

Nursing 101-Unit V Respiratory -ABG Lecture-Exam 1

- **Introduction-Objectives**
 - Focus on respiratory acidosis and alkalosis
 - Identify clinical signs and symptoms of ↓PaCO₂ and ↑PaCO₂ & common causes
 - Describe inadequate oxygenation, clinical signs, & symptoms
 - Discuss other lab results to consider
 - **Definition**-blood test taken from an artery that measures oxygen and CO₂ found in blood
 - **Exchanging Gases**
 - Gas Exchange-occurs rapidly via millions tiny thin membrane alveoli
 - **Inside air sacs**-Inhaled O₂ diffuses into blood while CO₂ diffuses from blood & is exhaled
 - **Blood**-circulates delivering O₂ & picking up CO₂, returns to lungs for oxygen
 - **Acid**-can donate a hydrogen ion
 - **Base**-can accept a hydrogen ion
 - **pH**-represents concentration of hydrogen ions
 - **Anion Gap**-helps determine if metabolic acidosis or acidosis
 - **Regulation**
 - **Chemical buffers**-Bicarbonate, Organic Phosphates, Proteins
 - **Respiratory regulation**-CO₂ thru rate & depth of respirations, 50-75% effective, occurs in 1-3 minutes
 - **Renal Regulation**-Bicarbonate level, retention, secretion
-
- **ABG Normal Ranges**
 - pH 7.35 - 7.45
 - PaCO₂ 35 - 45 mmHg
 - HCO₃ 22 - 26 mEq/L
 - PaO₂ 80 - 100 mmHg
 - SaO₂ 96 - 100%
 - **Why do we need ABGs-Assess the following**
 - Acid base balance
 - respiratory
 - metabolic
 - combined
 - Ventilation status
 - Oxygen therapy
 - Change ventilator or BiPAP settings
 - **Prior to ABG Draw**
 - Arterial puncture-blood draw to evaluate oxygenation, usually radial artery
 - Allen's test: Confirms ulnar circulation is adequate
 - Results can be indication for intubation
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gdgomN6TsuE>
 - **Physiology**
 - PaO₂/ PaCO₂ exchange by: diffusion-_____
 - Alveolar O₂ = 100mmHg
 - Alveolar CO₂ = 40mmHg
 - Desaturated blood → Saturated Blood
 - PvO₂ = 40mm Hg → PaO₂ = 97mm HG

– $PvCO_2 = 46\text{mm Hg} \rightarrow PaCO_2 = 40\text{mm Hg}$
 (Venous) (Arterial)

- **Physiology Respiratory**

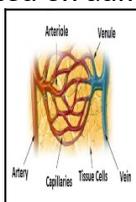
- Medulla (respiratory center) controls depth of breathing & rate of CO_2 secretion
- Increased $PaCO_2$ stimulates medulla to increase rate & depth of breathing to blow off CO_2
- Decreased $PaCO_2$ inhibits rate & depth of breathing to retain CO_2

- **What is the stimulus to breathe?**

- CO_2 Narcosis
- Respiratory center loses sensitivity to elevated levels of CO_2
 - Theoretically O_2 drive to breathe is hypoxemia
- Not providing adequate oxygenation is more detrimental than concern for increased $PaCO_2$ levels

- **Physiology Renal**

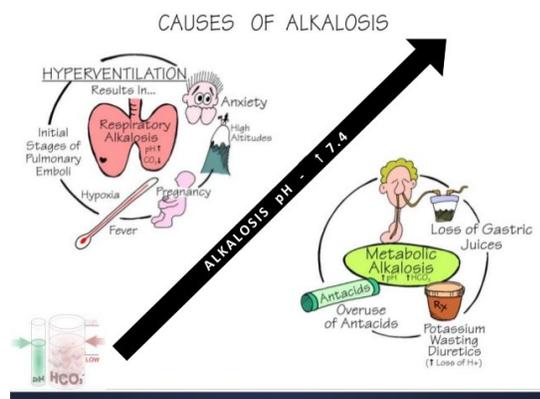
- Acute respiratory acidosis takes hours for HCO_3^- to elevate for compensation
- Chronic respiratory acidosis
 - Kidneys have been compensating all along since $PaCO_2$ is chronically high
 - So HCO_3^- (Bicarb) is elevated on admission ABGs for these COPD patients



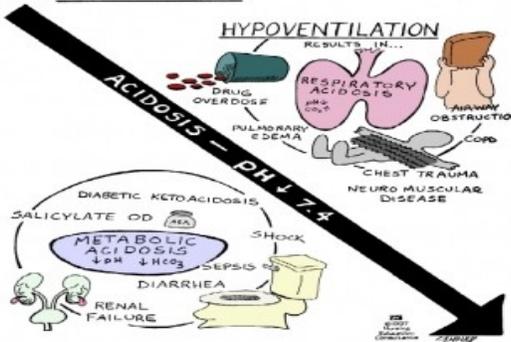
- **Physiology Pulmonary Airways**

- **Constricted** by Histamine, Decreased $PaCO_2$, PNS (peripheral nervous system)
 - **Dilated** by Epinephrine, Increased $PaCO_2$, SNS (sympathetic nervous system)
- **Pulmonary Arterioles**
 - Effects opposite on systemic arterioles
 - Constricted by decreased PaO_2 , increased $PaCO_2$, decreased HCO_3^- (acidosis)
 - Dilated by increased PaO_2 , decreased $PaCO_2$, increased HCO_3^- (alkalosis)

- **“Causes of Alkalosis” & Imbalances “Acidosis”**



..... IMBALANCES:



- **ABG Interpretation**

- Determine pH (**acidosis or alkalosis**)
- Analyze PaCO₂ (**lungs**)
- Analyze HCO₃ (**kidneys**)
- Are all WNL? If so, ABG is normal.
- If abnormal, determine if Pa CO₂ or HCO₃ matches the pH (cause- **acidosis or alkalosis**)
- After determining the cause, look at the *OTHER* factor. Is there compensation?

– **Review Examples**

– **Compensation**

• **First Name**

- Completely Compensated (pH 7.35 - 7.45 with the “*OTHER*” factor being abnormal)
- Partially Compensated (pH < 7.35 or > 7.45 with the “*OTHER*” factor being abnormal)
- Uncompensated (pH < 7.35 or > 7.45 the “*Other*” factor is normal)

• **Middle Name (whoever matches the pH)**

- Respiratory (CO₂)
- Metabolic (HCO₃)

• **Last Name (based on the pH)**

- Acidosis (CO₂ > 45 &/or HCO₃ < 22)
- Alkalosis (CO₂ < 35 &/or HCO₃ > 26)

* Adapted from Advance for Nurses (1/10) p. 2

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zb51W7C93HM>

- Laura Gasparis video on ABGs

– See ROME Mnemonic

**ACID BASE MNEMONIC
(ROME)**

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| R | Respiratory |
| O | Opposite |
| | pH ↑ PCO ₂ ↓ Alkalosis |
| | pH ↓ PCO ₂ ↑ Acidosis |
| M | Metabolic |
| E | Equal |
| | pH ↑ HCO ₃ ↑ Alkalosis |
| | pH ↓ HCO ₃ ↓ Acidosis |

– ABG Analysis

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| – pH= | 7.28 | 7.41 | 7.34 |
| – PaCO ₂ = | 70 | 25 | 60 |
| – HCO ₃ = | 22 | 15 | 34 |

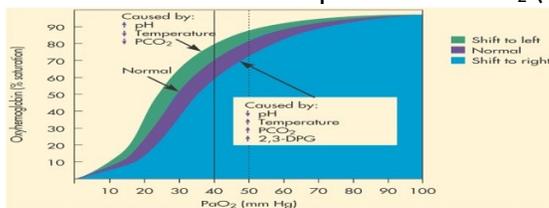
| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| – pH= | 7.35 | 7.48 | 7.54 |
| – PaCO ₂ = | 58 | 22 | 26 |
| – HCO ₃ = | 27 | 17 | 22 |

– **Oxygenation**

- Goals of O₂ therapy
 - Provide adequate oxygenation to all tissues
 - ↓ work of breathing

- No use of accessory muscles-scalenus, supraclavicular, intercostal retractions
- **Terms**
 - **Hypoxemia:** decrease in arterial blood O₂ tension; generally defined as: PaO₂ <55 or SaO₂ <88% on room air at sea level
 - **Hypoxia:** decrease in oxygen at the tissue level
- **Normal arterial values**
 - PaO₂ = 80 -100 mmHg
 - SaO₂ = ≥ 96% (or > 95%)
 - **A normal PaO₂ guarantees adequate tissue oxygenation**
- **Oxygen is carried in the blood in two forms**
 - Partial pressure of oxygen dissolved in blood: **2-3% of oxygen is dissolved (PaO₂)**
 - Percentage of Hemoglobin carrying oxygen compared to the total amount of Hgb.: **97 - 98% of oxygen is on Hgb. (SaO₂)**
- **Oxygenation Critical Thinking**
 - What does the SpO₂ (pulse ox) reading reflect?
 - What is a normal pulse ox reading?
 - What is considered an **adequate** pulse ox reading in **most** patients and what does it reflect?
 - How is the physicians' order frequently written in regards to pulse ox assessments?
 - The SpO₂ = 95% and the Hgb. = 7.0: Is oxygenation adequate and why?
- **Oxygenation-Oxy-hemoglobin Disassociation Curve**

Demonstrates relationship between PaO₂ (dissolved) & SaO₂ (hgb.)

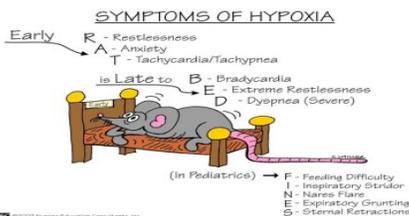


- **30-60-90 rule:** describes relationship between PaO₂ & SaO₂
 - When PaO₂ = 30mmHg then SaO₂ = 60%
 - When PaO₂ = 60mmHg then SaO₂ = 90%
 - Acidosis- shift to the right
 - Alkalosis-shift to the left
 - pH needs to be within normal limits to facilitate oxygenation
- **Oxygenation**
- PaO₂-≥70-SpO₂ ≥94 Adequate

- PaO₂-60-SpO₂ 90 Adequate
- PaO₂-55- SpO₂ Adequate
- PaO₂-40-SpO₂ 75 Adequate
- PaO₂<40-SpO₂<75 Inadequate

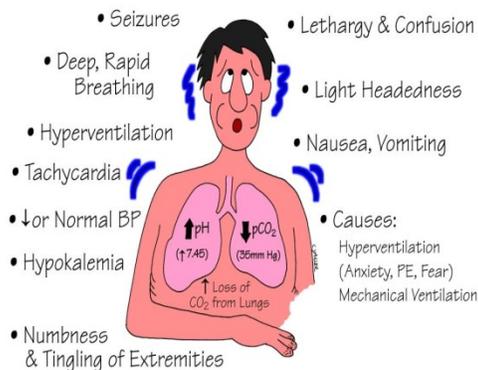
Clinical Manifestations of Hypoxia

- Rapid pulse
- Rapid shallow respirations & dyspnea
- Increased restlessness or lightheadedness
- Flaring of the nares
- Substernal or intercostal retractions
- Cyanosis
- Early-restlessness, dyspnea, low B/P, confusion, extreme fatigue, change in behavior (mood swing, disorientation, change in LOC), if cause is pneumonia cough & fever

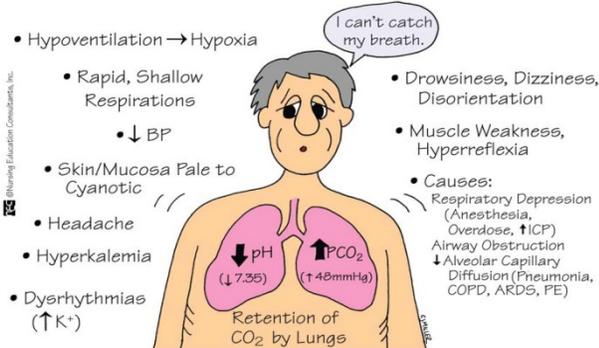


- **Hypoxemia & Hypercapnia**
- **Respiratory acidosis & alkalosis**
- **Respiratory Failure (acute or chronic)**
 - Hypoxemic Respiratory Failure -oxygenation failure, PaO₂ ≤ 60 with FIO₂ ≥ 60%
 - Hypercapnic Respiratory Failure-ventilatory failure, PaCO₂ > 45 and pH < 7.35

RESPIRATORY ALKALOSIS

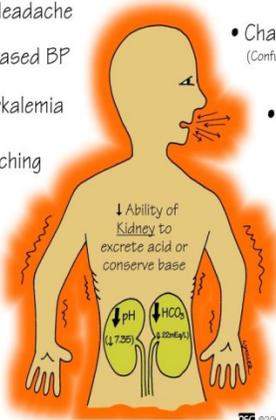


RESPIRATORY ACIDOSIS



METABOLIC ACIDOSIS

- Headache
- Decreased BP
- Hyperkalemia
- Muscle Twitching
- Warm, Flushed Skin (Vasodilation)
- Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea

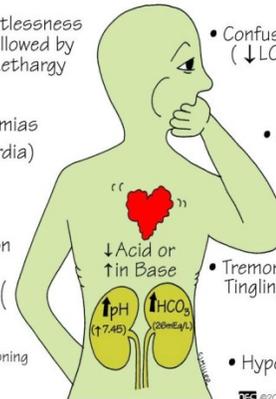


- Changes in LOC (Confusion, Lethargy)
- Kussmaul Respirations (Compensatory Hyperventilation)
- Causes: DKA, Severe Diarrhea, Renal Failure, Shock

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METABOLIC ALKALOSIS

- Restlessness Followed by Lethargy
- Dysrhythmias (Tachycardia)
- Compensatory Hypoventilation
- Causes: Severe Vomiting, Excessive GI Suctioning, Diuretics, Excessive NaHCO₃



- Confusion (↓ LOC, Dizzy, Irritable)
- Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea
- Tremors, Muscle Cramps, Tingling of Fingers & Toes
- Hypokalemia

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