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Buffers

- ➤ In the ECF, **bicarbonate buffer** is the most important. In this buffer system, bicarbonate (HCO3-) combines with H+ to form carbonic acid (H2CO3)
- ➤ The association of H with bicarbonate occurs rapidly, but the breakdown of carbonic acid to CO2 and water happens relatively slowly.
- ➤ The reaction is accelerated by an enzyme, **carbonic anhydrase**, which is present particularly in the erythrocytes and in the kidneys.

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- The reaction is accelerated by an enzyme, **carbonic anhydrase**, which is present particularly in the erythrocytes and in the kidneys.
- >Only when all the bicarbonate is used up does the system have no further buffering capacity
- The acid base status of patients is assessed by consideration of the bicarbonate system in plasma

اذا تمهت اله H+ معني ۱۵مه مادد المحمد المحمد يحب المحمد و

يدولها د الـ Hcoa + H حرّ ترتفع الربادة شروم

hidney Je

Buffers

- The **bicarbonate buffer** system is unique in that:
 - ➤ The (H2CO3) can dissociate to water and CO2 allowing CO2 to be eliminated by lung
 - ➤ Changes in CO2 modify the ventilation rate
 - ➤ HCO3- concentration can be altered by the kidney
- ➤ Phosphate buffer system (HPO4= H2PO4-) plays a role in plasma and RBC's and is involved in the exchange of Na/H+ ion in the urine filtrate
- ▶Plasma proteins, especially the imidazole groups of histidine, forms important buffer system in plasma. Most circulating proteins has net negative charge capable of H+ binding

Regulation of the acid-base balance

➤In plasms at 37oC, the value for the combination of the solubility constant for PCO2 and the factor to convert mm Hg to mmol/L is 0.0307 mmol L-1. mm Hg-1

$$pH = pK' + log \frac{cHCO_3}{0.031 \times PCO_3}$$

$$partial pressure of Co2$$

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H+ excretion in the kidney

All the H+ that is buffered must eventually be excreted from the body via the kidneys, regenerating the bicarbonate used up in the buffering process and maintaining the plasma bicarbonate concentration within normal limits.

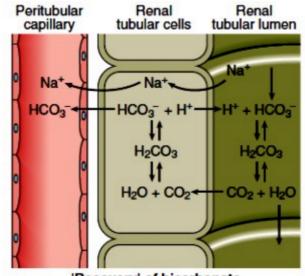
Secretion of H+ by the tubular cells serve initially to reclaim bicarbonate from the glomerular filtrate so that it is not lost from the body

When all bicarbonate has been recovered, any deficit due to the buffering process is regenerated.

The mechanisms for bicarbonate recovery and for bicarbonate regeneration are very similar and sometimes confused.

The excreted H+ must be buffered in urine or the [H+] would rise to very high levels, phosphate acts as one such buffer, while ammonia is another

H+ excretion in the kidney



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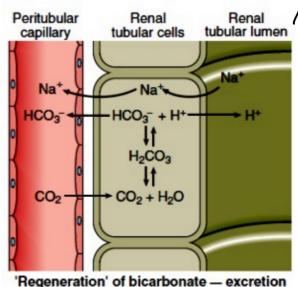
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'Recovery' of bicarbonate



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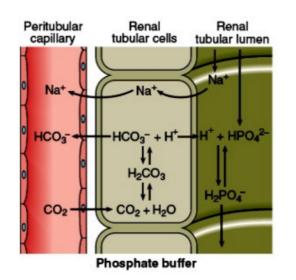
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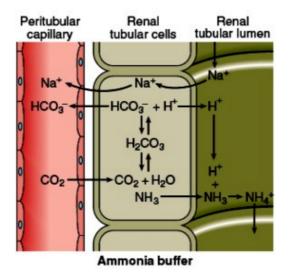
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H+ excretion in the kidney





Assessing status

- The carbonic acid (H2CO3) component is proportional to carbon dioxide, which is in turn proportional to the partial pressure of the CO2
- ➤ Because the body's cellular and metabolic activities are pH dependent, the body tries to restore acid-base homeostasis whenever an imbalance occurs (Compensation)
- The body accomplishes this by altering the factor not primarily affected by the pathologic process. For example, if the imbalance is of **non-respiratory** origin, the body compensates by altering **ventilation** (fast response).
- For disturbances of the **respiratory** components. The **kidneys compensate** by selectively excreting or reabsorbing anions and cations. The kidneys are slower to respond (2-4 days)

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Assessing status

- The H concentration in blood varies as the bicarbonate concentration and pCO2 change. If everything else remains constant.
- Adding H, removing bicarbonate or increasing the pCO2 will all increase [H+] Acadesis
- Removing H, adding bicarbonate or lowering pCO2 will all cause the [H+] to fall. Alkalo \$15
- An indication of the acid base status of the patient can be obtained by measuring the components of the bicarbonate buffer system

Normal ranges

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حكيق

TABLE 16-1	ARTERIAL BLOOD	GAS
REFERENCE	RANGE AT 37°C	

рН	7.35-7.45
pCO₂ (mm Hg)	35-45
HCO ₃ - (mmol/L)	22-26
Total CO ₂ content (mmol/L)	23-27
pO ₂ (mmol/L)	80-110
SO ₂ (%)	>95
O ₂ Hb (%)	>95

