

marily) may mediate the increase in pulmonary vascular resistance and the decrease in blood flow which occurs after collapse of a lung secondary to obstruction and hypoxia. (Barer, G. R.: *Reactivity of the Vessels of Collapsed and Ventilated Lungs to Drugs and Hypoxia*, *Circ. Res.* 28: 366 (April) 1966.)

CAROTID BODY The carotid bifurcation of cats was perfused at constant pressures with bicarbonate buffered Ringer's solution containing dextran. The response of the chemoreceptors to abrupt changes in pH and/or P_{CO_2} was measured as the change in impulse frequency recorded from Hering's nerve. An increase in P_{CO_2} of 30 mm. of mercury consistently resulted in a carotid body response only when accompanied by a decrease in pH. In some instances in which there was a response to an increase in P_{CO_2} at constant pH, the receptor discharge returned rapidly to control values despite maintained stimulus of constant intensity. When pH was decreased from 7.4 to 7.1 through either a reduction in bicarbonate ion or an increase in P_{CO_2} , the responses were of the same magnitude. However, the response to acidification by CO_2 occurred more rapidly than that to bicarbonate ion reduction. The data suggest that the receptor is responsive to and in equilibrium with extracellular pH but separated from the vascular space by a diffusion barrier more permeable to carbon dioxide than to hydrogen ion. (Gray, B. A., Munroe, A. B., and Tenney, S. M.: *Response of the Perfused Carotid Body to Changes in pH and P_{CO_2}* , *Fed. Proc.* 25: 264 (March) 1966.)

CEREBRAL BLOOD FLOW Man living at high altitude, when made normoxic, has normal cerebral blood flow (CBF) and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) pH, despite low Pa_{CO_2} and high pH. Alkalemia does not influence CBF and CSF pH at constant Pa_{CO_2} . Thus, carbon dioxide may control CBF via pH in extracellular fluid (ECF) where bicarbonate ion (HCO_3^-) similar to that of CSF is subject to the pH regulating activity of the blood-CSF barrier. Measurement of CBF during step hyperventilation was made by computing CBF as

per cent of control from the change in A-V oxygen saturation, utilizing internal jugular vein blood. Volunteers were taught to reduce their end-tidal P_{CO_2} in 3 seconds to 23 mm. of mercury and to hold it constant for 2 hours. Pa_{CO_2} fell from 41 to 25 in about 1/2 minute and remained constant while Pv_{CO_2} , taken as an index of tissue P_{CO_2} , fell slowly from 50 to 36. It is concluded that Pa_{CO_2} controls CBF by means of its effect on pH of arteriolar smooth muscle ECF, and that this ECF pH, like CSF, can be reset to normal in chronic hypocapnia by transport across the blood cerebrospinal fluid barrier. (Severinghaus, J. W.: *Site and Mode of Action of CO_2 on Cerebral Blood Flow in Man*, *Fed. Proc.* 25: 461 (March) 1966.)

CEREBRAL BLOOD FLOW Experimental review led to the following conclusions concerning cerebral blood flow: (1) Cervical sympathectomy produces no significant increase of cerebral blood flow in normal dogs or in dogs with bilateral ligation of the internal carotid arteries. (2) In dogs, and in humans with obstructed carotid arteries, inhalation of 5 per cent carbon dioxide increases cerebral blood flow about 40 per cent during the period of inhalation and for about 30 minutes thereafter. (3) Administration of papaverine increases cerebral blood flow significantly in dogs, but to a far lesser degree than carbon dioxide inhalation. (4) Hypothermia decreases cerebral blood flow markedly by chemical changes resulting from reduced metabolism. (5) Circulation of blood in small cerebral vessels is under chemical rather than neurogenic control. These findings suggest the careful trial of carbon dioxide inhalation in the treatment of patients with strokes caused by partial obstruction of the cerebral arterial blood supply, providing that the patient is observed closely for evidence of carbon dioxide intoxication. Intermittent inhalations of carbon dioxide in air may beneficially supplement extracranial cerebral arterial surgery or, if operation is impossible, may have a beneficial effect when used alone. (Shackelford, R., and Hegedus, S.: *Factors Affecting Cerebral Blood Flow, Experimental Review: Sympathectomy, Hypothermia, CO_2 Inhalation*