

# PATOPHYSIOLOGY OF CIRCULATORY SHOCK



# Shock - definition

- Severe tissue hypoperfusion resulting in low supply of oxygen to the organs
- Systemic hypotension (of various causes) is present
- Inability of circulatory system to supply oxygen + nutrients and to remove metabolites → organ damage → failure
- $P = Q \times R$

# Vascular resistance

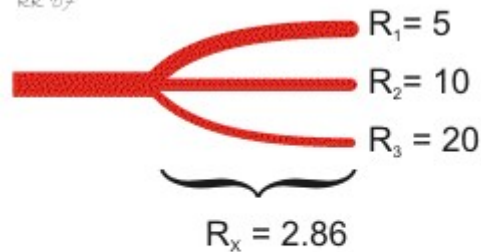
- ✘ R – systemic resistance (mostly arterioles) - afterload
- ✘ R [ $\text{kg}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-4}$ ]: can be obtained from Hagen-Poiseuill law:

$$R = 8 \times \eta \times d / \pi \times r^4, \text{ where:}$$

$\eta$  = viscosity

d = length of the segment

r = radius



$$R_x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}}$$

# Vascular smooth muscle tone

## • Vasodilatation

- NO – produced in the endothelium by constitutive (eNOS) and inducible (iNOS) synthase
- prostacyclins
- histamine
- bradykinin
- pO<sub>2</sub>, pCO<sub>2</sub>, pH
- adenosine
- catecholamines
- cGMP, cAMP

## • Vasoconstriction

- endothelin
- ATII
- ADH
- catecholamines
- thromboxane A<sub>2</sub>
- Ca<sup>2+</sup>

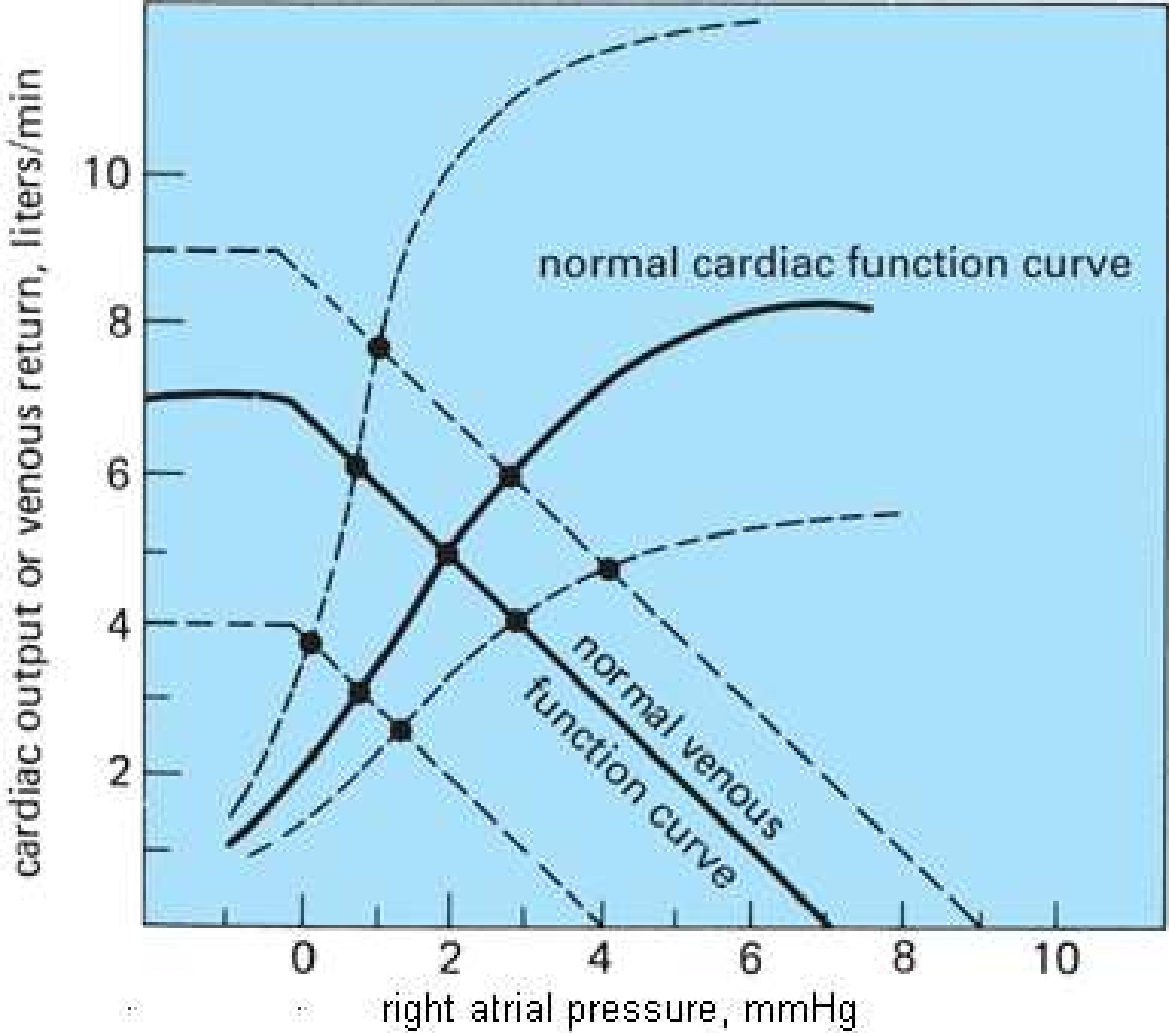
# Cardiac output

- $Q \sim CO = SV \times f$
- CO depends on
  - a) cardiac function
  - b) venous return ( $\rightarrow$ preload)
    - depends on circulating volume – physiologically regulated by the kidneys; during the shock, fluid loss can occur by different ways as well

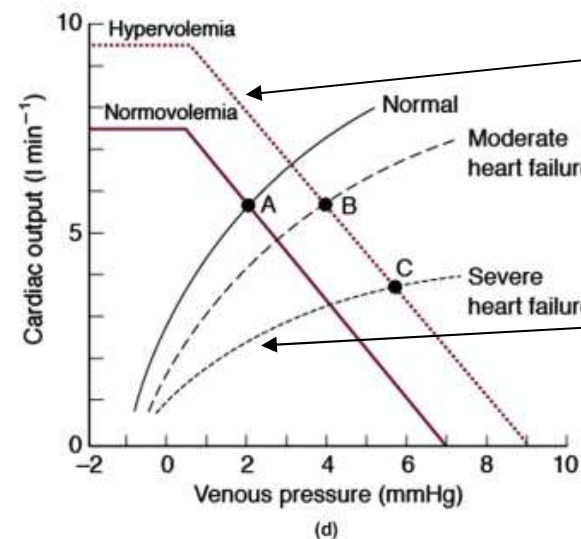
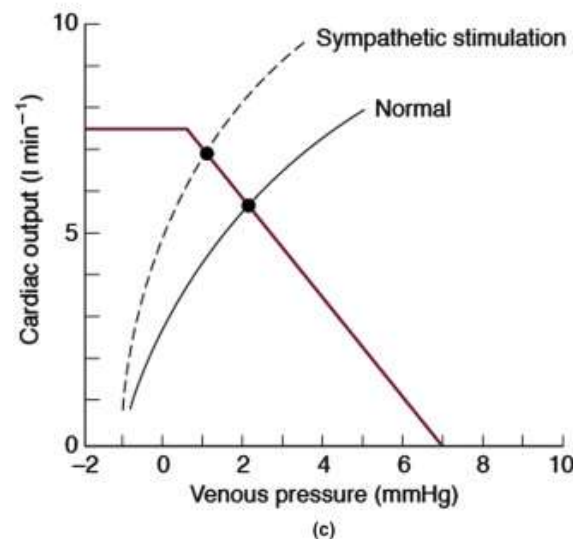
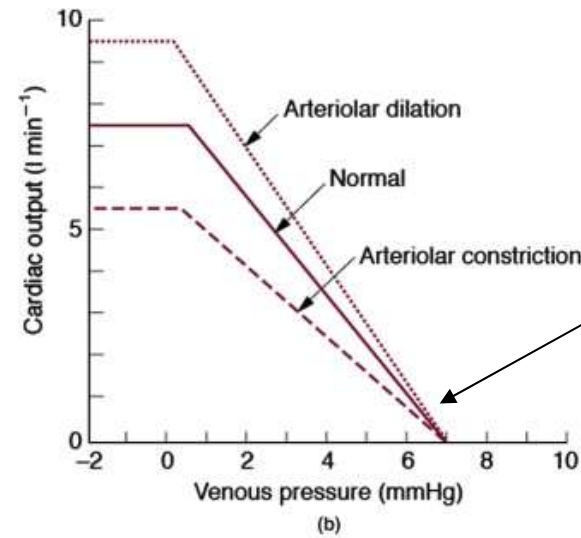
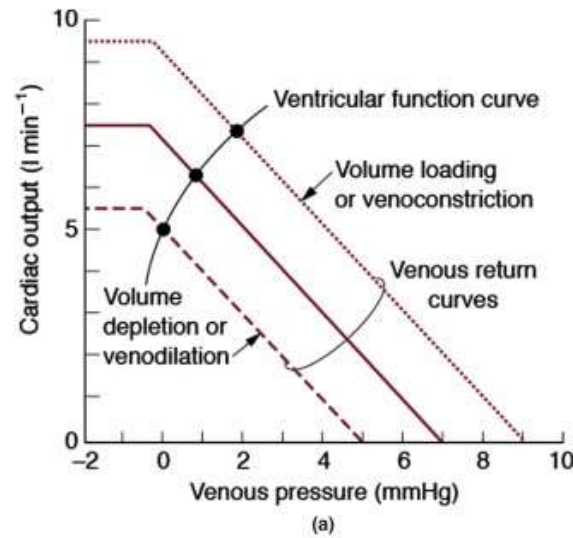
$SV = EDV$  (enddiastolic volume) –  $ESV$  (endsystolic volume)

- $EF [\%] = SV/EDV$
- EF don't inform about heart's diastolic function (myocardial relaxation may be assessed by tissue doppler – e.g.  $E/e'$ )
- In practice, CO increases with  $f$  only up to approx. 120/min – followed by a decrease caused by short diastole, low EDV and thus SV

# Cardiac function and venous function



# Changes of cardiac and venous function curves



- In high venous (right atrial) pressures, the arteriolar blood passage is not a „bottleneck“, the importance of dilation / constriction for CO is thus smaller
- „backward“ effect + renal fluid retention
- „forward“ effect



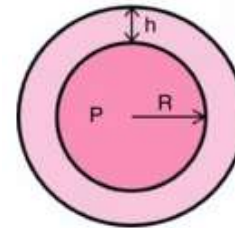
# Preload and afterload in the heart

- Law of Laplace for wall tension in a hollow sphere:  $\sigma = \frac{P \times r}{2h}$ , where:

P....pressure inside the sphere

r....inner radius of the sphere

h....sphere wall thickness



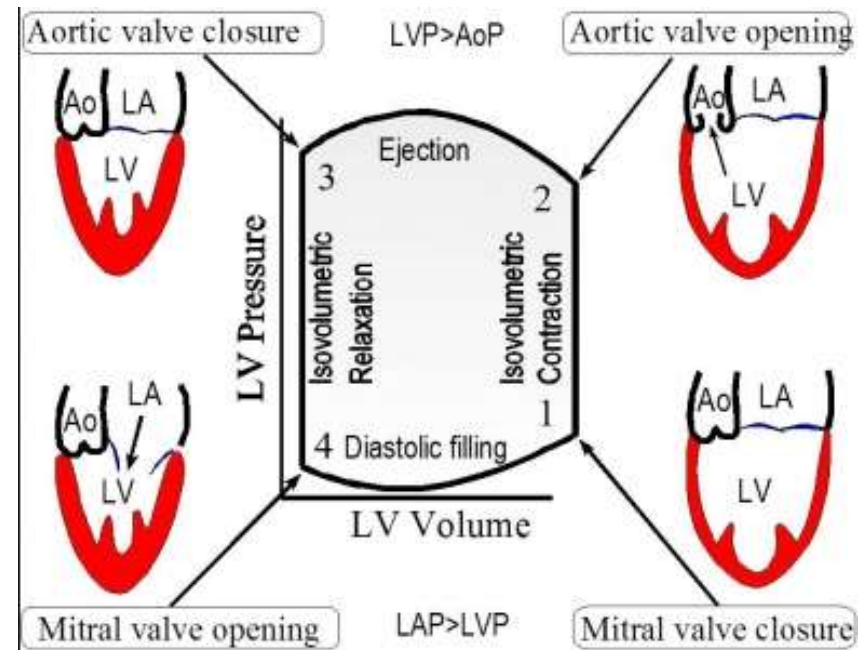
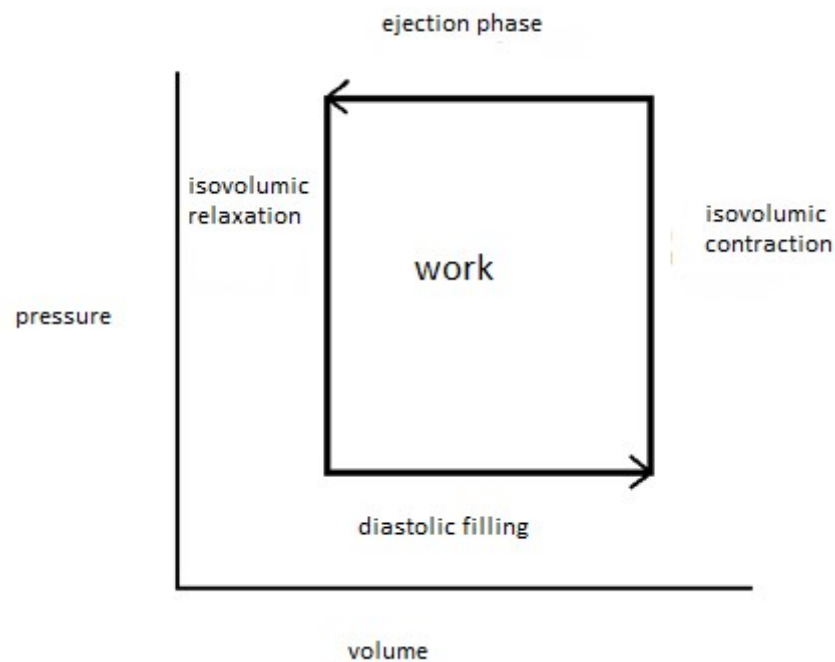
- Preload – wall tension ( $\text{N.m}^{-2} = \text{Pa}$  – force per area) before the systole
  - The main factor is venous return → filling of cardiac ventricles
- Afterload – increase in wall tension during the systole
  - The main factor is a peripheral resistance, or pulmonary vascular resistance
    - in the case of the right ventricle
- Preload is higher in the right ventricle, afterload is higher in the left one



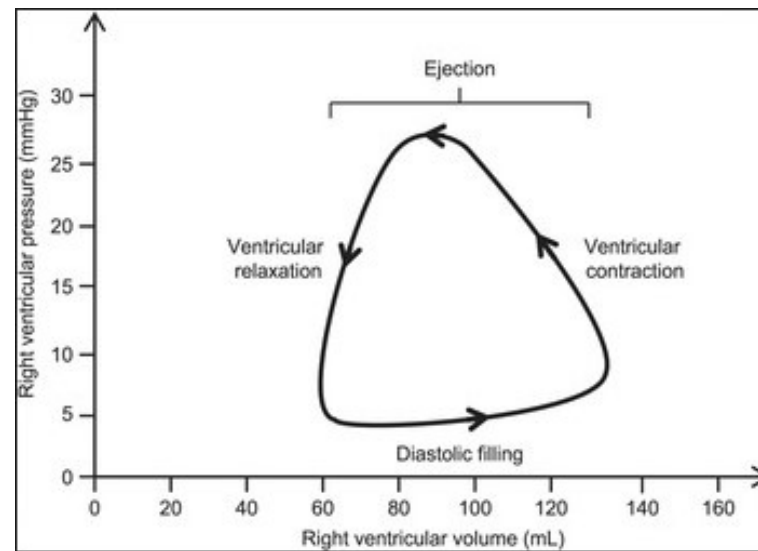
# „Interests“ of the heart and perfused tissues

- Systemic hypotension is often associated with lower preload (e.g. severe hemorrhage, severe diarrhea) and/or afterload (e.g. anaphylaxis, sepsis)
- From the heart's viewpoint, ↓ preload and ↓ afterload are advantageous, regarding the blood supply to key organs they may be linked to circulatory failure caused by circulatory system inability to keep sufficient perfusion pressure (shock states) – the cause is, however, an extracardiac insult → ↓ preload or ↓ afterload (or both – polytrauma)
  - But: heart must ensure its own perfusion
- Cardiac causes of shock
  - ↓ inotropy
  - ↓ lusitropy
  - ↓ HR

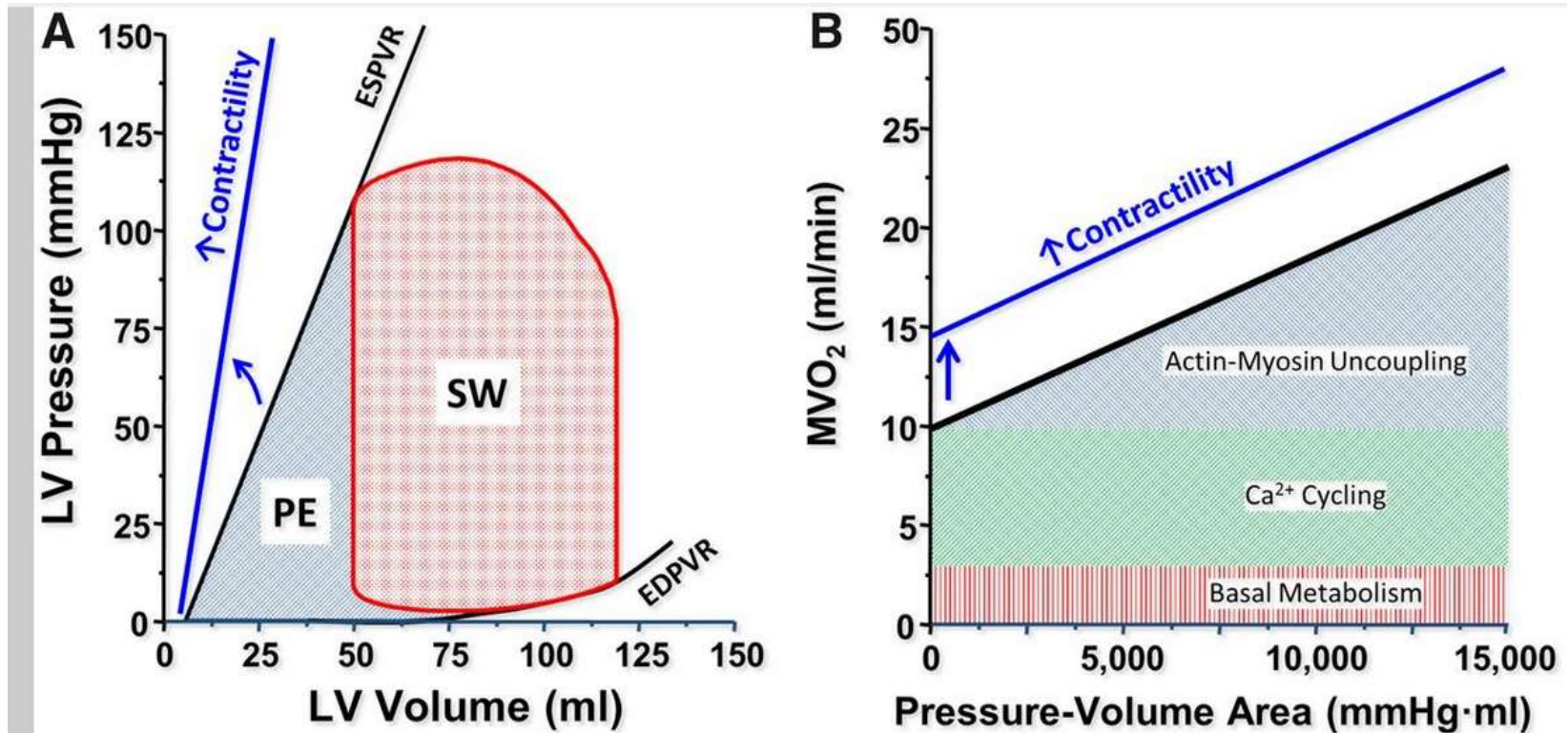
# Muscular work of the heart – P-V diagram:



# P-V diagram in the right ventricle



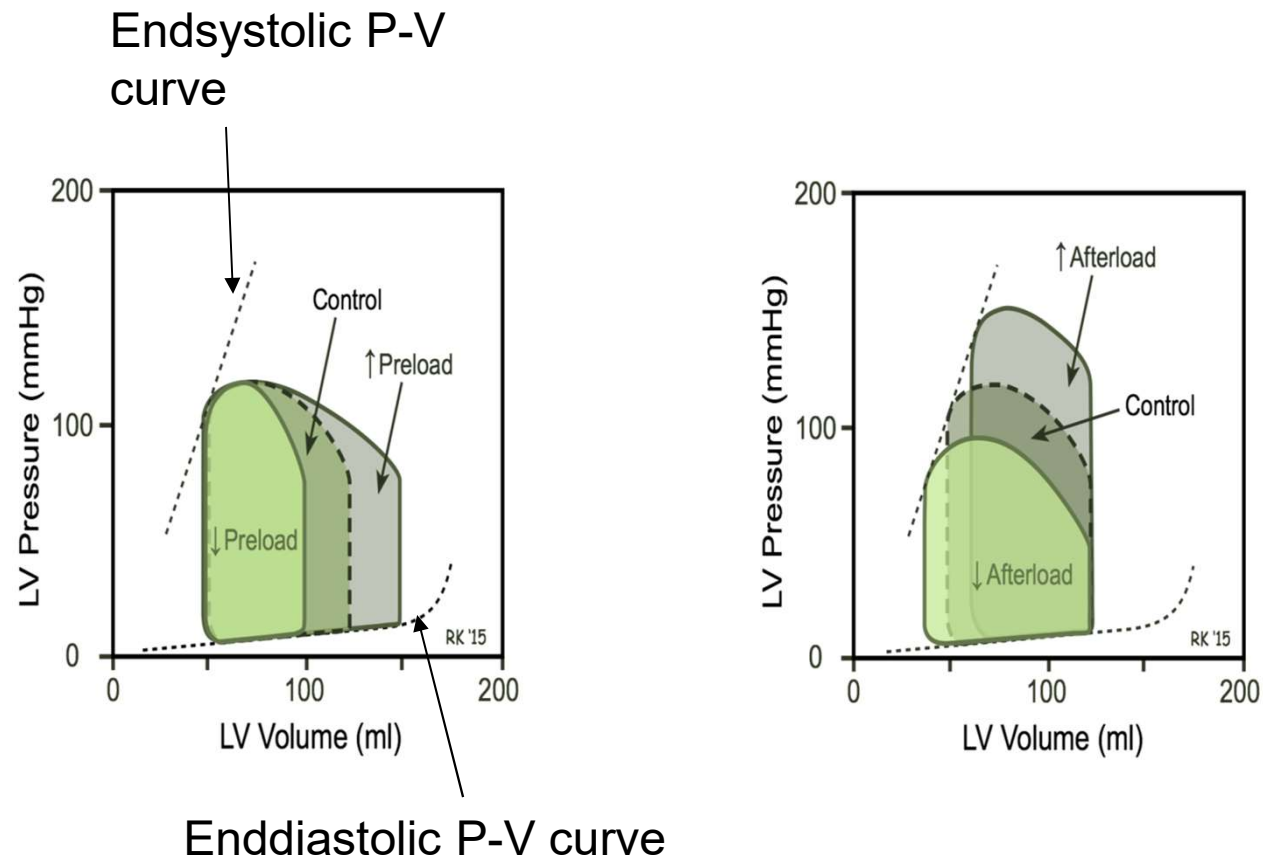
# P-V diagram and energy consumption



- PE: potential energy
- SW: stroke work
- $MVO_2 \sim (PE + SW) \times f$

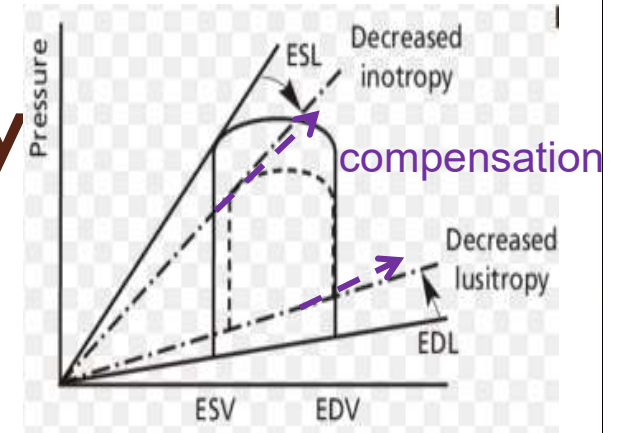


# P-V diagram during changes of preload or afterload

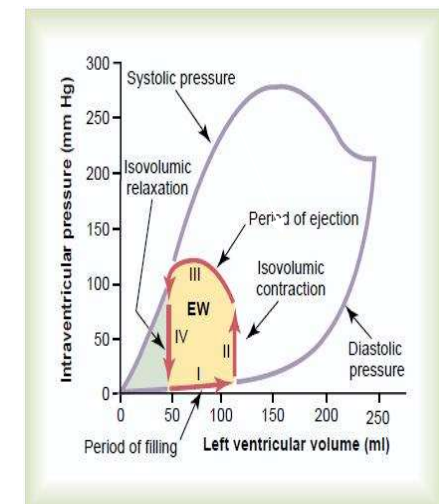


# Inotropy and lusitropy

- ↑ inotropy („ability to contract“) of the heart – shifts the endsystolic P-V curve up
- ↑ lusitropy („ability to relax“) of the heart – shifts the enddiastolic P-V curve down
  - In principle, the relaxation process is ATP-dependent as well – as it is enabled by pumping out the cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  – which is, however, stable and independent on cycle phase
- ↓ inotropy or lusitropy decrease an area of P-V diagram (i.e. the cardiac work decreases – compensation by RAAS and SNS linked to an increase of preload and afterload follows similarly to the loss of peripheral resistance or circulating volume)



Limit of Frank-Starling mechanism (active muscular force decreases)



Passive contraction by elastic fibres (relaxation ability decreases)



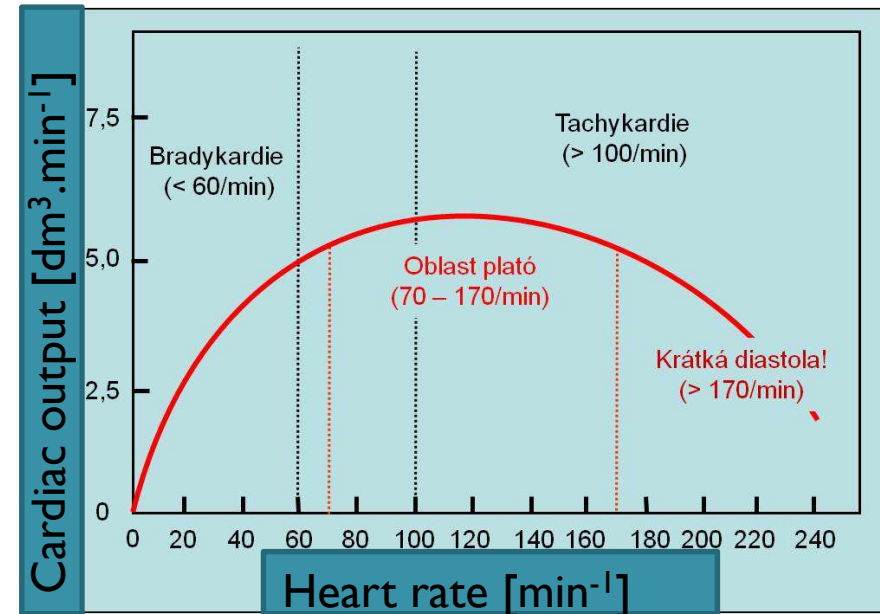


# Phases of shock

- Compensation of initiating cause
- Decompensation
- Refractory shock

# Compensatory mechanisms and their limits

- Activation of sympathetic nervous system (tens of seconds)
- Activation of RAAS (cca 1 hour)
- Vasoconstriction (if possible) – but it leads into lower blood supply
- Vasodilatation in some tissues (esp. myocardium)
- Positively inotropic effect of SNS (if possible) – but at cost of higher metabolic requirements of the heart
- Increased heart rate – but CO decreases in high HR (>150 bpm)
- Keeping circulating volume by lower diuresis – but at cost of acute renal failure
- Shift to anaerobic metabolism – but at cost of ↓ ATP a ↑ lactate (acidosis)
- Increased respiratory rate (but shallow breathing due to respiratory muscle hypoperfusion results in ↑ relative deadspace)
- Shift of saturation curve of hemoglobin to right (↑2,3-DPG)
- Hyperglycemia – but there is decreased utilization of Glc in the periphery



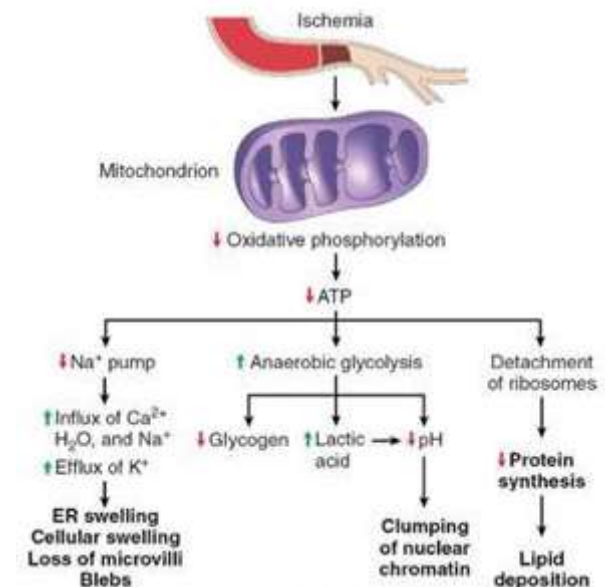


# Decompensated shock

- ↓ BP
- ↓ diuresis
- Brain hypoperfusion – involvement of mental functions
- Acrocyanosis
- Tachypnea
- “Golden hour“

# Shock at cellular level

- Mitochondrial dysfunction (result of hypoxia) – lower production of ATP
- ↑ ROS production by dysfunctional mitochondria
- Failure of ion pumps (e.g. Na/K ATP-ase → ↑ intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ )
- Activation of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  -dependent proteases
- Lysosomal abnormalities – release of lysosomal proteases
- ↓ intracellular pH, ↑ lactate
  - promote hyperpolarization of muscle cells by opening  $\text{K}^+$  channels → ↓  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry → ↓ smooth muscle cell and cardiomyocyte contraction



# Refractory shock

- Vicious circles

- 1) Vasodilatation ↔ hypoperfusion

- Endothelial cells contain two isoforms of nitric oxid synthase – constitutive (eNOS) and inducible (iNOS)
- In lasting hypoxia of endothelial cells there is increased iNOS activity (primarily physiological mechanism)
- ↑NO increases vasodilation and hypoperfusion
- Lactate acidosis → hypotension (lactate – prognostic factor)

- 2) Myocardial hypoxia ↔ lower contractility

- Lower myocardial perfusion leads into ↓CO, which further reduces coronary flow
- Myocardium does not benefit from the shift of Hb saturation curve – efficiency of O<sub>2</sub> extraction is already at its maximum

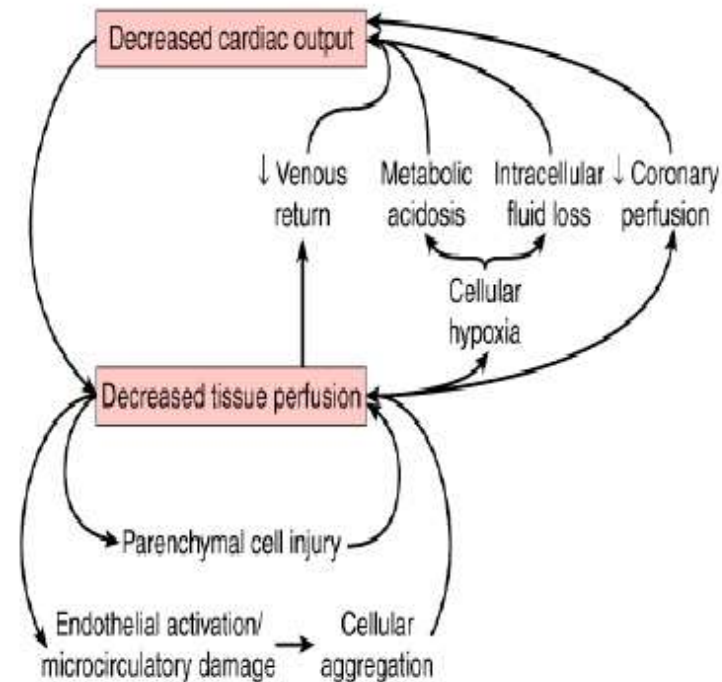
- 3) Brain hypoperfusion ↔ ↓SNS activity

- Lower perfusion of vasomotor centre leads first into SNS hyperactivity, which is then followed by its supression
- That leads into ↓brain perfusion

# Other vicious circles in refractory shock

## Vicious cycle of shock

- \* SIRS  
(systemic inflammation)
- \* DIC  
(systemic activation of coagulation)



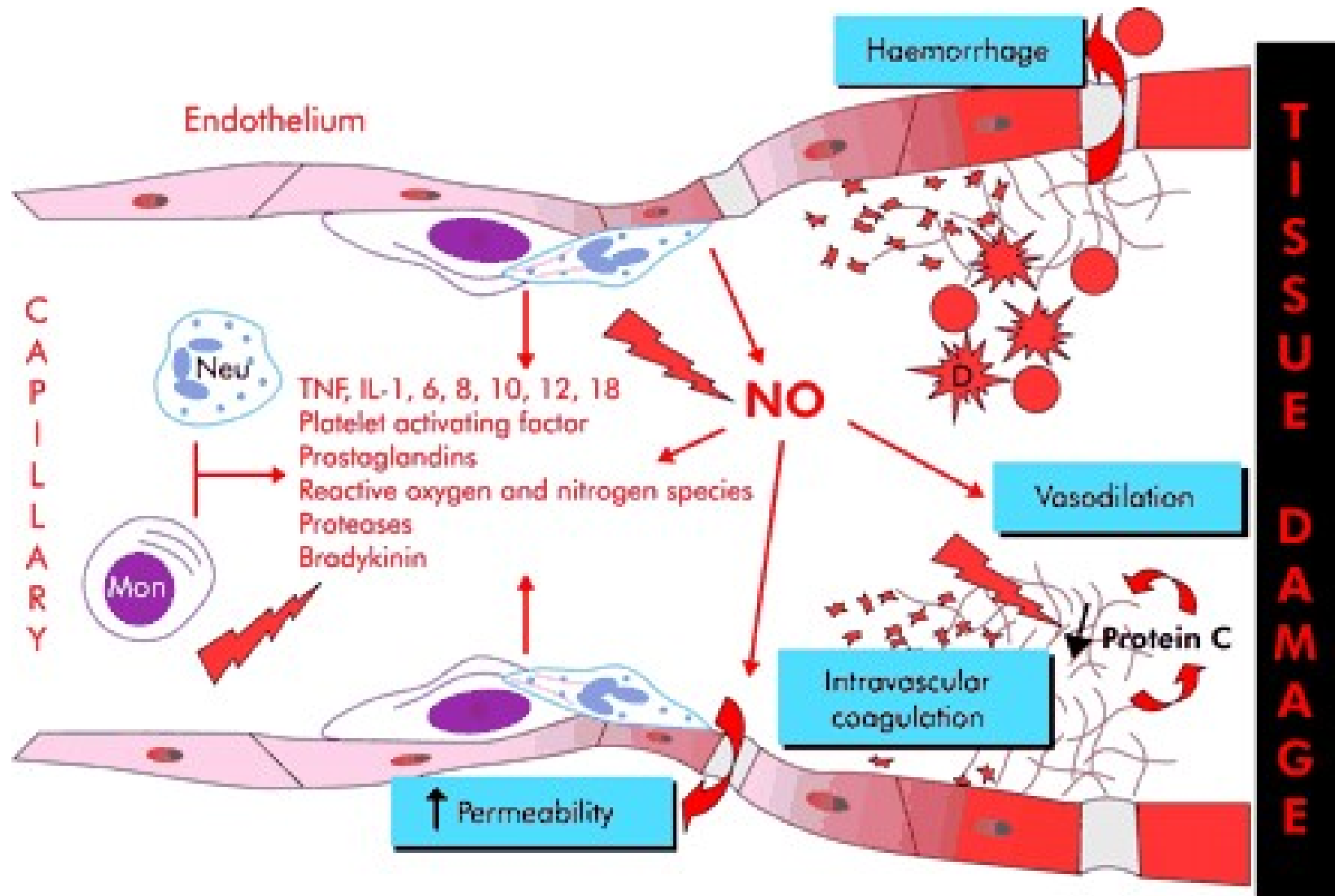
Source: Brunnicardi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, Dunn DL, Hunter JG, Matthews JB, Pollock RE: *Schwartz's Principles of Surgery, 9th Edition*: <https://www.accessmedicine.com>. Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.



## Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS)

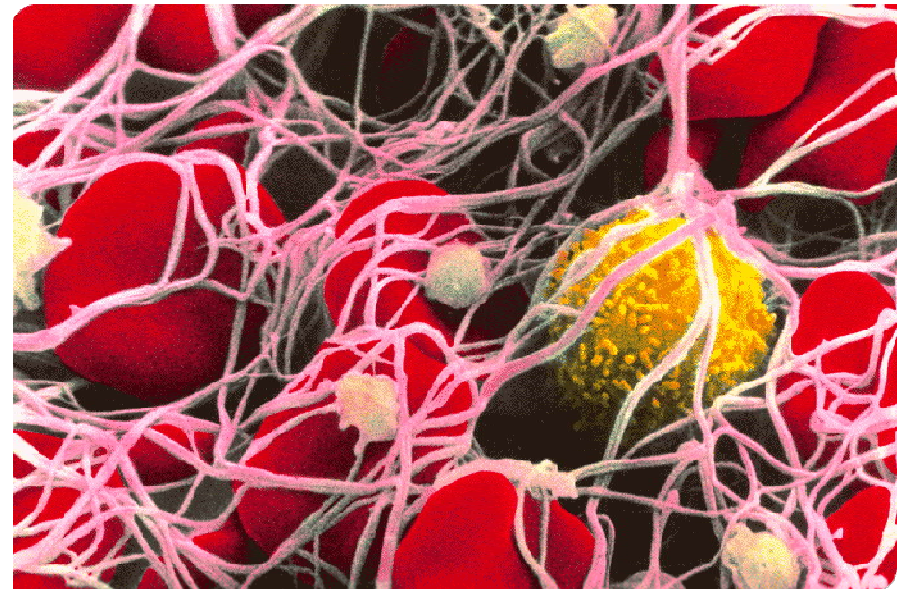
- Systemic activation of immune mechanisms
- SIRS may induce the shock + multiorgan failure on its own (vasodilation, ↑ of vascular permeability)
- Causes:
  - infections (sepsis)
    - during the shock, it can be caused by the damage of intestinal barrier caused by GIT hypoperfusion
  - shock caused by non-infectious causes (diffuse tissue damage in hypoxia)
  - non-compatible blood transfusions
  - radiation syndrome (esp. GIT form)

# Vascular reaction in SIRS



# Disseminated intravascular coagulopathy (DIC)

- Systemic exposure to thrombin
- Two phases:
  - 1) Formation of microtrombi (with local ischemia)
  - 2) Bleeding as a result of consummation of coagulation factors
- Consequence of the vessel wall damage
- Moreover, slower blood flow contributes to the extent of coagulation reactions
- DIC is especially frequent in septic shock





# Signs of shock (benchmark)

- systolic BP < 90 mmHg
- mean BP < 65 mmHg
- lactate > 4 mmol/l
- diuresis < 0.5 ml/kg/h
- often:
  - CI (= CO/body surface area) < 1.8 (not in septic shock)
  - HR > 100/min (not in shock with bradycardia, neurogenic shock)



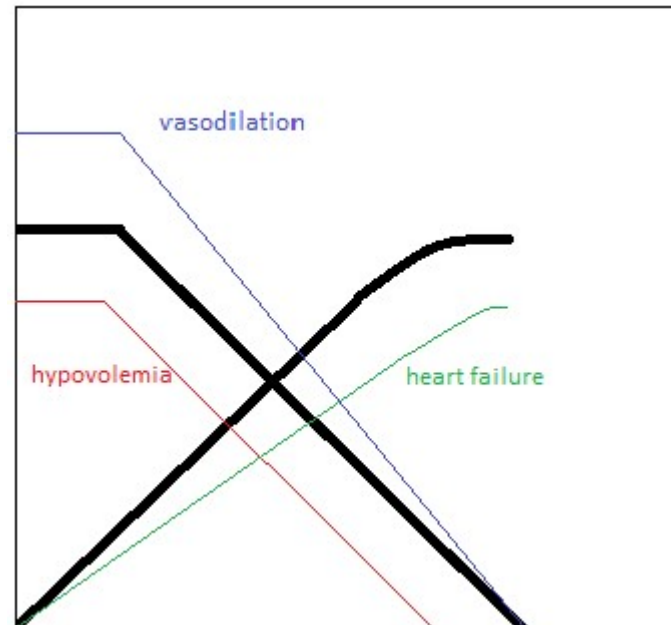
# Forms of shock

- a) Hypovolemic (“cold and dry“) shock – low circulating volume, low preload
- b) Distributive (“warm and dry“) shock – low resistance, low afterload, CO might be increased
- c) Cardiogenic (“cold and wet“) shock – low CO in bad cardiac function, fluid congestion
- d) Obstructive shock – low preload of one ventricle in normovolemia and subsequent lowering of CO + congestion – pathophysiology similar to cardiogenic shock (but congestion occurs in one half of the circulation)



# Cardiac and venous function in shock

Q [dm<sup>3</sup>.min<sup>-1</sup>]



P [mmHg] in right atrium

Type of shock	CO	SVR	PWP	CVP
Hypovolemic	↓	↑	↓	↓
Cardiogenic	↓	↑	↑	↑
Distributive	↑	↓↓	↓	↓

- Hypovolemic shock: compensation by the vasoconstriction and cardiac mechanisms (but: CO is limited by low venous return)
- Distributive shock: compensation by cardiac mechanisms (vasoconstriction is usually impossible)
- Cardiogenic (and obstructive) shock: compensation by vasoconstriction

$$SVR = [(MAP - CVP)/CO] \times 80$$





# Hypovolemic shock - causes

- Acute bleeding
- Burns, trauma
  - Combination of hypovolemia and vasodilation
- Rapid development of ascites
- Acute pancreatitis
- Severe dehydration
  - Vomiting, diarrhoea
  - Excessive diuresis (e.g. in diabetes insipidus)

# Acute blood loss

- Circulatory disorder (SBP < 100 mmHg, HR > 100/min) following the loss of 15% of circulating volume, shock in 30% of circulating volume
- Immediate priorities are to maintain the tissue perfusion (crystalloids, colloids) and to stop bleeding (if possible), then blood derivatives (erythrocytes + plasma + thrombocytes)



# Distributive shock - causes

- Anaphylactic shock
- Anaphylactoid shock
  - Mediators of mast cells, but without IgE
  - E.g. snake venoms, radiocontrasts
- Septic shock
  - Role of bacterial lipopolysaccharides
  - Bacterial toxins
  - IL-1, TNF- $\alpha$  – stimulate synthesis of PGE<sub>2</sub> and NO
- Neurogenic shock
  - Vasodilatation as a result of vasomotoric centre (or its efferent pathways) impairment

# Development of anaphylactic reaction

- **Sensibilization** of Th- and B-cells and IgE production
- **Opsonization** of basophils and mastocytes
  - IgE binds to FcεR (I and II)
- IgE-mediated **degranulation** of the mast cell and basophils following the repeated contact with an antigen
  - mediator release
    - primary (stored)– HISTAMINE (dominantly H<sub>1</sub> receptors)
    - secondary (newly formed) – PG, LTA, PAF, bradykinin, cytokines, ...
  - effects
    - vasodilatation, SMC contraction (incl. bronchoconstriction), ↑ capillary permeability, chemotaxis, ↑ mucus secretion, platelet aggregation

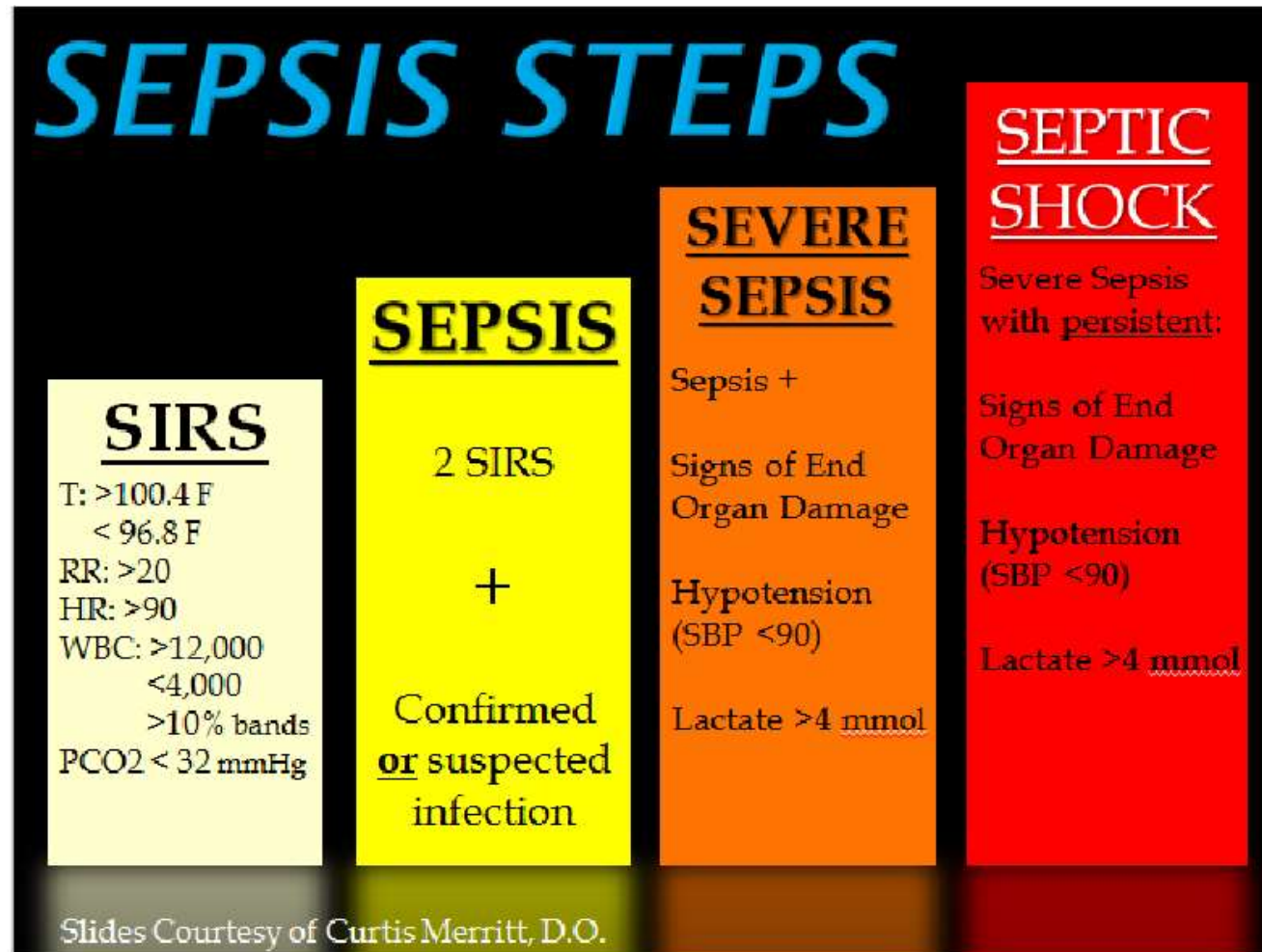
# Anaphylactic and anaphylactoid reaction

- **Anaphylaxis**

- Severe, systemic, potentially life-threatening reaction following systemic exposition to an allergen
- Medication, food, insects, allergen extracts, latex
- Manifestation
  - mucous membrane, derm: erythema, exanthema, pruritus, oedema
  - resp. system: acute rhinitis, nasal obstruction, sneezing, irritation to cough, breathing problems, foreign body sensation in throat
  - GIT: vomitus, colic, diarrhoea
  - CV system: palpitation, tachycardia, hypotension, arrhythmia
  - urogenital system: urine incontinence
  - CNS: consciousness disorders, spasms
- Anaphylactoid reaction:
  - Participation of mast cell mediators, but without IgE
  - IgG, immune complexes, anaphylatoxins (C3a, C5a), myorelaxants, opiates, contrast matters, snake venoms...



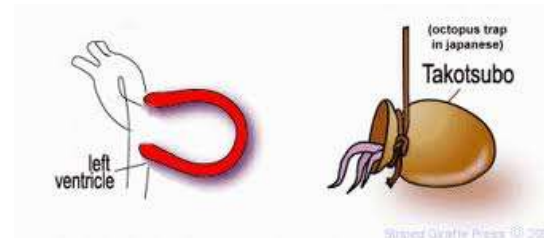
# SIRS and sepsis



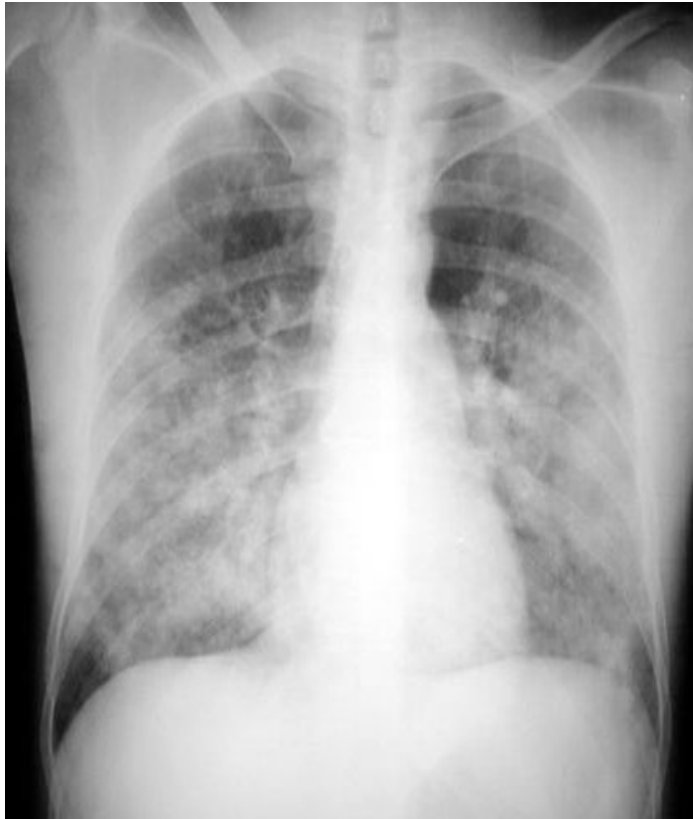


# Cardiogenic shock - causes

- Myocardial infarction
  - Arrhythmias
  - Valvular disease (e.g. rupture of papillary muscles)
  - Decompensation of heart failure in dilated/restrictive cardiomyopathy, amyloidosis
  - Overload by catecholamines (“tako-tsubo syndrome“ – apical akinesia + basal hyperkinesia)
- 
- Rupture of ventricular septum
  - Obstructive shock – e.g. cardiac tamponade, massive pulmonary embolism, aortic dissection



## „Backward“ acute heart failure – X-ray



Pulmonary oedema



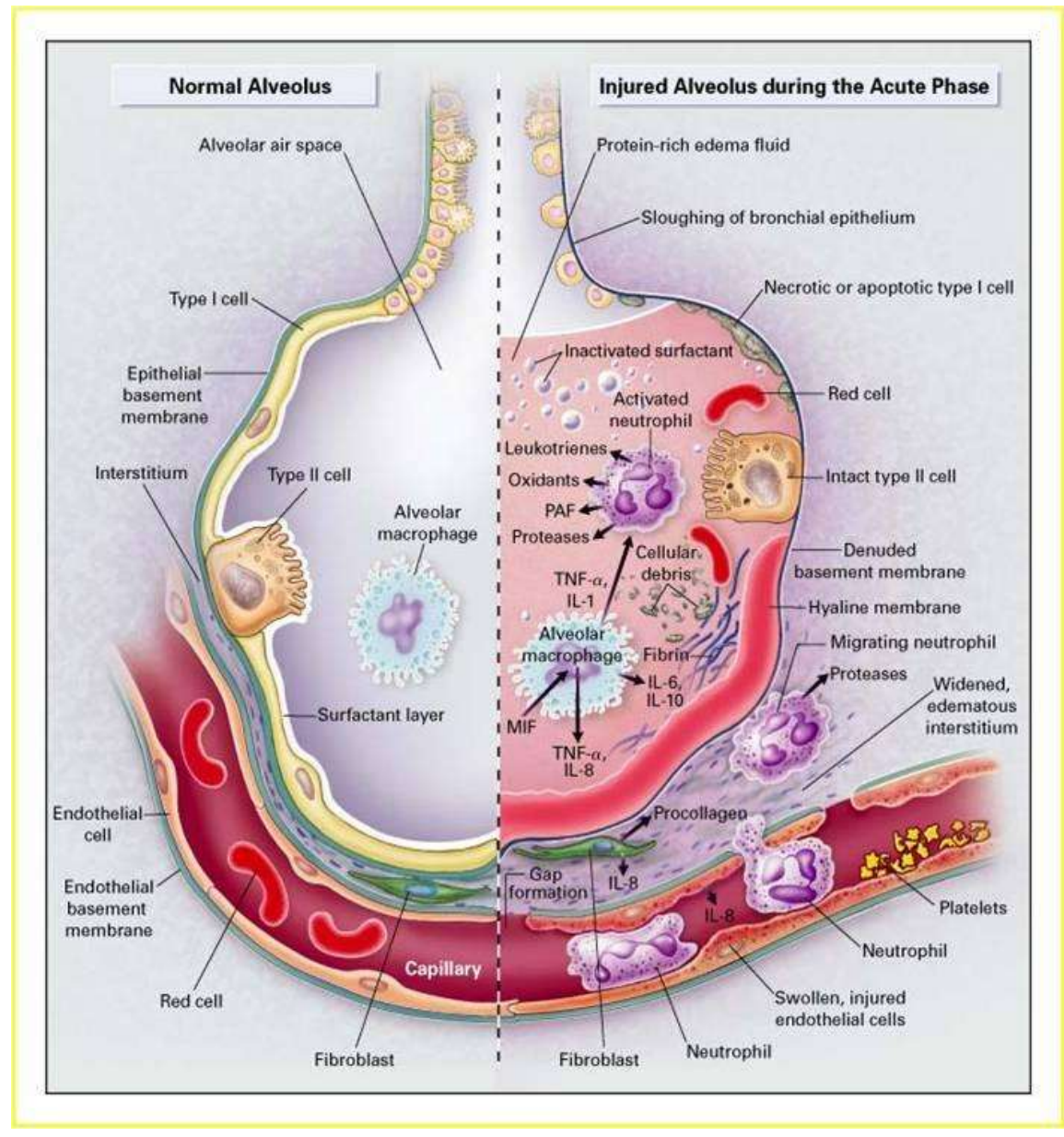
Bilateral pleural effusion

# Organ complications in shock

- Lungs
  - ARDS
- Liver
  - necrosis of hepatocytes
- GIT
  - stress ulcer
  - Damage of intestinal mucosa by ischemic necrosis → sepsis
- Kidneys
  - Acute renal failure in vasoconstriction of a. afferens
  - Acute tubular necrosis during ischemia

# Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS – „shock lung“)

- Result of lung inflammation in SIRS, pulmonary infections, aspiration of gastric juice, drowning
- Exsudative phase (hours): cytokine release, leukocyte infiltration, pulmonary edema, destruction of type I pneumocytes
- Proliferative phase: fibrosis, dead space, proliferation of type II pneumocytes
- Reparative phase: ↓ inflammation, ↓ edema, continuing fibrosis, in most cases permanent restrictive diseases







# Multiorgan dysfunction syndrome (MODS)

- Functional disorder of more organs at once (lungs, liver, GIT, kidneys, brain, heart)
- It can develop after initial insult (days or weeks)
- Hypermetabolism, catabolic stress
- Can both precede or result from SIRS (primary vs. secondary MODS)
- Dysfunction → failure





## Persistent MODS as an adaptation?

- ↓ mitochondria in tissues
- ↓ T3
- Analogy of hibernating myocardium (here, also ↓ of contractile apparatus and energy consumption)
- Gene expression similar to hibernating animals
- Later functional improvement is possible

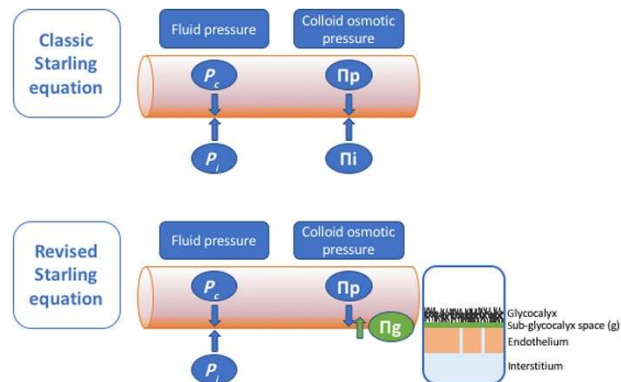


# General principles of treatment

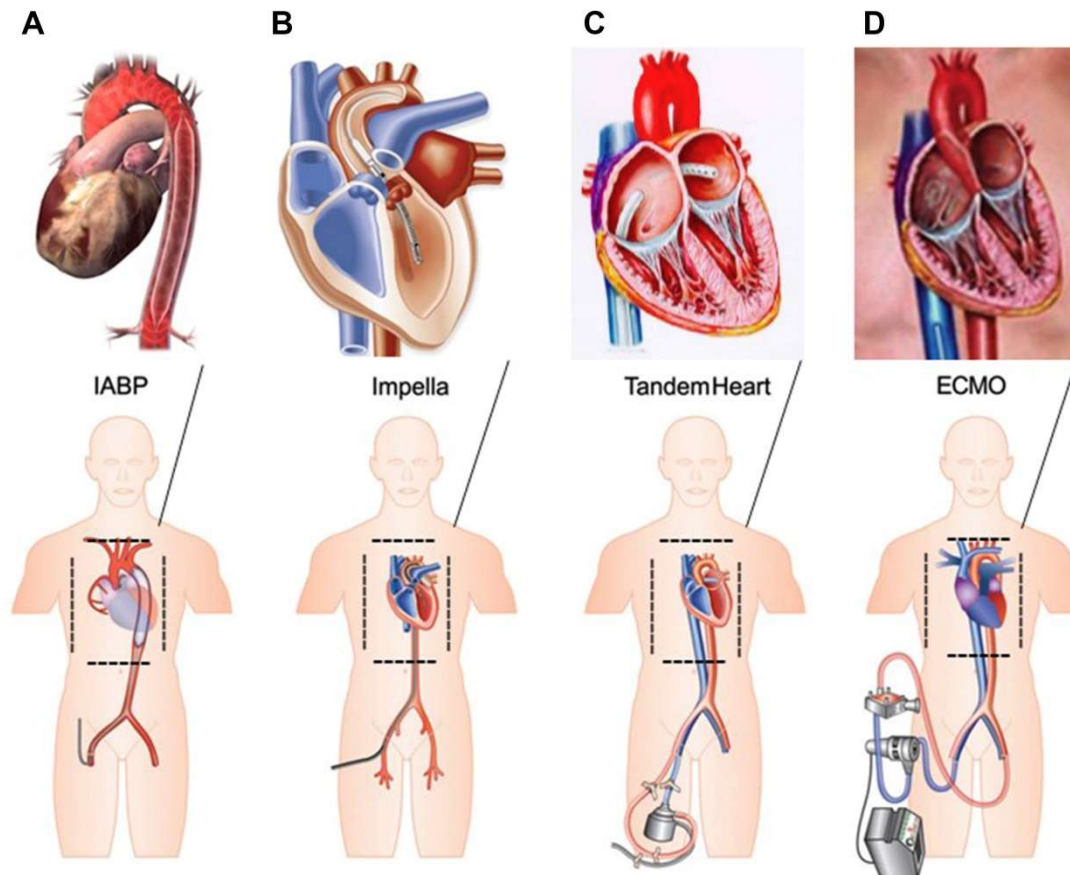
- Treatment of underlying cause
- Positively inotropic drugs, vasopressors (e.g. catecholamines – but: they can worsen the situation in obstructive shock)
- Colloid solutions, crystalloid solutions (but: there is a risk of oedema in cardiogenic shock)
- O<sub>2</sub>
- i.v. corticoids (anaphylaxis, SIRS?)
- ATB (septic shock)
- Mechanic circulation support (cardiogenic shock)
- Anti-shock position (?)

# Crystalloid x colloid solutions

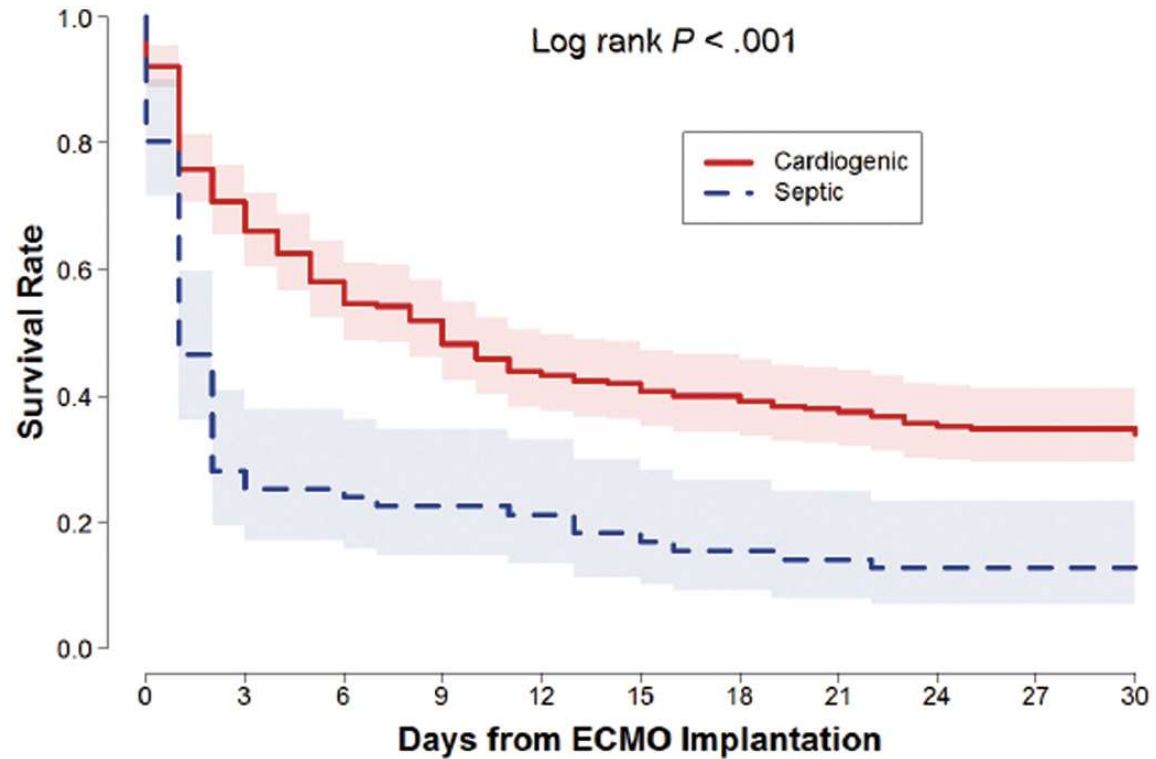
- Crystalloid – ionic solutions (best normochloremic)
  - They do not induce allergic reactions or alter coagulation
- Colloids – high molecular weight compounds (hydroxyethylstarch, gelatine, albumin)
  - Fluid distribution points more to intravascular compartment
    - But less than is expected theoretically – damaged glycocalyx – defines water reabsorption



# Mechanical circulatory support



# ECMO: Kaplan-Meier curves



[www.jtcvs.org/article/S0022-5223\(18\)30906-1/fulltext](http://www.jtcvs.org/article/S0022-5223(18)30906-1/fulltext)



# Trendelenburg („anti-shock“) position

- 15-30°
- ↑ Venous return
- After collapse
- Inefficient in the long term
- Central venous catheter insertion (circulatory support administration)
- Worsens pulmonary ventilation
- Cave cardiogenic shock, bleeding, ↑ ICP

