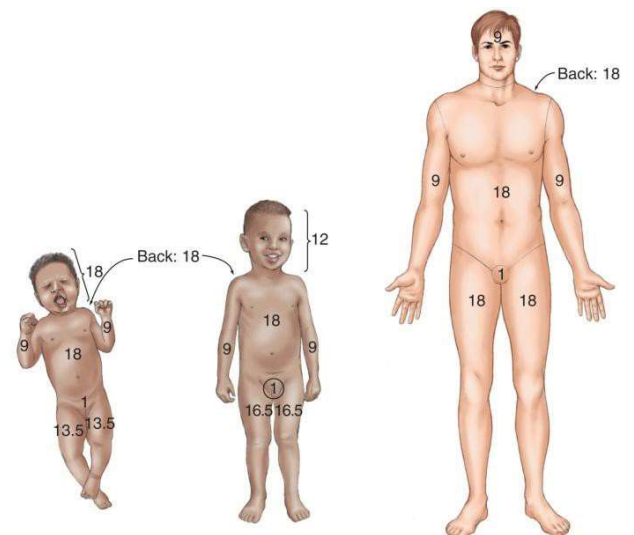
Calculate Burn Area then cover with dry dressings

- Urinary output of 30-50ml/hr
- 1-2ml/kg/hr in children

**Parkland formula — 4ml/kg/%BSA burned**

- Give ½ over first 8 hours post burn
- Don't calculate 1st degree burns

## Review your Rule-of-9's



## Lund and Browder Chart

Region	%
Head	
Neck	
Ant. Trunk	
Post. Trunk	
Right arm	
Left arm	
Buttocks	
Genitalia	
Right leg	
Left leg	
Total burn	

Relative percentages of body surface area affected by growth			
Age (years)	A ( $\frac{1}{2}$ of head)	B ( $\frac{1}{2}$ of one thigh)	C ( $\frac{1}{2}$ of one leg)
0	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$
1	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$
5	$6\frac{1}{2}$	4	$2\frac{3}{4}$
10	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{4}$	3
15	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Adult	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$	3

## Acids

Most acids can't penetrate deep into tissue because they cause coagulative necrosis

Acids denature cellular proteins and cause cellular coagulation

## Alkalis

Dissolve protein and collagen causing dehydration and saponification

Alkalis tend to cause more severe burns

## Classifications of Burns

Depth	Color and Vascularity	Surface Appearance and Pain	Swelling, Healing, and Scarring
Superficial (first degree)	Erythematous, pink and red	No blisters Dry and tender	Slight edema Heals easily without scarring
Superficial to partial thickness (second degree)	Erythematous, bright pink/red, mottled Blanches with brisk capillary refill	Intact blisters, moist when removed Weeping wounds and extremely painful	Moderate edema Easily heals but with skin discoloration
Deep to partial thickness (second degree)	Red, waxy-white Blanches with slow capillary refill	Broken blisters, wet Sensitive to pressure, but not to light touch	Marked edema Heals slowly with hypertrophic scars
Full thickness (third degree)	White, black to red/tan No blanching, vessels thrombosed Poor distal circulation	Dry, leathery Anesthetic Hairs pull out easily	Skin grafting required Scarring likely after healing
Subdermal (fourth degree)	Charred	Obvious subcutaneous tissue involvement Anesthetic	Skin grafting and/or flap required Scarring after healing

## HAZMAT



Two modes of EMS operations at Hazardous Material scenes

1. "Fast break"
2. "Long-term decision making"



## Chemical Burns

-Most chemical burns should not be neutralized

Hydrofluoric Acid

Copious water

Alkali Metal burns (NA and K)

-React w/ water

-Absorb heat with oil

## "Two-Step" Decon Process

-Usually at a "fast break" scenario

1. Remove all clothing, shoes and jewelry
2. Wash and rinse patient with soap and water making sure they do not stand in runoff
3. Reposition out of runoff and repeat a second time

## Electrical Injuries

-Myoglobinuria is often a problem due to massive muscle damage

-If untreated, will result in Acute Tubular Necrosis and renal failure

-Maintain urine output of at least 100 ml/hr with fluids

### Osmotic diuretics / Loop diuretics

- Furosemide

-Mannitol

Urine alkalinization increases the rate of myoglobin clearance and can be achieved using sodium bicarbonate titrated to a serum pH of 7.5.



## START Triage

When your mind starts racing...remember your

RPM's.

### START Triage Assessment Parameters

-A form of primary triage focused on three assessment parameters and three levels of triage

## Assessment

-Respirations

-Perfusion

-Mentation (LOC)

A couple of other quick rules

1. 15-30 second assessment per patient
2. If patient is apneic, reposition head once
3. Check capillary refill centrally

**All penetrating trunk trauma is Immediate**

**All rescuers injured on scene are Immediate**

Walking Wounded = **Green Tag = Priority 3**

Minor wounds = **Yellow Tag = Priority 2**

Severe injury = **Red Tag = Priority 1**

Dead = **Black Tag = Priority 0**

# Critical Care Review

## Hematology

### *Blood Composition*

#### **Water exists in the body in 3 areas**

- Intracellular – 75%
- Interstitial – 17%
- Intravascular – 8%

#### **Fluid Replacement**

3 liters of crystalloid to one liter of blood loss

Initial resuscitation should include an isotonic crystalloid

After crystalloids other options include hypertonic saline, albumin, or dextran.

Maintain MAP 80-90 mmHg with fluid

The kidneys are the poor man's swan ganz- use them to guide fluid replacement

#### **The clotting cascade in response to insult the body**

- Vasospasms
- Activates Platelets
- Initiates the Clotting Cascade
- Forms a clot
- Breaks the clot down

## **Disseminated Intravascular Coagulopathies (DIC)**

-Over stimulation of the clotting cascade secondary to massive tissue damage

#### **Treatment options**

-Blood component replacement- controversial due to the possibility of perpetuating the abnormal DIC feedback loop

-Heparin- inhibits the conversion of prothrombin to thrombin, slowing the coagulation cascade

-Anti-thrombin III- Prevents the conversion of multiple clotting factors to their active form

#### ***Blood Products -***

##### **Packed Red Blood Cells-**

- Given to increase O2 carrying capacity of blood
- Given over 2-4 hours normally, can be given fast emergently
- ABO antigens are present on RBCs, watch for hemolytic reactions
- Rh factor should be considered
- One unit of PRBCs equals approximately 330cc
- Peds dosing 10cc/kg
- Watch for citrate toxicity with multiple units
- One unit of PRBCs should increase the H/H by 1 and 3

##### **Fresh Frozen Plasma**

- Given as a volume expander or for coagulation factors
- Watch for transfusion reactions secondary to viral or antigen responses
- Dosing for coagulation is driven by coags (Pt/Ptt)

## **Cryoprecipitate**

## NOTES

- A mixed blood product obtained by separating specific clotting factors (Factor VIII:C, Factor XIII, von Willebrand factor, and fibrinogen) from FFP
- The end result is a concentrated fluid with high levels of fibrinogen and three other primary factors
- Given in DIC, Hemophilia A, Von Willebrand's Disease
- Administered at 10 ml min
- Normal adult dosing is 10 units
- Most often given emergently for massive PRBC infusions or TPA related bleeding

## **Platelets**

- Given for platelet deficiency
- Usually not given till platelet count falls to <20K
- Usually given as a six pack
- Should anticipate one unit will increase the platelet count by 12k
- Can be pushed quickly by syringe

**Critical Care Review**

## Endocrine Emergencies

### SIADH – syndrome of inappropriate anti-diuretic hormone

*-Dilutional Hyponatremia*

Hypothalamus controlled, ADH stored in the posterior pituitary gland

Retention of H<sub>2</sub>O- fluid overload, CHF

NORMAL SERUM OSMOLARITY 275 – 295  
approximately double the normal Sodium level

Causes:

1. Oat Cell Carcinoma
2. Viral Pneumonia
3. Head problems – trauma, tumors, meningitis, strokes, encephalitis

ADH works in the ***distal convoluted tubules***

Need to watch for Seizure Activity due to cerebral edema

Hyponatremia = Sodium < 135

Serum Osmolarity = < 270

*Treatment:*

1. Fluid restriction
2. Hypertonic Solution – 3% NaCl 25cc/hr

***Hypotonic solutions causes water to enter the cells because of change in Osmotic pressure***

***Normal Saline = 0.9% NaCl*** – any fluid below this is considered Hypotonic

D5W = Osmolarity of 252

- Isotonic in container, however, after administration glucose is rapidly metabolized, leaving only water behind, thus becoming a hypotonic solution. This will cause movement of H<sub>2</sub>O into cells leading to increased cerebral edema.

### Diabetes Insipidus (DI)

*Opposite of SIADH- LOW ADH*

Loss of up to 6 – 24 liters/day

**Labs –**

Increased Sodium  
Increased Serum Osmolarity > 295  
Increased urinary output (Clear)  
Specific gravity of 1.001 – 1.005

Causes:

1. Head Problems
2. Dilantin

Resulting in:

1. Hypovolemia
2. Shock

Treatment:

1. Give ADH – IV, IM, SQ, Nasal Spray
2. Monitor Specific Gravity of urine
3. Monitor EKG for Cardiac Ischemia

### HHNK

Hyperglycemic Hyperosmolar Nonketotic Coma

These people still have insulin!

Who gets HHNK?

1. Old People – tired pancreas
2. Diet controlled Diabetes – usually Type II
3. TPN – total parenteral nutrition
4. Pancreatitis – 95% mortality rate

Other causes:

*Overuse of thiazides* – they hold on to glucose  
*Overuse of Steroids* – they lead to insulin resistance



- No acidosis as a result of still having insulin

- Blood Sugar ranges of 1000 – 2000

-Higher levels of BS due to no development of Ketones, no acidosis, long for symptoms to present themselves.

- Severe Dehydration – 8 – 10 liters/day

Treatment:

1. Fluids  
-NS, ½ NS, and D5 ½ NS
2. Insulin
3. Glucose

**Always make sure you check a Sugar!!**

## DKA

These people have no insulin!

Dehydrated 4 – 6 liters behind

Glucose level = 400 – 900 usually reason why level is not as high as HHNK is due to ketoacidosis an patient becoming unconscious, going into coma after around 5 days

*State of Acidosis* – the body breaks down fatty acids for energy, by product of breakdown is Ketones, which leads to Acidosis.

Ketones cause Fruity Breath

*KUSSMAUL Breathing* – Increase Rate, Increase Depth, designed to blow off excess CO<sub>2</sub>

On cellular level, body plays “Hide the Hydrogen” H<sup>+</sup> ions leave serum and hide in the cells; this pushes K<sup>+</sup> out of the cell, leading to a high Serum K<sup>+</sup> level

*DKA patients* – you want to see High K<sup>+</sup> levels  
- Low K<sup>+</sup> levels your patient is going to die!

Potassium and Hydrogen have a reciprocal relationship

**For every change of .1 of H<sup>+</sup> ions = change of K<sup>+</sup> ions of .6 in the opposite direction**

## PH

## K+

7.45

4.5

7.35

5.1

7.15

6.3

7.05

6.9

Treatment:

- Fluids  
- NS, ½ NS, D5 ½ NS
- Insulin

Correct Sugar and Acidosis should correct itself

Acidosis always increases Serum K<sup>+</sup> level

DKA – Most common cause of death is Hypokalemia

*Insulin* - Under certain circumstances, injection of insulin can kill patients because of its ability to acutely suppress plasma potassium concentrations.

## NOTES

## Pancreatitis

Not an infection of pancreas – it is auto digestion of pancreas

### *Causes:*

1. Obstruction of Pancreatic ducts – Most common!
2. ETOH abuse
3. Biliary stone disease
4. Steroids, antibiotic, thiazide use
5. Infections (viral/bacterial)

### *Presentation*

1. **Hypocalcemia** -Pancreas needs Ca to auto digest itself
2. **HHNK**  
- Pancreas is too busy eating itself, it cannot produce insulin
3. Elevation of the left diaphragm w/  
**Left base atelectasis**
4. **Left pleural effusions**
5. **Bilateral Rales**
6. Concomitant **ARDS**  
-Phospholipase A travels through blood to lungs and kills the Type 2 alveoli cells that make surfactant
7. **Renal failure**
8. **Cullen's sign** – Black and Blue bleeding around umbilicus

### *Treatment*

1. –Fluid resuscitation
2. –NPO and place OG/NG
3. –Meperidine over MS - due to Sphincter of Odi spasticity
4. –Antibiotics for sepsis - Rocephin, Ampicillin

## Liver

### *Functions:*

1. Detoxify blood – 1500 cc/min
2. Make Bile
3. Synthesis amino acids
4. Makes albumin, prothrombin, fibrinogen
5. Converts glucose into glycogen
6. Converts ammonia into urea

*Decrease in albumin production leads to **ASCITES***

*Increase in ammonia levels leads to **Hepatic Encephalopathy***

### *LIVER Disease*

- Never want a decrease in K<sup>+</sup> level – the kidneys will retain K<sup>+</sup> and also ammonia ions

- Must utilize K<sup>+</sup> sparing diuretics

-Portal Hypertension results in esophageal varices and gastrointestinal bleeding

## Renal

### Anatomy

1. Proximal Tubular
2. Loop of Henley
3. Convoluted Tubule

### Proximal Tubular –

Located in the nephron

Reabsorbs everything

Electrolytes

### Loop of Henley –

Responsible for the concentration and dilution of urine

### Convoluted and collecting tubules –

ADH affects this area and causes retention of H<sub>2</sub>O

### Acute Renal Failure

Decrease in urinary output < 400 cc/24 hr period

#### 3 Stages

##### 1. **Pre renal**

- Decrease in urine output < 400cc/24hr period
- Causes: decrease blood flow to kidneys
- CHF; Hypotension

##### 2. **Renal**

- Decrease in urinary output < 400cc/24hr period
- Causes: Kidney damage
- Parenchyma; Nephrons

##### 3. **Post Renal**

- Urethral obstruction
- Bladder Obstruction

### ATN – Acute Tubular Necrosis

For every 100 people that come into ED with ATN, 50 out of them will drop dead. Out of the

remaining 50, 25 of them will have dialysis for the rest of their life, and the remaining 25 will survive

3 stages of ATN

### Oliguric Stage- 10 – 17 days

No urine output

Increased BUN

Increased Creatinine

Increased K<sup>+</sup>

fluid overload

### Polyuric Stage – 2 weeks – 3 Months

Begin to make urine

Good Quantity

Bad Quality

Increased BUN

Increased Creatinine

Decreased K<sup>+</sup> due to fluid depletion

### Recovery Stage – 3 Months – 1 year

Hope that kidneys regenerate themselves during this stage

### Pre-renal vs. Renal Stage

#### Pre-renal

Urinary Na<sup>+</sup> < 20  
hold on to H<sub>2</sub>O  
Hold on to Na<sup>+</sup>

**BUN/Creatinine Ratio**  
20/1

**Fluids/Lasix given**  
Increase in urine

#### Renal Stage

Urinary Na<sup>+</sup> 40 – 100  
Hold on to H<sub>2</sub>O  
Nephron leak Na<sup>+</sup>

**BUN/Creatinine Ratio**  
10/1

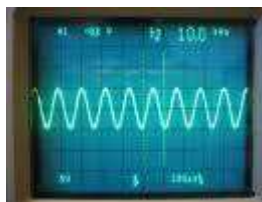
**Fluids/ Lasix given**  
No change in urine output

## **Electrolytes**

### **Potassium**

Hyperkalemia – increase in K<sup>+</sup>

<u>Signs</u>	<u>K<sup>+</sup></u>
Peaked “T” Wave	6.5 – 6.8
Prolonged PR interval	7
Lose of “P” wave	>7
Widening QRS	8
Sin Wave	DEATH



Treatment:

1. **Calcium Gluconate** – works in 1-3 mins  
-Only give if you have EKG changes  
-Does not lower K<sup>+</sup> level  
  
Allows electricity to go through heart muscle normally
2. **Insulin** – IVP 10-15 units with 50cc of D50  
- pushes K<sup>+</sup> into the cells [temporary]
3. **Glucose** – Do not want patient to become more hypoglycemic
4. **Bicarbonate** – beneficial in cases of metabolic acidosis  
- 1 amp given over 5 minutes  
- will stimulate an exchange of cellular H<sup>+</sup> for Na<sup>+</sup>, thus leading to stimulation of the sodium-potassium ATPase
5. **Kaexylate** – Binds with K<sup>+</sup> ions and causes excretion decreasing potassium

## **Calcium**

Calcium and phosphate exist in a reciprocal relationship

**Patients with Kidney disease always have a decrease in Ca<sup>++</sup>**

- Kidneys make Vitamin D
- We utilize Vitamin D to reabsorb Ca<sup>++</sup> from the Gut
- No Vitamin D = No reabsorbed Ca<sup>++</sup>

*Hypocalcaemia = Hyperphosphatemia*

### **Manifestations of Hypocalcaemia and Hyperphosphatemia**

- Chvostek's signs
- Trousseau Signs

Treatment of Hyperphosphatemia

**Amphojel** - binds with phosphate and decreases levels

**“Twitch, Twitch; Seize, Seize; Chvostek's and Trousseau”**

Weight gain of 1 pound within 24 hrs indicate fluid retention of 1000cc

# Critical Care Review

## Toxicology

Arrhythmias secondary to Cardiotoxins / Electrolyte Disturbances

### Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCA's)

Due to the location of norepinephrine receptors all over the body, many physical signs are also associated with a TCA overdose<sup>1</sup>:

1. Anticholinergic effects: altered mental status (e.g., agitation, confusion, lethargy, etc.), resting sinus tachycardia, dry mouth, mydriasis (pupil dilation), fever
2. Cardiac effects: hypertension (early and transient, should not be treated), tachycardia, orthostasis and hypotension, arrhythmias (including ventricular tachycardia and ventricular fibrillation, most serious consequence)/ECG changes (prolonged QRS, QT and PR intervals)
3. CNS effects: syncope, seizure, coma, myoclonus, hyperreflexia
4. Pulmonary effects: hypoventilation resulting from CNS depression
5. Gastrointestinal effects: decreased or absent bowel sounds

*Treatment:*

*NaHCO<sub>3</sub>*

**Beta blockers Overdose** (Propanolol, Atenolol, Lnderal, Metoprolol)

Bradycardia w/ resultant hypotension

Look for escape rhythms - Junctional ; Ventricular

-Look for respiratory compromise as well

*Treatment:*

Atropine rule out/parasympathetic tone prophylaxis

TCP ASAP

Glucagon 1mg IVP

Dopamine prn for hypotension

Isuprel gtt

**Ca<sup>+</sup> channel blockers** (Verapamil, Nifedipine, Diltiazem)

-Look for severe Bradycardia & AV dissociation

-Look for concomitant hypotension

*Treatment:*

Calcium chloride/gluconate

TCP

**Digitalis toxicity** (Digoxin, Digitoxin, Foxglove, Oleander)

Commonly see Bradycardia, SVT, VT, blocks

*Treatment:*

- Digibind

- Assure normal electrolytes

- TCP

Lidocaine, Magnesium & Dilantin for tachyarrhythmias

- Caution with electricity

**Hypokalemia (<3.5)**

- Loop diuretic misuse/OD

- Serum potassium important as well as pH

-ECG: Peaked P's, Flattened/slurred T's, and appearance of U's

*Treatment:*

- Potassium Chloride, Potassium Phosphate

**Hyperkalemia (>5.0)**

- Profound acidosis (DKA, Vent mismanagement, etc...)

- Potassium supplement OD

-ECG: Flattening/slurring of P waves and Peaked T waves

**Acetaminophen Poisoning**

*Stage 1 -*

- Occurs within 30 minutes to 24 hours

- Nausea, vomiting & anorexia

- Malaise

- Pallor

- Diaphoresis

*Stage 2 -*

- 24-48 hours

- Right upper quadrant pain/tenderness

- Increased liver enzymes

- Increased serum bilirubin

- Increased prothrombin time (PT)

- Oliguria as result of ATN

*Stage 3 -*

- 72-96 hours

- Peak for liver function abnormalities

- Return of anorexia, nausea, vomiting & malaise

- Jaundice becomes apparent

- Hepatic encephalopathy

- DIC

- Death due to fulminate hepatic necrosis

#### Stage 4 -

-4 days to two weeks

-Resolution period

-Liver functions return to normal baseline values, patients become asymptomatic

#### *Acetaminophen Poisoning Treatment*

-Ingestion of 7.5g or 150 mg/kg is typically toxic

-Measure serum levels 4 hour after ingestion

1. GI decontamination
2. Administer N-acetylcysteine (NAC) (Mucomyst) orally 140 mg/kg
3. Intravenous (IV) NAC (Acetadote)

#### **Aspirin (ASA) Poisoning**

- Depressed DTR's
- Stupor/coma/convulsions
- Myoclonic jerks
- Hypothermia/low grade fever
- Profound Hypocalcemia

#### *Aspirin (ASA) Poisoning Treatment:*

1. Activated charcoal
2. Intravenous dextrose and normal saline
3. Sodium bicarbonate
4. Dialysis

#### **Benzodiazepines**

-Flumazenil—administer with caution

#### **Narcotics**

-Narcan—titrate to effect

#### **TOXIN ANTIDOTE**

Carbon Monoxide	Oxygen
Cyanide	Amyl nitrate, Na thiosulfate
Organophosphates	Atropine, 2-pam
Methemoglobinemia	Methylene Blue
Anticholinergic	Physostigmine
Coumadin	Vitamin K, FFP
Heparin	Protamine sulfate
$\beta$ & $\text{Ca}^{++}$ Blockers	Glucagon, Calcium

#### **Snakebites**

##### Signs and symptoms

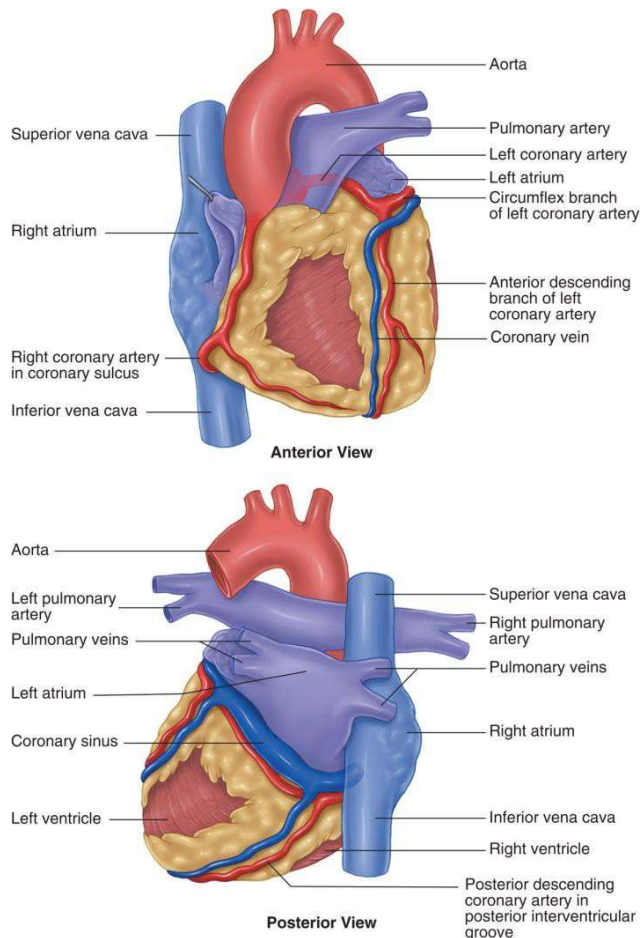
- Localized pain, swelling & edema
- Diaphoresis
- Chills
- Hypotension
- Muscle fasciculation
- Coagulopathies
- Local ecchymosis
- Faintness/weakness

##### *Treatment:*

1. Clean and immobilize
2. Airway, ventilatory & circulatory support IV access
3. Monitor for systemic reaction
4. Severe intoxication—Antivenin (monitor for serum sickness)

## Cardiac

### Anatomy and Physiology



**Pericardium** — the double walled fibrous sac surrounding the heart

**Heart** — contains three layers: epicardium, myocardium & endocardium.

**Epicardium**—thin, outermost layer

**Myocardium**—thick, muscular middle layer

**Endocardium**—thin inner layer

**Heart chambers** — four chambers divided by septums and valves — two types: atrioventricular and semilunar valves.

**AV valves** — located between atria and ventricles  
Open as a result of lower ventricular pressures and close as a result of increased ventricular pressures.

**Tricuspid valve** — located between the right atrium and right ventricle, three cusps.

**Mitral valve** — located between the left atria and left ventricle, two cusps.

**Semilunar valves** — located between the ventricles and the great arteries.

**Pulmonic valve** — separates the right ventricle from the pulmonary artery.

**Aortic valve** — separates the left ventricle from the aorta.

### Coronary Circulation

Circulation consists of right and left coronary arteries that arise from the coronary Ostia at the aortic root.

Left coronary artery (LCA) bifurcates into the LAD and LCX.

LAD supplies the anterior surface of the heart, the anterior two-thirds of the septum, and part of the lateral wall.

LCX primarily supplies the lateral wall of the left ventricle.

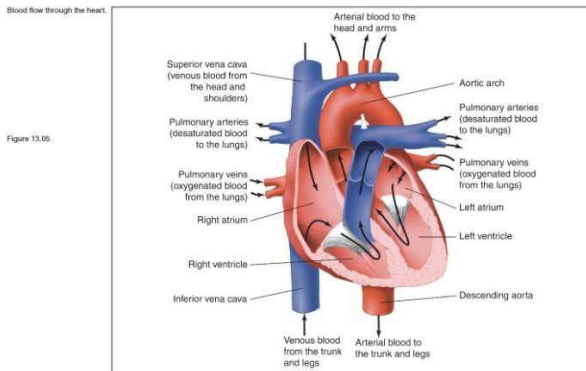
RCA becomes the PDA

These supply the right atrium, right ventricle as well as the inferior and posterior walls of the left ventricle.



## Overview of blood flow through the heart

Right atrium—tricuspid valve—right ventricle—pulmonic valve—pulmonary artery—lungs—pulmonary vein—left atrium—mitral valve—left ventricle—aortic valve—aorta—systemic circulation—vena cava— right atrium

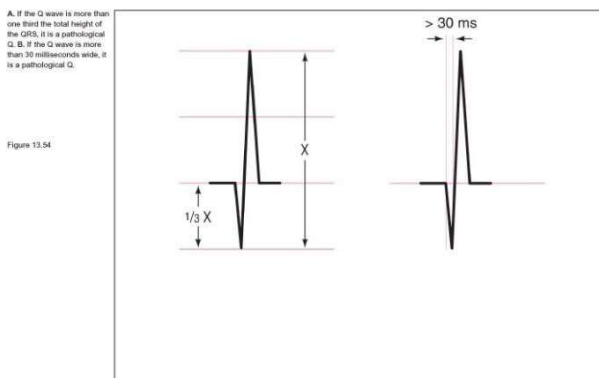


**Valve order T-P-M-A**

## Types of Infarctions

Infarcts are divided into Transmural and non-Transmural, or subendocardial MI's.

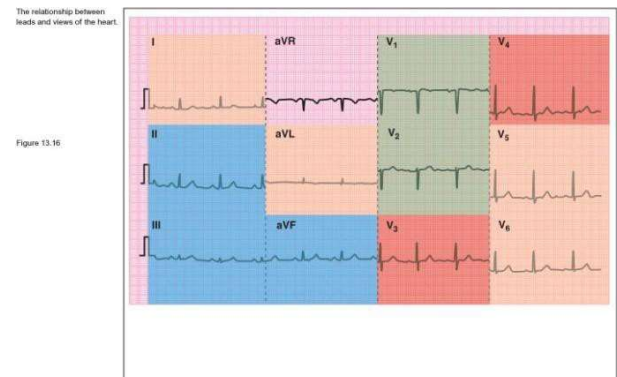
Transmural — extends through the full thickness of the myocardium and includes the endocardium and epicardium.



## Q Waves Formation

Greater risk of complications due to loss of functional myocardium

Subendocardial — necrosis is limited to the subendocardial surface.



## ACS Classifications

Unstable angina -Diagnosed positive cardiac markers and negative 12-lead changes

Non-STE MI -Diagnosed positive cardiac markers and ST depression or dynamic T wave changes

STE MI -Diagnosed positive cardiac markers and identified STE pattern on 12-lead

## Cardiac Enzyme Studies

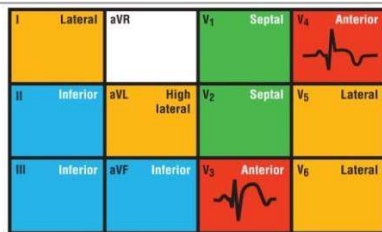
# Critical Care Review

## Types and Locations of Infarcts

TABLE 13-8 Reciprocal Leads and Their Corresponding Locations		
Location	Facing Leads	Reciprocal Leads
Anterior	V <sub>3</sub> , V <sub>4</sub>	None
Inferior	II, III, aVF	I, aVL
Lateral	I, aVL, V <sub>5</sub> , V <sub>6</sub>	II, III, aVF
Septum	V <sub>1</sub> , V <sub>2</sub>	None
Posterior	None	V <sub>1</sub> , V <sub>2</sub>

Anterior leads.

Figure 13.58

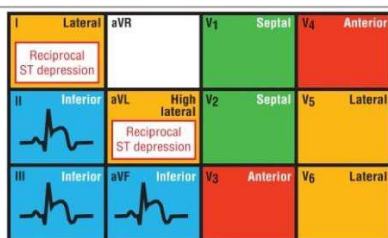


### Anterior MI

Obstruction of LAD Infarction of the regions of LV, parts of septum and papillary muscles.

Electrocardiographic changes seen with inferior wall myocardial infarction.

Figure 13.69

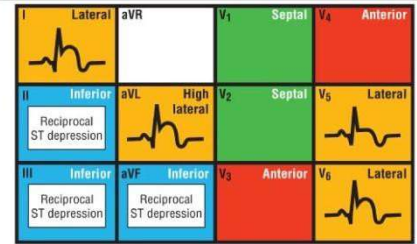


### Inferior MI

Obstruction of the RCA, also infarcts the papillary muscles

Electrocardiographic changes seen with lateral wall myocardial infarction.

Figure 13.66

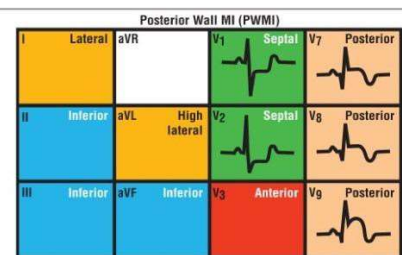


### Lateral MI

Obstruction of the LCX

Electrocardiographic changes seen with a posterior wall myocardial infarction.

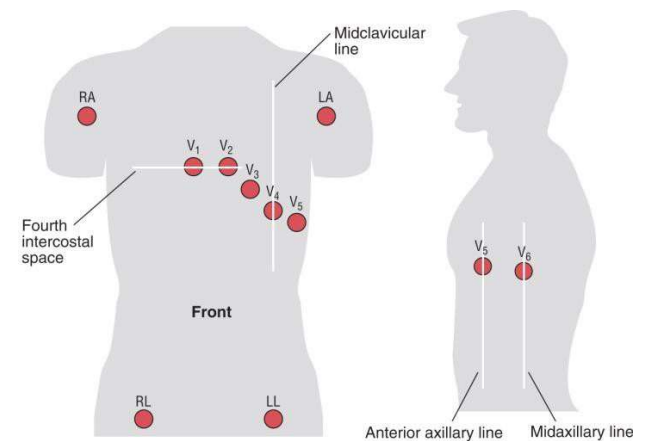
Figure 13.62

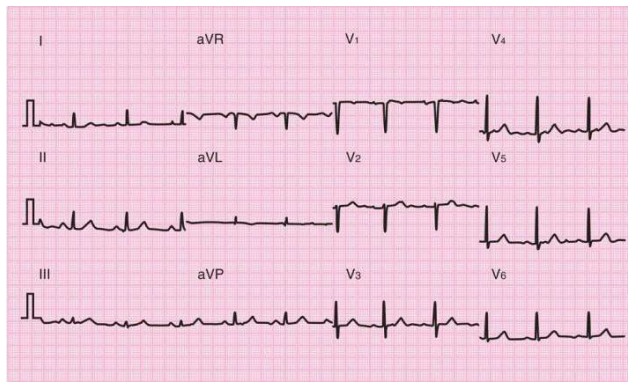


### Posterior MI

Obstruction of the LCX or the RCA

What exactly are we looking for on the 12-Lead?





### First –ST Elevation

1mm in two anatomically contiguous leads

### Second –Q waves

“True” Q’s

Pathological vs. physiological

### Third –ST Depression

Reciprocal finding from elevated leads

### Axis Deviation

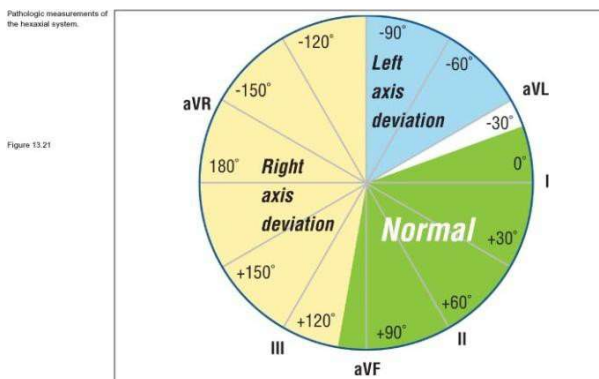


TABLE 13-5 Possible Causes of Axis Deviation	
Axis Deviation	Possible Cause
Right	RVH
	LPH
	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
	Dextrocardia
	Ectopic beats and rhythms
Left	Normal in children
	LAH
	LVH
	IWMI
	Ectopic beats and rhythms
	Obesity
	Pregnancy

Abbreviations: IWMI, inferior wall myocardial infarction; LAH, left anterior hemiblock; LPH, left posterior hemiblock; LVH, left ventricular hemiblock; RVH, right ventricular hypertrophy.

### Angina

*Stable* -Onset with physical exertion or emotional stress, Pain lasts 1-5 minutes and is relieved by rest, predictable.

*Unstable* -Stable angina that has changed in frequency, quality, duration or intensity, pain lasts longer than 10 minutes despite rest and NTG therapy.

*Variant* -Spontaneous episodes of CP frequently noted at rest or on early rising, circadian pattern and relieved by NTG.

*Silent* -Objective evidence of ischemia in asymptomatic patients

*Mixed* -Combination of stable and variant angina

### Treat angina

Nitrates, Beta Blockers, ASA, and MSO4

Inhibit Clotting

G2B3A Inhibitors, Heparin

## Management and Treatment of AMI/USA

### *Pre-load reduction*

Nitrates-improve coronary blood flow through smooth muscle relaxation, venous pooling decreases cardiac output and O<sub>2</sub> consumption

### **NTG dosage 5-200 mcg/min**

Morphine-vasodilator that decreases preload and afterload, also decreases sympathetic tone causing a decrease in heart rate and reduces O<sub>2</sub> demand. Dosage is 2-4 mg every 5-15 minutes.

### **CPP = DBP - PCWP**

Heart rate & myocardial O<sub>2</sub> demand reduction B-blockers-decrease heart rate and contractility, and increases diastolic filling time.

### *Calcium Channel Blockers*

Produces dilation of the coronary arteries and collateral vessels, a decrease in myocardial contractility and

### **Clot prevention and “busting”**

#### *ASA/G2B3A Inhibitors*

Inhibit platelet aggregation (prevention)

#### *Heparin/LMWH*

Inactivates thrombin and factors

IX, X, XI and XII and prevents the conversion of fibrinogen to fibrin. (Prevention)

Fibrinolytic-work by various mechanisms to activate plasminogen to plasmin, resulting in fibrin degradation (“Busting”)

## **Thrombolytics**

### *Indications*

New onset ST segment elevation MI

### *Complications*

Bleeding, intracranial hemorrhage, dysrhythmias, cardiac tamponade, & pulmonary edema

### *Relative contraindications*

HTN, recent trauma, pregnancy

### *Absolute contraindications*

Active internal bleeding, suspected aortic dissection, known intracranial neoplasm and previous hemorrhagic stroke at any time or any stroke within the last year.

## **Angioplasty**

Evidence suggests Equal mortality for patients who receive thrombolytics within 30 minutes and patient who undergo angioplasty within 90 minutes

### **Post procedure**

- watch for re-occlusion
- Continuous lead specific EKG monitoring
- Maintain sheath and vessel patency
- Distal Pulses and occult bleeding

### **Sheath removal**

- maintain direct pressure for 30 minutes
- Leg straight, HOB < 30 Degrees

## Cardiovascular Disease and Anomalies

TABLE 13-7 Common Toxic Drug Effects	
Drug	Possible Toxic Effects
Class I antiarrhythmics	Lengthened QRS and QTc intervals Possible AV blocks Slowed or completely blocked SA node Arrhythmias
Calcium channel blockers	Blocked AV node primarily, but extent of block varies significantly among different drugs in this class
Beta-blockers	Slowed automaticity of the SA node and the Purkinje system Blocked AV node
Amiodarone (Cordarone)	Slowed conduction everywhere: the SA node, atrium, AV node, Purkinje system, and ventricles
Phenothiazines and tricyclic antidepressants	Widened QRS and QTc interval T-wave abnormalities Arrhythmias common in overdoses
Abbreviations: AV, atrioventricular; SA, sinoatrial. Source: Garcia T, Holtz N. Figure 16-3. In: 12-Lead ECG: The Art of Interpretation. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers; 2001:507.	

**Dysrhythmias** — treat if symptomatic.

Symptomatic Bradycardia, second degree AV blocks Mobitz II, high grade AV block and complete heart block require placement of a pacemaker.

A commonly used monitor-defibrillator.

Figure 13.101

Courtesy of Physio-Control, Inc.



### Complications of pacing

- Failure to sense
- Failure to capture

### Cardiomyopathy

Classified as 3 Stages

**Dilated** — ventricular dilation & contractile dysfunction

Managed with cardiac glycosides, inotropes and diuretics

**Hypertrophic** — (IHSS) Idiopathic Hypertrophic Sub aortic Stenosis

-Inappropriate ventricular hypertrophy-Big fat ventricular septum hangs out into L ventricle

IHSS — limits blood volume entering L Ventricle to 30cc

Reduction if CO during Systole

Managed with B-blockers — allow heart to stay in Diastole longer, decreasing contractility

-No Nitrates

-No Digoxin, Dobutamine, Dopamine

**Restrictive** — myocardial scarring of ventricle with impaired diastolic filling.

-Managed with diuretics, anticoagulants,

### Aortic Dissection

An intimal tear in the aorta, three types:

**Type I** — occurs in the ascending aorta and extends distally beyond the aortic arch.

**Type II** — process is limited to the ascending aorta. (Aortic valve incompetence & Marfan's)

**Type III** — dissection distal to the origin of the LSC artery & extends distally to abdominal aorta

### Management

-Lower SBP to 100-110 mmHg with vasodilators

-Beta blockers to slow the heart rate and decrease the ejection fraction

-Pain relief

## HTN crisis

### 3 Classifications

1. Essential Hypertension
2. Accelerated Hypertension
3. Malignant Hypertension

### LOOK AT DIASTOLIC PRESSURE!

> 120mmHg Accelerated

> 140mmHg Malignant

**242/142 Malignant Hypertension**

**230/130 Accelerated Hypertension**

Management includes the use of Nipride and Hyperstat to lower the BP to patient's normal within 30-60 minutes

## Adult Lab Values

### Normal Parameters for Electrolytes

Sodium	Na+	135-145 mEq/L
Potassium	K+	3.5-5.5 mEq/L
Calcium	Ca++	8.8-10.4 mg/dL
Magnesium	Mg+	1.5-2.5 mEq/L
Chloride	CL-	95-105 mEq/L
Phosphorus		3.0-4.5 mg/dL
Bicarbonate	HCO <sub>3</sub>	21-28 mEq/L
Blood Urea Nitrogen	BUN	6-23 mg/dL
Creatinine		0.6-1.4 mg/dL
Glucose		70-110 mg/dL
Serum Osmolality		275-295 mOsm/kg water
Carbon Dioxide CO <sub>2</sub>		24-30 mEq/L
Anion Gap		12 +/- 4

### CBC

Hemoglobin	12-18 g/dL
Hematocrit	36-52%
Platelets	140-400 x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
WBCs	4,500-10,500 cells/mm <sup>3</sup>
Bands	0-3%
PT	11-13 Seconds
INR	1
APTT	21-35 Seconds
Fibrinogen	200-400mg/dL
Fibrin Split Products	< 10mg/L
D-Dimer	<250mcg/L
BNP	<100pg/mL
Lactate	<2.2mEq/L
Troponin I	<0.5 ng/mL
CK Total	0-120 ng/mL
CK MB	0-3 ng/mL

**Critical Care Review**



## Neurological Emergencies

### Cerebral Perfusion Pressure (CPP)

Normally ICP = 0-10 mmHg

Transducer must be located at Foramen of Monro

$CPP = 70-90 \text{ mmHg}$   $CPP = MAP - ICP$

Very important to maintain MAP when ICP is increased

Normal MAP = 80-100 mmHg

### Neuro Anatomy

*Pia mater* – soft inner covering, adheres to the brain's surface

*Dura Mater* – tough outer covering Epidural Space – potential space between skull and dura

*Subdural Space* – potential space between the dura and the arachnoid

### Signs of Increased ICP

- Change in LOC
- Change if pupil size and reaction
- Abnormal motor response

**Decorticate posturing** – flexion of Upper Extremities towards the CORE

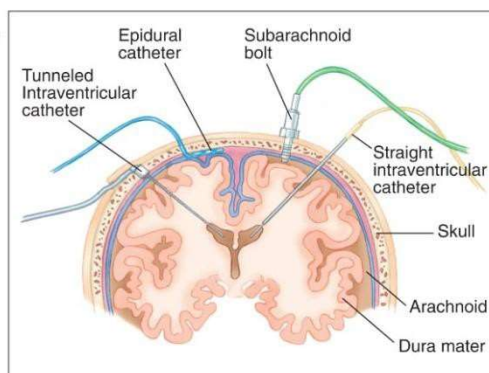
**Decerebrate posturing** – extension and hyperpronation of Upper Extremities

**Cushing's Reflex** – increased systolic pressure resulting in:

1. Widened pulse pressure
2. Bradycardia
3. Respiratory changes (Cheyne Stokes )

Invasive methods for intracranial pressure detection and cerebrospinal fluid drainage.

Figure 11.44



### Treatment:

1. Positioning of patient
2. 15 – 30 degrees reverse trendelenburg
3. Limit suctioning procedures
  - Noise
  - Atmospheric pressure changes
4. Maintain euvolemia and normothermia
5. Maintain normal electrolytes
6. Sedation – narcotics, bezo's, propofol, NMBA

### Subdural Hematoma

Blood between dura and arachnoid layers

Usually venous in nature

High morbidity and mortality rate

3 Types:

**Acute** – onset within 24 hrs

**Subacute** – onset within 2 -10 days

**Chronic** – onset after 2 weeks

Elderly – larger subdurals with slowly developing symptoms due to cerebral atrophy

Younger person – rapid onset of symptoms with marked increased ICP

Pediatrics – generally occur in children under the age of 18 months

- Bulging fontanelles
- Separation of sutures
- Shock
- Retinal Hemorrhages

## Treatment approach to herniation

1. Intubate and mildly hyperventilate to a PCO<sub>2</sub> of 28 – 32
2. Assure adequate Hgb and cardiac output
3. Adequate Fluid resuscitation, then Mannitol, Hypertonic Solution
4. Maintain serum sodium 155
5. Serum Osmolarity less than 320
6. Barbiturate therapy

**Mannitol** – osmotic diuretic thought to work by decreasing the viscosity of blood and improving microcirculation (0.5 – 1.5 gms/kg)

**Lasix** – loop diuretic and alternative to Mannitol

**Vasopressors** to maintain MAP and blood pressure

## Epidural Hematoma

Bleeding between the skull and the dura mater

Usually arterial, but can be venous

Laceration of Middle meningeal artery in the temporal lobe area

**Classic signs** – transient loss of consciousness followed by a period of lucidity

**Uncal herniation** – will result in dilation of the ipsilateral pupil with contralateral Neuro deficits/posturing – brain shifts laterally

**Acute** – usually an arterial bleed, onset of symptoms in a few hours

**Subacute** – usually a venous bleed with onset taking longer

## Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

Bleeding between the arachnoid mater and the pia mater

Trauma is the most common cause

May occur with other injuries or as the only evidence of trauma

## Signs/Symptoms

1. Severe headache
2. Vomiting, stiff neck, leg pain
3. Confusion, lethargy
4. Loss of consciousness

*Avoid lumbar punctures due to the possibility of Uncal herniation (Uncus of the tentorium)*

## Intracerebral Hematoma

Hemorrhage in the brain parenchyma

Produced from shearing and tensile forces

Frequently occurs in the white matter of the frontal and temporal regions

May be single or multiple and is associated with contusions, SDH and DAI

Less common injury with delayed onset of symptoms (24 hours or more after injury)

## Intraventricular Hemorrhage

Bleeding into the ventricles as a result of severe brain trauma

Result of shearing forces

Greatly increased mortality rate

Usually found in frontal or temporal lobes



## Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)

### 3 Classifications of stroke

1. **Embolic** – most common
2. **Hemorrhagic**-bleeding into the brain tissue
3. **Thrombotic** – least common

### Treatment:

- Prevent additional insult
- Maximize CPP
- Control increased ICP and associated conditions
- Thrombolytic therapy within 3 hours of neurologic deterioration onset

### Skull Fx

*Linear* – a line that extends toward the base of the skull

*Linear Stellate* – Multiple fractures that radiate from the compressed area

*Diastatic* – involves a separation of the bones at a suture line of a marked separation of bone fragments

*Depressed Skull* – May be closed or open

*Basilar Skull* – fracture of the base of the cranial vault

*Battle sign* – bruising behind the ear on the mastoid bone

*Periorbital ecchymosis (Raccoon Eyes)* – bruising around the eyes

*Otorrhea* – bleeding from the ear with CSF leak

*Rhinorrhea* – bleeding from the nose with CSF leak

## Complications of Skull Fractures

- Intracranial infections
- Hematomas
- Meningeal and brain tissue damage
- Pneumocephalus
- Nerve damage and palsies

## Spinal Cord Syndromes

**Brown-Sequard** – hemisection of the cord (usually cervical region) very rare, ipsilateral loss of motor, position, and vibratory sense with contralateral loss of pain of temperature perception

**Central Cord Syndrome** – greater motor weakness in upper extremities than lower with varying degrees of sensory loss (children shopping analogy)

**Anterior Cord Syndrome** – complete motor, pain, temperature loss below the lesion with sparing proprioception, vibration, and touch

### Complications

*Be aware of SCIWORA*

*Neurogenic shock-areflexia with flaccid paralysis immediately or shortly after injury*

*Transection of the cord will result in parasympathetic dominance below the lesion*

*Classic Signs of Neurogenic Shock* – includes hypotension, warm red skin, and absence of tachycardia (Bradycardia)

*Autonomic Dysreflexia or Neurogenic Bladder* – Potential life threatening HTN caused by transection of spinal cord usually above T6 – check Foley for kinks and drain slowly

## Pediatric-Neonatal Emergencies

### Anatomical Differences

1. Rib cage is more elastic and flexible
2. Lung tissue is more fragile
3. Mediastinum is more mobile
4. Bones of the skull are soft and separated by cartilage until the age of 5
5. Liver and Spleen are proportionately larger and more vascular
6. Bones are softer
7. Fontanelles-anterior closes at 12-18 months, posterior closes by 2 months

### Physiological Differences

- Children have higher cardiac output per kg of body weight than adults
- Heart rate is increased and stroke volume is smaller
- Children with trauma will not demonstrate hypotension until acute blood loss totals 25% of the circulating volume
- Circulating blood volume in children is 75-80 mL/kg
- Fluid resuscitation= 20cc/kg
- Glucose needs = 2cc/kg D25
- Larger ratio of surface area to volume

## Respiratory – Airway differences

Trachea is narrow with elastic rings

Tongue large in comparison to mouth

Epiglottis is short, narrow and angled away from the long axis of the trachea

Larynx is higher and more anterior

The vocal cords have a lower attachment

< 10 years old, narrowest portion of airway is at the cricoid cartilage

Oxygen consumption in infants is 6-8ml/kg compared to 3-4ml/kg in adults

### Pediatric Assessment

1. *LOC* – activity and responsiveness
2. *Perfusion Status* – Color; distal pulses
3. *Work of Breathing (WOB)* – Retractions; Rate/Depth

### Resuscitation

#### Airway, Airway, Airway!

ETT size (age/4) + 4

(Age+16)/4

Depth of insertion (age/2) +12

IV access

Cardioversion: 0.5-1.0 j/kg “sync”

Defibrillation: 2j/kg then 4j/kg

Cerebral resuscitation

## Common Injuries

### Solid Organs

- Brain, lung, liver-spleen, pancreas, kidney

### Hollow Organs

- Proximal jejunum, duodenum, bladder

### *Fractures of long bones*

**Waddell's Triad:** common injuries when a child is struck by a motor vehicle; injuries include those to the head, trunk, and extremities

**\*The single largest cause of traumatic deaths is motor vehicle related accidents\***

### Orthopedic Injuries

Comminuted – Bone is broken into fragments

Compound – Bone is broken and piercing the skin

Compressed – One bone is forced against another

Displaced – The ends of the bone are not aligned

Greenstick – Periosteum divided on only one side

Pathological – Occurs because of a bone defect

Simple – Fracture is straight and in good alignment

Spiral – Fracture resulting from twisting motion

### Isolette Use

AAP less than 10lbs or 30 days

-Thermoregulation issues

-Ventilator management strategies

-Sound, Light and Stimulus Discipline

## Thermoregulation Assessment

- Temperature; continuously via skin and rectal probe

-Neurologic status

- Perfusion Status

- Vital signs

### Interventions

- Incubator; <30 days or <5kg

- Pre-warm; check battery; keep transport environment warm;

### Incubator Temps

Birth weight (grams)	Clothed	Exposed
>2500	28C	33C
1501-2500	31C	35.5C
<1500	33C	36.5C

### Each 1C above 37C

-Heart rate increases 20bpm

-Respiratory rate increases 10rpm

### Mechanical Ventilation

Pressure cycle mode for uncuffed tubes; SpO2 and ETCO2 are standard of care; Correlate gas interpretation with SpO2 and ETCO2

### *Infant Ventilator Settings*

FiO2	100%
Inspiratory Time	>.5 sec
PIP	20 – 30 cmH2O
Rate	20 – 30
PEEP	3 – 5 cm

### *Child Ventilator Settings*

FiO2	100%
I: E ratio	1:1
Tidal Volume	6-10 cc/kg
PIP	Up to 40 cm H2O
Rate	16 – 20
PEEP	3-5 cm

### **Sound, Light, and Stimulus**

- Over stimulus promotes HTN
- Think about your local NICU

Quiet; dark; like where a baby comes from

- Use isolette covers
- Stay out of isolette as much as possible
- Gentle handling/loading

### **Seizures**

- Alert to signs of neonatal/infant seizures
- Don't forget to rule out common causes

-Hypoglycemia

-May be primary or secondary

-Due to immaturity of nervous system rarely demonstrate classic generalized tonic-Clonic activity

*Subtle* – repetitive mouth/tongue movement, bicycling, eye deviation, repetitive blinking

*Clonic* – repetitive jerky movements of limbs

*Tonic* – May resemble posturing or tonic extension seen in older patients

*Myoclonic* – Multiple jerking motions, usually of the upper extremities

## **NEONATAL EMERGENCIES**

### **Diaphragmatic Hernia**

- Intubation
- PPV
- OGT w/ suction
- NPO

### **Choanal Atresia**

- Obligate nose breathers
- Intubate/OPA

### **Aspiration Pneumonia**

Lethargy?

- Intubation
- Suctioning

Brisk?

- Monitor only

### **Coarctation of the Aorta**

-Narrowing of aortic arch typically just distal of left subclavian bifurcation

-Decreased aortic flow results in increased LV pressures and failure

Commonly associated with VSD

*Treatment* -Surgical dilatation

## Tetralogy of Fallot

- VSD
- PA outflow obstruction
- RV hypertrophy
- Rightward displacement of aorta exploited by VSD

### Treatment

Severe hypoxia?

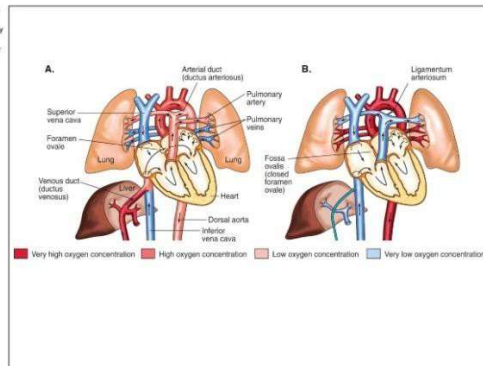
- PGE1 for PDA patency mgt

### Surgical

- Cath PA and dilate
- “Patch” VSD
- “Tet spell” management

The ductus arteriosus plays a role in fetal circulation before birth (A) and normally transitions to become the ligamentum arteriosum after birth (B).

Figure 23.22

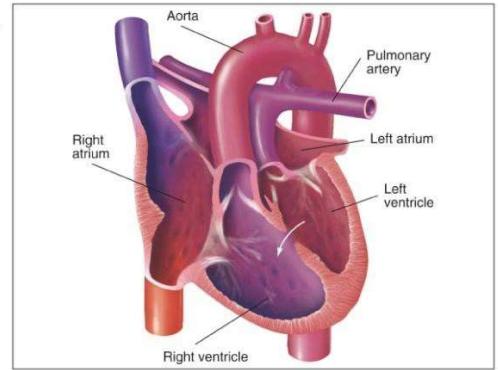


## Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA)

- Potential for gross pulmonary edema and respiratory failure
- Patency with prostaglandin may be necessary with specific CHD's
- Oxygen administration issues for therapeutic
  - PDA patency

Transposition of the great arteries. Note that a ventricular septal defect is shown here as well.

Figure 23.23



## Transposition of the Great Vessels

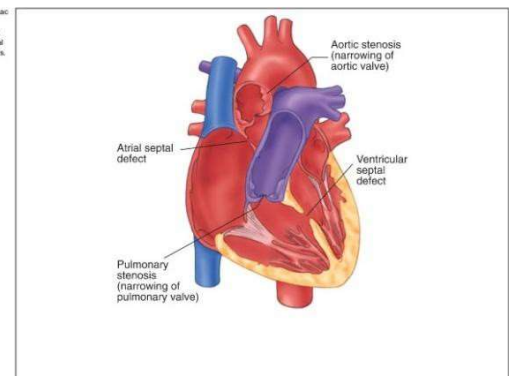
- “Survival” via foramen ovale and PDA and/or VSD
- Progressive hypoxemia will ensue
- Extreme caution with air embolus
  - Prostaglandin administration (PDA patency management)

### Surgery

- VSD created (temp)
- Jantene (“arterial switch”)

Locations of various cardiac lesions. Atrioventricular canal defect is not shown; it is a hole in both the atrial and ventricular septal walls.

Figure 23.21



## Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD)

- Dependent on size and location
- Majority close spontaneously

### Treatment

#### Meds

Indomethacin for closure

Prostaglandin for patency Coil

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