

Respiratory

[RE01](#) [Mar96] Which of the following is a normal characteristic of lung?

- A. 3,000,000 alveoli **500m alveoli**
- B. Alveolar diameter 3 mm **200micrometers**
- C. External surface area: 10 m² **2.5m²**
- D. Alveolar surface area: 5 to 10 m² **50-100m² surface area**
- E. None of the above

[RE02](#) [Mar96] [Mar99] [Apr01] A young man collapses one lung. His ABGs on room air would be:

- A. **pO₂ 80, pCO₂ 50 mmHg?**
- B. pO₂ 50, pCO₂ 80 mmHg
- C. pO₂ 50, pCO₂ 50 mmHg
- D. ?

[RE02](#) [Jul96]] [Mar97] The ABGs in a healthy young 70kg male with one collapsed lung are:

- A. paO₂ 50 mmHg, pCO₂ 25 mmHg
- B. **paO₂ 95 mmHg, pCO₂ 40 mmHg?**
- C. paO₂ 60 mmHg, pCO₂ 45 mmHg
- D. paO₂ 60 mmHg, pCO₂ 25 mmHg

[RE03](#) [Mar96] [Mar99] [Feb04] Pulmonary vascular resistance:

- A. **Is minimal at FRC**
- B. ?Increases/?decreases with increase in lung volume
- C. Increases with elevated CVP
- D. ?
- E. ?

[RE03b](#) [Jul00] [Feb12] Pulmonary vascular resistance is increased in :

- A. Increase in pulmonary arterial pressure
- B. Hypocarbica
- C. Alkalosis
- D. Increased left atrial pressure
- E. Head down tilt

F. Hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction

[RE04](#) [Mar96] [Jul97] [Jul02] The greatest increase in (?physiological) dead space would be expected with:

- A. Pulmonary embolism?
- B. Atelectasis (or: collapse of one lung)
- C. Pneumothorax
- D. Bronchoconstriction
- E. Obesity?

(see also [RE08](#) & [RE20](#))

[RE05](#) [Mar96] [Jul00] [Apr01] [Jul01] [Jul02] [Feb04]

As go from the top of the erect lung to the bottom:

- A. Water vapour pressure remains constant??
- B. p_{N_2} remains constant
- C. p_{CO_2} at apex is higher than at the base
- D. p_{O_2} at base is lower than at the apex - defo
- E. V/Q is higher at base than apex
- F. Ventilation goes up as go up lung
- G. Compliance is more at base than apex - ?yes

Alt version: The difference between the apical and basal alveoli in a erect lung:

- A. Apical $PaO_2 <$ basal PaO_2
- B. Apical $PaCO_2 >$ Basal $PaCO_2$
- C. V/Q mismatch Apical $<$ Basal
- D. Compliance Basal $>$ Apical

[RE06](#) [Mar96] [Mar99] [Jul01] Distribution of pulmonary ventilation & perfusion in the erect position:

- A. Gradient of change in ventilation is greater than that for perfusion
- B. Ventilation increases as go up the lung
- C. Perfusion increases as go up the lung
- D. $V:Q$ ratio at apex is greater than at base
- E. None of the above

[RE06b](#) [Feb12] version Apex compared to base of lung

- A. Lower ventilation to perfusion ratio
- B. Higher perfusion than at the base

- C. Higher transmural pressures ??
- D. Intrapleural pressure is less negative
- E. ?

RE07 [Mar96] Oxygen unloading:

- A. Increases with increased p_aCO_2
- B. Decreases with increase in temperature
- C. Decreases with increase in 2,3 DPG
- D. ?
- E. ?

$$\frac{V_{100}}{300} = \frac{45 - x}{45}$$

RE08 [Mar97] Alveolar dead space:

- A. Is less than physiological dead space
- B. Is decreased with mechanical ventilation
- C. Is increased with hypotension

$$\frac{100}{300} \times 45 = 45 - x$$

RE08b [Jul98] [Jul99] [Feb00] [Jul02]

Alveolar dead space is increased with:

- A. Pleural effusion
- B. CCF
- C. Pneumothorax
- D. Hypotension
- E. None of the above

$$0.33 \times 45 = 45 - x$$

$$14.85 = 45 - x$$

$$14.85 - 45 = -x$$

$$-30.15 = -x$$

$$x = 30.15$$

(See also **RE33**)

RE09 [Mar97] [Jul97] [Mar99] [Jul00] [Jul01] If dead space is one third of the tidal volume and arterial pCO_2 is 45 mmHg, what is the mixed expired pCO_2 ?

- A. 20 mmHg
- B. 25 mmHg
- C. 30 mmHg
- D. 45 mmHg
- E. 60 mmHg

(Comment: Simple application of the Bohr equation)

RE10 [Mar97] [Jul98] [Mar99] [Jul00] [Jul01] [Mar03] [Jul03] With constant FIO_2 , CO and VO_2 , an increase in mixed venous O_2 content would be seen with:

- A. Hypothermia
- B. Increased paCO_2
- C. Decreased 2,3 DPG
- D. Alkalosis
- E. None of the above

- *Alt wording:* Without a change in body oxygen consumption or cardiac output, mixed venous oxygen tension increases with:
- *Alt wording (March 03):* With constant FIO_2 and cardiac output and no change in position of ODC, mixed venous blood oxygen tension increases with:

(See also [CV47](#) ?same Q)

Jul03: If CO constant and ODC unchanged, mixed venous oxygen tension is decreased in:

- A. Cyanide toxicity
- B. Anaemia
- C. Hypothermia
- D. Hypercarbia
- E. ?

[RE11](#) [Jul97] [Jul01] With altitude:

- A. **Increased 2,3 DPG**
- B. Increased oxygen unloading in peripheries
- C. Increased oxygen uptake in the lungs
- D. ?
- E. ?

Alt versions:

[RE11b](#) In acclimatisation to altitude:

- A. P_{50} is reduced, improving O_2 uptake in the lungs
- B. **P_{50} is increased, improving O_2 offloading in the tissues**
- C. 2,3 DPG levels are reduced, improving O_2 offloading in the tissues
- D. Alkalaemia reduces the affinity for O_2 , increasing p_{50}
- E. Increase in 2,3 DPG and a decrease in P_{50}

[RE11c](#) With acute acclimitisation to altitude:

- A. Hypoventilation

- B. Decreased cardiac output
- C. Pulmonary oedema
- D. Polycythaemia
- E. Increase in 2,3 DPG

[RE12](#) [d] [Jul98] [Jul01] Central chemoreceptors:

- A. Bathed in CSF
- B. Respond to increase in CSF pH
- C. Bathed in ECF
- D. In medullary respiratory centre

[RE13](#) [d] [Jul98] [Mar99] [Apr01] [Jul01] [Jul02] [Mar03] [Jul03] [Feb04] The peripheral chemoreceptors:

- A. Have a nonlinear response to paO_2 changes
 - B. Have an intact response at 1MAC - response eliminated by 0.1MAC
 - C. Respond to a fall in $paCO_2$
 - D. Respond slowly to rise in $paCO_2$ x5 more rapid than central chemoreceptors
 - E. Respond to alkalaemia
 - F. Respond only to ?incr-/decr-eased H^+
 - G. Respond only to arterial hypoxaemia
 - H. Innervated by glossopharyngeal nerve
 - I. Low metabolic rate
 - J. Stimulated by carbon monoxide
 - K. Stimulated by cyanide
 - L. Blood flow of 2 ml/gram/min (OR Blood flow of 200mls/G/min)
 - M. Aortic body innervated by vagus
 - N. Changes in arterial oxygen content
 - O. Low O_2 extraction (OR: Low A-V O_2 difference)
 - P. Have glomus cells
- (NB: [RE13](#) represents several MCQs with different options)

Feb 04 Version: Peripheral chemoreceptors:

- A. In the carotid sinus
- B. Have glomus cells
- C. Low A-V difference
- D. Innervated by glossopharyngeal nerve
- E. Blood flow of 200mls/g/min 20mls/g/min

[RE13b](#) [Feb04] Carotid bodies (Similar to RE13)

- A. Have glomus cells
 - B. Innervated by vagus
 - C. Blood flow of 200mls/g/min
 - D. High A-V difference
- (See also: [RE36](#))

[RE14](#) [d] [Jul98] [Jul99] [Jul00] Surfactant:

- A. Causes hysteresis (Or: Is the ONLY cause of hysteresis) ?
- B. Is produced by type 1 pneumocytes
- C. Is commonly deficient in term neonates
- D. Acts like detergent in water
- E. Reduces the amount of negative intrapleural pressure
- F. Production is slow
- G. Increases pulmonary compliance

[RE14b](#) [Jul04] Surfactant

- A. Surface tension is inversely proportional to surfactant concentration
- B. Lung compliance decreases with surfactant
- C. Is produced by alveolar type 1 cells
- D. Stabilises alveoli to allow smaller alveoli to empty into larger ones
- E. Increases surface tension in smaller alveoli to promote stability

[RE15](#) [Jul97] [Apr01] In quiet breathing, exhalation is:

- A. Passive due to elastic tissue alone
- B. Passive due to surface tension in the alveoli and elastic tissue recoil
- C. Active due to intercostal contraction
- D. ?
- E. ?

[RE16](#) [d] [Mar98] [Jul98] [Apr01] [Mar03] [Jul03] The normal arterio-venous difference for CO₂ is:

- A. 2 ml/100ml
- B. 4 ml/100ml
- C. 6 ml/100ml

- D. 8 ml/100ml
- E. 10 ml/100ml

(Mixed venous blood contains 52 ml_sCO₂/100mls blood & arterial blood contains 48 ml_sCO₂/100 mls blood.)

[RE17](#) [d] [Jul98] [Mar99] [Jul00] [Apr01] [Jul01] [Mar02] [Jul02] [Jul04] [Jul09]

The lung:

- A. Removes/inactivates serotonin (5HT)
- B. Activates bradykinin
- C. Converts angiotensin II to I
- D. Inactivates aldosterone
- E. Takes up noradrenaline

Alt version: Which of the following substances is removed (?inactivated) by the lungs?

- A. Serotonin
- B. Noradrenaline
- C. Angiotensin I
- D. Bradykinin
- E. All of the above

July 2000: Which of the following is inactivated in the lung:

- A. Angiotensin II
- B. Angiotensin I
- C. Bradykinin
- D. Vasopressin
- E. Noradrenaline

Jul 2001 version: Metabolic functions of the lung include which one of the following?

- A. Inactivates ADH
- B. Converts Angiotensin II to Angiotensin I
- C. Activates bradykinin
- D. Inactivate serotonin (5HT)
- E. Activation of prostaglandins

Mar 02: Which biologically active substances are partially ?degraded by the lung?

- A. Surfactant
- B. Histamine
- C. Angiotensin
- D. Noradrenaline
- E. ?all/?none of the above

[RE18](#) [] [Mar98] [Jul98] Breathing oxygen :

- A. Causes pain on re-expansion of collapsed alveoli
- B. Reduces vital capacity
- C. ?
- D. ?

[RE19](#) [] [Mar98] [Jul98] [Feb00] [Mar02] [Jul02]

Contribution to the increase in CO₂ carriage as blood passes from artery into vein:

Carbamino HCO₃ Dissolved

- A. 5% 90% 5%
- B. 30% 60% 10%
- C. ?
- D. ?

(See also [RE38](#))

[RE20](#) [Mar98] [Mar03] Increased physiological dead space with:

- A. Decreases with age - \uparrow 1ml/yr from childhood
- B. Anaesthesia
- C. Supine position
- D. Calculated from Bohr equation using end-tidal CO₂
- E. Calculated from endtidal CO₂ and arterial CO₂
- F. Decreases with increase in anatomical dead space
- G. Increases with PEEP

(see [RE04](#) & [RE08](#))

[RE20b](#) [Jul98] [Feb00] Physiological dead space increases with:

- A. Pulmonary hypertension
- B. Hypotension

- C. Atelectasis
- D. Pleural effusion
- E. None of the above

RE21 [Mar98] [Mar99] [Feb00] Shunt can be calculated by knowing:

- A. Cardiac output
- B. Arterial oxygen content
- C. Mixed venous oxygen content
- D. End pulm. capillary oxygen content
- E. All of the above

RE22 [Jul98] Alveolar pressure:

- A. Is always negative throughout normal quiet breathing
- B. Is zero (atmospheric pr) during pause between inspiration and expiration
- C. Is greater than 5-6 cm H₂O during quiet expiration
- D. Is less than 5-6 cms H₂O during quiet inspiration

Also remembered as:

Alveolar pressure during quiet breathing:

- A. 5 cmsH₂O negative at inhalation
- B. 5 cmsH₂O positive at expiration
- C. Follows intrapleural pressure closely
- D. Is atmospheric between inhalation & exhalation

RE23 [Mar99] [Apr01] [Jul03] [Feb04] Patient with chronic airflow limitation:

- A. Gradient maximal in effort independent part of flow volume loop
- B. Will have increased total lung capacity
- C. Has increased static compliance
- D. ?

RE24 [Jul98] [Mar99] [Jul00] One lung anaesthesia:

- A. High FIO₂ will completely correct paO₂
- B. CPAP will completely correct paO₂
- C. Supine position will give better VQ matching - better in lateral
- D. Associated with hypercarbia during one-lung ventilation, ventilated lung can eliminate enough carbon dioxide to compensate for non-ventilated lung. Overtime however retention of CO₂ from blood traversing non-ventilated

lung usually slightly exceeds increased elimination of CO₂ from blood traversing ventilated lung, PaCO₂ will usually slowly increase.

E. ?

July 2000 version: With regards to hypoxia with one lung anaesthesia:

A: Oxygenation is better supine

B: Should have 10cm H₂O PEEP to lower lung **should be 20**

C: Is usually associated with hypercarbia, (?can be associated with hypercarbia)

D. ?

RE25 [Jul98] [Mar99] [Mar03] [Jul03] The partial pressure of oxygen in dry air at sea level:

A. 163 mmHg

B. 159 mmHg

C. 149 mmHg

D. 100 mmHg

E. ?

RE26 [Mar99] [Jul04] Cause of increased minute ventilation with exercise:

A. Oscillation in paO₂ & paCO₂

B. Hypercarbia

C. Hypoxaemia

D. Acidosis

E. None of the above

The **rapid response** in minute ventilation at the onset of exercise result from "neural inputs to the respiratory centre from the motor cortex and proprioceptive receptors in the exercising muscle".

The **gradual response** in minute ventilation that comes later may be related to fluctuations in arterial oxygen tension and hence the "oscillatory discharge of central chemoreceptors provides a potent respiratory stimulus in exercise". **Nunn** 6thEd' (p244) says that "peripheral chemoreceptors do contribute, in a small way, to exercise-induced hyperpnoea".

Other factors are "the release of epinephrine and norepinephrine, and a rise in blood temperature".

RE27 [Jul99] [Feb00] [Apr01] Work of breathing (as % of total VO₂) in normal healthy adult::

A. 1% Work of breathing is ~3mL O₂/min, or 1% of basal O₂ consumption

B. 5%

C. 10%

D. 20%

RE28 [Feb00] [Mar03] [Jul03] PEEP:

- A. Has a variable effect on FRC - \uparrow s FRC
- B. Reduced lung compliance - \uparrow s compliance in lower dep areas but \downarrow s compliance in non dep areas
- C. Reduces lung water - redistributes lung water to extraalveolar space
- D. Reduces airway resistance - \uparrow s lung volume (CPAP in spont vent or PEEP in vent pt) \therefore \downarrow s airway resistance
- E. No effect on lung compliance

[RE29](#) [Feb00] [Jul02]

At an atmospheric pressure of 247 mmHg, what is the moist inspired pO₂?

- A. 200 mmHg
- B. 2 mmHg
- C. 40 mmHg
- D. 50 mmHg

(see also CM08)

[RE30](#) [Feb00] Type II pneumocytes

- A. Develop from type I pneumocytes
- B. Are macrophages
- C. Are very flat and practically devoid of organelles
- D. ?Metabolise surfactant

[RE30b](#) [Jul00] Type I pneumocytes

- A: Give rise to Type II pneumocytes
- B: Are flat & minimal organelles
- C: Bind surfactant (? receptors) on their brush border
- D. ?

[RE31](#) [Jul00] Control (?inspiratory) of the diaphragm originates in:

- A. Pneumotactic centre
- B. Apneustic centre in pons
- C. Dorsal medullary (?neurons of) respiratory centre
- D. Ventral medullary (?neurons of) respiratory centre

[RE32](#) [Jul00] For a normal Hb-O₂ dissociation curve, the most correct relationship is:

- A. PaO₂ 340mmHg, SaO₂ 99%
- B. PaO₂ 132mmHg, SaO₂ 98%
- C. PaO₂ 68mmHg SaO₂ ?
- D. PaO₂ 60mmHg, SaO₂ 91% ICU point
- E. None of the above

[RE33](#) [Jul00] Alveolar dead space ???

- A. Measured by Fowler's method
 - B. ??
- (may be same Q as RE08)

[RE34](#) [Jul00] Oxygen toxicity:

- A: Is caused by superoxide dismutase (OR: Increased by increased SOD)
 - B: Causes CNS toxicity at over 100kPa
 - C: Is caused by absorption atelectasis
 - D: Is due to formation of superoxide radicals
 - E: Prolonged ventilation at 50kPa causes pulmonary toxicity
 - F. Causes lipid peroxidation
- (see also MD30)

Pulmonary toxicity occurs with prolonged exposure of 16–24 hours or more to elevated concentrations of oxygen greater than 50% at normal atmospheric pressure. Atmospheric pressure is about 100kPa.

[RE35](#) [Jul00] [Apr01] Pulmonary stretch receptors:

- A. ?
- B: Are only stimulated by maintained stretch
- C: Show (?slow) adaptation
- D: Cause an immediate decrease in tidal volume
- E. ?

[RE36](#) [Jul00] The peripheral chemoreceptors are located:

- A. Carotid sinus
- B. Carotid bodies

- C. The vasomotor centre
 - D. ?
- (see also RE13)

[RE37](#) [Apr01] [Mar03] [Jul03]

Mixed venous blood:

- A. Higher haematocrit than arterial - For each CO₂ molecule which diffuses into a RBC either an HCO₃ or chloride atom appears inside cell (the latter due to chloride shift when some HCO₃⁻ (out)exchanges for a Cl⁻ (in). This results in the presence of one osmotically active particle for each CO₂, which attracts H₂O and causes the RBC to swell slightly. This together with a very small amount of fluid returning via lymphatics means that the haematocrit of venous blood is normally about 3% greater than arterial blood.
- B. Saturation of 48% - 75%
- C. Higher pH than arterial Blood
- D. Can be sampled from the right atrium - should be from pulmon art
- E. pO₂ lower than coronary sinus blood - wrong
- F. Coronary sinus O₂ saturation of 30%

[RE38](#) [Apr01]

Carbon dioxide carriage:

- a) 10% dissolved
- b) 30% carbamino
- c) 85% bicarbonate ??maybe this one. Actual figure is 90%
- d) 60% bicarbonate
- e) Unaffected by pO₂

NB A-V difference figures ie 30,60,10 not appropriate

[RE39](#) [Apr01]

Factors that favour formation of carbamino-haemoglobin include:

- A. [Carbonic anhydrase](#)
- B. A decrease in oxygen tension - Haldane effect
- C. An increase in oxygen tension
- D. A decrease in pH

E. None of the above

[RE40](#) [Apr01]

CO diffusion limited because

A. Combines avidly with Hb

B. Partial pressure in blood increases as partial pressure in air increases

C. ?

[RE41](#) [Jul01] [Jul05]

Oxygen toxicity may be seen:

A. In CNS and lungs if breath 100% at 1 ATA (?) for 24 hours

B. In CNS and lungs if breath 30% at 1 ATA (?) for 24 hours

C. In CNS if breathe 100% oxygen for 48 hours **not below 2 atmospheres pure oxygen, usually higher - irrespective of length of exposure**

D. ?

E. CNS toxicity seen with O₂ concs far greater than 760mmHg tracheobronchial irritation, muscle twitching, tinnitus, dizziness, convulsions and coma. Speed of development of symptoms proportionate to the pressure (cf. concentration) at which oxygen is administered.

[RE42](#) [Jul01]

Breathing 0.04% CO₂ in one atmosphere for 30 minutes, you would see:

A. Periodic apnoeas (or: 'periods of apnoea')

B. Hyperpnoea

C. Signs of acidosis

D. Signs of alkalosis

E. No change

(Comment received: "I suspect 0.04% CO₂ is actually what we breathe, but I haven't confirmed it in Nunn's yet")

[RE43](#) [Jul01] [Feb04]

In the lung, airway resistance

A Mainly in small airways **medium airways (up to 7th generation)**

B Varies with change in lung volume

C Increased by stimulation of adrenergic receptors

D Can be measured by flow rate divided by pressure difference between mouth and alveolus **Measured by pressure difference divided by flow rate.**

E Increased by breathing helium-oxygen mixture

(Q42 Jul 01)

[RE44](#) [Jul01]

The effect of decreasing airway diameter has the following effect on airway resistance:

A. $1/8$

B. $1/4$

C. $1/2$

D. 4 times

E. 16 times if the diameter is halved

[RE45](#) [Mar02] [Jul02] [Mar03] [Jul03]

Gas composition of air?

PO₂ PCO₂ PN₂ P other gases

A. 20.98 0.4 ?

B. 20.98 0.4 ?

C. 21 0.04 ?

D. 20.98 0.04 78.58 0.42

E. 20.98 0.04 78.2 0.98

Also: "A question on fraction of gases in normal air ie Oxygen 20.98, Carbon dioxide 0.04 Nitrogen 78.08 and other gases ?- with very little difference between the percentages."

I agree with E. This is from Ganong: "The composition of dry air is 20.98% O₂, 0.04% CO₂, 78.06% N₂, and 0.92% other inert constituents such as argon and helium"

I guess if you can't be bother to remember argon, just remember that O_2 21% + N_2 78% = 99%, knowing CO_2 is 0.04%, the rest is going to be near **0.9%**!

[RE46](#) [Mar02] [Jul02] [Feb04].

What happens to lung function in COAD

A. Decreased static compliance **Static compliance is increased in emphysema but unchanged in chronic bronchitis**

B. Increased TLC

C. Decreased airway resistance

D. Increased FEV1

E. ??

[RE47](#) [Mar03] [Jul03] [Feb04] [Jul04] [Mar05]

The amount of oxygen dissolved in plasma is

A. 0.03ml O_2 /100ml at PaO₂ 100mmHg

B. 6ml O_2 /100ml breathing 100% O_2 at 3 atmospheres

C. 6ml O_2 /100ml breathing room air at 3 atmospheres

D. 0.3ml O_2 /l breathing room air at 1 atmosphere

E. 6 ml O_2 /100mls breathing 100% O_2

[RE48](#) [] [Mar03] [Jul03] [Jul04]

Closing capacity (in young adults)

A. Increases with anaesthesia - **decreases in parallel with FRC**

B. 10% vital capacity = **closing volume**

C. Decreases with age - **↑s**

D. Responsible for relative hypoxaemia in healthy adult patients under anaesthesia due to shunt

E. The same as FRC in elderly supine patients - **CC>FRC in elderly 44yr in supine, 66yr in erect**

[RE49](#) [Mar03] [Jul03] [Feb04] Measurement of Functional residual Capacity (FRC):

- A. Helium dilution does not measure unventilated spaces on chest
- B. Body plethysmography inaccurate if high FIO₂ used
- C. Helium used to decrease airflow viscosity - **because poorly soluble**
- D. Body plethysmography requires oesophageal probe
- E. ?

[RE50](#) [Mar03] [Jul03] [Feb04] The absolute humidity of air saturated at 37°C:

- A. 760 mmHg
- B. 47 mmHg
- C. 100%
- D. **44g/m³** - **should be 44mg/l or 44g/m³**
- E. 17mg/m³

- Absolute humidity is the **mass** of dissolved water vapour per **unit volume** of total moist air.
- Absolute humidity of air saturated at 37°C is 44mg/L = 44g/m³
- Absolute humidity of air saturated at 20°C is 17mg/L = 17g/m³
- i.e. 47mg/L water vapour is added on inspiration from "room temperature" to body temperature.

[RE51](#) [Jul03] [Feb04] [Jul04] Surface Tension

- A. Is inversely proportional to the concentration of surfactant molecules per unit area
 - B. **Cause the small alveoli to collapse into the larger ones**
 - C. ?
 - D. ?
- (This question renumbered from CM31)

[RE52](#) [Jul03] Atelectasis causes hypoxaemia because of:

- A. ?
- B. ?
- C. ?

D. ?

E. Increased shunt & V/Q Mismatch

RE53 [Feb04] Which of the following is closest value for mixed venous PO₂ breathing 100% oxygen?

A. 50 mmHg

B. 75 mmHg

C. 100 mmHg

The pO₂ of mixed venous sample in a normal healthy person is about 40mmHg (and 75% oxygen saturation of Hb).

PvO₂ will be only about 10mmHg higher in venous blood when breathing 100% oxygen.

The pO₂ of mixed venous sample in a normal healthy person is about 40mmHg (and 75% oxygen saturation of Hb).

For FiO₂ of 21%:

$$PAO_2 = 149 - 40/0.21 + 2 = 101\text{mmHg [let us assume A-a gradient of 4mmHg]}$$

$$PaO_2 = 97\text{mmHg [let us assume } SpO_2 = 98\%; \text{ and Hb} = 120\text{g/L, or } 12\text{g/dL]}$$

$$CaO_2 = 1.39 \times 12 \times .98 + 0.003 \times 97 = 16.28 \text{ ml/100ml [let us assume } 4.8\text{ml/100ml extraction]}$$

$$CvO_2 = 16.28 - 4.8 = 11.48 \text{ ml/100ml}$$

Now, this part is a bit dodgy mathematically, but: Because $CvO_2 = 1.39 \times 12 \times SvO_2 + 0.003 \times PvO_2$, for ease of math I'm going to assume $0.003 \times PvO_2$ is insignificant;

$$\text{Therefore } SvO_2 = 11.48/(1.39 \times 120) = 68.8\%$$

And if we refer to the O₂ dissociation curve... **PvO₂ ≈ 35mmHg**

For FiO₂ = 100%

$$PAO_2 = 713 - 40/0.21 + 2 = 663\text{mmHg}$$

$$PaO_2 = 659\text{mmHg [let us assume } SpO_2 = 100\% \text{ with the higher } FiO_2, \text{ just for the benefit of my consultant!}'$$

$$CaO_2 = 1.39 \times 12 \times 1 + 0.003 \times 663 = 18.67 \text{ ml/100ml [let us assume } 4.8\text{ml/100ml extraction]}$$

$$CvO_2 = 18.67 - 4.8 = 13.87 \text{ ml/100ml}$$

$$\text{Therefore } SvO_2 = 13.87/(1.39 \times 120) = 83.2\%$$

And if we refer to the O₂ dissociation curve... **PvO₂ ≈ 48mmHg**

RE54 [Feb04] [Jul04] Which of the following is the best explanation for the different effects on PaO₂ and PaCO₂ of VQ mismatch?

- A. Different solubilities of O₂ and CO₂
- B. Different dissociation curves
- C. Effect of compensatory hyperventilation

[RE55](#) [Feb04] Functional Residual Capacity

- A. Decreases with age - **doesn't change with age. just CC & FRC relationship. established in neonate at 60mins post birth**
- B. **Decreases with obesity**

[RE56](#) [Jul04] Correction of hypoxaemia in anaesthetised patient:

- A. **Increase airway pressures between breaths**
- B. V/Q matching
- C. Decrease dead space

[RE57](#) [Jul04] [Feb12] Lung compliance

- A. **Measurement requires a respiratory laboratory - need oesophageal manometry**
- B. dynamic greater than static (or other way round)
- C. Static and dynamic same in emphysema
- D. Difference between static and dynamic due to airflow resistance & **tissue elastance**
- E. Due to surface tension - **surface tension ↓ compliance**

[RE58](#) [Mar05] Barometric pressure is half that of sea level at:

- A. 550m
 - B. 1500m
 - C. **5500m**
 - D. 7000m
 - E. 19500m
- Options also remembered as: A. 1000m, B. 2500m, C. 5000m, D. 7500m, and E. 10,000m
 - and as: A. 500m, B. 3500m, C. 5500m, D. 7500m, E. 10500m

[RE59](#) [Mar05] [Jul05] Regarding O₂ carriage in blood (or regarding red blood cells):

- A.
- B.

C. HbS less soluble than HbA HbS where valine replaces glutamic acid on beta-chain causes critical loss of solubility if reduced Hb leading to polymerisation and "sickle" shape of Hb at PaO₂ less than 40mmHg

D.

E. MetHb has 85% the O₂ carrying capacity of normal Hb - unable to carry O₂

(Comment: A,B,D were all wrong I'm pretty sure so I put C as E is also wrong.

Another similar comment: A,B,D all involved changes in 2,3 DPG and all wrong)

[RE60](#) [Jul05]

The greatest increase in venous admixture is due to: ie shunted blood

A. Hypoventilation

[RE61](#) [Jul05] [Mar09] [Jul09] Static lung compliance typically 200ml/cmH₂O

(1mmHg=1.36cmH₂O)

A. Is change in pressure per unit volume = volume/pressure

B. Affected by airway resistance

C. Is equal to pulmonary elastance - inverse of it

D. Depends upon surface tension forces

E. Combination of lung and chest wall compliance

F. ?...surfactant ...

factors affecting static compliance:

3. lung vol (normally measured at FRC. If only 1 lung dV is half that for a given dP)
4. FRC variation due to body size (specific compliance 0.05cmH₂O relates changes in dV & dP to FRC (dV/dP)/FRC)
5. pulmonary blood vol (comp v with congestion)
6. alveolar collapse
7. lung disease

[RE62](#) [Jul05] Gas solubilities with decreased temperature (Also remembered as "Under a general anaesthetic, if a patient becomes hypothermic, you can expect to see:)

A. Increased PaCO₂, Decreased PaO₂

B. Increased PaCO₂, Increased PaO₂

- C. No change in PaCO₂ or PaO₂ (OR: PaO₂ no change, decreased PaCO₂)
- D. Decreased PaCO₂, Increased PaO₂
- E. Decreased PaCO₂, Decreased PaO₂

Both O₂ and CO₂ - increased solubility with hypothermia

Solubility is inv proportional to pp so O₂ & Co₂ will ↓

[RE63](#) [Feb06] Anatomical dead space

- A. measured by carbon monoxide inhalation
- B. 2ml/kg in average adult.
- C. ?

[RE64](#) [Feb06] With regard to dead space:

- A. Bohr equation can be used for anatomical dead space
- B. Nitrogen washout can be used for alveolar dead space anatomical dead space
- C. Physiological dead space calculated from end-tidal CO₂
- D. Physiological dead space can be calculated from end-tidal CO₂ and alveolar CO₂
↳ should be mixed expired

[RE65](#) [Feb06] Regarding the work of lungs in breathing:

- A. ?
- B. Most work is to overcome airway resistance
- C. Increased by increasing respiratory rate (i think)
- D. ?
- E. Work done is determined by integral of pressure volume loop

[RE66](#) {Feb06} [A-a gradient](#) is increased with:

- A. atelectasis
- B. venous admixture - because 50mmHg A-a gradient is so high. Others will prob also cause ↑ Aa gradient as well
- C. Hypoventilation
- D. reduced cardiac output
- E. increased diffusion distance for oxygen

Alt stem wording: [RE66b](#) A-a gradient of 50mmHg in a patient breathing room air is most likely due to (*stem definitely correct*):

RE67 [Jul10] What percentage of total blood volume is found in the pulmonary capillaries?

- A. 1%
- B. 3%**
- C. 9%
- D. 11%
- E. 15%

pulmonary circulation has the capacity to hold 400-500mL blood as a reservoir.

Which would make it 8-10%

*3% is in the **pulmonary** capillaries*

RE68 [Feb11] Blood draining from an unventilated part of lung will have an O₂ composition identical to

- A. Coronary sinus - high O₂ extraction and pO₂ of ~20mmHg
- B. Pulmonary artery**
- C. Bronchial artery - from origins in the aorta and therefore have a normal systemic P_aO₂
- D. Alveolar gas

RE69 [Feb12] Most likely cause of hypoxaemia post abdominal surgery?

- A. Increased shunt**
- B. Increased dead space
- C. Hypoventilation**
- D. ?
- E. ?

RE70 The anatomical dead space is increased by:

- A. Intubation
- B. Chin tuck position
- C. Moving from supine to erect**
- D. Moving from sitting to semi-recumbent
- E. Bronchospasm

Nunn, factors affecting anatomical dead space:

- size of subject

- age (decrease birth to 6yr; increases early adulthood onwards)
- posture (supine = 2/3 sitting)
- position neck and jaw (increases from neck flexion to extension)
- lung volume end inspiration (increases with increasing volume)
- intubation/LMA (apparatus dead space bypassing 1/2 anatomical dead space)
- drugs (bronchodilators increase)
- $V_{tidal} + RR$ (reducing V_t reduces dead space as measured by Fowler's method; due to air flow changes)

RE71 [Jul10] [Feb12] The VO_2 max for a sedentary 40 year old male is about?

- A. 3ml/kg/min
- B. 11ml/kg/min
- C. 40ml/kg/min
- D. 90ml/kg/min
- E. 250ml/kg/min
 - fit young adult (~42 mL/kg/min)
 - sedentary 70 year-old (~17 mL/kg/min)
 - athlete = 5L/min
 - fit young person = 3L/min

RE72 [Mar03] [Jul03] [Mar10] Respiratory exchange ratio: CO_2 produced / O_2 consumed in one breath

- A. Always equals respiratory quotient = very different. $RQ = CO_2$ eliminated / O_2 consumed
- B. Increases in strenuous exercise. this = metabolic rate.
- C. Decreases after payment of oxygen debt - Decreases whilst repaying oxygen debt - can fall to 0.5
 \uparrow s during severe exercise as CO_2 \uparrow s - can go up to 2
- D. Is measured at steady state R can be measured at any time

RE73 [Feb08] [Feb12] During normal tidal ventilation

- A. Intrapleural pressures between -5 & -8mmHg
- B. Alveolar pressures between -2 & +2 cmH₂O -1 to +1
- C. Tracheal flow is sinusoidal
- D. Peak flow is 5L/s

E. ?intrapleural pressure curve is sinusoidal

Alt version: In a normal healthy 75kg person:

A. Intrapleural pressure during tidal breathing is between -5cmH₂O to -8cmH₂O

B. Alveolar pressure during tidal breathing is between +5cmH₂O to -5cmH₂O

C. Tidal volume is 400ml - $V_t = 7\text{ml}/k = 525\text{ml in } 75\text{kg}$

D. inspiration last 1 second, expiration last 4 secs

[RE74](#) [Jul06] [Feb12] FEF 25-75% (forced expiratory flow some proportion of FEV curve)

A. Includes the effort dependent part "It has the theoretical advantage of avoiding measurement during the more effort-dependent first quarter of the FVC."

B. Measured during first half of expiration - is the middle half of expiration of the FVC

C. always related to FEV1

D. fastest / steepest in 1 sec? time is not a consideration

E. Increased in COPD

[RE75](#) [Feb12] With regards to blood sampled from the distal lumen of a pulmonary artery catheter (when it is wedged)

A. PO₂ will be the equal to mixed venous PO₂

B. PO₂ will be less than mixed venous PO₂

C. PCO₂ will be equal to mixed venous PCO₂

D. PCO₂ will be less than mixed venous PCO₂

E. PCO₂ will be more than mixed venous PCO₂