

# Acid-Base Balances

## Introduction :

- Normal PH is : 7.35-7.45.
- Less than 7.35 is called Acidosis ( May be metabolic or respiratory).
- More than 7.45 is called Alkalosis ( May be metabolic or respiratory).

# Metabolic Acidosis:

- Low PH and Low HCO<sub>3</sub>
- Occurs when PH is lower than 7.35.
- Vasodilation occurs ( to remove protons) ( Resistance ionotropic drugs).

# Causes of metabolic acidosis:

## \*\* High anion gap metabolic acidosis:

**1.** Keto acidosis (DKA): prolonged period of starvation lead to lipolysis lead to beta oxidation of fat the end result will be ketone bodies.

❖ Mitochondrial disorders ( can't-metabolize glucose so can't get ATP)

❖ Keto diet.

❖ DM (lots of glucose but can't use it).

**2.** Lactic acidosis :

❖ In malaria due anaerobic respiration ——— glucose ———  
pyruvate ——— lactate

❖ Vigorous exercise

- ❖ MI
- ❖ Sepsis
- ❖ Reduced tissue perfusion
- ❖ Metformin ( because it inhibits gluconeogenesis)
- ❖ Liver cirrhosis (lactate accumulate can't make glucose)

**3.** Aspirin, methanol , ethylglycol.

**\*\*Normal anion gap :**

**1.** Proximal renal tubular acidosis (PRTA) (can't absorb bicarbonate)

Eg; 1- Wilson.      2- cystinosis.      3- Multiple myeloma.

**2.** Distal renal tubular acidosis ( DRTA)

Eg, 1- SLE.      2- sjogren.      3- Amphotericin B (antifungal).

**3.** Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors (Acetazolamide).

**4.** GI loss ( diarrhea , pancreatic fistula).

**5.** Addison ( renal tubular acidosis type 4)

**6.** Spironolactone (causes hyperkalemia— —- H follows k and sodium excretion).

# Clinical features:

- 1) Acetone breath if Diabetic patient .
- 2) Hyperkalemia.
- 3) Hyperventilation (kussmal's breathing ) deep breathing to wash out  $\text{CO}_2$ .

## Lab investigation:

$\downarrow \text{pH}$     $\frac{\downarrow \text{HCO}_3 \text{ (24-28)}}{\downarrow \text{pCO}_2 \text{ (35-45)}}$  + measure anion gap

Treatment: treat the cause and avoid  $\text{HCO}_3$  ( will lead to Respiratory Alk and Met Alk and acid)

# Metabolic Alkalosis:

- Increase PH and Increase  $\text{HCO}_3$  if compensation started  $\text{CO}_2$  is also increase.
- Fixed by respiration (metabolic).



# Causes:

1. Saline sensitive (dehydration patient) + low cl in urin :

- Vomiting
- NG tube
- Diuretics (all except acetazolamide (carbonic anhydrase inhibitor) )
- Antacids
- **\*\*\* treated by saline.**

2. Saline resistant : ( already have fluid expansion ) + increase Cl

. Cushing syndrome (hyper aldosteronism) : patients have salt and water retention.

**\*\*\*\* Don't give saline .**

# Clinical features:

- 1) Increase total peripheral resistance— —- vasoconstriction (unlike acidosis)
- 2) Decrease RR ( retention of  $\text{CO}_2$ ).
- 3) Decrease  $k$ ,  $\text{Ca}$ ,  $\text{Mg}$ .
- 4) Altered mental status.
- 5) Excitation of neurons :seizure and convulsions.

## Treatment :

- Saline sensitive— —- saline.
- Saline resistance— ——- spironolactone and aldosterone reset or antagonist.

# Respiratory Acidosis:

- Decrease PH , Increases CO<sub>2</sub> , if corrected increases HCO<sub>3</sub>
- Total peripheral resistance decrease ( resistant to inotropic med)

# Causes:

1. Upper airway obstruction by foreign body , epiglottitis.
2. Sever asthma.
3. COPD.
4. Brain stem injury (inhibited Resp center in medulla).
5. Respiratory muscle: paralysis, bilateral phrenic injury.
6. Toxins causing neuromuscular junction blocking (eg.curare).
7. Anesthetic medication.
8. Morphine and heroin overdose.

# Clinical features:

- 1) Somnolence
- 2) Confusion
- 3) AMS
- 4) Headache
- 5) Palpitations
- 6) Papilledema
- 7) Brain inhibited

## **Treatment:**

- 1. Fix airways obstruction (if it's there)**
- 2. Asthma or COPD— —- bronchodilator's**
- 3. Treat underlying causes**
- 4. Patient with neuromuscular injury or brain stem injury— — ventilation**
- 5. Morphin and heparin— — naloxone**
- 6. Barbiturates— — Dialysis**
- 7. Benzodiazepines— — flumanzil ( stimulate brain so keep patient in respiration)**

# Respiration alkalosis

- Increase TRP
- Women are more affected
- Increase PH , decrease CO<sub>2</sub> , if correction started decreases HCO<sub>3</sub>

## ***Causes :***

- 1. Anxiety—-- hyperventilation—--— washing up Co<sub>2</sub>.**
- 2. Hyperventilation**
- 3. Aspirin—-- stimulate respiratory center—-- initially respiratory alkalosis—--— then metabolic acidosis.**
- 4. High altitude—--— hypoxia—--— hyperventilation.**
- 5. Hypoxia of any cause**
- 6. Pulmonary embolism—-- closed artery—-- decrease ventilation and perfusion**
- 7. Pregnancy**
- 8. Sepsis—--— hypo ventilation**
- 9. Fever**



# Clinical features:

1. Decrease blood flow to the cerebrum
2. Headache
3. Tetany
4. Excitation
5. Convulsions
6. Parasthesia ( due to tetany) decrease ca
7. Chvosten sign
8. Trousseau sign
9. Increase tendon reflexes
10. Increase TPR : fetal arrhythmia.

## **Treatment:**

1. Anxiety— — — Breath into bag ( increase co2 and breath it back.
2. Hyperventilation— —- breath in a container
3. Aspirin— —- dialysis
4. Increase altitude— —- descend and give acetazolamide ( metabolic acidosis)
5. PE— — — tissue plasminogen gene activator (AE: bleeding ) + not give in pregnancy (embolectomy).

# Practice:

①  $\text{pH} = 7.44$   
(7.35 - 7.45)

$\text{PCO}_2 = 56 \uparrow$   
(35 - 45)

$\text{HCO}_3 = 37 \uparrow$   
(24 - 28)

upper limit of normal

- \* Compensated Metabolic Alkalosis \*
- \* Causes of Metabolic alkalosis: 1- Saline Sens (with the  $\text{CO}_2$ )  
2- Saline Res (with the  $\text{CO}_2$ )

②  $\text{pH} = 7.29$

$\text{PCO}_2 = 58.8$

$\text{HCO}_3 = 24$   $\rightarrow$  if  $\text{HCO}_3 = 18 \downarrow$

$\downarrow \text{pH}$   $\frac{\text{HCO}_3}{\uparrow \text{CO}_2}$

(\*) mixed Resp acidosis & Metabolic Alkalosis  
[Pr given  $\text{HCO}_3$ ]  $\rightarrow$  COPD Asthma Vomiting

- \* Non compensated resp Acidosis
- \* Causes: Anxiety, Hyperventilation,  $\uparrow$  altitude

③  $\text{pH} = 7.32$

$\text{PCO}_2 = 34$

$\text{HCO}_3 = 14$

$\text{Na} = 135$   
 $\text{Cl} = 109$

$\downarrow \text{pH}$   $\frac{\downarrow \text{HCO}_3}{\downarrow \text{CO}_2}$

\* anion gap  
[ $\text{Na}^+ + \text{K}^+$ ] - [ $\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{Cl}^-$ ]  
 $135 - 109 = 26$

- \* Partially compensated Metabolic acidosis
- \* Cause: DKA

12 & low = N  
13 & above  $\rightarrow$  Tumor gap

④  $\text{pH} = 7.25 \downarrow$

$\text{PCO}_2 = 25 \downarrow$

$\text{HCO}_3 = 10 \downarrow$

$\text{Na} = 140$   
 $\text{Cl} = 77$

$\downarrow \text{pH}$   $\frac{\downarrow \text{HCO}_3}{\downarrow \text{CO}_2}$

\* Uncompensated Metabolic acidosis

Anion gap  $140 - 77 = 63$  ( $\uparrow$  anion gap)  $\rightarrow$  Toxicity Methanol Ethanol

⑤  $\text{pH} = 7.36 \cdot \text{N}$

$\text{PCO}_2 = 58 \uparrow$

$\text{HCO}_3 = 29 \uparrow$

$\text{pH} \cdot \text{N}$   $\frac{\text{HCO}_3 \uparrow}{\text{CO}_2 \uparrow}$

- \* Compensated Resp acidosis
- \* Causes: - Asthma  
- COPD