

# **Inter Pretation of Acid Base Disturbance in Critically ill Patients.**

**By :-**

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✍ Normal Blood PH

7.35 to 7.45

✍ Crucial importance to maintain homeostatic function of Body.

✍ Any Significant change relates to change in  $H^+$  ion con. in Plasma


✍ It Ph  $<7$  or  $>7.8 \rightarrow$  Imminent


danger



Death

# Concept of Ph

 Acidity of Aqueous solution measured by  $H^+$  ion concentration.

 Notation of Ph is negative logarithm of  $H^+$  ion Concentration

 More  $H^+$  ion  $\longrightarrow$  less Ph

Less  $H^+$  ion  $\longrightarrow$  high Ph

✂ H<sup>+</sup> ion concentration in extra cellular fluid  
determined by Balance between Pco<sub>2</sub> and Hco<sub>3</sub>  
concentration in the fluid

Follow equation

$$\text{H}^+ = \frac{24 \times \text{Pco}_2}{\text{HCo}_3}$$

(neg/L)

Using normal arterial Pco<sub>2</sub>=40 mm of hg

$$\underline{\text{Hco}_3=24 \text{ Eq/L}}$$

$$\text{H}^+ = \frac{24 \times 40}{24} = 40 \text{ neg/Lit}$$

H<sup>+</sup> = 40neg/L → Correlates with PH 7.4

→ H<sup>+</sup> ion and Ph are inversely related.

Normal range

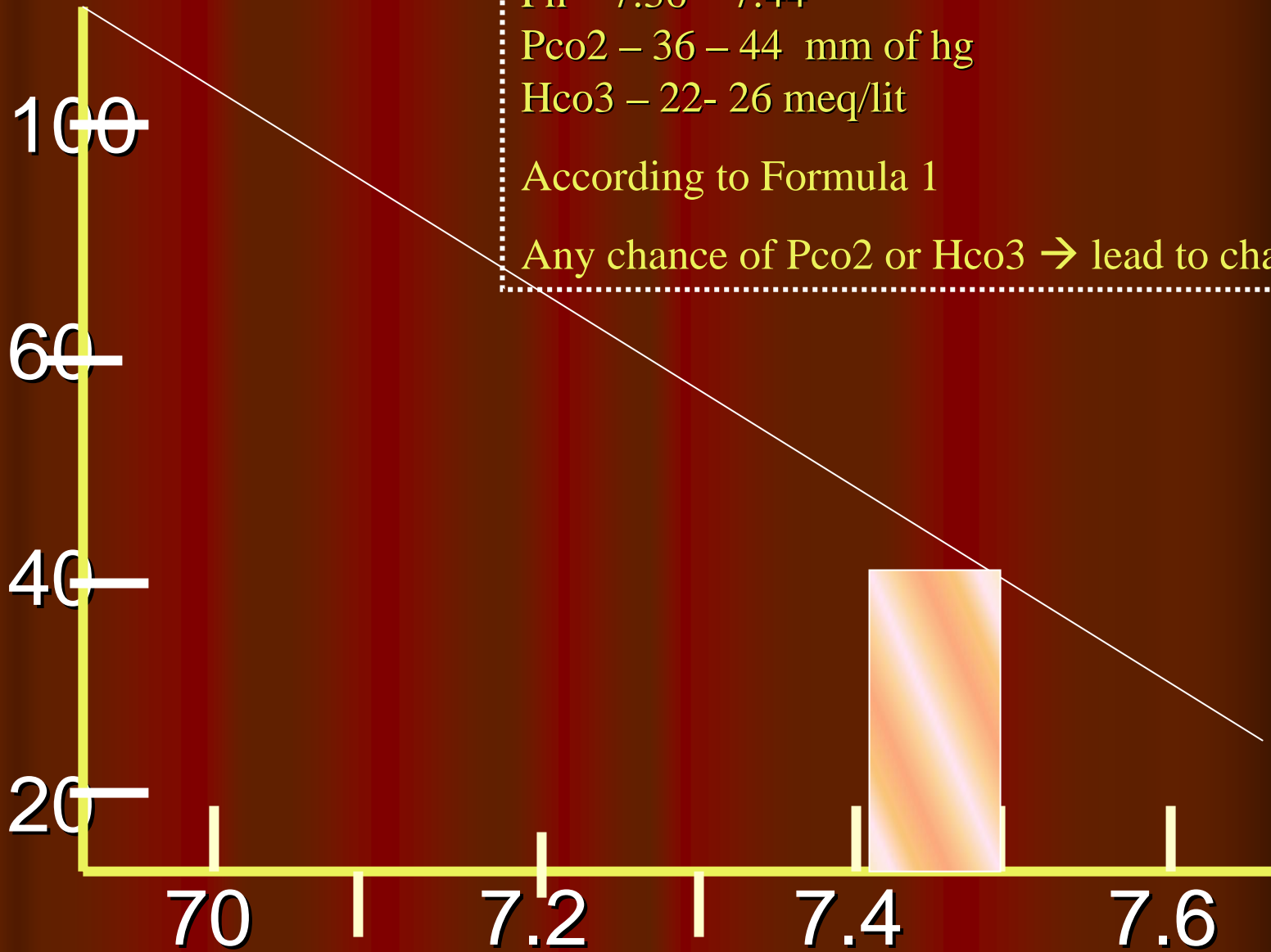
Ph – 7.36 – 7.44

Pco2 – 36 – 44 mm of hg

Hco3 – 22- 26 meq/lit

According to Formula 1

Any change of Pco2 or Hco3 → lead to change in PH



➡ If change involves  $P_{CO_2}$  → Respiratory acid base disorder.

⬆️  $P_{CO_2}$  → Respiratory Acidosis

⬆️  $P_{CO_2}$  → Respiratory Alkalosis.

➡ If Change involves  $HCO_3$  → Metabolic Acid Base disorder.

⬇️  $HCO_3$  → Metabolic Acidosis

⬆️  $HCO_3$  → Metabolic Alkalosis.

PH ⬇️ 7.36 → Acidemia

PH ⬆️ 7.44 → Alkalemia

- ⇒ Tight Control of Ph → Fairly constant values of  $P_{CO_2}$  &  $HCO_3^-$ .
- ⇒ Change in any one → Proportionate change in other to keep Ph constant.
- ⇒ Inc  $P_{CO_2}$  → inc  $HCO_3^-$  → PH Constant.
- ⇒ Respiratory disorders (change in  $P_{CO_2}$ ) initiates  
Changes in  $HCO_3^-$ - Metabolic response
- ⇒ Initial Change in  $P_{CO_2}$  or  $HCO_3^-$  is Primary Acid Base disorder.
- ⇒ Subsequent response → Compensated or Secondary Acid Base disorder.

## Primary Disorder

## Primary

## Compensatory

## Change

## Change

Respiratory Acidosis

↑ P<sub>CO2</sub>

↑ HCO<sub>3</sub>

Respiratory Alkalosis

↓ P<sub>CO2</sub>

↓ HCO<sub>3</sub>

Metabolic Acidosis

↓ HCO<sub>3</sub>

↓ P<sub>CO2</sub>

Metabolic Alkalosis

↑ HCO<sub>3</sub>

↑ P<sub>CO2</sub>



✂ Metabolic acid Base disorder → Prompt Ventilatory response



Peripheral chemoreceptor (Carotid body)

✂ Metabolic acidosis → Stimulates Chemoreceptor



↑ Ses Ventilation



↓ Ses P<sub>CO2</sub>

✂ Metabolic Alkalosis → Silences Chemoreceptor



↓ Ses Ventilation



↑ P<sub>CO2</sub>



# Useful Formulas for Acid Base interpretation

- (1) Metabolic acidosis → Expected  $P_{CO_2} = (1.5 \times HCO_3) + 8 \pm 2$
- (2) Metabolic Alkalosis → Expected  $P_{CO_2} = 0.7 \times HCO_3 + 21 \pm 2$
- (3) Acute respiratory → Expected  $pH = 7.4 - (.008 \times P_{CO_2})$   
acidosis
- (4) Acute respiratory alkalosis → Expected  $pH = 7.4 + (0.008 \times (40 - P_{CO_2}))$
- (5) Chronic respiratory → Expected  $pH = 7.4 + (.003 \times (P_{CO_2} - 40))$   
acidosis
- (6) Chronic respiratory → Expected  $pH = 7.4 + (0.003 \times (40 - P_{CO_2}))$   
Alkalosis

Alkalosis

# ✂ Compensation for Metabolic Acidosis

Metabolic acidosis



Tachypnoea



Co<sub>2</sub>

↓ Co<sub>2</sub> → may be Compensated or Uncompensated

## In a Patient of Metabolic acidosis

S. HCo<sub>3</sub> is 15meq/L.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Expected Pco}_2 &= (1.5 \times \text{Hco}_3) + 8 + 2 \\ &= (1.5 \times 15) + 8 + 2 \\ &= 30.5 + 2\end{aligned}$$

If Pco<sub>2</sub> is same then it is Compensated metabolic acidosis

If Pco<sub>2</sub> is >30.5 + 2 than there is Superimposed respiratory acidosis

If Pco<sub>2</sub> < 28.5 than there is associated respiratory alkalosis.

## ✂ Compensation for Metabolic Alkalosis

$$\text{Expected } P_{\text{CO}_2} = 0.7 \times \text{HCO}_3^- + 21 + 2$$

In a patient of Metabolic Alkalosis with  
 $\text{HCO}_3^- = 40 \text{ meq/L}$

$$\text{Expected } P_{\text{CO}_2} = 0.7 \times 40 + 21 + 2$$

$$P_{\text{CO}_2} = 28 + 21 + 2$$

$$= 49 + 2 \text{ mm of hg}$$

If measured  $P_{\text{CO}_2}$  is equal to expected  $P_{\text{CO}_2}$  than –  
Compensated metabolic Alkalosis

If  $P_{\text{CO}_2}$  is  $\uparrow$  than Metabolic alkalosis + respiratory acidosis

If  $P_{\text{CO}_2}$   $\downarrow$  than Metabolic Alkalosis + respiratory alkalosis.

✍ Compensatory changes of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  in response to  $\text{Pco}_2$

↓  
Occur in kidneys

↓  
takes 6 to 12 hrs to develop

Due to this

Respiratory acid Base disorder

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graph LR; A[Respiratory acid Base disorder] --> B[Acute]; A --> C[Chronic];
```

Acute Before Compensation

Chronic After Compensation

## ✂ Expected arterial Ph in Acute cases

Patient → PH – 7.4

Pco<sub>2</sub> increases from 40 to 60

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Arterial PH} &= 7.4 = (0.008 \times \text{Pco}_2 - 40) \\ &= 7.40 - 0.16 \\ &= 7.24\end{aligned}$$

If Pco<sub>2</sub> decrease from 40 to 20

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then arterial PH} &= 7.4 + 0.008 \times 40 - \text{Pco}_2 \\ \text{PH} &= 7.40 + 0.16 \\ \text{PH} &= 7.56\end{aligned}$$

## ✍ Expected arterial Ph in Chronic cases

Patient of emphysema + Co<sub>2</sub> retention

P<sub>co2</sub> 60 mm of hg

Expected Ph =  $7.4 - 0.003 \times P_{co2} - 40$

$$= 7.4 - 0.006$$

$$= 7.34$$

In acute rise → expected Ph was 7.24 due to renal Compensation Ph in chronic case is 7.34.



✍ Rule 1 Acid Base abnormality is present if either PaCo<sub>2</sub> or PH is outside normal range.

✍ Rule 2 If PH & Pco<sub>2</sub> are both abnormal see directional change.

➤ If both increase or decrease in same direction – disorder is metabolic

➤ If both change in opposite direction disorder is respiratory

 PH – 7.23

Pa Co<sub>2</sub> – 23 mm of hg

PH & Pa Co<sub>2</sub> are both 

So Pt has metabolic acidosis

## Rule 3

If PH or PaCo<sub>2</sub> is normal

➤ Mixed metabolic and respiratory acid Base disorder.

If PH is normal – direction of change of PaCo<sub>2</sub>



Identifies respiratory  
acidosis or alkalosis

If paCo<sub>2</sub> is normal → direction of change in PH



identifies metabolic  
disorder

## In Primary metabolic acidosis

Use measured  $\text{HCO}_3^-$   $\rightarrow$  to Calculate expected  $\text{Pco}_2$ .

- $\Rightarrow$  If measured  $\text{Pco}_2 =$  expected  $\text{Pco}_2$  – fully compensated
- $\Rightarrow$  If measured  $\text{Pco}_2 >$  expected  $\text{Pco}_2$  – Superimposed respiratory acidosis
- $\Rightarrow$  If measured  $\text{Pco}_2 <$  expected  $\text{Pco}_2$  – Superimposed respiratory alkalosis.

✍ PH – 7.32

PCo<sub>2</sub> – 23 mm of hg

HCo<sub>3</sub> – 15 meq/L

PH. Hco<sub>3</sub> Metabolic acidosis

Expected PCo<sub>2</sub> = 1.5x15 + 8+2

$$= 22.5 + 8 + 2$$

$$= 30.5 + 2$$

Measured PCo<sub>2</sub> is 23 < Expected PCo<sub>2</sub> is 30.5

✍ Superimposed respiratory Alkalosis on metabolic acidosis.

✍ In Respiratory acidosis or Alkalosis use  $P_{aCO_2}$  to calculate expected PH.

➤ Compare measured PH to expected PH

➤ Decide if Condition is

➡ Acute

➡ Partially Compensated

➡ Fully Compensated

➤ **In respiratory acidosis**

If measured PH < expected PH then there is Superimposed metabolic acidosis.

✂ If measured  $P_{\text{H}} >$  expected  $P_{\text{H}}$  then  
Superimposed metabolic alkalosis.

In respiratory alkalosis

If measured  $P_{\text{H}} <$  expected  $P_{\text{H}}$  then  
Superimposed metabolic acidosis

If measured  $P_{\text{H}} >$  expected  $P_{\text{H}}$  then  
superimposed metabolic alkalosis.

PH 7.54

PCo<sub>2</sub> 23

PaCo<sub>2</sub> & PH are changed in opposite direction.

So Problem is respiratory alkalosis.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Expected Ph} &= 7.4 + 0.008 \times (40-23) \\ &= 7.54\end{aligned}$$

- Condition is Uncompensated respiratory Alkalosis.



Anion Gap → Estimate of relative abundance of Unmeasured anions.

Used to determine if lactic acidosis

Due to accumulation of non volatile acids

Loss of Bicarbonates (Diarrhoea)

Anion gap  $\rightarrow (UA - UC) = Na - (Cl + HCO_3)$

UA = Unmeasured Anions

UC = Unmeasured cations

Normal AG = 12 ± 4 meq/L

# Influence of Albumin

- ⇒ Albumin → major source of unmeasured anions.
- ⇒ 50% ↓ Albumin → 75% reduction in anion gap.
- ⇒ Hypo Albumenia → Common in ICU
- ⇒ Influence of Albumin on AG is important.

Adjusted AG = observed AG + 2.5 x (4.5 - measured Albumin G/DL)

Pt → Calculated AG → 10 meq/L

Serum Albumin 2 g/dl

Adjusted AG = 10 + (2.5 x 2.5) = 16 meq/L

60 % increase

- Seemingly normal AG → transformed in elevated AG.
- Important formula in Pts of ICU ↓ Albumin.

# Common causes of Metabolic acidosis

High AG acidosis	Normal AG acidosis
Lactic acidosis	Diarrhoea
Keto acidosis	Isotonic saline infusion
End stage Renal failure	Early renal insufficiency
Methanol ingestion	Renal acidosis
Ethylene glycol ingestion	Acetazolamide
Salicylate toxicity	Ureteroenterostomy.

# High Anion Gap

Fixed acid → added to intracellular space

H<sup>+</sup> ions    Anions

H<sup>+</sup> combines    HCO<sub>3</sub> → Carbonic  
acid

HCO<sub>3</sub> → leads to high Anion Gap

In Metabolic acidosis → loss of Bicarbonate from extra cellular fluid

Countered by gain of Chloride ions to maintain electrical charge neutrality

Chloride – Proportional → loss of Bicarb

So  $AG = Na - (CL + Hco_3)$  remain constant.

CL increase → termed hyper chloremic metabolic acidosis.

## C/f → Metabolic acidosis

- Hyperventilation (stimulation of Res Centre)
- Obtunded Mental State (Drowsiness → deepcoma)
- Smell of ketones or Ammonia
- Progressive deterioration of clinical state



# Lactic acid acidosis

Lactic acid → Product of Glucose metabolism.

## Most common causes

- ★ Sepsis
- ★ Septic shock
- ★ Cardiogenic shock
- ★ Hypoxia
- ★ Severe Anemia
- ★ Severe Liver cell dysfunction
- ★ Thiamine deficiency.
- ★ D Lactic acid Acidosis (Dextro isomer) bacillus fragilis, gm-ve
- ★ Severe respiratory or metabolic Alkalosis
- ★ Drugs → epinephrine
- ★           → Nitro pruside

# Diagnosis –

❖ ABG

❖ High Anion Gap  $>30$

❖ If PH  $< 7.25$

Urgent Mx required.

In any acidosis

- ➔ Treatment → for the Basic cause
- ➔ Important to temporarily correct acidosis by giving 7% Soda Bicarb Soln.
- ➔ Improves Pump function
- ➔ Improves Systemic Blood Pressure
- ➔ Improved Perfusion to tissues.

# Sodium Bicarb replacement

Formula  $\rightarrow$  Body wt x 0.3 x (desired  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  - serum  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ )

- Give 50% as initial bolus
- Rest replace as infusion in 4 to 6 hrs.
- In associated respiratory acidosis correct respiratory acidosis then tackle metabolic acidosis.

# Metabolic Alkalosis

## Aeti

- Vomiting or Nasogastric suction
- ✓ loss of gastric juice (50-100 meq/L of H<sup>+</sup> ion)
- ✓ Also associated loss of Cl, Na, K<sup>+</sup> & H<sub>2</sub>O

## Diuretics (Furosemide)

### ❖ Loss of

Chloride

Water

Na

K<sup>+</sup>

Chloride replaced by Bicarb → absorbed → leads to alkalosis

❖ ↑ InCREASE K<sup>+</sup> loss → H<sup>+</sup> in distal tubule -- alkalosis

❖ ↑ Water loss → Aldosterone → Promotes loss of K<sup>+</sup> & H<sup>+</sup>

# Administration of excess Alkali

orally  
I/V

- ⇒ Renal dysfunction – Prevents Bicarb excretion
- ⇒ Associated electrolyte dysfunction (Chloride depletion)
- ⇒ Over enthusiastic use of I/V soda Bicarb
- ⇒ Corticosteroid therapy
  - Adrenocortical hyperfunction
  - Aldosteronism
  - Well marked hypokalemia

# Metabolic Alkalosis

✎ Mental obtundation

✎ Seizures

✎ Cardiac dysfunction

✎ Cardiac arrhythmias

✎ Ventilation may be depressed

(secondary increase of  $p_a\text{CO}_2$ )

➤ Shifts  $\text{O}_2$  curve to left

➤  $\text{O}_2$  delivery to tissues.



Disastarous consequence.

# Management

✂ Almost always → chloride responsive

✂ Replacement by N saline

✂ Hypokalemia → KCL

✂ Mineralocorticoid excess → Aldactone

Formula – Chloride deficit

$$= 0.27 \times \text{wt} \times (100 - \text{measured})$$

Volume of saline in Lit = Cl deficit



# Use of HCL

Rare instances When Alkalosis not corrected

⇒ Saline

⇒ K<sup>+</sup> replacement

0.1 N HCL Soln Used

Infusion – 0.2meq/K/hr

⇒ Very dangerous

⇒ Thrombophlebitis

⇒ Continuous arterio venous hemofiltration

THANK YOU