

## All the equations we think you need for the FRCA

*If there are any missing, let us know and we'll add them!*

---

### Pharmacokinetics and pharmacology

#### Plasma concentration

- Concentration = Dose/Volume of distribution
- Loading dose = volume of distribution x desired concentration
- Infusion rate = desired concentration x clearance

#### Rate of elimination and half life

- Rate of elimination =  $C_{ss}$  x clearance
- Half life =  $0.693 \times \text{Volume of distribution} / \text{Clearance}$
- Half life =  $0.693 / K_e$
- $\tau = 1 / K_e$
- $\tau = V_d / Cl$
- $K_e = \text{Clearance} / V_d$

$C_{ss}$  = steady state concentration

$K_e$  = elimination rate constant

Explanation [here](#)

#### Clearance

- Clearance =  $K_e \times \text{Volume of distribution}$
- Clearance = Urine concentration x urinary flow/plasma concentration
- Clearance = Dose/AUC

#### Caudal block dose

- Lumbosacral block - 0.5 ml/kg
- Thoracolumbar block - 1 ml/kg

- Midthoracic block - 1.25 ml/kg

*This is for 0.25% bupivacaine.*

### **Steroid equivalence**

The following are all equivalent doses

- Methylprednisolone - 4mg
- Prednisolone - 5mg
- Hydrocortisone - 20mg
- Cortisone - 25 mg

## Physics

### Ohm's law

- Volts = Current x Resistance

### Power, charge and energy

- Charge = Voltage x capacitance
- Power = Current x Voltage
- Power = Energy/Time
- Volts = Energy/Charge
- Energy = Charge x voltage/2
- Energy = (Capacitance x voltage<sup>2</sup>) /2
- Energy = Mass x specific heat capacity x temperature

### Resistance

For a series circuit

- Total resistance =  $R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_n$

For a parallel circuit

- $1/\text{Total resistance} = 1/R_1 + 1/R_2 + \dots + 1/R_n$

### Force, energy and pressure

- Energy = Force x distance
- Energy = pressure x volume
- Force = mass x acceleration
- Kinetic energy =  $0.5 \times \text{mass} \times \text{velocity}^2$
- Potential energy = mass x gravitational acceleration x height

### Hagen Pouiselle

- $Q = \pi \Delta P r^4 / 8 \eta l$

$Q$  = Flow,  $\Delta P$  - change in pressure,  $\eta$  - viscosity,  $l$  - length of tube

### Turbulent flow

$$Re = \rho v D / \eta$$

$\rho$  - density,  $D$  - diameter of tube,  $\eta$  - viscosity

*Turbulent flow is more affected by density*

*Laminar flow is more affected by viscosity*

## Doppler equation

- $F_d = 2 F_t V \cos \theta / C$

$F_t$  - transmitted Doppler frequency,  $V$  - speed of blood flow,  $\cos \theta$  - Cosine of the blood flow to beam angle,  $C$  - speed of sound in tissue

## Pressure equivalence

The following are all the same:

- 101 kPa
- 1 atm
- 760 mmHg
- 1033 cmH<sub>2</sub>O
- 101 325 N/m<sup>2</sup>
- 101 325 Dynes/cm<sup>2</sup>
- 14.4 PSI

## Gas laws

Universal gas law

- $PV = nRT$

Boyle's law

- $V_1 P_1 = V_2 P_2$  at a given temperature

Charles' law

- $V$  is proportional to  $T$  for a given pressure

Gay-Lussac's law

- $P$  is proportional to  $T$  for any given volume

### Dalton's law

- Total pressure = sum of all the partial pressures

### Fick's law of diffusion

- Volume of gas is proportional to (Area/Thickness) x diffusion constant x pressure gradient
- Diffusion constant is proportional to gas solubility/ $\sqrt{\text{molecular weight}}$

More [here](#)

## Cardiovascular physiology

### Cardiac output and blood pressure

- Cardiac output = Stroke volume x Heart rate
- Blood pressure = Cardiac output x Systemic vascular resistance
- Mean arterial pressure = diastolic + (systolic - diastolic)/3
- Systemic vascular resistance =  $(MAP - CVP/CO) \times 80$
- Pulmonary vascular resistance =  $(MPAP - PAWP/CO) \times 80$

### Oxygen transport

- Oxygen content = cardiac output x  $(Hb \times SaO_2 \times 1.34) + (0.02 \times PaO_2)$
- Saturations =  $HbO_2 \times 100\% / Hb + HbO_2$

### Laplace law

- The pressure inside a sphere is proportional to the surface tension in the wall
- The pressure inside a sphere is inversely proportional to the radius of the sphere
- Wall **stress** is the wall **tension** divided by 2 times the wall thickness
- $P = 2 \times \text{Surface Tension} / \text{radius}$

### Shock index

- $SI = HR/SBP$

>0.9 is suggestive of circulatory failure

## Respiratory physiology

### Dead space

- Physiological dead space = anatomical + alveolar

Explanations [here](#)

### Resistance and compliance

- Total airway resistance = airway resistance + tissue resistance
- Compliance =  $\Delta \text{volume} / \Delta \text{pressure}$
- $1/\text{total compliance} = 1/\text{lung compliance} + 1/\text{thoracic wall compliance}$

### Venturi

- Delivered  $\text{FiO}_2 = (\text{O}_2 \text{ flow rate} + (0.21 \times \text{air flow rate})) / \text{Total flow rate}$

The air flow rate can be calculated from the **entrainment ratio**

[Here's our post on venturi stuff](#)

### Bohr Equation

- $\text{VD}/\text{VT} = \text{PaCO}_2 - \text{PeCO}_2 / \text{PaCO}_2$

Explanation [here](#)

### Shunt Equation

- $\text{QS}/\text{QT} = \text{CCO}_2 - \text{CaO}_2 / \text{CCO}_2 - \text{CvO}_2$

Explanation [here](#)

### Alveolar gas equation

- $\text{PAO}_2 = \text{FiO}_2 \times (\text{P}_{\text{ATM}} - \text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}) - \text{PACO}_2 / \text{RQ}$

Explanation [here](#)

## Metabolic physiology

### Henderson-Hasselbalch equation and acid/base

- $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a + \log\left(\frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}\right)$
- $\text{pH} = -\log_{10} [\text{H}^+]$

For an acid:

- $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a + \log[\text{A}^-/\text{HA}]$

For a base:

- $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a + \log[\text{B}/\text{BA}^+]$

More acid base stuff [here](#)

### Metabolic equivalent of task

- 1 MET = 3.5 ml O<sub>2</sub>/kg/min

Explanation [here](#)

### Anion Gap

- $[\text{Na}^+ + \text{K}^+] - [\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-]$

Explanation [here](#)

### Serum osmolality

- $(2 \times [\text{Na}^+]) + [\text{Glu}] + [\text{Urea}]$
- Osmolality = per kg, osmolarity = per litre
- Normally 275 - 290 mOsm/kg
- Normal **urine** osmolality = 500 - 850 mOsm/kg

Fluids and stuff [here](#)

### Corrected sodium

- $\text{Corrected Na} = \text{Measured Na} + 2.4 \times \text{Glucose}/100$



## Neurophysiology

### Cerebral perfusion pressure

- $CPP = MAP - (ICP + CVP)$

Explanation [here](#)

### Intracranial pressure

- $ICP \propto \text{Brain Volume} + \text{CSF Volume} + \text{Blood Volume}$

where:

- **Compensation:** If one increases, the others must decrease to maintain normal ICP.
- **Decompensation:** Once compensation fails, ICP rises steeply.

### CSF production

- CSF Production  $\approx 0.3\text{--}0.4 \text{ mL/min} \approx 500 \text{ mL/day}$

### Cerebral blood flow

- $CBF = CPP / CVR$

where CVR = Cerebrovascular Resistance

- Normal CBF = **50 mL/100g/min**
- **CBF is autoregulated** between a MAP of **50–150 mmHg**

### Cerebral oxygen consumption

- $CMRO_2 = CBF \times (CaO_2 - CjvO_2)$

where:

- $CaO_2$  = **arterial** oxygen content
- $CjvO_2$  = jugular venous oxygen content

### Nernst equation

- $E_x = RT/zF \times \ln([X]_{\text{extracellular}}/[X]_{\text{intracellular}})$

where:

- $E_x$  = equilibrium potential for an ion
  - $R$  = universal gas constant
  - $T$  = temperature in Kelvin
  - $z$  = charge of the ion
  - $F$  = Faraday's constant
- 

## Paediatrics

### WETFLAG

- Weight =  $(age+4) \times 2$
- Energy = 4 J/kg
- Tube =  $(age/4) + 4$
- Fluids = 10ml/kg
- Lorazepam = 0.1mg/kg
- Adrenaline = 0.1ml/kg of 1:10 000 (1mg in 10ml)
- Glucose = 2mls/kg 10% dextrose

*Atropine = 20mcg/kg*

[More here](#)

### Fluid resuscitation

- Maintenance = 4 mL/kg/hr (first 10 kg) + 2 mL/kg/hr (next 10 kg) + 1 mL/kg/hr (>20 kg)

## Statistics

### Sensitivity and Specificity

Sensitivity = *Likelihood of detecting a true case of the disease*

- $\text{true positive} / (\text{true positive} + \text{false negative})$

Specificity = *Likelihood of testing negative if you don't have the disease*

- $\text{true negative} / (\text{true negative} + \text{false positive})$

Positive predictive value = *Likelihood you actually have it if test positive*

- $\text{true positive} / (\text{true positive} + \text{false positive})$

Negative predictive value = *Likelihood that a negative test means you don't have the disease*

- $\text{true negative} / (\text{true negative} + \text{false negative})$

### Odds and relative risk

When presented with a 2 x 2 table

Odds ratio =  $(a/b)/(c/d)$

Relative risk =  $(a/(a + b))/(c/(c + d))$

Absolute risk reduction =  $(c/(c + d)) - (c/(c + b))$

Number needed to treat =  $1/ARR$

---

*Let us know what we've missed and we'll add it in!*