

Arterial Blood Gas Analysis

VBG



ABG

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Arterial Blood Gas

- Drawn from artery- **radial, brachial, femoral**
- It is an invasive procedure.
- **Caution** must be taken with patient on anticoagulants
- The **Allen test** for blood flow
- The **Buffers** , **lungs** and **kidneys** attempt to maintain balance

Compensatory measures

Buffering---occurs immediately

Respiratory regulation of $p\text{CO}_2$ is intermediate (12-24 hours)

Renal regulation of $[\text{H}^+]$ and $[\text{HCO}_3^-]$ occurs more slowly (several days)

روش انجام تست آلن قبل از سوراخ کردن شریان رادیال

- این روش برای بیمار توضیح داده می شود، از جمله اینکه هدف آن ارزیابی گردش خون تضمین شده است.
- فشار روی شریان اولنار و رادیال به طور همزمان اعمال می شود.
- از بیمار خواسته می شود دست را به طور مکرر باز و بسته کند.
- فشار از شریان اولنار آزاد می شود و شریان رادیال را فشرده نگه میداریم.
- رنگ اندام دیستال به نقطه فشار، ارزیابی می شود. اگر جریان از طریق شریان اولنار خوب باشد، فلاشینگ بلافاصله مشاهده می شود. سپس تست آلن مثبت می شود و می توان از شریان رادیال برای سوراخ کردن استفاده کرد .

ABG Analysis

- **Important assessed:**

1. oxygenation status

****arterial gases only****

2. acid-base status

3. compensation

Hypoxemia (pao₂)

Is low oxygen levels in arterial blood (Pao₂) is below normal (normal Pao₂ = **80–100mmHg**)

Hypoxia(sao₂)

is low oxygen levels in your tissues(oxygen saturation)

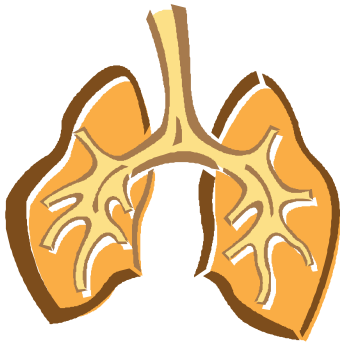
This is a measure of how much oxygen is being carried by hemoglobin on your red blood cells. Normal values for oxygen saturation are **between 95 and 100 percen**

Acid – Base Balance

Lungs

Respiratory

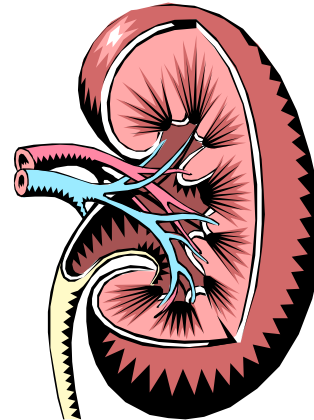
CO₂ (acid)



Kidneys

Metabolic

HCO₃⁻ (base/alkaline)



Interpretation: 4 steps

Normal Values

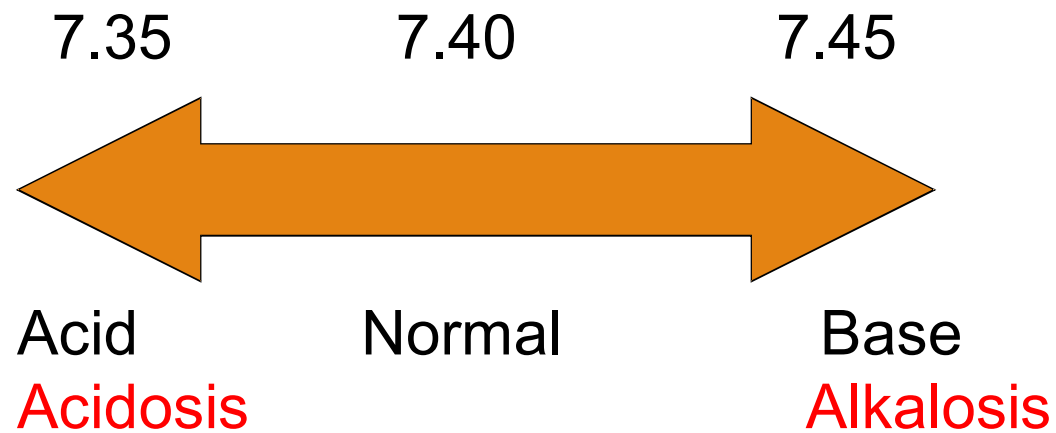
pH	7.35 – 7.45
pCO ₂	35 – 45 mmHg
HCO ₃	22 - 26 mEq/L

Evaluate each component as Acid or Base



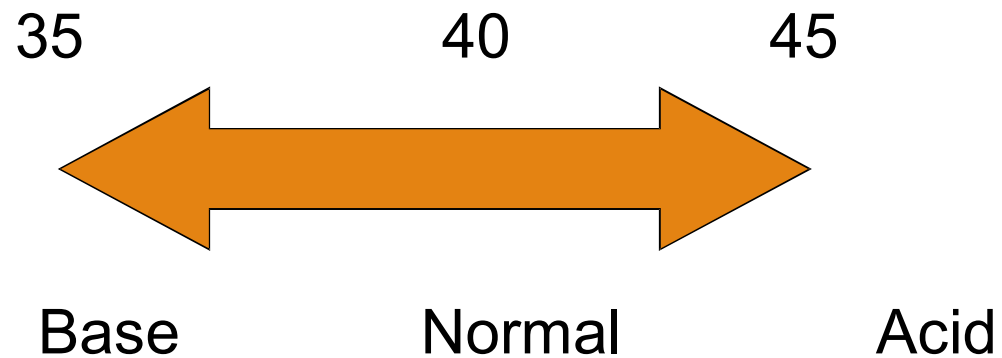
Step 1

Evaluate pH and determine acidosis or alkalosis



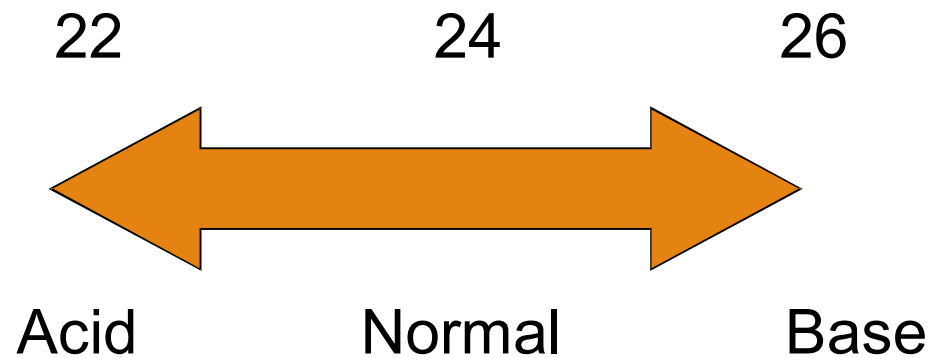
Step 2...

- Evaluate $p\text{CO}_2$ (respiratory)



Step 3...

Evaluate HCO_3^- (metabolic)



Step 4...

Compensation



When an acid – base imbalance exists, over time the body attempts to compensate.

Uncompensated

the alternate system has not attempted to adjust

pH abnormal and one other abnl

Example

◦ pH	7.30	ABNL
◦ pCO ₂	60	ABNL
◦ HCO ₃	25	N

Uncompensated Respiratory Acidosis

Partial Compensation

the alternate system is trying to create a balanced , but hasn't yet succeeded

All 3 abnormal.

Example

- pH 7.34 ABNL
- pCO₂ 59 ABNL
- HCO₃ 28 ABNL

Partially Compensated Respiratory Acidosis

Fully Compensated

the alternate system has adjusted enough to restore balance and normalize the pH

pH N but others both Abnl

Example

- pH 7.36 N (but slightly A)
- pCO₂ 58 ABNL
- HCO₃ 31 ABNL

Compensated Respiratory Acidosis



EXAMPLE #1

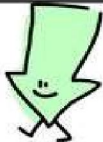
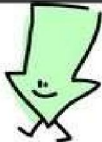
- pH: 7.22 
- PaCO₂: 55 
- HCO₃: 25

	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Respiratory Acidosis			Normal

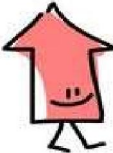
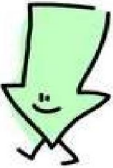
EXAMPLE #2

- pH: 7.31
- PaCO₂: 35
- HCO₃: 20



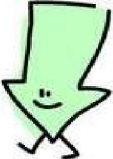
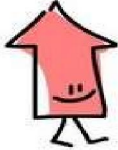
	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Metabolic Acidosis		Normal	

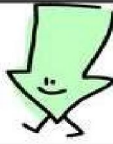
EXAMPLE #3

- pH: 7.49 
- PaCO₂: 30 
- HCO₃: 23

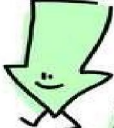
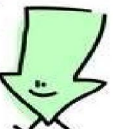
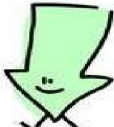
	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Respiratory Alkalosis			Normal

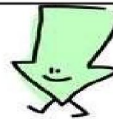
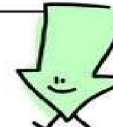
EXAMPLE #1 (COPD PTS)

- pH: 7.31 
- PaCO₂: 55 
- HCO₃: 28 

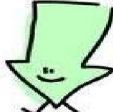
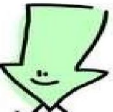
	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Partially Compensated Respiratory Acidosis			

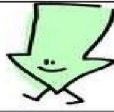
EXAMPLE #2 (Kidney Issues)

- pH: 7.31 
- PaCO₂: 25 
- HCO₃: 20 

	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Partially Compensated Metabolic Acidosis			

EXAMPLE #3 (Anxiety)

- pH: 7.48 
- PaCO₂: 25 
- HCO₃: 21 

	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Partially Compensated Respiratory Alkalosis			

EXAMPLE #4 (NG drainage/vomiting)

- pH: 7.48 
- PaCO₂: 55 
- HCO₃: 31 

	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Partially Compensated Metabolic Alkalosis			

EXAMPLE #5

• pH: 7.39 Normal



• PaCO₂: 60



• HCO₃: 30



	pH	PaCO ₂	HCO ₃
Fully Compensated Respiratory Acidosis	 N		

Respiratory Acidosis

Causes

failure of the lungs(Excessive CO₂ retention)

↓ pH ↑ pco₂ ↓ Ventilation

- pH < 7.35
- PCO₂ > 45

Hypoventilation due to

- Respiratory Disease(COPD /asthma..)
- CNS depression(OPIOID)
- Neuromuscular disorders(Myasthenia gravis)
- Depression of respiratory system
Sedatives, analgesics
- Head trauma

Signs and Symptoms

- CNS disturbances: restlessness, confusion, tremor and coma.

- Headache

- Dyspnea

- Tachypnea

- Dysrhythmia

- Weakness

Interventions in Respiratory Acidosis

- Check airway and ensure patent
- Place in semi-Fowler's position
- mechanical ventilation to increase rate and tidal volume
- Non-invasive ventilation
- Avoid Opiates
- Bronchodilators
- Drain effusions
- Treat infections

RESPIRATORY ACIDOSIS

- Hypoventilation → Hypoxia

- Rapid, Shallow Respirations

• ↓ BP

- Skin/Mucosa Pale to Cyanotic

- Headache

- Hyperkalemia

- Dysrhythmias (↑K⁺)

I can't catch my breath.

- Drowsiness, Dizziness, Disorientation

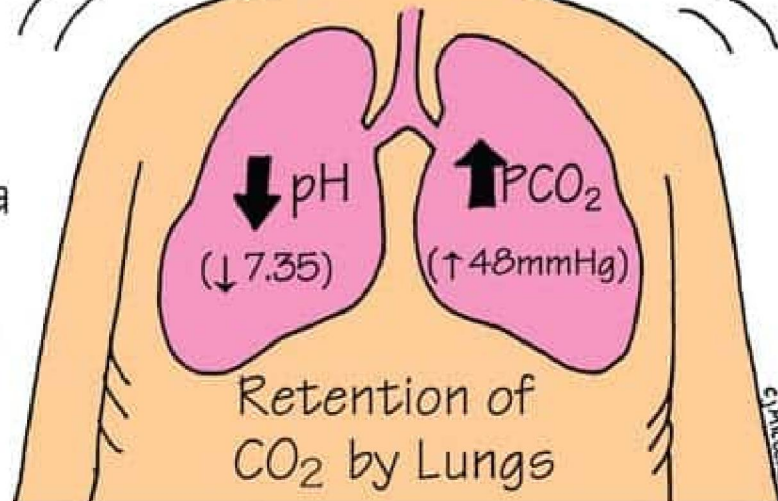
- Muscle Weakness, Hyperreflexia

- Causes:

Respiratory Depression
(Anesthesia, Overdose, ↑ICP)

Airway Obstruction

↓ Alveolar Capillary Diffusion (Pneumonia, COPD, ARDS, PE)



Metabolic Acidosis

Causes

☐ failure of kidney function

↓pH ↓HCO₃

☐ pH < 7.35

☐ HCO₃ < 22

☐ renal failure

☐ diabetic ketoacidosis(DKA)

☐ **Hyperglycaemia**

☐ excessive diarrhea

☐ Shock

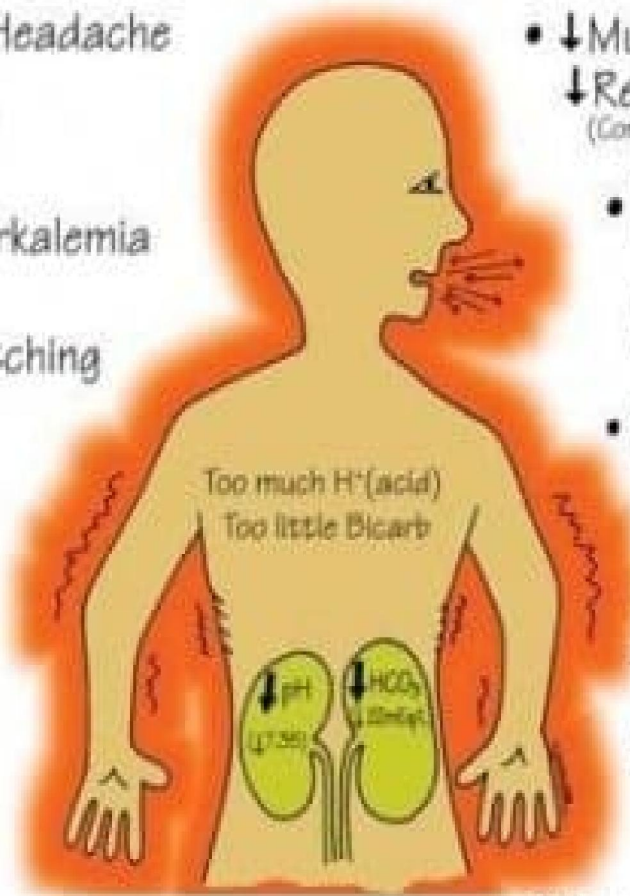
Signs and Symptoms

- headache
- confusion
- weakness
- increased respiratory rate and depth
- nausea and vomiting
- diminished cardiac output with pH below 7, which results in hypotension, cold clammy skin and cardiac arrhythmias.

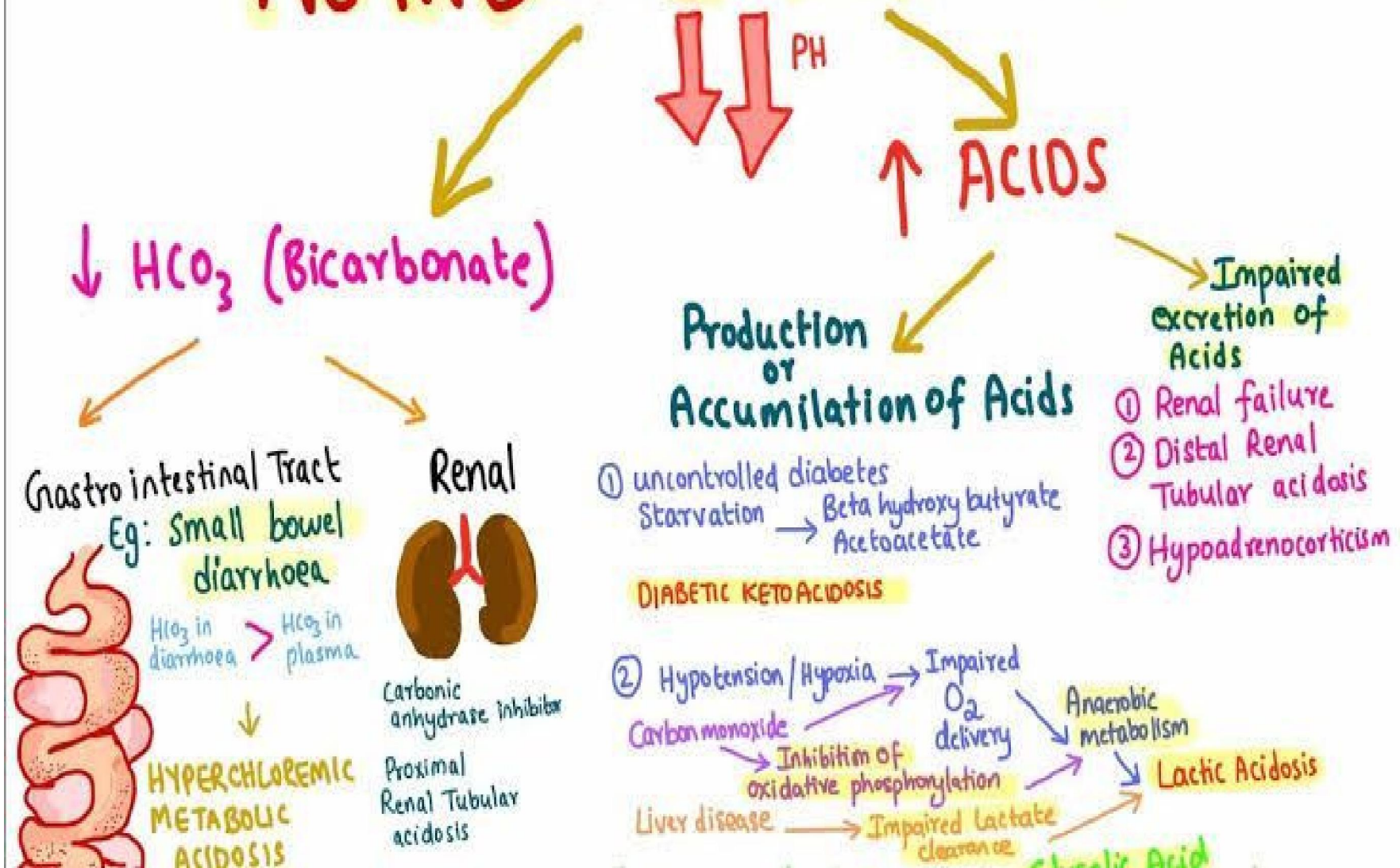
Interventions in Metabolic Acidosis

- Shock support blood pressure
 - Assess LOC
- Provide seizure or coma precautions and bed in low position, use of side rails, frequent observation.
- Monitor serum electrolytes, especially potassium
 - Keep sodium bicarbonate ampules handy for emergency administration.
- Hyperglycaemia give insulin
- Dehydration give fluids

METABOLIC ACIDOSIS

- 
- Headache
 - ↓BP
 - Hyperkalemia
 - Muscle Twitching
 - Warm, Flushed Skin (Vasodilation)
 - Nausea, Vomiting
 - ↓Muscle Tone, ↓Reflexes (Confusion, ↑Drowsiness)
 - Kussmaul Respirations (Compensatory Hyperventilation)
 - Causes:
 - ↑H⁺ Production (DKA, hypermetabolism)
 - ↓H⁺ Elimination (renal failure)
 - ↓HCO₃⁻ Production (dehydration, liver failure)
 - ↑HCO₃⁻ Elimination (diarrhea, fistulas)

METABOLIC ACIDOSIS



Respiratory Alkalosis

☐ too much CO₂ exhaled (hyperventilation)

 pH  PCO₂  Ventilation

- ☐ pH > 7.45
- ☐ PCO₂ < 35

Causes

Hyperventilation due to

- ☐ Anxiety
- ☐ Fever(☐metabolism- Hyperventilation)
- ☐ Pain(overstimulate resp center)
- ☐ Over ventilation
- ☐ Hypoxia (stimulate resp center)
- ☐ Aspirin overdose

Signs and Symptoms

- Shortness of breath.
- Dizziness.
- Confusion.
- Nausea.
- **Hypo calcemia**: Numbness and /or tingling in your fingertips, toes and lips.
- Irritability.
- **Muscle spasms or twitching.**

Interventions in

Respiratory Alkalosis

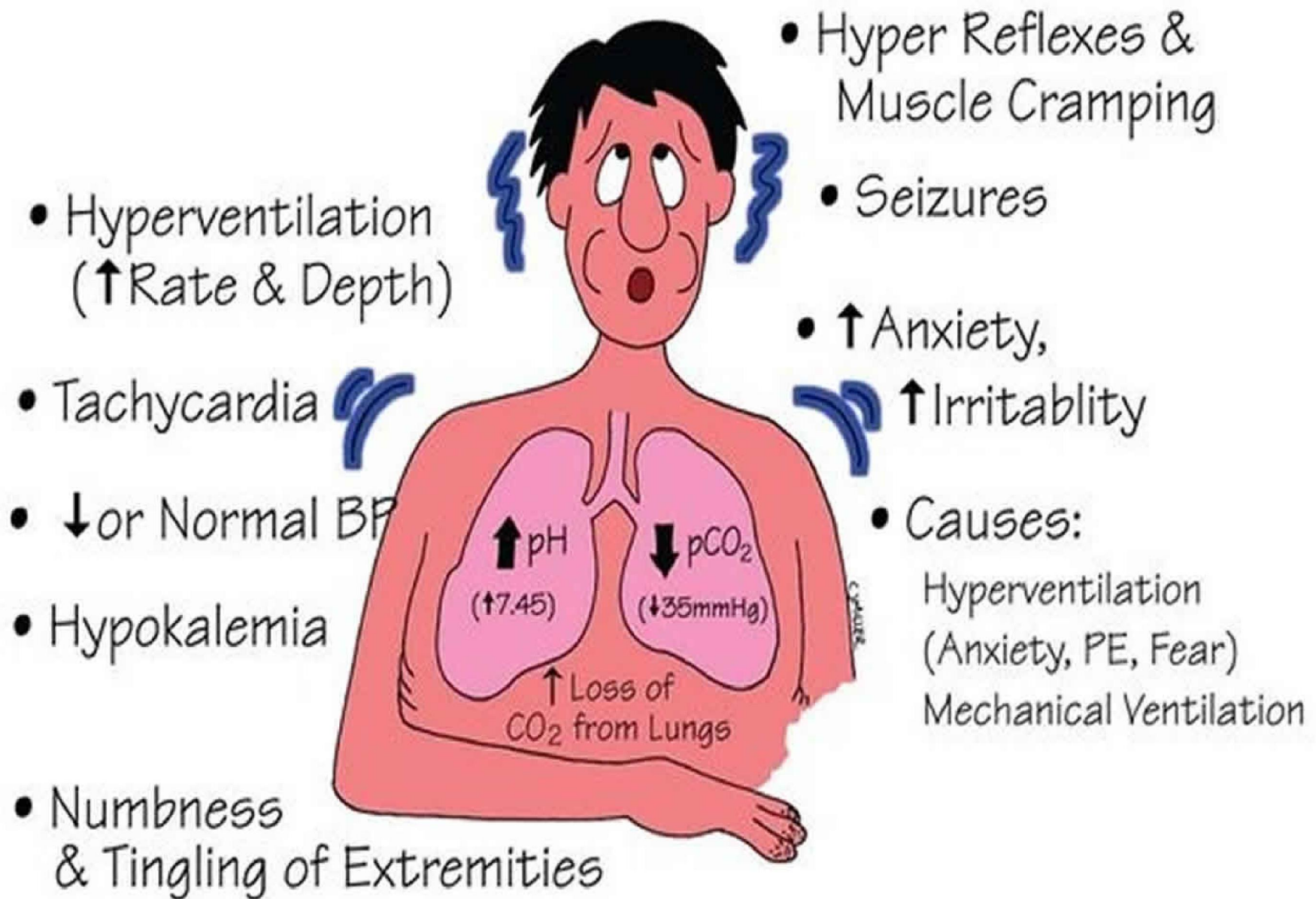
- Reduce ventilation
- breathe into paper bag(re-breath CO₂).
- Encourage patient to breathe slowly and deeply. Speak in a low, calm tone of voice. Provide safe environment.

Treat pain and fever

reduce anxiety

Check for overdose and consider active charcoal/IV fluids

RESPIRATORY ALKALOSIS



Metabolic Alkalosis

☐ ↑ plasma bicarbonate

☐ ↑ PH ↑ HCO₃

☐ pH > 7.45

☐ HCO₃ > 26

Causes

☐ ↑ loss acid from stomach or kidney

☐ Vomiting

☐ Excessive diuretics

☐ hypokalemia

☐ excessive alkali intake

☐ Anorexia

☐ Excessive ingestion of antacids

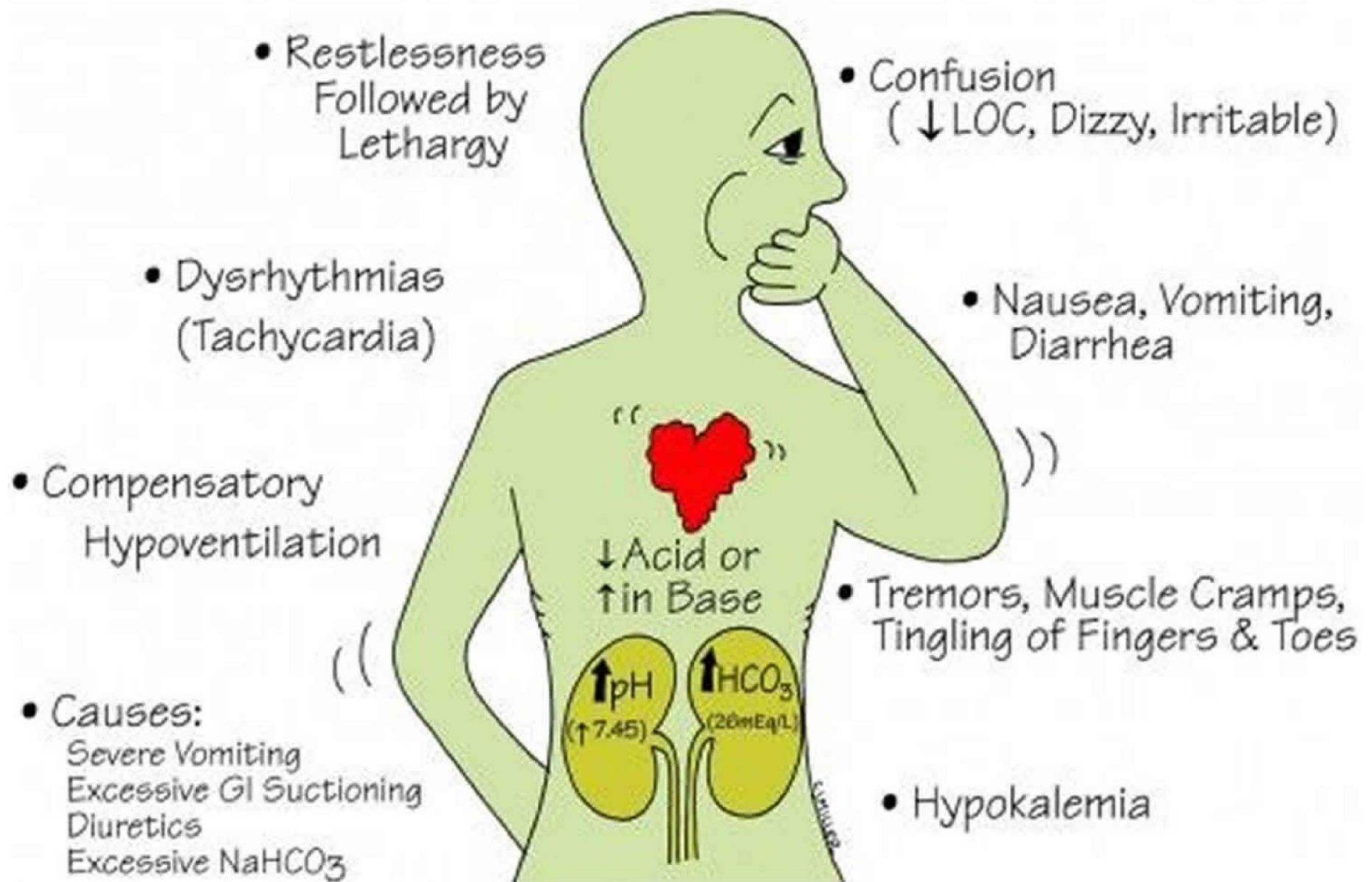
Signs and Symptoms

- Irritability.
 - Muscle twitching.
 - Muscle cramps.
 - Muscle spasms.
 - Fatigue.
 - Confusion.
 - Tremor.
 - Tingling and numbness.
 - Abnormal heart rhythm ([arrhythmia](#)).
 - Seizures.
 - Coma
- 

Interventions in Metabolic Alkalosis

- Vomiting give anti-emetics
- Avoid Diuretics
- Stop ingestion of antacids
- Observe [seizure](#) precautions .

METABOLIC ALKALOSIS



Respiratory Acidosis : $pCO_2 \uparrow$ - $PH \downarrow$	Metabolice Acidosis: $HCO_3 \downarrow$ $PH \downarrow$
✓ علت: • تجمع CO_2 • هایپوونتیلیه-$RR \downarrow$ • نارکوتیک-آسم-آپنه-$HT-COPD$ ✓ درمان: • O_2-اینتوبه- • Increase in ventilator rate from	✓ علت: • دفع بیکربنات: اسهال • احتباس اسید: DKA • salicylate intoxication ✓ درمان: • سدیم بیکربنات • جبران با تنفس کوسمال (افزایش عمق و ریت تنفس)
Alk-Resp: : $pCO_2 \downarrow$ - $PH \uparrow$	Alk-Meta: $HCO_3 \uparrow$ $PH \uparrow$
□ علت: • هایپرونتیلیشن-$RR \uparrow$ • درد-اضطراب anxiety □ درمان: تنفس لب غنجه ای	□ علت: • از دست دادن اسید معده: استفراغ شدید - ساکشن NG • antacids □ درمان: ریه وارد عمل شده $RR \downarrow$ و هایپوونتیلیه که باعث احتباس CO_2 و اسیدوز متابولیک میشود

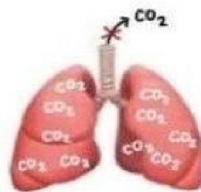
ACID



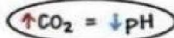
BASE



respiratory acidosis



inability to breathe out CO_2 causes CO_2 buildup in the body

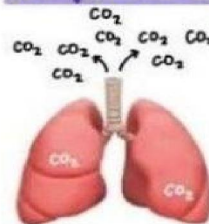


acidic

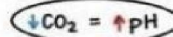
examples:

- respiratory depression
- sleep dyspnea
- COPD
- asthma
- alcohol intoxication
- CNS depressants:
 - * benzodiazepines
 - * morphine
 - * hydrocodone

respiratory alkalosis



breathing out too much CO_2 means less CO_2 in the body

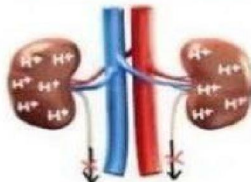


alkaline

examples:

- hyperventilation
- panic
- anxiety
- pain

metabolic acidosis

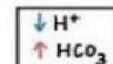
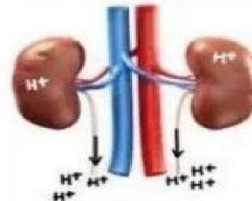


acidic

examples:

- diarrhea
- renal failure
- diabetic ketoacidosis

metabolic alkalosis



alkaline

examples:

- vomiting
- NG tube suctioning
- diuretics
- antacids

METABOLIC ACIDOSIS

VS

METABOLIC ALKALOSIS

Created by @nursebecsupplies

TOO MUCH
Acid in the body



TOO MUCH
Bicarbonate in the body



CAUSES*

- Kidney Disease
- DKA
- Severe Diarrhoea

SYMPTOMS*

Can be asymptomatic

- Tachycardia
- Fatigue
- Confusion
- Changes to breathing
- Appetite changes
- Nausea/vomiting

CAUSES*

- Medication such as diuretics
- Vomiting
- Hormonal Disorders

SYMPTOMS*

Can be asymptomatic

- Muscle twitching
- Tingling
- Nausea Vomiting
- Arrhythmias

Problem 1:

ABGs: pH: 7.43

PaCO₂: 28

HCO₃: 18

Acid

Normal

Base

HCO₃

pH

PaCO₂

- PH: 7.43 (falls within 7.35-7.45) = NORMAL but is on the **alkalotic side**
- PaCO₂: 28 (less than 35) = ALKALOTIC
- HCO₃: 18 (less than 22) = ACIDOTIC

✓ To determine the type of *compensation* look at the *pH...is it normal or abnormal? It's NORMAL!*

✓ **full compensation.**

respiratory alkalosis, fully compensated by the means of metabolic acidosis.

- pH: 7.37 (falls within 7.35-7.45)
(**NORMAL** but it's on the acidotic side)
- PaCO₂: 33 (less than 35) = **ALKALOTIC**
- HCO₃: 17 (less than 22) = **ACIDIC**
- PH= NORMAL! **full compensation.**
- *metabolic acidosis, fully compensated by
the means of respiratory alkalosis*

Problem 2:

ABGs: pH: 7.50

PaCO₂: 49

HCO₃: 30

Acid	Normal	Base
PaCO ₂		pH HCO ₃

- pH: 7.50 (greater than 7.50)

(Abnormal...ALKALOTIC)

- PaCO₂: 49 (greater than 45) = ACIDIC

- HCO₃: 30 (greater than 26) = ALKALOTIC

Partially compensated metabolic alkalosis

Case Study

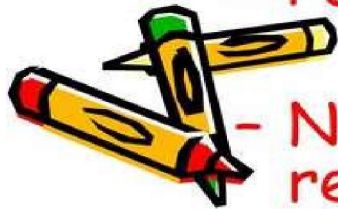
A 21 year old college student is admitted to the Emergency Department after taking an overdose of Oxycontin. The patient is unconscious & breathing at a rate of 6 to 7 bpm. The patient's ABG on room air is as follows:

- pH: 7.23 (low); PaCO₂: 71 (high); PaO₂: 64; HCO₃: 26 (normal)

- Interpretation: (resp. acidosis. Uncompensated)

- Possible Cause? Drug overdose

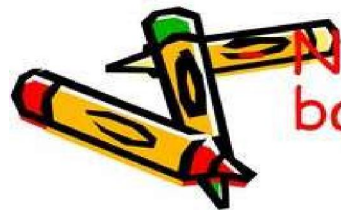
- Nursing Interventions: intubation (high resp above 20, high Fio2 40) NARCAN



Case Study

A woman with a history of panic disorder arrives at the Emergency Department complaining of not being able to "catch her breath". The woman is crying, shaking and breathing rapidly. An ABG is obtained:

- pH: 7.52 (high); PaCO₂: 28 (norm); HCO₃: 22 (norm); SaO₂: 90%
- Interpretation: Respiratory Alkalosis uncompensated, hypoxia
- Possible Cause? Hyperventilating



- Nursing Interventions: Calm down, paper bag, pain



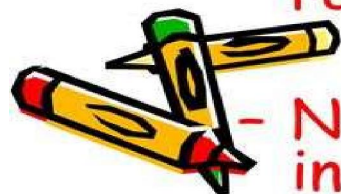
Case Study

A patient has been mechanically ventilated for the past two days in the ICU. The ventilator settings are as follows: AC, rate of 16, FIO_2 50%, and TV 600. The patient's 6am ABG results are as follows:

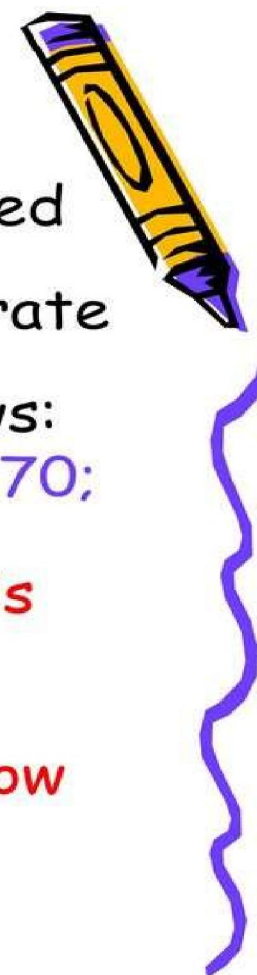
- pH: 7.49 (high); PaCO_2 : 29 (low); PaO_2 : 70; HCO_3 : 25 (normal):

- Interpretation? Respiratory alkalosis uncompensated

- Possible Cause? Hyperventilation, slow rate/tidal volume



- Nursing Interventions? Pain control, increase PEEP,





Lab Values Cheat Sheet

Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP)

- Albumin: 3.4-5.4 g/dL
- BUN: 5-20 mg/dL
- Calcium: 9-11 mg/dL
- Chloride: 95-105 mEq/L
- Creatinine: 0.6-1.2 mg/dL
- Glucose: 70-100 mg/dL
- Potassium: 3.5-5 mEq/L
- Sodium: 135-145 mEq/L
- Total protein: 6.2-8.2 g/dL

Liver Function Test (LFT)

- ALP: 40-120 U/L
- ALT: 7-56 U/L
- AST: 10-40 U/L
- Bilirubin: 0.1-1.2 mg/dL

BMP plus LFT equals
Comprehensive Metabolic Panel (CMP)

Lipid Panel

- HDL: >60 mg/dL
- LDL: <100 mg/dL
- Total cholesterol: <200 mg/dL
- Triglyceride: <150 mg/dL

Renal = BMP plus:

- GFR: 90-120 mL/min/1.73m²
- Magnesium: 1.5-2.5 mg/dL
- Phosphorus: 2.5-4.5 mg/dL

COAGs

- aPTT: 30-40 seconds
- INR:
 - NOT on warfarin: <1 sec
 - ON warfarin: 2-3 sec
- PT: 10-13 seconds
- PTT: 25-35 seconds

Vital Signs

- Blood pressure:
 - Systolic: 120 mmHg
 - Diastolic: 80 mmHg
- Heart rate: 60-100 BPM
- Oxygen: 95-100%
- Respirations: 12-20/min
- Temperature: 97-99° F

ABGs

- HCO₃: 22-26 mEq/L
- PaCO₂: 35-45 mmHg
- PaO₂: 75-100 mmHg
- pH: 7.35-7.45
- O₂: 95-100%
- Remember ROME:



Respiratory
Opposite
Metabolic
Equal

Pancreas

- Amylase: 30-110 U/L
- Lipase: 0-150 U/L

Common Drugs

- Carbamazepine (Tegretol): 4-10 mcg/mL
- Digoxin: 0.5-2 ng/mL
- Dilantin: 10-20 mcg/mL
- Lithium: 0.5-1.2 mmol/L
- Phenobarbital: 15-40 mcg/mL
- Theophylline: 10-20 mcg/mL
- Valproic Acid (Depakote): 50-100 mcg/mL

Complete Blood Count (CBC)

- Hct:
 - Female: 37-47%
 - Male: 42-52%
- Hgb:
 - Female: 12-16 g/dL
 - Male: 14-18 g/dL
- PLT: 150,000-450,000
- RBCs: 4.5-5.5 million
- WBC: 5,000-11,000

HbA1c

- Non-diabetic: 4-5.6%
- Pre-diabetic: 5.7-6.4%
- Diabetic: >6.5%
- Diabetic Target: <6.5%

Other

- BMI target: 18.5-24.9
- MAP: 70-105 mmHg
- Glasgow coma scale
 - Mild: 13-15
 - Moderate: 9-12
 - Severe: 8 or less

*Exact lab values will vary in
different labs/facilities*

- Thank you for your participation

