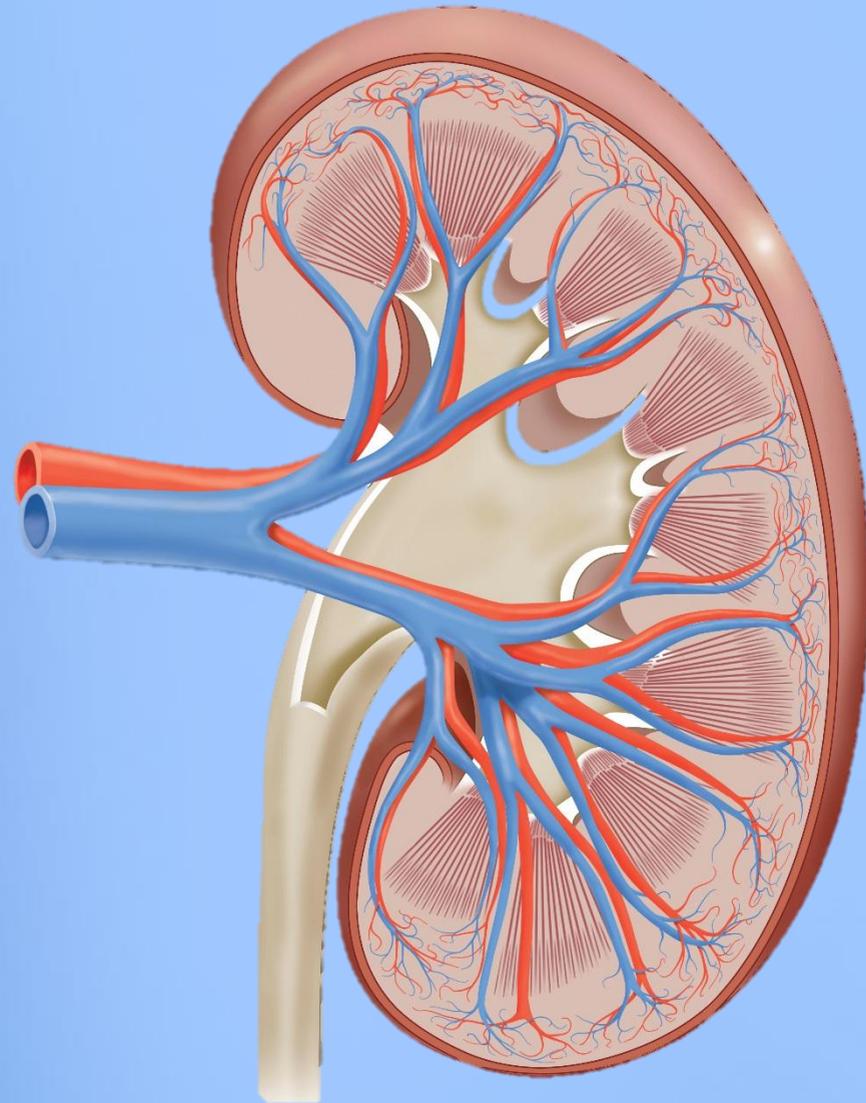


11

# ACID-BASE DISORDERS



Renal Block

## **OBJECTIVES**

- I. To explain the principles of blood gas and acid-base analysis.**
- II. To interpret blood gas analysis and diagnose various acid base disorders.**
- III. Describe causes of acid base disorders.**
- IV. Understand use of acid base nomograms.**

▪  $PCO_2 = 35-45$  mmHg

If the problem in the  $PCO_2$ , it is respiratory acidosis or alkalosis.

▪  $HCO_3^- = 22-26$  mEq/L

If the problem in the  $HCO_3$ , it is metabolic acidosis or alkalosis.

Depending on the underlying problem the compensation mechanisms differ :

Respiratory problem



Kidney can brings



Metabolic compensation

Metabolic problem



Respiratory compensation  
(hypo/hyperventilation)  
+  
Buffer system

**Compensation: The body response to acid-base imbalance**

**Complete compensation: if the PH back into the normal limits.**

**Partial compensation: if the PH still outside the normal range.**

# ACID-BASE IMBALANCE: ACIDOSIS

## Causes

### A- Respiratory:

- CNS depression (anaesthesia).
- Resp muscle paralysis/ diaphragm paralysis, rib fractures, etc..
- Obstructive lung diseases e.g. Emphysema.
- Pulmonary edema.

### B- Metabolic:

**Bicarbonate deficit:** blood conc. of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  drops below 22mEq/L.

- Diabetic ketoacidosis.
- Severe diarrhoea. (loss of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ).
- Hypoaldosteronism.
- Acute renal failure (fail to excrete  $\text{H}^+$ ).
- Accumulation of acids.

## Compensation

Carbonic acid excess caused by blood levels of  $\text{CO}_2$  above 45 mm Hg.

Kidneys eliminate hydrogen ion and retain bicarbonate ion.

Kidney also generates new bicarbonate.

Increased ventilation.

Renal excretion of hydrogen ions if possible.

$\text{K}^+$  exchanges with excess  $\text{H}^+$  in ECF ( $\text{H}^+$  into cells,  $\text{K}^+$  out of cells).

# ACID-BASE IMBALANCE: ALKALOSIS

## Causes

### A- Respiratory:

Carbonic acid deficit:  $p\text{CO}_2$  is  $<35\text{mmHg}$  (hypocapnea).

Most common acid-base imbalance.

- **Hyperventilation:**
- **High altitude** (Oxygen deficiency).
- **Hysterical.**
- **Anorexia nervosa.**
- **Early salicylate intoxication.**

### B. Metabolic:

Blood conc. Of  $\text{HCO}_3$  is  $> 26\text{mEq/L}$ .

- **Severe vomiting** = loss of stomach acid or heavy ingestion of antacids.
- **Severe dehydration.**
- **Excess antacids & alkaline drugs.**
- **Hyperaldosteronism.** (endocrine disorders).

## compensation

Conditions that stimulate respiratory center and wash out  $\text{CO}_2$  (Hyperventilation):

Kidneys conserve hydrogen ion.

Excrete bicarbonate ion.

Kidney excretes alkaline urine and retain  $\text{H}^+$ .

Respiratory compensation difficult (hypoventilation limited by hypoxia).

# Compensation

## Respiratory Acidosis

- Kidneys eliminate hydrogen ion and retain bicarbonate ion.
- Kidney also generates new bicarbonate.

## Respiratory Alkalosis

Kidneys conserve hydrogen ion  
Excrete bicarbonate ion

## Metabolic Acidosis

- Increased ventilation
- Renal excretion of hydrogen ions if possible
- $K^+$  exchanges with excess  $H^+$  in ECF
- ( $H^+$  into cells,  $K^+$  out of cells)

## Metabolic Alkalosis

- Kidney excretes alkaline urine and retain  $H^+$
- Respiratory compensation difficult – hypoventilation limited by hypoxia

### Effects of acidosis

- Principal effect of acidosis:
  - depression of the CNS through ↓ of synaptic transmission.
  - Generalized weakness.
  - Deranged CNS function the greatest threat.
- \* Severe acidosis causes:
  - Disorientation.
  - Coma.
  - Death.

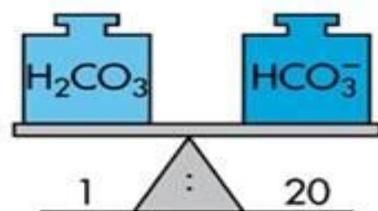
### Effects of alkalosis

- Alkalosis causes over excitability of the central and peripheral nervous systems.
  - Numbness.
  - Lightheadedness.
  - It can cause :
    - Nervousness.
    - muscle spasms or tetany .
    - Convulsions .
    - Loss of consciousness.
    - Death.

\*almost always the causes of acidosis or alkalosis are respiratory or metabolic.

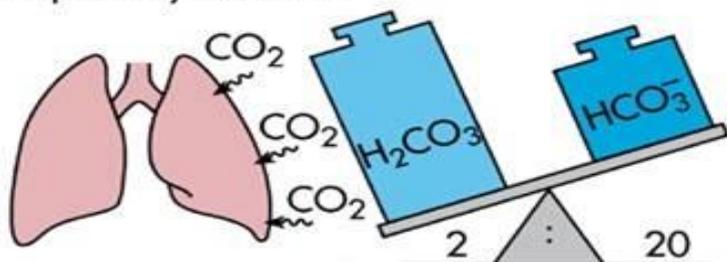
# RESPIRATORY: ALKALOSIS AND ACIDOSIS

a) Metabolic balance before onset of acidosis



$H_2CO_3$  : Carbonic acid  
 $HCO_3^-$  : Bicarbonate ion  
 ( $Na^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $K^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Mg^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Ca^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )

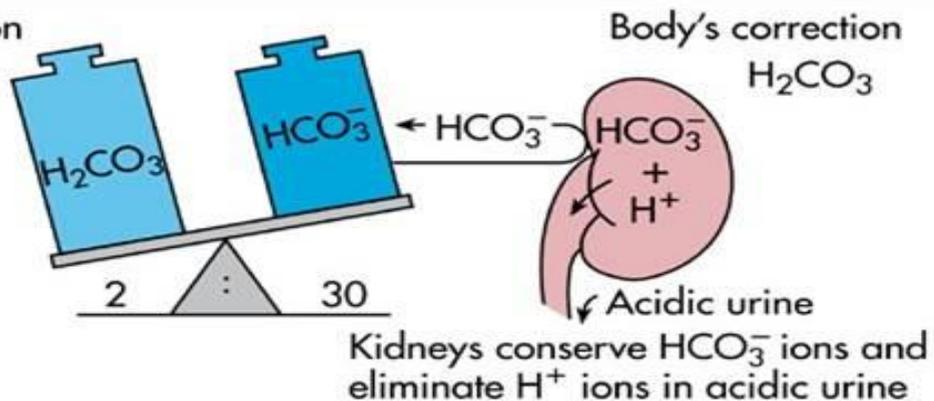
b) Respiratory acidosis



Primary change  
 pH — decreases  
 $PCO_2$  — increases  
 $HCO_3^-$  — no change

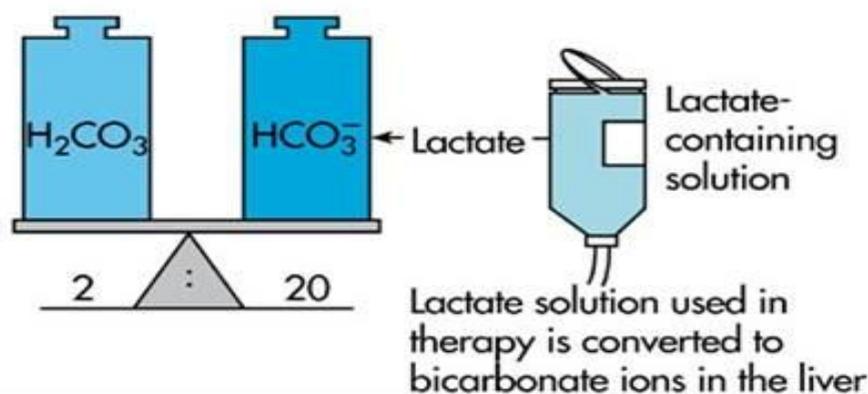
Breathing is suppressed, holding  $CO_2$  in body

c) Body's compensation



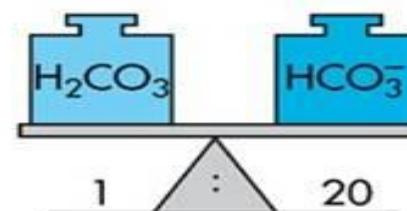
Kidneys conserve  $HCO_3^-$  ions and eliminate  $H^+$  ions in acidic urine

d) Therapy required to restore metabolic balance



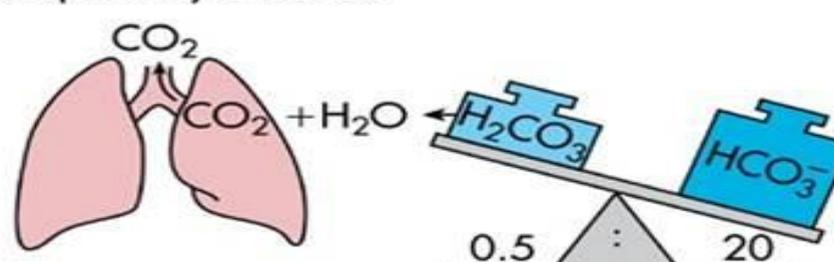
Lactate solution used in therapy is converted to bicarbonate ions in the liver

a) Metabolic balance before onset of alkalosis



$H_2CO_3$  : Carbonic acid  
 $HCO_3^-$  : Bicarbonate ion  
 ( $Na^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $K^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Mg^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Ca^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )

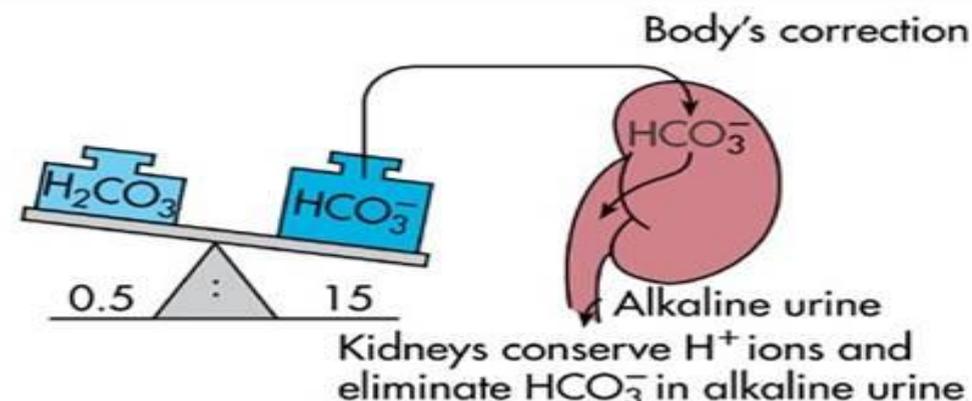
b) Respiratory alkalosis



Primary change  
 pH — increases  
 $PCO_2$  — decreases  
 $HCO_3^-$  — no change

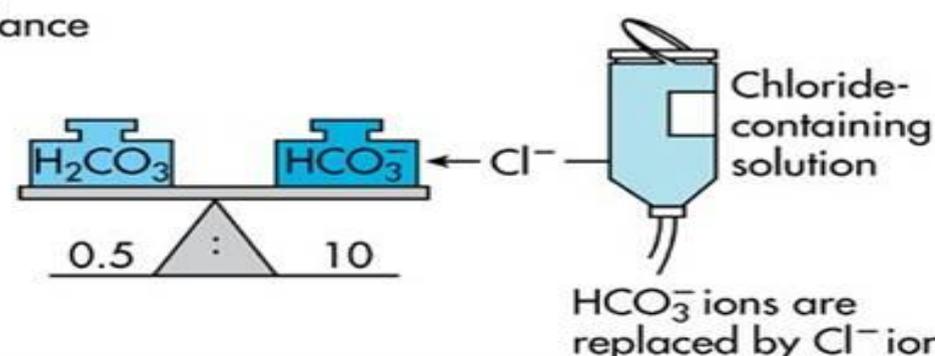
Hyperactive breathing "blows off"  $CO_2$

c) Body's compensation



Kidneys conserve  $H^+$  ions and eliminate  $HCO_3^-$  in alkaline urine

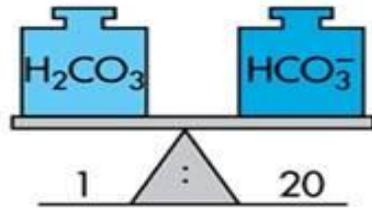
d) Therapy required to restore metabolic balance



$HCO_3^-$  ions are replaced by  $Cl^-$  ions

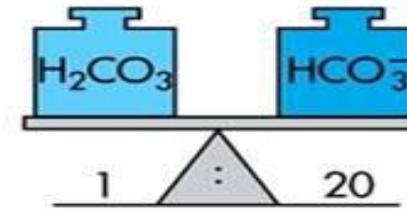
# METABOLIC: ACIDOSIS AND ALKALOSIS

a) Metabolic balance before onset of acidosis



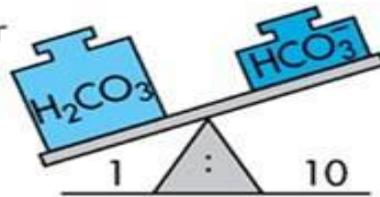
$H_2CO_3$  : Carbonic acid  
 $HCO_3^-$  : Bicarbonate ion  
 ( $Na^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $K^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Mg^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Ca^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )

a) Metabolic balance before onset of alkalosis



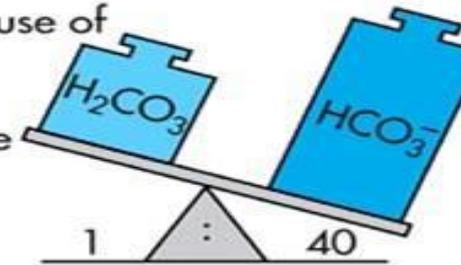
$H_2CO_3$  : Carbonic acid  
 $HCO_3^-$  : Bicarbonate ion  
 ( $Na^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $K^+ \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Mg^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )  
 ( $Ca^{++} \cdot HCO_3^-$ )

b) Metabolic acidosis  
 $HCO_3^-$  decreases because of excess presence of ketones, chloride, or organic acid ions



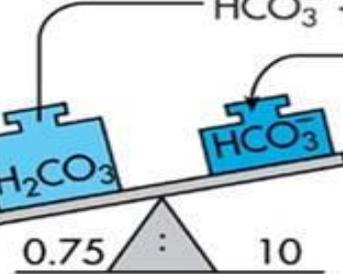
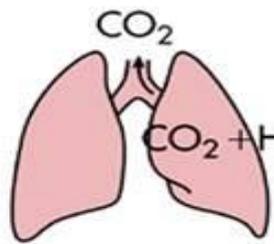
Primary change  
 pH — decreases  
 $PCO_2$  — no change  
 $HCO_3^-$  — decreases

b) Metabolic alkalosis  
 $HCO_3^-$  increases because of loss of chloride ions or excess ingestion of sodium bicarbonate

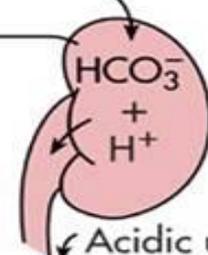


Primary change  
 pH — increases  
 $PCO_2$  — no change  
 $HCO_3^-$  — increases

c) Body's compensation

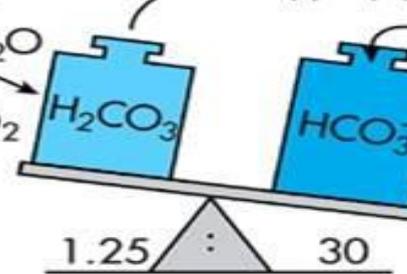
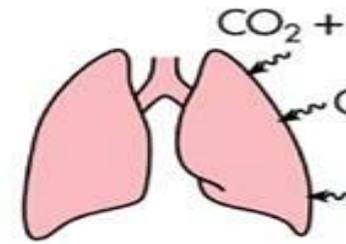


Body's correction

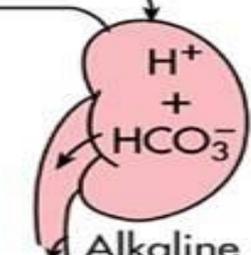


Kidneys conserve  $HCO_3^-$  and eliminate  $H^+$  ions in acidic urine

c) Body's compensation

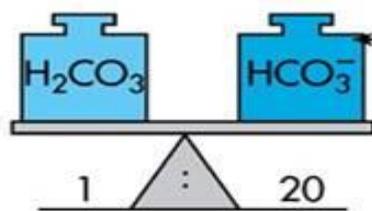


Body's correction



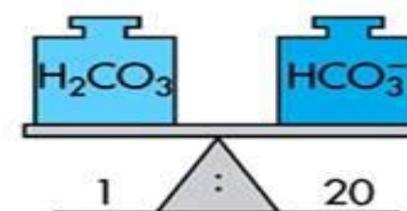
Kidneys conserve  $H^+$  ions and eliminate  $HCO_3^-$  in alkaline urine

d) Therapy required to restore metabolic balance



Lactate solution used in therapy is converted to bicarbonate ions in the liver

d) Therapy required to restore metabolic balance



$HCO_3^-$  ions replaced by  $Cl^-$  ions

## Diagnosis of Acid-Base Imbalances :

- 1) Note whether the pH is low (acidosis) or high (alkalosis)
- 2) Decide which value,  $p\text{CO}_2$  or  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ , is outside the normal range **and** could be the **cause** of the problem.

If the cause is a change in  $p\text{CO}_2$ , the problem is **respiratory**.

If the cause is  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  the problem is **metabolic**.

### The change in PH :

If pH is normal (between 7.35-7.45) **Compenstaed**

If pH is abnormal (<7.35 or >7.45) **uncompenstated**.

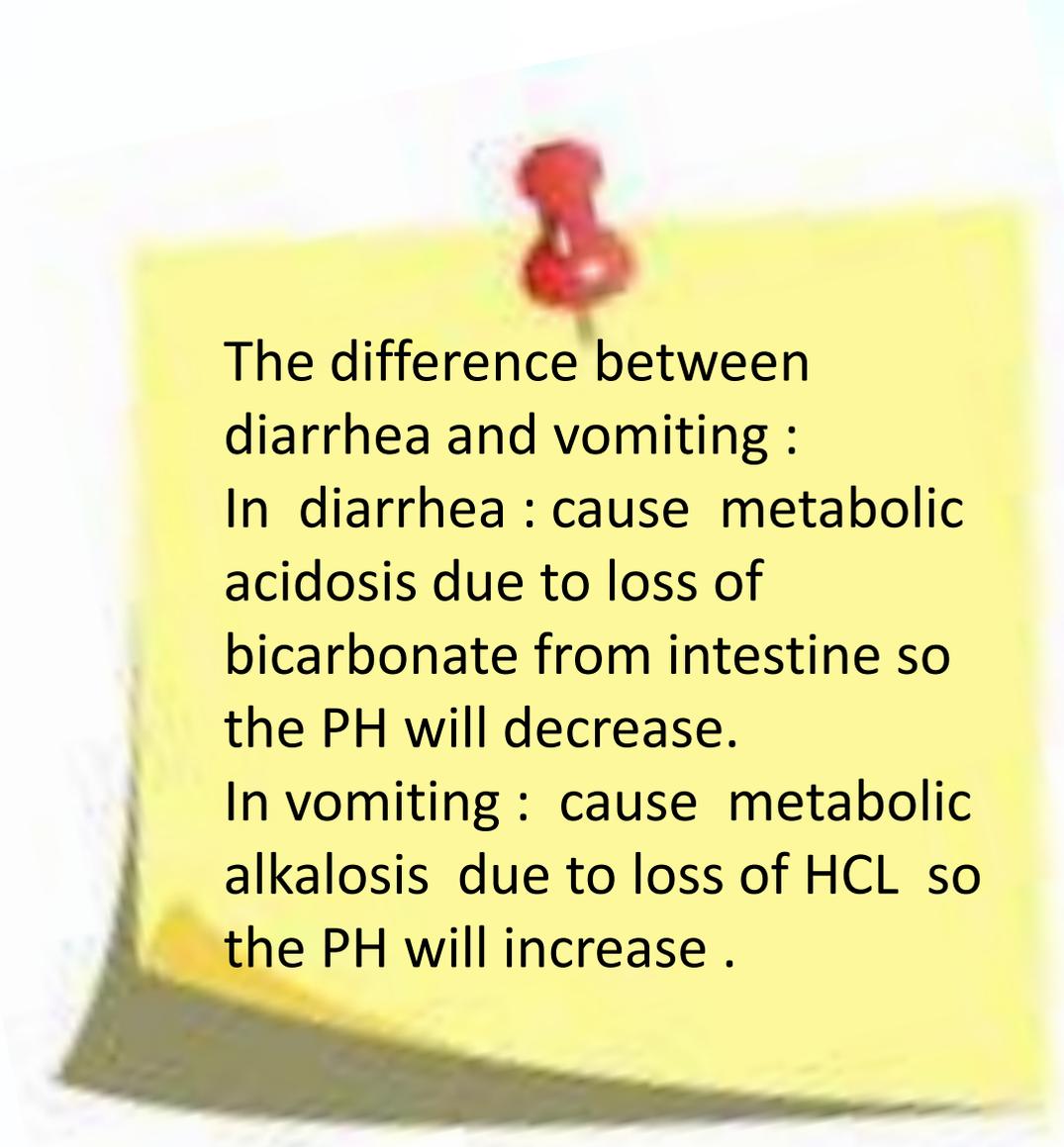
### Is the cause Respiratory or metabolic?

If  $\text{PCO}_2 > 45$  = Respiratory acidosis

If  $\text{PCO}_2 < 35$  = Respiratory alkalosis

If  $\text{HCO}_3^- < 22$  = Metabolic acidosis.

If  $\text{HCO}_3^- > 26$  = metabolic alkalosis.



The difference between diarrhea and vomiting :

In diarrhea : cause metabolic acidosis due to loss of bicarbonate from intestine so the PH will decrease.

In vomiting : cause metabolic alkalosis due to loss of HCL so the PH will increase .

### **Example 1:**

A patient is in intensive care because he suffered a severe myocardial infarction 3 days ago. The lab reports the following values from an arterial blood sample:

**pH = 7.21, PCO<sub>2</sub> = 42, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> = 12:**

To answer it List the condition

First : : acidosis or alkalosis,

Second : metabolic or respiratory

Third : compensated or uncompensated?

**The answer : Metabolic acidosis, uncompensated**

### **Example 1:**

A 50 year-old man with history of type 2 diabetes was admitted to the emergency department with history of polyuria. On examination he had rapid and deep breathing. Blood analysis showed glucose level of 400 mg/dl.

The following is the arterial blood analysis report of this patient:

**pH = 7.1, PCO<sub>2</sub> = 40 mmHg and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> = 18 mmol/L**

**The answer : Metabolic acidosis, uncompensated**

**Example 2 :**

**pH = 7.36, PCO<sub>2</sub>= 54, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> = 32:**

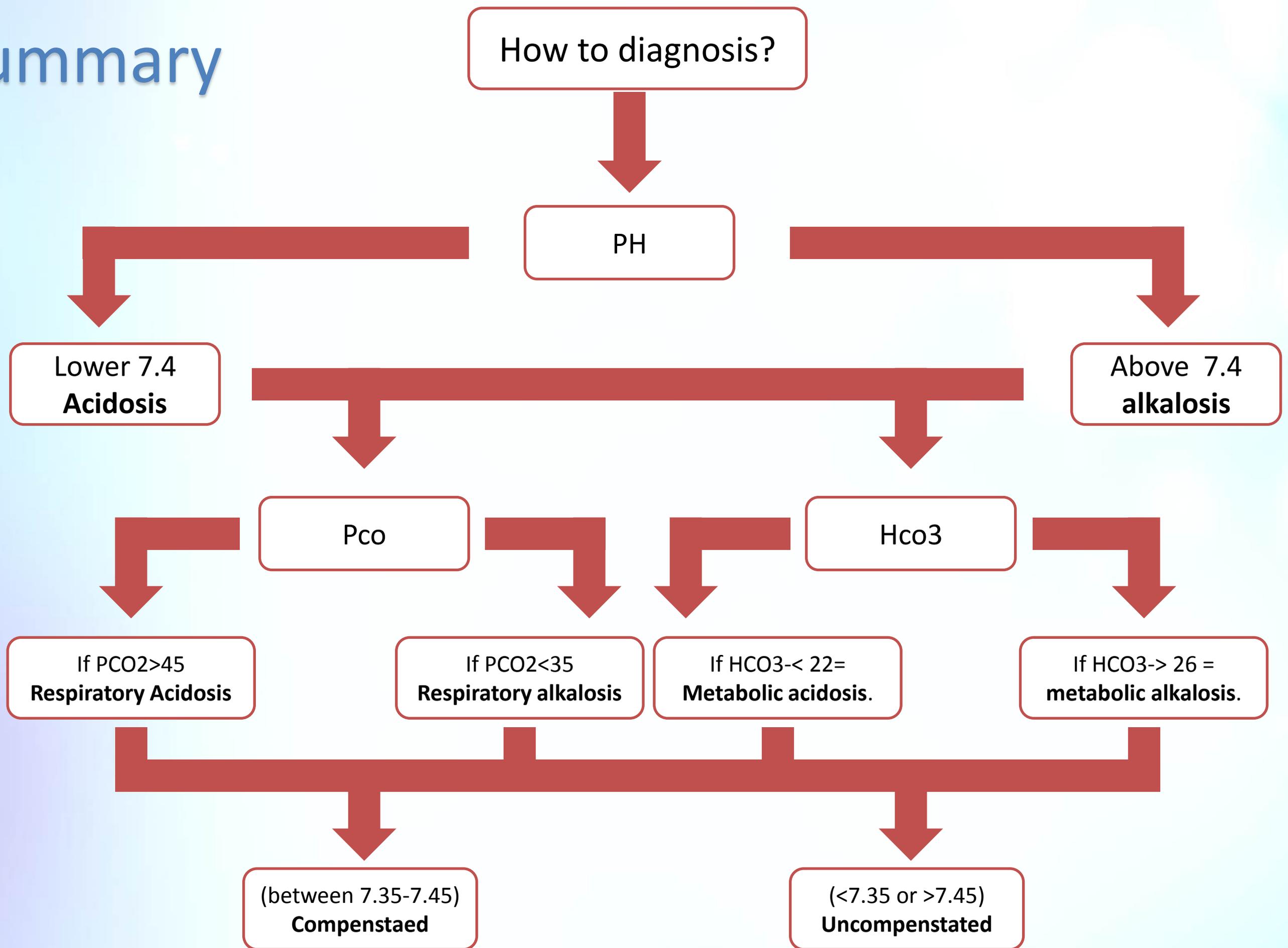
**the answer : respiratory, acidosis, compensated**

**Example 3:**

**pH =7.38, PCO<sub>2</sub>= 38, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> = 25:**

**The answer : normal**

# Summary



# MCQs

|   |   |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q1. which of the following cause acidosis?</b></p> <p>A. Hyperaldosteronism<br/>         B. Sever vomiting<br/>         C. Hyperventilation<br/>         D. Sever diarrhea</p>  | <p><b>Q3. A patient is seen in the emergency department with following blood value PH=7.8, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> =29, PCO<sub>2</sub> =38 what is the acid-base disorder?</b></p> <p>A. Respiratory Acidosis<br/>         B. Respiratory Alkalosis<br/>         C. Metabolic Acidosis<br/>         D. Metabolic Alkalosis</p> | <p><b>Ans :</b> 1.D 2.A 3.D 4.B</p> |
| <p><b>Q2. How the kidney compensate alkalosis ?</b></p> <p>A. The kidney conserves H<sup>+</sup> And excretes CHO<sup>-</sup><br/>         B. K<sup>+</sup> exchanges with excess H<sup>+</sup> in ECF<br/>         C. Hyperventilation<br/>         D. A+C</p> | <p><b>Q4. In the conversion from acute to chronic respiratory alkalosis, what happen to blood PH ?</b></p> <p>A. Increase<br/>         B. Decrease to normal<br/>         C. Severe decreasing<br/>         D. Constant</p>   |                                     |

# Questions

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Q1. How does the kidney compensate of respiratory acidosis?</b></p> <p><b>Kidney will eliminate H<sup>+</sup> ions and retain HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ions , also generates new HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></b></p>   | <p><b>Q3. What is “ Anorexia nervosa” ?</b></p> <p><b>An emotional disorder characterized by an obsessive desire to loose weight by refusing to eat , so it will cause alkalosis.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Q2. what is the difference between vomiting and diarrhea an acid-base imbalance ?</b></p> <p><b>Vomiting : is combined with excessive loose of acid .</b></p> <p><b>Diarrhea : is combined with low absorption of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> due to high flow fluid go out .</b></p> | <p><b>Q4. a patient is in ER because she travels to high Altitude for 5hrs . The report as following .</b></p> <p><b>PH=7.49</b></p> <p><b>PCO<sub>2</sub>=25</b></p> <p><b>PHCO<sub>3</sub>=21</b></p> <p><b>What is the diagnosis ?</b></p> <p><b>Respiratory alkalosis uncompensated</b></p> |