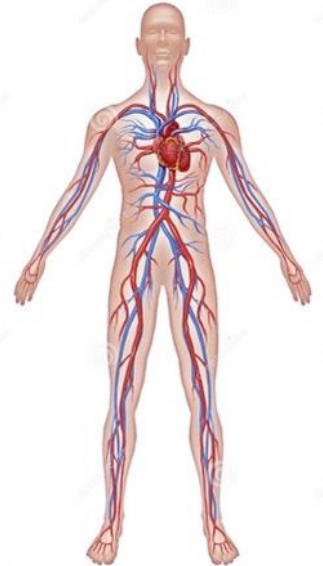


# Cardiovascular Physiology

Fatima Ryalat, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor, Physiology and Biochemistry Department  
School of Medicine, University of Jordan

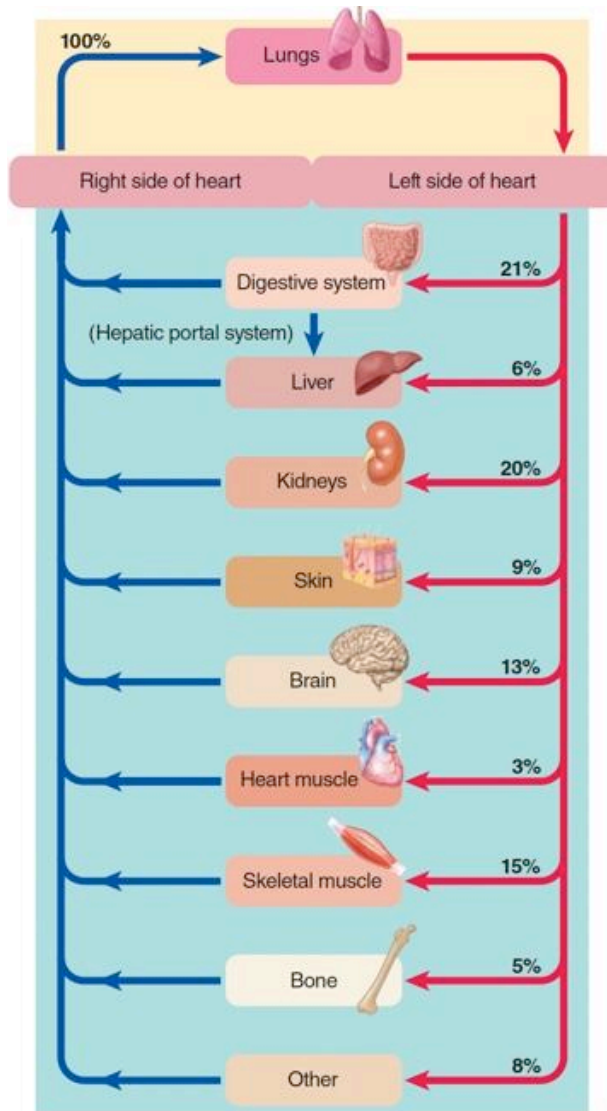




# Vascular hemodynamics-1

# Hemodynamics

- The principles that govern blood flow in the cardiovascular system.



\* Blood doesn't exactly  
match the metabolic need  
of the organ  
↓  
it exceeds more than it needs

## The parallel arrangement

- The blood pumped by the left side of the heart into the systemic circulation is distributed in various proportions to the systemic organs through a parallel arrangement of vessels that branch from the aorta.
- This arrangement ensures that:
  - 1. all organs receive blood of the same composition.
  - 2. blood flow through each systemic organ can be independently adjusted as needed.

## Reconditioning organs



- Blood is constantly “reconditioned” so that its composition remains relatively constant despite an ongoing drain of supplies to support metabolic activities and despite continual addition of wastes from the tissues.
- Organs that recondition the blood normally receive much more blood flow than is necessary to meet their basic metabolic needs, so they can adjust the extra blood to achieve homeostasis.

# Reconditioning organs

- Blood flow to the other organs is for filling these organs' metabolic needs and can be adjusted according to their level of activity.
- Because reconditioning organs—digestive organs, kidneys, and skin—receive blood flow in excess of their needs, they can withstand temporary reductions in blood flow much better than other organs can that do not have this extra margin of blood supply.



# Reconditioning organs

Top  
priority

- the brain, which can least tolerate disrupted blood supply, is a high priority in the overall operation of the circulatory system. *it gets exactly its metabolic need*
- In contrast, the reconditioning organs can tolerate significant reductions in blood flow for quite a long time, and often do.

↓  
*because it receives excess blood*

# Flow rate

- The flow rate of blood through a vessel is the **volume** of blood passing through **per unit of time**.
- It is directly proportional to the **pressure gradient** and inversely proportional to vascular resistance.

$$F = \Delta P / R$$

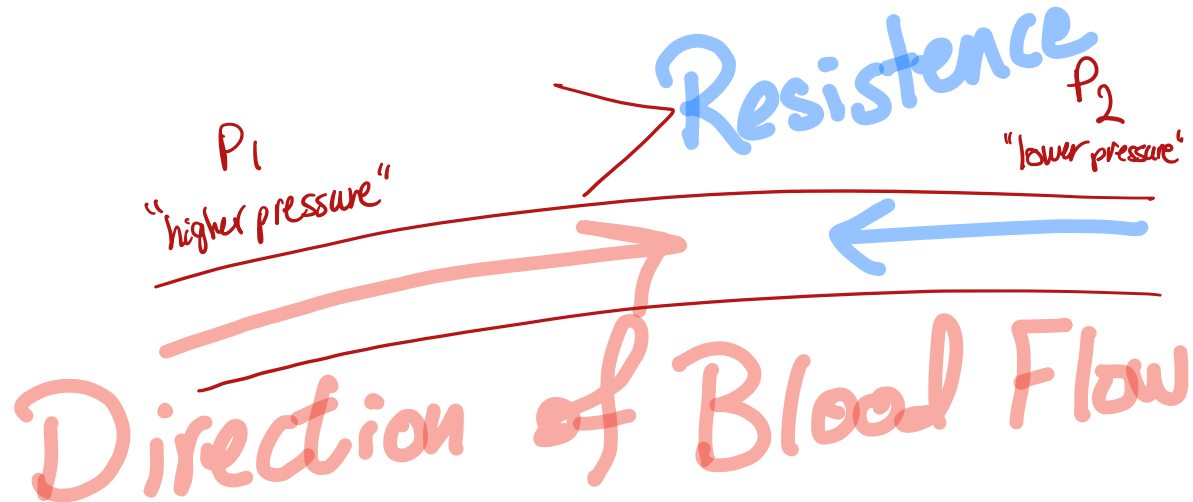
↑ the difference between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$   $\Rightarrow$  ↑ Blood flow

ex: which one has stronger blood flow

1  $P_1=5 / P_2=2$

2  $P_1=10 / P_2=2$

↓ Resistance  $\Rightarrow$  ↑ Blood flow



# Pressure gradient

- the difference in pressure between the beginning and the end of a vessel.
- Blood flows from an area of higher pressure to an area of lower pressure down a pressure gradient.
- It is generated by contraction of the heart.
- Because of resistance, the pressure drops as blood flows throughout the vessel's length.
- The greater the pressure gradient, the greater the flow rate through the vessel.

Resistance = *friction between blood  
and vessel wall*

- a measure of opposition to blood flow through the vessel, caused by friction between the moving fluid and the vascular walls.
- As resistance to flow increases, it is more difficult for blood to pass through the vessel, so flow rate decreases.

\* highest pressure  $\Rightarrow$  beginning of Aorta

\* lowest pressure  $\Rightarrow$  end of SVC

"RT atrium"

## Total peripheral resistance

- The resistance of the entire systemic vasculature is called the total peripheral resistance (TPR) or the systemic vascular resistance (SVR). "overall Resistance"
- TPR can be measured with the flow, pressure, and resistance relationship by substituting cardiac output for flow (Q) and the difference in pressure between the aorta and the vena cava for  $\Delta P$ .

$$Q = \frac{\Delta P}{R} \quad \Rightarrow \quad R = \frac{\Delta P}{Q} = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{\text{Cardiac output}}$$

الأكبر - الأخصر  $\leftarrow$

Lt Kidney

## Resistance in a single organ

**SAMPLE PROBLEM.** Renal blood flow is measured by placing a flow meter on a woman's left renal artery. Simultaneously, pressure probes are inserted in her left renal artery and left renal vein to measure pressure. Renal blood flow measured by the flow meter is 500 mL/min. The pressure probes measure renal arterial pressure as 100 mm Hg and renal venous pressure as 10 mm Hg. *What is the vascular resistance of the left kidney in this woman?*

**SOLUTION.** Blood flow to the left kidney, as measured by the flow meter, is  $Q$ . The difference in pressure between the renal artery and renal vein is  $\Delta P$ . The resistance to flow in the renal vasculature is calculated by rearranging the blood flow equation:

$$Q = \Delta P/R$$

Rearranging and solving for  $R$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \Delta P/Q \\ &= (\text{Pressure in renal artery} - \text{Pressure in renal vein}) / \\ &\quad \text{Renal blood flow} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R &= (100 \text{ mm Hg} - 10 \text{ mm Hg}) / 500 \text{ mL per min} \\ &= 90 \text{ mm Hg} / 500 \text{ mL per min} \\ &= 0.18 \text{ mm Hg/mL per min} \end{aligned}$$

# Resistance

- Resistance to blood flow is
  - (1) directly proportional to viscosity of the blood,
  - (2) directly proportional to vessel length,
  - (3) inversely proportional to vessel radius, which is by far the most important.  $\downarrow$  radius  $\uparrow$  Resistance
- Poiseuille equation:

$$R = \frac{8\eta l}{\pi r^4}$$

the most powerful factor affecting Resistance

if  $r$  was  $\frac{1}{2}$  then it became  $\frac{1}{2}$  the Resistance will increase

$\uparrow$  by 16 times  
 $(\frac{r}{2})^4$



Viscosity → ↓ Blood flow

- the friction developed between the molecules of a fluid as they slide over each other during flow of the fluid.
- The thicker a liquid is, the greater its viscosity, the greater the resistance to flow.
- Blood viscosity is determined primarily by the number of circulating red blood cells.

↑ RBCs → ↑ Hematocrit → ↑ viscosity → ↑ Resistance → ↓ Blood flow  
like in polycythemia

# Vessel length and radius

- the longer the vessel, the greater the surface area and the greater the resistance to flow.
- resistance is inversely proportional to the fourth power of the radius.
- the radius of arterioles can be regulated and is the key factor in controlling resistance to blood flow throughout the vascular circuit.

# Velocity of blood flow

- The velocity of blood flow is the rate of displacement of blood per unit time.
- The blood vessels of the cardiovascular system vary in terms of diameter and cross sectional area. These differences in diameter and area, in turn, have profound effects on velocity of flow.
- The relationship between velocity, flow, and cross-sectional area (which depends on vessel radius or diameter) is

$$V = Q / A$$

blood flow

Surface Area

↑ SA

↓ velocity



↓ SA

↑ velocity



# Velocity of blood flow

- Because of the inverse relationship between velocity and total cross-sectional area, the velocity of blood flow will be highest in the aorta and lowest in the capillaries.
- From the standpoint of capillary function (i.e., exchange of nutrients, solutes, and water), the low velocity of blood flow is advantageous, as it maximizes the time for exchange across the capillary walls.

Why is the velocity higher in Aorta than capillaries even though the capillaries have the smallest SA?

We said that the smallest the SA the higher the velocity, but regarding the capillaries, they actually don't need high velocity as their function is exchange of substances "which doesn't require high velocity"

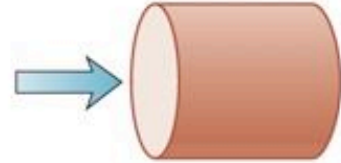
The explanation of this is that the SA of the capillaries is calculated for all of them "A group of capillaries" not just for one of them (A group of capillaries Vs 1 Aorta)  
the sum of their surface areas exceeds the Aorta SA  $\rightarrow$  aorta has higher velocity

\* Aorta  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  SA  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  velocity

\* Capillaries  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  SA  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  velocity

$$v = Q/A$$

10 mL/s



Area (A)

1 cm<sup>2</sup>

10 cm<sup>2</sup>

100 cm<sup>2</sup>

Flow (Q)

10 mL/s

10 mL/s

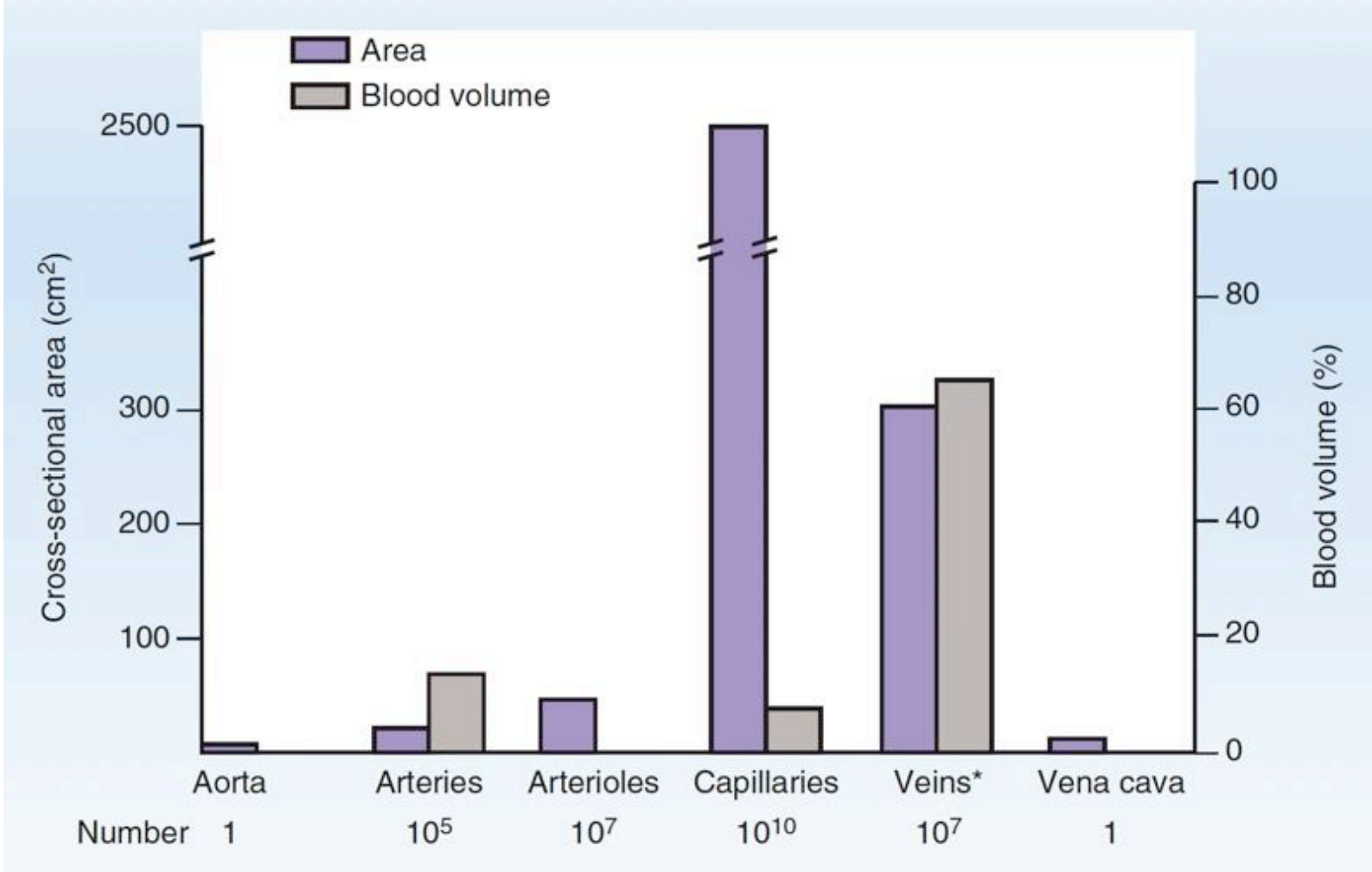
10 mL/s

**Velocity (v)**

**10 cm/s**

**1 cm/s**

**0.1 cm/s**



Thank you