



Renal Block

Physiology Team

3rd Lecture

Renal clearance

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- **In average adult renal blood flow** to both kidneys = 1.1l/min (or RBF= 22-25% of cardiac output) which is considered high compared to their size.

- **To measure RBF: an organic acid** (containing carbon) which is called paraaminohippurate acid PAH is used.

- **the reason why PAH was chosen for measuring RBF** is that In one renal circulation/min PAH is almost completely removed from the plasma & excreted in urine (i.e. about 90% of PAH is removed by the kidney in one renal circulation).

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Clearance of PAH = $\frac{[U]_{PAH} \times V \text{ min}}{[P]_{PAH}} = 630 \text{ ml/min} = \text{RPF (renal plasma flow)}$

U: urine PAH **P:** plasma PAH **V:** urine volume
Clearance of PAH means excretion of it.

- **renal blood flow (RBF)** = plasma flow / plasma volume × 100
= 700/55 × 100 = 1.2 l/min

- **Actual renal plasma flow (RPF)** = ERPF/ extraction ratio
= 630 / 90 * 100 = 700ml/min

- **RBF** = $\frac{\text{RAP} - \text{RVP}}{\text{Total Renal vascular pressure}}$ (the doctor said it's not imp.)

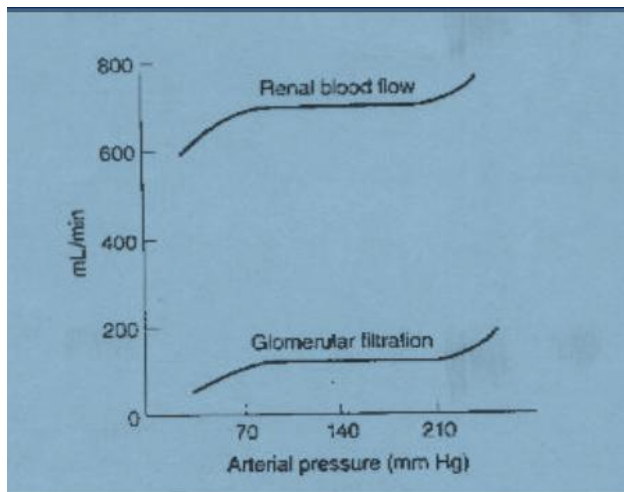
Auto-regulation:-

Feedback mechanism to keep RBF and GFR relatively constant even if marked changes in ABP occurred, it can perform regulation if the pressure is still within 75-160 mmHg ABP. However if BP drops to 60 mmHg → ↓ blood flow to glomeruli → ↓ GFR → kidneys shut down (acute renal injury).

And if BP raises to more than 210 mmHg → damage GFR → leak of proteins in urine.

Changes in diameter of afferent, efferent and glomerular capillaries:-

- drop pressure results in dilation of afferent arteriole, dilation of glomerular capillaries and constriction of efferent arteriole, the mechanism is not known but it results in ↑ GFR (notice that the drop in pressure must not decrease more than 60, otherwise GFR will ↓).
- Rises in pressure results in constriction of afferent arteriole only.



GFR & RBF remain constant in range of 70 – 210 mmHg

GFR regulation :

There are 3 mechanisms control GFR :

- 1- Renal autoregulation
- 2- Neural control
- 3- Rennin-angiotensin system (hormonal mechanism)

■ Renal Autoregulation

1- intrinsic factors:

- myogenic :

- The ability of blood vessels to resist stretching by recoiling.
- \uparrow Hydrostatic pressure \rightarrow stretching vessel's wall \rightarrow reflex contraction (recoil)
- Reducing the increase in BP and increase GFR

- **tubuloglomerular feedback** : senses change in the Juxtaglomerular apparatus

- \downarrow GFR will cause slow blood flow which will \uparrow NaCl reabsorption $\rightarrow \downarrow$ NaCl in filtrate

- **macula densa senses the low Na and stimulates:**

1. \uparrow rennin $\rightarrow \uparrow$ Angiotensin II \rightarrow efferent vasoconstriction $\rightarrow \uparrow$ GFR
2. Afferent dilation $\rightarrow \uparrow$ GFR

GFR is autoregulated by tubuloglomerular feedback :

afferent arteriolar vasodilator feedback mechanism :

- decrease ionic concentration causes afferent arteriolar dilation
 - \rightarrow increase blood flow
 - \rightarrow increase glomerular pressure
 - \rightarrow increase GFR

efferent arterioles vasoconstrictor :

- low concentration of ions causes Juxtaglomerular cells to release renin
 - \rightarrow angiotensin II
 - \rightarrow constrict efferent arterioles and that will lead to **increase** glomerular pressure \rightarrow GFR will return back normal

2- extrinsic factors :

sympathetic innervations. Angiotensin II and nitric oxide “NO”

■ Neural regulation :

Sympathetic :

- In normal conditions, the nervous system has little influence
- In cases of emergency stress, there will be a ↓ in BP due to hemorrhage which ↑ the sympathetic tone → vasoconstriction of all arteries including the renal artery → ↓ RBF → vasoconstriction of afferent artery → ↓ GFR

Note : SNS also stimulates renin-angiotensin mechanism

■ Hormonal

Renin angiotensin mechanism :

- Renin release is stimulated by:
 - ↓ ECF Na → ↓ ECV
 - hypotension → ↑ sympathetic tone
 - ↓ in afferent pressure
- Renin acts on Angiotensinogen converting it to Angiotensin I
- Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) converts Angiotensin I to Angiotensin II (vasoconstrictor) so it increases the BP.
- Angiotensin II act on adrenal cortex and stimulates aldosterone secretion, which acts on the kidney to increase Na reabsorption in the distal & collecting duct of the nephron because of the low Na level in the blood.
- The kidney will increase the secretion of H⁺ and K⁺ so more H⁺ and K⁺ are available for exchange with Na, which will increase Na reabsorption.

| Regulation | Stimulated when | mechanism | Effect on GFR |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---------------|
| Angiotensin II | ↓ Blood Volume ↓ Blood Pressure | Constriction of : Afferent & Efferent arterioles | ↓ |
| Atrial Natriuretic peptide | Arterial wall stretch (due to blood Volume) | Relaxation of Mesangial cells Leading to ↑ filtration surface | ↑ |

↘ Hormonal factors **Decrease** GFR :

- Norepinephrine , Epinephrine
- Adrenaline, noradrenaline
- Endothelin
- Angiotensin II

↗ Hormonal factors **Increase** GFR :

- Endothelial-derived nitric oxide
- Prostaglandins
- bradykinin

Factors affecting GFR :

| Increase | Decrease |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ↑ Renal blood flow | ↑ Plasma colloid osmotic pressure |
| ↑ glomerular pressure | ↑ Bowman's capsule |
| ↑ Blood pressure | Afferent constriction |
| ↑ Efferent constriction | Sympathetic stimulation |

Pathological Factors decrease the glomerular filtration rate :

- Renal diseases , diabetes mellitus , hypertension
- Urinary tract obstruction (Kidney stones)
- Decreased renal blood flow , increased plasma proteins
- Decreased arterial pressure (small effect)
- Decreased angiotensin II (due to drugs that block it's formation)
- Increased sympathetic activity , vasoconstrictor hormones

Clearance :

Concept of clearance:

It is the volume of plasma completely cleared of any substance by both kidneys per unit time.

Clearance equation:

$$C = U_s \times V / P_s$$

$$P_s \times C_s = U_s \times V$$

[P]_s = conc. of substance in plasma.

[U]_s = conc. of substance in urine.

V = volume of urine

amount of S excreted = filtered – reabsorbed – secreted

- **Renal clearance for different substances varies between 0 – 600 mL/min.**
 - It is 0 mL/min when the substance is not cleared into urine.
 - 600 mL/min is the maximum in plasma
- **Clearance of Inulin: 120 ml/min = GFR.**
- **Clearance of PAH = 630 ml/min.**

Inulin Clearance & GFR:

- The amount of inulin cleared = GFR
- **As inulin is:**
 1. Freely filtered.
 2. Not reabsorbed or secreted.

(Filtered inuline = excreted inuline)

- Inulin clearance = GFR = 120 ml/min

Creatinine clearance & GFR: *(simpler than inulin)*

- Creatinine is an endogenous substance used routinely to measure GFR.
- Completely filtered, but secreted in small quantity.
- Inverse relationship between GFR & plasma level of Creatinine.

Note: in the labs they don't measure inulin because it is a synthesis substance. So it must be injected. Creatinine is the best substance to be measured.

Glucose & Urea clearance:

- Renal clearance of glucose = zero (does not appear in urine) It is filtered & completely reabsorbed.
- Glucose is filtered and then completely reabsorbed, so no glucose in urine
- $[U]_s \times V_{min} = \text{zero}$.
- Urea clearance = 60 ml/min.
- Urea filtered is partially reabsorbed.

Inulin clearance Vs. clearance of other substance:

There are 4 possibilities of filtration in a normal person:

- 1- Freely filtered, not reabsorbed, not secreted. **Ex. : Inulin**
- 2- Freely filtered, all reabsorbed, not secreted. **Ex. : Glucose**
- 3- Freely filtered, partially reabsorbed, not secreted. **Ex. : Urea**
- 4- Freely filtered, not reabsorbed, secreted. **Ex. : creatinine**

| substance clearance | possibilities of filtration | Example |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 120 = inulin | not reabsorbed or secreted | Creatinine |
| < 120 | filtered & partially reabsorbed | urea |
| > 120 | filtered & secreted | Para amine, puric acid |
| = 0 | filtered and completely reabsorbed | Glucose |