

ScVO₂

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- Hypoxia is typically pretty easy to fix with supplemental oxygen
- What is more important is understanding oxygen delivery and consumption

The Oxygen content of blood = CaO₂ = 1.34 x Hg x SaO₂ + .003 x PaO₂

- Once Hg is fully saturated, PaO₂ does very little to support oxygen delivery
- With a Hg of 15, typical CaO₂ is around 20 ccO₂/dl blood
- e.g. If you increase FiO₂ to 500 on the ventilator, CaO₂ will only increase by 1.2 ccO₂/dl blood
- Keeping the PaO₂ above what is necessary to adequately saturate Hg does very little for you and likely exposes patients to oxygen toxicity
- RULE 1: Oxygen saturation (SaO₂) is much more important than PaO₂

Now that your blood is loaded with oxygen, you need to get it to the tissues. Delivery of oxygen = DO₂ = CO x CaO₂ x 10 (to get it into mL as opposed to dL)

- The major factors that make up oxygen delivery are CO, Hg and SaO₂
- CO has the greatest impact on DO₂
- Hg the second greatest
- Hypoxia has the least impact
- RULE 2: Increasing CO or improving anemia can offset hypoxemia in terms of oxygen delivery

Once oxygen gets delivered to the tissues, it is consumed. VO₂ = oxygen consumption.

- During exercise or critical illness, VO₂ can increase by 30-50%
- We can measure VO₂ by looking at ScVO₂ (or mixed venous if you have a swan)

- By knowing the venous oxygen saturation, we can calculate the Venous Oxygen Content = $CvO_2 = 1.34 \times Hg \times SvO_2 + .003 \times PvO_2$
- The VO_2 is then the arterial-venous oxygen difference x CO
 - $VO_2 = CO \times (CaO_2 - CvO_2) \times 10$
 - $VO_2 = CO \times [(1.34 \times Hg \times SaO_2) - (1.34 \times Hg \times SvO_2)] \times 10$
 - $VO_2 = CO \times 1.34 \times Hg (SaO_2 - SvO_2) \times 10$

Knowing either the DO_2 or the VO_2 is unhelpful. What we really want to know is whether the DO_2 is adequate for the VO_2

- During both rest and exercise, the $DO_2:VO_2$ ratio is maintained at ~4:1 or 5:1
- This is done by changes/adjustments in CO
- This allows the body a reserve. It would be pretty dumb if the body only delivered just enough oxygen for its demand. The minute something stressful happened, you would die.
- If the DO_2 does decline, eventually it will reach a point at which further drops in delivery lead to declines in consumption — or consumption becomes delivery-dependent
 - This is called the Anaerobic threshold.
 - You would expect this to be when $DO_2:VO_2$ ratio is 1, however it actually occurs closer to 2:1 ratio
 - RULE 3: $DO_2:VO_2$ ratio is typically 4:1 or 5:1, once it reaches close to 2:1, the patient is nearing anaerobic threshold

$ScVO_2$ can be used as surrogate to the $DO_2:VO_2$ ratio

- *The $ScVO_2$ can be used to identify when a patient has insufficient oxygen delivery to meet the body's demand (when patients are nearing anaerobic threshold)*
- How can the $ScVO_2$ act as a surrogate?
 - DO_2/VO_2 ratio = $(CO \times 1.34 \times SaO_2 \times 10) / [CO \times 1.34 \times Hg \times (SaO_2 - SvO_2) \times 10]$

- Cancel everything out and you are left with:
 - $DO_2:VO_2 = SaO_2/(SaO_2 - SvO_2)$
 - If you assume the SaO_2 is 100%, then the SvO_2 correlates the $DO_2:VO_2$ ratio:
 - 5:1 = 80%
 - **4:1 = 75%**
 - 3:1 = 67%
 - **2:1 = 50%**

Inadequate oxygen delivery for consumption demands can only be due to three things:

- Low CO
- Anemia
- Hypoxemia
 - CO has the GREATEST IMPACT ON THIS
 - *We always tend to think of heart failure when $ScVO_2$ is low, but anything that reduces CO will decrease $ScVO_2$:*
 - Hypovolemia
 - Hemorrhagic shock
 - Cardiac Tamponade, etc
 - RULE 4: $ScVO_2$ is low in LOW FLOW STATES

In critical patients in which hypoxemia is difficult to correct, your $ScVO_2$ will go down with each reduction in SaO_2 (if $DO_2:VO_2$ otherwise stays the same)

- Calculating the oxygen extraction ratio is a quick way to estimate the balance between oxygen delivery and consumption, even when SaO_2 is low
- $O_2ER = (SaO_2 - SvO_2)/SaO_2$
- A normal O_2ER is 20-25%

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- An O₂ER >30% should warrant evaluation
- An O₂ER >40% means the patient is rapidly nearing anaerobic threshold!
- RULE 5: If SaO₂ is low, you can use the O₂ER to evaluate delivery versus demand accurately (basically, if the SaO₂ is low and you want to know if that's the reason why oxygen delivery is poor, or if it is due to CO or anemia)