

Week 8 Lecture 0

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October 18, 2021

1 Administrative drivel

- Exams haven't been looked at – still a few makeups to be done
 - Could be a week or 2 before we get grades...

2 Anatomy and Physiology

2.1 Cardiovascular system continued...

2.2 Heart

2.2.1 Blood pressure

- *Blood pressure* is what moves the blood through the blood vessels
 - pressure generated by the heart with ventricular compression
 - ventricles contract, forcing more blood out into the vessels, increasing pressure
- when ventricles contract == **Systolic**
- when ventricles relaxe == **Diastolic**
- BP usually 120 / 80 (in milimeters of mercury) (140 is dangerous!) (120 == systolic pressure, 80 == diastolic)
 - BP = ratio of your blood pressure when ventricles are contracted and when the heart is relaxed.
- at high blood pressure vessels can begin to fail
- The **radial pulse** is felt on the wrist, just under the thumb
 - You can feel the blood pressure changing
- The **carotid pulse** is felt:
 - lateral to the trachea
 - meedial to the sternocleidomastoid muscle
- most pulses are in 65-100 bpm range
- In general, lower HR means a more efficient heart and better cardiovascular fitness
- lots of things effect HR
 - activity level
 - air temp

- Standing/sitting/laying
- emotions and stress
- body size
- medications
- diet

2.3 Blood

- Red blood cells carry O_2 (and a small portion of the CO_2)
- white blood cells handle immune function
 - motile
 - if there's an infection, they can leave the blood vessels
- platelets govern blood clotting
 - lots of proteins are involved too
- plasma is the fluid that carries dissolved particles and wastes (carries most of the CO_2)
- blood is a connective tissue
- the arteries pulse too to maintain the pressure on the blood to get it to the capillaries
- Red blood cells:
 - Each cell carries around 200 million hemoglobin molecules
 - Each hemoglobin has a Hem, which is an iron atom that binds the oxygen, and can bind 4 oxygen
 - so each cell can carry about 800 million oxygen
 - no nucleus, so there's a dimple, only in mammals
- Blood clotting:
 - Platelets (small pieces of red blood cells)
 - * red blood cells get old, and some are recycled into platelets among other things (eg bile)
 - fibrin, fibrinogen (clotting protein)
 - * forms a mesh over the injury and catch platelets which fill the holes, making it harder for blood to get through
 - * then a scab forms and the capillaries that were broken are rebuilt
 - Hemophiliacs can't clot
- The volume of the blood in humans is about 5 liters (plasma + cells)
 - If this was evenly distributed over the body you would faint
- **Plasma**
 - makes up 55% of the blood
 - water, dissolved proteins, electrolytes (salt ions), glucose, hormones, CO_2 , clotting factors.
- clicker q: What do platelets do? Help blood clot

2.4 Blood vessels

- Arteries, veins, capillaries
- arteries get narrower as they move away from the heart
- Veins get larger as they move toward the heart
- these differences in diameter help maintain blood pressure
- blood is moving from high to low pressure at all times
- eventually, thin enough arteries are called arterioles and they reach the capillaries
- the capillaries in total length is massive
- Arteries:
 - Carry oxygenated blood from the heart to the systemic tissues; deoxygenated (somewhat) blood to the lungs
 - Thicker, more muscle – helps move blood towards capillaries in the tissues
 - tough connective tissue on outside to prevent too much expansion
 - * sometimes this fails, and the artery will burst, leading to internal bleeding
 - 2 layers of smooth muscle to maintain blood pressure
 - has an epithelial layer allowing blood to move through with low friction
- Veins:
 - Carry deoxygenated blood back to the heart from the systemic tissues; oxygenated blood from the lungs
 - don't have much muscle, but they have valves!