



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA  
(All rights reserved)

BSC. ENGINEERING FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS: 2018/2019  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING  
BMEN 401: ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY AND ANATOMY (3 Credits)

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

ANSWER **ANY THREE** QUESTIONS

**TIME ALLOWED:** TWO (2) HOURS

1. Following a 650 mg i.v bolus dose of a drug to a 65 kg subject, the plasma drug concentration is found to decline biexponentially. The equation that best described the drug kinetics is:

$$C = 65e^{-14t} + 35e^{-3t}$$

where C is drug concentration at any given time in  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ .

Assume that the two-compartment kinetics model equation for the concentration is

$$C = Ae^{-\alpha t} + Be^{-\beta t},$$

where A and B are the hybrid constants,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are first order constants for rapid distribution phase and slow elimination phase.

- a. Calculate the volume of the central compartment  $V_c$  (5 marks)
- b. Calculate the transfer rates  $k_{12}$  and  $k_{21}$  between the two compartments, given that these transfer rates are related to the hybrid first order constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  as follows: (8 marks)

$$k_{12} = \frac{AB(\beta - \alpha)^2}{C_0(A\beta + B\alpha)}$$

$$k_{21} = \frac{A\beta + B\alpha}{C_0}$$

- c. Calculate the elimination rate constant  $K_E$  for the disposal of the drug from the central compartment which is expressed in terms of the hybrid constants as

$$K_E = \frac{\alpha \beta C_0}{A\beta + B\alpha}$$

( 4 marks)

- d. Calculate the plasma level of the drug after 30 minutes of intravenous dose ( 7 marks)

- e. On the same axes sketch suitable graphs of the amount of drug remaining to be absorbed (ARA)

against time for a drug whose rate of absorption follows

- (i) zero –order (3 marks)

- (ii) first order (3 marks)

~~kinetics assuming the drug is administered extravascularly.~~

- 2 (a) What is Gibbs-Donnan Equilibrium and how is it different from thermodynamic equilibrium? ( 4 marks)

- a. Name two effects of the Gibbs- Donnan Equilibrium in a cell and how these effects can be reduced or cancelled. ( 6 marks)

- b. The diagram below shows two compartments separated by a biological membrane with 3 mMole /LNaCl solution in one compartment on one side and 3 mMole/L NaA solutions on the other compartment on the other side. If the membrane is impermeable to  $A^-$ , Calculate the concentrations of ions in sides I and II after the Gibbs –Donnan Equilibrium.

(10 marks)

$\text{NaCl}$ $\text{Na}^+$ $\text{Cl}^-$	$\text{Na}^+ \text{ 3mM}$ $\text{Na}^+$ $\text{A}^- \text{ 3mM}$
Side I	Side II
Side I	Side II

- c. Calculate the membrane potential at the Gibbs-Donnan Equilibrium at 37 ° C. (5 marks)
- d. The initial plasma concentration of a drug given by intravenous infusion at 9.00 am is 250 mg/ml. If the half-life of the drug is 6 hours, what would be the plasma concentration at 9.00 pm that same day? (5 marks)

- 3a. The Table below gives the plasma drug concentrations ( $C_p$ ) obtained following an intravenous bolus administration of a 250 mg dose of a drug that exhibited the characteristics of a one-compartment model and was eliminated exclusively by urinary excretion.

Time (h)	Plasma Concentration ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )
0.5	68.0
1.0	54.0
2.0	30.0
3.0	18.5
5.0	6.0
7.0	1.8

Plot a suitable graph of the data

( 7 marks)

Using the graph, determine the following:

- b. The elimination half-life ( $t_{1/2}$ ) (4 marks)
- c. The overall elimination rate constant ( $K$ ) (4 marks)

- d. The initial plasma concentration, ( $C_{po}$ ) ( 5 marks)
- e. The apparent volume of distribution ( $V$ ) ( 5 mark)
- f. The drug plasma concentration at 75 min following the administration of a  $2.5 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  dose to a subject weighing 70 kg ( 5 marks)

- 4 a. The rate at which drug accumulates in urine is given by

$$\frac{dM_{urine}}{dt} = k_{renal} V_{app} C$$

where  $k_{renal}$  is the elimination path rate through the kidneys and  $V_{app}$  and  $C$  are the apparent volume distribution and the concentration of the drug respectively. By considering the bolus intravenous injection, derive the expression for the mass of the drug in the urine

- i. At any time ( 6 marks)
- ii. After sufficiently long period of time (4 marks)

- b. Prove that if the only drug elimination pathway is through the kidneys, then the total

-----amount of drug collected in the urine is equal to the total drug dose.----- (7 marks)-----

- c. A penicillin solution has a half-life of 6 days ( $t_{1/2} = 6 \text{ days}$ ). How long will it take for the concentration to drop to 70% of the initial concentration? (7 marks)

- e. A patient visits her doctor with symptoms typical of bladder infection. She is immediately prescribed a 400 mg dose of antibiotic ( $t_{1/2} = 12 \text{ h}$ ). The corresponding plasma concentration of the drug is found to be  $96 \text{ } \mu\text{g/ml}$ . What is the volume of distribution of this drug? (6 marks)

Q5

- a. Briefly describe the Glucose Tolerance Test (GTT). (5 marks)
- b. The deviation  $g(t)$  of a subject's blood glucose concentration  $G(t)$  from its baseline value  $G_0$ , satisfies the second order differential equation below;

$$\frac{d^2g}{dt^2} + (P_1 + P_4) \frac{dg}{dt} + (P_2P_3 + P_1P_4)g = P_4j + \frac{dj}{dt}$$

where  $P_i (i = 1,2,3,4)$  are positive constants which represents feedback mechanism parameters in the process and  $j$  is the rate of glucose infusion from the intestines. If the effects of exercise and hypoglycemic medication are lumped as a dumping factor  $\alpha$  which is related to the feedback parameters as

$$\alpha = \frac{P_1 + P_4}{2}$$

and the system natural frequency  $w_0$  is also related to the feedback parameters as

$$w_0 = \sqrt{P_2P_3 + P_1P_4}$$

and the input glucose impulse function

$$Q(t) = P_4j + \frac{dj}{dt}$$

Assuming the impulse function  $Q(t)$  satisfies the Dirac delta function, solve for the possible outcomes or the solutions of  $g(t)$  after GTT. (15 marks)

- c (b) How is the general Diabetologist's theory apply to distinguish between a healthy individual and a diabetic patient? (5 marks)

- d (c) Sketch on the same axis the graphs of blood glucose concentration and plasma insulin concentration for a non-diabetic person and a diabetic patient if both are given a high amount of glucose and their blood glucose rose to 250 mg/dL. Assume that the normal blood glucose is within the range 64.8 - 104.4 mg/dL. (5 marks)