

Physiology Equations

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1) Hb-bound O₂ content

$$CaO_2(Hb) = [Hb] \text{ (g/dL)} \times 1.34 \text{ (mL O}_2\text{/g Hb)} \times SaO_2$$

Purpose: Computes how much O₂ is carried on hemoglobin per dL of blood (the major component of total O₂ content).

Notes: At full saturation: Max Hb-O₂ = [Hb] × 1.34. Typical: [Hb]=15 → ~20 mL/dL.

2) Dissolved O₂ (Henry's law)

$$O_2(\text{dissolved}) = PaO_2 \times 0.003 \text{ (mL/dL)}$$

Purpose: Computes the small dissolved fraction; this fraction determines PaO₂ and drives diffusion.

Notes: Example: PaO₂=100 → 0.3 mL/dL (tiny vs Hb-bound).

3) Total O₂ content

$$\text{Total O}_2 = [Hb] \times 1.34 \times SaO_2 + (PaO_2 \times 0.003)$$

Purpose: Adds Hb-bound + dissolved to get the true oxygen content of blood.

Notes: Use this to compare arterial vs venous content (extraction).

4) Extraction per dL

$$O_2 \text{ extracted per dL} = CaO_2 - CvO_2$$

Purpose: How much O₂ tissues remove from each dL of blood.

Notes: Typical rest values: CaO₂ ≈ 20, CvO₂ ≈ 15 → extraction ≈ 5 mL/dL (≈25%).

5) Oxygen consumption (Fick principle)

$$VO_2 = (CaO_2 - CvO_2) \times \text{Cardiac Output}$$

Purpose: Total O₂ used by the body per minute.

Notes: Unit tip: 5 L/min = 50 dL/min → 5 × 50 = 250 mL/min.

6) Respiratory exchange ratio (R)

$$R = VCO_2 / VO_2$$

Purpose: Links CO₂ produced to O₂ consumed; depends on diet/substrate.

Notes: Mixed diet ≈ 0.8; carbs 1.0; fats 0.7.

7) CO₂ production from R

$$VCO_2 = R \times VO_2$$

Purpose: Computes CO₂ production when VO₂ and R are known.

Notes: VO₂=250, R=0.8 → VCO₂=200 mL/min.

8) Alveolar gas equation

$$PAO_2 = PIO_2 - (PACO_2 / R)$$

Purpose: Estimates alveolar O₂; cornerstone for analyzing hypoxemia.

Notes: Sea level: PIO₂≈150, PaCO₂≈40, R≈0.8 → PAO₂≈100.

9) A-a O₂ gradient

$$A-a \text{ gradient} = PAO_2 - PaO_2$$

Purpose: Assesses efficiency of O₂ transfer; helps classify hypoxemia.

Notes: Healthy lungs: small gradient (≤5 mmHg in this file).

10) Gas transfer across the respiratory membrane (Ohm's law form)

$$\text{Flow}_x = \Delta P_x \times DL_x$$

Purpose: Diffusion rate depends on pressure gradient and DL

Notes: ↓ΔP or ↓DL → ↓gas transfer

11) Determinants of DL

$$DL \propto (A / dx) \times (S / \sqrt{MW})$$

Purpose: Shows how structure & gas properties affect diffusion.

Notes: Emphysema ↓A; fibrosis ↑dx.

12) Calculating DL

$$DL = \text{Flow} / \Delta P$$

Notes: DL(O₂)≈21 mL/min/mmHg at rest.

13) Carbon monoxide method for DL (DLCO)

$$DLCO = (\text{CO absorbed per min}) / PACO$$

Purpose: CO binds Hb strongly → capillary PCO≈0.

Notes: Capillary PCO ≈ 0 → ΔP ≈ PA_{CO}, Makes DL measurement practical

14) Convert DLCO to DLO₂

Purpose: $DL(O_2) \approx DL(CO) / 0.8 \approx 1.23 \times DL(CO)$

Notes: Typical $DL(CO) \approx 17 \rightarrow DL(O_2) \approx 21 \text{ mL/min/mmHg}$

15) CO poisoning - estimate carboxyhemoglobin fraction (HbCO)

لأغراض الفهم

$HbCO \text{ fraction} = (M \times PCO) / (PO_2 + M \times PCO)$

Purpose: Approximates fraction of hemoglobin bound to CO (carboxyHb) from partial pressures.

Notes: M (affinity factor) $\sim 200-250$.

Example: $M = 250$, $PCO = 0.4 \text{ mmHg}$, $PO_2 \approx 100 \text{ mmHg} \rightarrow HbCO \approx 0.5 (50\%)$.

16) CO₂ carriage (rule of thumb)

CO₂ in blood $\approx 60\% HCO_3^-$, 30% carbamino-Hb, 10% dissolved

Purpose: Summarizes the major forms of CO₂ transport in blood.

Notes: Bicarbonate forms inside RBC via carbonic anhydrase; HCO_3^- exits RBC via chloride shift.

17) Henry's law (dissolved gas)

$C(\text{dissolved}) = \alpha \times P$

Purpose: Converts a gas partial pressure into dissolved content.

Notes: $\alpha_{O_2} \approx 0.003 \text{ mL/dL/mmHg}$, CO₂ is $\sim 20\times$ more soluble $\rightarrow \alpha_{CO_2} \approx 0.06 \text{ mL/dL/mmHg}$, So $Pa_{CO_2} \approx 40 \rightarrow$ dissolved CO₂ $\approx 2.4 \text{ mL/dL}$; $Pv_{CO_2} \approx 46 \rightarrow \approx 2.8 \text{ mL/dL}$.

18) CO₂ hydration reaction (in RBC)



Purpose: Explains how most CO₂ is converted into bicarbonate in red blood cells and how blood pH is regulated.

Notes: Catalyzed by carbonic anhydrase, H^+ is buffered mainly by hemoglobin, The reaction reverses in the lungs to allow CO₂ exhalation

19) Alveolar CO₂ equation (ventilation-CO₂ relationship)

$$PACO_2 = (\dot{V}CO_2 / \dot{V}A) \times 0.862$$

Purpose: Shows that for a constant rate of CO₂ production, increasing alveolar ventilation lowers alveolar (and arterial) CO₂.

20) Relationship between alveolar O₂ and ventilation

$$PAO_2 \propto (\dot{V}A / \dot{V}O_2)$$

Purpose: States that alveolar oxygen tension increases when alveolar ventilation rises relative to oxygen consumption.

21) Henderson-Hasselbalch equation (bicarbonate buffer system)

$$\text{pH} = 6.1 + \log \left(\frac{\text{HCO}_3^-}{\text{CO}_2} \right)$$

Purpose: Explains how blood pH is regulated and how pH can remain stable despite changes in CO_2 if bicarbonate changes appropriately.

22) Inspired oxygen partial pressure

$$\text{PIO}_2 = \text{FiO}_2 \times (\text{P}_{\text{atm}} - \text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}})$$

Purpose: Calculates inspired oxygen partial pressure after humidification in the airways; starting point for alveolar gas calculations.

Notes: $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \approx 47 \text{ mmHg}$ at 37°C

اللهم لا سهل إلا ما جعلته سهلاً، وأنت تجعل الحزن إذا شئت سهلاً
اللهم ارزقنا فهمًا لا ننسى معه، وعلماً نافعاً، وتوفيقاً من عندك، واجعل هذا العمل خالصاً لوجهك الكريم
اللهم اغفر لزميلنا عمر، وارحمه رحمةً واسعة، واجعل قبره روضةً من رياض الجنة، ونقّه من الذنوب والخطايا كما يُنقى الثوب الأبيض من الدنس
اللهم آنس وحشته، وثبّته عند السؤال، وارفع درجته في عليين، واجعل ما أصابه رفعةً له وتكفيراً لسيناته
اللهم اربط على قلوب أهله وأحبته، وألهمهم الصبر والسلوان، ولا تحرمنا أجر الدعاء له، ولا تفتننا بعده

ربنا تقبل منا، إنك أنت السميع العليم

Symbol**What it represents**

CaO₂	Arterial oxygen content (mL O ₂ per dL blood)
CvO₂	Venous oxygen content (mL O ₂ per dL blood)
PaO₂	Arterial partial pressure of oxygen (mmHg)
PvO₂	Venous partial pressure of oxygen (mmHg)
SaO₂	Arterial hemoglobin oxygen saturation (fraction or %)
[Hb]	Hemoglobin concentration (g/dL)
HbCO	Carboxyhemoglobin (hemoglobin bound to CO)
PCO	Partial pressure of carbon monoxide (mmHg)
PO₂	Partial pressure of oxygen (mmHg)
M	CO–Hb affinity factor ($\approx 200\text{--}250$)
CO	Cardiac output (L/min)
HR	Heart rate (beats/min)
SV	Stroke volume (mL/beat)
VO₂	Oxygen consumption (mL/min)
VO₂max	Maximal oxygen consumption during exercise
$\dot{V}\text{CO}_2$	Carbon dioxide production (mL/min)
R	Respiratory exchange ratio ($\dot{V}\text{CO}_2 / \text{VO}_2$)
PAO₂	Alveolar partial pressure of oxygen (mmHg)
PACO₂	Alveolar partial pressure of carbon dioxide (mmHg)
PaCO₂	Arterial partial pressure of carbon dioxide (mmHg)
PIO₂	Inspired oxygen partial pressure after humidification (mmHg)
FiO₂	Fraction of inspired oxygen (e.g. 0.21 for room air)
P_{atm}	Atmospheric pressure (≈ 760 mmHg at sea level)
P_{H₂O}	Water vapor pressure (≈ 47 mmHg at 37°C)
A–a gradient	Alveolar–arterial oxygen difference ($\text{PAO}_2 - \text{PaO}_2$)
$\dot{V}\text{A}$	Alveolar ventilation (L/min)
DL	Diffusing capacity of the lung (mL/min/mmHg)
DLCO	Diffusing capacity measured using carbon monoxide
ΔP	Partial pressure gradient across membrane
A	Surface area for gas diffusion
dx	Thickness of diffusion barrier
S	Gas solubility
MW	Molecular weight of gas
αO_2	Solubility coefficient for oxygen (≈ 0.003 mL/dL/mmHg)
αCO_2	Solubility coefficient for carbon dioxide (≈ 0.06 mL/dL/mmHg)
HCO₃[−]	Bicarbonate ion
H⁺	Hydrogen ion
pH	Measure of acidity/alkalinity
Hb	Hemoglobin
HbO₂	Oxyhemoglobin
HbH	Reduced hemoglobin (buffered with H ⁺)