

# Pathophysiology of water and ion metabolism

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# Sudden disaster on a Sunday afternoon .....

- 84 years old female, admitted to hospital 12 days earlier because she had had diarrhoea for 3 days
- On admission she looked volume depleted, had low BP (90/50 mmHg)
- Laboratory results: Hgb 9,86 g<sup>0</sup>%, serum Na 134 mmol/l, K 3,0 mmol/l, BUN 21,9 mmol/l, creatinine 182 umol/l
- She got 0,9% NaCl infusion+KCl for 3 days the BP normalized (118/59 mmHg), the labs: Na 141 mmol/l, K 3,6 mmol/l, BUN 4,1 mmol/l, creatinine 86 umol/l
- The gastroenterology team decided to go on with GI work up in order to look for the cause of anemia

# Sudden disaster on a Sunday afternoon .....

- Scheduled for colonoscopy on Monday (plan to preparing by Fleet enema on Sunday evening)
- Instruction by the nurse on Sunday morning: „no solid food to eat, only fluids to dring”
- On Sunday morning – complaints free, ambulating, „looked nervous”
- In the afternoon: she suddenly lost her consciousness, had a convulsion, did not respond even to pain, had uncoordinated movements in all her extremities. Repeatedly vomited.

# Sudden disaster on a Sunday afternoon .....

- Urgent labwork: serum Na 117 mmol/l, K 2,9 mmol/l, BUN 2,4 mmol/l, cretinine 98 umol/l
- Urinary osmolality 431 mOsm/kg, urinary Na 164 mmol/l, K 44 mmol/l hrs, 900 ml/12 hrs
- Brain CT:
  - no major abnormality can be seen
- She remained unconscious in the next day:  
Neurological examination:
  - no primary neurological abnormality,EEG: diffuse functional cortical abnormality

# Sudden disaster on a Sunday afternoon .....

- Why was she mildly hyponatremic on admission?
- Why had she severe hyponatremia 12 days later?
- What do you think about the urinary osmolality of 431 mOsm/kg?
- And about the urinary Na of 164 mmol/l?
- What is your suggestion for treatment on the day of admission?
- What would you give on the 12th day? How much?

# Hyponatremia

**ADH secretion + Water intake**

**Both need to be present**

**Why ???**

Why is ADH secreted in spite of hypoosmolality?

Where does the water coming from?

**Is this an acute or a chronic condition?**

# ADH secretion

- In physiologic conditions
  - increased osmolality
  - increased serum Na
- In pathophysiologic conditions
  - stress, anxiety, pain, fever, nausea, vomiting
  - severe hypovolemia due to
    - fluid loss
    - diuretic use
  - effective volume depletion
  - SIADH
  - medications

# Treatment on the first day

- The major stimulus for ADH was the volume depletion
- 0,9 % NaCl infusion shuts off the stimulus for ADH secretion
- How do you know this?  
The high osmolality urine (evidence for ADH secretion) changes to less concentrated urine
  - the patient becomes able to excrete free water
  - the low serum osmolality and low serum Na are increasing and get normalized
- Hypertonic Na infusion is unnecessary

# Treatment on the 12th day

- Acute, severe hyponatremia, causing convulsion, coma, vomiting → very likely cerebral edema
- Urine osmolality: 431 mOsm/kg means - strong influence of ADH
- Urine Na: 164 mmol/l means - no volume depletion
- Treatment: 3% NaCl infusion
- How much?

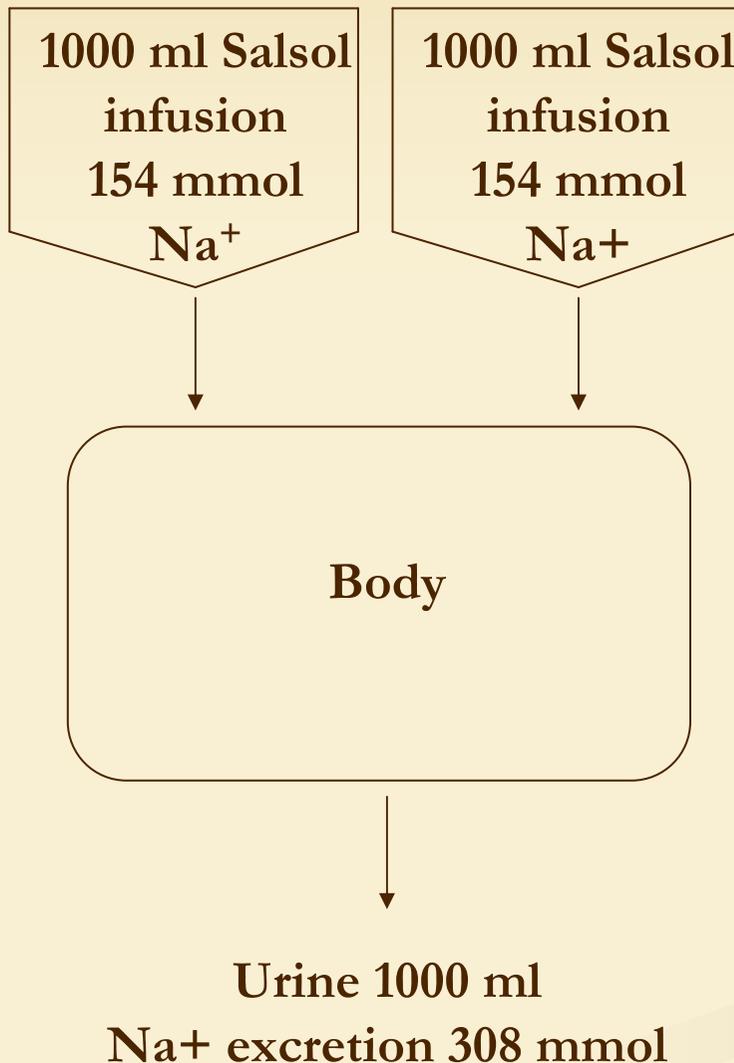
# Treatment on the 12th day

- Weight of the patient: 72 kg. Body water: 42 l  
In order to elevate her serum Na by 1 mmol/l, she needs 42 mmol Na  
In order to elevate serum her Na by 5 mmol/l, she needs 210 mmol Na  
It means 408 ml of 3% NaCl infusion
- Follow urinary Na loss and replace it
- Check electrolytes frequently

# Treatment on the 12th day

- She got 300 ml 3 % NaCl infusion (154 mmol) and 4 g KCl
- 4 hours later serum Na 119 mmol/l, K 3,2 mmol/l
- During Sunday night 300 ml 3 % NaCl infusion (154 mmol) and 4 g KCl
- On Monday morning 300 ml 3 % NaCl infusion (154 mmol)
- In 24 hours: serum Na 130 mmol/l, K 3,9 mmol/l
- Urinary losses in 24 hrs: 230 mmol Na and 62 mmol K
- In summary she got 462 mmol Na
- Next day: serum Na 134 mmol/l, she regained consciousness
- Two days later: serum Na 140 mmol/l

# Generation of EFW - Desalination



## Balance:

Water intake: 2000 ml

Na<sup>+</sup> intake 308 mmol

Excreted free water: 1000 ml

Excreted Na<sup>+</sup>: 308 mmol

No reason to retain NaCl

Persistent ADH action: 1 L electrolyte free water is retained in the body, which causes hyponatremia

# What are the most frequent causes of hyponatremia?

*Clayton et al. Q.J.Med 2006*

- Hyponatremia was found in 108 of the 9622 patients admitted to internal medicine department in 6 months
- Etiology
  - **Thiazide diuretics** - 29 cases
  - **Congestive heart failure** - 27 cases
  - **Liver cirrhosis** - 21 cases
  - In further cases: volume depletion, medications, malignancies, lung- and cerebral diseases, hypothyroidism, Addison disease, hypoNa postoperatively, primary polydipsia and chronic renal failure
- During the hospitalization 20% of the patients died

# „Thiazides: do they kill?“

P.Gross, C.Palm, NDT 2005

- Our case: 69 yrs female, in her past medical history:
  - 1990. Resection of malignant lung tumor,
  - For 2 years hypertension, osteoporosis
  - Meds: indapamide, aspirin, carvedilol, vitamin D, Calcium suppl.
- 2008. october
  - dizziness, headache, unsteadiness, repeated falls
  - Once she invited guests, treated them, made conversation, but later did not remember these events
- SeNa    oct. 3.    141,                    dec.19. 126,  
                  oct.29. 119,                    febr.20. 120 mmol/l.  
                  nov.17. 124,

# Our case...

- Tests because of her hyponatremia (oct-febr):
  - head CT, 2x head MRI, neurosurgical consultation (some traumatic contusions)
  - chest XR and CT, mammography, abdominal US, carotid art. doppler scan, neurological examination
- Modification of the therapy:
  - Indapamide changed to ramipril+hydrochlorothiazide
  - Increased salt and fluid (!) intake suggested (although the patient did not wish to drink much)
- Febr. 20. Nephrology consultation: discontinue the thiazide, continue increased salt intake but limit fluid intake
- March 10. Free of complaints - SeNa 140 mmol/l.

# Risk factors for thiazid-induced hyponatremia

*Chow et al. Q.J. Med 2003*

- Between 1996-2002 223 thiazide caused hyponatremic patients were observed
- SeNa: 98-128 mmol/l (mean  $116 \pm 7$  mmol/l)
- Average length of treatment 1-4479 day! (mean 105 day)
  - 42,8% indapamide, 15,4% HCT+triamterene
  - 16,1% HCT, 8,4% bendrofluazide
  - 17,3% HCT+amiloride,
- Thiazides were administered mainly for hypertension
- Risk factors for developing hyponatremia: age, low body weight, hypokalemia

# Pathomechanism of thiazid-induced hyponatremia

- In most cases ADH secretion could not be explained by volume depletion!
- When thiazide is taken, the medulla can achieve high concentration – little ADH is enough to produce concentrated urine
- Increased fluid intake due to increased thirstiness (?)
- Decreased salt intake –advised medically sec.to HTN (?)
- Activation of AQP-2 channels in cortical tubules due to thiazides – individual sensitivity (?)
- Decreased urinary dilution capacity in the elderly
- $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$  transcellular shift in hypokalemia

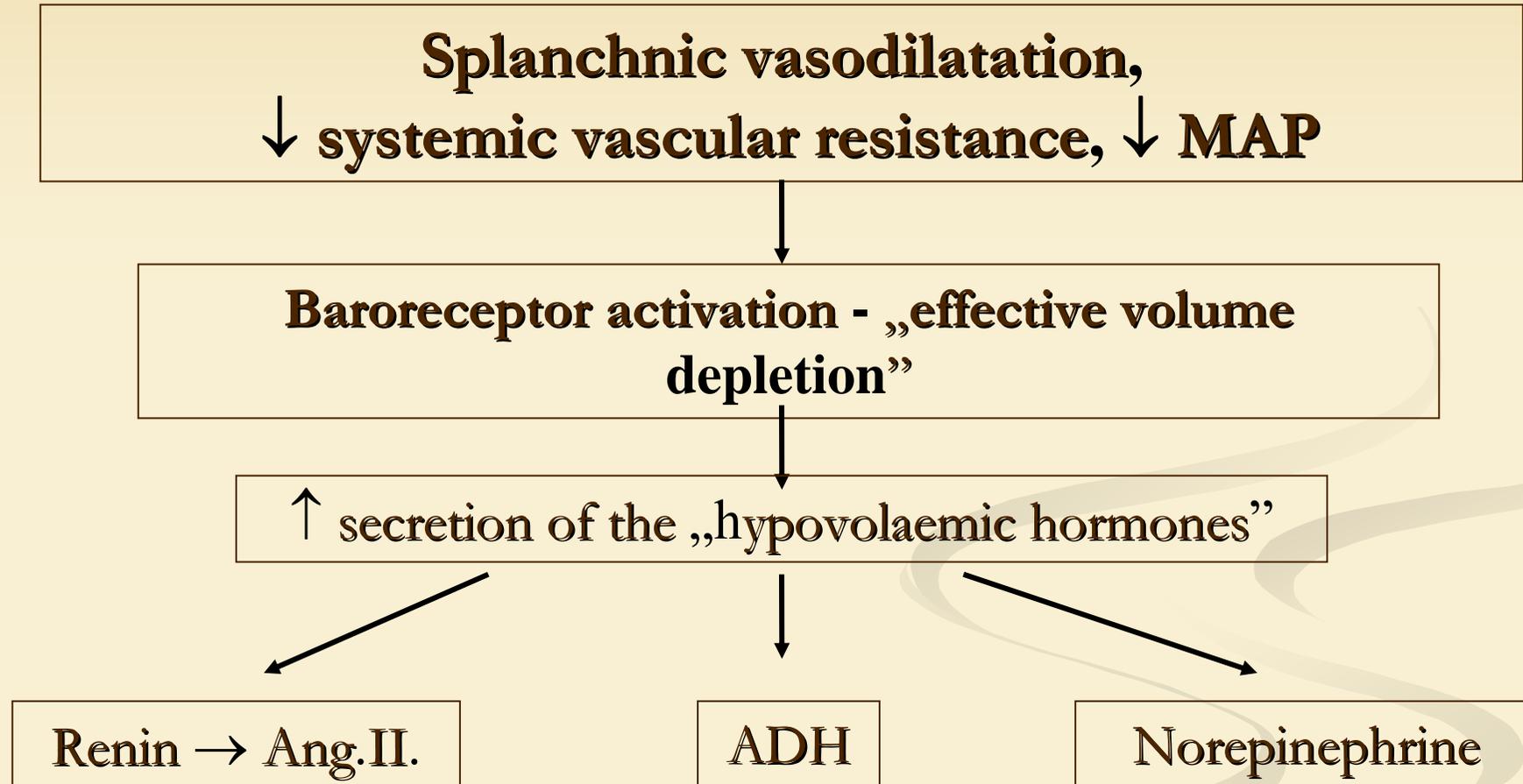
# Do cirrhotic patients need sodium in hyponatremia?

- 70 yrs old male, treated on an internal medicine department  
He is a regular alcohol drinker, has liver cirrhosis, oedema on the legs and huge ascites
- On admission: serum Na 132 mmol/l, K 4,2 mmol/l, BUN 5,7 mmol/l, creatinine 82 umol/l
- Initial treatment: 100 mg spironolactone, 160 mg furosemide, 50 mg ethacrynic acid, 50 mg hydrochlorothiazide, 3 g KCl
- In three days BW 115 → 111 kg, Na 132 → 125 mmol/l, creatinine 82 → 126 umol/l
- Treatment: furosemide discontinued, others continued, + 5 g NaCl in Ringer infusion

# Do cirrhotic patients need sodium in hyponatremia?

- In the next three days: BW → 120 kg, SeNa → 117 → 109 mmol/l, creatinine → 270 μmol/l,
- Even more NaCl given
- Consultation asked for nephrology service because oliguria, deteriorating renal functions: SeNa 112 mmol/l, K 3,8 mmol/l, BUN 8,8 mmol/l, creatinine 307 μmol/l  
Urinary Na excretion 2 mmol/day, K 8,6 mmol/day

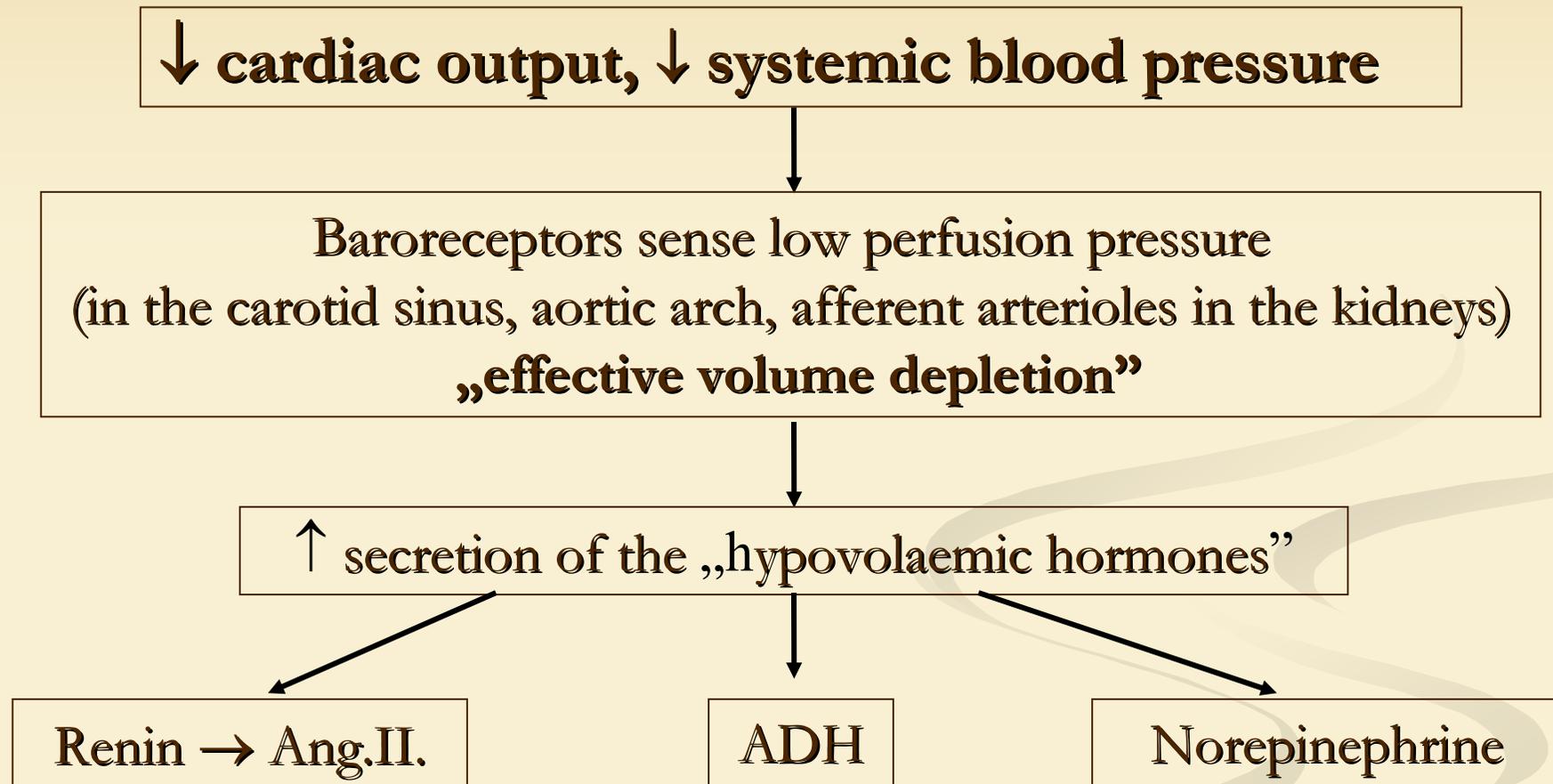
# Hyponatremia in cirrhotic patients



Other factors causing hyponatremia:

- overgenerous diuretic treatment
- too much fluid intake (e.g. Beer drinkers)

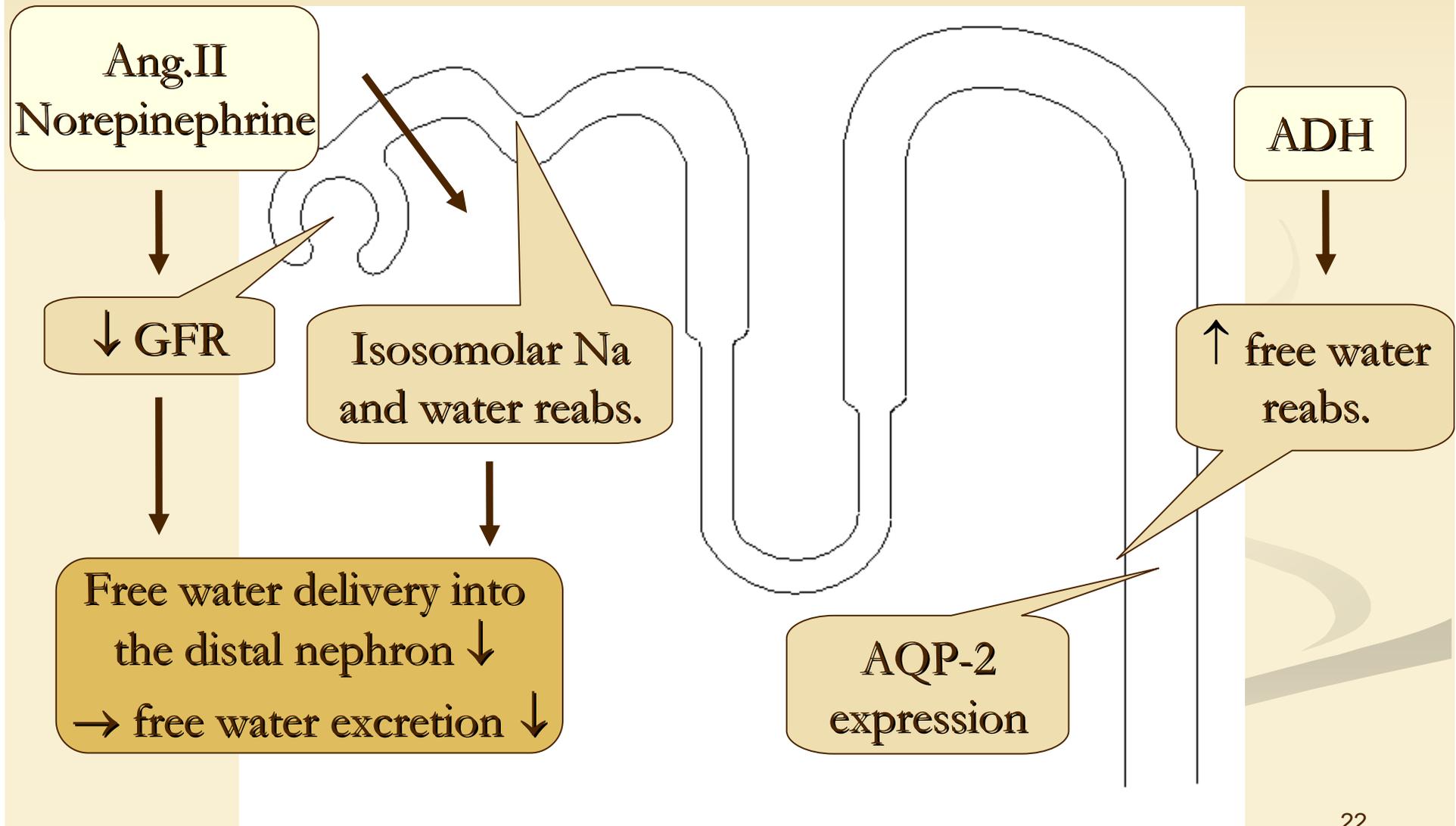
# Hyponatremia in congestive heart failure



Other factors causing hyponatremia:

Low cardiac output, high level of Ang II. → increased thirstiness

# Disturbed free water clearance – effects of the „hypovolaemic hormones”



# Hyponatremia in cirrhotic patients

- Severity of hyponatremia is proportional to the prognosis (MELD score)
- Correction of hyponatremia does not change the hemodynamical, pathophysiological abnormalities
- Mild hyponatremia usually does not cause any complaints, do not have to be treated ( $\approx > 120 \text{ mmol/l}$ )
- Treatment: decrease fluid intake in order to achieve negative fluid balance
- „Delicate” diuretic administration, mainly loop diuretics (if peripheral edema present,  $\downarrow$  BW: by 1-2 kg/d, if only ascites:  $< 0,5 \text{ kg/d}$ )
- Hypertonic saline infusion is contraindicated !!
- Vasopressin receptor antagonists: aquaretics (vaptans)

# Hyponatremia in congestive heart failure patients

- Complains: chr. hyponatremia caused abnormalities
- Hyponatremia is prognostic in short and long term - survival is proportional to the degree of hyponatremia
- Its correction does not improve the prognosis of CHF

# Therapy

- **ACEI/ARB**
  - Cardiac output improves
  - ACEI decreases ADH's effectivity in the cortical collecting duct, therefore water reabsorption ↓
  - Decreased thirstiness
- Moderate fluid restriction
- Administration of moderate doses of loop diuretics
- Vasopressin receptor antagonists: aquaretics (vaptans)

# Case of SIADH

- 66 years old male
- Acute lymphoid leukemia diagnosed 9 months ago, associated with pneumonia and pancytopenia
- Gets monthly bolus cytostatic treatments
- Developed aspergillus pneumonia - Rx itraconazole
- Admitted secondary to feeling unwell, weak, dizzy, but he was ambulating, can properly communicate
- Labs: Na 117 mmol/l, K 3,5 mmol/l, Cl 85 mmol/l, bicarb 23 mmol/l, BUN 6,5 mmol/l, creatinine 75 umol/l, BS 8,3 mmol/l, serum osmolality 237 mOsm/kg, urinary Na 83 mmol/l, osmolality 456 mOsm/kg, normal TSH
- According to his chart: serum Na 123-133 mmol/l previously

# Inappropriate ADH secretion - SIADH

## ■ Malignancies

- small lung cell carcinoma
- prostate, uterus cc.
- pancreas, duodenum cc.
- leukemia, lymphoma

## ■ Central nervous syst.dis.

- Tumors, abscess
- infections
- Demyelination diseases
- SAH, trauma

## ■ Medications

- dDAVP, oxytocin, NSAID
- antidepressants,
- narcotics, nicotine
- cytostatics
- chlorpropamide
- carbamazepine

## ■ Lung diseases

- TBC, aspergillosis
- pneumonia, abscess
- obstructive lung disease
- ventilation

# Vaptans

- Vasopressin receptor antagonists – increase electrolyte-free water excretion
- Conivaptan (V1a and V2), tolvaptan, satavaptan, lixivaptan (V2 receptor antagonists)
- Indicated (in general) in euvolemic and hypervolemic hyponatremia,
- Contraindicated in hypovolemic hyponatremia
- Very expensive drugs

# Tolvaptan – EVEREST trial

Gheorghiadu M et al., JAMA 2007. 297:1332

- Short and long term administration of tolvaptan in 4133 patients admitted with chronic heart failure – randomised controlled trial
- Body weight, dyspnea, edema ↓, serum Na ↑ more in patients who received tolvaptan
- But no effect on mortality, comparing to placebo
- Mental functioning showed small but significance improvement in the tolvaptan group

# Tolvaptan – SALT1 and SALT2 trials

Schrier RW et al. NEJM 2006. 355:2099

- Two multicenter, RCTs for 30 days
- Tolvaptan 225 pts, placebo 223 pts with SIADH, CHF, and cirrhosis
- Serum Na increased more in the tolvaptan group
- Hyponatremia recurred after tolvaptan was discontinued
- Patients in the tolvaptan group had increased thirst, dry mouth, increased urination

# Hyponatremia in chronic renal failure

- Our case: 72 years old lady, regularly seen on clinic
  - eGFR 10 ml/min
  - Nausea, vomiting, feeling unwell
  - Se Na 129 mmol/l, urine output 3400 ml/day
- On the next visit:
  - Se Na 135 mmol/l
  - urinary osmolality 284 mOsm/kg
  - urine output 2800 ml/day

# What does the maximal urinary diluting capacity mean?

## ■ Healthy persons:

- Minimal urine osmolality: 50-80 mOsm/kg
- Average solute excretion: 600-900 mOsm/day  
(300-450 mmol Na, K + the anions, and 300-450 urea)

## ■ How much can we drink without the risk of hyponatremia?

Solute excretion / diluting capacity / L

- 900 mOsm and 50 mOsm /kg = 18 L
- 600 mOsm and 80 mOsm /kg = 7,5 L
- 200 mOsm and 50 mOsm /kg = 4 L

## ■ Beer potomania („Tea and toast” hyponatremia):

- Low protein and salt intake, therefore low osmolar excretion and too much fluid intake

# Hyponatremia in chronic renal failure

- The urine is „isostenuric”  $\approx 300$  mOsm/kg
- The kidneys are not able to dilute significantly better (nor concentrate)
- If the daily solute excretion 900 mOsm – maximally 3 L fluid can be excreted, without causing hyponatremia
- But on low protein and low salt diet the daily solute excretion ↓, therefore exaggerated fluid intake can cause hyponatremia
- Therapy: adjust fluid intake to the actual diluting capacity of the kidneys

# What kind of i.v. infusion has to be given in hypernatremia?

- 81 yrs old male patient, admitted to hospital because of volume depletion and pneumonia. He was febrile, desoriented.
- Lab results: serum Na 156 mmol/l, K 5,0 mmol/l, BUN 22 mmol/l, creatinine 173 umol/l, glucose 6,1 mmol/l.
- Chest XR: pneumonia and pulmonary congestion
- Initial treatment: 500 ml of Ringer lactate infusion and 500 ml 5% glucose infusion
- Was this appropriate? What kind of change do you expect in serum Na concentration?

# What kind of i.v. infusion has to be given in hypernatremia?

- Next morning:

Serum Na 157 mmol/l, osmolality 330 mOsm/kg

Urinary Na 40 mmol/l, K 48 mmol/l, osmolality 463 mOsm/kg

(24 hrs collection could not be done)

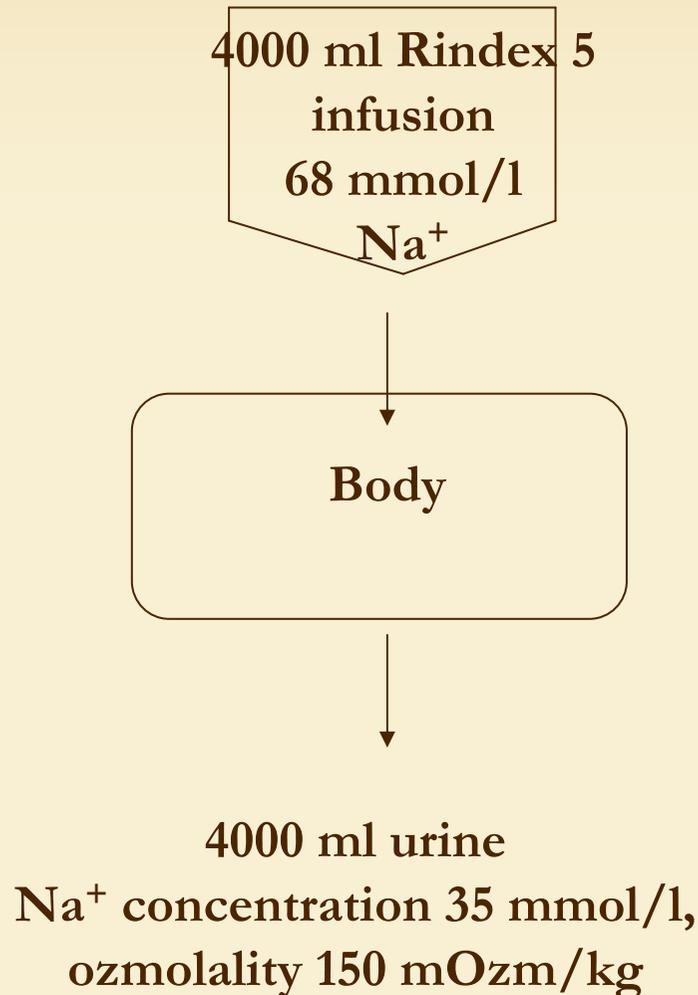
# What kind of i.v. infusion has to be given in hypernatremia?

- Na balance  
the patient excreted 40 mmol/l sodium, intake by RL: 67 mmol  
(Ringer lactate contains 132 mmol/l)
- Treatment on the following day  
1500 ml 5% glucose infusion, and he was eating and drinking a little  
Serum Na 159 mmol/l
- Why? What can we do now?

# What kind of i.v. infusion has to be given in hypernatremia?

- Checking against the urinary excretion:  
Na 11 mmol/l, K 9,5 mmol/l osmolality 439 mOsm/kg
- He was excreting very little Na
- He was not able to increase his urine osmolality
- We give 40 mg furosemide i.v. and 2500 ml 5% glucose infusion daily
- The urinary Na excretion increased to 52 mmol/l, K excretion to 30,2 mmol/l
- The serum Na decreased gradually and in 3 days normalized to 137 mmol/l

# Sodium balance in diabetes insipidus



## Balance:

Water intake: 4000 ml/24 óra

Na<sup>+</sup> intake 272 mmol

Excreted water: 4000 ml/24 óra

Excreted Na<sup>+</sup>: 140 mmol/24 óra

The patients retains 33 mmol

Na<sup>+</sup> by each L of infusion

In 24 hours 132 mmol Na<sup>+</sup>  
surplus created in the body.

# Hypokalemia – where does this huge amount of K go?

- A 62 yrs old female
- PMHx: collagen colitis – she had been well for years
- She presented with profuse, watery diarrhoea, several times daily. In the last days nausea and vomiting also occurred
- On admission: severely volume depleted, very weak, completely anuric, BP 60/40 mmHg.

# Hypokalemia – where does this huge amount of K go?

- Labs on admission:

Na 124 mmol/l, K 1,8 mmol/l, BUN 31,5 mmol/l,  
creatinine 665 umol/l

Days	KCl g/day	HD-Dialysate K	Serum K	
1	4	3 mmol/l	1,5	anuric
2	14	3 mmol/l	2,3	anuric
3	12	-	2,6	oliguric
4	14	-	3,0	diuresis
5	14	-	3,6	diuresis
6	10	-	3,8	diuresis

# Hypokalemia – where does this huge amount of K go?

- Did this patient have renal K wasting tubulopathy?
- Why did she need so much K?  
(83 g = 1079 mmol)

# Hypokalemia – first step in differential diagnosis

- Urinary K excretion
  - In our patient: 19,5 mmol/die  
18,8 mol/die
- TTKG – transtubular K gradient

$$\frac{\text{Urine K}}{\text{Serum K}} \times \frac{\text{Serum osmolality}}{\text{Urine osmolality}}$$

- In our patient: 4,9

# Hypokalemia – where does this huge amount of K go?

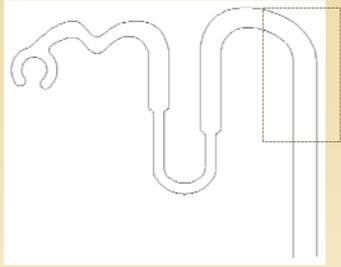
- Body weight of the patient: 60 kg  
Extracellular water: 10 l  
Intracellular water: 20 l
- K content of EC:  $10 \times 4 = 40$  mmol  
K content of IC:  $20 \times 150 = 3000$  mmol

# An other hypokalemic patient ...

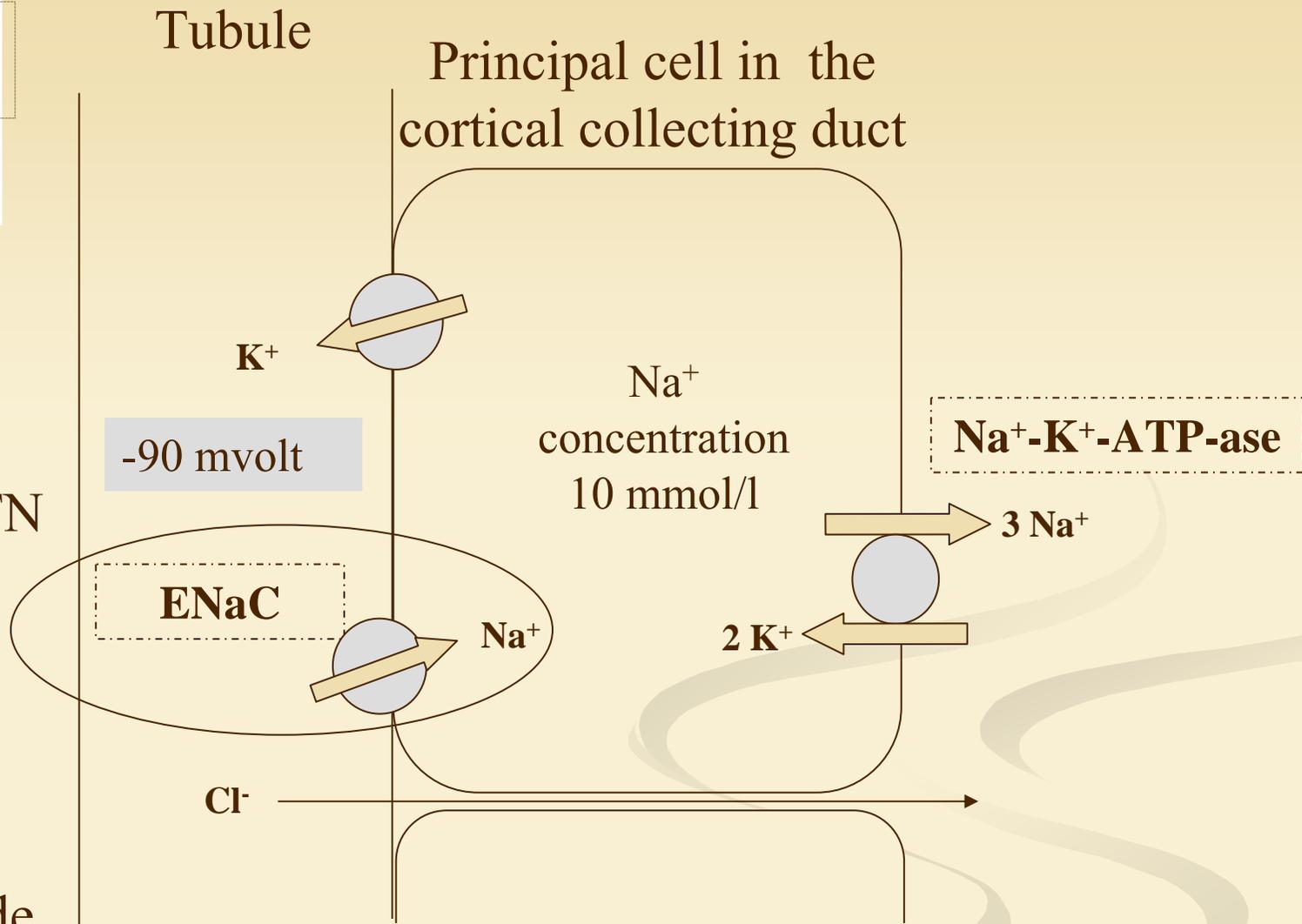
- 48 years old male
- PMHx: hypertension since his age of 30
- His mother, his sister and his son also have HTN
- Serum potassium between 2,5-2,8 mmol/l for years
- Meds on the first consultation: 20 mg amlodipin, 2x20 mg enalapril+hydrochlorothiazide, 4 mg prasosin, 2x2 g KCL
- Labs: serum Na 145 mmol/l, K 2,9 mmol/l, CN 7,7 mmol/l, creatinine 100 umol/l
- What do you think?

# An other hypokalemic patient ...

- 24 hr urinary Na 262 mmol/day, K 104 mmol/day, osmolality 678 mOsm/kg
- TTKG 15,8
- Blood gas analysis: pH 7,36, bicarb 20,3 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 31,2 mmHg
- Renin and aldosterone levels: repeatedly normal
- RAS excluded
- Rx: spironolactone – no change
- How would you treat this patient?



- Continually open ENaC
- Familiar HTN
- Normal or suppressed renin, aldosterone
- Rx: amiloride, triamterene



## Liddle syndrome

# Acid-base disorders

# Case 1

- 78 yrs old male
  - PMHx: diabetes mellitus, hypertension
  - admission in very poor condition: desoriented, Kussmaul-breeding, BP 88/52 mmHg, oligo-anuric
- Serum Na 139 mmol/l, K 5,8 mmol/l, Cl 99 mmol/l, BUN 39 mmol/l, creatinine 504 umol/l, bicarb 2,3 mmol/l
- What should we do?

# Case 1

- Blood-gas analysis:  
pH 6,97  
 $\text{HCO}_3^-$  2,3 mmol/l  
pCO<sub>2</sub> 10,2 mmHg
- What is your diagnosis?

# Case 1

What kind of acid-base disorder is this?

- Decrease in bicarbonate

$$25 - 2,3 = 22,7 \text{ mmol/l}$$

- Respiratory compensation: delta pCO<sub>2</sub>

$$40 - p\text{CO}_2 = 40 - 10,2 = 29,8 \text{ mmHg}$$

- Anion gap

$$\text{Na}^+ - (\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-) = 139 - (99 + 2,3) = 37,7 \text{ mmol/l}$$

# Case 1

- The patient has:
  - high anion gap metabolic acidosis
- His lactate level:
  - 12,2 mmol/l
- He was taking metformin, which caused lactic acidosis
- He was dialysed, survived, but remained dialysis dependent

# Types of anion gap acidosis

## Gain of acids

```
graph TD; A[Gain of acids] --> B[Endogenous acid production]; A --> C[Exogenous acids]; B --> B1[- ketoacidosis]; B --> B2[- L-lactic acidosis (A and B-types)]; B --> B3[- D-lactic acidosis]; B --> B4[- advanced renal failure]; C --> C1[- ethylene glycol]; C --> C2[- methanol];
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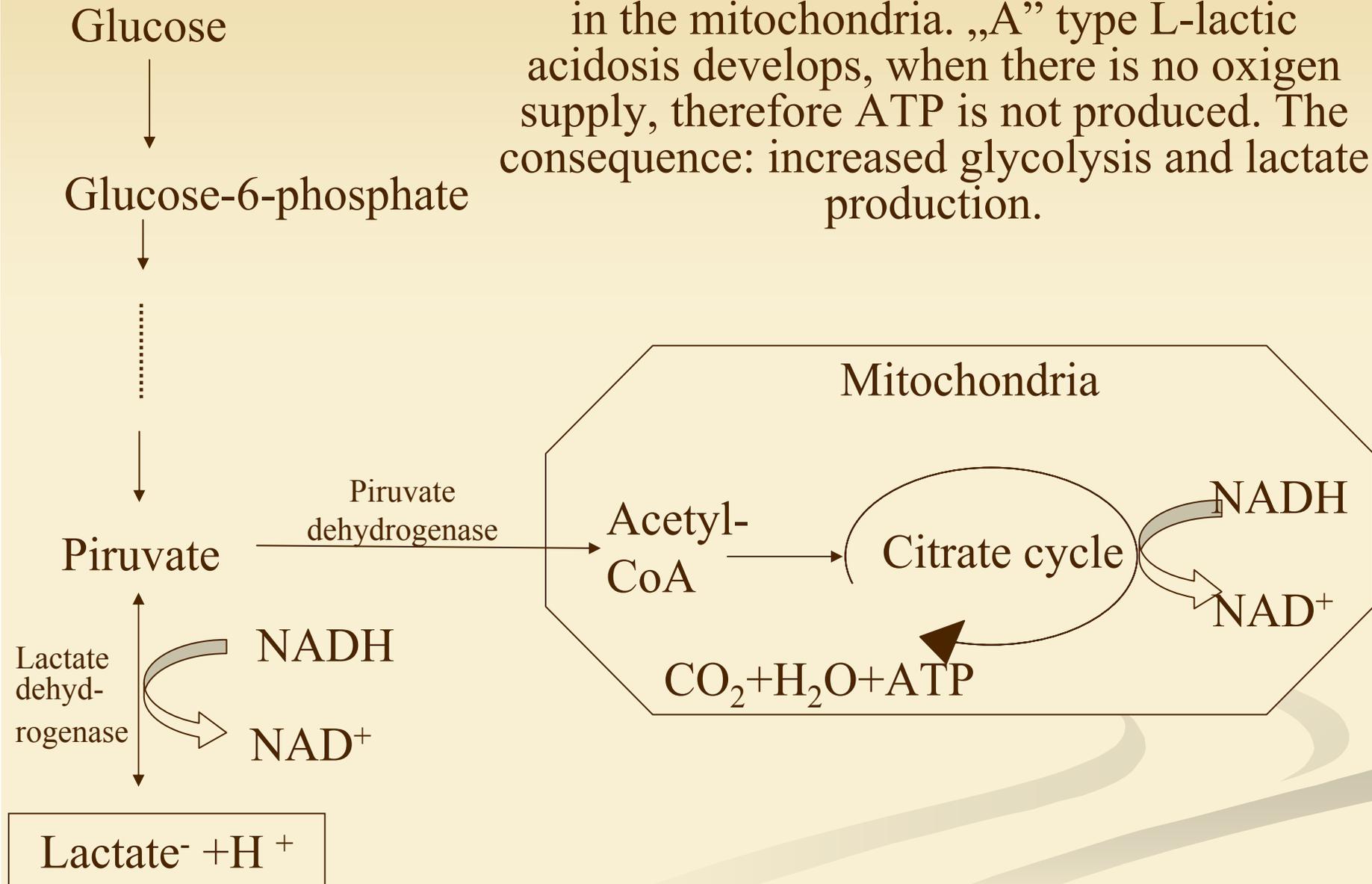
### Endogenous acid production

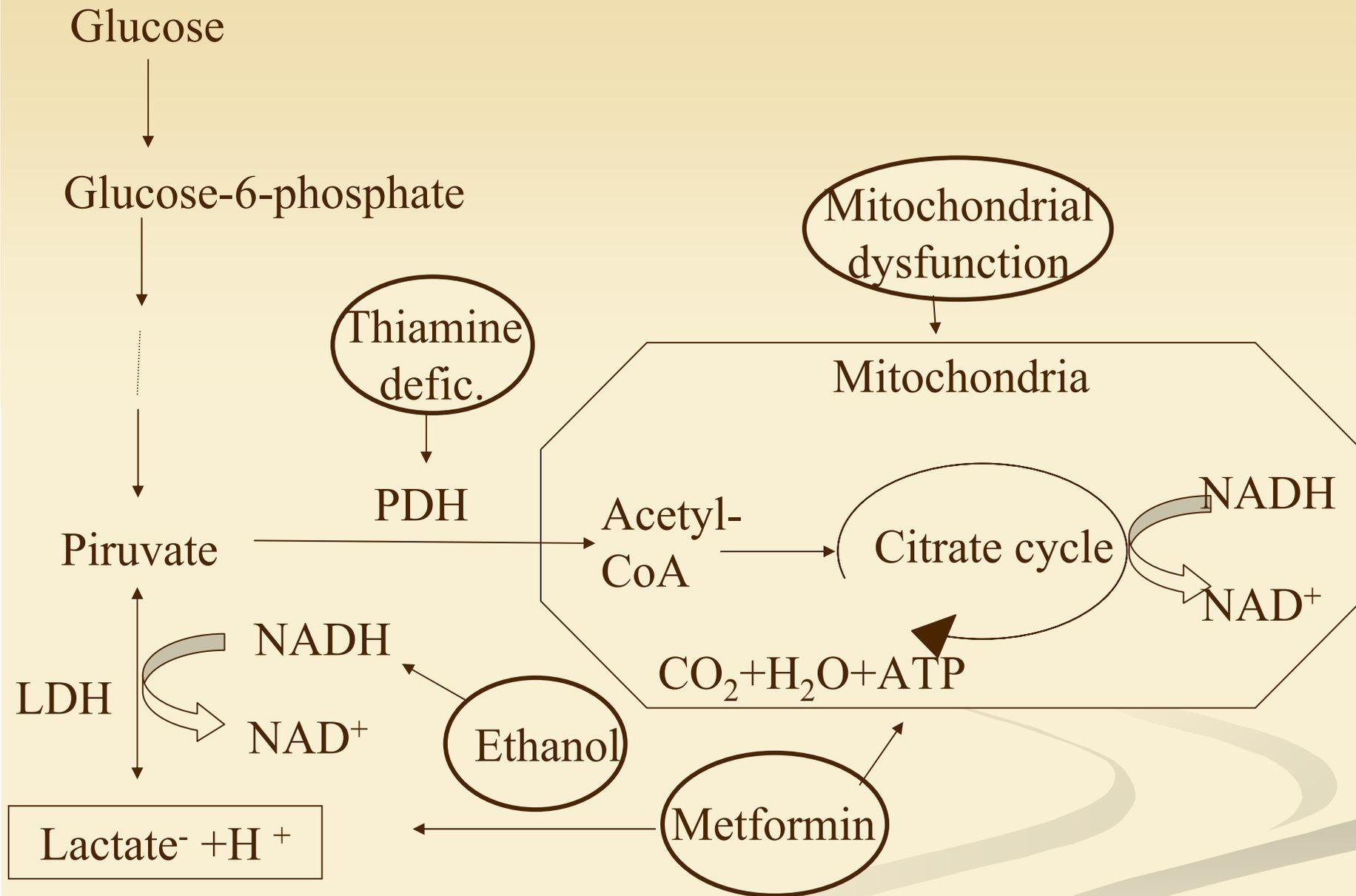
- ketoacidosis
- L-lactic acidosis (A and B-types)
- D-lactic acidosis
- advanced renal failure

### Exogenous acids

- ethylene glycol
- methanol

Oxygen is necessary for the ATP production in the mitochondria. „A” type L-lactic acidosis develops, when there is no oxygen supply, therefore ATP is not produced. The consequence: increased glycolysis and lactate production.





**The most frequent causes of „B” type L-lactic acidosis**

## Case 2

- A 42 yrs old male patient consulted by nephrology service
- He was admitted to the hospital secondary to rapidly deteriorating physical condition the previous day
- Medical Hx: joint problems, hip replacement, on NSAIDs, aethyl abusus
- Labs on admission:
  - Serum Na 138 mmol/l, K 2,9 mmol/l, Cl 121 mmol/l, BUN 24,8 mmol/l, creatinine 432 umol/l, Hgb 9,6 g<sup>o</sup>%
  - Blood gas analysis: pH 7,29, bicarbonate 10,8 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 14,2 mmHg
- Gastrosocopy revealed bleeding from gastric ulcers

## Case 2

What kind of acid-base disorder is this?

- Decrease in bicarbonate

$$25 - 10,8 = 14,2 \text{ mmol/l}$$

- delta pCO<sub>2</sub>

$$40 - p\text{CO}_2 = 40 - 14,2 = 25,8 \text{ mmHg}$$

- Anion gap

$$\text{Na}^+ - (\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-) = 138 - (121 + 10,8) = 6,2 \text{ mmol/l}$$

## Case 2

- Treatment: he got proton pump inhibitor, Na-bicarbonate infusion and furosemide, but did not improve
- Blood gas analysis few ours later:  
pH 7,19, bicarb 9,1 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 24,3 mmHg  
(previous: pH 7,29, bicarb 10,8 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 14,2 Hgmm)
- What happend to the pH?

## Case 2

- Next day:

pH 6,84 bicarb 9,7, pCO<sub>2</sub> 57,6 mmHg

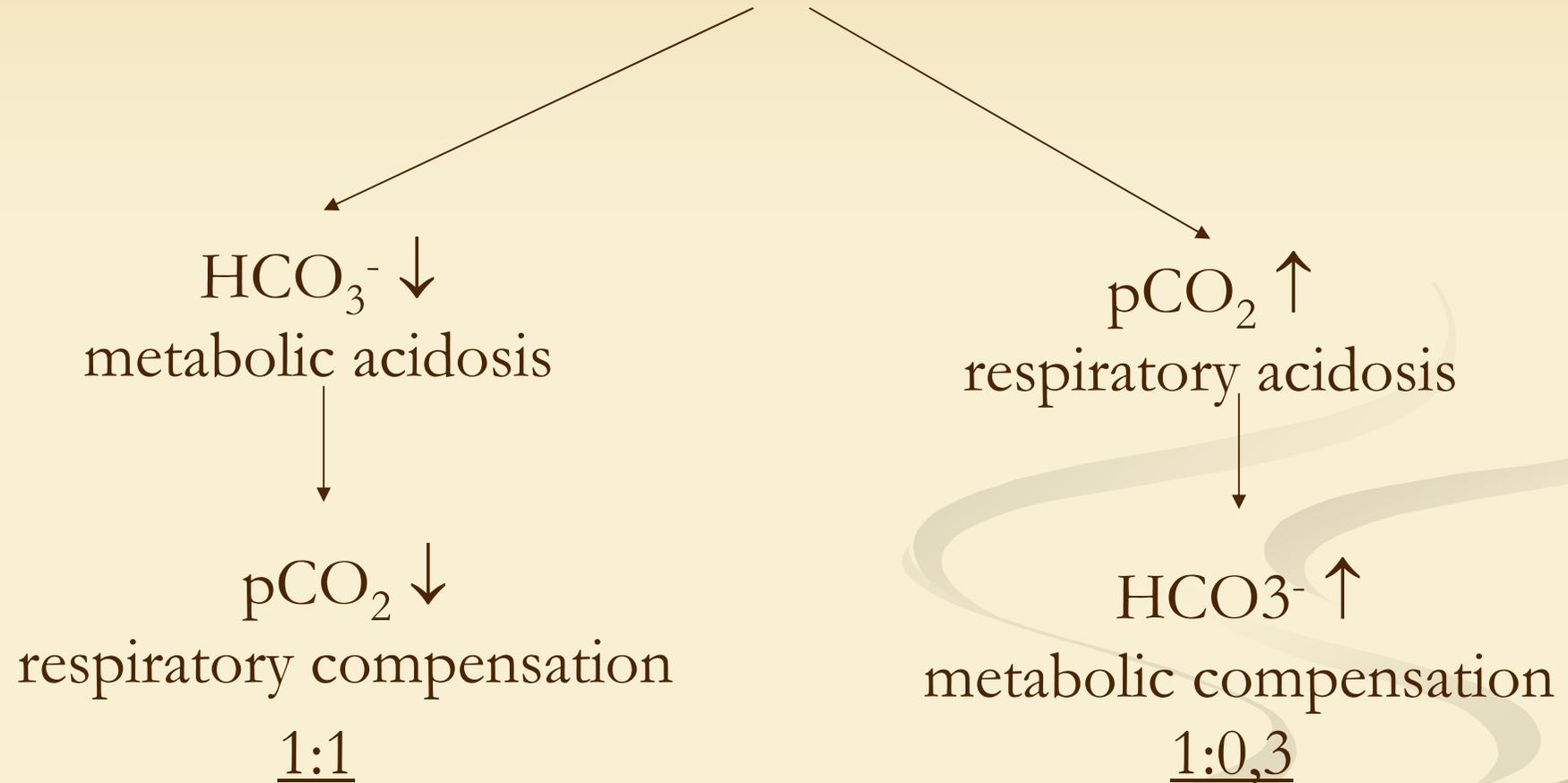
(previous: pH 7,29, bicarb 10,8 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 14,2 Hgmm

pH 7,19, bicarb 9,1 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 24,3 mmHg)

- What kind of acid-base disorder is this now?

# Acidosis

pH ↓



# Alkalosis

pH ↑

HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ↑

metabolic alkalosis



pCO<sub>2</sub> ↑

respiratory compensation

1:0,7

pCO<sub>2</sub> ↓

respiratory alkalosis



HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ↓

metabolic compensation

1:0,5

## Case 3

- 33 yrs old male patient
- PMHx: ileocecal reticulosarcoma , ileum and colon resection, irradiation colitis, moderate chronic renal failure, recently proved distal renal tubular acidosis
- Medical Hx: has usually 3-4 bowel movements/day  
Had several GI tests performed recently, and severe, watery diarrhoea developed  
Admitted in a very poor condition, severely volume depleted
- Labs: Serum Na 142 mmol/l, K 2,99 mmol/l, Cl 119 mmol/l, BUN 7,6 mmol/l, creatinine 224 umol/l,
- Blood gas analysis: pH 7,19, bicarb 12,0 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 32 mmHg

## Case 3

- What kind of acid-base disorder is this?
- Why is he hypokalemic?

## Case 3

- Combined metabolic and respiratory acidosis
  - delta bicarbonate:  $25 - 12 = 13$  mmol/l
  - delta pCO<sub>2</sub>:  $40 - 32 = 8$  mmHg
- Anion gap:  $142 - (119 + 12) = 9$   
(lactate level 1,03 mmol/l)
- Urinary K excretion 9,9 mmol/l
  - non-renal K loss
- Is this acidosis due to gastrointestinal bicarbonate loss or renal abnormality?

# Differential diagnosis of non-anion gap metabolic acidosis

Low plasma  
bicarbonate level

```
graph TD; A[Low plasma bicarbonate level] --> B[Gastrointestinal bicarbonate loss]; A --> C[Renal tubular abnormality]; B --> D["Urine Cl⁻ >> Na⁺+K⁺ (refers to NH₄⁻ production)"]; C --> E["-pRTA"]; C --> F["-insufficient NH₄⁺ production"]; C --> G["-dRTA"];
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Gastrointestinal  
bicarbonate loss

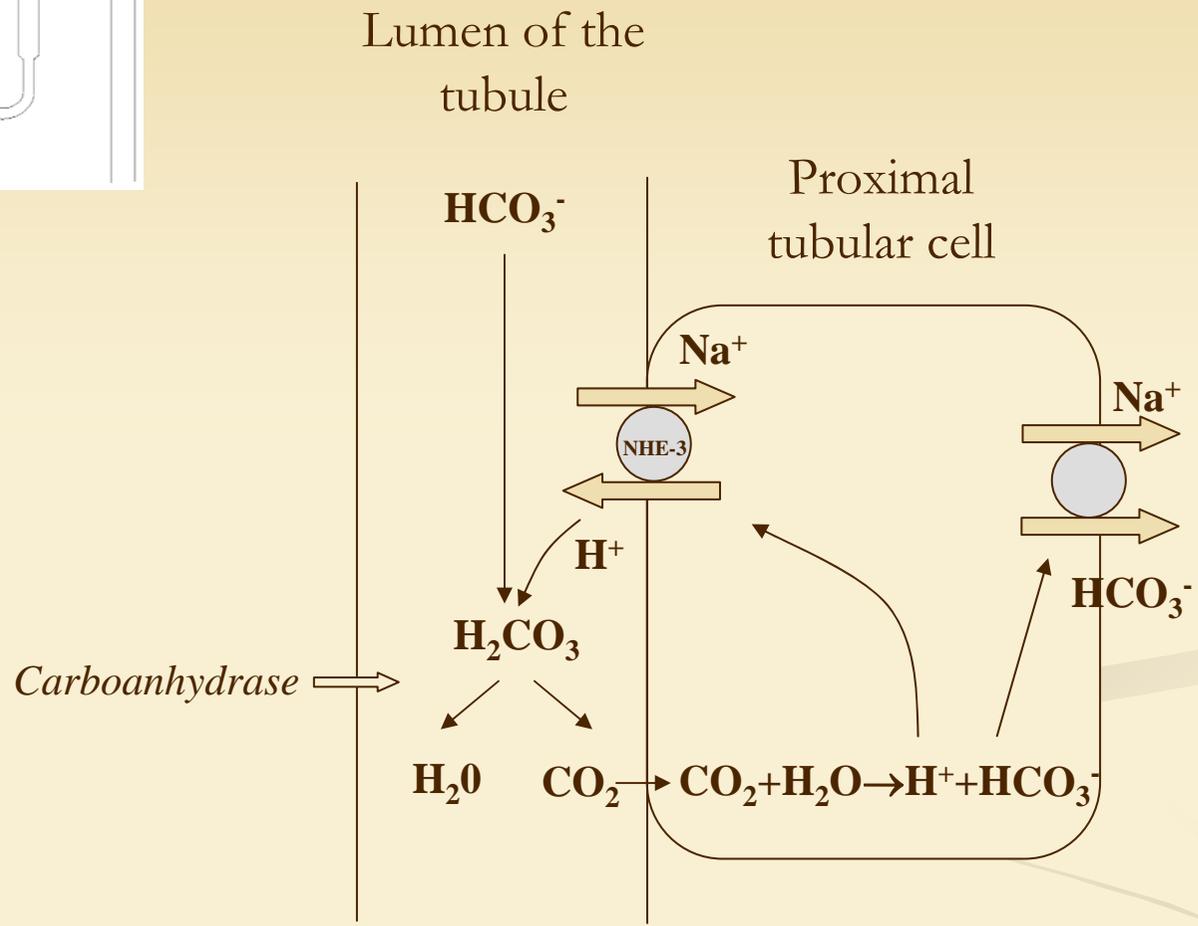
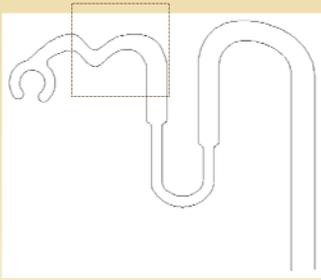
Urine  $\text{Cl}^- \gg \text{Na}^+ + \text{K}^+$   
(refers to  $\text{NH}_4^-$  production)

Renal tubular abnormality

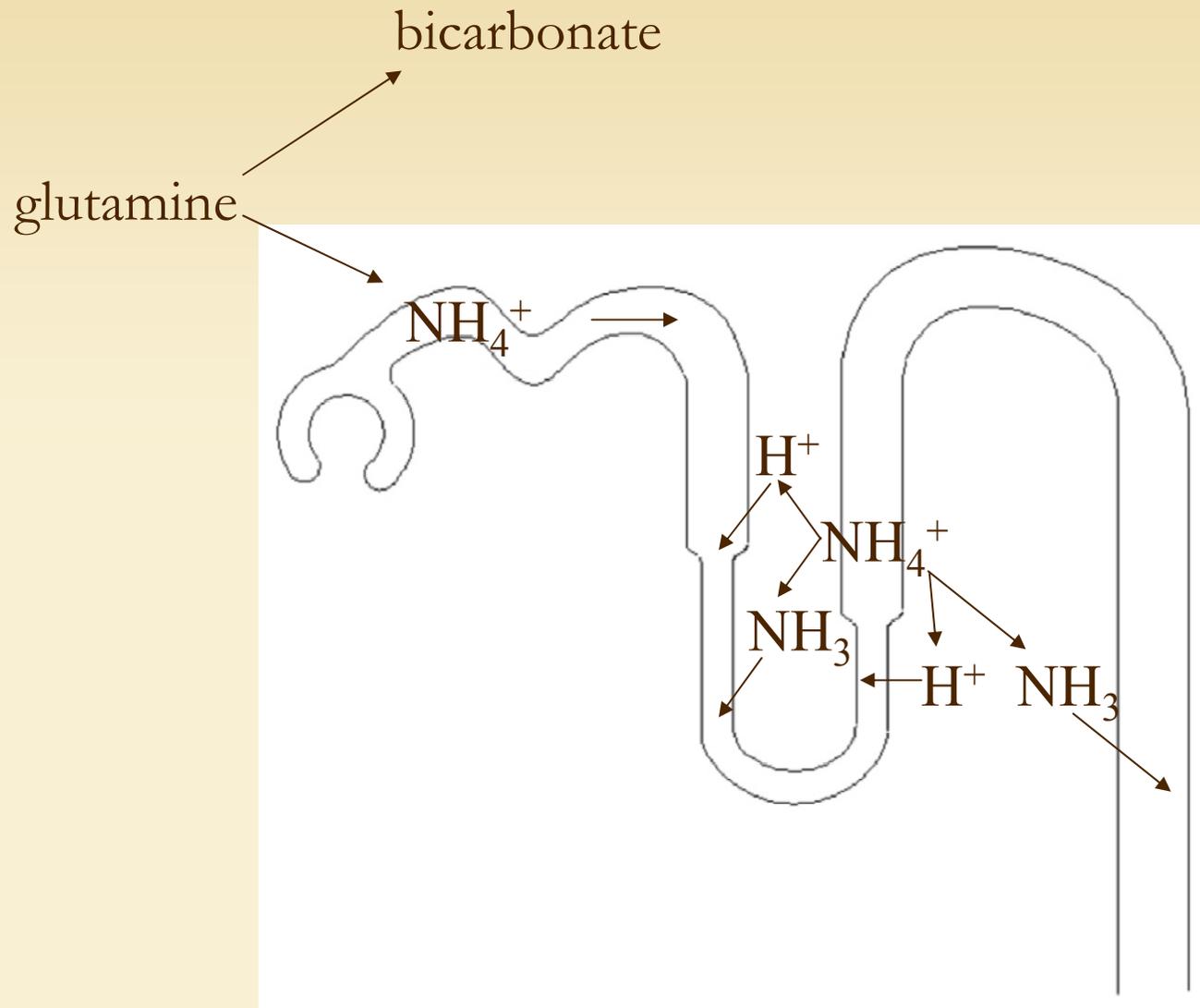
-pRTA

-insufficient  $\text{NH}_4^+$  production

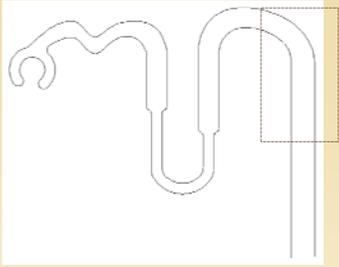
-dRTA



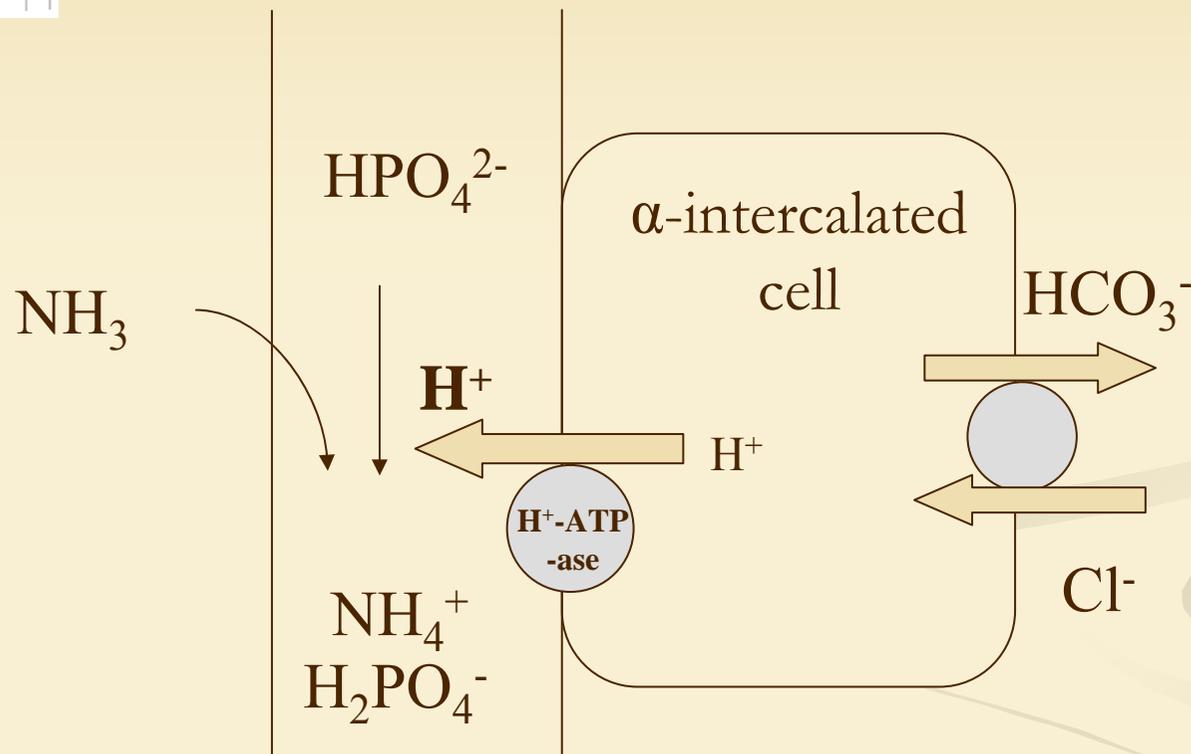
Physiologic bicarbonate reabsorption in the proximal tubule.  
 pRTA develops due to reduced indirect bicarbonate reabsorption.



Bicarbonate-ammonia production is necessary for  $\text{H}^+$  excretion



Collecting duct



dRTA develops if the  $H^+$  secretion is disturbed in the collecting duct

## Case 4

- A 41 year-old male patient, admitted to hospital secondary to nausea, vomiting and epigastric pain
- On admission he looked severely volume depleted, had a BP of 96/58 mmHg
- Labs: serum Na 123 mmol/l, K 3,5 mmol/l, BUN 24 mmol/l, creatinine 355 umol/l,
- Blood gas analysis: pH 7,65, bicarb 43 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 55,2 mmHg.
- What is your diagnosis?

# Case 4

- Metabolic alkalosis, hyponatremia and hypokalemia, acute renal failure
- According to the clinical picture – suspicion of pylorus stenosis
- Gastrosocopy confirmed this abnormality (ulcer causing pylorus stenosis)
- Therapy: 0.9 % NaCl infusion, KCl replacement, PPI
- Labs one week later: serum Na 143 mmol/l, K 5,1 mmol/l, CN 9,5 mmol/l, creatinine 128 umol/l, pH 7,39, bicarb 24,8 mmol/l, pCO<sub>2</sub> 44 mmHg.