

Chapter 16 Outline

- ▶ The Respiratory System
- ▶ Physical Aspects of Ventilation
- ▶ Mechanics of Breathing
- ▶ Gas Exchange in the Lungs
- ▶ Regulation of Breathing
- ▶ Hemoglobin and Oxygen Transport
- ▶ CO₂ Transport
- ▶ Acid-Base Balance of the Blood

Respiration

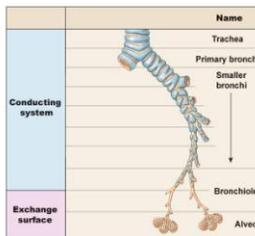
- ▶ Encompasses 3 related functions: **ventilation**, **gas exchange**, and **O₂ utilization** (cellular respiration)
 1. Ventilation moves air in and out of lungs for gas exchange with blood (**external respiration**)
 2. Gas exchange between blood and tissues, and O₂ use by tissues is **internal respiration**
 3. Gas exchange is passive via diffusion

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Structure of Respiratory System

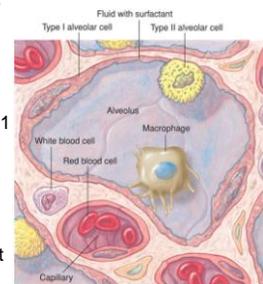
- ▶ Gas exchange occurs only in respiratory bronchioles and alveoli (= **respiratory zone**)
- ▶ All other structures constitute the **conducting zone**



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Structure of Respiratory System

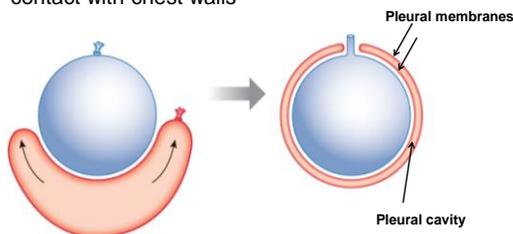
- ▶ Gas exchange occurs across 300 million alveoli
 - ▶ (60-80 m² total surface area)
- ▶ 2 thin cells are between lung air and blood: 1 alveolar and 1 endothelial cell
 - Type 1: Most numerous
 - Type 2: Secrete surfactant



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Thoracic Cavity

- ▶ **Intrapleural space** fluid layer between **visceral pleura** and **parietal pleura**
- ▶ Stick together (potential space) – lungs remain in contact with chest walls



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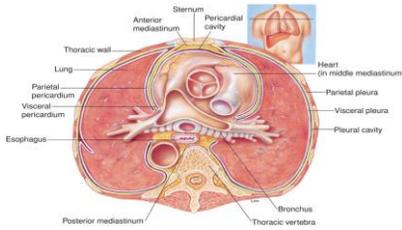
Physical Aspects of Ventilation

- ▶ Ventilation results from pressure differences induced by changes in lung volumes
 - ▶ Air moves from higher to lower pressure
 - ▶ Compliance, elasticity, and surface tension of lungs influence ventilation

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Intrapulmonary and Intrapleural Pressures

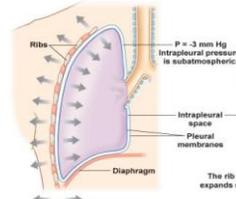
- ▶ Intrapulmonary pressure: pressure within lungs
- ▶ Intrapleural pressure: pressure in intrapleural space
- ▶ Intrapulmonary – Intrapleural = Transpleural pressure



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Intrapulmonary and Intrapleural Pressures

- ▶ **Intrapulmonary pressure** is about -3 mm Hg pressure (subatmospheric)
 - ▶ Fluid keeps lung adhered to chest
 - ▶ Recoil of lung creates inward pull
 - ▶ = negative intrapleural pressure
- ▶ During inspiration Intrapulmonary pressure decreases further

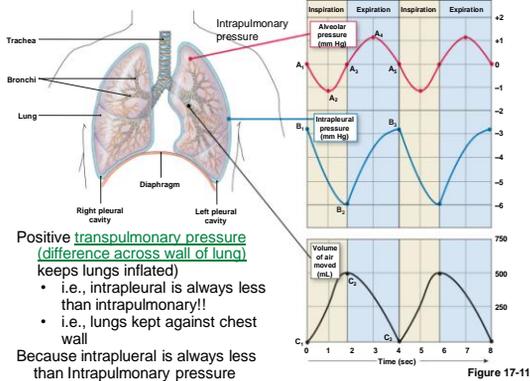


(a) Normal lung at rest

During expiration:
 • Lungs allowed to recoil and intrapleural pressure decreases

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Pressure Changes During Quiet Breathing



Compliance, elasticity, and surface tension of lungs influence ease of ventilation

Compliance

- ▶ How easily lung expands with pressure
- ▶ Reduced by factors that cause resistance to distension

Elasticity

- ▶ Tendency to return to initial size after distension
- ▶ elastin proteins!!!
- ▶ Tension increases during inspiration - reduced by recoil during expiration
 - ▶ There is always some elastic tension!

Airway Diameter also influences Airway resistance!

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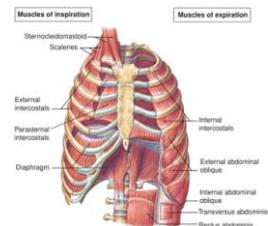
Surface Tension (ST)

- ▶ Promotes alveolar collapse - resists distension (expansion)
- ▶ Lungs secrete and absorb fluid, normally leaving a thin film of fluid on alveolar surface
 - ▶ Film causes ST because H₂O molecules are attracted to other H₂O molecules
 - ▶ Thus, ST acts to collapse alveoli;
 - ▶ increasing pressure of air within alveoli
- ▶ But Phospholipids secreted by **Type II alveolar cells** lowers ST by getting between H₂O molecules

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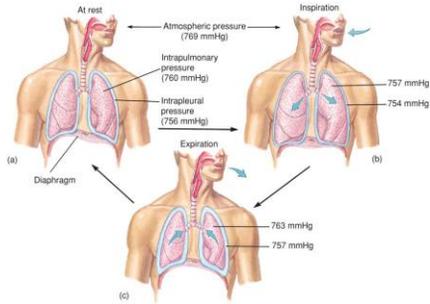
Mechanics of Breathing:

- ▶ Quiet Inspiration
 - ▶ diaphragm
 - ▶ **external intercostals & parasternal intercostals**
- ▶ Quiet Expiration = passive recoil
- ▶ Deep inhalation - add
 - ▶ **scalenes, pectoralis minor, and sternocleidomastoid**
- ▶ Deep exhalation
 - ▶ internal intercostals, abdominals



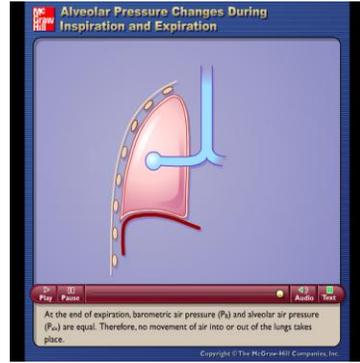
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Mechanics of Pulmonary Ventilation



Boyle's Law ($P = 1/V$)

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Partial Pressure of Gases

- ▶ **Partial pressure** is pressure that a particular gas in a mixture exerts independently
- ▶ **Dalton's Law**: total pressure of a gas mixture is the sum of partial pressures of each gas in mixture
- ▶ Atmospheric pressure at sea level is 760 mm Hg
 - ▶ $P_{ATM} = P_{N_2} + P_{O_2} + P_{CO_2} + P_{H_2O} = 760 \text{ mm Hg}$
 - ▶ H_2O vapor decreases pressures of other gases

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Partial Pressure of gases in lungs

- ▶ Influence of H_2O – changes Partial Pressures
- ▶ Fully saturated air has a $P_{O_2} = 47 \text{ mmHg}$
- ▶ Low alveolar P_{O_2} decreases O_2 uptake
- ▶ Low blood flow to aveoli decreases O_2 uptake

	Inspired air	Alveolar air
H_2O	Variable	47 mmHg
CO_2	000.3 mmHg	40 mmHg
O_2	159 mmHg	105 mmHg
N_2	601 mmHg	568 mmHg
Total pressure	760 mmHg	760 mmHg

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Gas solubility Affects Diffusion

- ▶ Movement of gas molecules from air into liquid depend on:
 - ▶ 1. Pressure gradient of the gas
 - ▶ 2. Solubility of the gas in the liquid (how easy it diffuses into liquid)
 - ▶ 3. Temperature (which is largely constant)

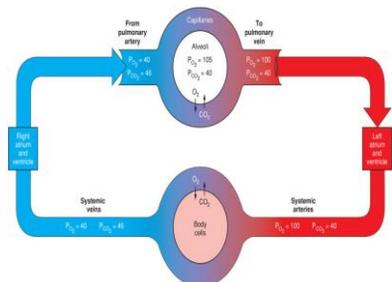
O_2 is not very soluble – thus little is dissolved in plasma – it doesn't have time in alveolar caps to come to equilibrium before blood has left

Compare CO_2 – 20X more soluble than O_2 !

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Gases diffuse down concentration gradients

- ▶ normal arterial blood has about $P_{O_2} = 100 \text{ mmHg}$
- ▶ $P_{O_2} = 40 \text{ mmHg}$ in systemic veins
- ▶ $P_{CO_2} = 46 \text{ mmHg}$ in systemic veins

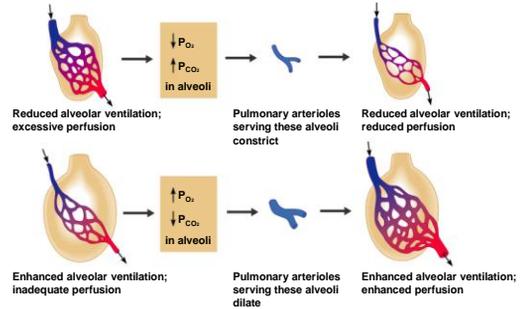


CO_2 solubility is 20 x greater than O_2 (i.e., despite much lower partial pressure of CO_2 equal amounts of 2 gases are exchanged)

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Pulmonary Circulation

- ▶ Rate of blood flow through pulmonary circuit equals flow through systemic circulation
 - ▶ Pumped at lower pressure (about 15 mm Hg)
 - ▶ Pulmonary vascular resistance is low!
 - ▶ Low pressure produces less net filtration than in systemic capillaries
- ▶ Pulmonary arterioles constrict where alveolar P_{O_2} is low and dilate where its high!!
 - ▶ This matches ventilation to perfusion (blood flow)



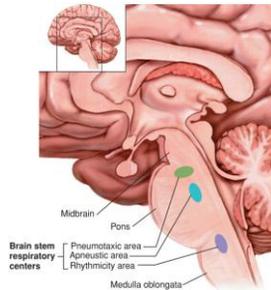
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Regulation of Breathing: Brain Stem Respiratory Centers

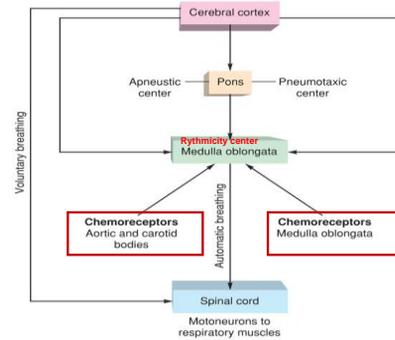
- ▶ Automatic breathing is generated by a **rhythmicity center in medulla oblongata**
 - ▶ Dorsal/Ventral Respiratory groups
- ▶ Inspiratory neurons stimulate nerves that innervate respiratory muscles
- ▶ Expiration occurs when expiratory neurons inhibit phrenic nerve
- ▶ Pacemaker cells



Apneustic area Stimulates inspiratory neurons of medulla
Pneumotaxic area (pontine respiratory group)—inhibits inspiratory neurons of medulla

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CNS Control of Breathing



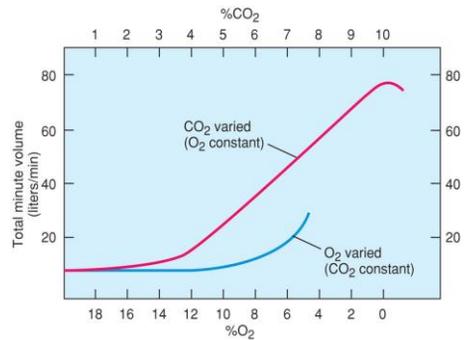
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Effects of Blood P_{CO_2} and pH on Ventilation

- ▶ Chemoreceptors modify ventilation to maintain homeostasis of CO_2 , O_2 , and pH levels
 - ▶ P_{CO_2} is most crucial because of its effects on blood pH
 - ▶ $H_2O + CO_2 \leftrightarrow H_2CO_3 \leftrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^-$
Carbonic Acid Bicarbonate
 - ▶ Also, P_{CO_2} (and H^+) more influenced by breathing changes compared to O_2 because lots of “stored” O_2

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P_{CO_2} and P_{O_2} Effects on Ventilation

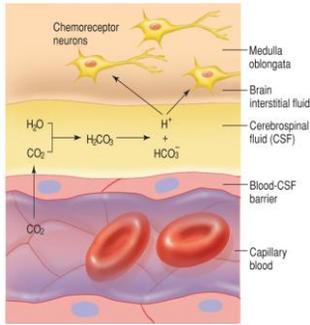


• Breathing rate increases with small increases in CO_2
• O_2 values must decrease by 1/2 before increased breathing occurs

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Effects of Blood P_{CO2} and pH on Ventilation

- ▶ Medulla oblongata chemoreceptors (central chemoreceptors) have effect on ventilation
- ▶ Monitor CO₂ – kind of!
 - ▶ H⁺ can't cross BBB but CO₂ can
 - ▶ Low pH causes increase in breathing
 - ▶ Rate and depth of ventilation adjusted to maintain arterial P_{CO2} of ~40 mm Hg

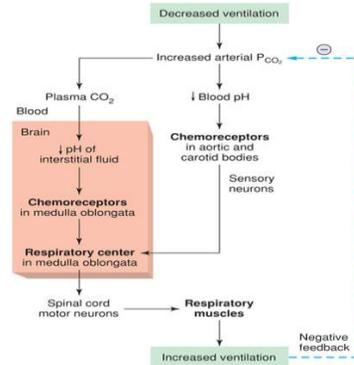


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▶ **Peripheral chemoreceptors:** respond to PO₂, P_{CO2}, pH - aorta & carotid arteries

- Increase in P_{CO2} or decrease in O₂ or pH causes increased ventilation

Effects of Blood P_{CO2} and pH on Ventilation

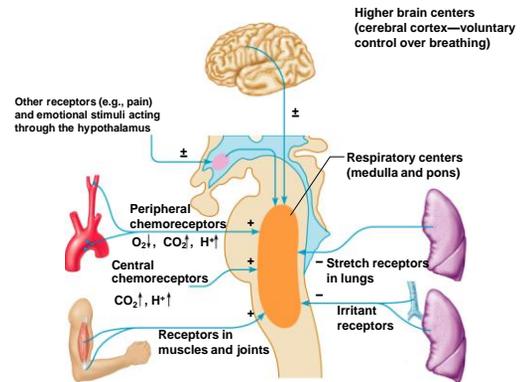


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Pulmonary Receptors & Ventilation

- ▶ Lungs have receptors that influence brain respiratory control centers via sensory fibers in vagus nerve
- ▶ **Unmyelinated C fibers** stimulated by noxious substances such as capsaicin
 - ▶ Causes apnea followed by rapid, shallow breathing
- ▶ **Irritant receptors** are rapidly adapting; respond to smoke, smog, and particulates
 - ▶ Causes cough
- ▶ **Stretch receptors** activated during inspiration (**Hering-Breuer reflex**)
 - ▶ Inhibits respiratory centers to prevent over-inflation of lungs

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Hemoglobin (Hb) and O₂ Transport

- ▶ Loading of Hb with O₂ occurs in lungs; unloading in tissues
 - ▶ Affinity of Hb for O₂ changes with a number of physiological variables
 - ▶ Each RBC has about 280 million molecules of Hb
 - ▶ Most O₂ in blood is bound to Hb inside RBCs as oxyhemoglobin
 - ▶ It's a weak bond between O₂ and hemoglobin
1. Depends on the PO₂ in plasma surrounding the red blood cells
 2. Number of potential Hb binding sites available in red blood cells

16-65

Hemoglobin (Hb) and O₂ Transport

- ▶ In **anemia**, Hb levels are below normal
- ▶ In **polycythemia**, Hb levels are above normal
- ▶ Hb production controlled by **erythropoietin (EPO)**
 - ▶ Production stimulated by low PO₂ in kidneys
- ▶ High PO₂ of lungs favors loading; low PO₂ in tissues favors unloading

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Oxhemoglobin

- ▶ Systemic arteries with P_{O_2} of 100 mmHg have a percent oxhemoglobin of 97%
i.e., 97% of the hemoglobin is bonded to oxygen
i.e., 97% is in the form of oxyhemoglobin
- ▶ Blood leaving tissue capillaries is P_{O_2} of 40 mmHg and has a percent oxyhemoglobin of ~75%.

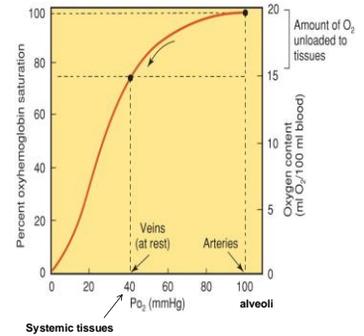
Key factor that drives bonding (and unbonding) is P_{O_2}

- ▶ **Hemoglobin + $O_2 \rightleftharpoons$ Oxyhemoglobin**
 - ▶ High P_{O_2} = bonding O_2 to hemoglobin
 - ▶ Low P_{O_2} = dissociation of oxyhemoglobin

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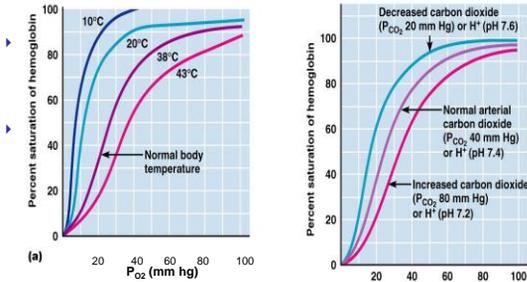
Oxyhemoglobin Dissociation Curve

- ▶ Provides % of Hb that have bound O_2 at different P_{O_2} s
- ▶ Reflects loading and unloading of O_2
- ▶ Where P_{O_2} is high OxyHb occurs
- ▶ Where P_{O_2} is low OxyHb dissociates
- ▶ In steep part of curve, small changes in P_{O_2} cause big changes in % saturation of hemoglobin



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pH & temp. influence Hb- O_2 affinity



Shifting curve to right = lowers affinity of oxyhemoglobin bond - more likely to unload O_2

16-72

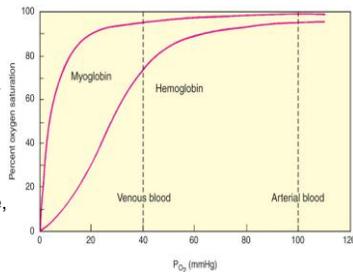
Another factor: Effect of 2,3 DPG on O_2 Transport

- ▶ RBCs have no mitochondria; can't perform aerobic respiration
- ▶ **2,3-DPG** (2-3 diphosphoglyceric acid) is a byproduct of glycolysis in anaerobic respiration in RBCs
 - ▶ 2,3 DPG lowers affinity of Hb for O_2
 - ▶ i.e. high levels of 2,3 DPG increases unloading of O_2
- ▶ Enzyme that produces 2,3-DPG is inhibited by Oxyhemoglobin
 - ▶ i.e., Saturated Hb inhibits 2,3-DPG formation
 - ▶ i.e., 2,3-DPG formation production increased by low oxyhemoglobin
- ▶ High altitude & anemia increase 2,3 DPG production – lowers Hg affinity for O_2

16-74

Myoglobin

- ▶ Has only 1 globin; binds only 1 O_2
- ▶ Has higher affinity for O_2 than Hb; is shifted to extreme left
- ▶ Releases O_2 only at low P_{O_2}
- ▶ Serves as O_2 storage, in heart (systole) & skeletal muscles



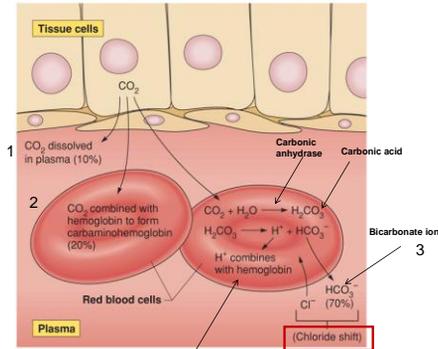
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CO_2 Transport

- ▶ CO_2 transported in blood
- 1. dissolved CO_2 (10%)
- 2. carbaminohemoglobin (20%)
- 3. bicarbonate ion, HCO_3^- , (70%)
- ▶ In RBCs carbonic anhydrase catalyzes formation of H_2CO_3 (carbonic acid) from $CO_2 + H_2O$
- ▶ $H_2O + CO_2 \leftrightarrow H_2CO_3$

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CO₂ transport in Blood

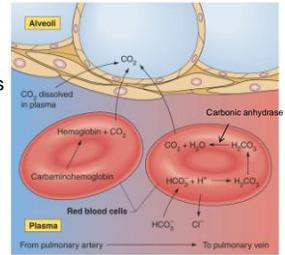


O₂ unloading increased by bonding of H⁺ to OxyHb (bohr affect)

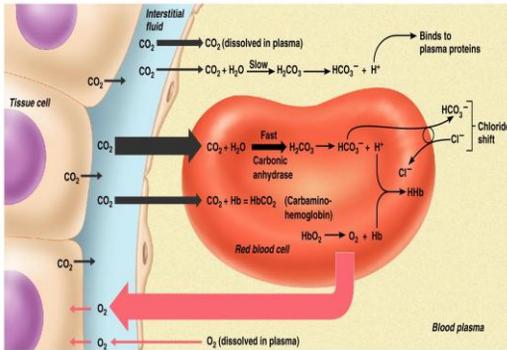
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Reverse Chloride Shift

- ▶ In lungs, CO₂ + H₂O ↔ H₂CO₃ ↔ H⁺ + HCO₃⁻; moves to left as CO₂ is breathed out
- ▶ Binding of O₂ to Hb decreases its affinity for H⁺
 - ▶ H⁺ combines with HCO₃⁻ and more CO₂ is formed
- ▶ Cl⁻ diffuses down concentration and charge gradient out of RBC (reverse chloride shift)

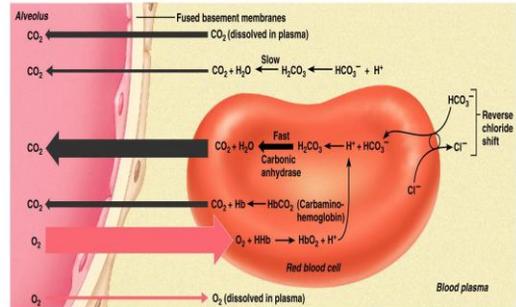


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(a) Oxygen release and carbon dioxide pickup at the tissues

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(b) Oxygen pickup and carbon dioxide release in the lungs

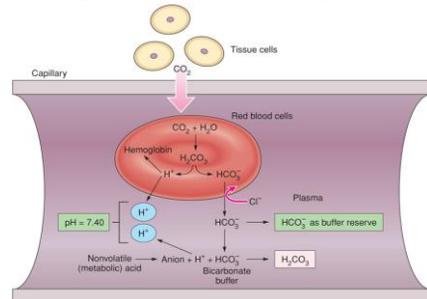
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Acid-Base Balance of the Blood

- ▶ Blood pH is maintained within narrow pH range by lungs and kidneys (normal = 7.4)
- ▶ Most important buffer in blood is **bicarbonate**
 - ▶ H₂O + CO₂ ↔ H₂CO₃ ↔ H⁺ + HCO₃⁻
 - ▶ Excess H⁺ is buffered by HCO₃⁻
- ▶ Kidney's role is to excrete H⁺ into urine

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Bicarbonate as a buffer



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Acid-Base Balance of the Blood

- ▶ **Acidosis** is when pH < 7.35; **alkalosis** is pH > 7.45
- ▶ **Respiratory acidosis** caused by hypoventilation
 - ▶ Causes rise in blood CO₂ and thus carbonic acid
 - ▶ Hypoventilation causes high CO₂ (**hypercapnia**)
- ▶ **Respiratory alkalosis** caused by hyperventilation
- ▶ Results in too little CO₂
 - ▶ Hyperventilation causes low CO₂ (**hypocapnia**)

Ventilation and Acid-Base Balance

- ▶ Ventilation usually adjusted to metabolic rate to maintain normal CO₂ levels
- ▶ Hypoventilation: not enough CO₂ is removed from lungs
 - ▶ Acidity builds, causing **respiratory acidosis**
- ▶ Hyperventilation: too much CO₂ is removed
 - ▶ pH rises, causing **respiratory alkalosis**
 - ▶ Dizziness: decrease in CO₂ causes pH of CSF to increase = = alkalosis results in cerebral vasoconstriction

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Figure 22.16a: Respiratory volumes and capacities, p. 852.

