



**SIMON MAZORODZE SCHOOL OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH  
SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES: PHYSIOLOGY UNIT**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN  
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES**

**LEVEL 1 SEMESTER 2**

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION: PAPER I**

<b>MODULE CODE:</b>	<b>BMS104</b>
<b>MODULE NARRATION:</b>	<b>PHYSIOLOGY</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>6 DECEMBER 2024</b>
<b>DURATION:</b>	<b>2 HOURS</b>

**INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES:**

1. Answer all multiple choice questions (MCQs), answer **True (T)** or **False (F)** on the answer sheet provided. Indicate the correct answer by putting a circle around the correct answer and putting an X to cancel a wrong answer.
2. Negative marking will be applied for all MCQs. You are awarded one mark for a correct answer and one mark shall be deducted for every wrong answer and zero mark is awarded for not answering.
3. The question paper is comprised of **60 MCQs**. Each question carries 5 marks and the paper has a total of **300 marks**.
4. This paper is constituted by the following 7 courses: **Blood, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Renal and Exercise Physiology**.
5. Paper I shall contribute 50%; **Paper II, 50** of the final examination mark.
6. This paper consists of **12 printed pages** including this cover page

**1. The sino-atrial node (SAN):**

- a. Is a cardiac pacemaker.
- b. The beta-adrenergic blocking agents increase the firing rate of the SAN.
- c. Cells have a stable resting membrane potential.
- d. Depolarisation corresponds with the P-wave on an electrocardiograph recording.
- e. Depolarises before the atrioventricular (A-V) node.

**2. Identify the True and the False statement(s):**

- a. In postural hypotension, a decrease in venous return is caused by gravitational effects.
- b. Blood in the systemic veins carries more oxygen than the pulmonary veins.
- c. Coronary blood flow is greater in systole than in diastole.
- d. Venous return is decreased when intrathoracic pressure increases.
- e. Venous return is enhanced during inspiration.

**3. Identify the True and the False statement(s):**

- a. Isovolumetric contraction occurs when cardiac valves are closed.
- b. Ventricular systole lasts longer than ventricular diastole.
- c. In the electrocardiogram recording heart rate is calculated from the R-R interval.
- d. In the electrocardiogram recording atrial repolarisation is masked by the QRS complex.
- e. The P-R interval increases during exercise as compared to at rest.

**4. Identify the True and the False statement(s):**

- a. The pulse rate change with exercise is due to an increased sympathetic activation.
- b. The pulse rate change with exercise is caused by activation of the atrioventricular node.
- c. The change in systolic blood pressure observed during exercise is due to an increased stroke volume.
- d. The change in systolic blood pressure observed during exercise is due to an increased total peripheral resistance.
- e. Pulse volume decreases with exercise.

**5. Compared with a healthy person, a patient with increased cardiac wall tension has:**

- a. A greater myocardial oxygen demand.
- b. Increased left ventricular wall thickness.
- c. Decreased end-diastolic volume.
- d. An increased ejection fraction.
- e. Angina during exercise.

**6. Right-sided heart failure results in:**

- a. dyspnoea.
- b. nausea.
- c. a raised jugular venous pressure.
- d. right atrial hypertrophy.
- e. an increased left atrial pressure.

**7. Identify the True and the False statement(s):**

- a. During heart failure, additional heart sounds are heard.
- b. The first heart sound results from the closing of the semilunar valves.
- c. The second heart sound occurs when the pulmonary valve closes.
- d. The third heart sound occurs during isovolumetric relaxation.
- e. The fourth heart sound occurs during the last third of diastole.

**8. Cardiac output:**

- a. increases with an increase in stroke volume
- b. is higher in the left ventricle as compared to the right ventricle
- c. increases with an increase in plasma epinephrine concentration
- d. decreases with an increase in myocardial contractility
- e. is increased by an increase in end diastolic volume

**9. Venous return is increased:**

- a. by venodilation
- b. by increased skeletal muscle activity
- c. during respiratory inspiration
- d. by an increased heart rate
- e. by standing as compared to lying down

**10. Identify the correct and incorrect statement(s):**

- a. laminar blood flow does not produce any sound
- b. a stenotic valve is a stiff narrowed valve that does not close completely
- c. an incompetent valve is one that cannot open completely
- d. both stenotic and incompetent valves cause murmurs
- e. an insufficient valve creates a swishing or gurgling murmur

**11. Starling's law of the heart:**

- a. Does not operate in the failing heart.
- b. Does not operate during exercise.
- c. Explains the increase in heart rate produced by exercise.
- d. Explains the increase in cardiac output that occurs when venous return is increased.
- e. Explains the increase in cardiac output when the sympathetic nerves supplying the heart are stimulated

**12. Myocardial Infarction causes:**

- a. Peaked T waves
- b. S-T segment elevation
- c. S-T segment depression
- d. T wave inversion
- e. Deep Q waves

**13. Normal renal tubular function include:**

- a. formation of ammonia
- b. reabsorption of up to 50% of the water of the glomerular filtrate
- c. reabsorption of all the glucose in the glomerular filtrate
- d. secretion of urea
- e. formation of bicarbonate

**14. Hydrostatic pressure in renal glomerular capillaries:**

- a. is lower than pressure in efferent arterioles.
- b. rises when afferent arterioles constrict.
- c. rises higher than in most capillaries at heart level.
- d. falls by 10 per cent when arterial pressure falls by 10 per cent.
- e. falls along the length of the capillary.

**15. The cells of the distal convoluted tubule:**

- a. reabsorb about 50 per cent of the water filtered by the glomeruli.
- b. secrete hydrogen ions into the tubular lumen.
- c. form ammonium ions.
- d. reabsorb sodium in exchange for hydrogen or potassium ions.
- e. determine the final composition of urine

**16. The proximal convoluted tubules:**

- a. reabsorb most of the sodium ions in the glomerular filtrate.
- b. reabsorb most of the chloride ions in glomerular filtrate.
- c. reabsorb most of the potassium ions in glomerular filtrate.
- d. contain juxtaglomerular cells which secrete rennin.
- e. contain the main target cells for antidiuretic hormone

**17. Diabetes insipidus (deficiency of antidiuretic hormone) causes a fall in the:**

- a. osmolality of the urine.
- b. reabsorption of water from the proximal tubules.
- c. extracellular but not intracellular fluid volume.
- d. extracellular fluid osmolality.
- e. intracellular fluid osmolality

**18. A drug which inhibits carbonic anhydrase decreases:**

- a. bicarbonate formation and reabsorption in the kidney.
- b. plasma bicarbonate levels.
- c. blood pH.
- d. urinary loss of potassium ions.
- e. urinary volume and pH.

**19. Renal reabsorption of sodium ions in the distal tubule is increased by:**

- a. atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP)
- b. aldosterone
- c. diuretics
- d. an increased plasma potassium ion concentration
- e. a decrease in the activity of  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$  ATPase

**20. Carbonic acid:**

- a. is formed in the presence of carbonic anhydrase
- b. is a strong acid
- c. is formed in plasma during hypoventilation
- d. concentration in plasma is greater than the plasma bicarbonate concentration
- e. is formed when hydrogen ions are in excess

**21. The activity of the Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> ATPase pump is increased by an increase in the plasma concentration of:**

- a. aldosterone
- b. potassium
- c. atrial natriuretic peptide
- d. erythropoietin
- e. angiotensin II

**22. Effects of acidosis include:**

- a. coma
- b. tetany (tonic spasm)
- c. hypoventilation
- d. decreased urine pH
- e. decreased renal bicarbonate (HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>)

**23. Urea:**

- a. And glucose have similar molar concentrations in normal blood.
- b. Concentration rises in tubular fluid as the glomerular filtrate passes down the nephron.
- c. Is actively secreted by the renal tubular cells into the tubular fluid.
- d. Concentration in blood may rise ten-fold after a high-protein meal.
- e. causes a diuresis when its blood concentration is increased

**24. Aldosterone:**

- a. is a hormone secreted by the adrenal medulla.
- b. production ceases following removal of the kidneys and their juxtaglomerular cells.
- c. production decreases in treatment with drugs which block angiotensin-converting enzyme.
- d. secretion results in increased potassium reabsorption by the nephron.
- e. secretion results in a fall in urinary pH.

**25. Exercise physiology is concerned with:**

- a. rehabilitation of heart disease and other chronic diseases and/or disabilities
- b. the professional guidance and counsel of athletes.
- c. human adaptability to acute and chronic exercise.
- d. maintenance of health and fitness.
- e. identification of physiological mechanisms underlying physical activity.

**26. Concerning respiration during exercise:**

- a. A rightward shift of the O<sub>2</sub> - Hb dissociation curve is caused by increased pH.
- b. A rightward shift of the O<sub>2</sub> - Hb dissociation curve is caused by decreased PO<sub>2</sub>.
- c. A rightward shift of the O<sub>2</sub> - Hb dissociation curve is caused by decreased temperature
- d. Muscle, as a proprioceptor, increases ventilation.
- e. Plasma epinephrine decreases ventilation

**27. Concerning regulation of blood pressure:**

- a. There is a linear increase in systolic blood pressure in normotensive individuals, and the diastolic pressure value remains near the rest level
- b. Systolic blood pressure can reach peak values of 200 to 249 mmHg in normotensive individuals.
- c. Hypertensive individuals reach higher systolic and diastolic blood pressures at a given rate of work, and the diastolic pressure value remains near rest level
- d. Two to three hours post-exercise blood pressure is higher than pre-exercising values.
- e. Hypertension patients have increased peripheral resistance compared to normal, and this is a major cause of their higher average blood pressure.

**28. Concerning oxygen storage:**

- a. Approximately 0.5 liter is stored in the air of the lungs.
- b. Approximately 0.25 liter is dissolved in the body fluids.
- c. Approximately 1 liter is combined with the hemoglobin of the blood.
- d. Approximately 0.3 liter stored in the muscle fibers combined mainly with hemoglobin.
- e. In heavy exercise, almost all the stored oxygen is used within a minute of aerobic metabolism.

**29. Severe sweating due to exercise can cause:**

- a. An increase in plasma volume.
- b. An increase in plasma aldosterone.
- c. A decrease in GFR.
- d. An increase in plasma vasopressin.
- e. An increase in plasma osmolarity.

**30. True or false:**

- a. Endurance training leads to an increase in the density and capacity of mitochondria within the muscle cells
- b. Muscle contraction acts upon the skeleton and initiates movement.
- c. Resistance training decreases the strength of the connective tissue within the muscle-tendon unit.
- d. The primary fuel source for high-intensity, short-duration exercise is stored glycogen in the skeletal muscles.
- e. Accumulation of lactic acid as the primary cause of muscle fatigue.

**31. True or false:**

- a. Exercise will cause the bones to increase their mineral density over time to manage the increasing load.
- b. The central and peripheral control systems work together to control cardiopulmonary activity.
- c. Isotonic contraction uses more energy per muscle contraction than isometric contraction.
- d. IGF-1 is secreted during exercise by the liver and stimulates growth.
- e. Diffusion capacity of oxygen at rest is 23ml/min.

**32. Concerning the level of exercises:**

- a. Moderate exercises are above the subject's anaerobic threshold and arterial blood lactate is not raised.
- b. During moderate exercise the subject can transport all the oxygen required and is in a steady state
- c. During heavy exercises the subject's the anaerobic threshold but the arterial blood lactate elevation remains constant.
- d. Heavy exercise is regarded as a steady state.
- e. During severe exercise, the anaerobic threshold and the arterial blood lactate continues to rise.

**33. Concerning energy during exercise:**

- a. It is the strength and vitality required for sustained physical or mental activity
- b. The anaerobic glycolytic system, relies on the breakdown of muscle glycogen to produce ATP during high intensity exercise.
- c. In the phosphogen system ATP is the immediate energy source for cellular processes, but its availability is limited within the cell
- d. The aerobic energy system relies on the complete oxidation of glucose.
- e. The oxidative system provides energy for weightlifting

**34. The following is/are the benefit(s) of exercise training in heart failure patients:**

- a. Decrease in dead space
- b. Increase in neurohormones
- c. Decrease in sympathetic/parasympathetic balance.
- d. Decrease in endothelial dysfunction.
- e. Decrease in fat infiltration.

**35. Concerning skeletal muscle:**

- a. exercise places a burden of stress on muscle fibres and bones which causes micro-tears and trauma.
- b. Satellite cells play a role in muscle repair and growth process.
- c. is responsible for as much as 85 of body heat, which is vital for enzymatic reactions.
- d. fibres are striated and uninucleated.
- e. overloading exercise training can result in hypertrophy.

**36. Concerning types of muscle fibres:**

- a. Type I are known as slow twitch fibres.
- b. Type I has low myosin ATPase activity.
- c. Type IIa are known as fast twitch oxidative fibres.
- d. Type IIa has low myosin ATPase activity.
- e. Type IIa T fibres are recruited for power activities.

**37. Regarding doping:**

- a. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) publishes a list of prohibited substances and methods
- b. Androgenic Anabolic Steroids can cause aggressive behaviour.
- c. Use of Human Growth Hormone can cause diabetes.
- d. Erythropoietin (EPO) can cause an increase in blood pressure.
- e. Stimulants cause nerve damage.

**38. Which of the following lung volumes or capacities can be measured by spirometry?**

- a. Functional residual capacity FRC.
- b. Physiologic dead space
- c. Residual volume RV.
- d. Total lung capacity TLC.
- e. Vital capacity VC.

**39. The pH of venous blood is only slightly more acidic than the pH of arterial blood because**

- a.  $\text{CO}_2$  is a weak base
- b. There is no carbonic anhydrase in venous blood
- c. The  $\text{H}^+$  generated from  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is buffered by  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  in venous blood
- d. The  $\text{H}^+$  generated from  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is buffered by deoxyhemoglobin in venous blood
- e. Oxyhemoglobin is a better buffer for  $\text{H}^+$  than deoxyhemoglobin

**40. Regarding the carotid bodies, all the following is/are true:**

- a. Are stretch receptors in the walls of the internal carotid arteries
- b. Have the greatest flow rate/unit volume in the body
- c. Are influenced more by blood  $\text{PO}_2$  than by its oxygen content
- d. Generate more afferent impulses when blood  $\text{H}^+$  ion concentration rises
- e. And the aortic bodies are mainly responsible for the increased ventilation in hypoxia

**41. Carbon dioxide is carried in the blood in the following forms:**

- a. Combination with the haemoglobin molecule
- b. Combination with plasma proteins
- c. Physical solution in plasma
- d. Greater quantity in red blood cells than in plasma
- e. Greater quantity of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  ions than in other forms

**42. Bronchial asthma is likely to be relieved by all the following:**

- a. Stimulation of cholinergic receptors
- b. Stimulation of beta-adrenoceptors
- c. Histamine aerosols
- d. Drugs that stabilize mast cell membranes
- e. Glucocorticoids

**43. Which of the following is/are a function(s) of the lungs?**

- a. Metabolism
- b. Serves as a reservoir of blood for the left ventricle
- c. It is a filter to protect the systemic vasculature
- d. Facilitates the exchange of O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> between air and blood
- e. Enables phonation

**44. Which of the following is/are true concerning the relationships of the variables in the diffusion of O<sub>2</sub> across a membrane?**

- a. Doubling the thickness of the membrane would cut the total flow of O<sub>2</sub> in half
- b. Doubling the area of the membrane would double the total flow of O<sub>2</sub>
- c. If you increased the alveolar concentration of O<sub>2</sub>, you would increase the total flow of O<sub>2</sub> across the alveolar membrane
- d. The lower the diffusion coefficient, the higher the total flow
- e. Increasing the arterial concentration of O<sub>2</sub> would decrease the total flow of O<sub>2</sub>

**45. The following is/are normal occurrence(s) with increasing age**

- a. Vital capacity of the lung decreases
- b. Residual volume increases
- c. Functional residual capacity increases
- d. Inspiratory capacity decreases
- e. Expiratory reserve volume increases

**46. Ventilation in the healthy lung:**

- a. Dead space comprises both anatomic and physiological space.
- b. Physiological dead space is much greater than anatomical dead space.
- c. Minute ventilation is greater than alveolar minute ventilation.
- d. Ventilation per unit lung tissue is higher at the top of the lung.
- e. The V/Q ratio is slightly more than 1.

**47. The following statements relate to the pulmonary circulation:**

- a. The volume of blood is much lower than the systemic circulation.
- b. Alveolar vessels will dilate as the lung expands.
- c. Histamine will increase pulmonary vascular resistance.
- d. Low P<sub>a</sub>O<sub>2</sub> will cause hypoxic vasoconstriction.
- e. Hydrostatic pressure can recruit more vessels.

**48. The following statements relate to lung volumes:**

- a. Functional residual capacity is the amount of air left within the lung following a maximal expiration.
- b. Vital capacity is usually about 4800 mL in the upright 70kg male subject.
- c. Tidal volume can be measured by spirometry.
- d. Total lung volume is normally increased in fibrosing alveolitis.
- e. The ratio of FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC is usually greater than 80% in asthmatics.

**49. The increase in (physiological) dead space would be expected with:**

- a. Pulmonary embolism
- b. Atelectasis (or: collapse of one lung)
- c. Pneumothorax
- d. Bronchoconstriction
- e. Obesity

**50. The homeostasis involves:**

- a. clotting pathways.
- b. fibrinolytic pathways.
- c. maintenance of steady states in the body.
- d. stoppage of bleeding after injury.
- e. maintenance of a constant visceral luminal environment

**51. The earliest blood precursors identifiable in the embryo are localised to the yolk sac and are called:**

- a. Haemangioblasts
- b. Myeloblasts
- c. Erythroblasts
- d. Megakaryocytes
- e. Burst forming units – erythroid

**52. Regarding normal plasma proteins:**

- a. Albumin is the main protein in plasma
- b. Globulin and albumin are found in equal amounts in plasma
- c. Albumin is an important carrier molecule for drugs, metabolites etc
- d. Albumin is an important contributor to oncotic pressure
- e. Immunoglobulins are gamma globulin in nature

**53. Regarding body fluids:**

- a. Extracellular fluid includes plasma
- b. Only interstitial fluid constitutes extracellular fluid
- c. Intracellular fluid is mainly made up of water
- d. Interstitial fluid drains into the vascular system within the lungs
- e. Red blood cell intracellular fluid comprises haemoglobin only

**54. The following features of the red blood cell make it ideal for its function:**

- a. Its perfectly spherical shape which maximises their surface area to absorb oxygen
- b. Contain haemoglobin which binds to oxygen
- c. Biphospholipid layer membrane's fluidity
- d. Lack of endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi apparatus, granules and nucleus
- e. It is small and flexible so it can fit through narrow vessels

**55. Regarding the distribution of iron in a normal adult:**

- a. 65 % in haemoglobin
- b. 4 % is in myoglobin
- c. 15 to 30 % is in the storage form (ferritin)
- d. 1 % heme containing compounds (non-haemoglobin heme)
- e. 0.1% transferrin in the plasma

**56. Regarding sickle cell anaemia:**

- a. Anaemia may result from increased red cell haemolysis
- b. Sickle cell haemoglobin forms insoluble crystals under low oxygen conditions.
- c. A child will have sickle cell anaemia if one parents pass on the sickle cell gene
- d. It results from a single codon abnormality
- e. It may result in jaundice due to increased red cell haemolysis

**57. Concerning the body's response to bleeding:**

- a. Vasoconstriction and platelet adhesion to injured site are the initial steps.
- b. Platelet aggregation follows the initial platelet adhesion.
- c. Fibrin deposition is part of secondary haemostasis
- d. Activated platelets release ADP
- e. Heavy bleeding consumes large amounts of platelets and clotting factors

**58. Regarding blood groups:**

- a. Blood group antigens are located in the red blood cell's endoplasmic reticulum
- b. The Rh blood group system is the most clinically important blood group system
- c. Adults of blood group O have anti-A and anti-B antibodies in their plasma
- d. Adults of blood group AB have both blood group A and B antigens on their red blood cells
- e. Adults of blood group O may be transfused blood from A, B and AB donors

**59. In haemostasis:**

- a. Fibrinogen is converted to fibrin
- b. The initial vasoconstriction does not require platelet activation
- c. Thrombin converts Factor XI to activated Factor XI
- d. Severe deficiency of clotting Factor VII results in severe Haemophilia A
- e. Severe deficiency of clotting Factor IX results in Haemophilia B.

**60. About sickle cell anaemia:**

- a. Number one single-gene disorder in the world
- b. If untreated, 90% die in childhood
- c. Approximately 300,000 children are born with sickle cell disease (SCD) each year
- d. results from the single substitution of glutamic acid for valine at amino acid 6 in the 146-amino-acid chain of the  $\beta$ -haemoglobin chain
- e. Is an example of a gain of function mutation

**All the best.**

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**END OF QUESTION PAPER**