

## Renal Tubular Acidosis

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### RENAL TUBULAR ACIDOSIS

*Metabolic acidosis due to failure  
of the renal regulation of  
ACID-BASE BALANCE*

### RENAL REGULATION OF ACID-BASE BALANCE

- REABSORPTION OF FILTERED  $\text{HCO}_3^-$
- REGENERATION OF CONSUMED  $\text{HCO}_3^-$

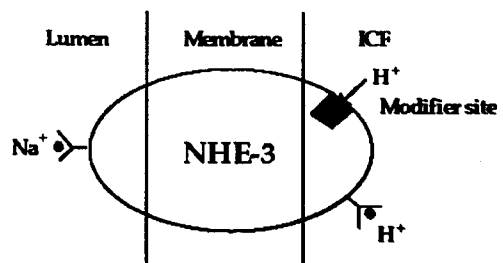
### PROXIMAL $\text{HCO}_3^-$ REABSORPTION

$\text{NH}_3$

HIGH CAPACITY, LEAKY MEMBRANE  
NO STEEP  $\text{H}^+$  GRADIENT.

FAILURE OF PROXIMAL  $\text{H}^+$  SECRETION :  
PROXIMAL RTA

### PROXIMAL TUBULE $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$ EXCHANGER



### REGULATION OF PROXIMAL H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION

- INTRA CELLULAR [H<sup>+</sup>]
- LUMINAL [H<sup>+</sup>]
- STIMULI FOR Na<sup>+</sup> REABSORPTION
- PARATHYROID HORMONE

### BICARBONATE "REABSORPTION"

- 85-90% OF FILTERED HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> IS REABSORBED IN THE PCT
  - 500 mmoles LEAVE PCT and 100 mmoles ENTER DCT
  - 400 MMOLES REABSORBED BY PARS RECTA OF PCT OR TAL OF LOH
- All mediated by NHE-3*

### PROXIMAL RTA

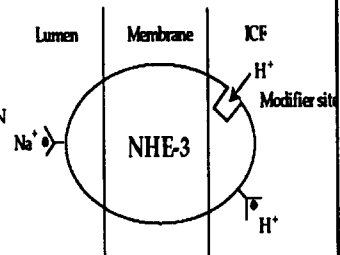
ACIDEMIA DESPITE HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ADMINISTRATION

BICARBONATURIA DESPITE ACIDEMIA (>15% FILTERED LOAD)

ASSOCIATED DEFECTS  
GLUCOSURIA, PHOSPHATURIA  
AMMINO ACIDURIA

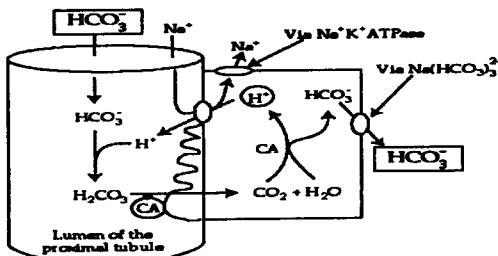
### MECHANISM

- DEFECTIVE TRANSPORTER
- ALKALINIZATION OF THE PROXIMAL TUBULAR CELL



### ALKALINIZATION OF PROXIMAL TUBULAR CELL

- BICARBONATE EXIT STEP



### DIAGNOSIS

- ACIDEMIA IS ASSOCIATED WITH REDUCED CITRATE EXCRETION DUE TO INCREASED ICF [H<sup>+</sup>].
- PROXIMAL RTA DUE TO ALKALINIZED CELL WILL HAVE NORMAL CITRATE EXCRETION

## NEW HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> SYNTHESIS

### *Bicarbonate Regeneration*

#### • NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> EXCRETION

#### AMMONIAGENESIS

#### NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> TRAPPING

INCREASED pNH<sub>3</sub>

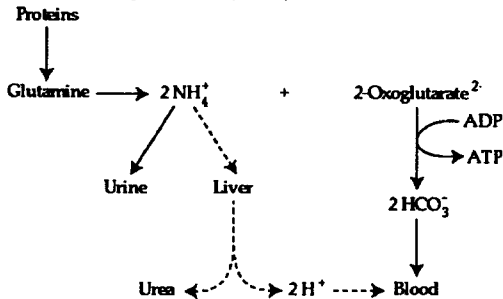
DISTAL H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION

## AMMONIAGENESIS

- PCT: GLUTAMINE TO NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> & HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
- GENERATES ATP
- NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> ENTERS PCT ON NHE-3
- STIMULI:  
**CHRONIC METABOLIC ACIDOSIS**  
**HYPOKALEMIA**

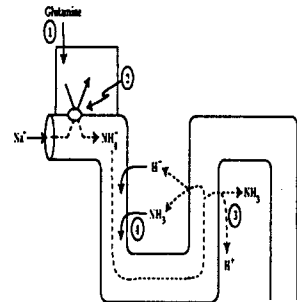
## AMMONIAGENESIS ACID-BASE IMPACT

### *Importance of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> Excretion*



## GENERATION OF MEDULLARY pNH<sub>3</sub>

- NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> REABSORPTION IN TAL .
- [NH<sub>3</sub>] RISES IN MED. INTERSTITIUM
- NH<sub>3</sub> ENTERS DESC. LIMB LOH
- MEDULLARY pNH<sub>3</sub> RISES

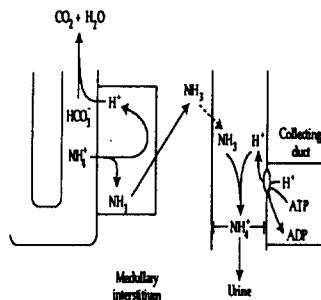


## NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> TRAPPING IN COLLECTING DUCT

### *The role of H<sup>+</sup> secretion*

① NH<sub>3</sub> ATTRACTED BY LOW CD [NH<sub>3</sub>]  
NH<sub>3</sub> + H<sup>+</sup> ⇌ NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>

② NH<sub>3</sub> TRAPPED IN CD AS NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> AS A RESULT OF H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION



## DISTAL NEPHRON H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION

### H<sup>+</sup>ATPase

#### LOW CAPACITY STEEP GRADIENT

- REABSORB 100 MMOLES HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
- PROMOTE NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> EXCRETION

**NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> EXCRETION IS  
HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> GENERATION**

*Impaired NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> excretion is  
Distal RTA*

- CAN FAIL DUE TO:**  
IMPAIRED AMMONIAGENESIS  
MEDULLARY DISEASE  
IMPAIRED DISTAL H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION

**IF ENHANCED NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>  
EXCRETION IS ABSENT IN  
ACIDEMIA**

*The diagnosis is  
Renal Tubular Acidosis*

**DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR  
DISTAL RTA**

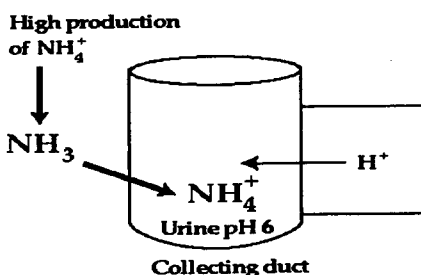
- URINE pH (Not a good test)
- URINE NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> EXCRETION  
URINE NET CHARGE  
URINE OSMOLAR GAP
- URINE PCO<sub>2</sub>

**WHAT DOES URINE pH  
REVEAL?**

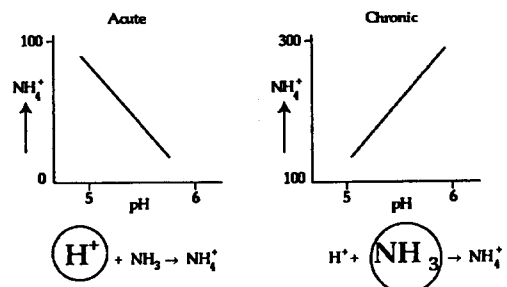
BICARBONATURIA

IMPAIRED AMMONIAGENESIS

**FAILURE OF URINE pH TO  
PREDICT ACID EXCRETION**



**URINE pH and RENAL ACID  
EXCRETION**



IS DISTAL RTA PRESENT?

*Assess  $NH_4^+$  Excretion*

$NH_4Cl$ : URINE NET CHARGE

URINE :  $[Na^+ + K^+] - [Cl^-] = \text{NEGATIVE}$

$NH_4A$ : URINE OSMOLAL GAP

$U_{OSM}$  MEASURED VS CALC

$U [Na+K] \times 2 + [GLUCOSE] + [UREA]$

$NH_4^+$  EXCRETION IS  
 $HCO_3^-$  GENERATION

*Impaired  $NH_4^+$  excretion is  
Distal RTA*

**CAN FAIL DUE TO:**

IMPAIRED AMMONIAGENESIS

MEDULLARY DISEASE

IMPAIRED DISTAL  $H^+$  SECRETION

## IMPAIRED AMMONIAGENESIS

- IN THE PRESENCE OF NORMAL  
DISTAL NEPHRON  $H^+$  SECRETION

*The Urine pH will be low  
( $<5.0$ )*

WHY IS AMMONIAGENESIS  
IMPAIRED?

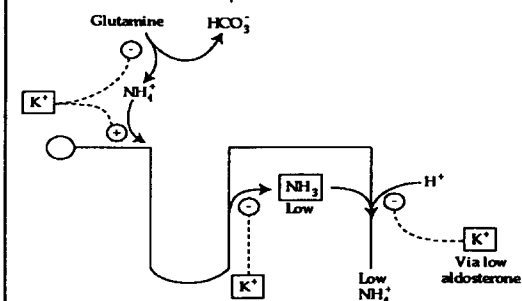
GLUTAMINE DEFICIENCY

ATP LIMIT

HYPERKALEMIA

ALKALINE PROXIMAL  
CELL

IMPACT OF HYPERKALEMIA  
ON  $NH_4^+$  EXCRETION



MEDULLARY DEFECT

MAXIMUM URINE  
OSMOLALITY  
WITH WATER  
DEPRIVATION

## DISTAL H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION DEFECT

### • PUMP DEFECT:

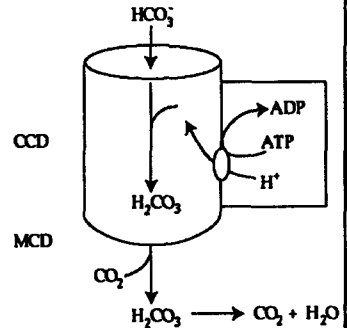
INTERSTITIAL DISEASE  
 IMMUNE COMPLEXES (SJOGRENS)  
 CHLORIDE SHUNT  
 LOW ALDOSTERONE BIOACTIVITY  
 IMPAIRED HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> EXIT

## DISTAL H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION DEFECT

### • PUMP DEFECT:

*How to make the diagnosis?*

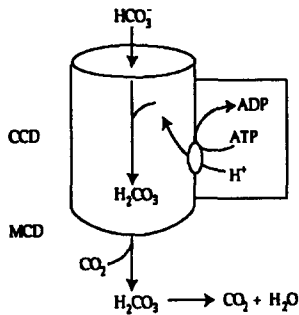
PCO<sub>2</sub> OF ALKALINE URINE



## DISTAL H<sup>+</sup> SECRETION DEFECT

### • BACK LEAK OF H<sup>+</sup>: AMPHOTERICIN B

PCO<sub>2</sub> OF ALKALINE URINE



## POTASSIUM AND RTA

• Patients with RTA may have hypokalemia  
 BICARBONATURIA PROMOTES K<sup>+</sup> EXCRETION.

• Patients with RTA may have hyperkalemia  
 HYPERKALEMIA CAUSES IMPAIRED AMMONIAGENESIS.  
 IMPAIRED DISTAL Na<sup>+</sup> REABSORPTION IMPAIRS BOTH H<sup>+</sup> AND K<sup>+</sup> SECRETION.