

Fluid & Electrolyte Physiology

Physiol-09A11/01A1 Outline the determinants and regulation of extracellular fluid volume.

- ECF volume is the volume of fluid in the extracellular compartments: interstitial, intravascular and transcellular fluid compartments.
 - Normal value: 33% total body water, 20% total body weight = 15L.
- Determinants of ECF: The ECF is separated from the ICF by the cell membrane. Generally, this is permeable to water, but impermeable to many solutes. Thus, the main determinants of ECF are:
 - the total amount of osmotically active solute present in the ECF compartment (tonicity)
 - the total body water (hydration)

Na (cation) and Cl (anion) are the major osmotically active solutes in the ECF compartment. Na accounts for 86% of ECF osmolality and 93% ECF tonicity. Thus, the distribution of TBW can be considered as being effectively determined by the $[Na^+]$ of ECF.

 - Normal $[Na^+] = 135-145\text{mmol/L}$
 - Normal daily intake $1-2\text{mmol/L} = \text{excretion (kidney, sweat, faeces)}$
- Regulation of ECF: important for maintaining ECF fluid volume when fluid depletion occurs. The regulation involves the regulation of sodium excretion and reabsorption.

| System | Sensor | Effector |
|----------------|--|---|
| ADH | Osmoreceptors: hypothalamic cells OVLT/SFO, detect 1-2% change osmolality $>280\text{mosm/L}$ → linear firing increase. Low baroreceptors: great veins, R atria. Detect 10% $\downarrow\text{CVP/blood volume}$ → linear firing increase. Less sensitive, more potent than osmoreceptors. High baroreceptors: carotid sinus, aortic arch detect rise pulse pressure and MAP. | \uparrow osmolality, \downarrow blood volume → release of ADH from SO and PV nuclei → axonal transport into posterior pituitary → Released into circulation. Acts on: V_1 (vessels) – vasoconstriction renal vessels V_2 (P cells of DCT/CD) – $G_s\text{PCR}$ → $\uparrow\text{cAMP}$ → insertion aquaporin-2 channels → \uparrow water reabsorption from CD → \downarrow urine output. Also $\uparrow\text{ADH-urea transport in DCT/CD}$ → \uparrow medullary tonicity. V_3 : stimulate thirst |
| RAS | High baroreceptors: \downarrow firing with low MAP → $\uparrow\text{SNS}$ → β_1 renin stimulation. Renal: $\downarrow\text{MAP}$ → \downarrow renal perfusion → \downarrow afferent arteriolar P → \downarrow stretch internal baroreceptors JG cells → \uparrow renin release | Renin: cleaves angiotensinogen → Ang I → Ang II Ang II: Stimulation aldosterone from adrenal Stimulation thirst → \uparrow water intake → \uparrow ECF volume Vasoconstriction \uparrow Na reabsorption from PCT Constriction $\text{eff} > \text{aff arteriole}$ → $\downarrow\text{GFR}$ → $\downarrow\text{Na loss}$ |
| Aldosterone | Stimulated by: Renin ACTH Hyperkalaemia | Steroid hormone: intracellular receptors → \uparrow basolateral Na/K ATPase activity, \uparrow insertion of Na, K channels in P cells of CD → \uparrow Na reabsorption. |
| ANP | Stretch receptors in the RA → respond to \uparrow ECF volume | Dilation of afferent arteriole, constriction efferent arteriole → $\uparrow\text{GFR}$ → \uparrow Na filtration and excretion Direct \downarrow Na reabsorption \downarrow renin, ADH, aldosterone release |
| Tuboglomerular | $\downarrow\text{ECF}$ → $\downarrow\text{RBF}$ → $\downarrow\text{GFR}$ → | \downarrow adenosine, \uparrow NO → relaxation afferent |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| feedback | ↓Na delivery macula densa | arteriole → ↑GFR → ↑Na filtration |
| Glomerulotubular feedback | ↑ECF → ↑GFR ↑Na transport with glucose ↑ π peritubular capillaries | ↑Na reabsorption (feedback to maintain relatively constant proportion Na reabsorption 65% in PCT). |

Physiol-05A11/01A7 Describe how the body detects and responds to a water deficit.
 1992 Write short notes on osmoreceptors

1. Total body water is usually 60% of body weight in the adult and is divided into ECF and ICF. The ECF water is the component under regulation, with the ICF dependent as water freely crosses cell membranes.
 The regulation of water balance is a negative feedback system.
2. Detection of water deficit (sensors)
 - a. Osmoreceptors: a pure water deficit results relative \uparrow osmolality of ECF (main solute is Na). Receptors in OVLT and SOF respond to \uparrow brain ECF tonicity.
 - i. Osmolality = 280-295mosm/L
 - ii. Detect 1-2% \uparrow osmolality \rightarrow linear firing response
 - iii. Results in \uparrow ADH release from SO and PV nuclei of hypothalamus.
 - b. Baroreceptors: water deficit \rightarrow \downarrow ECF volume \rightarrow \downarrow MAP
 - i. Low pressure receptors: located atria and great veins. \downarrow MAP \rightarrow activation of baroreceptors \rightarrow \uparrow ADH release.
 1. Detection begins at 10% volume depletion = 4L water deficit (300mL plasma deficit)
 2. Less sensitive, more potent than osmoreceptors.
 - ii. High pressure receptors: located carotid sinus, aortic arch. \downarrow MAP \rightarrow \downarrow activation of stretch receptors \rightarrow \downarrow inhibition of SNS, activation PNS (VMS in medulla)
 - iii. Intrarenal pressure receptors: baroreceptors in JG cells: \downarrow MAP \rightarrow \downarrow renal BF \rightarrow \downarrow afferent arteriole stretch \rightarrow \uparrow renin release form JG cells. Enables autoregulation of GFR between MAP 70-170mmHg.

3. Response to water deficit: aim to conserve water (\downarrow excretion, \uparrow reabsorption) from kidney.

| Effector | Trigger | Mechanism | Result |
|-------------|--|---|--|
| ADH | \uparrow osm, \downarrow ECF volume, stress, nausea, Ang II, standing, drugs (carbamezapine) | V ₁ : (vessels) – vasoconstriction renal vessels V ₂ : (P cells of DCT/CD) – G _s PCR \rightarrow \uparrow cAMP \rightarrow insertion aquaporin-2 channels \rightarrow \uparrow water reabsorption from CD \rightarrow \downarrow urine output. \uparrow ADH-urea transport in DCT/CD \rightarrow \uparrow medullary tonicity. V ₃ : stimulate thirst | \downarrow GFR \rightarrow \downarrow water filtration \uparrow water reabsorption \rightarrow max urine osmolality 1400mosm/L \uparrow Water intake |
| Renin | β_1 stimulation JG baroreceptors | Renin: cleaves angiotensinogen \rightarrow Ang I \rightarrow Ang II Stimulation aldosterone from adrenal Stimulation thirst Vasoconstriction \uparrow Na reabsorption from PCT | \uparrow Na reabsorption \uparrow water intake \uparrow MAP \uparrow Na reabsorption |
| Aldosterone | Angiotensin II ACTH \uparrow K | Steroid hormone: intracellular receptors \rightarrow \uparrow basolateral Na/K ATPase activity, \uparrow insertion of Na, K channels in P cells of CD | \uparrow Na reabsorption. |
| SNS | β_1 stimulation α_1 stimulation | \uparrow renin peripheral vasoconstriction | \uparrow MAP |

Physiol-96A7 In the diagram below indicate how the solvent and solute move across a semipermeable membrane and give a brief explanation of the principles involved.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>Blood</i> | | | |
| Potassium 6.5mmol/L | Urea 40 mmol/L | Osm 320mosm/kg | Pressure 100mmHg |
| SEMIPERMEABLE MEMBRANE | | | |
| Potassium 3.5mmol/L | Urea 0 mmol/L | Osm 346mosm/kg | Pressure 10mmHg |
| <i>Dialysate</i> | | | |

1. The movement of substances across the semi-permeable membrane is dialysis involves the following processes:
 - a. Solute: K, urea – both are able to cross cell membranes with relative ease
 - b. Solvent: water
 - c. Diffusion: the movement of solute from high → low concentration. Important for fluid movement between ICF ⇔ ECF.
 - d. Osmosis: the movement of solvent (water) from low → high osmolality. Important for fluid movement between ICF ⇔ ECF.
 - e. Filtration: the movement of solvent due to balance of hydrostatic and oncotic pressures. Important for the movement of fluid between plasma ⇔ interstitial fluid.
 - f. Solvent drag: the movement of solvent coupled with movement of solute (convection)

2. Diffusion: process is generally slower than osmosis and governed by Fick's law:

$$\text{Diffusion} = \frac{\text{Sol} \times A \times \Delta P}{\sqrt{MW \times T}}$$

| Substance | Direction | Concentration |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| K | blood → dialysate | Approaches 3.5 mmol/L |
| Urea | blood → dialysate | Approaches 0 mmol/L |

3. Osmosis: process is immediate and rapid.
 - a. Water will diffuse into the hypertonic dialysate with a driving gradient 26mosm/L.
4. Filtration: the oncotic pressure of blood (holds water in) opposes the hydrostatic pressure of blood (100mmHg). The balance of forces dictates direction and rate of movement and is given by Starling's forces:

$$\text{NFP} = k[(P_c - P_i) - \sigma(\pi_c - \pi_i)]$$

Generally, the oncotic pressure is approximately 25mmHg, such that:

$$\text{NFP} = 90 - 25 = 65\text{mmHg}$$

Physiol-95B5 Outline the effects of IV administration of 500 mls of 20% mannitol, and the potential problems associated with its use.

1. Mannitol is an osmotic diuretic. It is a low molecular weight (MW = 182) charged polysaccharide which does not cross cell membranes (especially the BBB) and is freely filtered at the renal glomerulus.
 - a. 20% mannitol = 200mg/mL
 - b. Osmolality = 1100mosm/L (hypertonic compared to plasma 285mosm/L)

2. Physiological Effects:

| Effect | Description |
|----------------|---|
| Mechanism | Hypertonic and hyperosmotic and distributed Draws water out of ICF |
| Use | ↓CSF pressure / volume Peri-operative diuresis in renal impairment, transplanted kidneys |
| Cardiovascular | Does not cross cell membranes (reflection co-efficient 0.9) ↑ intravascular volume ↓haematocrit and blood viscosity |
| Renal | Osmotic diuresis Role in renoprotective diuresis |
| Cerebral | Draws out water from CSF (does not cross BBB) ↑ cerebral perfusion pressure (↓ICP and ↑IV volume) |

3. Adverse Effects:

- a. Initial intravascular overload: due to ↑IV volume → ANP system activation
 - i. CCF, acute pulmonary oedema
 - ii. Water intoxication
 - iii. Hypertension
- b. Delayed Diuresis and dehydration: following osmotic diuresis
 - i. Hypotension
 - ii. Hyperosmolality → activation of ADH
 - iii. ↓CPP → exacerbation of cerebral ischaemia
- c. Electrolyte abnormalities:
 - i. ↑ANP → ↓ Na
 - ii. ↓ aldosterone / Ang II → ↓Na, ↑K
- d. Venous Irritation
- e. Allergy

MAKE-UP: Compare the distribution of a 1L infusion of normal saline, 5% dextrose and iso-osmotic albumin.

1. Normal saline, 5% dextrose and albumin are all iso-osmotic solutions used in various clinical settings.
2. Fluid compartments: assuming the exclusion of slowly equilibrating fluids (dense CT and bone fluid – 15% of TBW)
 - a. Intracellular fluid – 55% TBW, 23 litres
 - b. Interstitial fluid – 20% TBW, 8.4L
 - c. Intravascular fluid – 7.5% TBW, 3.2L plasma + RCV 1.8L
3. Assumptions:
 - a. TBW is one-third ECF & two-thirds ICF
 - b. ECF is one-quarter plasma & three-quarters ISF
 - c. The threshold of the volume receptors is 7-10% change in blood volume
 - d. The osmoreceptors are sensitive to a 1-2% change in osmolality.
 - e. Plasma osmolality is normal prior to the transfusion (i.e. 287-290 mosm/kg)

| Property | Normal Saline | 5% Dextrose | 5% Albumin |
|-----------------|---|--|---|
| Constituents | NaCl MW = 58.4mg 0.9% NS = 9g/L | Dextrose MW = 180mg 5% Dextrose = 50g/L | Albumin |
| Osmolality | Osm = $154 \times 2 = 308$ mosm/L Iso-osmotic (approx) | Osm = 278mosm/L Iso-osmotic (approx) | Iso-osmotic (approx) |
| Tonicity | Isotonic | Hypotonic | |
| Distribution | Na, Cl does not cross cell membrane –distribution limited to ECF. ISF 750mLs Plasma 250mLs | Rapidly taken up by cells and metabolised → distributed to total body water. ↓ oncotic pressure → fluid loss into ISF ICF 670mLs ECF 330mLs ISF 250mLs Plasma 80mLs | Does not cross vessels – limited distribution intravascular. Plasma 1000mLs ↓blood viscosity and [Hb] |
| IV volume | ↑5250mLs (5%) Not sensed by volume receptors | ↑ 5080mLs (2%) Not sensed by volume receptors | ↑6000mLs (20%) Sensed by volume receptors → ↓ADH |
| Plasma tonicity | Unchanged as solution is isotonic | ↓ $287 \times 3.2/3.28 = 7$ osm/L ↓ 2.5% → ↓ADH → diuresis | Unaltered |
| Excretion | 2 other mechanisms: ↓oncotic pressure → fluids moves into ISF ↓oncotic pressure → ↑GFR → ↑ Na and water excretion | Diuresis | Delayed diuresis ↑plasma oncotic P → fluid moves from ISF into plasma. |
| Duration | Rapid | Delayed diuresis (1 hour) ADH requires $3 \times T_{1/2}$ to reach new steady state | Prolonged and slow excretion phase |
| Use | Replenish ICF Not good as intravascular volume replacement | Replenish ECF Cheap and used for volume replacement → require 3-4x volume blood lost. | Replenish intravascular volume. Expensive Slow excretion |

MAKE-UP: Compare the body response to a 1L Hypertonic Saline (3N) infusion with 1L hypertonic mannitol infusion?

1. Fluid compartments: assuming the exclusion of slowly equilibrating fluids (dense CT and bone fluid – 15% of TBW)
 - a. Intracellular fluid – 55% TBW, 23 litres
 - b. Interstitial fluid – 20% TBW, 8.4L
 - c. Intravascular fluid – 7.5% TBW, 3.2L plasma + RCV 1.8L

2. Assumptions:
 - a. TBW is one-third ECF & two-thirds ICF
 - b. ECF is one-quarter plasma & three-quarters ISF
 - c. The threshold of the volume receptors is 7-10% change in blood volume
 - d. The osmoreceptors are sensitive to a 1-2% change in osmolality.
 - e. Plasma osmolality is normal prior to the transfusion (290 mosm/kg)

| Property | Hypertonic Saline 3% | Hypertonic Mannitol 20% |
|--------------|--|--|
| Constituents | NaCl MW = 58.4mg 3% NS = 30g/L | Mannitol MW = 180mg 20% Mannitol = 200g/L |
| Osmolality | Osm = 1028mosm/L (approx 1000) Hyperosmotic | Osm = 1111mosm/L (approx 1000) Hyperosmotic |
| Tonicity | Hypertonic | Hypertonic |
| Distribution | Water distributes via osmosis across membranes from low → high osmolality. Na/Cl stay in ECF due to higher osmolality (do not distribute to ICF) Overall: Water moves ICF → ECF | Water distributes via osmosis across membranes from low → high osmolality. Mannitol does not cross BBB → sucks water out of ICF → ECF Overall: Water moves ICF → ECF |
| Osmoles | Total solute = (42x290) + 1000 = 13180 mosm ICF solute = 23x290 = 6670 (unchanged) mosm ECF solute = (19x290) + 1000 = 6510 mosm | Total solute = (42x290) + 1000 = 13180 mosm |
| Tonicity | Total tonicity = 13180/43 = 306mosm/L ↑osm 5.5% → activation osmoreceptors → ↑ADH | Total tonicity = 13180/42.8 = 308mosm/L ↑osm 6.2% → activation osmoreceptors → ↑ADH |
| Volume | TBW = 42 + 1 = 43L ECF Volume = 6510/306 = 21.2L (↑2.2L) ICF Volumes = 6670/306 = 21.8L (↓1.2L) IV volume ↑ 2.2L/4 = 550mLs (↑10%) Activation volume receptors → ↓ADH | TBW = 42 + 0.8 = 42.8L ICF volume = 290/308 x 23L = 21.6L ECF volume = 42.8-21.6 = 21.2L (↑2.2L) IV volume ↑ 2.2L/4 = 550mLs (↑10%) Activation volume receptors → ↓ADH |
| Excretion | Volume receptors are less sensitive but more potent than osmoreceptors. In this case, they override → ↑ADH → natriuresis and diuresis | Volume receptors are less sensitive but more potent than osmoreceptors. In this case, they override → ↑ADH → natriuresis and diuresis |
| Clinical | ↑osmolality worsened by diuresis → cerebral cell dehydration → confusion | Initial: ↑intravascular volume → precipitates HTN, fluid overload, CCF. ↓ blood viscosity, hyponatraemia Delayed: diuresis → dehydration, hypernatraemia |
| Use | Severe hyponatraemia | ↓ICP head trauma Renoprotective diuresis (rhabdomyolysis → washes myoglobin out of tubules) |