

Cardiac output and Venous Return

Faisal I. Mohammed, MD, PhD

Objectives

- Define cardiac output and venous return
- Describe the methods of measurement of CO
- Outline the factors that regulate cardiac output
- Follow up the cardiac output curves at different physiological states
- Define venous return and describe venous return curve
- Outline the factors that regulate venous return curve at different physiological states
- Inter-relate Cardiac output and venous return curves

Important Concepts About Cardiac Output (CO) Control

- Cardiac Output is the sum of all tissue flows and is affected by their regulation ($CO = 5L/min$, cardiac index = $3L/min/m^2$).
- CO is proportional to tissue O_2 use.
- CO is proportional to $1/TPR$ when AP is constant.
- $F = \Delta P / R$ (Ohm's law)
- $CO = (MAP - RAP) / TPR$, ($RAP=0$) then
- $CO = MAP / TPR$; $MAP = CO * TPR$

CARDIAC OUTPUT (L/min/m)

35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600

WORK OUTPUT DURING EXERCISE (kg*m/min)

OLYMPIC ATHLETE

CARDIAC OUTPUT

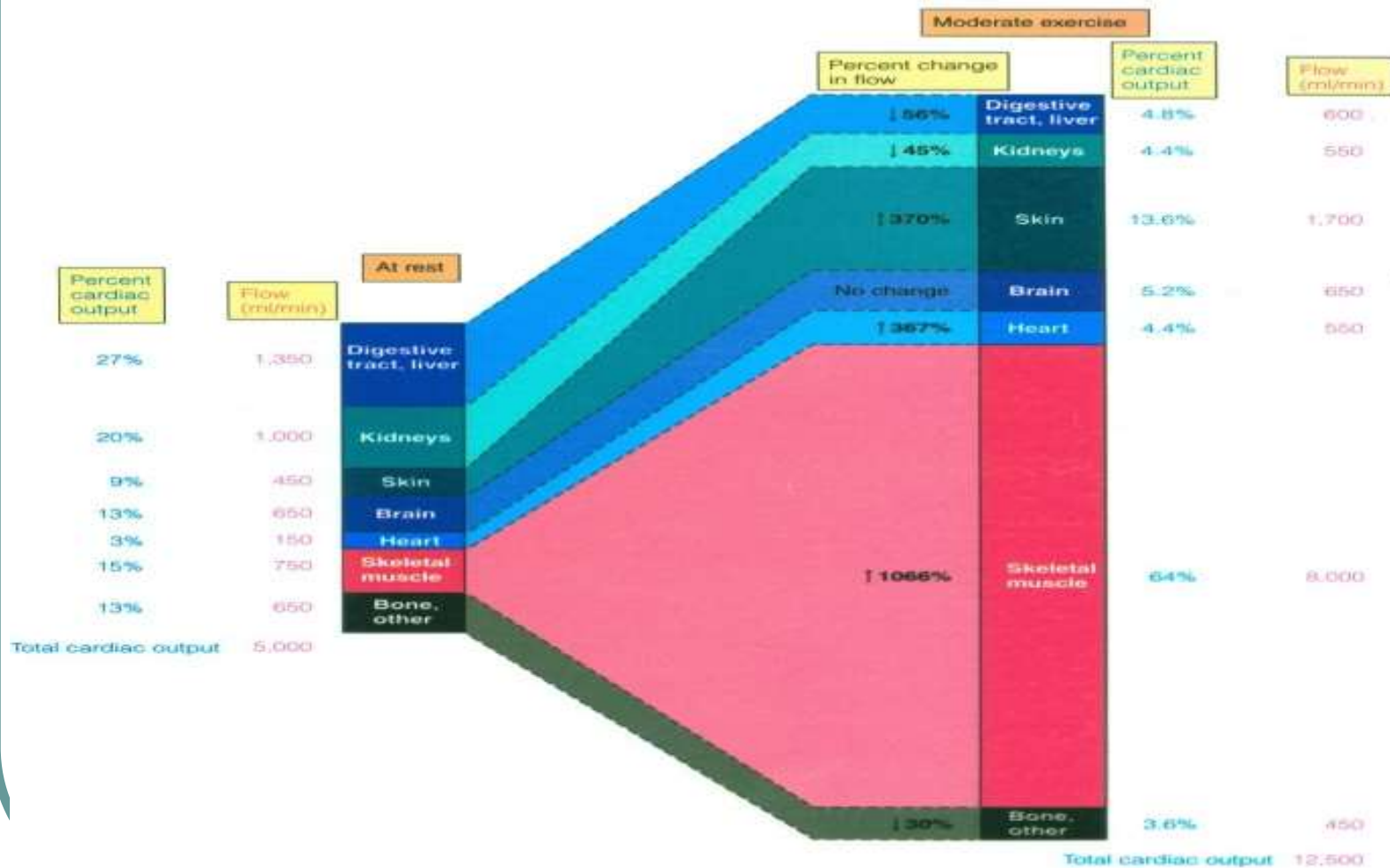
O₂ CONSUMPTION

COUCH POTATO

OXYGEN CONSUMPTION (L/min)

5
4
3
2
1
0

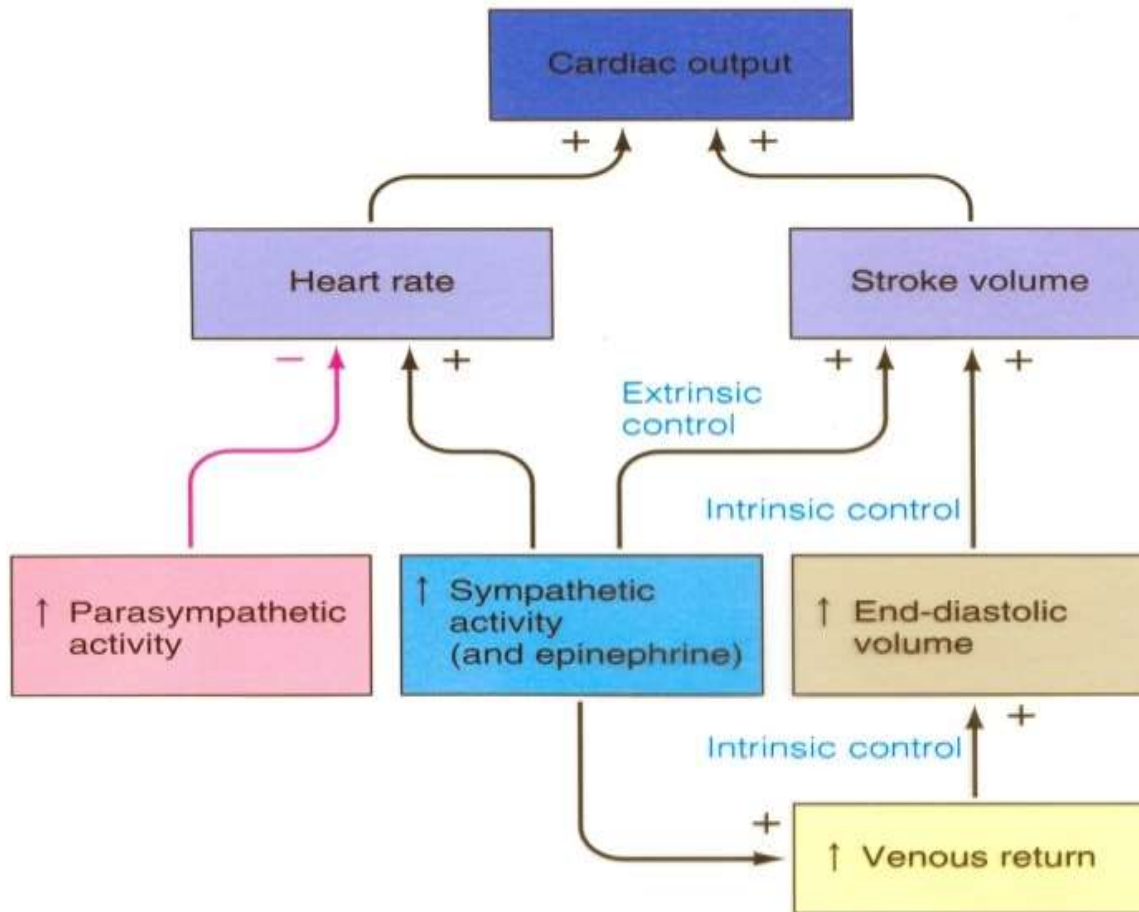
Magnitude & Distribution of CO at Rest & During Moderate Exercise



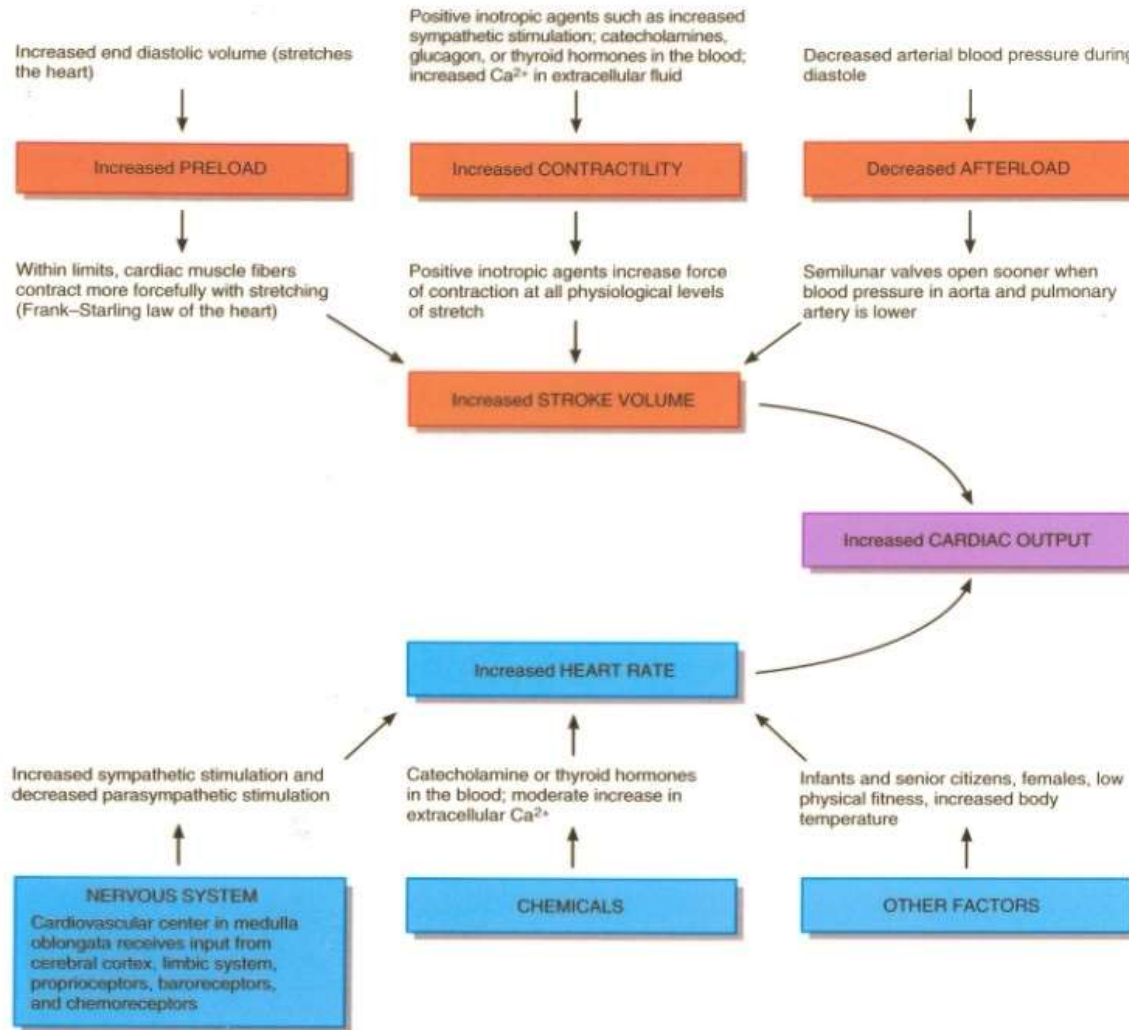
Variations in Tissue Blood Flow

	Per cent	ml/min	ml/min/ 100 gm
Brain	14	700	50
Heart	4	200	70
Bronchi	2	100	25
Kidneys	22	1100	360
Liver	27	1350	95
Portal	(21)	(1050)	
Arterial	(6)	(300)	
Muscle (inactive state)	15	750	4
Bone	5	250	3
Skin (cool weather)	6	300	3
Thyroid gland	1	50	160
Adrenal glands	0.5	25	300
Other tissues	3.5	175	1.3
Total	100.0	5000	---

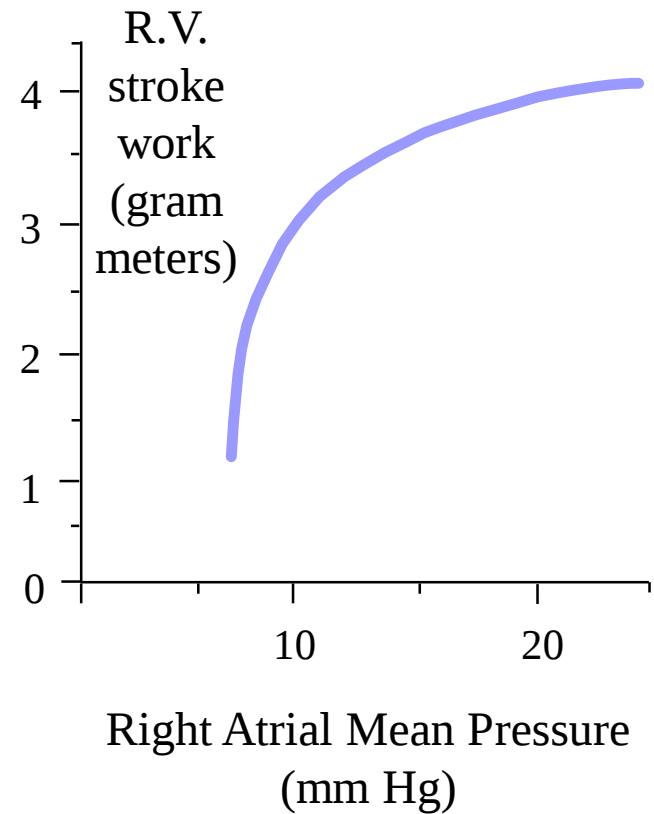
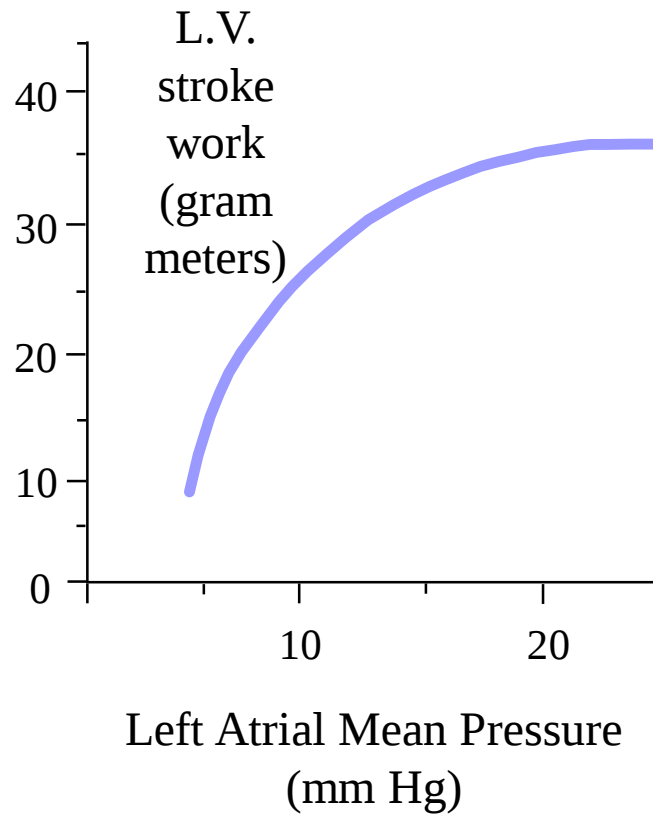
Control of Cardiac Output



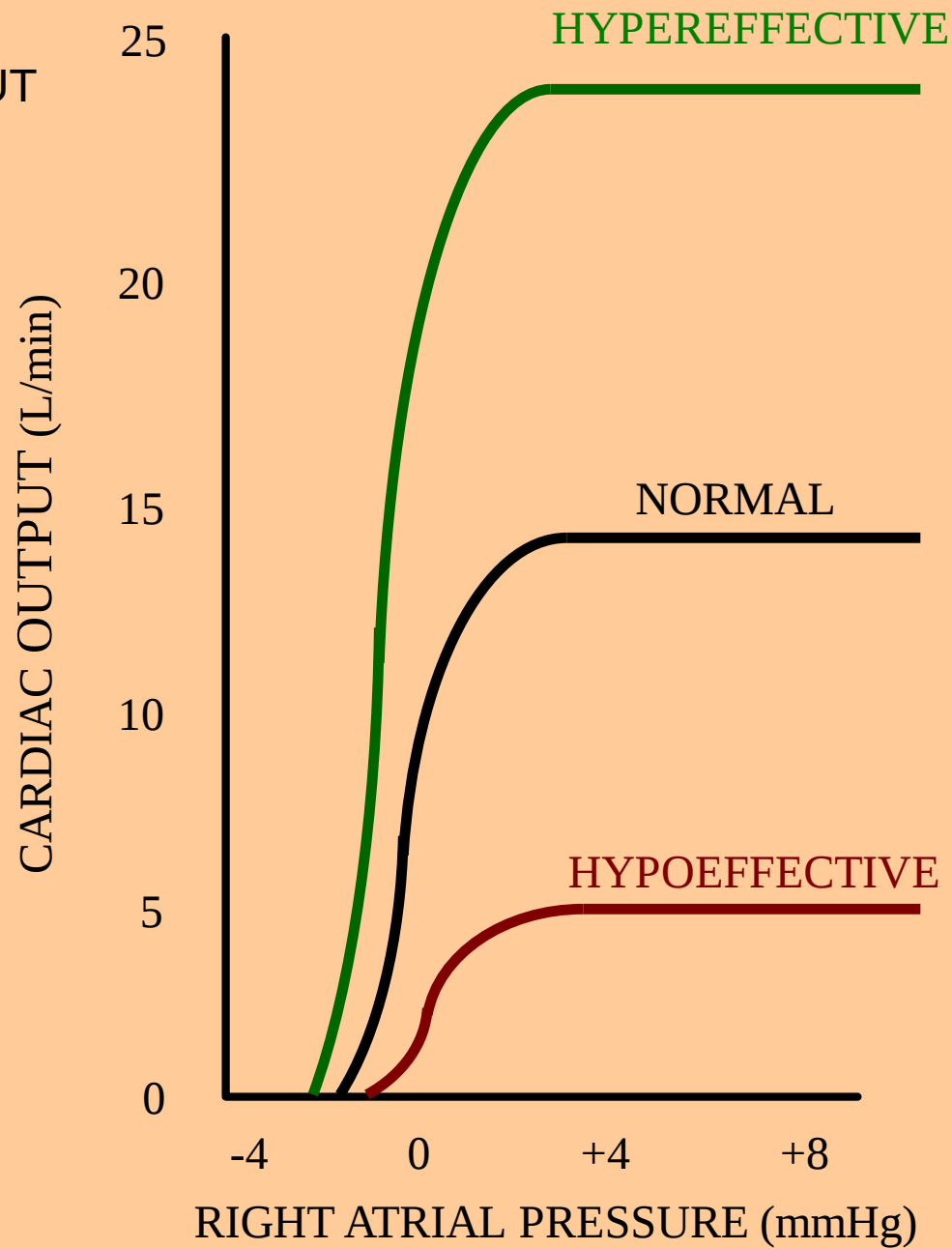
Factors that affect the Cardiac Output



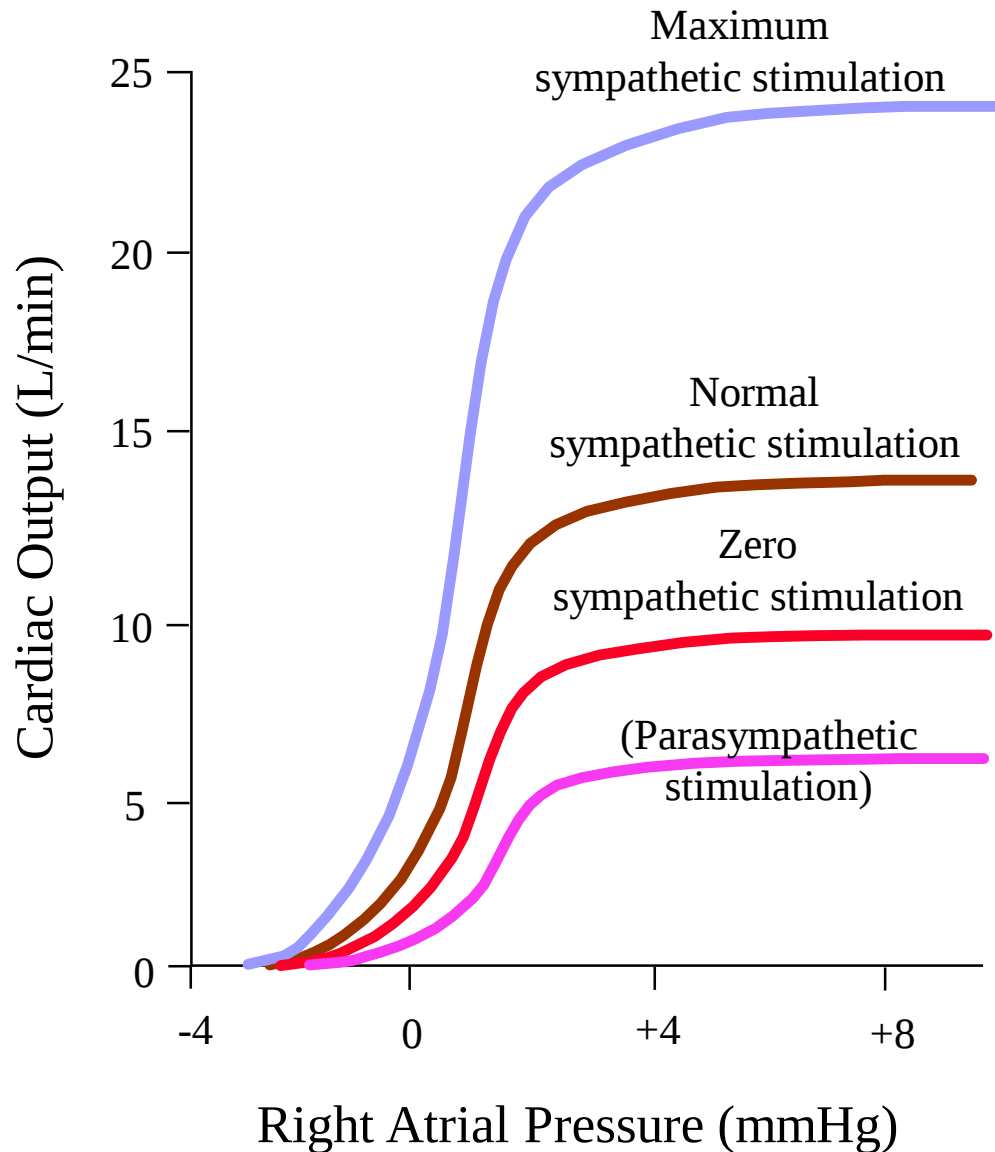
Ventricular Stroke Work Output



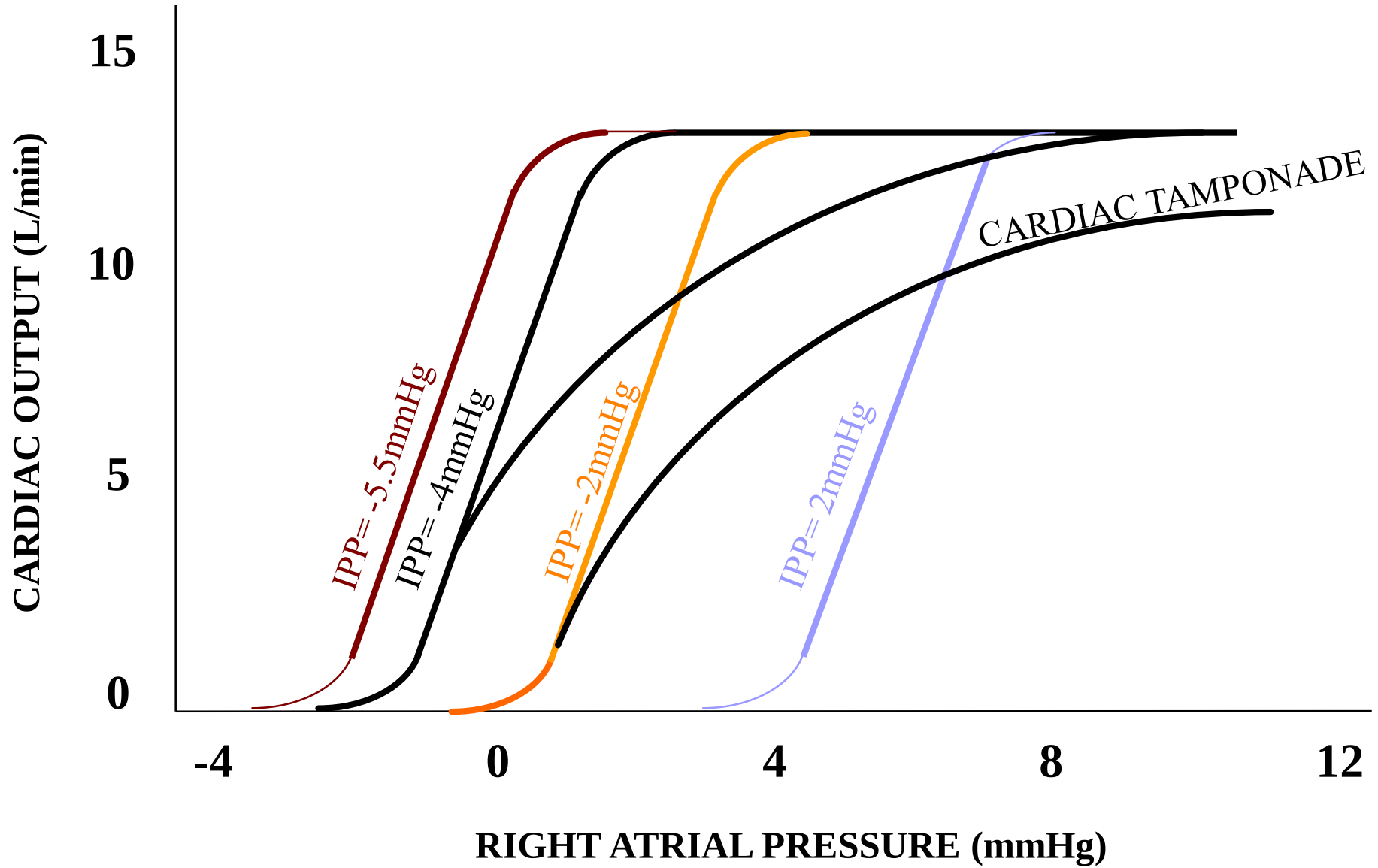
CARDIAC OUTPUT CURVES



Effect of Sympathetic and Parasympathetic Stimulation on Cardiac Output



IPP = INTRAPLEURAL PRESSURE



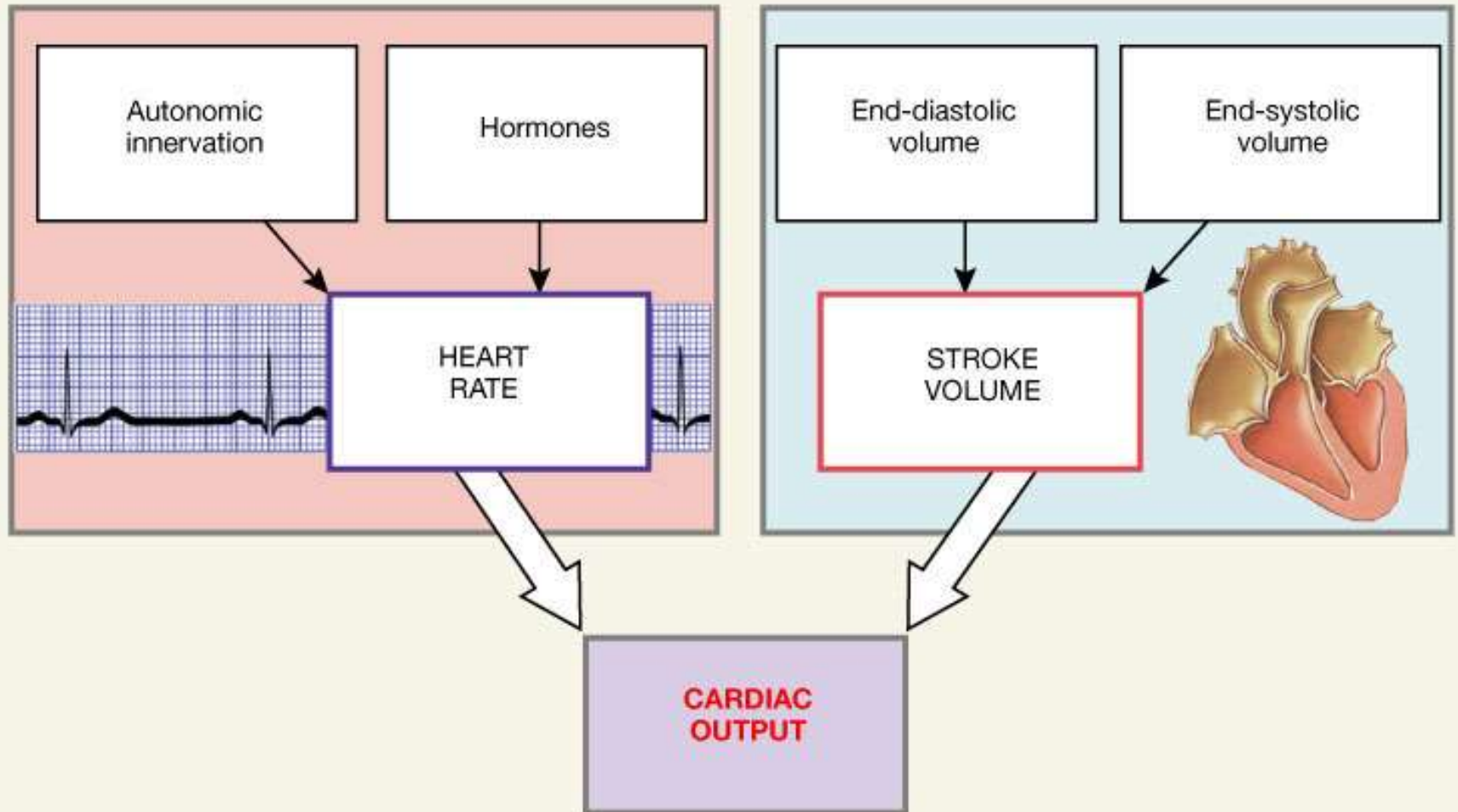
The Cardiac Output Curve

- Plateau of CO curve determined by heart strength (contractility + HR)
- Sympathetics $\Rightarrow$ plateau
- $\downarrow$ Parasympathetics (HR) $\Rightarrow$ (? plateau)
- Plateau
- Heart hypertrophy's $\Rightarrow$ plateau
- Myocardial infarction $\Rightarrow$ (? plateau)
- $\downarrow$ Plateau

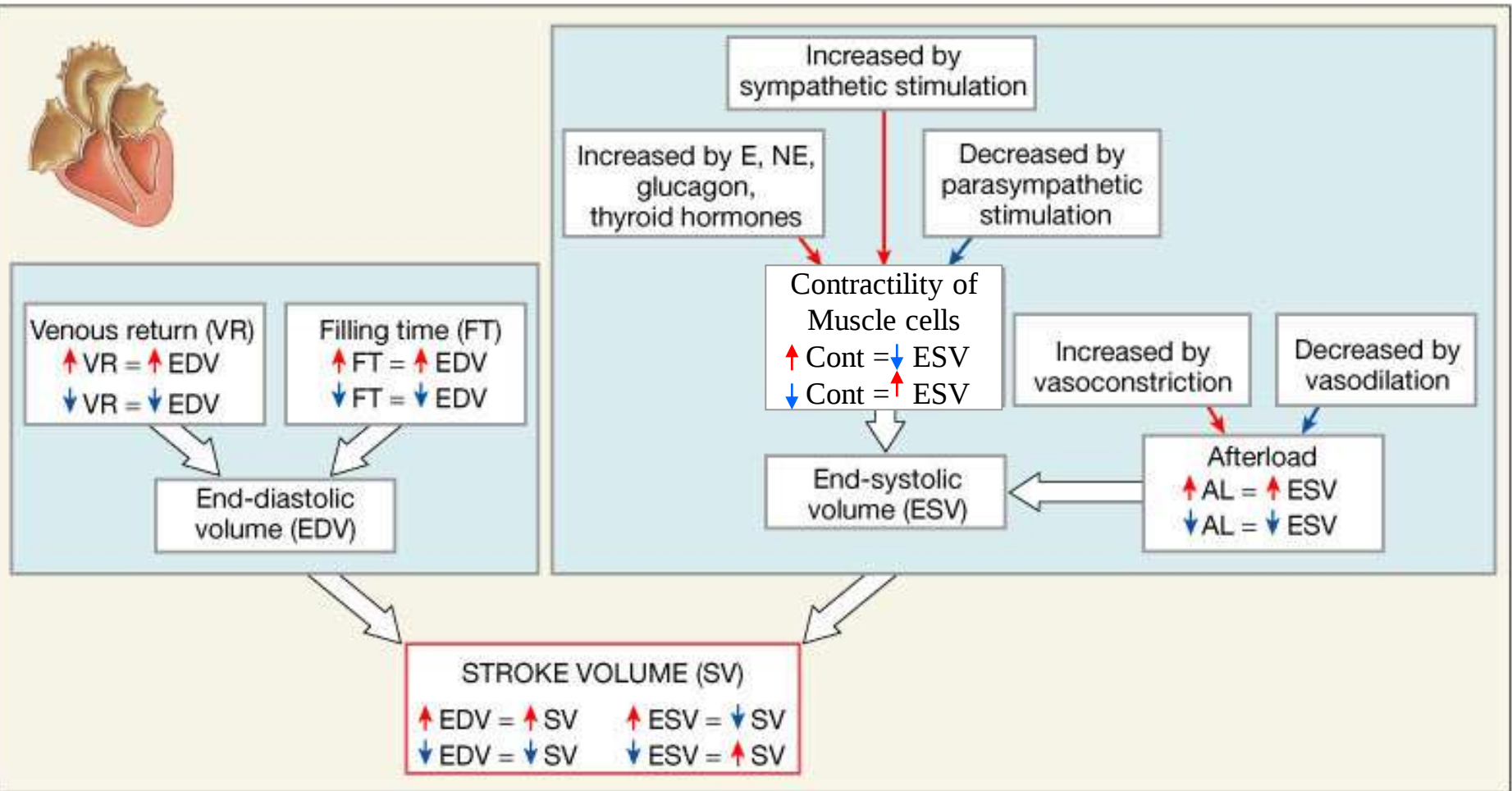
The Cardiac Output Curve (cont'd)

- Valvular disease $\Rightarrow$ $\downarrow$ plateau
(stenosis or regurgitation)
- Myocarditis $\Rightarrow$ $\downarrow$ plateau
- Cardiac tamponade $\Rightarrow$ (? plateau)
- $\downarrow$ Plateau
- Metabolic damage $\Rightarrow$ $\downarrow$ plateau

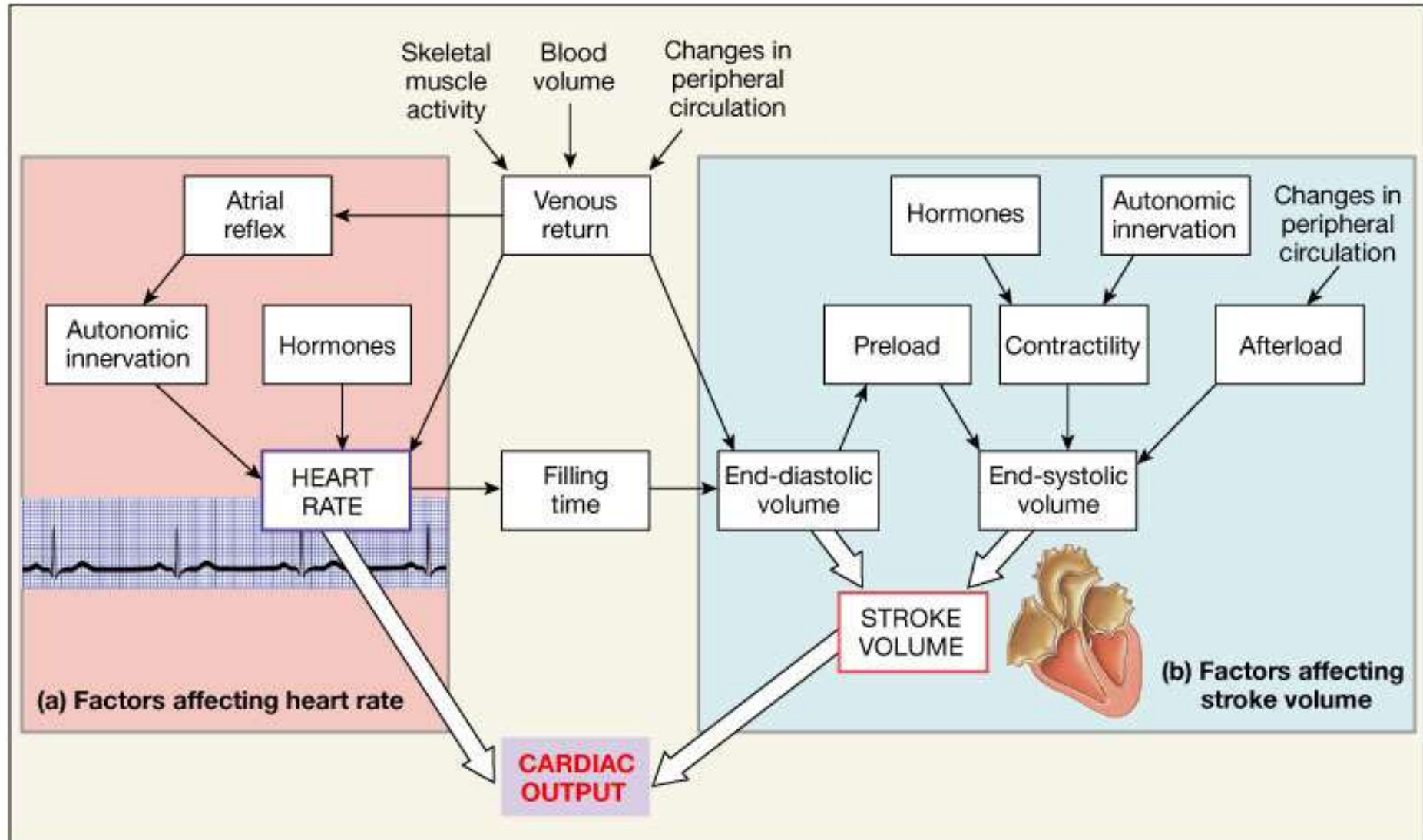
Factors Affecting Cardiac Output



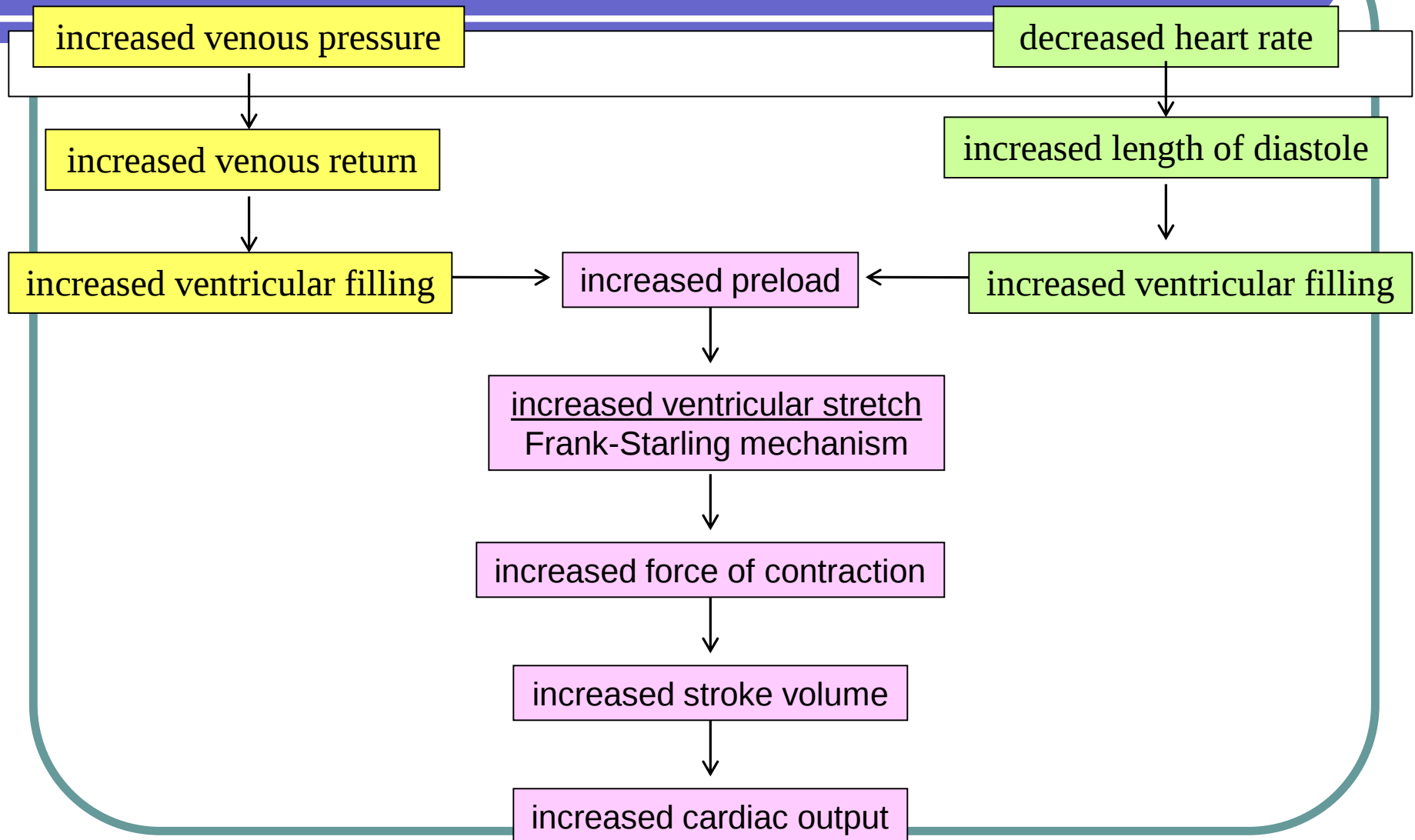
Factors Affecting Stroke Volume



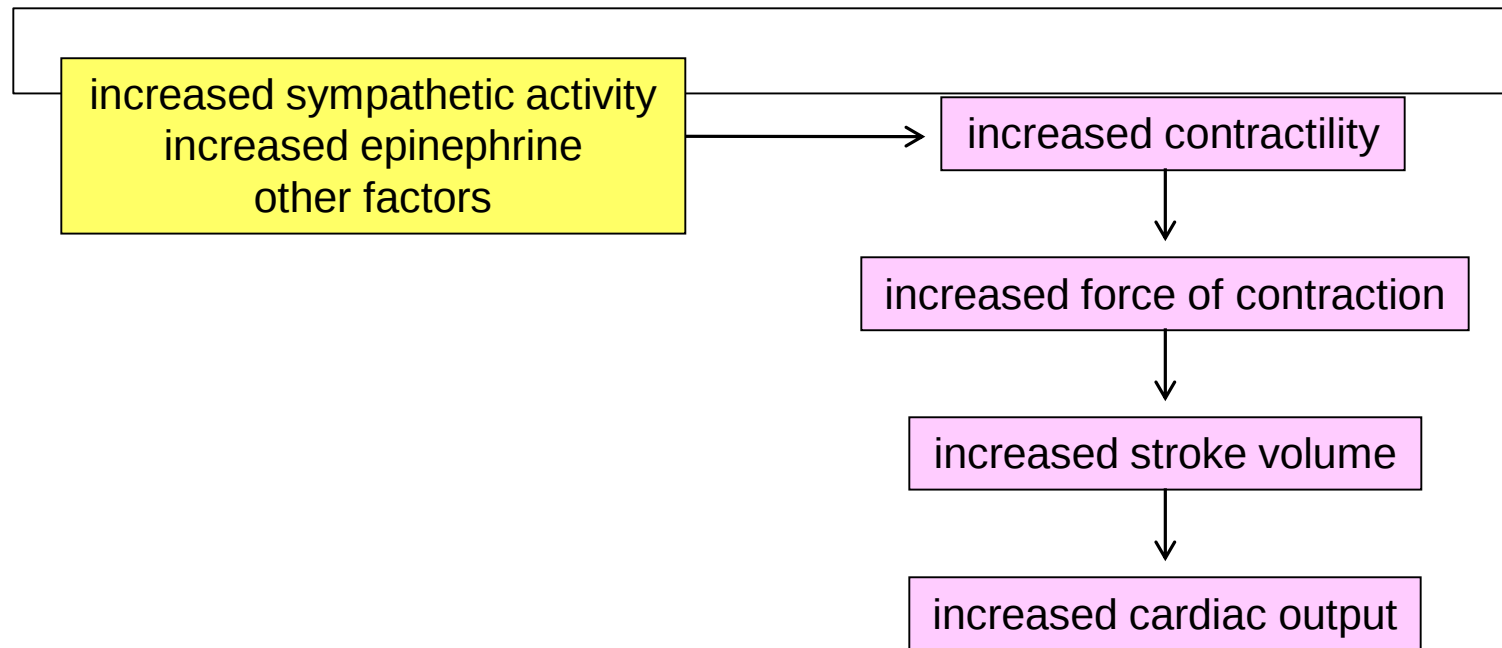
A Summary of the Factors Affecting Cardiac Output



REGULATION OF STROKE VOLUME: PRELOAD



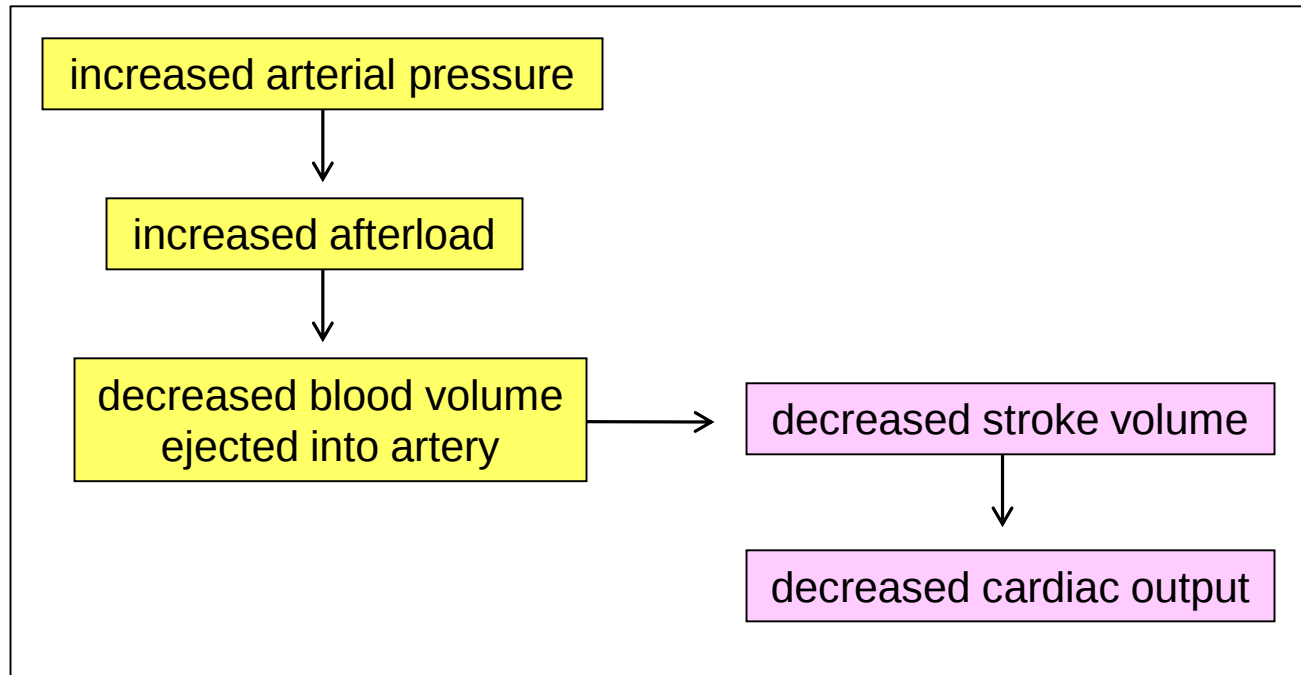
REGULATION OF STROKE VOLUME: CONTRACTILITY



Cardiac Contractility

- Best is to measure the C.O. curve, but this is nearly impossible in humans.
- dP/dt is not an accurate measure because this increases with increasing preload and afterload.
- $(dP/dt)/P_{\text{ventricle}}$ is better. $P_{\text{ventricle}}$ is instantaneous ventricular pressure.
- Excess K^+ decreases contractility.
- Excess Ca^{++} causes spastic contraction, and low Ca^{++} causes cardiac dilation.

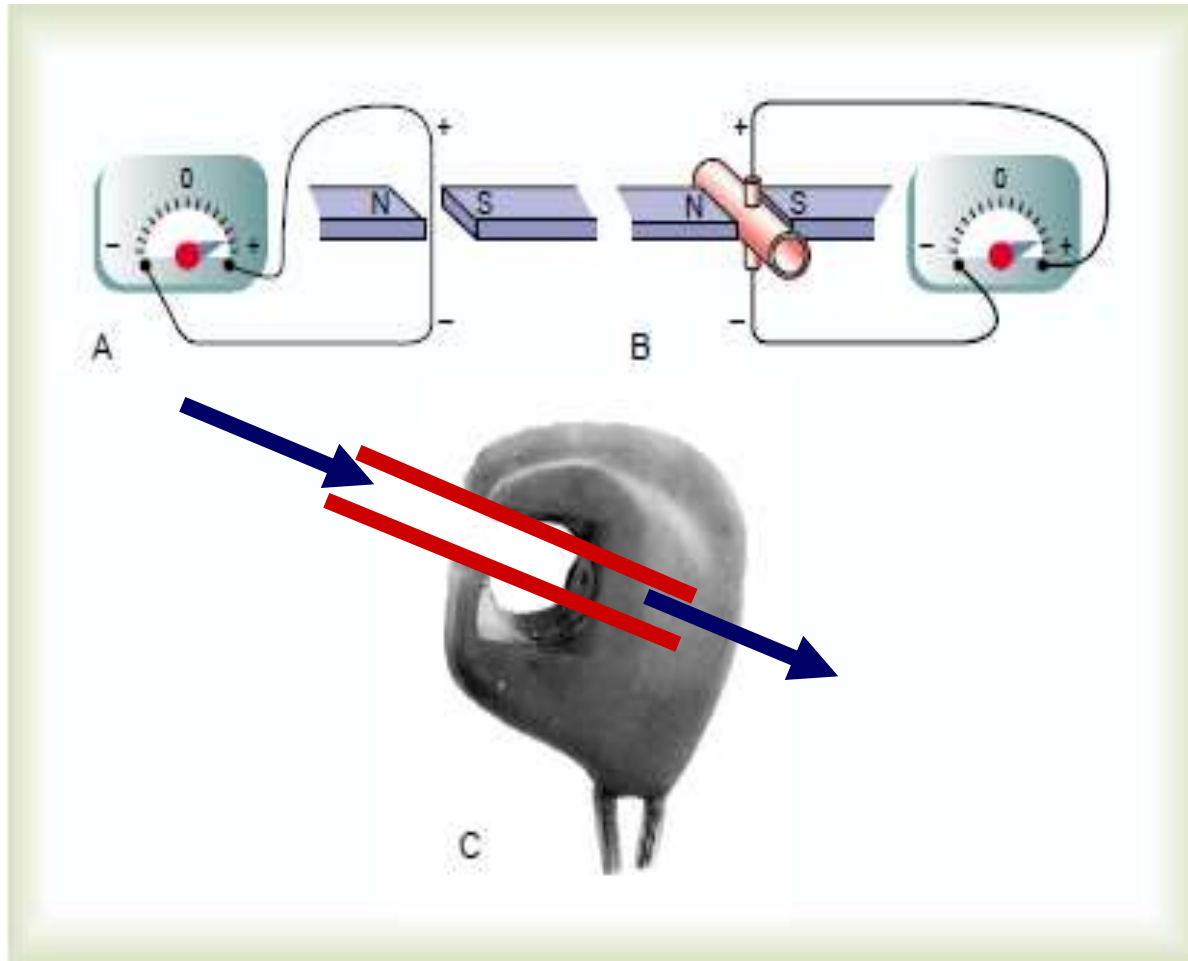
REGULATION OF STROKE VOLUME: AFTERLOAD

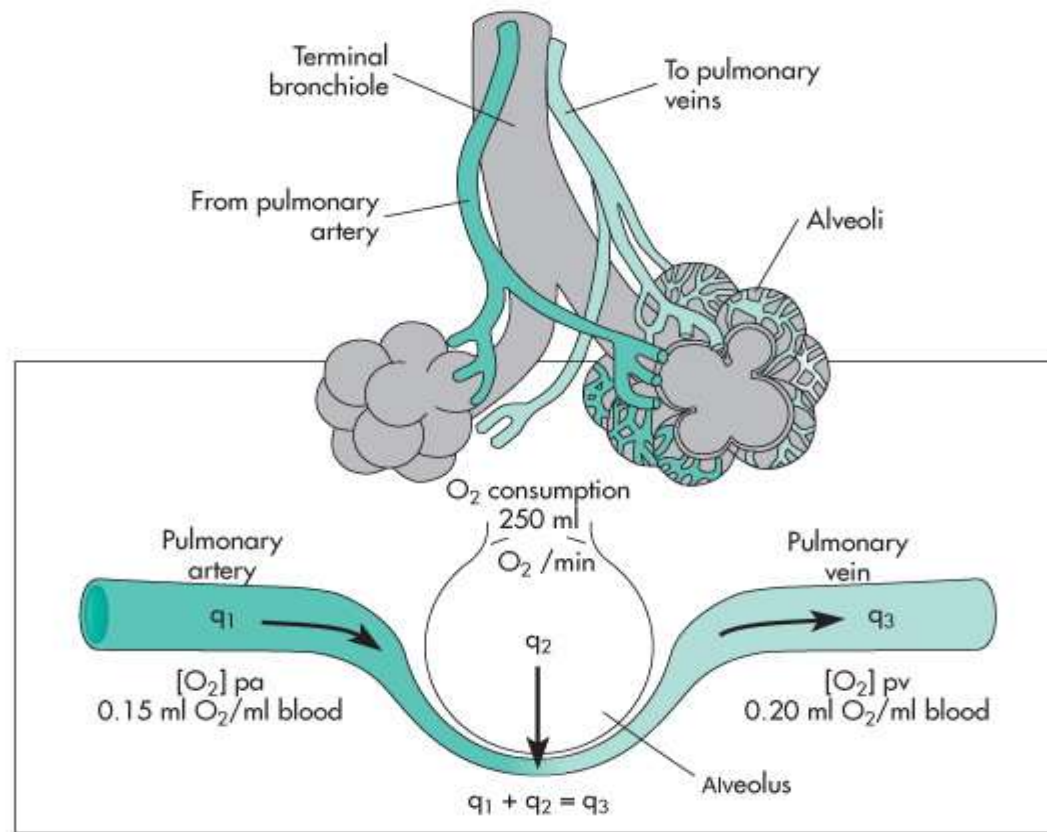


Measurement of Cardiac Output

- Electromagnetic flowmeter
- Indicator dilution (dye such as cardiogreen)
- Thermal dilution
- ***Oxygen Fick Method***
- ***$CO = (O_2 \text{ consumption} / (A-V O_2 \text{ difference}))$***

Electromagnetic flowmeter





$$q_1 = CO \cdot C_{VO_2}$$

q_2 = amount of Oxygen uptake by the lungs

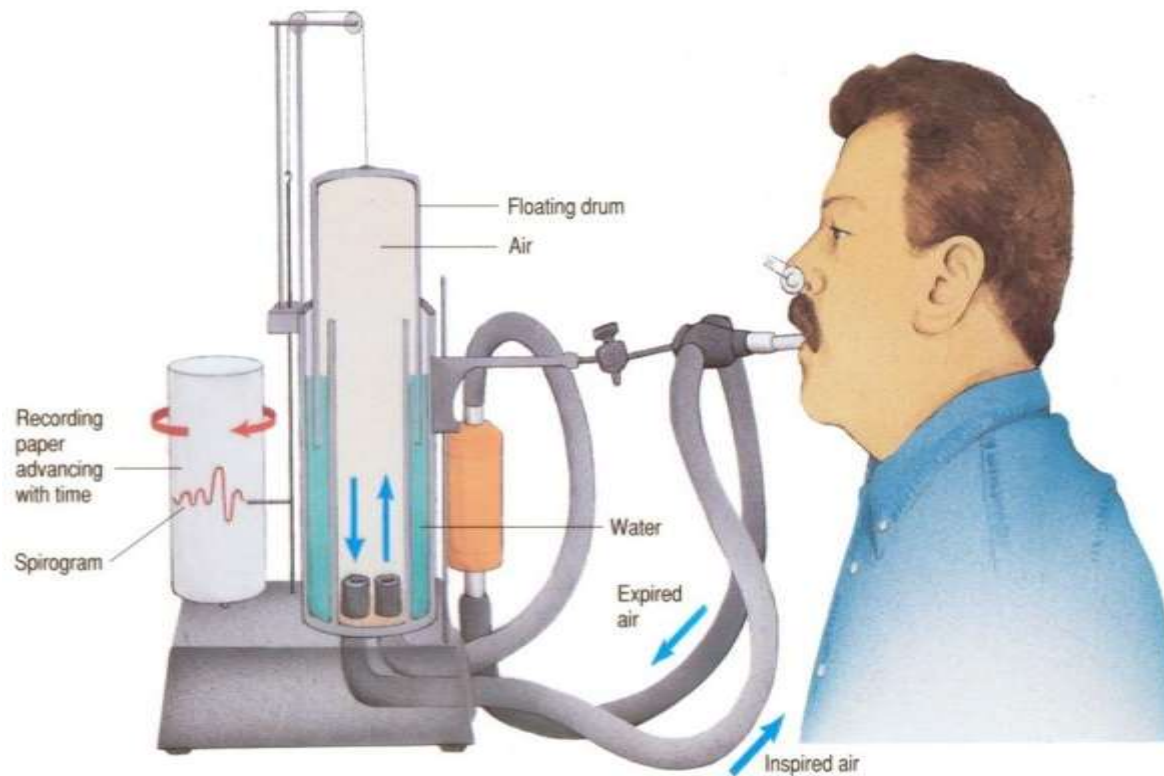
$$q_3 = CO \cdot C_{AO_2} \text{ and equals } = CO \cdot C_{VO_2} + O_2 \text{ uptake}$$

$$\text{Oxygen uptake} = CO \{ C_{AO_2} - C_{VO_2} \}$$

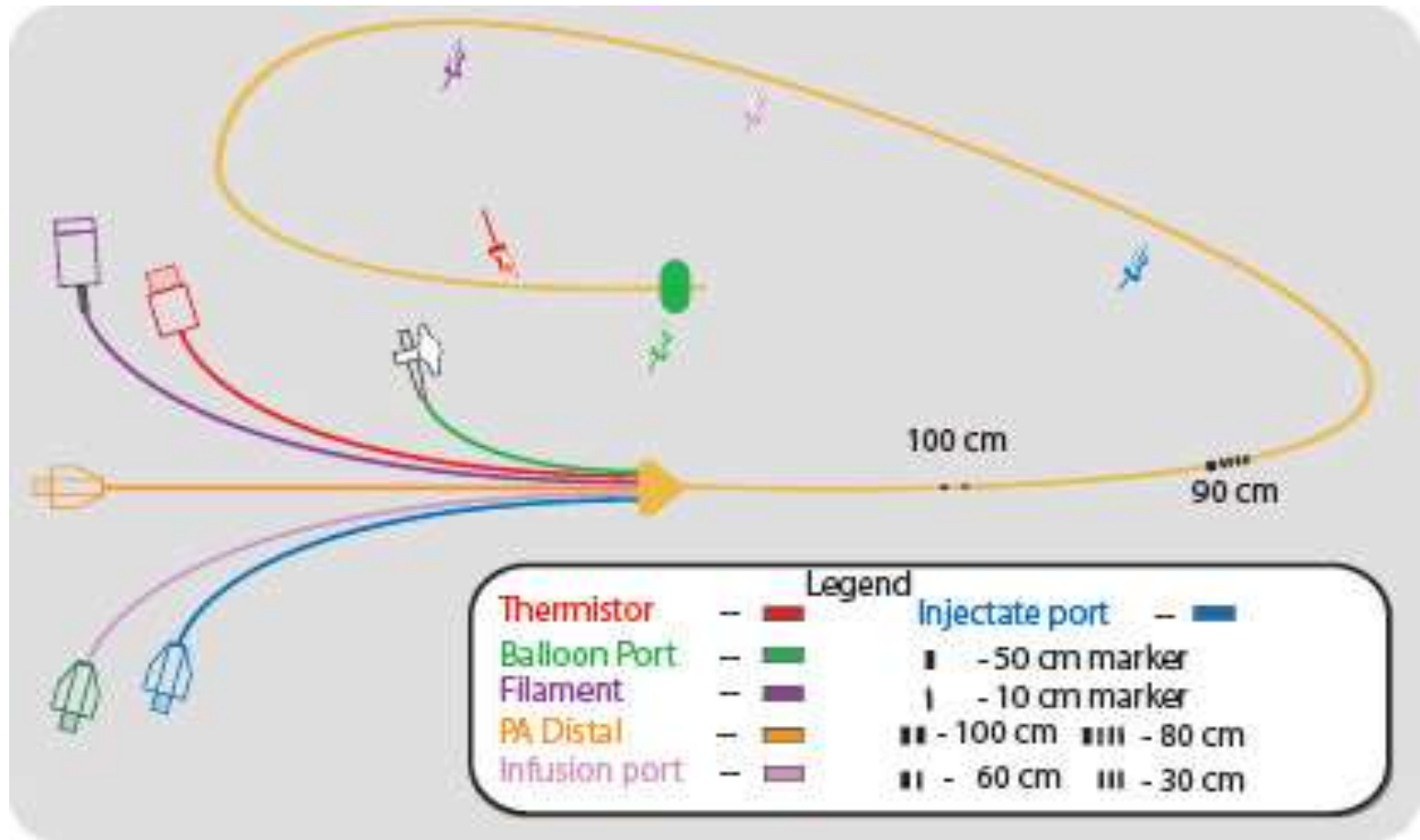
$$CO = \text{Oxygen uptake} / \{ C_{AO_2} - C_{VO_2} \}$$

Spirometer

A spirometer



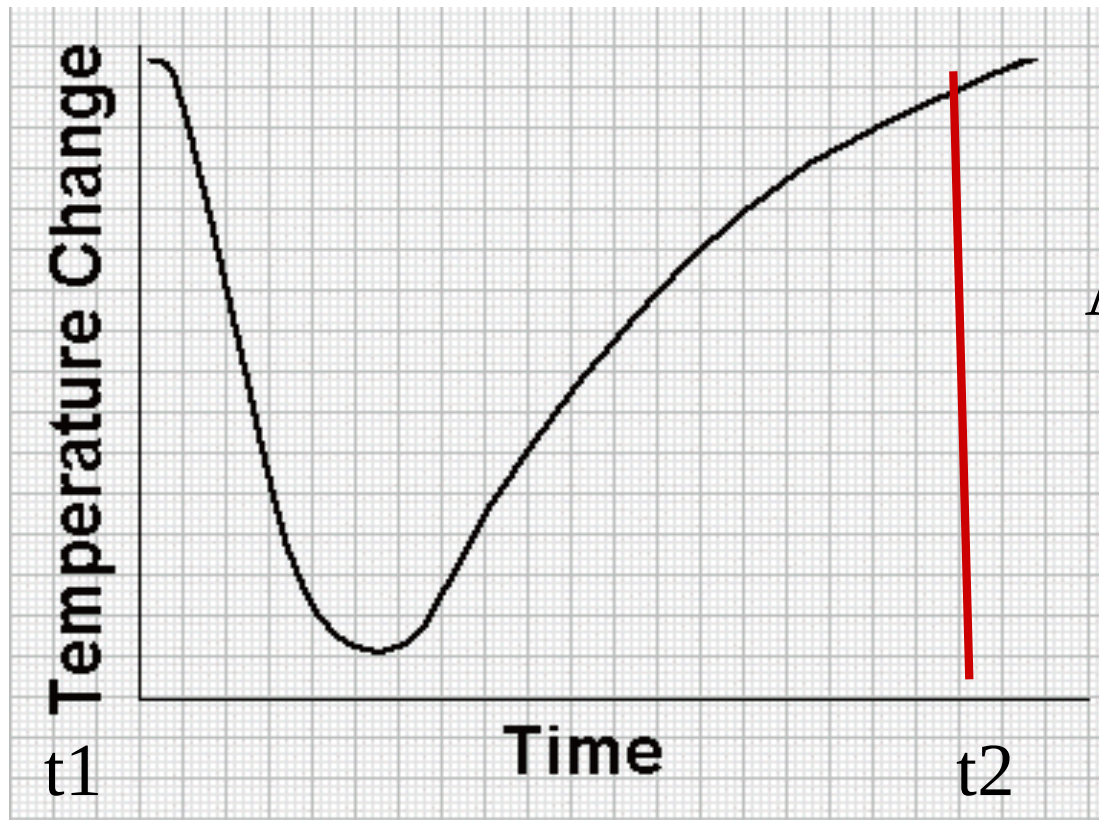
Swan-Ganz catheter



O₂ Fick Problem

- If pulmonary vein O₂ content = 200 ml O₂/L blood
- Pulmonary artery O₂ content = 160 ml O₂ /L blood
- Lungs add 400 ml O₂ /min
- What is cardiac output?
- Answer: $400/(200-160) = 10$ L/min

Thermodilution Method Curve



$$\text{AREA} = \int_{t1}^{t2} dT \cdot dt$$

Thank You

