

Biochemistry  
Team 434

# ***Lactic Acidosis***

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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

## Color index:

- Important
- Explanation
- Extra Notes

### Abbreviations:

ECF=Extracellular Fluid  
Conc.=Concentration.  
HCO<sub>3</sub>=Bicarbonate Ions.  
Cations: positively charged.  
Anions: negatively charged.

# Metabolic acid-base disorders:

## Definition..?

Disorders happen due to changes in **bicarbonate** conc. in (ECF).

## Causes..?

Occur due to high conc. or loss of **H<sup>+</sup>** ions

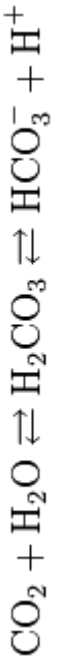
## Could lead to..?

- Metabolic acidosis
- Metabolic alkalosis\*

### WHY

### BICARBONATE??

because it's the main **physiological buffer**, which maintains PH and resist it's change. (high amount of H<sup>+</sup> will react with bicarbonate and will produce CO<sub>2</sub>.)



\*Discussed in next slide but,

Before you go through the next you should know the meaning of

### 1. Diabetic ketoacidosis:

There's insulin resistance, so instead of burning glucose, it burns fatty acids → ketone bodies → Acidosis.

### 2. Renal tubular acidosis:

Normally urine is alkaline, but in this case: high amount of Na enters and then K will get out of the cell, and also hydrogen ions will get out so it will not be excreted which leads to (acidosis).

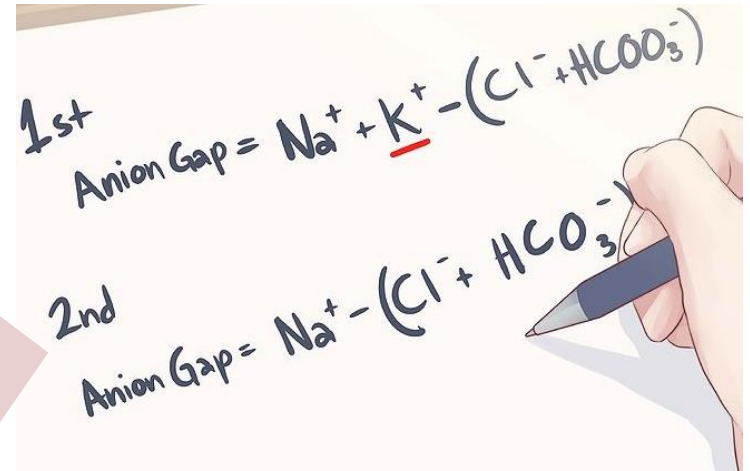
	Metabolic acidosis	Metabolic alkalosis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevated H<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>• Decreased HCO<sub>3</sub> in ECF.</li> <li>• Elevated K<sup>+</sup>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased H<sup>+</sup></li> <li>• Elevated HCO<sub>3</sub> in ECF.</li> <li>• Decreased K<sup>+</sup>.</li> </ul>
<b>Causes.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ↑production of H<sup>+</sup> ions.</li> <li>2. Impaired excretion of H<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>3. Ingestion of H<sup>+</sup> or drugs metabolized to acids.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Loss of H<sup>+</sup> ions in gastric fluid due to vomiting</li> <li>2. Ingestion of sodium bicarbonate.</li> <li>3. K<sup>+</sup> deficiency as a result of diuretic therapy.”to Hypertension patients”</li> </ol>
<b>In patients with..</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renal disease</li> <li>• <b>Diabetic ketoacidosis</b></li> <li>• Lactic acidosis</li> <li>• Chronic diarrhea</li> <li>• Poisoning</li> <li>• <b>Renal tubular acidosis</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Clinical effects..</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ↑H<sup>+</sup> conc. stimulates respiratory response.</li> <li>• <b>Hyperventilation</b> (stimulated respiration)<b>Deep, rapid, gasping respiration</b> (Kussmaul’s Respiration**) compensates acidosis by getting rid of CO<sub>2</sub>.</li> <li>• Arrhythmia, cardiac arrest</li> <li>• Loss of consciousness, coma, death.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hypoventilation</b> ( depressed respiration) → ↑PCO<sub>2</sub> to compensate alkalosis.</li> <li>• Respiratory arrest</li> <li>• Confusion, coma, death</li> </ul>

# Anion gap

- It is the difference between the sum of:  
 $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{K}^+$  (**cations**) and the sum of  $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  (**anions**)

## Importance:

Helps in assessing acid-base problems



2<sup>nd</sup>: calculating  $\text{K}^+$  is not that important so we excluded it, because it's found in a really small amount, even if its level changes it doesn't make any difference

Low anion gap:  $<3$  mEq/L (alkalosis)

Normal anion gap: 3-11 mEq/L

High anion gap:  $>11$  mEq/L (acidosis)

# Only to recap 😊:

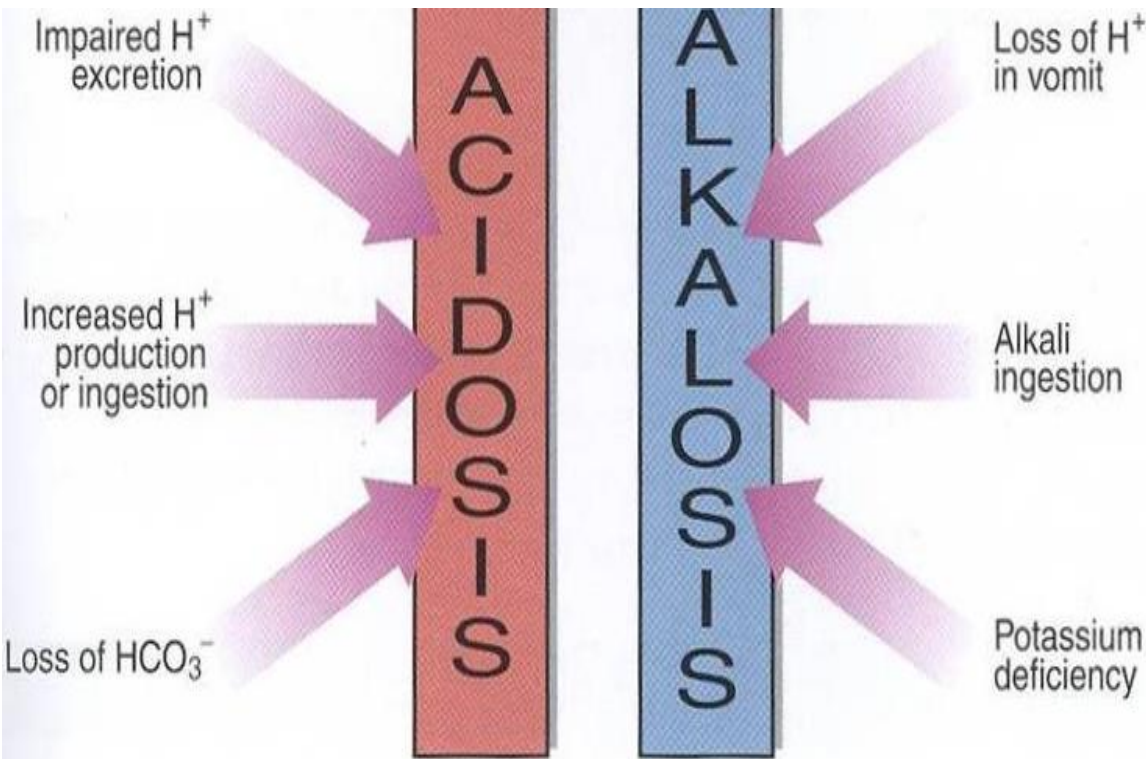


Fig. 3 Reasons for metabolic acidosis and alkalosis.

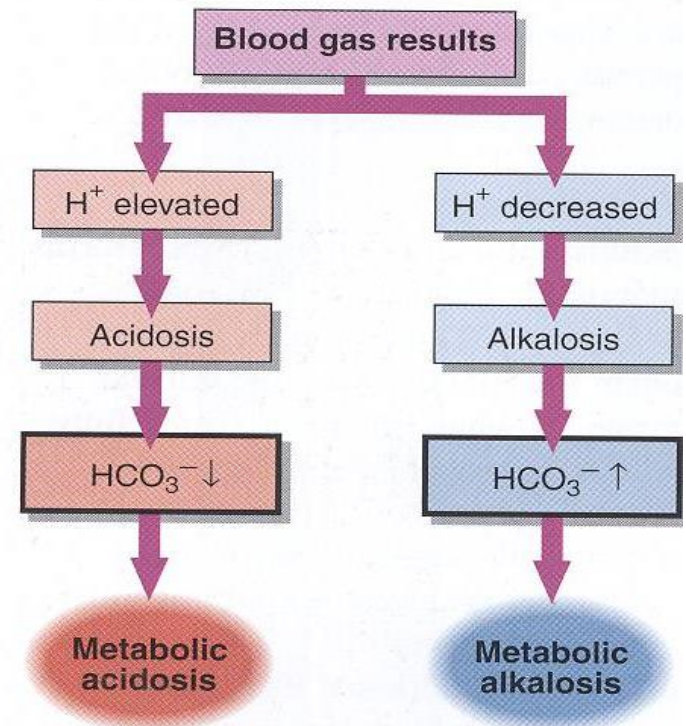
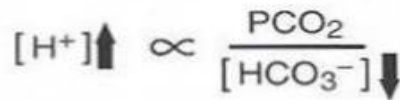


Fig. 1 Recognizing primary metabolic acid-base disorders by inspecting the  $HCO_3^-$  concentration.

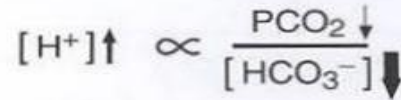
Different ways in different systems to maintain normal PH:

PH =  $\frac{HCO_3^-}{PCO_2}$  metabolic part  
PCO<sub>2</sub> respiratory part  
Also, PH = - log (H ions)

### Metabolic acidosis

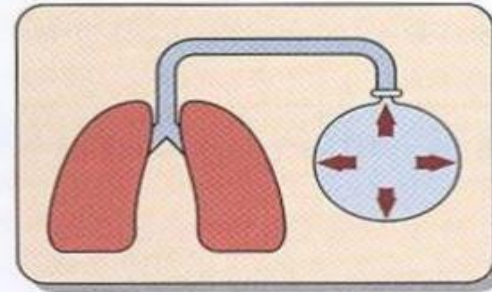


Acidosis develops

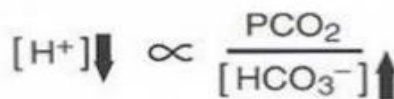


Respiratory compensation occurs quickly

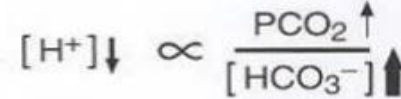
Increased ventilation



### Metabolic alkalosis

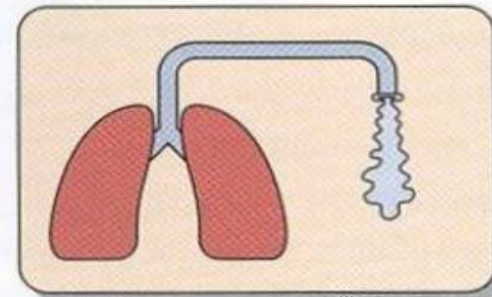


Alkalosis develops

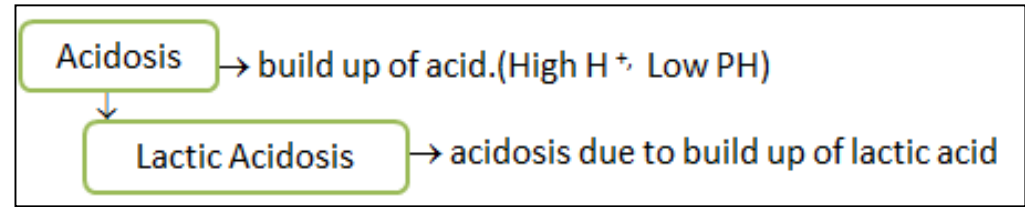


Respiratory compensation occurs quickly

Decreased ventilation



# Lactic Acidosis



## Definition..?

Elevated conc. of plasma **lactate** is called lactic acidosis. It's a type of metabolic acidosis

Increasing Lactic acid →decreases **Oxygen** in tissue

## Causes..?

1. Failure of circulatory system (hypoxia)
2. Disorders of carbohydrate metabolism

## Metabolism of lactic acid..?

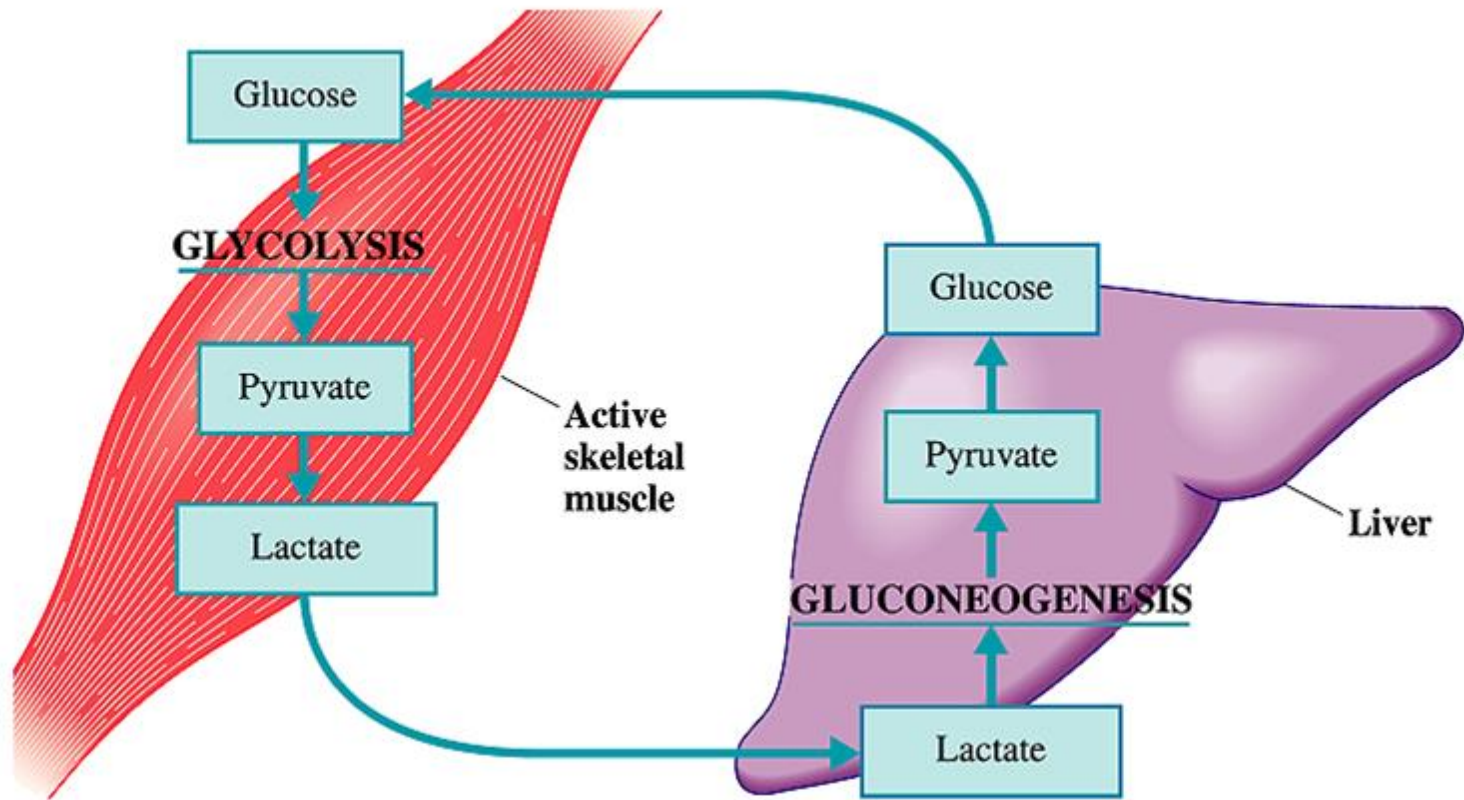
During vigorous exercise

- Lactate is metabolized in liver (60%) \* and kidney (30%) to glucose(Cori cycle). See next slide.
- Some lactate is metabolized to CO<sub>2</sub> and water (Krebs cycle).

\* Lactate is mainly metabolized in liver



# Cori Cycle



*Lactate dehydrogenase*



# Mechanisms involved in lactic acidosis

Lactic acidosis can occur due to:

1. Excessive tissue lactate **production**.
2. Impaired **hepatic** metabolism of lactate. It will not be converted to our friend glucose.

## Types of lactic acidosis:

1. Type A (Most common)
2. Type B

# Type A



Due to **HYPOXIA** in tissues (most common).

Hypoxia→impaired oxidative phosphorylation→  
↓ATP synthesis.

To survive, the cells switch to anaerobic glycolysis for ATP synthesis→**Lactate** as the final product.

The amount of oxygen required to recover from oxygen deficiency is called **oxygen debt**.

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Due to inadequate supply of oxygen to tissues in:

- Myocardial infarction.
- Pulmonary embolism.
- Uncontrolled hemorrhage.
- Tissue hypoperfusion (shock, cardiac arrest, acute heart failure, etc.).
- Anaerobic muscular exercise.

# Type B



**NOT** due to hypoxia

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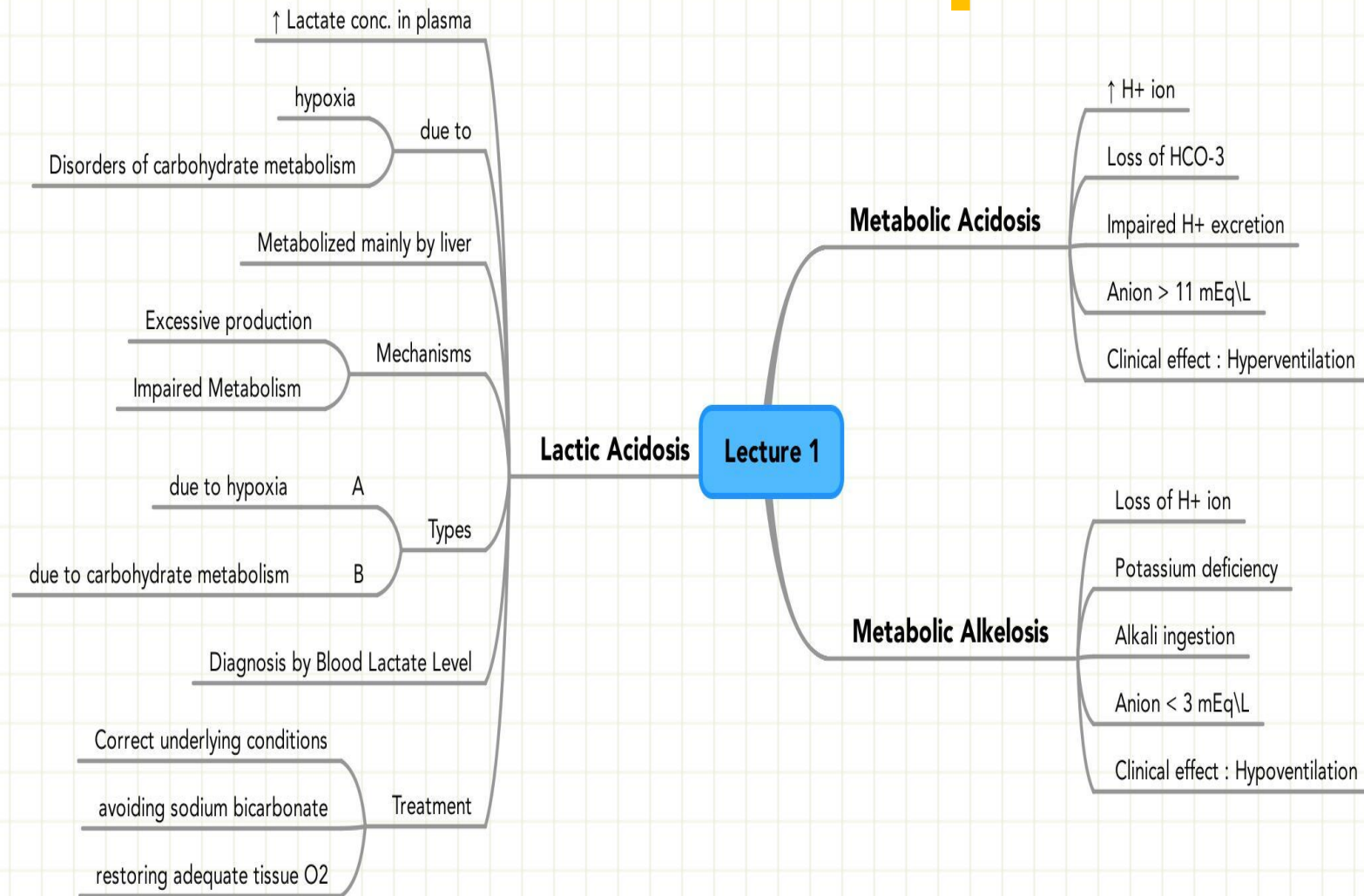
Due to

- Disorders in carbohydrate metabolism.
- Congenital lactic acidosis is due to deficiency of pyruvate dehydrogenase enzyme.
- Chronic hepatic disease accompanied by shock or bleeding.
- Liver failure.
- Drug intoxication.

# Diagnosis and treatment

- **Diagnosis done by measuring blood lactate levels:**
  - ❖ Hyperlactemia: 2 – 5 mmols/L
  - ❖ Severe lactic acidosis: > 5 mmols/L
- **Treatment:**
  - ❖ Correcting the underlying conditions
  - ❖ Restoring adequate tissue oxygen
  - ❖ Avoiding sodium bicarbonate

# Mind map



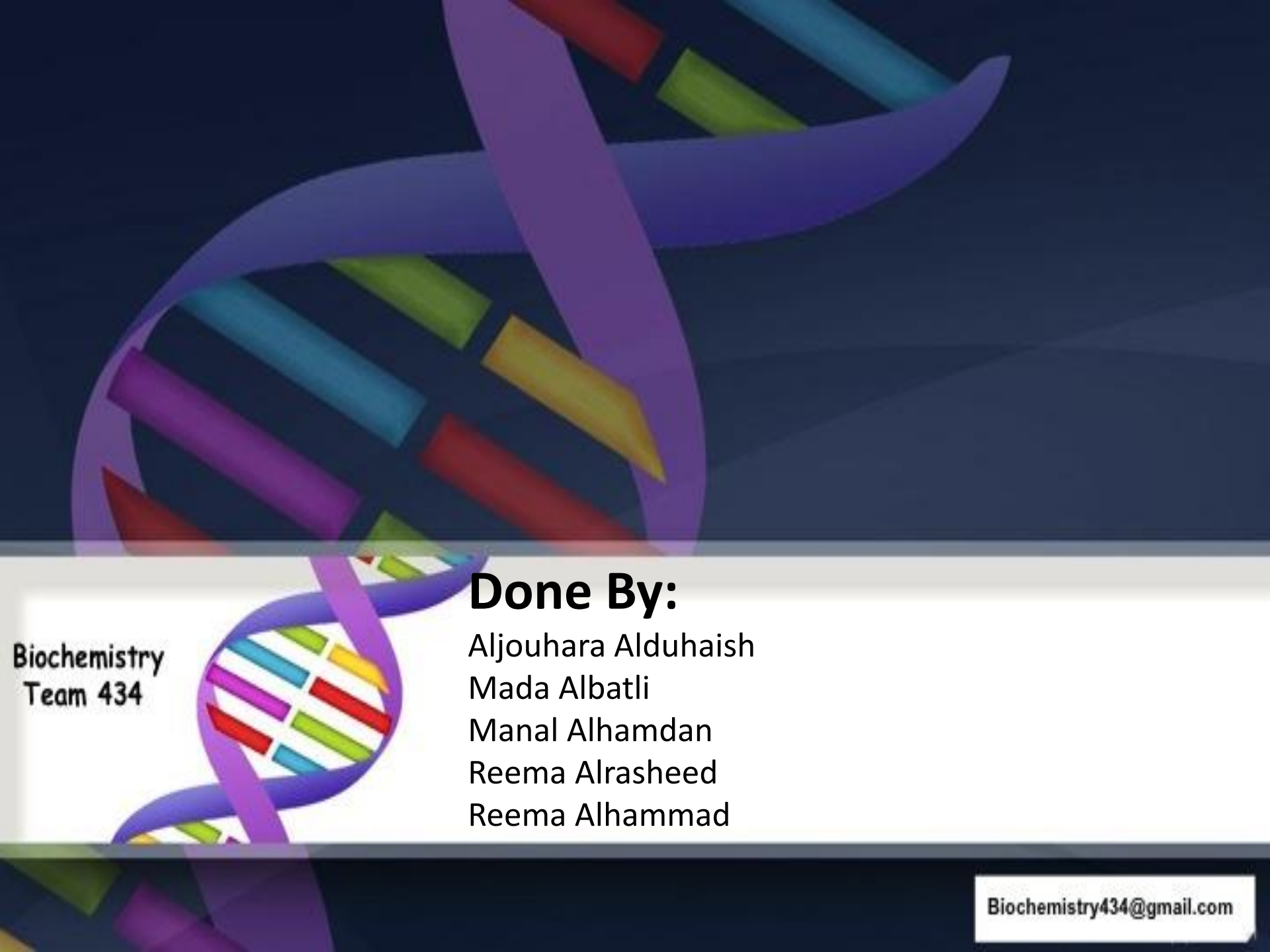
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVf0RXpW5c0>

# MCQs:

Now let's check your understanding 😊

- **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 UNDERLAYING CAUSE.
- B- ISOLATION OF THE PATIENT.
- C- PRESCRIBE ANTIBIOTICS.

1- A.2- A .3- B .4- C .5- A



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