Lec 12 Circulatory Systems III

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Electrocardiogram (ECG)

- Different parts of ECG record can be correlated to specific cardiac events
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- is a diagnostic tool that is routinely used to <u>assess</u> the <u>electrical</u> and <u>muscular</u> functions of the heart from different <u>angles</u> to identify and locate pathology.
- The ECG machine records electrical impulses coming from human body









Dr. Peter Shelderward, Institute of Biology, Leigen, Netherlands

(c) Goldfish with implanted sensor for ECG



(d) Electrocardiogram of a goldfish

Heart Mechanics and the Cardiac Cycle

- The cardiac cycle consists of alternating periods of systole and diastole
 - Systole is the period of <u>contraction</u> and <u>emptying</u>
 - Diastole is the period of <u>relaxation</u> and <u>filling</u>
 - Events are the same on the left and right sides of the heart
 - Pressures are lower on the right

PHASES OF THE CARDIAC CYCLE





Cardiac Output and Its Control

• Cardiac output (C.O.) is the volume of blood pumped per minute by a heart to the body.

Cardiac output = heart rate x stroke volume

- Larger animals have slower heart rates, but larger stroke volumes
- Cardiac output increases with warmer body temperature, age during development, and increased activity level.

- Heart rate is determined by antagonistic regulation by the autonomic nervous system
 - Coordinated by the cardiovascular control center in the brain stem
 - ACh from vagus nerve binds to muscarinic receptors
 - Decreases heart rate (SA node)
 - **Decreases** excitability of the AV node
 - Shortens the plateau phase of atrial contractile cells
 - NE from sympathetic neurons and epinephrine from the adrenal medulla bind to $\beta_1\text{-}adrenergic$ receptors
 - Increases heart rate
 - <u>Reduces</u> AV nodal delay
 - <u>Speeds the spread</u> of action potentials through the conduction pathway
 - Increases contractile strength of atrial and ventricular cells

Control of Heart Rate - Autonomic Nervous System





- Autonomic nervous system modulates the **frequency** of depolarization of pacemaker
- <u>Sympathetic stimulation</u> (neurotransmitter = <u>adrenaline</u>); binds to beta1 receptors on the SA nodal membranes

<u>Parasympathetic stimulation</u> (neurotransmitter = <u>Acetyl choline</u>); binds to muscarinic receptors on nodal membranes; increases conductivity of K+ and decreases conductivity of Ca2+









(b) Control of heart rate by autonomic nervous system



Control of stroke volume

Intrinsic control

- Direct correlation between end-diastolic volume (EDV) and stroke volume (SV)
 - Depends on the length-tension relationship of cardiac muscle
 - The greater the volume of blood entering the heart, the greater the volume ejected (Frank-Starling law of the heart)

• Extrinsic control

- Sympathetic stimulation enhances contractility of the heart
- Sympathetic stimulation constricts veins, enhancing venous return and increasing stroke volume



The heart receives its blood supply through the coronary circulation

- Heart muscle <u>cannot</u> extract <u>oxygen</u> or nutrients from blood within its <u>chambers</u>
- **Coronary arteries** first evolved in active fishes
 - Branch off of brachial arteries leaving the gills
 - Coronary arteries branch off of the aorta in mammals



- Coronary **blood flow increases** during activity
 - Dilation of coronary vessels is induced by adenosine
 - Adenosine is formed from ATP when oxygen supplies are low or cardiac activity is increased
- Obstruction of coronary arteries is a leading cause of death in humans

Coronary arteries



Arterioles are the major resistance vessels

Radii of arterioles are small enough to offer considerable **resistance to flow**

Large **drop in blood pressure** through the arterioles Mean arterial pressure of 93 mmHg drops to 37 mmHg where blood enters the capillaries

Eliminates pulsatile pressure swings

Thick layer of **smooth muscle** is innervated by **sympathetic** nerve fibers

Vasoconstriction results from smooth muscle contraction —-> decreased radius, increased resistance

Vasodilation results from smooth muscle relaxation —-> increased radius, decreased resistance

- Blood pressure is the force exerted by the blood against the wall of blood vessel
- Systolic blood pressure : is force exerted by arterial walls during systole. It is the maximum pressure during ventricle contraction
- **Diastolic blood pressure** : is the force exerted by blood against arterial wall during <u>diastole</u>. It is the maximum pressure when the ventricles are relaxed
- Unit of measuring blood pressure =<u>mmHg</u>
- Normal blood pressure is <u>120/80</u> mm of Hg
- Pulse pressure is the difference between systolic & diastolic pressure
- Normally, The pulse pressure is 40 mmHg

Factors affecting the blood pressure

- Disease
- Age
- Heredity
- Blood Volume
- Weight
- Diet
- Hormones
- Salt
- Caffeine
- Environmental factors

- Psychological factors
- Stress/Anxiety
- Gravity
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Time of day



Baroreceptor Reflex



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Regulation of blood pressure II. Chemoreceptor

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Blood Flow

 Flow rate – volume of blood per unit time

 $F = \Delta P/R$

- Depends on:
 - Pressure gradient pressure between the beginning and ending of a vessel
 - Vascular resistance prevention or opposition to blood flow through a vessel



Blood Flow

- <u>Resistance</u>
 - As resistance increases flow rate decreases
 - Factors affecting resistance
 - <u>Viscosity</u> friction between molecules increases resistance (no. of circulating RBC)
 - <u>Length</u> increased surface area increases resistance (remains constant in body)
 - Elasticity
 - **Peripheral** resistance

Resistance

 <u>Peripheral resistance</u> – friction between the blood

and the vessel wall

- <u>Radius</u> the main determinant of resistance
- Increased <u>surface area</u> exposed to blood increases resistance
- <u>Flow</u> is faster in larger vessels than smaller



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<u>Laplace law</u> – mechanical stress of blood vessel walls is directly proportional to the <u>pressure</u> and vessel radius



- Vessels are "built to withstand the wall tensions they normally "see"
- If <u>intravascular</u> pressure increases will increase <u>vessel</u> <u>wall tension (T)</u>
- In response, vascular smooth muscle
 <u>contracts</u> and T returns to normal

Law of LaPlace

$$T = (\Delta P^* r) / \mu m$$

Where T = tension in the vessel wall $\Delta P =$ Transmural pressure r = radius of the vessel $\mu m =$ wall thickness

Law of Laplace

About half as much tension Much less wall tension

Maximum wall tension T = PR

Very little wall tension

Same pressure in all regions according to Pascal's principle.

Blood Pressure: Generated by Ventricular Contraction

(a) Ventricular contraction



(b) Ventricular relaxation



Figure 15-4: Elastic recoil in the arteries

Laminar flow vs Turbulent flow

Laminar flow is parabolic, highest velocity in center (least resistance), lowest adjacent to vessel walls <u>**Turbulent</u>** flow is disoriented, no longer parabolic, energy wasted, thus more pressure required to drive blood flow.</u>





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