

## C. ACID-BASE BALANCE

C.a. **IMPORTANCE OF pH** note: page numbers are corrected to 3rd ed in 399, not here yet.

proper pH is required for 1) membrane excitability, 2) enzyme function, 3) chemical reactions, 4) electrolyte concentrations  
 wrong pH → ? denatured protein which ones? Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup>/Ca<sup>++</sup>/Cl<sup>-</sup>/HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>,

C.b. **MECHANISMS OF ACID-BASE BALANCE** we will spend almost 2 pages doing normal

### C.b.A. CONCEPTS

acids dissociate into H<sup>+</sup> and some anion what does dissociate mean? Profound bases accept or remove H<sup>+</sup> from solution  
 strong acids dissociate readily into H<sup>+</sup> and the anion → /// H<sup>+</sup> in solution strong bases readily remove H<sup>+</sup> → /// H<sup>+</sup> in solution  
 weak acids dissociate only slightly into H<sup>+</sup> and the anion → / H<sup>+</sup> in solution weak bases minimally remove H<sup>+</sup> → / H<sup>+</sup> in solution

pH = negative log of H<sup>+</sup> concentration  
 range is from 0 to 14

a pH of 0 = 1g H<sup>+</sup>/ℓ solution = 6.023x10<sup>23</sup> H<sup>+</sup>/ℓ soln; if the soln were H<sub>2</sub>O, this is equivalent to 1 out of 55 H<sub>2</sub>O molecules being dissociated  
 a pH of 7 = 6.023x10<sup>16</sup> H<sup>+</sup>/ℓ soln (10<sup>23</sup>x10<sup>-7</sup>); if the soln is H<sub>2</sub>O, this means 1 out of 550,000,000 H<sub>2</sub>O molecules is dissociated.  
 Since pH of extracellular body fluids is normally 7.35-7.45, the H<sup>+</sup> concentration is very, very small. (Na<sup>+</sup> 40,000 X & K<sup>+</sup> is 1000 X more abundant)  
 (I have calculations if you are interested)

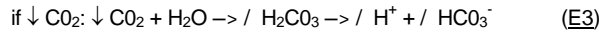
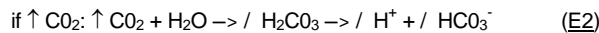
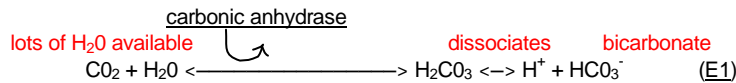
### C.b.B. METABOLIC ACID PRODUCTION

note to me: this is per 1000g H<sub>2</sub>O, not 1000g H, thus 55 not 1000

cellular respiration using complete oxidation/catabolism w glucose and other carbohydrates as high-energy electron source  
 → CO<sub>2</sub> and the volatile acid, H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, both of which are removed by the lungs

cellular respiration using oxidation/catabolism w proteins and fats or incomplete oxidation of carbohydrates as high-energy electron source  
 → fixed/nonvolatile acids which are metabolized by the liver and removed by the kidneys normally volatile H<sup>+</sup> conc 100X fixed, ∴ look at volatile 1st

### C.b.B.a. VOLATILE ACID PRODUCTION



### C.b.B.b. FIXED ACID PRODUCTION one of two, non-respiratory sources of H<sup>+</sup>

lipid oxidation → ketoacids and phosphoric acid } starvation, diabetes gluconeogenesis  
 protein oxidation → sulfuric acid } (normal total = 50-100 mmol/day; immediately buffered to sodium salt of acid)  
 incomplete oxidation of carbohydrates →(1)→ lactic acid } anaerobic (Key: 1: CF III.A.-2: cellular respiration)

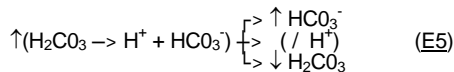
### C.b.B.b.(A.) COMPENSATION

If ↑ H<sup>+</sup> is from ↑ fixed acid production, →  
 See this page in 3XX for additional info



If ↓ H<sup>+</sup> is from ↓ in fixed acid production, →

∴ between E1, E4 &/or E5 & buffering (below), pH normally not a problem, because of its importance to body. (C.a.)



### C.b.C. CALCULATION OF PLASMA pH

extracellular fluid pH = f(extent of H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> dissociation and ratio HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>:CO<sub>2</sub> where both are expressed in mMol/ℓ.)

Altered by renal mechanisms/alterd by respiration

pH = pK (H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> buffer = 6.1 at normal body temps) + log HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/CO<sub>2</sub> (modified Henderson-Hasselbach equation) (E6) K/L or B/C  
 (example: normal ratio of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/CO<sub>2</sub> = 20/1 = 20; log 20 = 1.3 ∴ normal pH = 6.1 + 1.3 = 7.4)

e.g., 19/1

ratio < 20:1 → / plasma pH; reverse when ratio > 20:1 ie more HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> to pick up H<sup>+</sup> → ↓ H<sup>+</sup> → ↑ pH  
 normal range in bicarbonate is 17-29 mEq/ℓ depending upon sex & age. PCO<sub>2</sub> = 40 mmHg = ? mMol/ℓ  
 not quite correct, but close enough for our purpose.

## C.b.D. REGULATION OF pH

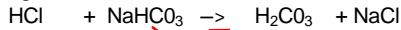
buffer picks up H<sup>+</sup> when H<sup>+</sup> in excess and releases H<sup>+</sup> when H<sup>+</sup> is low, ∴ maintains a constant H<sup>+</sup> concentration

- 1) intracellular and extracellular acid-base buffering systems: rapid response (moment by moment), but very crude
  - 2) respiratory elimination of CO<sub>2</sub>: fairly rapid response (minutes) but loses its ability to regulate pH as pH nears normal
  - 3) renal elimination of H<sup>+</sup> or HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>: slow (hours - days) but continues until pH is returned to normal or near normal
- } very important!

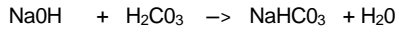
### C.b.D.a. MAJOR ACID-BASE BUFFERING SYSTEMS (the other, non-respiratory source of H<sup>+</sup>)

#### C.b.D.a.(A.) HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> BUFFERING SYSTEM

strong acid + weak base → weak acid + salt e.g.:



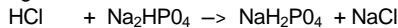
strong base + weak acid → weak base + H<sub>2</sub>O e.g.:



(plasma buffer & interstitial fluid buffer) (F 16.17, p 420) (TP IVC-1, red only) "Na not shown" refers to pink color

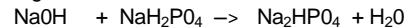
#### C.b.D.a.(B.) PHOSPHATE BUFFERING SYSTEM

strong acid + weak base → weak acid + salt e.g.:



Na bi (dibasic) Na di H (monobasic) (H is bound to the single-bonded O's in each case, leaving other(s) charged.)

strong base + weak acid → weak base + H<sub>2</sub>O e.g.:



(TP IVC-2, phosphate only) (TP IVC-1, purple only)

(especially important as a filtrate buffer in renal tubules, e.g. see T IVB-2, footnote b & F 16.19, p 421), but also as intracellular buffer (F 16.17, p 420)

#### C.b.D.a.(C.) PROTEIN BUFFERING SYSTEM

(TP IVC-3) do I need carbamino Hb in this one? NO I do it in TP 6

aa-H ↔ aa + H<sup>+</sup> (F 12.8, p 312)

(TP IVC-1, green only)

(especially important as an intracellular buffer) (Fig 16.17, p 420) but also works as plasma buffer (pp's)

## C.b.D.b. RESPIRATORY CONTROL MECHANISMS

CO<sub>2</sub> readily crosses blood-CSF barrier to CSF where it reacts w H<sub>2</sub>O → H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> → H<sup>+</sup> + HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (for me - must be CA in CSF as well?)

H<sup>+</sup> immediately stimulates respiratory center receptors in the 4th ventricle

### C.b.D.c. RENAL CONTROL MECHANISMS

(for me - how does b work to elevate H<sup>+</sup>?)

#### C.b.D.c.(A.) HYDROGEN ION AND BICARBONATE ION COUNTERBALANCE (F 16.18, p 420, as modified) (TP IVC-4)

∴ (a) needed to: 1) excrete increased H<sup>+</sup> from fixed acids and 2) replenish HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> lost to respiration

#### C.b.D.c.(B.) INTRATUBULAR BUFFERING SYSTEMS

phosphate buffering system (see C.b.D.a.(B.), above)

ammonia buffering system (F 16.19, p 421) (TP IVC-2, ammonia only)

## C.b.E. ION EXCHANGE MECHANISMS AND THEIR EFFECT ON pH

### C.b.E.a. K<sup>+</sup>-H<sup>+</sup> ION EXCHANGE (F 16.20, p 421 & 16.21, p 440) (16.21 combined into 16.20; TP IVC-5)

### C.b.E.b. Cl<sup>-</sup>-HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ION EXCHANGE (chloride shift, F 12.7, p 312) (TP IVC-6) give % of 3 forms of CO<sub>2</sub> - globin in RBS, notice on p 293, reverse process occurs at lungs (no Cl<sup>-</sup> shift, yet) 7% CO<sub>2</sub> gas, 23% carbamino Hb, 70% HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>

in plasma at tissue: ↑ CO<sub>2</sub> -(E2)-> ↑ HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> -> ↑ Cl<sup>-</sup> into RBC; (at alveolus) ↓ CO<sub>2</sub> -(E3)-> ↓ HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> -> ↑ Cl<sup>-</sup> into plasma

NB: body Na<sup>+</sup> levels can influence this exchange by combining w HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>

## C.c. ALTERATIONS IN ACID-BASE BALANCE

### C.c.A. GENERAL

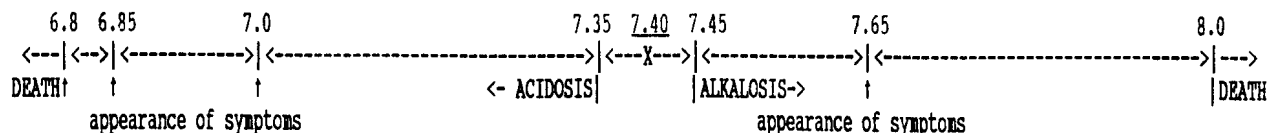


Figure IVC-1. Conditions Ascribed to Variations in Fluid pH (TP IVC-7)

drawn to scale

acidosis/acidemia = ↓ alkali [biological bases involving an alkali metal such as Na<sup>+</sup> or K<sup>+</sup>] or ↑ acids

alkalosis/alkalemia = ↑ alkali or ↓ acids

∴ Henderson/Hasselbach

Since NaHCO<sub>3</sub> is the main extracellular alkali, & since its concentration is determined by CO<sub>2</sub> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> levels, these two compounds are normally the ones that are tracked in acidosis/alkalosis.

## C.c.A.a. METABOLIC VERSUS RESPIRATORY ACID-BASE DISORDERS

metabolic a-b disorders  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$  in  $H^+$   $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  or  $\uparrow$  in  $HCO_3^-$   $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  or  $\uparrow$  in pH and metabolic acidosis or alkalosis, resp.

note: arrows not reversed

respiratory a-b disorders  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$  in  $CO_2$   $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$  in  $H_2CO_3$   $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  or  $\uparrow$  in pH and respiratory acidosis or alkalosis, resp.

note: arrows reversed. Do you see why?

## C.c.A.b. PRIMARY VERSUS COMPENSATORY MECHANISMS

primary mechanism (event that initiates alkalosis or acidosis)

compensatory mechanism (mechanism that attempts to maintain a homeostatic pH)

i.e., E4 & E5 work both ways

primary and compensatory cannot involve the same systems,  $\therefore$  lungs can correct for renal induced changes and vice versa

volatile

fixed

hence, Henderson Hasselbach

compensatory mechanisms become more effective with time, thus there are differences between the levels of pH changes that occur in acute acid-base disorders versus those that occur in chronic acid-base disorders

## C.c.A.c. GENERAL MANIFESTATIONS OF ACID-BASE DISORDERS 3 categories: 1), 2) & 3) below

1) those associated with the primary disorder

2) those related to the altered pH:

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$\uparrow H^+ \Rightarrow H^+/K^+$  exchange = (1)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow / \text{extracellular } K^+ = (2) \Rightarrow < 2^\circ \text{ hyperkalemia} > \\ \rightarrow / \text{intracellular } K^+ = (3) \Rightarrow \text{lower resting potential: } H^+ \text{ readily binds with the } \Rightarrow \text{ to threshold } \rightarrow \text{ (hyperpolarization) anionic proteins there) potential} \end{array} \right.$  / NERVE/MUSCLE EXCITABILITY/IRRITABILITY

$\downarrow H^+ = (4) \Rightarrow < \text{calcemia} > = (5) \Rightarrow$  / NERVE/MUSCLE EXCITABILITY/IRRITABILITY

Key: 1: F 16.20: 1<sup>o</sup> acidosis  $\rightarrow$  2<sup>o</sup> hyperkalemia  
 2: CF IVB-1: similarity in electrolyte concentration of interstitium & plasma  
 3: P IVB-4: discussion of resting potential & action potential  
 4: P IVB-9: w  $\downarrow H^+$ , there is  $\uparrow Ca^{++}$  binding to protein, instead of  $H^+$   
 5: P IVB-10:  $\downarrow Ca^{++} \rightarrow$  open  $Na^+$  channels

### Path IVC-1. Pathophysiological Consequences of Acidemia and Alkalemia on Nerve/Muscle Excitability TP IVC-8

3) those related to the homeostatic, compensatory mechanism

## C.c.B. METABOLIC ACIDOSIS [ = (E4) $\Rightarrow$ primary deficit in plasma bicarbonate] serious problem

### C.c.B.a. ETIOLOGIC FACTORS

1) increased metabolic acid gain by increased production of nonvolatile acids OR decreased renal secretion of acids (S IV.C.b.B.b.) i.e., careful, phosphates and sulfates not mentioned here.

$\uparrow$  production of non-volatile acids  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \right.$  / metabolic acid gain  
 $\downarrow$  renal secretion of acids  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \right.$

2) elevated (excessive)  $HCO_3^-$  loss

### C.c.B.b. INCREASED METABOLIC ACID GAIN

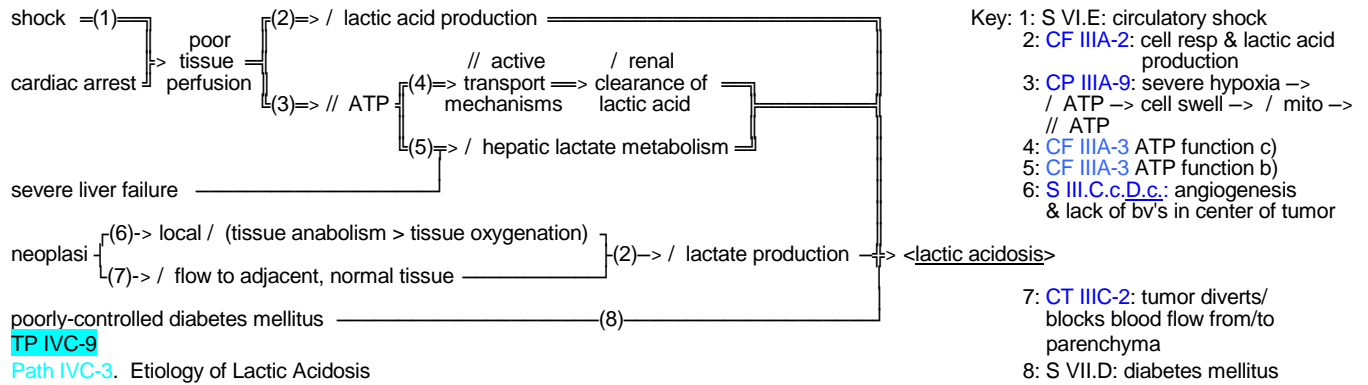
1)  $\uparrow$  lactic acid, 2)  $\uparrow$  ketoacids, 3) inability of kidneys to excrete metabolic acids (or conserve bicarbonate), 4) drug/chemical anion ingestion (verify)

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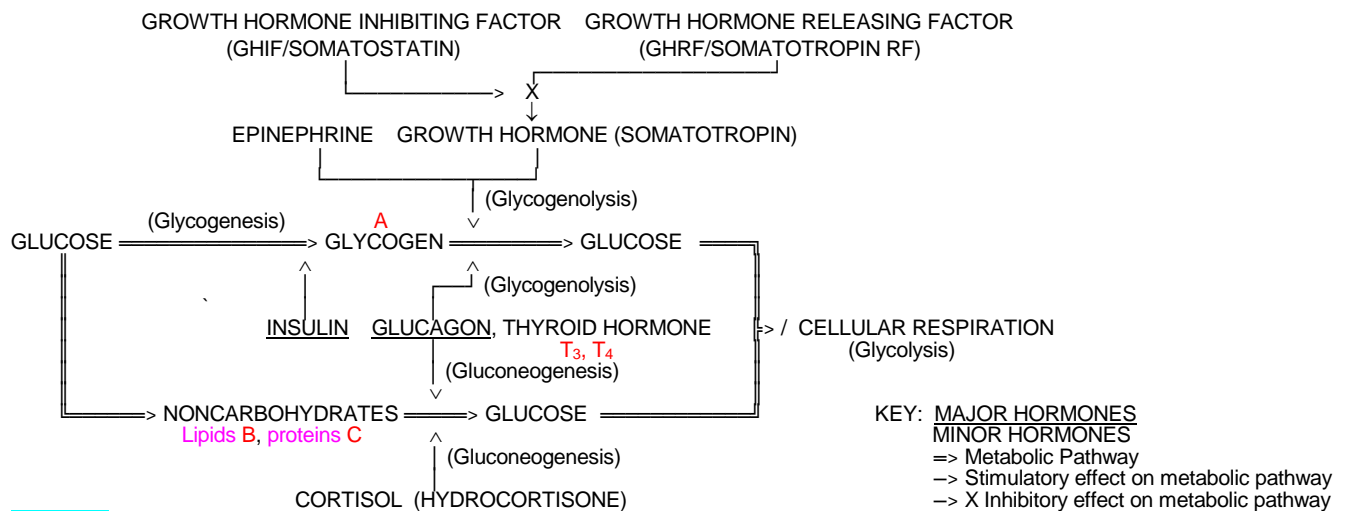
1,2,3  $\Rightarrow H^+ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow / H_2CO_3 \\ \rightarrow / HCO_3^- \end{array} \right.$  (1)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow / H_2CO_3 \\ \rightarrow / HCO_3^- \end{array} \right.$  Key: 1: E4

### Path IVC-2. General Relationship of Decreased pH to Decreased Bicarbonate Concentration

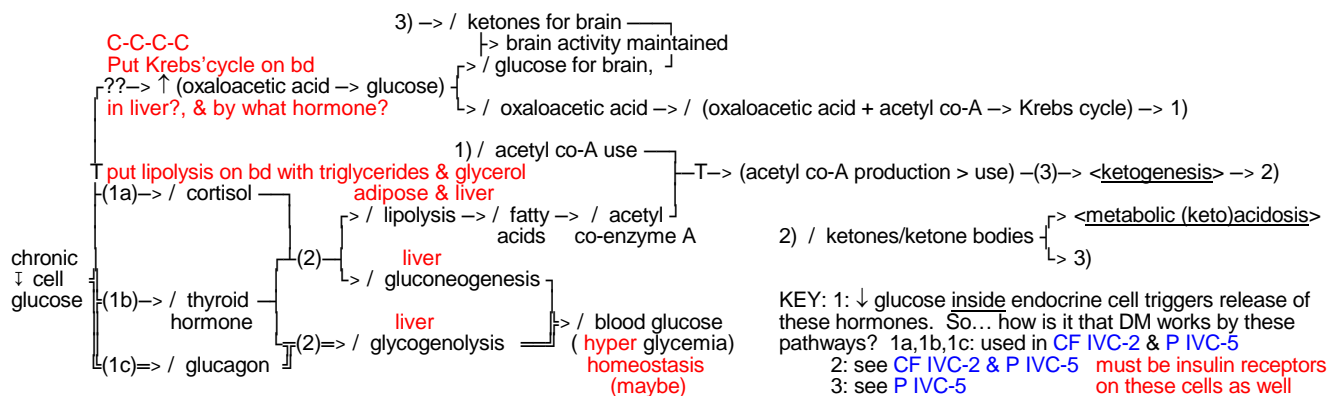
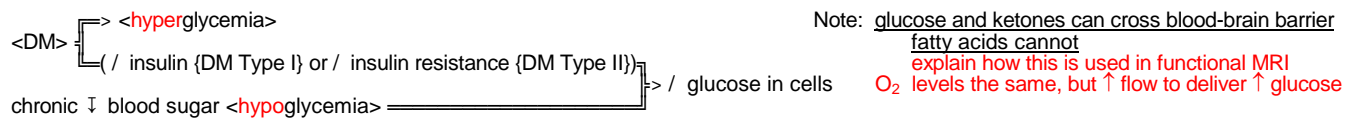
C.c.B.b.(A.) **LACTIC ACIDOSIS**



C.c.B.b.(B.) **KETOACIDOSIS** 2<sup>nd</sup> example of increased metabolic acid gain  
 C.c.B.b.(B.a.) **KETOGENESIS**

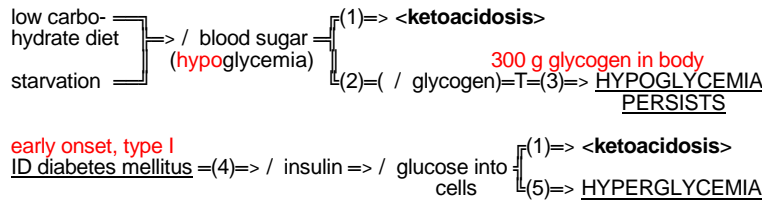


TP IVC-10  
 Critical Figure IVC-2. Hormones Responsible for the Four, "Big-G" Metabolic Processes



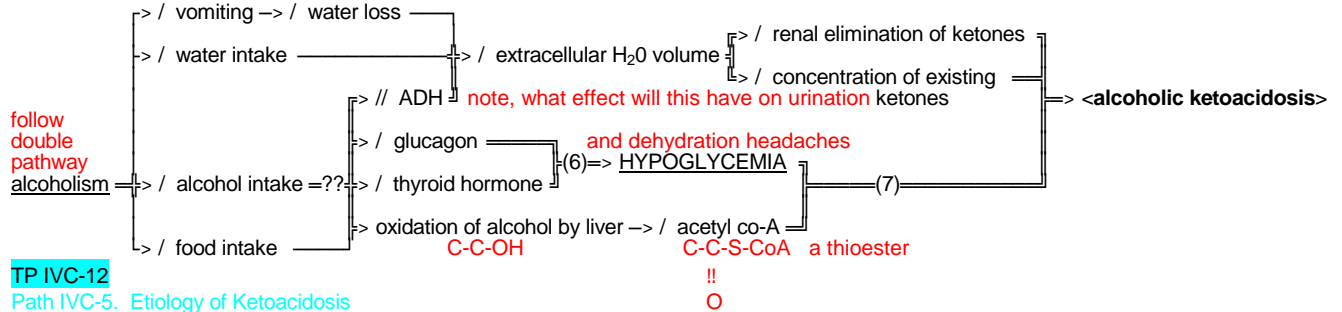
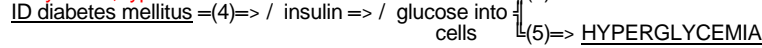
TP IVC-11 single lines = double; double lines = triple, i.e., all important  
 Critical Path IVC-4. Metabolic Pathways Triggered by Low Cellular Glucose Levels (14, pp 552 & 831) (SN 164, p376)

**C.c.B.b.(B.b.) ETIOLOGY OF KETOACIDOSIS**



only 300 mg glycogen in entire body, ∴ easily used up  
 KEY: 1: CP IVC-4: condition 1a (cortisol) effective & OOA path  
 2: CP IVC-4: condition 1c (glucagon) effective  
 3: CP IVC-4: condition 1c (glucagon) ineffective  
 4: S VIID: IDDM → / β cells → / insulin  
 5: CP IVC-4: ↑ 1b & 1c, ↑ thyroid H & glucagon paths  
 6: CF IVC-2: ↓ glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis  
 7: CP IVC-4: hypoglycemia → / acetyl co-A production & / acetyl co-A use → <ketoacidosis>

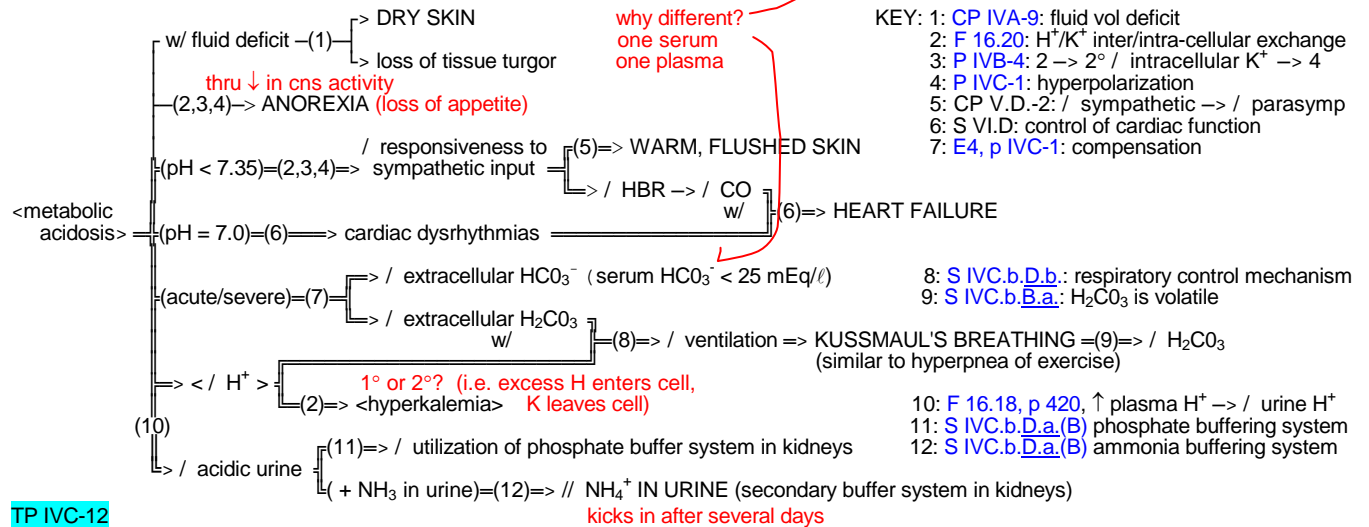
early onset, type I



TP IVC-12

Path IVC-5. Etiology of Ketoacidosis

**C.c.B.c. MANIFESTATIONS OF METABOLIC ACIDOSIS [plasma HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ≤ 20 mEq/l]**

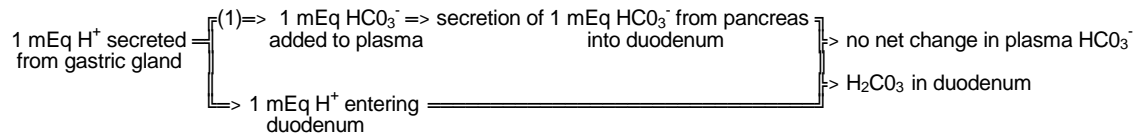


TP IVC-12

Path IVC-6. Manifestations of Metabolic Acidosis

**C.c.C. METABOLIC ALKALOSIS [primary ↑ in plasma HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>]**

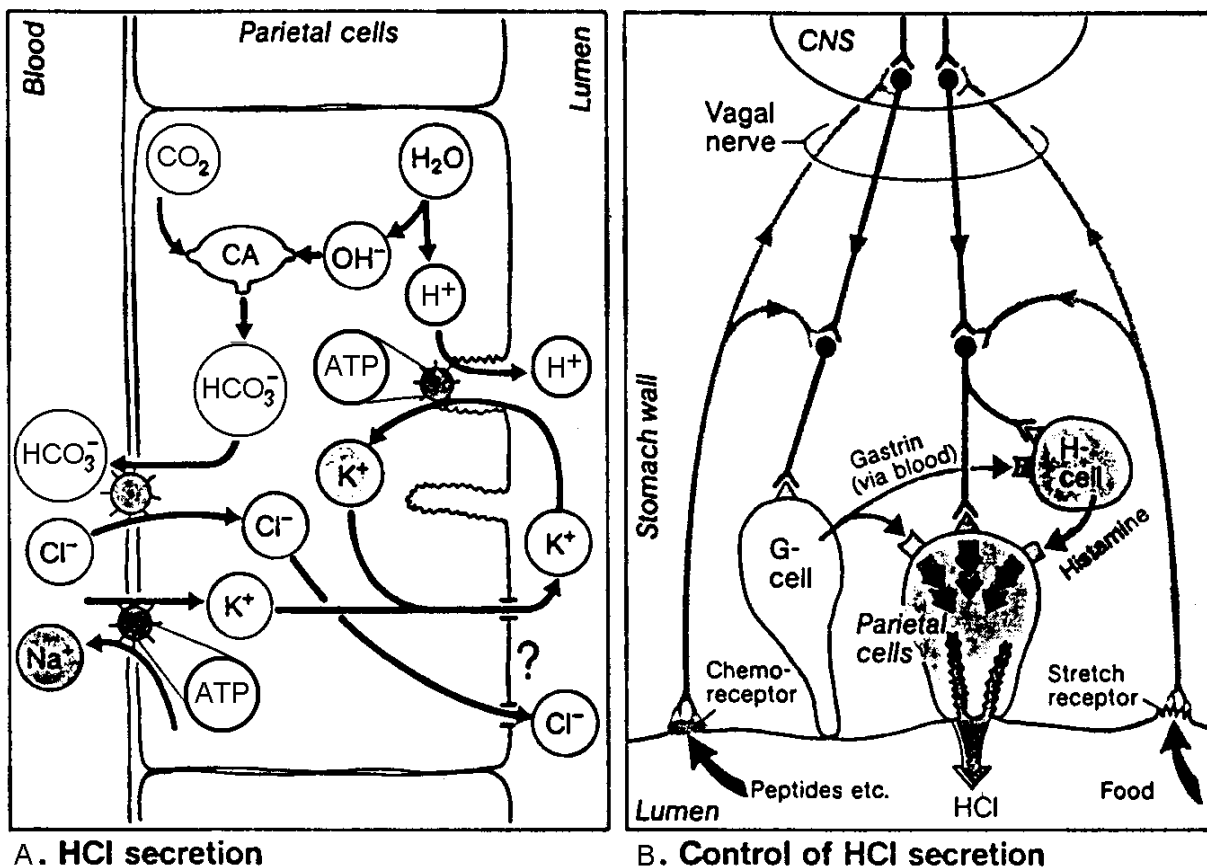
**C.c.C.a. LOSS OF HYDROGEN IONS**



KEY: 1: F IVC-3: next page

Path IVC-7. Normal Course of Events Relative to H<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> in the Stomach and Duodenum

le not normally a problem, but path IVC-8:

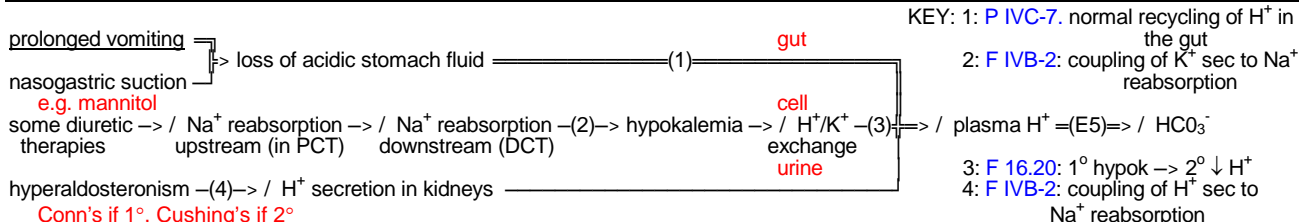


**A. HCl secretion**

**B. Control of HCl secretion**

Figure IVC-3. Mechanism of HCl Secretion from Parietal Cell of Gastric Gland. B. = conditions that lead to A. TP IVC-13

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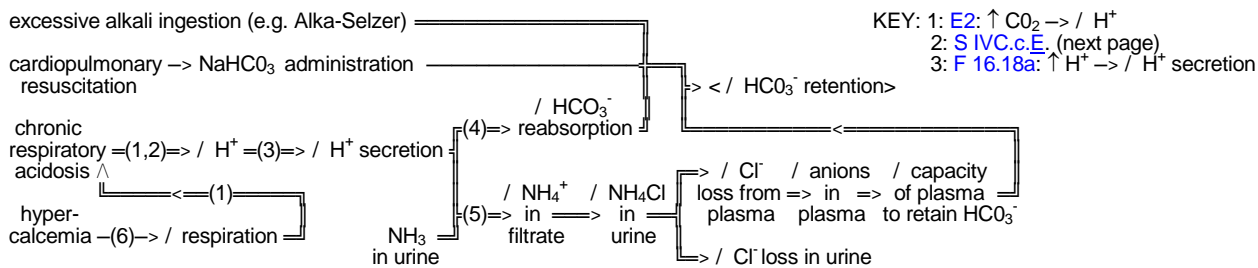


Path IVC-8. Etiology of Hydrogen Ion Loss (diuretic therapies from 36, p 497) TP IVC-14

**C.c.C.b. ELEVATED  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  RETENTION**

two sources of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ :  $\text{CO}_2$  from cellular respiration  $[-(E1) \rightarrow \text{HCO}_3^-]$  or  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  recycling by kidneys (F 16.18, p 420)

these two mechanisms normally work inversely to maintain a homeostatic  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  level



- 4: F 16.18a:  $\uparrow \text{H}^+$  secretion  $\rightarrow$  /  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  reabsorption
- 5: S IV.C.b.D.c.(B.) role of ammonia as filtrate buffer **filtr/reab/secr talked about earlier in CF IVB-2**
- 6: P IVB-11:  $\uparrow \text{Ca}^{++}$   $\rightarrow$  / response of  $\text{Na}^+$  channels

TP IVC-15

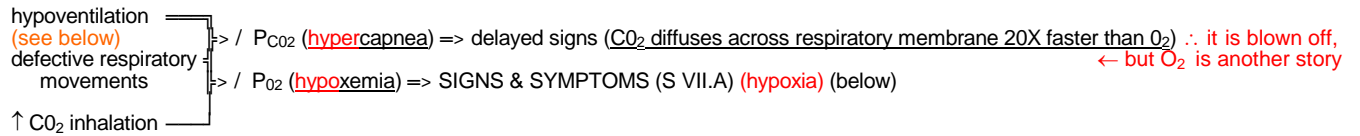
Path IVC-9. Etiology of Increased Bicarbonate Retention in Metabolic Alkalosis

**C.c.D. RESPIRATORY ACIDOSIS** [primary ↑ in plasma carbonic acid] serious i.e. BOTH metabolic & respiratory acidosis are serious.

1) primary ↑ in  $\text{CO}_2$   $\rightarrow$   $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 \rightarrow \text{H}^+$   
 note how this relates to hypercalcemia in Key 5 on bottom of prior page

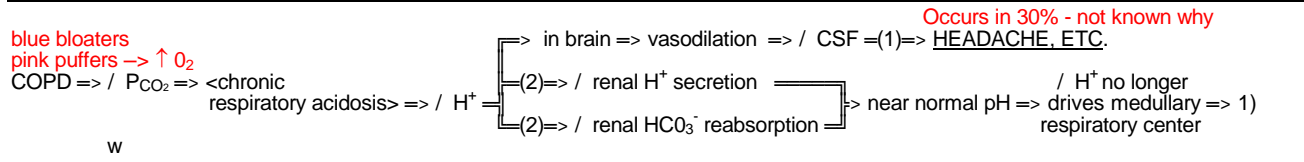
go back to F IVC-1 to see if you can figure out why  
 (less time between appearance of symptoms & death)

**C.c.D.a. ACUTE RESPIRATORY ACIDOSIS**

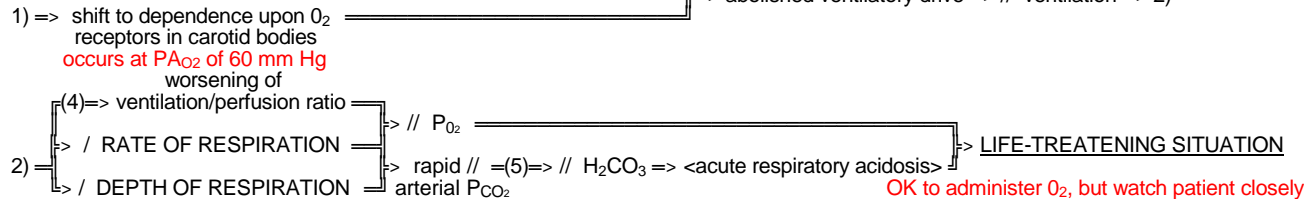


Path IVC-10. Etiology of Conditions Leading to Acute Respiratory Acidosis

**C.c.D.b. CHRONIC RESPIRATORY ACIDOSIS**



<intercurrent respiratory infection> =(3)=> / hypoxemia => treat w /  $\text{O}_2$  => abolished ventilatory drive => // ventilation => 2)



- KEY: 1: CP VA-4: from stress to pain  
 2: F16.18a: ↑  $\text{H}^+$  secretion → /  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  reabsorption  
 3: S VI.G: Respiratory Function; retained secretions & bronchospasm  
 4: S.VI.G: Respiratory Function  
 5: S. IV: Respiratory Function

portions used 60, p 128-9 TP IVC-16 compare w P IVC-6  
 Path IVC-11. Manifestations of Chronic and Acute Respiratory Acidosis

**C.c.E. RESPIRATORY ALKALOSIS** [primary ↓ in plasma carbonic acid] (F '03 Do this in detail for Nursing)

Skip 1

1) primary ↓ in  $\text{CO}_2$   $\rightarrow$   $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 \rightarrow \text{H}^+$   
 not through hyperventilation, which is immediately below  
 $\text{NaHCO}_3$  buffer in plasma offsets this somewhat

2) hyperventilation => / removal of  $\text{CO}_2$  → /  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  → /  $\text{CO}_2$  → (E6) => <respiratory alkalosis>  
 kidneys over lungs (Henderson-Hasselbach) K/L

**C.d. SUMMARY**

	ACIDOSIS (/ pH)		ROME Respiratory-opposite, Metabolic-equal
Metabolic (changes in $\text{HCO}_3^-$ )	↑ $\text{H}^+$ => / ( $\text{H}^+ + \text{HCO}_3^- \Rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) => / $\text{H}^+$ + / $\text{HCO}_3^-$ E4		these begin with H
mnb - metabolic bicarbonate nephron	↓ $\text{H}^+$ => / ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 \Rightarrow \text{H}^+ + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) => / $\text{H}^+$ + / $\text{HCO}_3^-$ E5		
	ALKALOSIS (/ pH)		These are arranged as in pH: K/L
	ACIDOSIS (/ pH)		
Respiratory (changes in $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ )	↑ $\text{CO}_2$ => / $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ => / $\text{H}^+$ E2		these end with H
rca - resp carbonic acid	↓ $\text{CO}_2$ => / $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ => / $\text{H}^+$ E3		
	ALKALOSIS (/ pH)		