





Hormonal Control of Calcium & Phosphate Metabolism Dr Zubia Shah

Learning Objectives

- Explain the role of Vit D in Calcium and phosphorus metabolism.
- Explain the mechanism of action PTH.
- Describe the effect of Parathyroid Hormone on Calcium and Phosphate concentrations.
- Describe the control of Parathyroid Secretion.

Maintenanc e of blood Calcium level

Normal blood calcium level = 9-11 mg/dl3 hormones are important in calcium homeostasis 1. Parathyroid hormone 2. 1, 25 dihydroxycholecalciferol 3. Calcitonin

Normal Distribution of Calcium in mmol/L

Total diffusible		1.34
Ionized (Ca ²⁺)	1.18	
Complexed to HCO ₃ ⁻ , citrate, etc	0.16	
Total nondiffusible (protein-bound)		1.16
Bound to albumin	0.92	
Bound to globulin	0.24	
Total plasma calcium		2.50

Absorpti on And Excretion OfCalcium And Phosphat C



Normal Distribution of Inorganic Phosphate in ECF

- Phosphate Ions → HPO₄⁻² & H₂PO₄⁻
 Average total quantity of inorganic phosphorus represented by both phosphate ions is 4mg/dL of blood
- $_{\circ}$ 3-4mg/dL in adults
- _o 4-5mg/dL in children

Phosphate levels 2-3 times above or below normal \rightarrow no major effects on the body Easily absorbed from gut except for that excreted in feces with non-absorbed calcium

Phosphate

° Bones and teeth - made of crystalline calcium phosphate

Medical and biological research uses

° The medicinal type (salt) of phosphorus is phosphate

° help cure many urinary tract infections - urine more acidic

° avoid the development of calcium stones in the urinary tract

Why Calcium concentration must be diligently regulated?

Regulation of Calcium

- \circ 99% of Ca²⁺ in the body (1000 g) is in crystalline form (skeleton & teeth)
- ° 0.9% (9 g) is intracellular soft tissues
- \circ less than 0.1% (1 g) is in the ECF
- ° half of the ECF Ca^{2+} is bound to plasma proteins (plasma) or is complexed with PO_4^{3-} and not free to participate in chemical reactions
- ° The other half of ECF Ca²⁺ is freely diffusible and can readily pass from the plasma into the interstitial fluid and interact with the cells
- Only this free ECF Ca²⁺ is biologically active and subject to regulation;
 it constitutes less than one thousandth of the total Ca²⁺ in the body



Free ECF Ca²⁺ is Biologically Active

1. Neuromuscular excitability –

A fall in free Ca²⁺ results in overexcitability of nerves and muscles Fall in free Ca²⁺ \uparrow Na⁺ permeability - threshold. Hypocalcemia \rightarrow excitation While \uparrow free Ca²⁺ depresses neuromuscular excitability - Hypercalcemia is also life threatening \rightarrow cardiac arrhythmias and generalized depression of NM excitation

2. Excitation contraction Coupling in cardiac & smooth muscles

3. **Stimulus secretion coupling –** secretion of neurotransmitters by nerve cells and hydrophilic hormones by endocrine cells



- 4. Excitation-secretion coupling
- In pancreatic ß cells Ca²⁺ influx from the ECF \rightarrow insulin secretion
- 5. Maintenance of tight junctions between some cells by acting as cement
- 6. Clotting of blood serves as a cofactor in cascade of reactions \rightarrow clot formation
- 7. Second messenger in many cells
- 8. Cell motility & ciliary action
- 9. Bone & teeth integrity





Bone Is a Living Tissue

Tough organic matrix or osteoid - precipitated calcium phosphate salts $(Ca_3(PO_4)_2)$ $(Ca_3(PO_4)_2)$ salts are in solution in the ECF and precipitate (crystallize) around the collagen fibres in the matrix Organic matrix is 90-95% collagen fibers and remaining ground substance Ground substance = ECF + proteoglycans (chondroitin sulphate & hyaluronic acid)

Bone continuously undergoes remodelling



Compact & Trabecular bone Long Bone





Why does calcium not precipitate in tissues despite high concentrations and what will happen if they precipitate in normal tissues?







Effect of ↑ Vit D3 intake on plasma concentration of 25-hydroxycholecalciferol Effect of plasma calcium conc on plasma conc of 1,25dihydroxycholecalciferol





Actions of Vitamin D 1. Promotes intestinal calcium absorption

2. Promotes intestinal phosphate absorption

3. Decreases renal calcium & phosphate excretion

4. Effect on bone resorption & deposition

- Smaller quantities promote bone calcification
- Large quantities cause bone resorption († Ca++ transport through membranes by 1,25 dihydroxycholecalciferol)



Actions of Vitamin D

Promotes Intestinal Calcium Absorption

Promotes Phosphate Absorption by the Intestine

Decreases Renal Calcium and Phosphate Excretion

Plays important role in bone resorption, bone deposition & bone calcification

Activates T cells to destroy foreign agents & deficiency leads to increased susceptibility to infection



Parathyroid Gland





PARATHYROID GLAND

Parathyroid gland

4 glands- one behind each pole of thyroid gland

Appearance – like dark brown fat

Removal 2-3 gland → transient ↓ parathyroid hormone – later compensated by hypertrophy

Gland consists of

- Chief cells hormonal production
- Oxyphil cells no known functions



Parathyroid Hormone

- \uparrow Ca²⁺ concentration of plasma
- Complete absence of PTH \rightarrow asphyxiation caused by hypocalcemic spasm of respiratory muscles \rightarrow death
- PTH \uparrow plasma Ca²⁺ concentration when it falls so prevents hypocalcemia
- lowers plasma PO4³⁻ concentration



Sclerostin

° Paracrine that inhibits osteoblast activity to prevent excessive bone growth

 $^\circ$ Parathyroid hormone and mechanical stress favour bone formation \rightarrow inhibit sclerostin

 \circ whereas calcitonin, which favours bone resorption \rightarrow stimulates sclerostin

Effect of PTH on Calcium and Phosphate Concentrations in Extracellular Fluid



Role of Osteoblasts & Osteoclasts

Role of Osteoblasts & Osteoclasts



Remodeling Of Bone

Deposition of Bone



Resorption of Bone





Osteocytic-Osteoblastic bone membrane Fast and slow exchange of Osteocytic-Osteocyte osteoblastic Osteoblast Ca++ bone membrane Osteoblast between bone and plasma Osteoclast In canaliculi In central canal Blood vessel Mineralized Mineralized bone: Bone fluid: Plasma stable pool of Ca2+ labile pool bone of Ca2+ Fast exchange → Ca²⁺ 2 Slow exchange Central canal Ca²⁺ Outer (Bone surface dissolution Bone fluid Canaliculi Osteocytic-osteoblastic bone membrane Lamellae (formed by filmy cytoplasmic extensions of interconnected osteocytes and osteoblasts)

Rapid Phase

- Osteocytic membrane system
- Between Osteocytic membrane and bone is Bone fluid
- Active Calcium Pump in Osteocytic membrane \rightarrow
- Ca++ level in bone fluid lower than ECF calcium (only 1/3 of ECF Ca++)

PTH \uparrow the activity of this pump $\rightarrow \downarrow$ Bone fluid Calcium concentration & release of Ca++ and PO4 from bone - **Osteolysis**

• Bone Matrix

Slow Phase

$\mathsf{PTH} \rightarrow$

↑activity of osteoclasts
↑No of osteoclasts



Salts and matrix both are reabsorbed May continue for months After prolonged osteoclastic activity osteoblastic activity is also ↑ ↑ PTH activity for years may → osteoporosis

> Bones contain 1000 times more Ca++ than ECF

Effects on Kidneys

Effect on Calcium

PTH →↑ reabsorption of calcium in

- Late distal tubules
- Collecting tubules & early collecting ducts
 Ascending loop of Henle (less frequently)

Effect on Phosphate

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{PTH} \rightarrow \downarrow reabsorption \ of \\ \mathsf{PO}_4 \rightarrow \uparrow excretion \ of \ \mathsf{PO}_4 \rightarrow \\ \downarrow \ phosphate \ level \ in \ the \ blood \end{array}$

PTH →↑ reabsorption of Mg, H⁺ PTH→ ↓reabsorption of Na⁺, K⁺ and amino acids

Effects on Intestine

 $PTH \rightarrow \uparrow$ formation of 1,25,dihydroxycholecalciferol from Vitamin D in kidneys \rightarrow formation of

Calcium binding protein
Calcium stimulated ATPase
Alkaline phosphatase

Increases Calcium & Phosphate Absorption from Intestines

Effect of PTH & 1-25 Dihydroxycholecalciferol on body Calcium





Control of Parathyroid Secretion by Calcium Ion Concentration

Hypocalcemia is the most important stimulus for PTH production & secretion

Hypocalcemia→ hypertrophy of parathyroid gland in

- In pregnancy
- During lactation
 - In rickets





Mrs. X recently had a baby and is breast feeding the baby as well. Her diet is deficient in dairy products and beans and is not taking any supplements as well. The most likely finding in her will be

- A. Decreased parathyroid hormone
- B. Increased calcium levels
- C. Increased 1-25 dihydroxycholecalciferol
- D. Increased parathyroid hormone
- E. High calcitonin levels





References

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