

# **Renal Blood flow; Renal Clearance**

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# Objectives

**At the end of this lecture student should be able to describe:**

- **Renal blood flow**
- **Autoregulation of GFR and RBF**
- **Regulation of GFR**
- **The Calculation of Clearance**

# Renal Blood flow

- **In average adult RBF = 1.1l/min**
- **PAH an organic acid used for measurement of RBF**
- **In one renal circulation/min PAH is almost completely removed from the plasma & excreted in urine**
- **PAH clearance = volume of plasma cleared from PHA/min = RPF/min**

# Calculation of renal blood flow

- RPF= the amount of a PAH excreted per unit time
- ~ 90% of PAH in arterial blood is removed by the kidney
- Clearance of PAH =  $\frac{[U]_{\text{PAH}} \times V_{\text{min}}}{[P]_{\text{PAH}}} = 630\text{ml/min}$
- =effective renal plasma flow (ERPF)

# Calculation of renal blood flow *cont.*

- Actual renal plasma flow (RPF) = ERPF/ extraction ratio =  $630 / 90 * 100 = 700\text{ml/min}$
- Calculate the renal blood flow (RPF )  
=  $700/55 * 100 = 1.2 \text{ l/min}$
- OR
- RBF = 
$$\frac{\text{RAP} - \text{RVP}}{\text{Total Renal vascular pressure}}$$

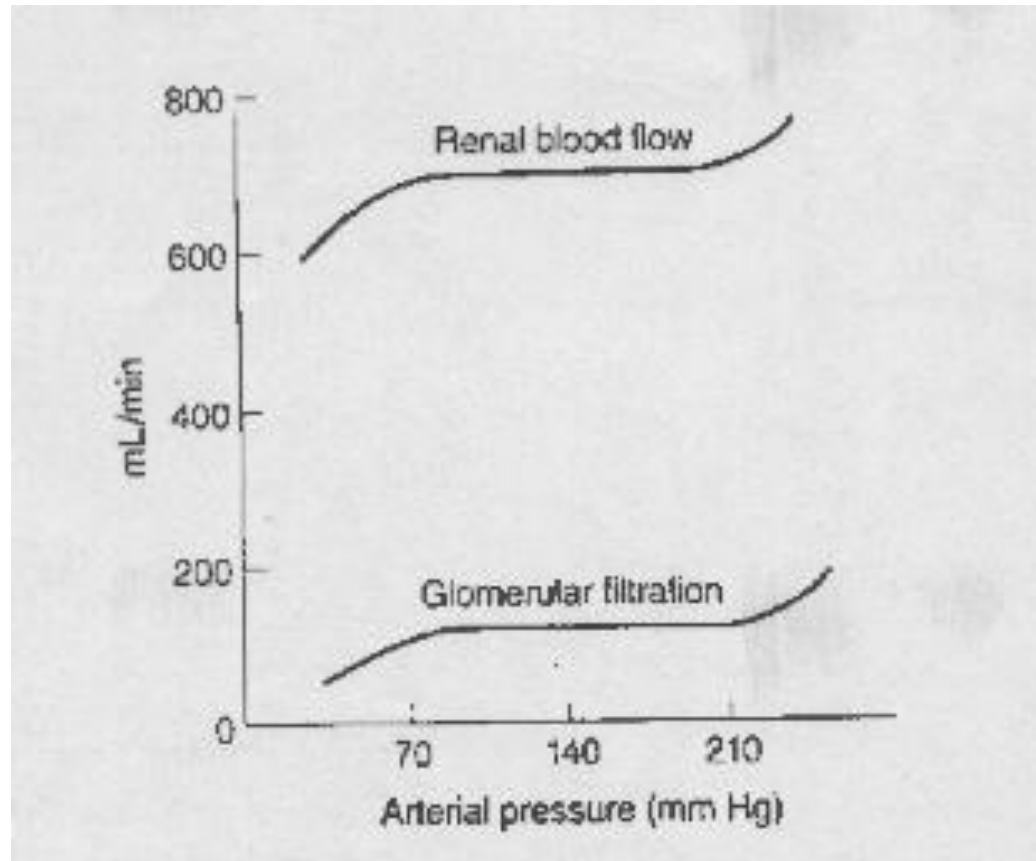
# Autoregulation

- **Feed back mechanism to keep RBF and GFR relatively constant despite marked changes in ABP**
- **Range of autoregulation is between 75-160 mmHg ABP**
- **< 60 mmHg → ↓ GFR → Kidney shut down**

# Autoregulation of GFR

- Changes diameters of afferent, efferent arteriole, and glomerular capillaries
  - drop pressure results in dilation of afferent arteriole, dilation of glomerular capillaries and constriction of efferent arteriole.
  - Rises in pressure results in constriction of afferent arteriole.

# Autoregulation of GFR & RBF





# Three processes controlling GFR

- 1. Myogenic autoregulation**
- 2. Hormonal regulation  
(tubuloglomerular & renin-angiotensin)**
- 3. Autonomic regulation (extrinsic)**

# 1. Myogenic autoregulation

- **The ability of blood vessels to resist stretching**
- **↑ hydrostatic Pressure → stretching vessels wall → reflex contraction**

## 2. Hormonal Regulation

- **Tubuloglomerular feedback**
- **Renin-angiotensin Aldsterone**
- **Other Hormones**

# Tubuloglomerular feedback

- **↓ GFR → slow flow → ↑ NaCl reabsorption → ↓ NaCl at macula densa:**
  - 1. ↑ renin → ↑ angiotensin II → efferent vasoconstriction → ↑ GFR**
  - 2. Afferent dilation → ↑ GFR ?**

# Renin-angiotensin Aldsterone

- Renin is released into plasma
  - low ECF Na or low ECV
  - ↑ sympathetic (hypotension)
  - ↓ afferent pressure
- Renin acts on angiotensinogen → Angiotensin I
- Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE): Angiotensin I → angiotensin II
- angiotensin II act on adrenal cortex → aldosterone secretion → ↑ Na reabsorption in distal & collecting duct of nephron
- ↑ H and K secretion in exchange for Na

# Other Hormonal Regulator of GFR

1. Adrenaline, noradrenaline → afferent vasoconstriction → ↓ GFR
2. Angiotensin II → Vasoconstriction of efferent → ↑ GFR
3. Prostaglandins, bradykinin afferent vasodilator → ↑ GFR

# Autonomic Regulation of GFR

- In normal condition Sympathetic NS has little influence on GFR
- ↓ BP (hemorrhage) → ↑ sympathetic → vasoconstriction of renal artery → ↓ RBF → vasoconstriction of afferent → ↓ GFR  
**TO DIVERT BLOOD TO VITAL ORGANS**

# Clearance

- volume of plasma completely cleared of a substance by both kidneys per unit time
- Clearance equation
  - $C = \frac{[U]_s \times V/\text{min}}{[P]_s} = \text{ml}/\text{min}$
- Renal clearance for different substances various between 0-600ml/min

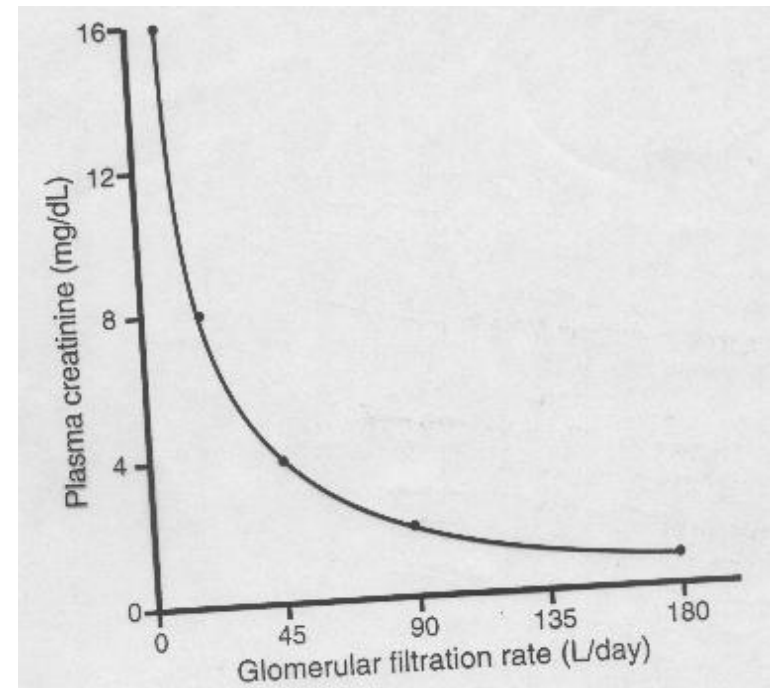


# Inulin clearance & GFR

- **120 ml/min**
- **As inulin is**
  - **freely filtered**
  - **not reabsorbed or secreted**
- **Inulin clearance = GFR**

# Creatinine clearance & GFR

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



# Glucose & urea clearance

- Renal clearance of glucose=zero
- Filtered, completely absorbed, no glucose in urine
- $[U]_g \times V_{\min} = \text{zero}$
- Urea clearance = 60 ml/min, urea filtered, partially reabsorbed

Inulin clearance vs.  
clearance of other substance (S)

- $C_x = \text{inulin clearance} \rightarrow$  Substance x is filtered but not absorbed or secreted
- $C_y < \text{inulin clearance} \rightarrow$  Substance y is filtered and partially absorbed
- $C_z > \text{inulin clearance} \rightarrow$  Substance z is filtered and secreted

# Summary

- 1. Renal blood flow**
- 2. Calculation of renal blood flow**
- 3. Autoregulation**
  - **Myogenic**
  - **Hormonal regulation (tubuloglomerular & renin-angiotensin)**
  - **Autonomic regulation**
- 4. Clearance**
  - 1. Inulin**
  - 2. Creatinine**
  - 3. Glucose & urea**