

# **EXTERNAL RESPIRATION**

**Breathing**

$O_2$   
 $CO_2$

**Cellular  
Respiration**

Mitochondria  
(Energy)

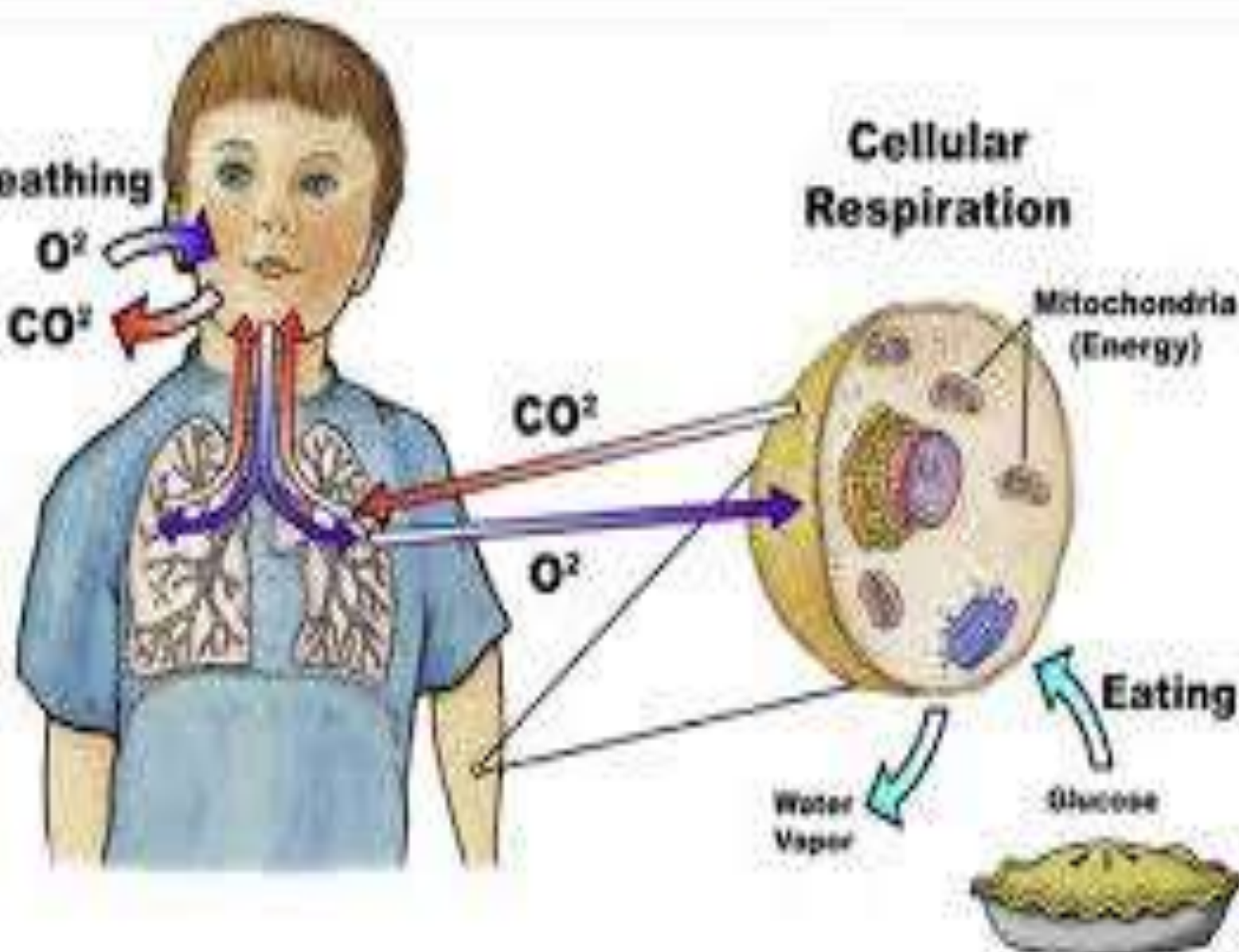
$CO_2$

$O_2$

**Eating**

Glucose

Water  
Vapor



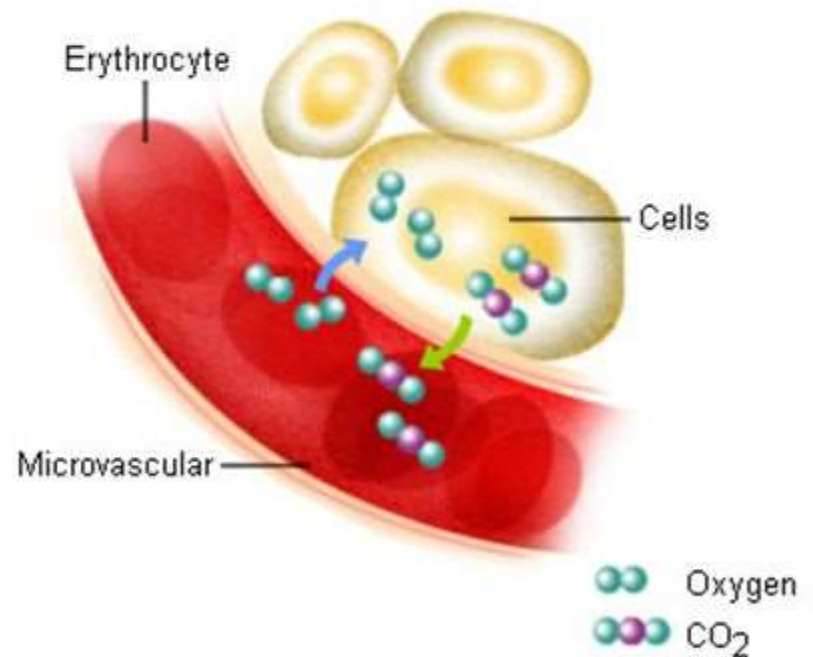
# RESPIRATION

## External



Between environment  
and lungs

## Internal



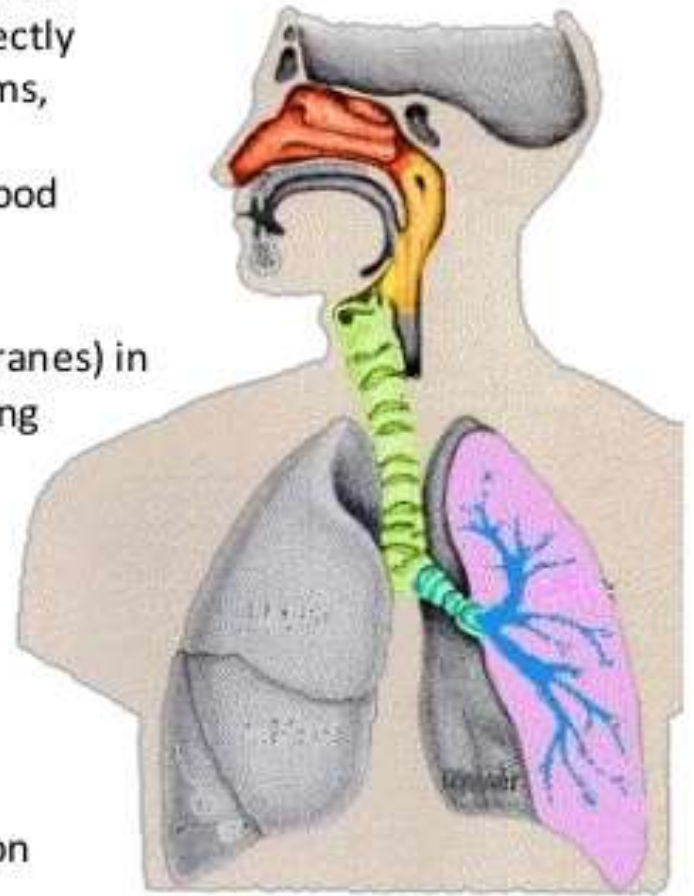
Between blood and cell

# Why do we need a ventilation system?

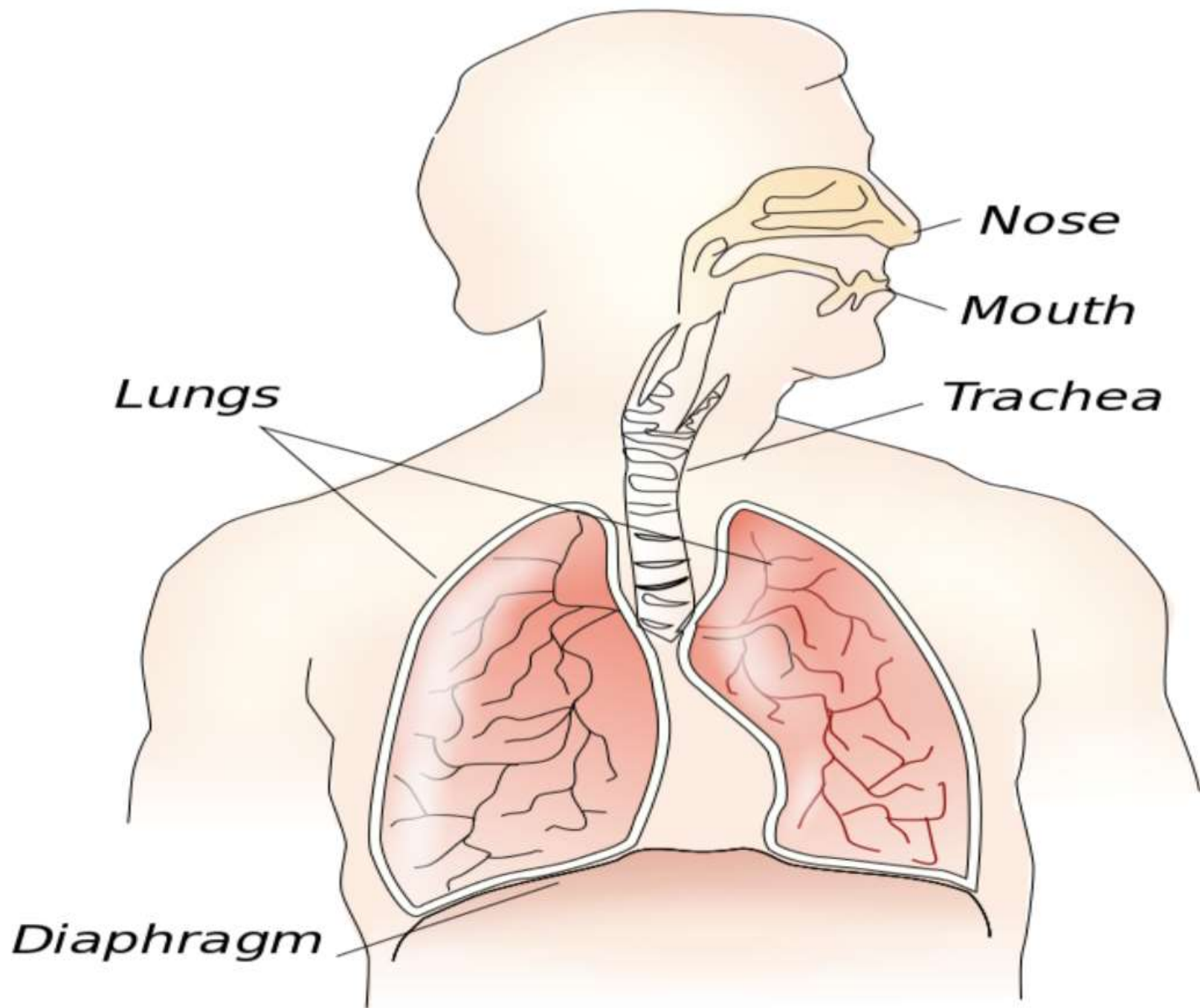
We are **large organisms**. Oxygen cannot diffuse into all our cells directly from the air, nor can waste products be directly ejected from the body. We have specialised organ systems, which are efficient, but need delivery of nutrients and removal of waste. The ventilation system ensures the blood can be the medium for this.

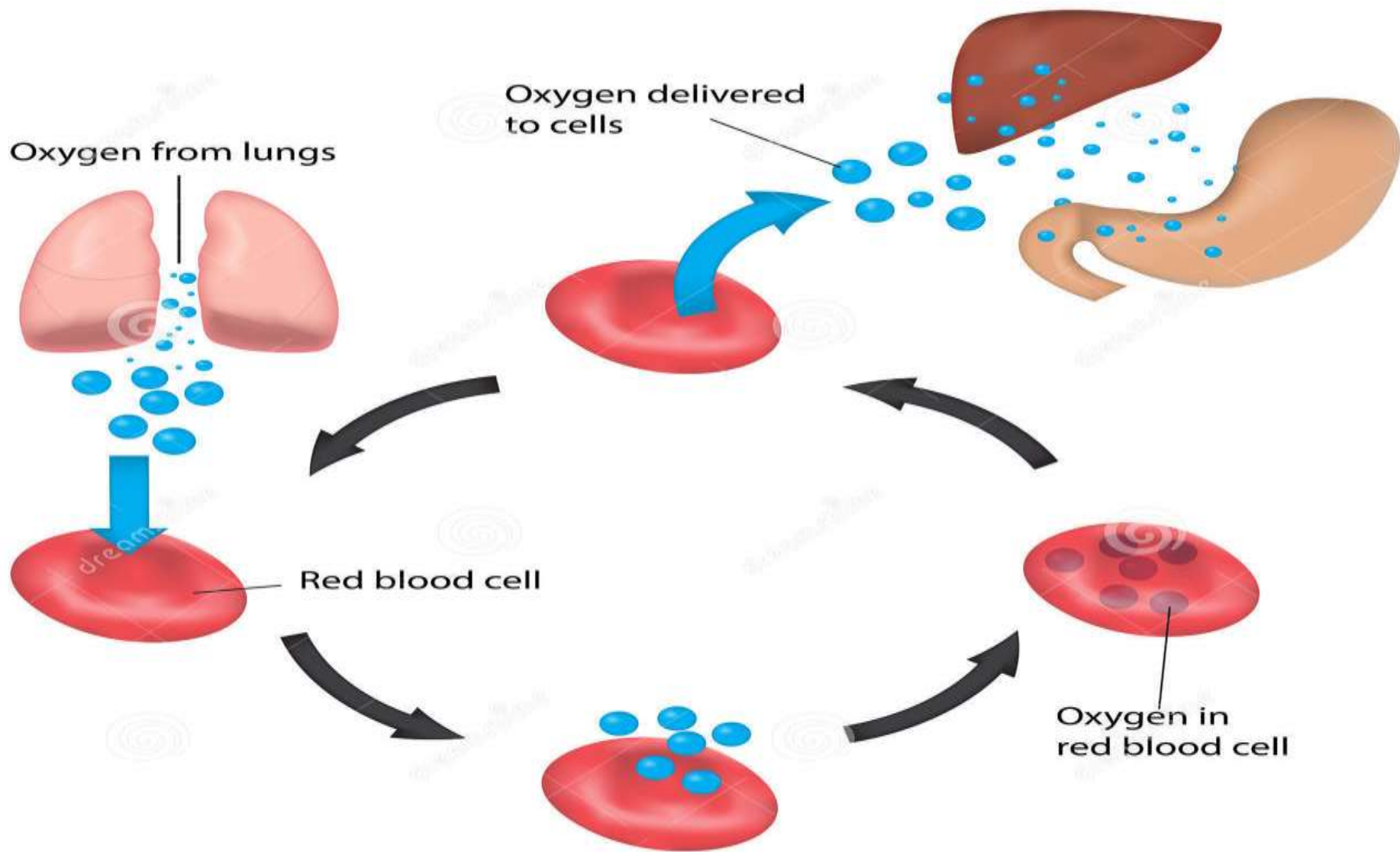
We are **land-borne**. Gases need moist surfaces (membranes) in order to diffuse. Our lungs are moist membranes, allowing oxygen to diffuse into the blood and carbon dioxide to diffuse out.

The ventilation system **maintains a large concentration gradient** between the alveoli and the blood. The constant flow of past the alveoli brings blood with a high  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration and low  $\text{O}_2$  concentration. Breathing out keeps the  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration in the alveoli low, so it diffuses out of the blood. Breathing in keeps  $\text{O}_2$  concentration in the alveoli high, so it diffuses into the blood.









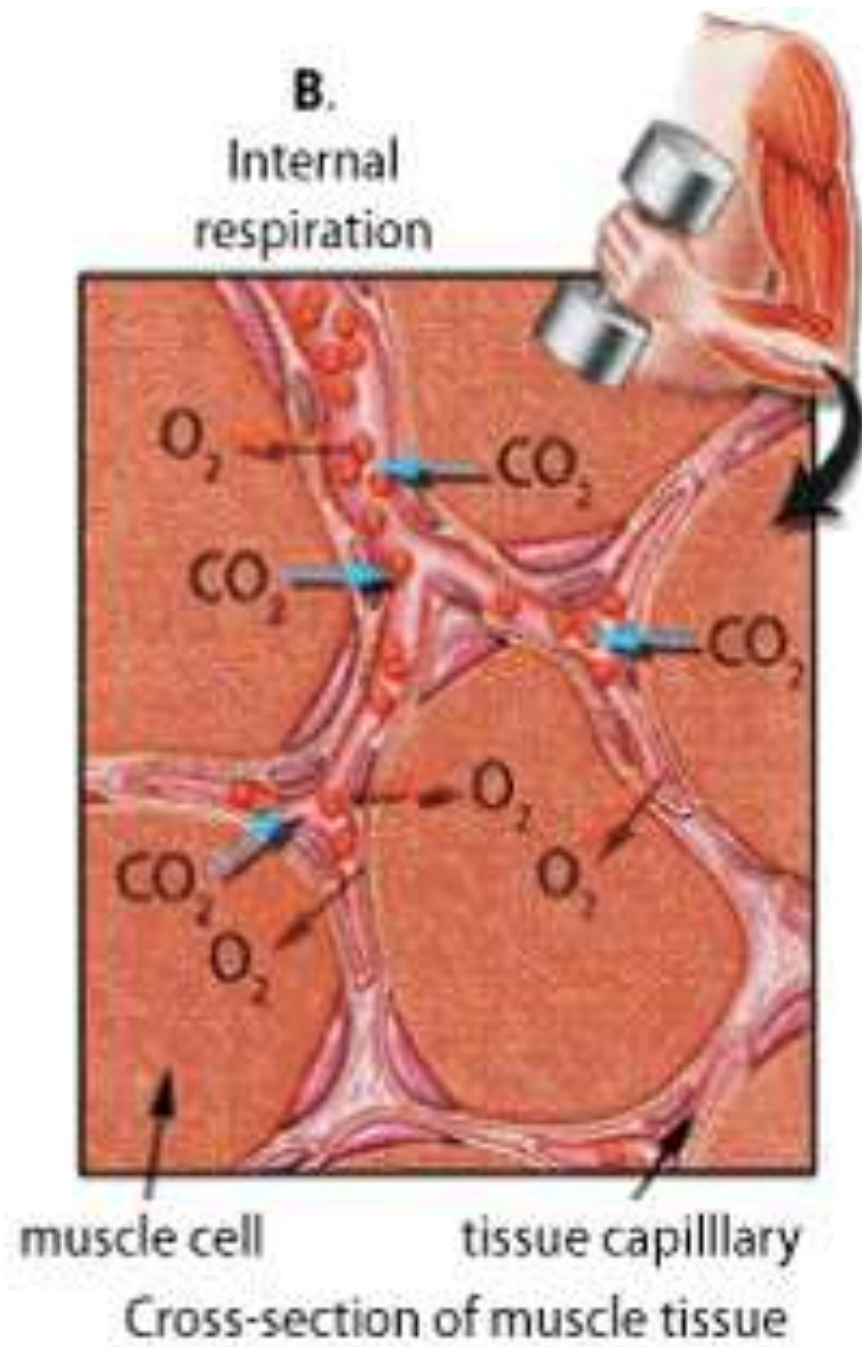
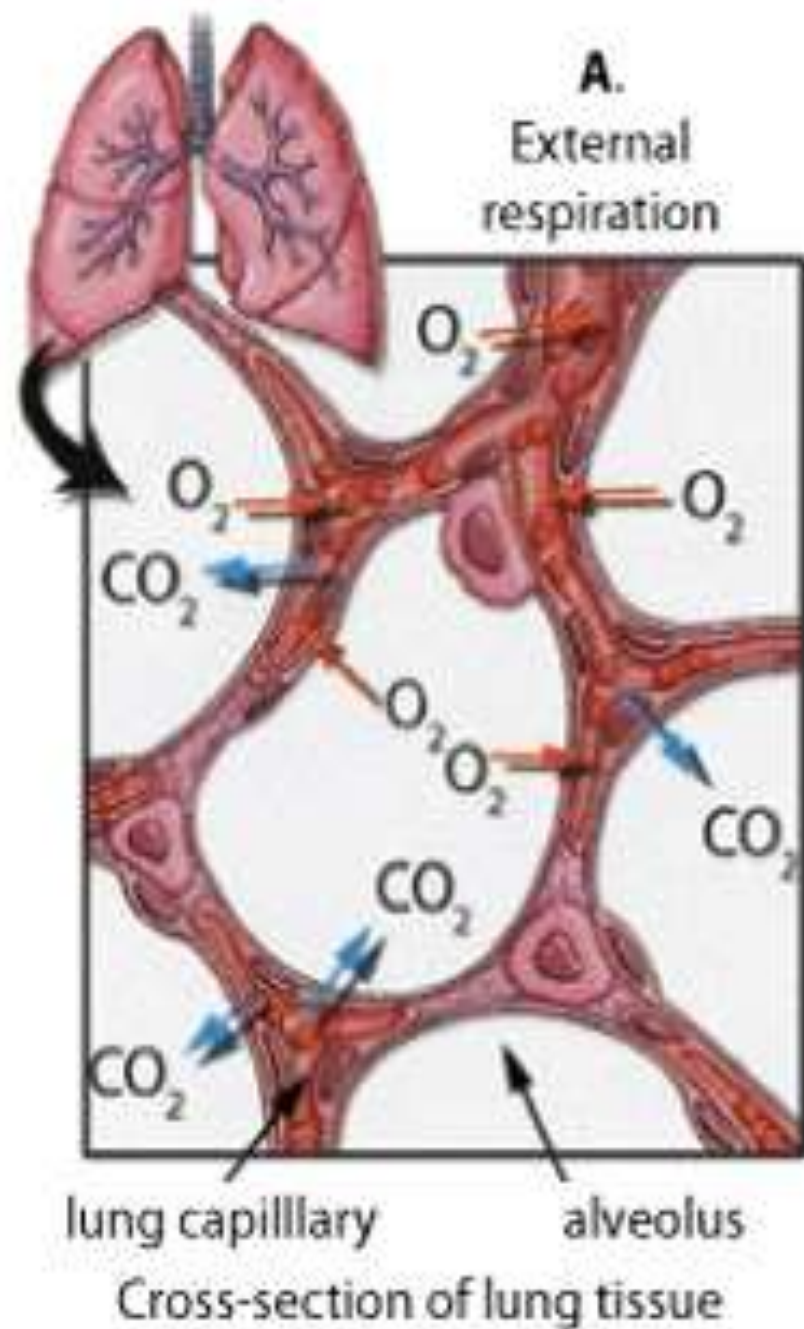
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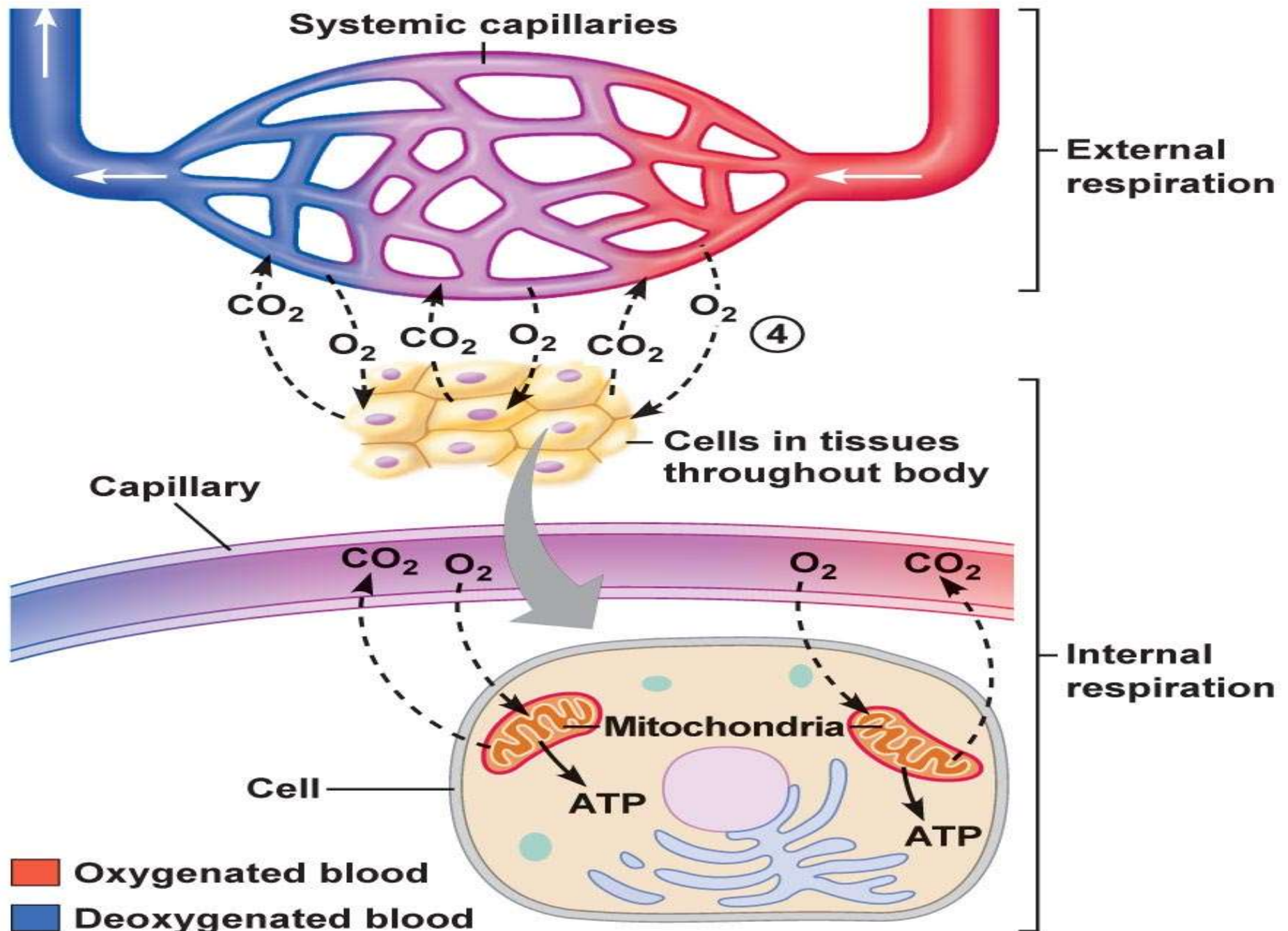


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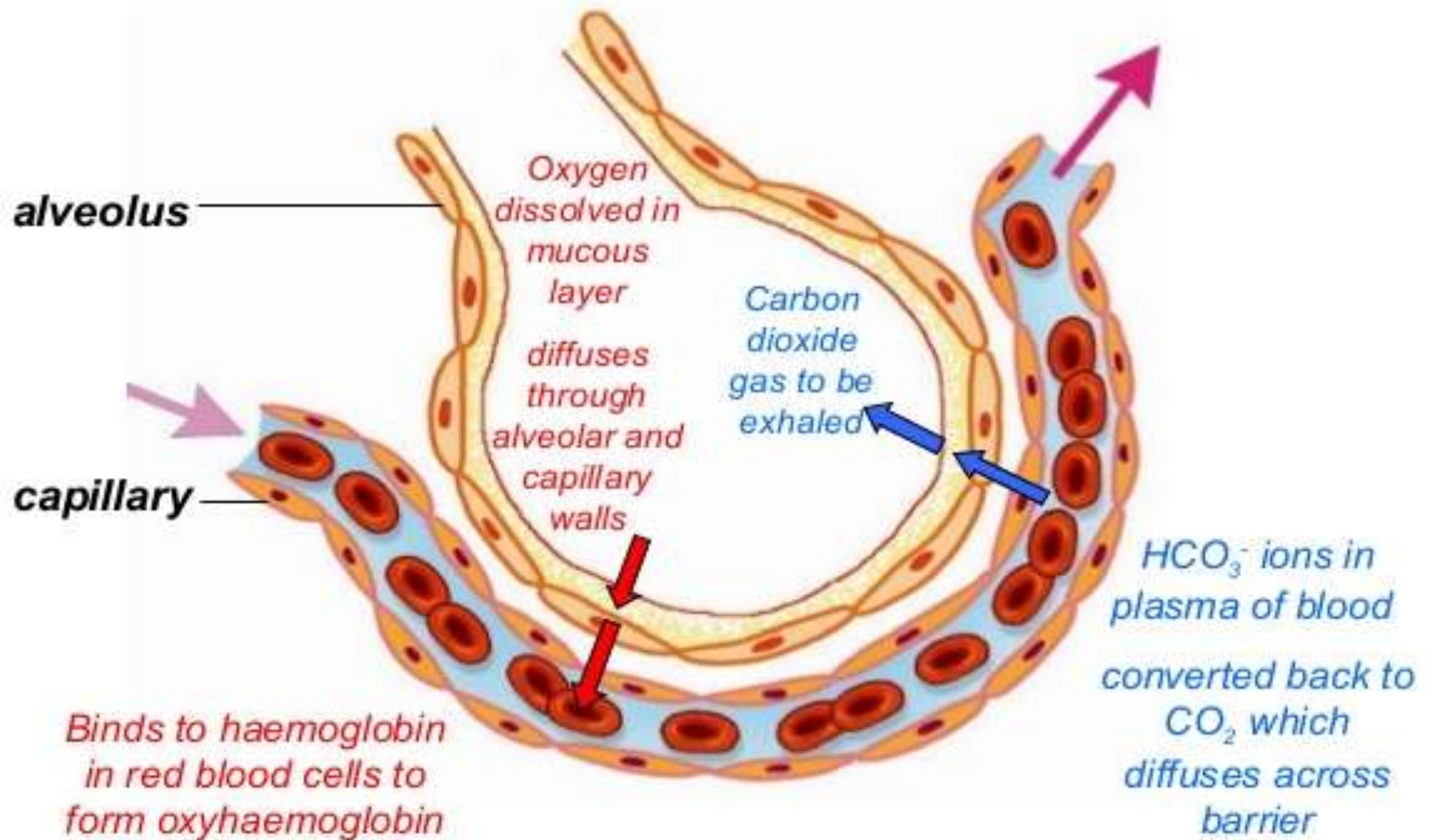


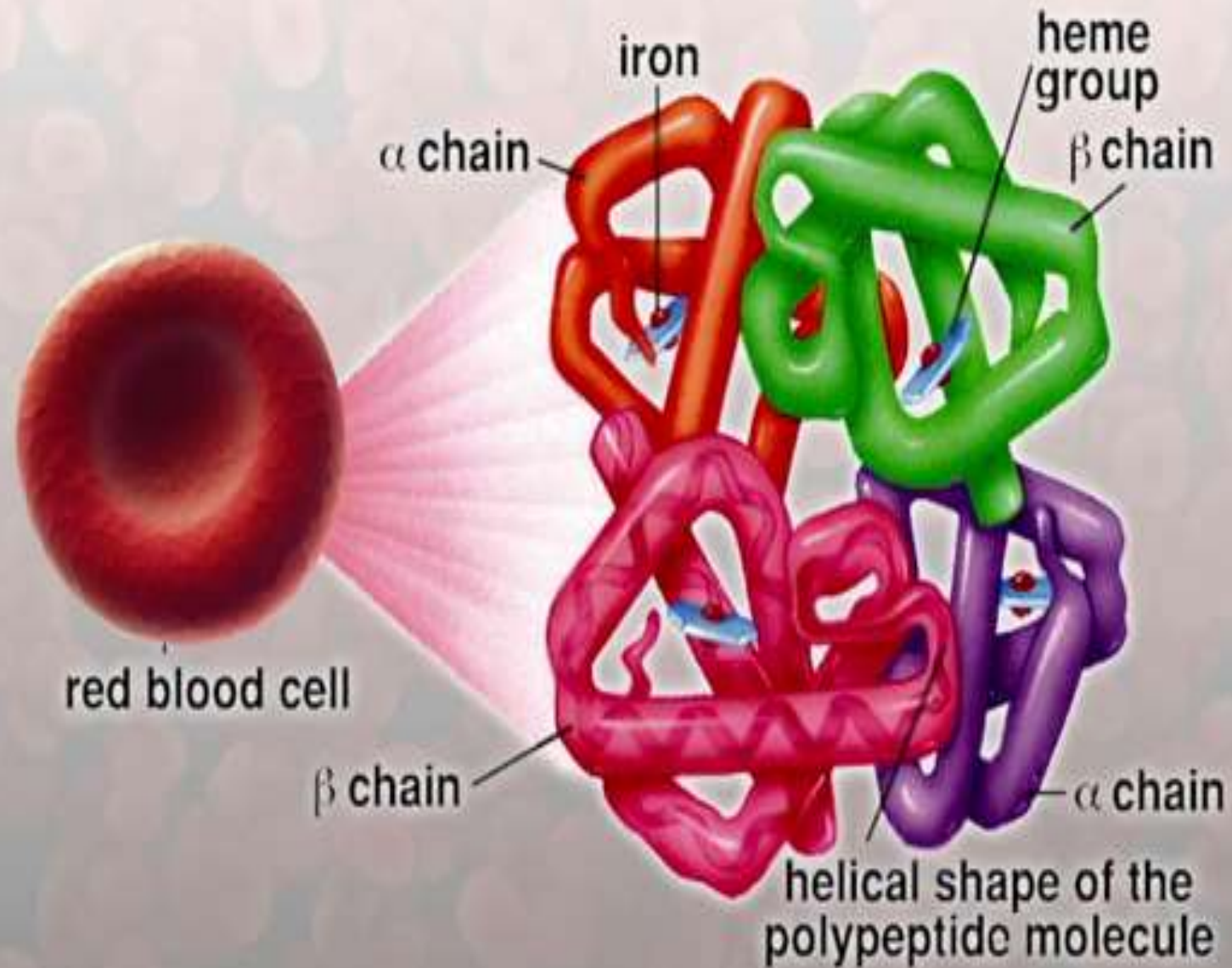




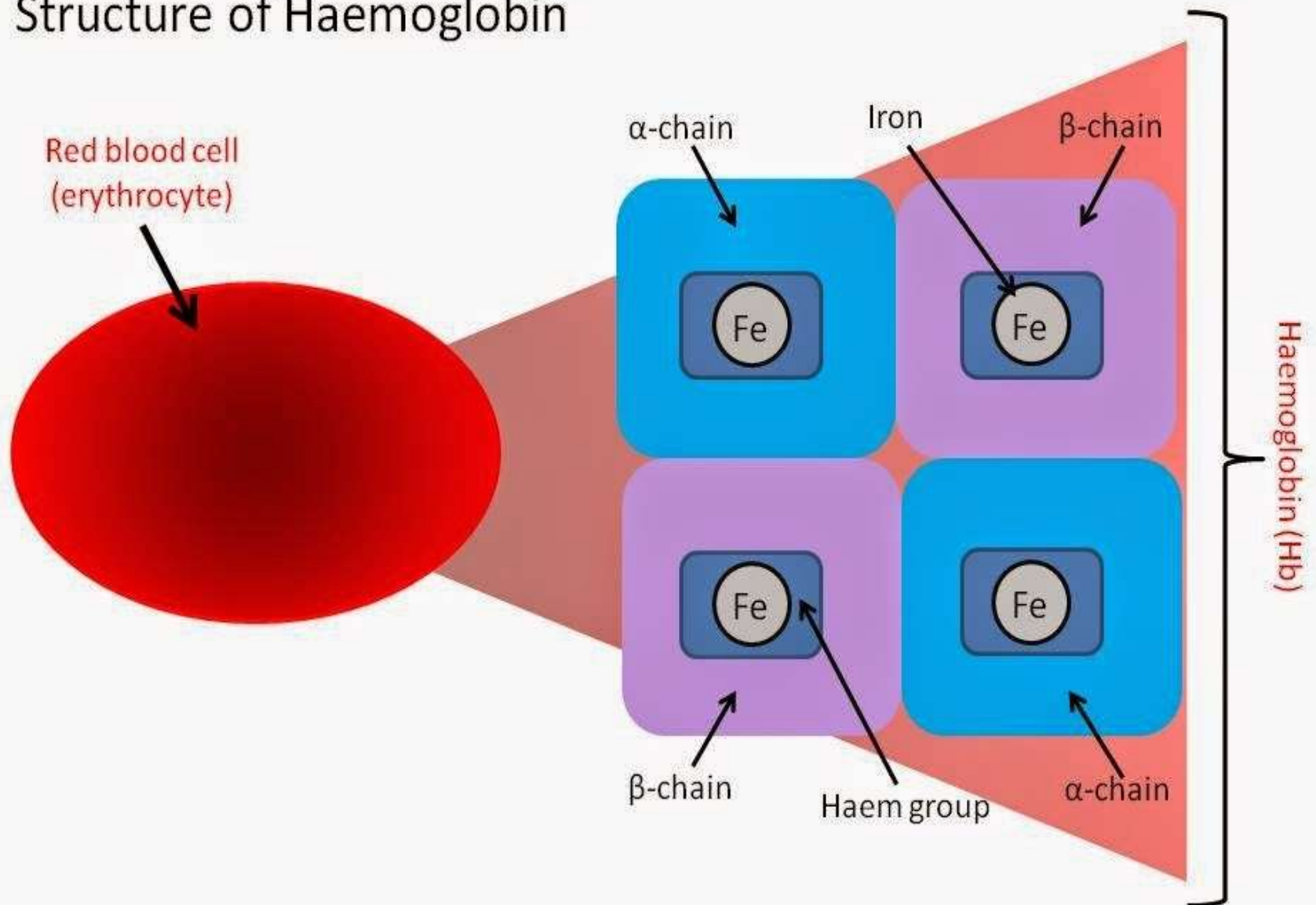


# Gaseous Exchange in the Alveolus

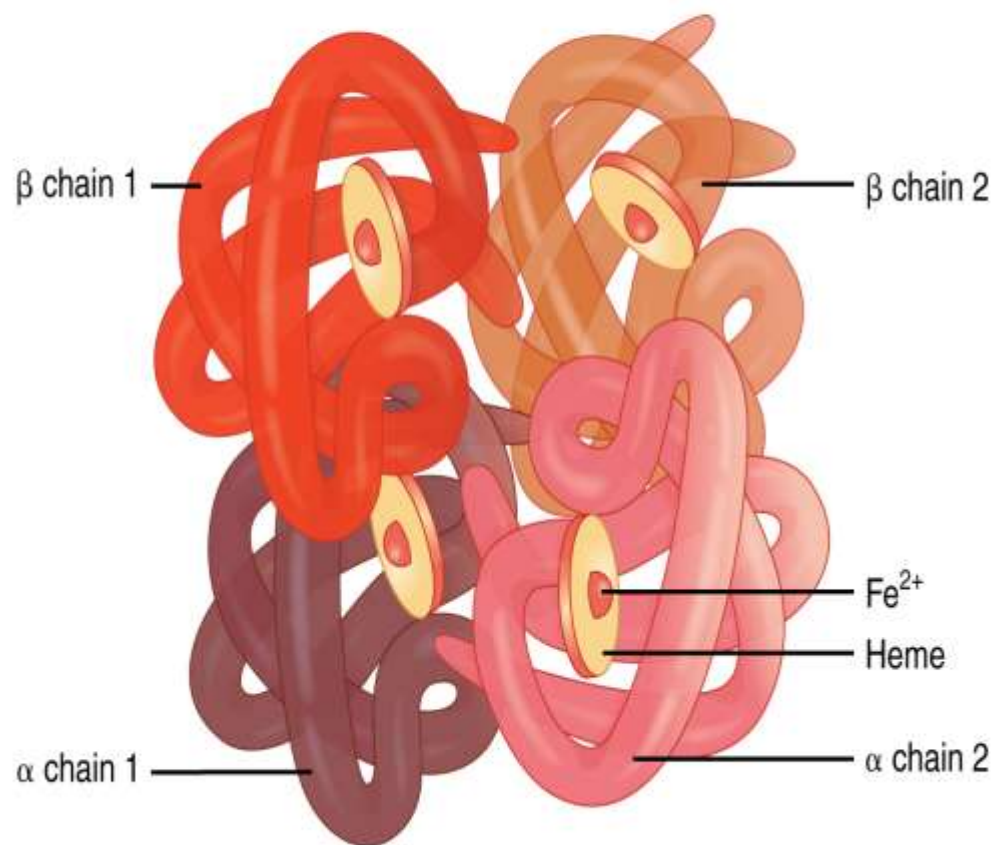




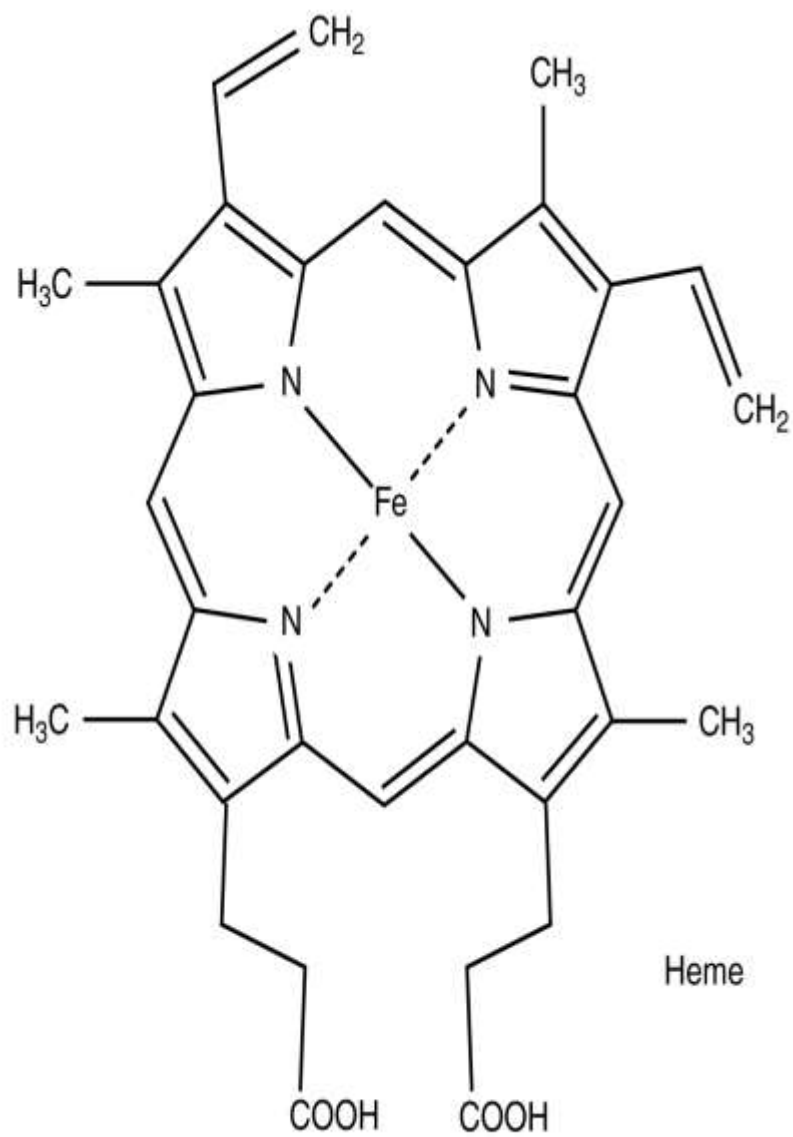
# Structure of Haemoglobin







(a)

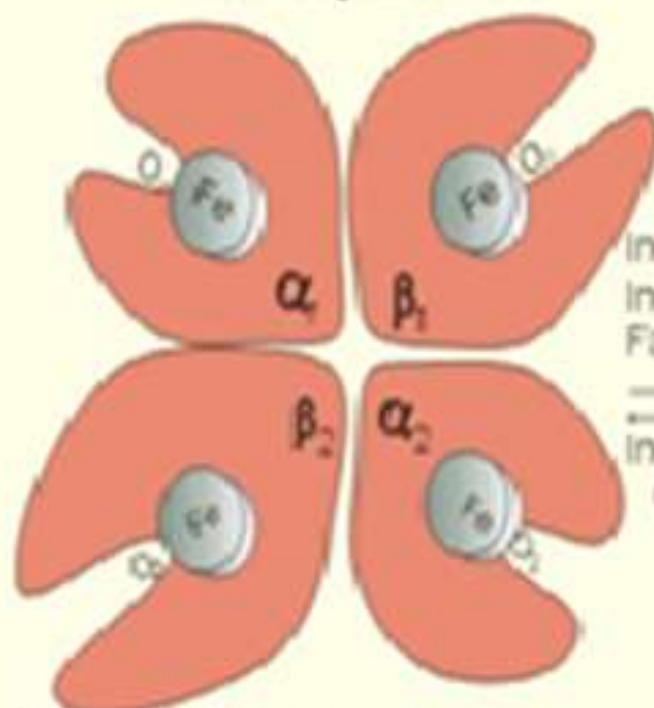


(b)

## Oxygen Binding and Unloading

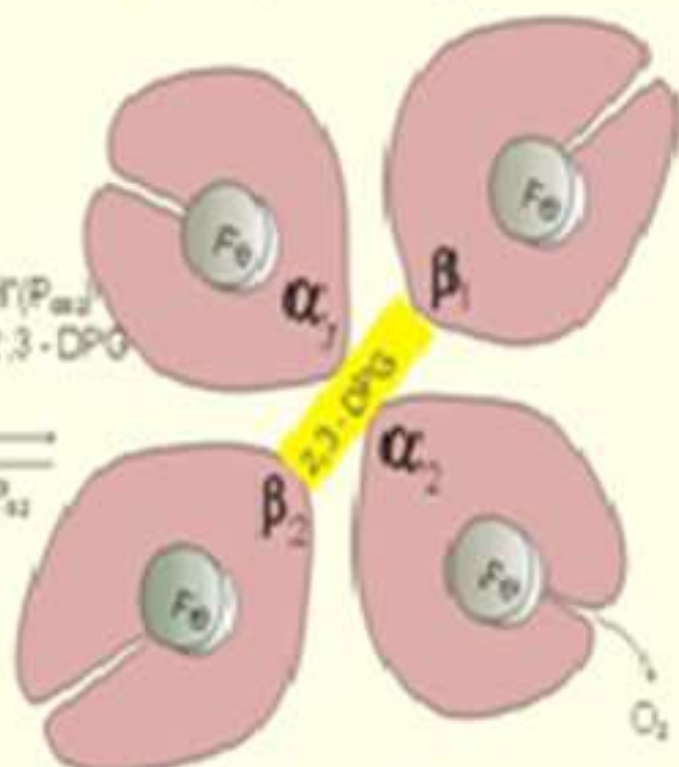
Oxyhaemoglobin

Mol weight: 64 460



Relaxed binding structure

Deoxyhaemoglobin



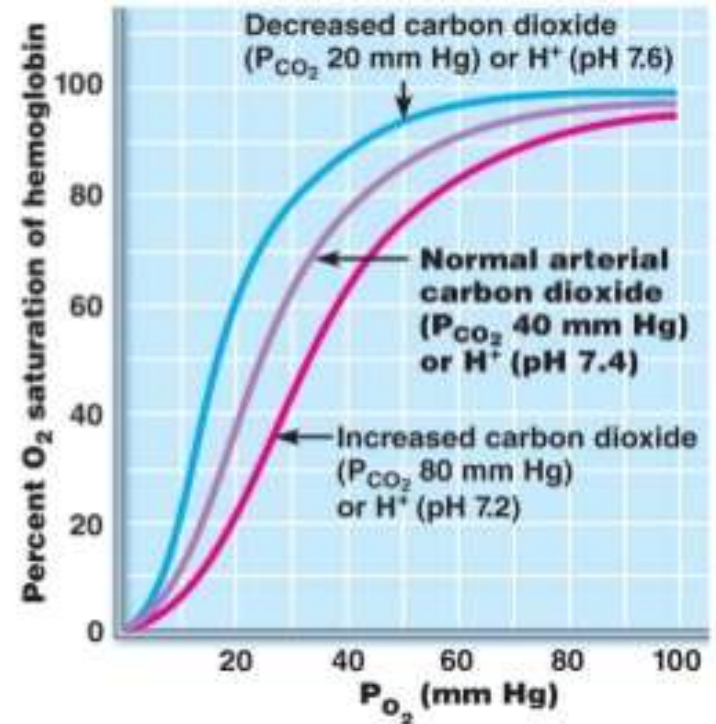
Tight binding structure

Increasing  $H^+$  ( $P_{aO_2}$ )  
Increasing 2,3-DPG  
Falling  $P_{aO_2}$

Increasing  $P_{aO_2}$   
CO

## Haldane Effect

- Amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  transported affected by  $\text{Po}_2$ 
  - HHb forms carbaminohemoglobin and buffers  $\text{H}^+$  more easily  $\rightarrow$
  - $\text{Po}_2$  and hemoglobin saturation  $\downarrow$ ;  $\text{CO}_2$  in blood  $\uparrow$
- $\uparrow \text{CO}_2$  exchange in tissues and lungs
- At tissues, as more  $\text{CO}_2$  enters blood
  - $\text{O}_2$  unloading  $\uparrow$  (**Bohr effect**)
  - $\text{HbO}_2$  releases  $\text{O}_2$  and readily forms carbaminohemoglobin



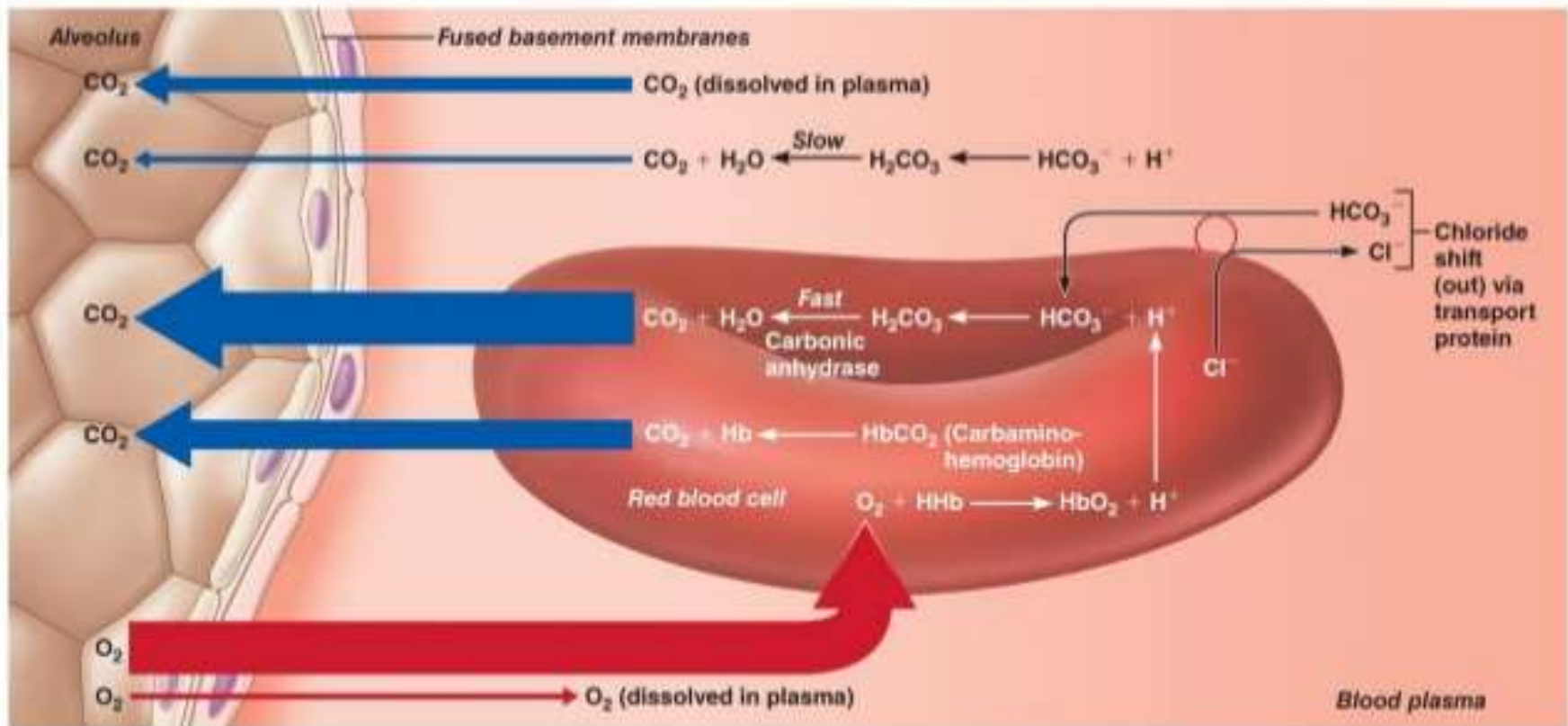
(b)

- Carbonic acid–bicarbonate buffer system**—resists changes in blood pH
  - If  $\text{H}^+$  concentration in blood rises, excess  $\text{H}^+$  is removed by combining with  $\text{HCO}_3^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$
  - If  $\text{H}^+$  concentration begins to drop,  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  dissociates, releasing  $\text{H}^+$
  - $\text{HCO}_3^-$  is **alkaline reserve** of carbonic acid–bicarbonate buffer system
- Changes in respiratory rate and depth affect blood pH
  - Slow, shallow breathing  $\rightarrow$  increased  $\text{CO}_2$  in blood  $\rightarrow$  drop in pH
  - Rapid, deep breathing  $\rightarrow$  decreased  $\text{CO}_2$  in blood  $\rightarrow$  rise in pH
- Changes in ventilation can adjust pH when disturbed by metabolic factors



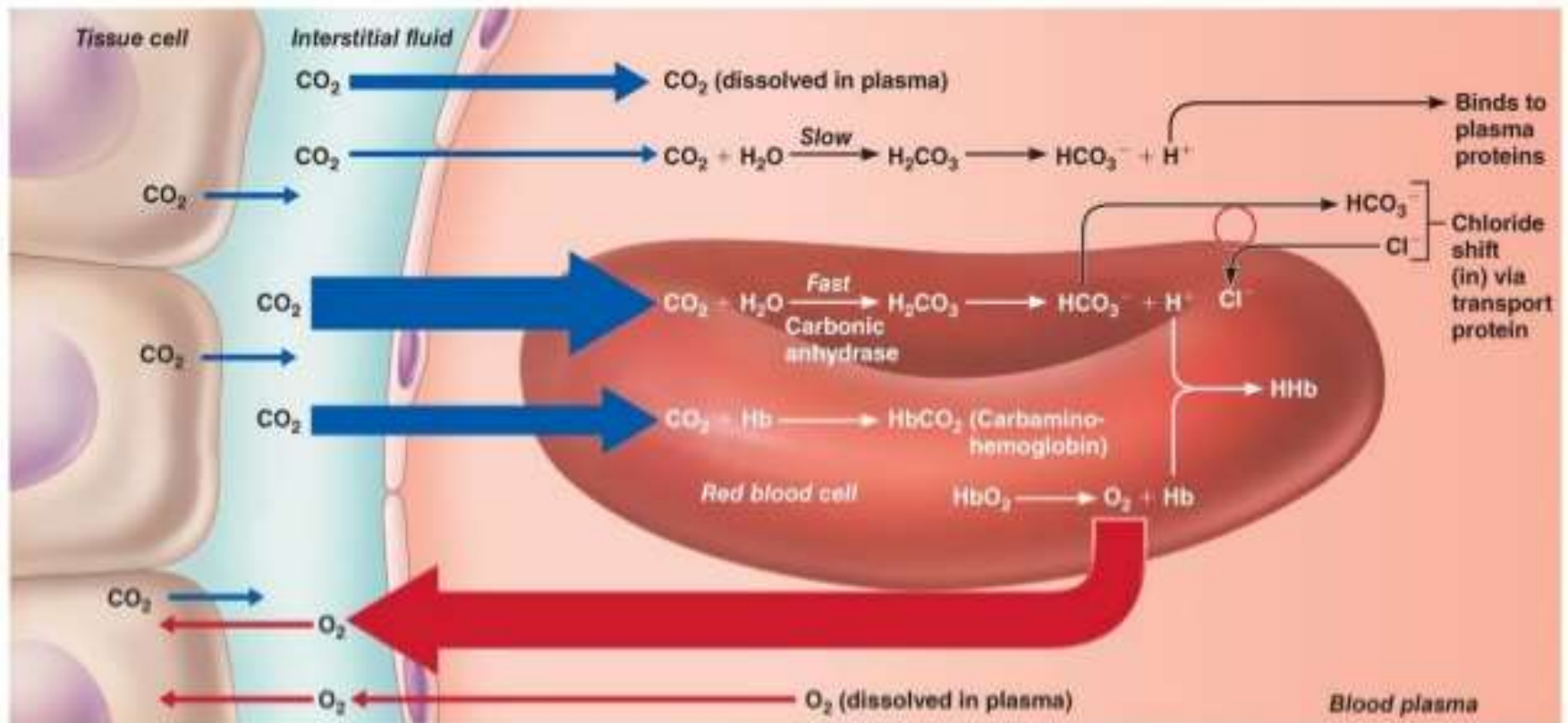
- **In pulmonary capillaries**

- $\text{HCO}_3^-$  moves into RBCs (while  $\text{Cl}^-$  move out); binds with  $\text{H}^+$  to form  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$
- $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  split by carbonic anhydrase into  $\text{CO}_2$  and water
- $\text{CO}_2$  diffuses into alveoli



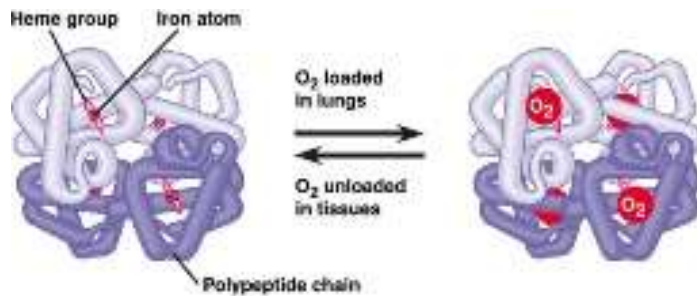
**(b) Oxygen pickup and carbon dioxide release in the lungs**

- In systemic capillaries
  - $\text{HCO}_3^-$  quickly diffuses from RBCs into plasma
  - **Chloride shift** occurs
    - Outrush of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  from RBCs balanced as  $\text{Cl}^-$  moves into RBCs from plasma

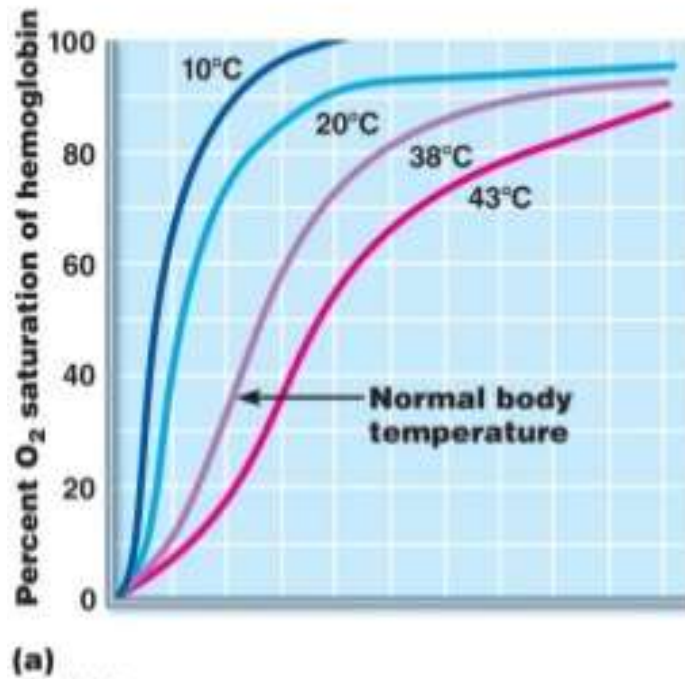


**(a) Oxygen release and carbon dioxide pickup at the tissues**

## O<sub>2</sub> Transport



- Molecular O<sub>2</sub> carried in blood
  - 1.5% dissolved in plasma
  - 98.5% loosely bound to each Fe of hemoglobin (Hb) in RBCs
    - 4 O<sub>2</sub> per Hb
- **Oxyhemoglobin (HbO<sub>2</sub>)**
- **Deoxyhemoglobin (HHb – no O<sub>2</sub>)**
- Loading and unloading of O<sub>2</sub> → change in shape of Hb
  - As O<sub>2</sub> binds, Hb affinity for O<sub>2</sub> increases and vice versa
  - Cooperative binding
- All four heme groups carry O<sub>2</sub> – full saturation
- Rate of loading and unloading of O<sub>2</sub> regulated to ensure adequate oxygen delivery to cells
  - P<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub>
  - Temperature
  - Blood pH
  - P<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>
  - Concentration of BPG—produced by RBCs during glycolysis; levels rise when oxygen levels chronically low





## Hemoglobin Dissociation Curve

This axis tells you how much  $O_2$  is bound to Hb. At 100%, each Hb molecule has 4 bound oxygen molecules.

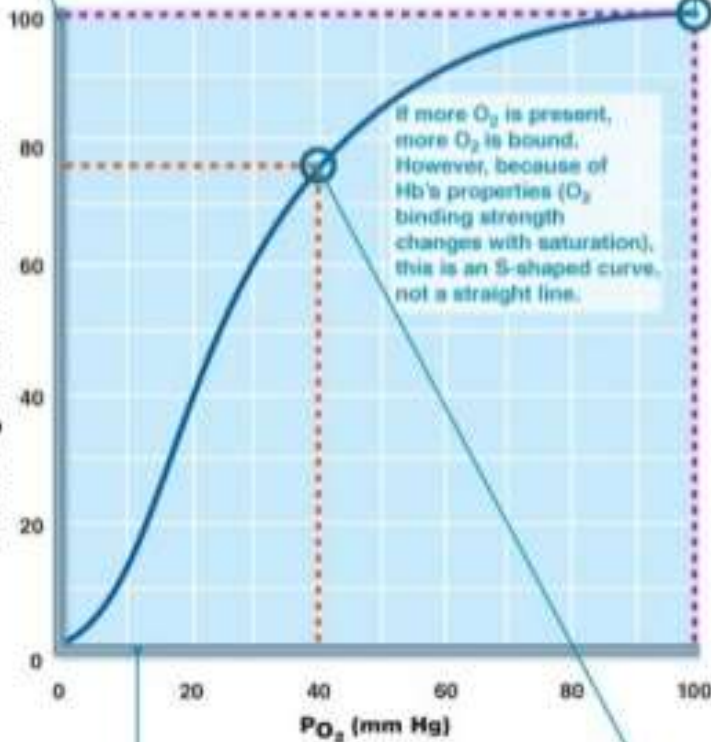
Hemoglobin



Oxygen



Percent  $O_2$  saturation of hemoglobin



This axis tells you the relative amount (partial pressure) of  $O_2$  dissolved in the fluid surrounding the Hb.

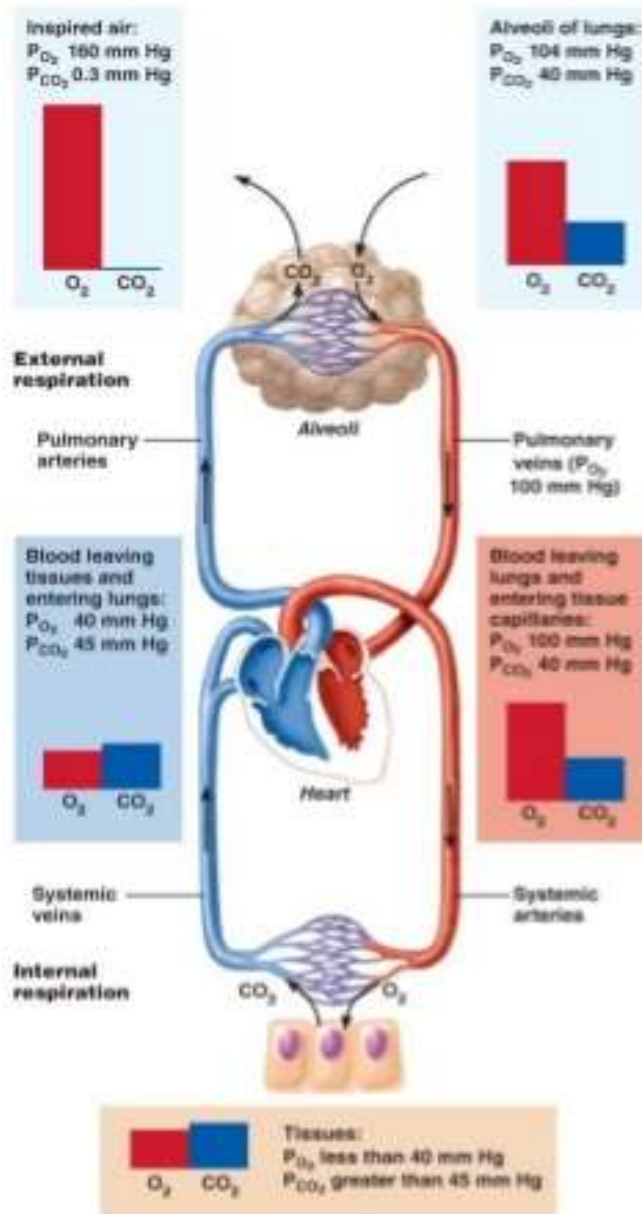
In the lungs, where  $PO_2$  is high (100 mm Hg), Hb is almost fully saturated (98%) with  $O_2$ .

If more  $O_2$  is present, more  $O_2$  is bound. However, because of Hb's properties ( $O_2$  binding strength changes with saturation), this is an S-shaped curve, not a straight line.

In the tissues of other organs, where  $PO_2$  is low (40 mm Hg), Hb is less saturated (75%) with  $O_2$ .

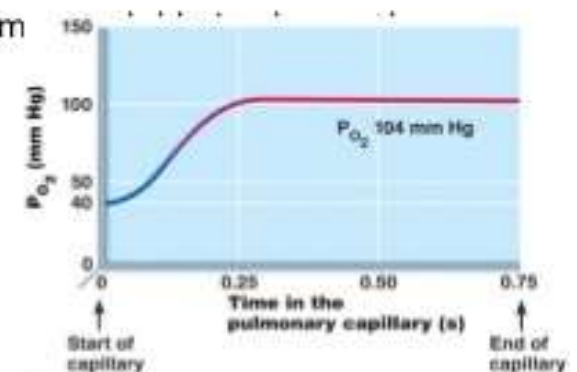
- Oxygen-hemoglobin dissociation curve
- Hemoglobin saturation plotted against  $PO_2$  is S-shaped curve
- Binding and release of  $O_2$  influenced by  $PO_2$

## External Respiration

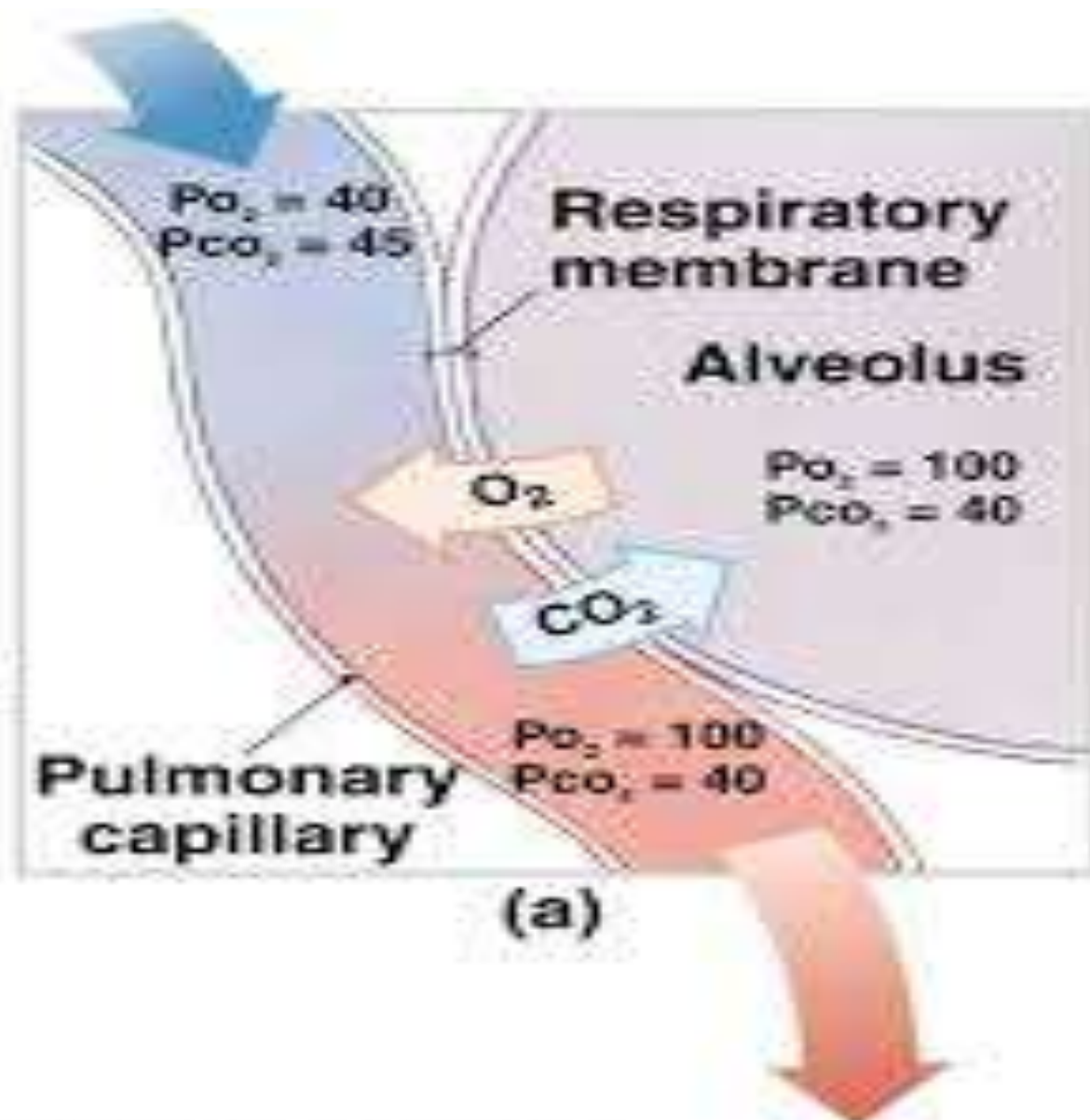


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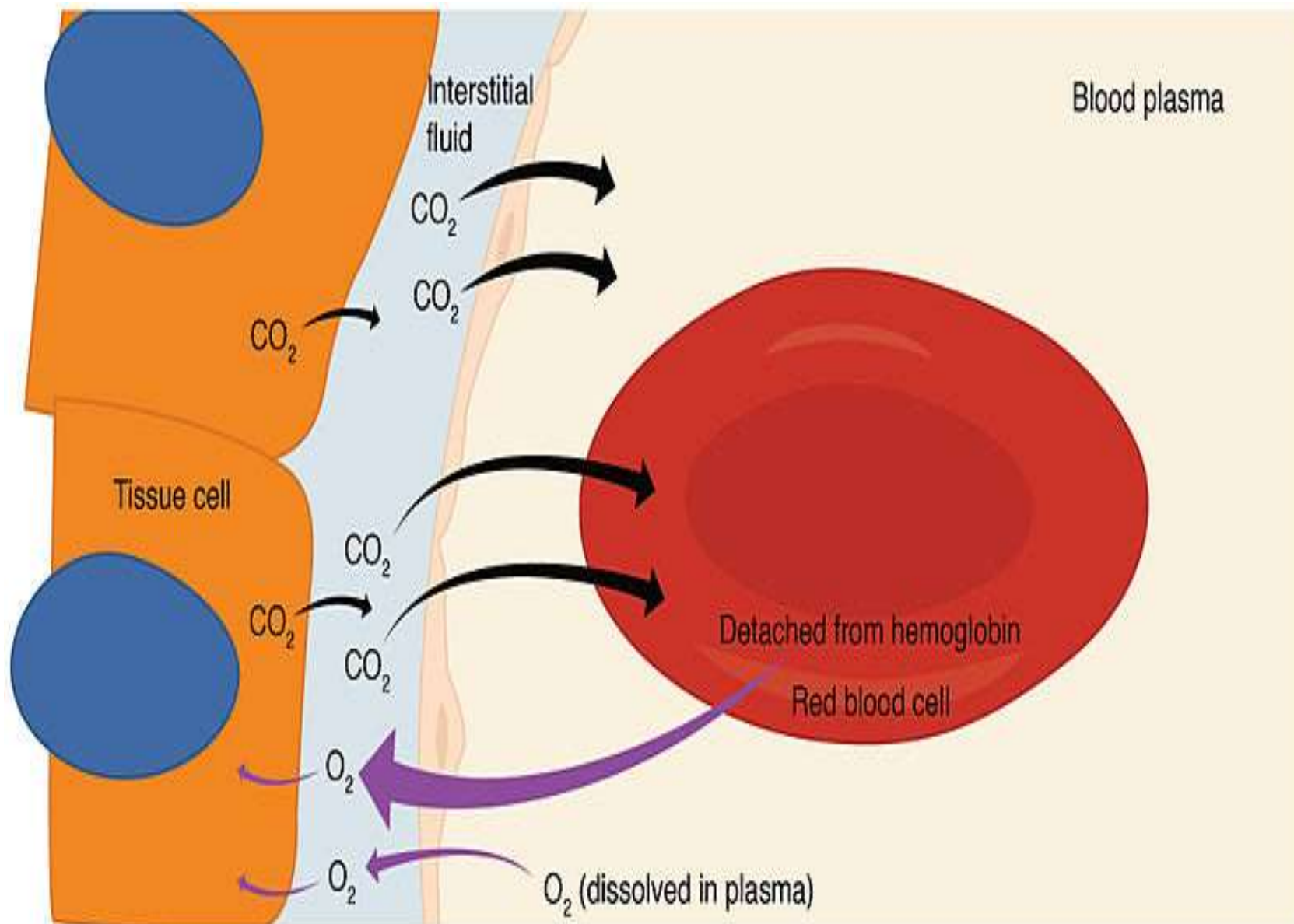
- Exchange of  $O_2$  and  $CO_2$  across respiratory membrane Influenced by
  - Partial pressure gradients and gas solubilities**
    - $O_2$  gradient in lungs
      - Venous blood  $P_{O_2}$  = 40 mm Hg
      - Alveolar  $P_{O_2}$  = 104 mm Hg
      - Oxygen to blood
    - $CO_2$  gradient in lungs
      - Venous blood  $P_{CO_2}$  = 45 mm Hg
      - Alveolar  $P_{CO_2}$  = 40 mm Hg
      - $CO_2$  to lungs
  - Though gradient not as steep,  $CO_2$  diffuses in equal amounts with oxygen
    - $CO_2$  20 times more soluble than  $O_2$

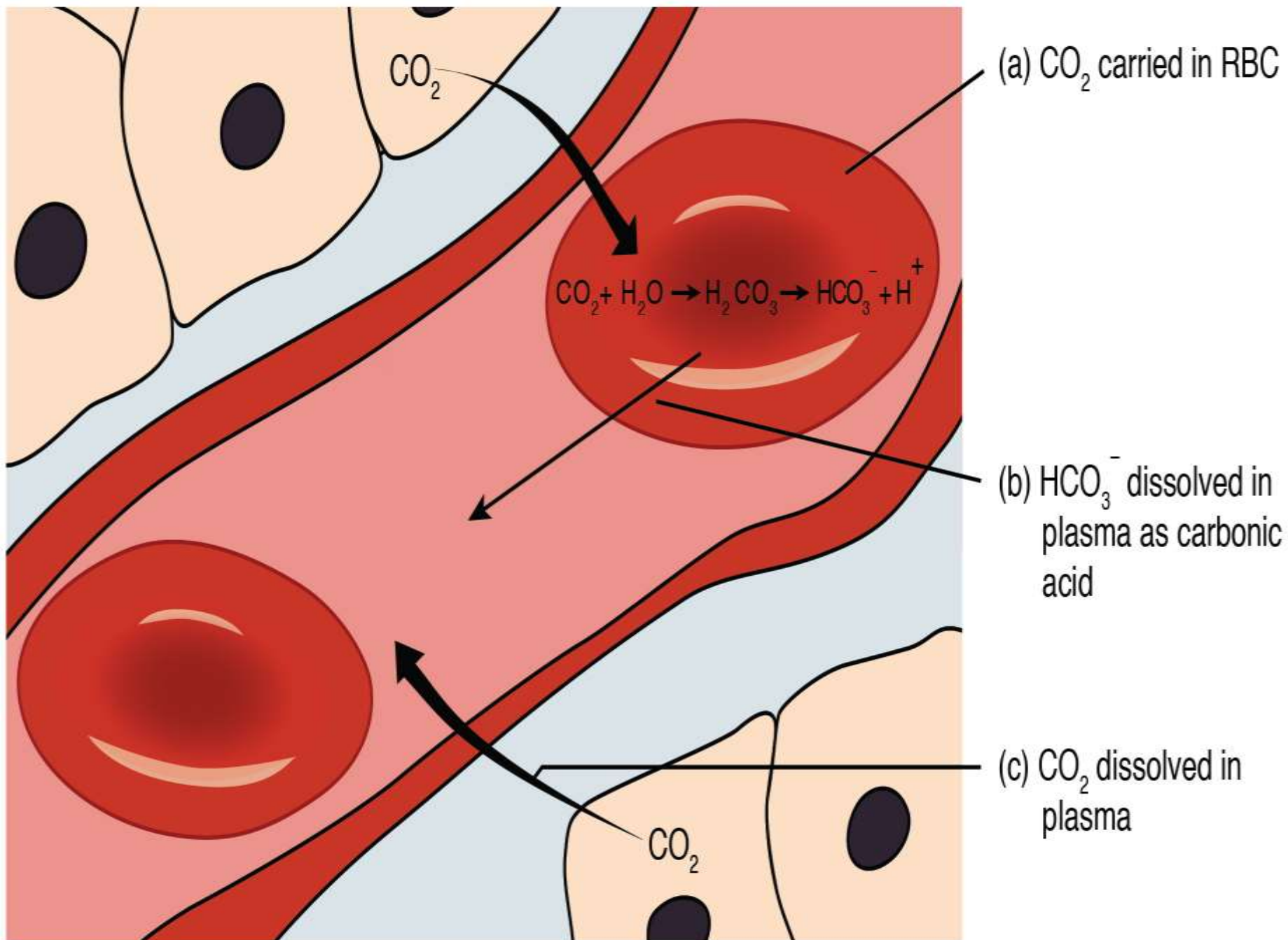


**External respiration**

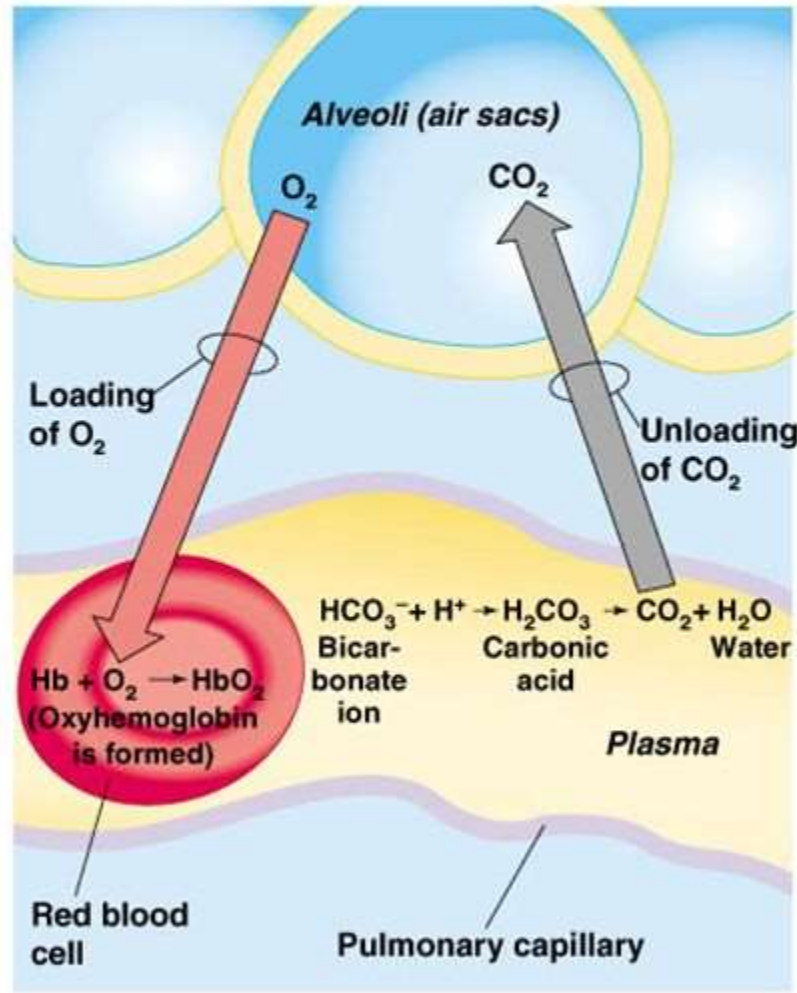




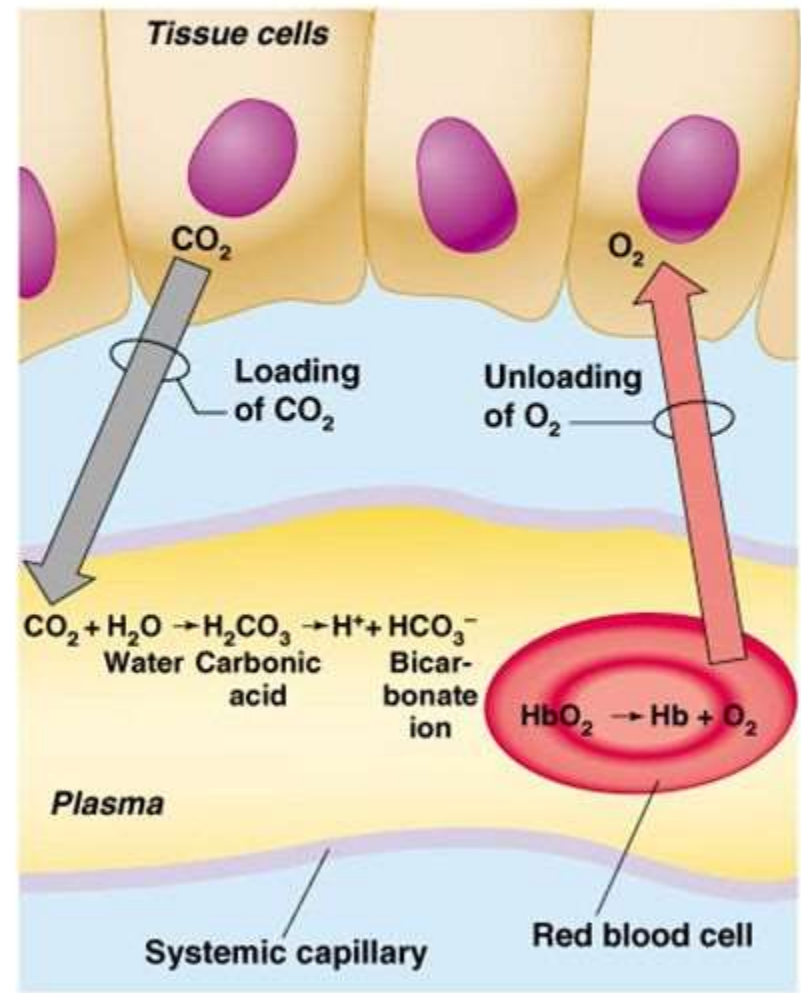




# External and Internal Respiration

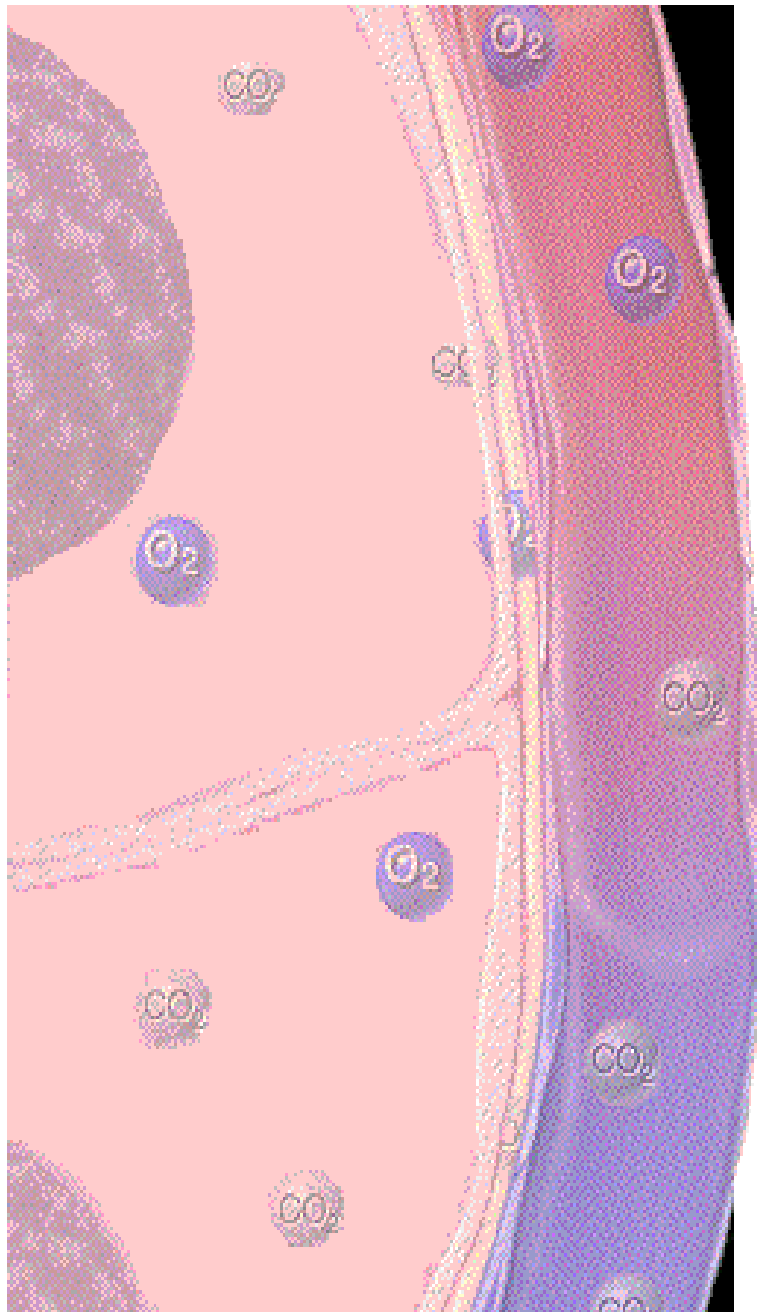


(a)



(b)





## SUMMARY

- Gas laws show the relationship between **partial pressure**, **solubility**, and concentration of gases.
- Gases diffuse along their partial pressure gradients, from regions of high partial pressure to regions of low partial pressure.
- External respiration:  $O_2$  loads from alveoli into pulmonary capillaries, and  $CO_2$  unloads from pulmonary capillaries into alveoli.
- Internal respiration:  $O_2$  unloads from systemic capillaries into cells, and  $CO_2$  loads from cells into systemic capillaries.
- Efficient gas exchange depends on several factors including surface area, partial pressure gradients, blood flow and airflow.
- During external respiration, **ventilation-perfusion coupling** maintains airflow and blood flow in proper proportions for efficient gas exchange.

# External and Internal Respiration Chemical Equation Summary

## External

- ❖  $\text{Hb} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{HbO}_2$
- ❖  $\text{HbCO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Hb} + \text{CO}_2$
- ❖  $\text{H}^+ + \text{HCO}_3^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

## Internal

- ❖  $\text{HbO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Hb} + \text{O}_2$
- ❖  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 \rightarrow \text{H}^+ + \text{HCO}_3^-$
- ❖  $\text{Hb} + \text{CO}_2 \rightarrow \text{HbCO}_2$
- ❖  $\text{H}^+ + \text{Hb} \rightarrow \text{HHb}$
- ❖  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  dissolves in plasma

1



2

