

# Breathing: Ventilation Gas exchange in the lungs

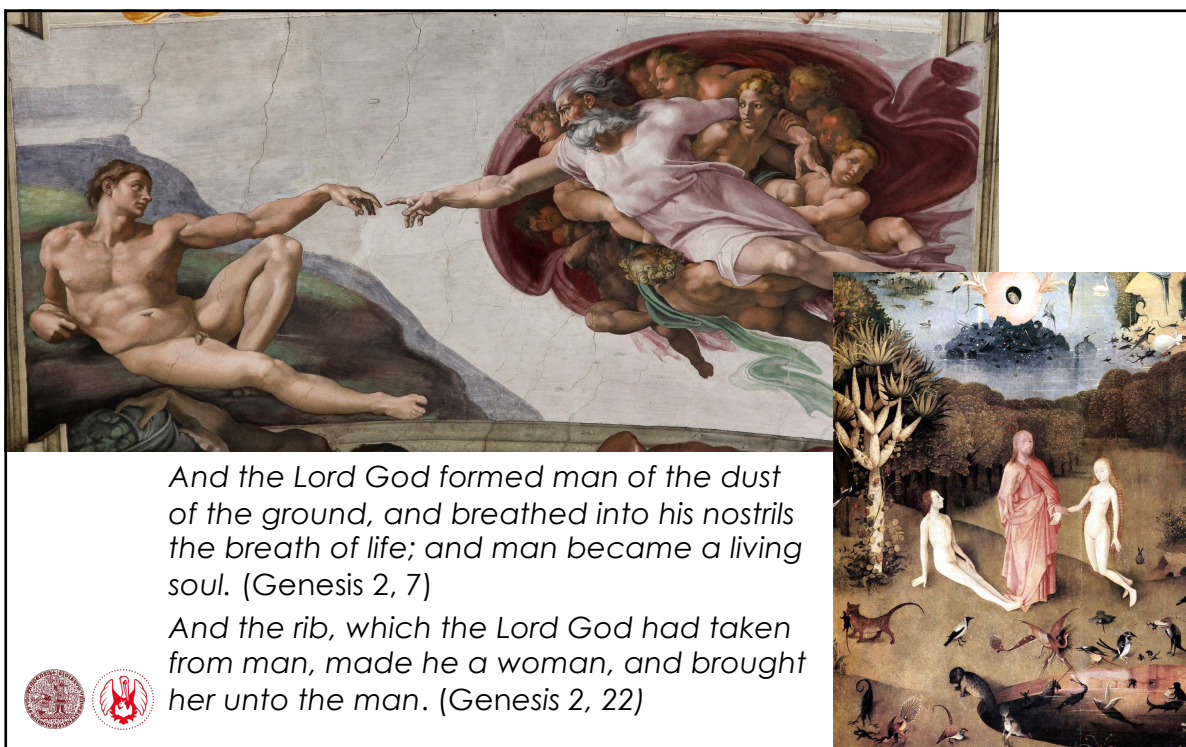
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And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2, 7)

And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. (Genesis 2, 22)



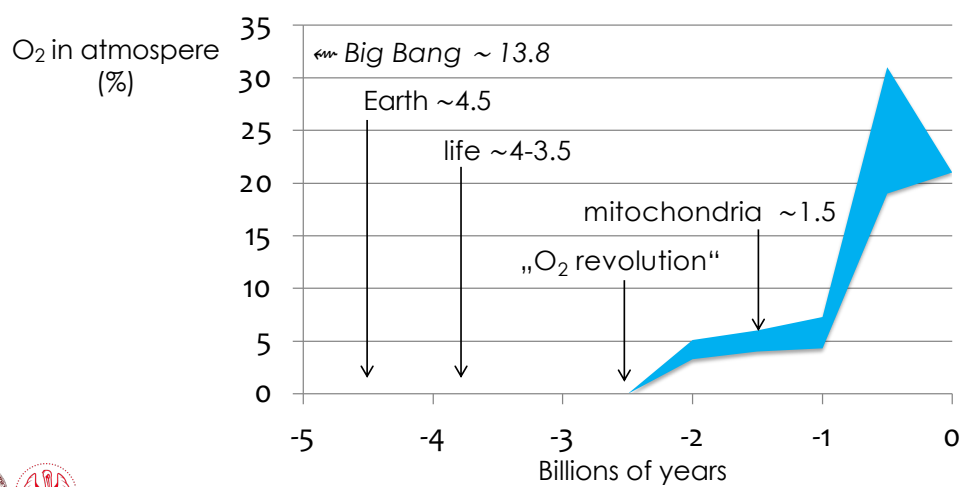
# Oxygen

Joseph Priestley 1774

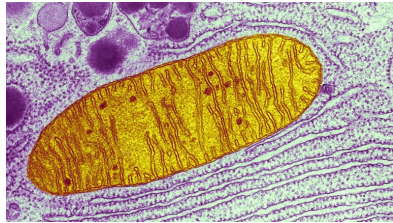
Antoine Laurent Lavoisier (?)



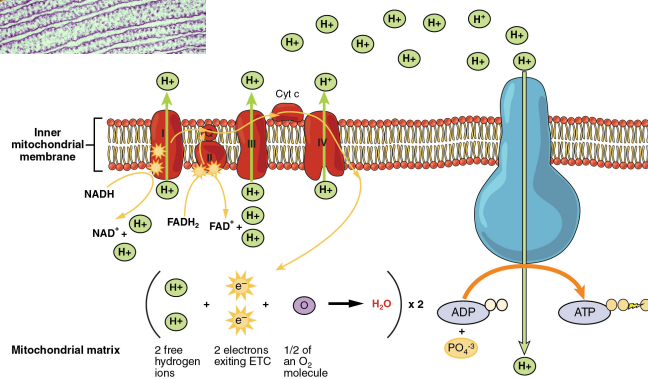
## O<sub>2</sub> in atmosphere only recently



# Mitochondria



endosymbiosis -1.5 bil years



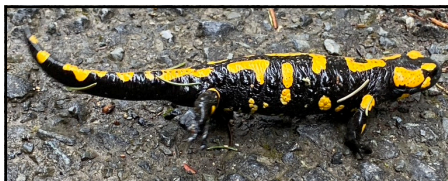
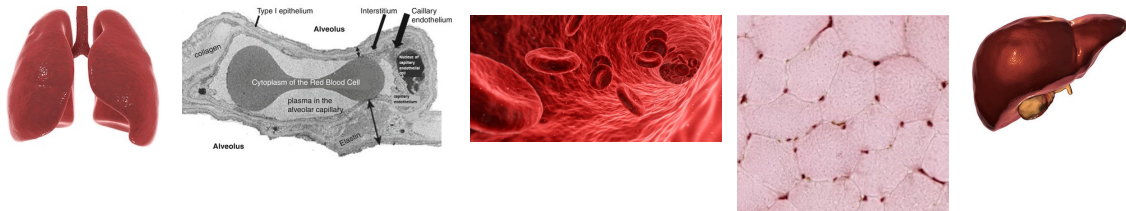
## O<sub>2</sub> (& CO<sub>2</sub>) transport

- small organisms – **diffusion**
  - short diffuse distance
  - large surface area relative to volume
- larger organisms - diffusion + **conduction**
- conduction in aquatic organisms: bringing water to the diffusive surface (O<sub>2</sub> in water << in air)
- conduction in terrestrial vertebrates:
  - breathing
  - circulation



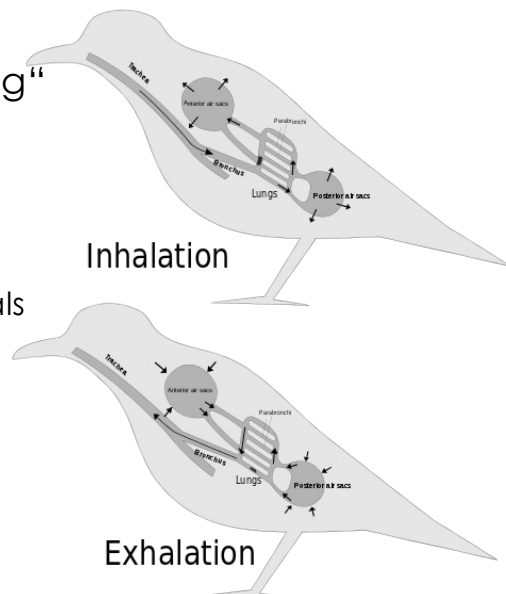
# Transport of O<sub>2</sub> & CO<sub>2</sub> („blood gases“) in the body

convection ↔ diffusion ↔ convection ↔ diffusion



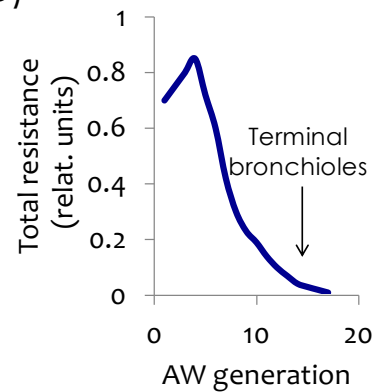
## Breathing in vertebrates

- amphibians – „swallowing“ air + skin
- reptiles
  - dinosaurs – similar to birds
  - others – similar to mammals
- birds – parabronchi + air sacs (7-9)
- mammals - alveoli



## Breathing in mammals

- branching airways (dead space; total resistance↓)
- alveoli (large surface area)
- diffusion (short diffusion distance)
- perfusion
- ventilation:
  - active inspiration (negative pressure)
    - **diaphragm**,  
external intercostal muscles
  - passive resting exhalation
    - chest weight, lung elasticity



## Determinants of lung gas transport

- Pulmonary ventilation
  - how  $O_2$  and  $CO_2$  reach the alveolocapillary membrane
  - what determines the amount of gas that is exchanged between the atmosphere and the alveoli
    - **dead space**
    - **functional residual capacity (FRC)**
- Pulmonary diffusion
  - determines the passage of  $O_2$  and  $CO_2$  across the alveolocapillary membrane
- Pulmonary perfusion
  - how venous blood is led into lungs from periphery
  - how  $O_2$ -rich blood with little  $CO_2$  is led from lungs to periphery
- Lung ventilation/perfusion ratio



## Lung ventilation

- exchange of gases between alveolar membrane & external atmosphere
- warming
- maximal saturation with water vapor
  - $P_{H_2O}$  at 36°C is 42 torr
- includes parts of the lungs where blood oxygenation (and  $CO_2$  removal) does not take place



## Resting lung position (end-expiration) = FRC = RV+ERV

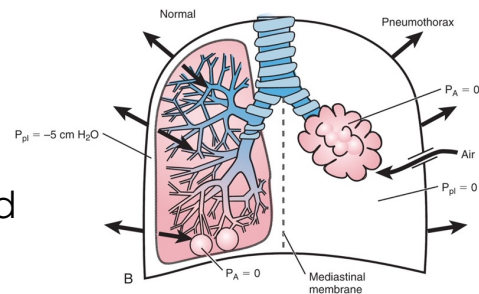
lung „elastic recoil“

x

chest tendency to expand

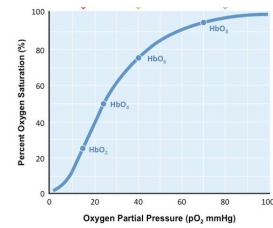
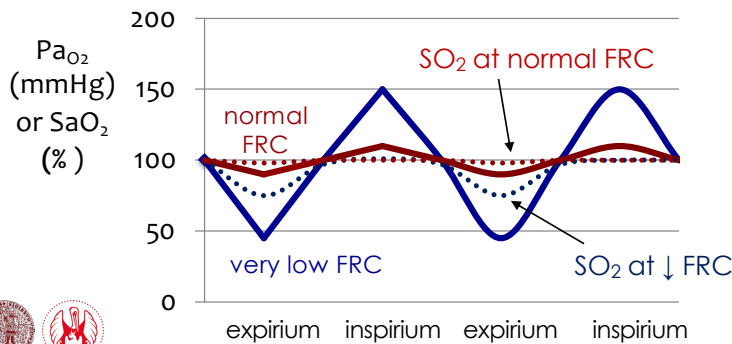
↓

FRC ~2 l (vs. 0.5 l  $V_T$ )



## Why FRC/RV?

- prevents collapse of airways & alveoli (→ compliance)
- buffers Pa<sub>O2</sub> extremes during breathing cycle (perfusion is steady → relatively stable Pa<sub>O2</sub>)



That is why we hyperventilate by increasing inspiration



## Measuring FRC: 2 tricks

■  $C_1 \times V_1 = C_2 \times V_2$  (= amount)

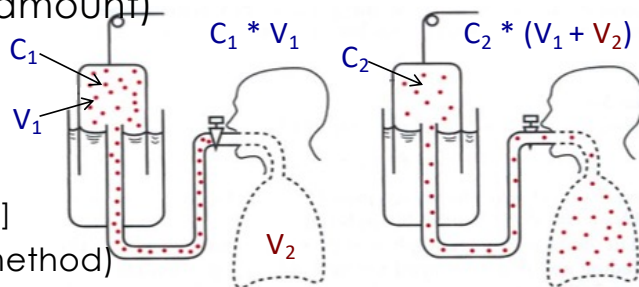
- He dilution (closed method)

- breathing from & into a bag w/ known initial [He]

- N<sub>2</sub> washout (open method)

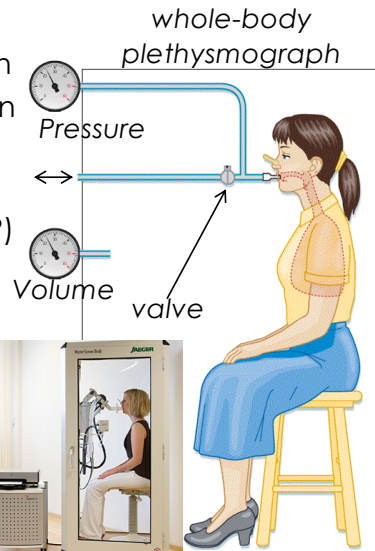
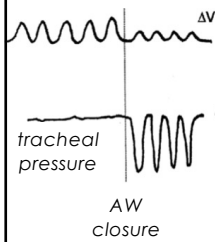
- inhaling from an O<sub>2</sub> storage, exhaling into empty bag
- N<sub>2</sub> amount:  $C_i \times FRC = C_s \times V_s$  ( $C_i$  = initial,  $C_s$  &  $V_s$  = in spirometer)

- after normal exhalation – FRC
- after max exhalation - RV

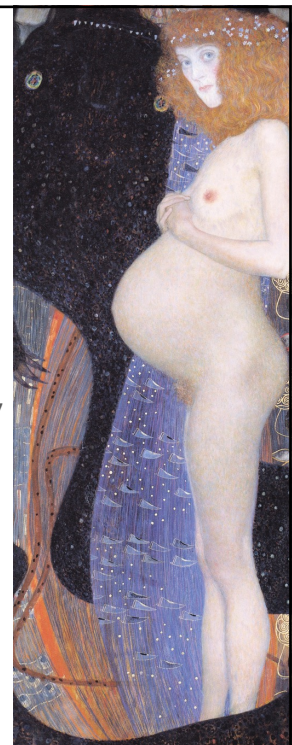
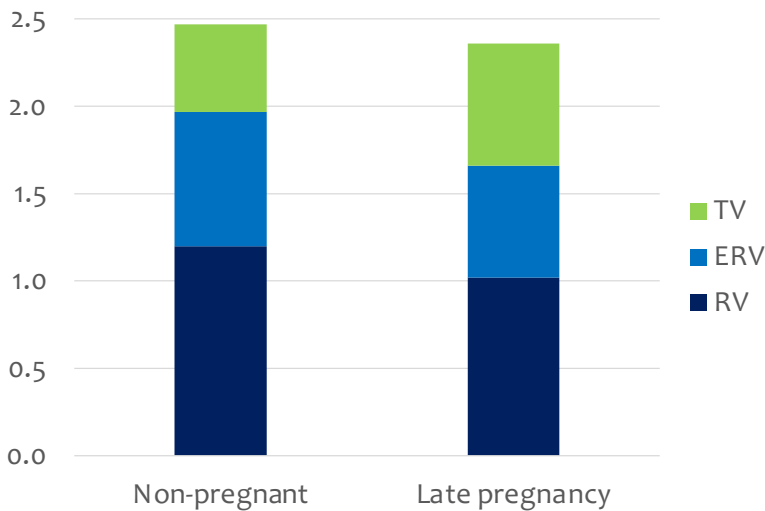


# Measuring FRC - plethysmograph

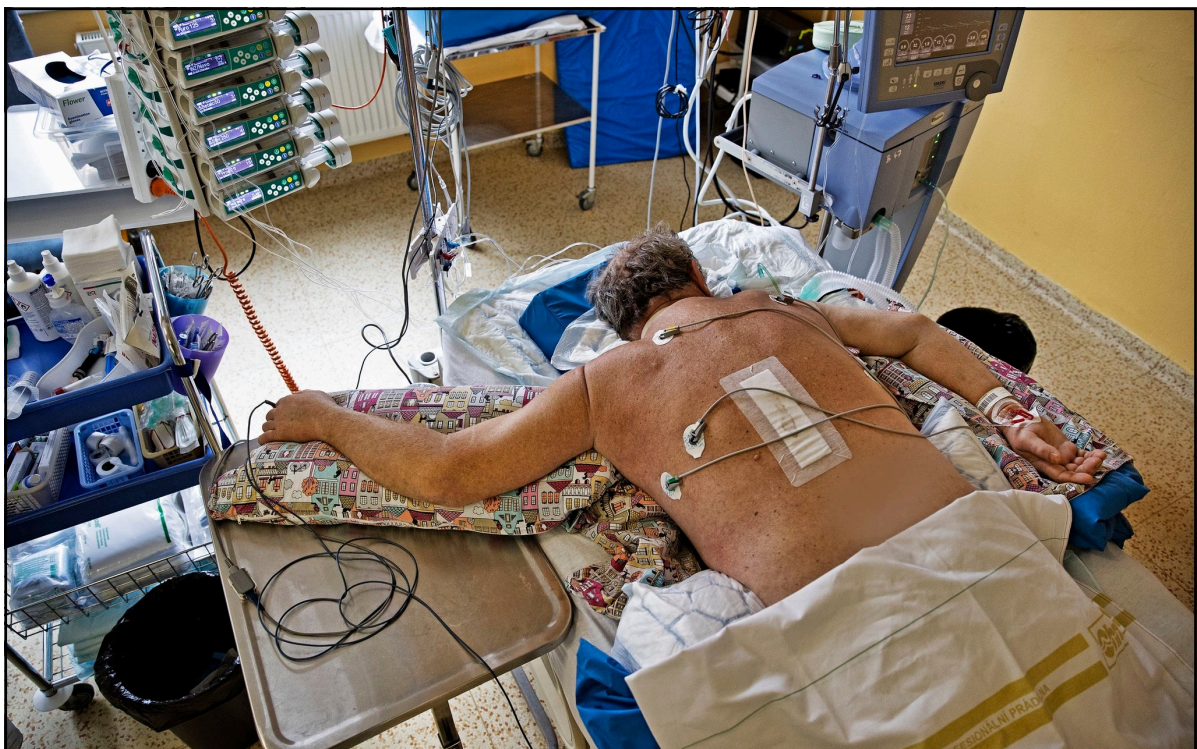
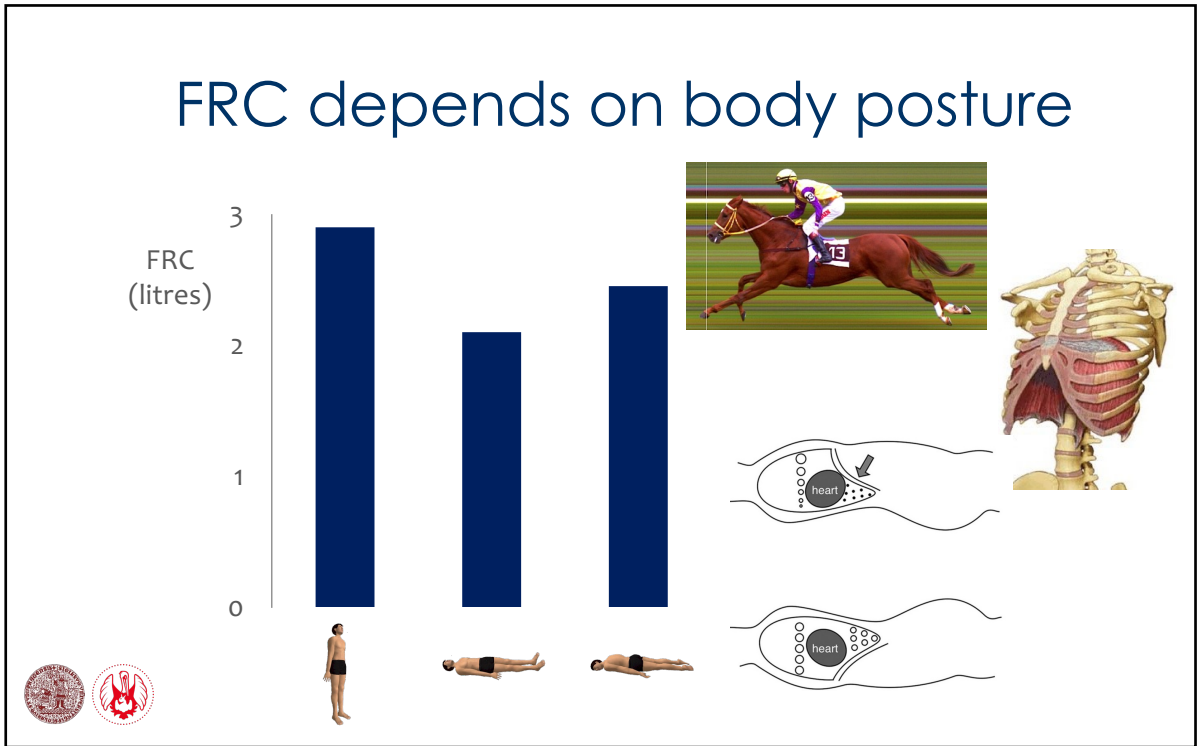
- $P_1 \times V_1 = P_2 \times V_2$  (Boyle's law)
  - breathing from outside w/ valve open
  - $P_1$  &  $V_1$  at the end of resting expiration ( $V_1 = \text{FRC}$ )
  - valve closed
  - small attempt at inspiration ( $\rightarrow \Delta V, \Delta P$ )
  - $P_2$  &  $V_2$  ( $P_1 - \Delta P; V_1 + \Delta V$ )
  - $P_1 \times \text{FRC} = (P_1 - \Delta P) \times (V_1 + \Delta V)$
  - $\text{FRC} = \Delta V \times ((P_1 - \Delta P) / \Delta P)$
- after max. expiration: RV

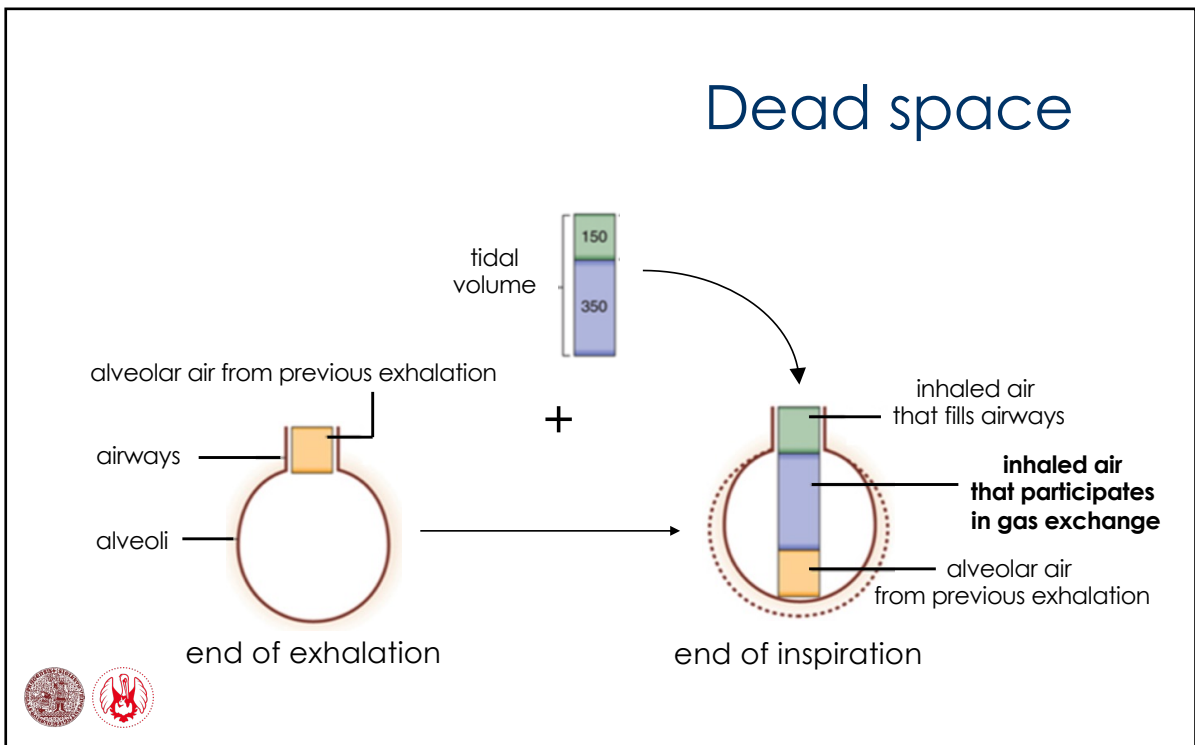
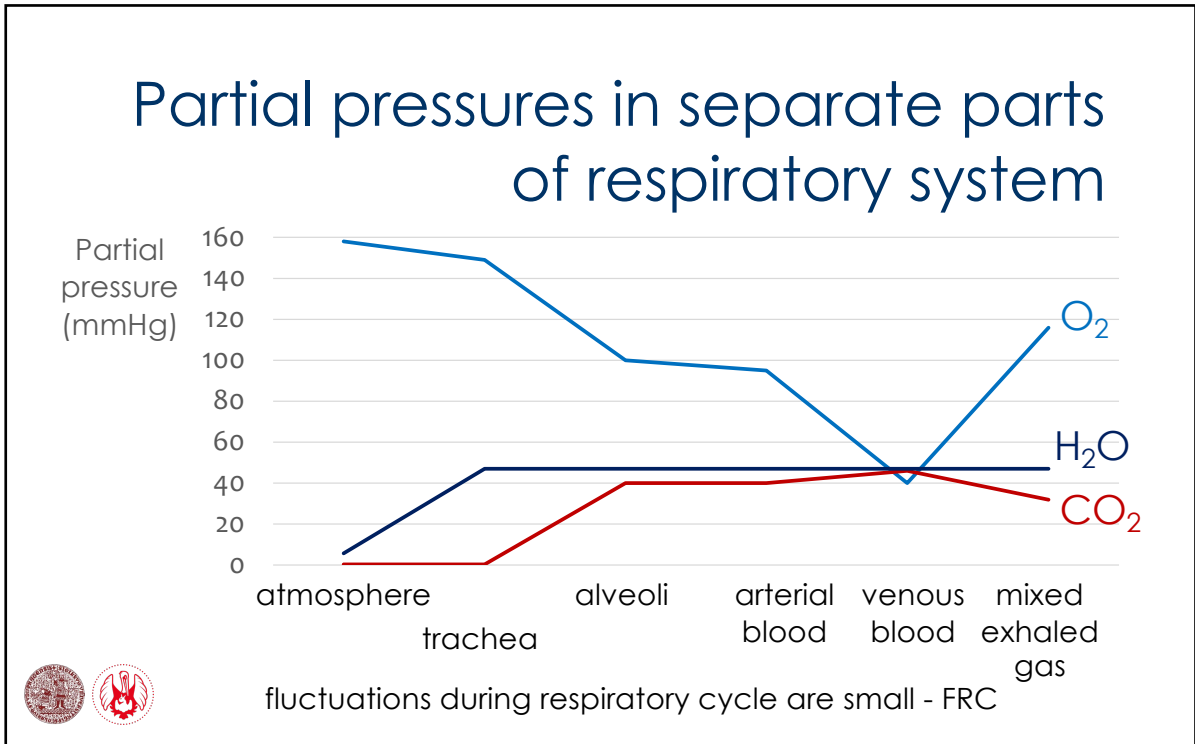


## FRC ↓ in pregnancy









## Dead space

- $V_T = V/t = V_T \cdot f$
- $V_T \sim 500 \text{ ml}$
- conducting airways  $\sim 150 \text{ ml}$   
(anatomical dead space)
  - on inspiration
    - $V_D$  contains alveolar air from previous exhalation
    - last portion of inhalation does not get to alveoli
- $V_A = (V_T - V_D) \cdot f$
- $V_D \sim 30\% V_T$

## Dead space ( $V_D$ )

- **volume, which is**
  - ventilated,
  - but does not participate in gas exchange
- anatomical
- functional



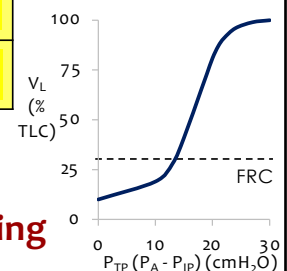
## Ventilation of anatomical dead space ( $\dot{V}_D$ )

- Part of minute ventilation ( $\dot{V} = V_T \cdot f$ ) ventilates only the dead space where there is no gas exchange
  - $\dot{V}_D = V_D \times f$
- Large  $V_D$  limits alveolar ventilation  $\dot{V}_A$  while maintaining  $\dot{V}$ 
  - $\dot{V}_E = \dot{V}_D + \dot{V}_A$



## Relationship between tidal volume, frequency & effective ventilation

Minute ventilation ml/min	Tidal volume ml	Frequency c/s	Alveolar ventilation ml/min	Dead space ventilation ml/min	Effective ventil. %
8000	500	16			

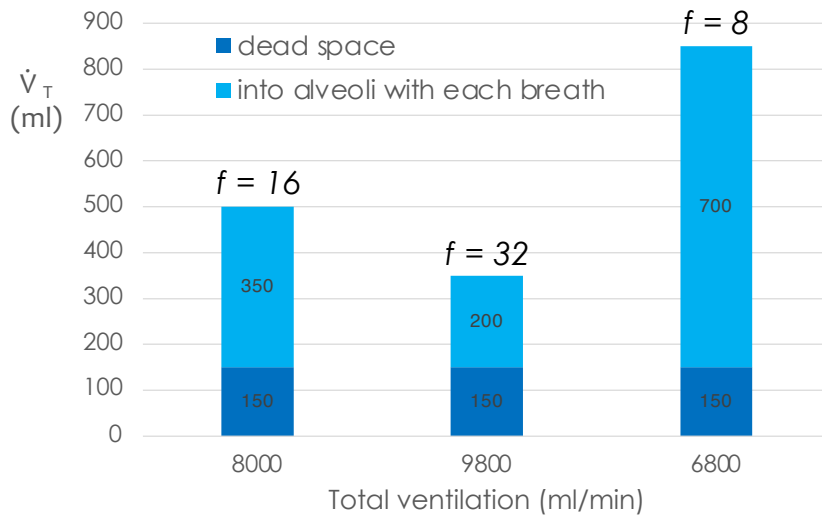


Why not to breathe with minimal frequency?

**Work of breathing**



## Effective ventilation calculator

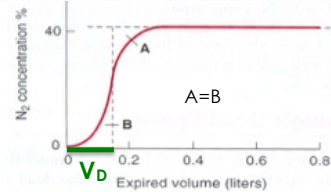
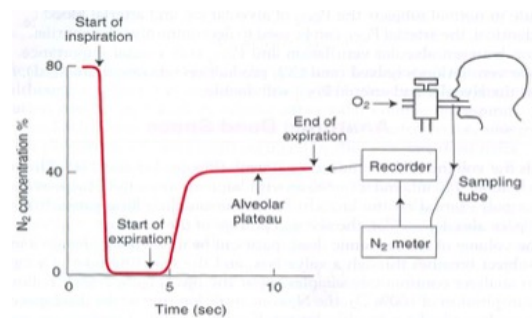


effective ventilation 5.6 l/min in all cases



## Measuring $V_D$ volume: Fowler

- single-breath  $N_2$  washout
  - 100%  $O_2$  (0%  $N_2$ ) inhaled
  - on exhalation, first 0%  $N_2$  from  $V_D$ , then mixture
- exhaled  $[CO_2]$ 
  - virtually 0%  $CO_2$  at inspiration



anatomical  $V_D$  only



## Measuring $V_D$ : Bohr

mixed exhaled  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $P_{\text{ECO}_2}$ )  
 $= \text{CO}_2$  from  $V_D$  +  $\text{CO}_2$  from  $V_A$

→ the higher  $V_D$  the more  $\text{CO}_2$  from  $V_D$  (~0)  
 "dilutes"  $\text{CO}_2$  from  $V_A$

$$V_D/V_T = (P_{\text{ACO}_2} - P_{\text{ECO}_2}) / P_{\text{ACO}_2} \quad (\text{Bohr equation})$$

$P_{\text{ACO}_2}$  – end-expiratory (or  $P_{\text{aCO}_2}$ )



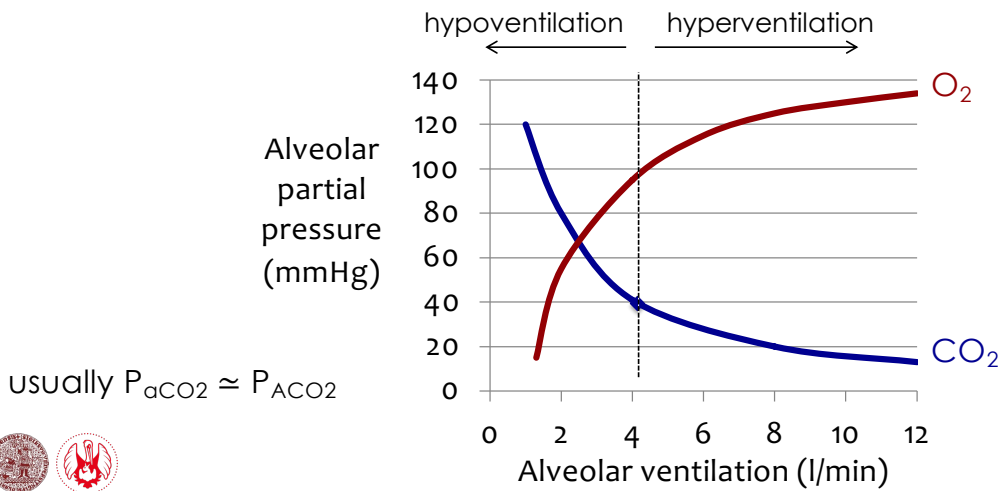
Both anatomical & alveolar  $V_D$

## Alveolar ventilation must get rid of all $\text{CO}_2$ produced in the body

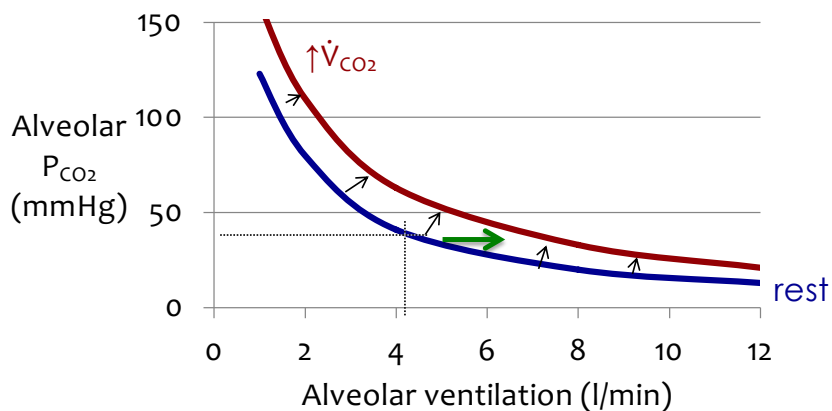
- at rest  $\dot{V}_{\text{CO}_2} \sim 200$  ml/min
- $\dot{V}_A \sim 4200$  ml/min (350 x 12)
- ↓
- 200 ml  $\text{CO}_2$  in 4200 ml of alveolar air → ~5%
- $\dot{V}_A = (K * \dot{V}_{\text{CO}_2}) / P_{\text{ACO}_2}$  ( $K = 0.863$ )  
 (alveolar ventilation equation)
- can be used to measure  $\dot{V}_A$  ( $P_{\text{ACO}_2} \sim P_{\text{aCO}_2}$ )



Alveolar  $P_{CO_2}$  inversely proportional to  $\dot{V}_A$  (respiratory hyperbole)



To maintain  $P_{ACO_2}$  with  $\uparrow \dot{V}_{CO_2}$   
 $\rightarrow \dot{V}_A$  must  $\uparrow$



## Measuring $D_L$

- CO instead of  $O_2$
- similar  $D_L$  to  $O_2$
- $P_{vCO} = 0$

## Měření $D_L$

- CO místo  $O_2$
- $D_L$  podobná  $O_2$  (koeficient)
- $P_{vCO} = 0$
- $D_{LCO} = \dot{V}_{CO} / (P_{ACO} - P_{vCO})$
- úbytek CO z alveolárního vzduch během zadržetí dechu

