



Lactic acidosis

CVS block

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Objectives:

- Introduction to metabolic acid-base disorders
 - ✓ Metabolic acidosis and alkalosis
- Lactic acidosis
 - ✓ Definition
 - ✓ Lactate metabolism in tissue
 - ✓ Mechanisms involved in lactic acidosis
 - ✓ Types and causes of lactic acidosis
 - ✓ Diagnosis and treatment

abbreviations:

- Conc. : concentration [CONCENTRATION].
- ECF : Extra Cellular Fluid.
- HCO_3^- : bicarbonate.

Definitions:

- anions: a negatively charged ion.
- cations: a positively charged ion.

Metabolic acid-base disorders

Are due to changes in bicarbonate conc. In the ECF → caused by high conc. or loss Of H⁺ ions

	Metabolic alkalosis	Metabolic acidosis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased H⁺ • Elevated HCO₃⁻ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevated H⁺ • Decreased HCO₃⁻
Causes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of H⁺ in gastric fluid due to vomiting (the stomach is acidic). • Alkali (sodium bicarbonate) ingestion. • Potassium deficiency as a result of diuretic therapy (ex. Hypertension patients are given Diuretic drugs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impaired H⁺ excretion. • Increased H⁺ production or ingestion of drugs metabolized to acids. • Loss of HCO₃⁻
Occurs in		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renal disease • Diabetic ketoacidosis • Lactic acidosis • Chronic diarrhea • Poisoning • Renal tubular acidosis
Clinical effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypoventilation (depressed respiration) → Increases PCO₂ to compensate alkalosis. • Respiratory arrest • Confusion, coma, death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hyperventilation (stimulated respiration) (Kussmaul's respiration) → compensates acidosis by getting rid of CO₂. • Increased H⁺ conc. stimulates respiratory response. • Arrhythmia, cardiac arrest • Loss of consciousness, coma, death

Anion Gap

- It is the difference between the sum of: Na⁺ and K⁺ (cations) and the sum of Cl⁻ and HCO₃⁻ (anions)
- Helps in assessing acid-base problems
- Normal anion gap: 3-11 mEq/L
- High anion gap: >11 mEq/L (acidosis)
- Low anion gap: <3 mEq/L (alkalosis)

$$AG = [Na^+] - \{ [Cl^-] + [HCO_3^-] \}$$

Lactic acidosis

- **Elevated conc. of plasma lactate.**
- Occurs either due to:
 - ✓ Failure of circulatory system (hypoxia) (type A).
 - ✓ Disorders of carbohydrate metabolism (type B).
- body produces ~ 1500 mmoles per day.
- The lactate enters blood stream and is metabolized mainly by the liver (Cori cycle)(60%) and kidney (30%) to glucose.
- Some lactate is metabolized to CO₂ and water (Krebs cycle).
- All tissues can produce lactate under **anaerobic** conditions but skeletal muscles produce high amounts during strong exercises.
- Pyruvate is converted to lactate by lactate dehydrogenase enzyme.
- Lactic acidosis can occur due to:
 - ✓ Excessive tissue lactate production.
 - ✓ Impaired hepatic metabolism of lactate.

lactic acidosis



TYPE A

- **Due to hypoxia in tissues** (most common), anaerobic exercise, and cardiovascular problems.
- Hypoxia causes impaired oxidative phosphorylation and decreased ATP synthesis
- To survive, the cells switch to anaerobic glycolysis for ATP synthesis
- This produces lactate as a final product
- The amount of oxygen required to recover from oxygen deficiency (hypoxia) is called **oxygen debt**
- **Causes of hypoxia:**
 - ✓ Myocardial infarction (caused by ischemia of the coronary artery leading to hypoxia that will eventually lead to anaerobic metabolism and production of lactate).
 - ✓ Pulmonary embolism
 - ✓ Uncontrolled hemorrhage
 - ✓ Tissue hypoperfusion (shock, cardiac arrest, acute heart failure, etc.)
 - ✓ Anaerobic muscular exercise

TYPE B

- **Due to disorders in carbohydrate metabolism**
- Examples of type B:
- ✓ Congenital lactic acidosis is due to deficiency of pyruvate dehydrogenase enzyme.
 - ✓ Chronic hepatic disease accompanied by shock or bleeding
 - ✓ Liver failure
 - ✓ Drug intoxication

DIAGNOSIS

- measuring blood lactate levels

Hyperlactemia: 2 – 5 mmols/L

Severe lactic acidosis: > 5 mmols/L

TREATMENT

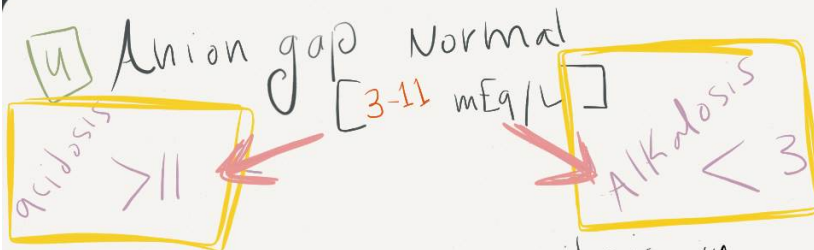
- Correcting the underlying conditions
- Restoring adequate tissue oxygen
- Avoid sodium bicarbonate, because it's a weak alkaloid and it will also affect the phosphofructokinase enzyme that increases the production of lactic acid.
- For type A we should use O₂ ventilation for treatment to compensate for the hypoxia.

Two things that are important in the diagnosis:

- How high the level of lactate in the blood.
- How fast it is going.

Summary

- ① Changes in HCO_3^- conc in ECF cause acid-Base Disorders.
- ② \downarrow of HCO_3^- in ECF due to $\uparrow \text{H}^+$ clinical effect \rightarrow Hyperventilation.
- ③ \uparrow of HCO_3^- in ECF due to $\downarrow \text{H}^+$ and ingestion of sodium Bicarbonate clinical effect \rightarrow Hypoventilation.



- ⑤ We can see acidosis in many cases EX: Chronic Diarrhea.
- ⑥ \uparrow lactate conc in plasma called Lactic acidosis due to carbohydrate metabolism \rightarrow Hypoxia Disorders.
- ⑦ Body tissue produce 1500 mmoles of lactate per day.
- ⑧ Lactate Metabolism \rightarrow 60% liver, 30% kidney. Some metabolized to CO_2 & H_2O in Krebs cycle.
- ⑨ Hyperlactemia 2-5 mmoles/L. Severe lactic acidosis > 5 mmoles/L.
- ⑩ We can Treat lactic acidosis by Restoring adequate O_2 .

QUIZ YOURSELF!!

1- A FEMALE WAS PRESENTED WITH A CASE OF IMPAIRED RENAL FUNCTION, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS A COMPLICATION ?

- A- METABOLIC ACIDOSIS
- B- METABOLIC ALKALOSIS
- C- DIABETES

2- WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS RELATED TO HYPOXIA?

- A- TYPE A LACTIC ACIDOSIS
- B- TYPE B LACTIC ACIDOSIS
- C- TYPE C LACTIC ACIDOSIS

3- WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS A MECHANISM IN DIAGNOSING LACTIC ACIDOSIS?

- A- MEASURING LACTATE IN URINE
- B- MEASURING LACTATE IN BLOOD
- C- MEASURING LACTATE IN CSF

4- TYPE B LACTIC ACIDOSIS IS A COMPLICATION OF?

- A- DISORDERS IN PROTEIN METABOLISM
- B- DISORDERS IN GLUCOSE METABOLISM
- C- DISORDERS IN CARBOHYDRATE METABOLISM

5- WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS A MECHANISM IN TREATING LACTIC ACIDOSIS?

- A- TREATING THE UNDERLYING CAUSE.
- B- ISOLATION OF THE PATIENT.
- C- PRESCRIBE ANTIBIOTICS.

ANS: 1- A

2- A

3- B

4- C

5- A



Good luck



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