

# CRRT: The Technical Questions Modality & Dose

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# Case

A 24YOM with HTN and OSA presents with acute pancreatitis. Despite aggressive fluid resuscitation and antibiotics for sepsis, he develops oliguric AKI with hyperkalemia. He is intubated on FIO<sub>2</sub> 80% and is requiring vasopressin and norepinephrine. He is febrile and weighs 100 kg. He is on antibiotics and IV bicarbonate infusion. His labs are as follows:

Na 138 meq/L, K 6.5 meq/L, Cl 109 meq/L, HCO<sub>3</sub> 22 meq/L, BUN 22 mg/dL, Creatinine 3.1 mg/dL (274 µmol/L); ABG: 7.21/pCO<sub>2</sub> 40 mmHg/pO<sub>2</sub> 108 mmHg on 80% FIO<sub>2</sub>; WBC 13,000, Hct 30%, Platelets 104,000; Lactic acid 1.8 mmol/L; INR 1.6; Total Bili 3.2 mg/dL; ALT 694 U/L; AST 640 U/L; and CPK 22,000 U/L. He is 9 liters positive over last 24 hours.

# Case

Which CRRT modality do you place him on?

- A. CVVH with pre-filter RF
- B. CVVH with post-filter RF
- C. CVVH with pre- and post-filter RF
- D. CVVHD
- E. CVVHDF with pre-filter RF
- F. CVVHDF with post-filter RF
- G. CVVHDF with pre- and post- filter RF
- H. Any of the above
- I. None of the above
- J. I don't know

# CRRT Treatment Goals

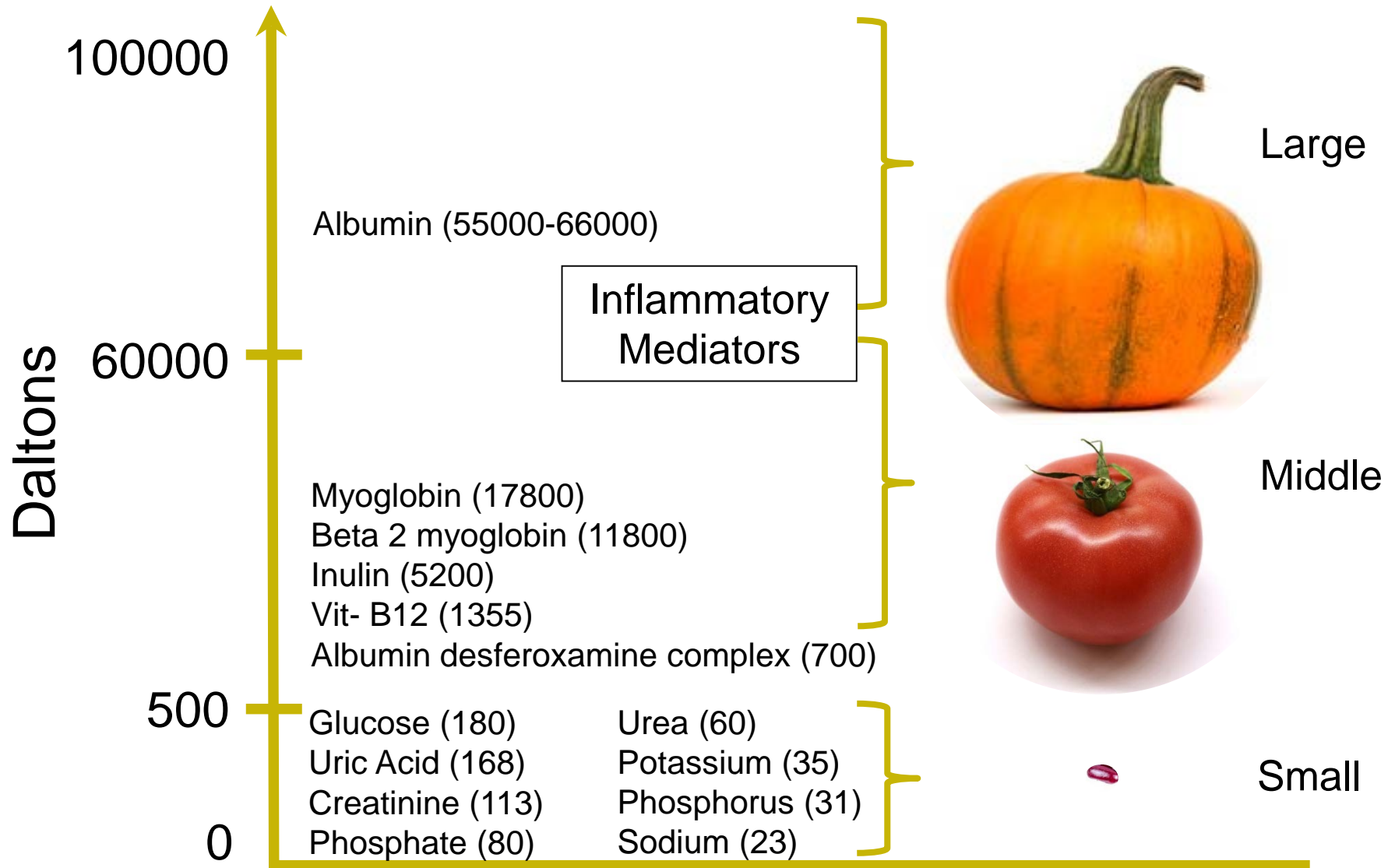
- Volume control
- Metabolic control
- Solute clearance
- Safe anticoagulation with minimal clotting

# CRRT for AKI

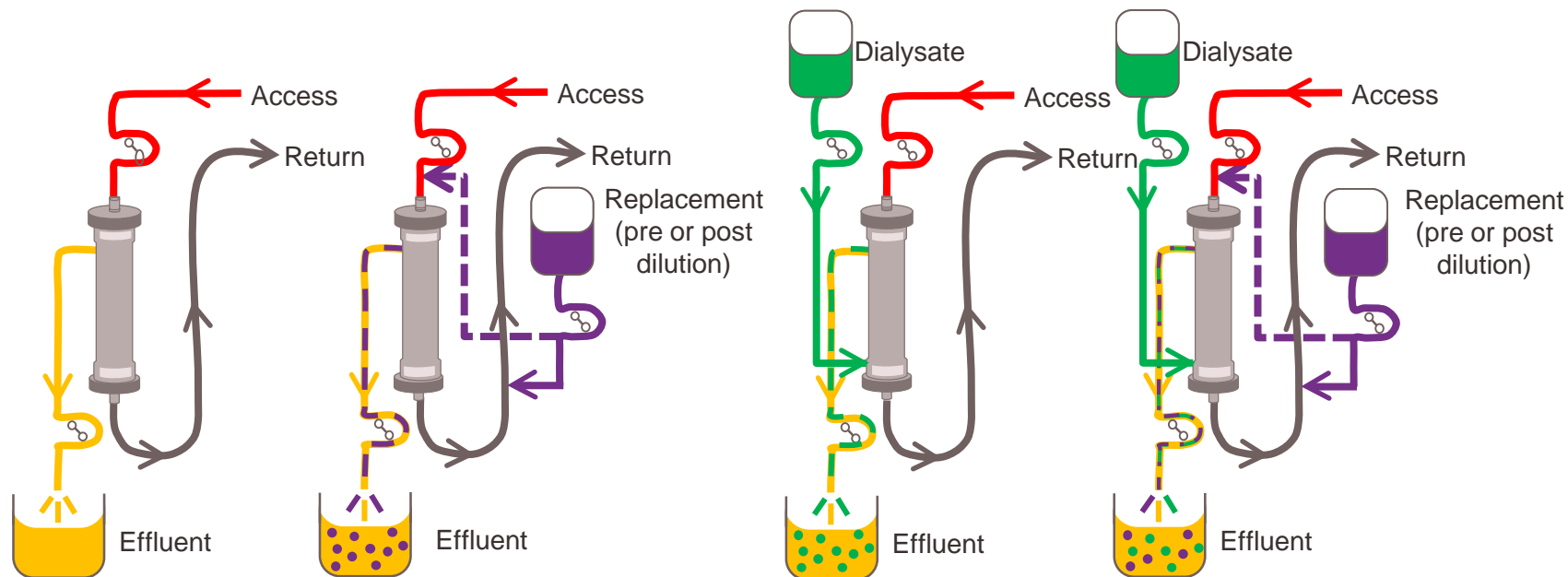
## The Technical Questions

- What are the critical elements of the CRRT prescription?
  - CRRT modality
  - Dose
  - Anticoagulation
  - Solutions

# Molecular Weights



# CRRT Modalities



## SCUF

- No solute clearance
- Used for fluid removal

## CVVH

- Solute clearance: convection
- Operative fluid: RF

## CVVHD

- Solute clearance: diffusion
- Operative fluid: dialysate

## CVVHDF

- Solute clearance: diffusion and convection
- Operative fluids: RF and dialysate

# Solute Clearance with CRRT

CVVH

CVVHD

CVVHDF



# Calculating Solute Clearance

- Generic Clearance =
  - Mass removal rate / Blood concentration
  - Effluent flow rate x Effluent concentration/Blood concentration
  - $K = Q_E \times C_E / C_B$

# Calculating Solute Clearance

## Effluent Rate (ml/hr) Definition

- CVVH: Total UF Rate (ml/hr) = Pre-Filter Replacement Fluid Rate (ml/hr) + Post-Filter Replacement Fluid Rate (ml/hr) + Fluid Removal Rate (ml/hr)
- CVVHD: Dialysate Rate (ml/hr) + Fluid Removal Rate (ml/hr)
- CVVHDF: Total UF Rate (ml/hr) + Dialysate Rate (ml/hr) = Pre-Filter Replacement Fluid Rate (ml/hr) + Post-Filter Replacement Fluid Rate (ml/hr) + Fluid Removal Rate (ml/hr) + Dialysate Rate (ml/hr)

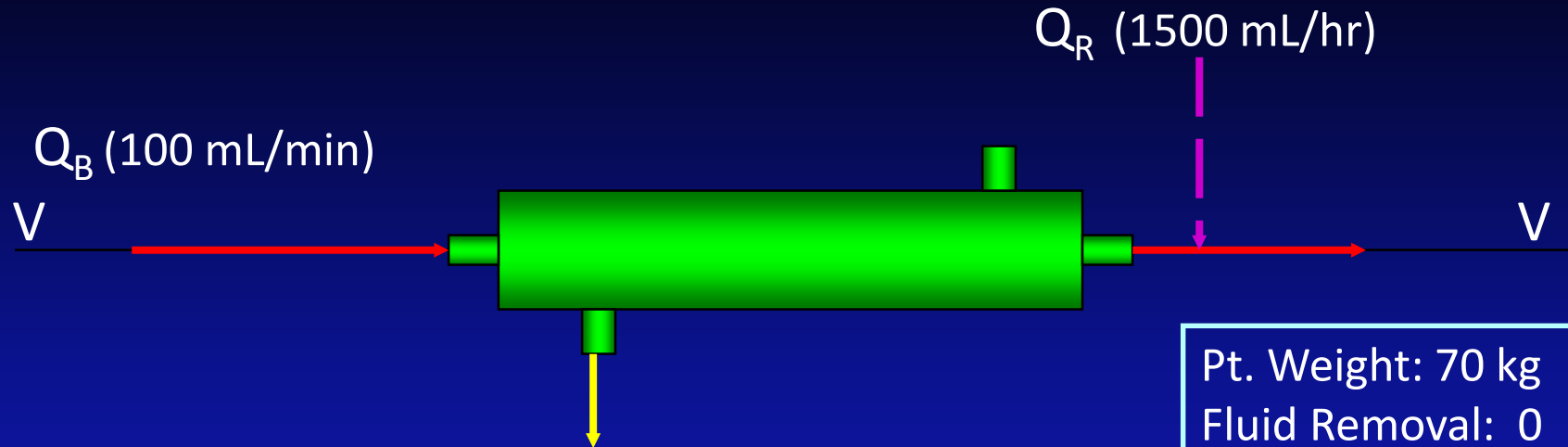
# Calculating Solute Clearance

- Using urea as solute
  - $Q_E \ll Q_B$  ( 17-50 ml/min vs. 150-200 ml/min)
  - Equilibrium achieved ( $C_E = C_B$ )
- $C_E/C_B = \sigma =$  Sieving Coefficient
- Sieving coefficients for small MW molecules such as urea = 1
- $K = Q_E \times C_E/C_B = Q_E \times 1$  (for urea) =  $Q_E$
- Dose for CRRT is expressed as the effluent rate in ml/hr ( $Q_E$ ) divided by patient weight = ml/kg/hr

# CVVH

- Post-filter (post-dilution) replacement
- Pre-filter (pre-dilution) replacement
- Can be split into pre and post dilution replacement fluid

# CVVH Post-Dilution RF



Pt. Weight: 70 kg  
Fluid Removal: 0  
Hct: 30%  
Dose:  $1500 / 70 = 21 \text{ ml/kg/hr}$

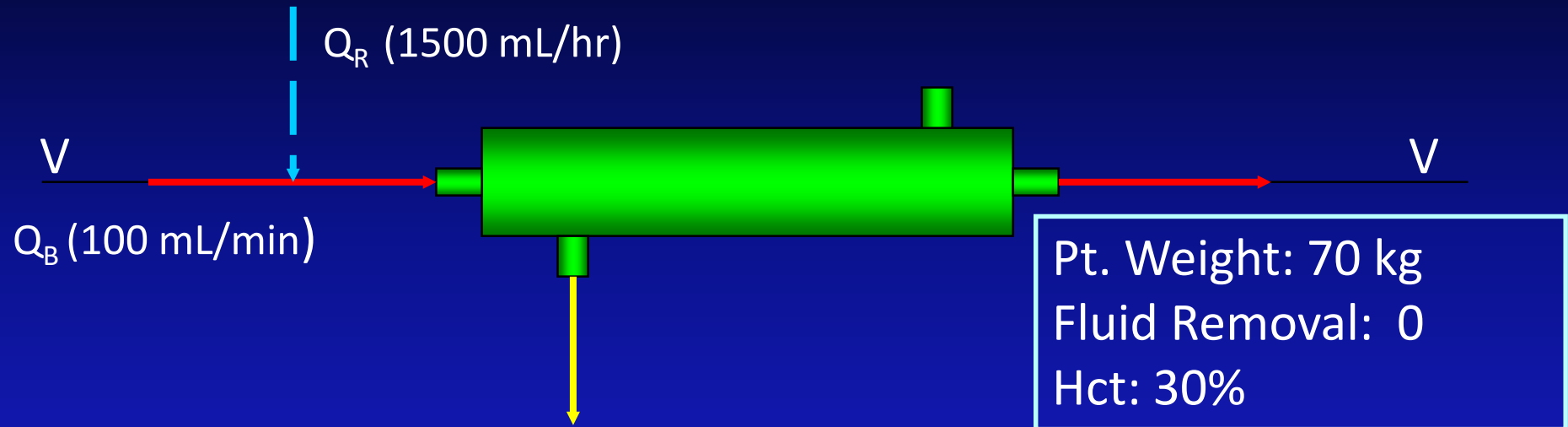
- Filtration Fraction (FF) =  $Q_{\text{totalUF}} / Q_p + Q_{\text{Pre-filter RF}}$ 
  - $Q_{\text{TotalUF}}$  = Total Ultrafiltration Rate\*
  - $Q_p$  = Plasma Flow Rate
  - Filtration Fraction (FF) = Total Ultrafiltration Rate / (Plasma Flow Rate + Pre-Filter Replacement Fluid Rate)
- Filter clotting with  $FF > 20\text{-}25\%$
- $FF = 1500 / [6000 \times (1 - 0.30)] = 0.36$

\*Remember Total UF = Replacement Fluid Rate (Pre and Post) + Fluid Removal Rate

# Pre-Dilution Replacement Fluid

- Decreases filtration fraction
- Diminishes solute clearance by diluting blood reaching dialyzer
- Dilution Factor:
$$\frac{Q_p}{Q_p + Q_R}$$
- $Q_p$  = blood water flow rate at the blood pump =  $Q_B \times (1-HCT)$
- Pre-dilutional CVVH clearance
  - $K = Q_E \times [Q_p / (Q_p + Q_R)]$

# CVVH Pre-Dilution RF



- Dilution factor =  $\frac{Q_p}{Q_p + Q_R} = \frac{6000 (1 - 0.3)}{[(6000 (1 - 0.3)) + 1500 \text{ ml/hr}]} = 0.74$

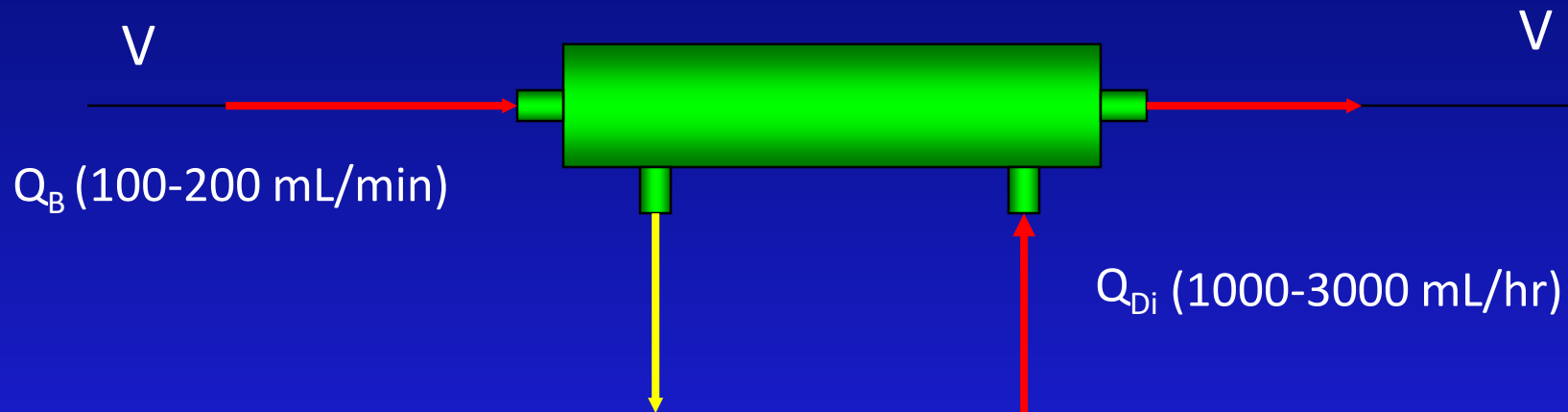
- $K_{\text{urea}} = 1.5 \text{ L/hr} \times 0.74 = 1.1 \text{ L/hr} = \mathbf{18 \text{ mL/min or } 16 \text{ mL/kg/hr}}$

- 24% decrease compared to post-dilution

- $FF = Q_{\text{TotalUF}} / (Q_p + Q_{\text{Pre-RF}}) = 1500 / [(6000(1 - 0.3)) + 1500] = 0.26$

# CVVHD

Solute removal via diffusion dialysis



Effluent Rate ( $Q_E$ ) = Dialysate Rate + Fluid Removal Rate\*

\*Fluid Removal Rate can also be called Net UF Rate

$$K = \text{Effluent flow rate } (Q_E) \times C_E / C_B$$

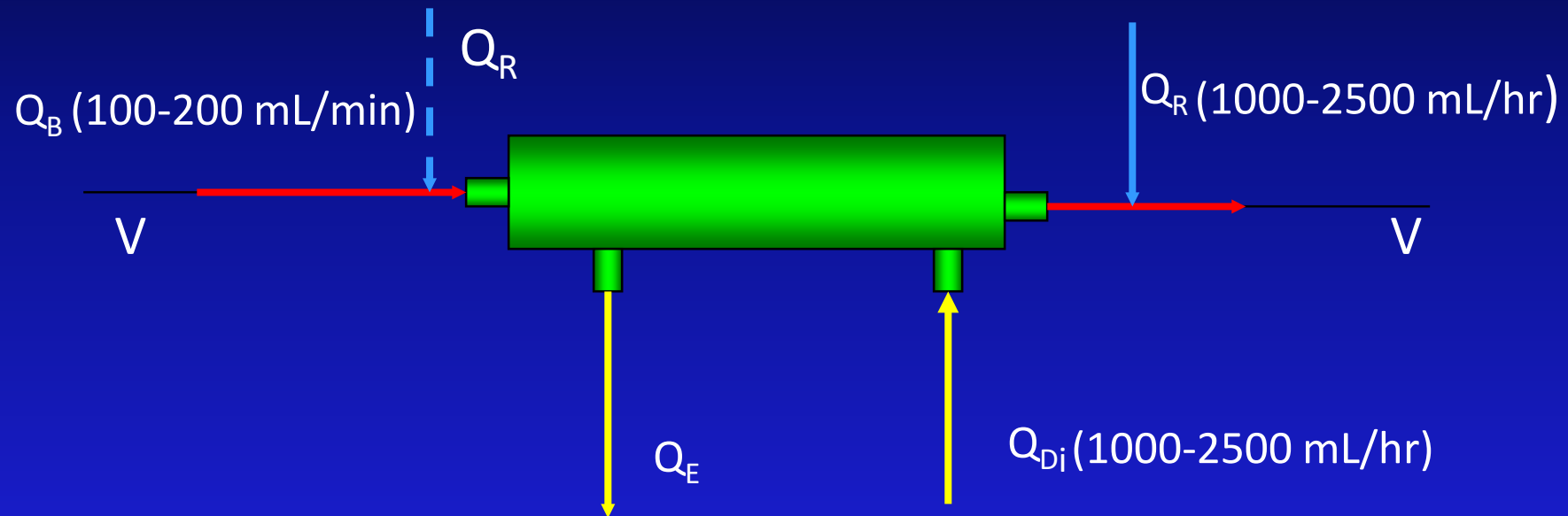


# Example Solute Calculation

- $K = Q_E \times C_E / C_B$
- CVVHD parameters
  - Pt. Wt. 70 kg
  - Dialysate Rate = 1500 mL/hr
  - Fluid Removal (or Net UF) = 0 mL/hr
  - BUN blood conc. = 60 mg/dL
  - BUN dialysate conc. = 60 mg/dL
- What is urea clearance?
  - $K = 1500 \text{ mL/hr} \times 1 = 1500 \text{ mL/hr} = \mathbf{25 \text{ mL/min or } 21 \text{ mL/kg/hr}}$

# CVVHDF

Diffusion dialysis + Convective hemofiltration



Effluent Rate ( $Q_E$ ) = Dialysate Rate + Total UF Rate

$$Q_{\text{TotalUF}} = Q_R + Q_{\text{Fluid Removal}}$$

$$K = \text{Effluent flow rate } (Q_E) \times C_E / C_B$$

# Example Solute Calculation

- CVVHDF parameters

Pt Wt. 70 kg

Blood Flow Rate = 100 mL/min; hct = 30%

Pre-filter Replacement Fluid Rate = 1500 mL/hr

Dialysate Rate = 1500 mL/hr; Fluid Removal Rate = 0 mL/hr

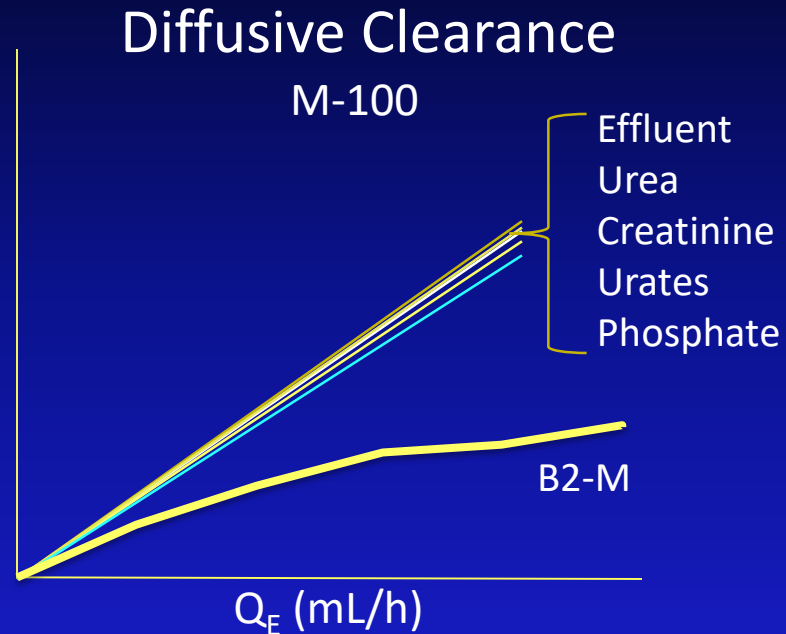
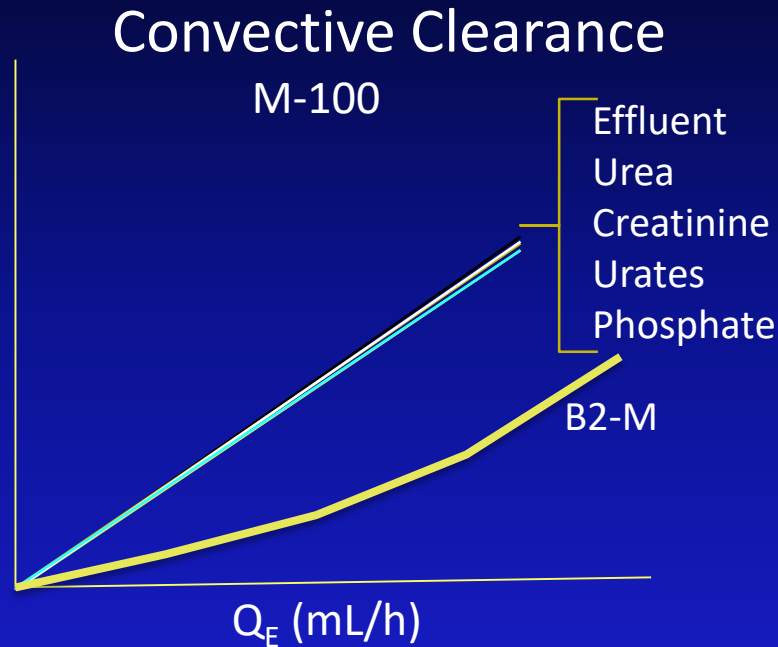
- $K = Q_E \times [Q_p / (Q_p + Q_R)]$

$$K = 3000 \times [6000 (1-0.3)] / [6000 (1-0.3) + 1500] = 2211 \text{ mL/hr} =$$

**37 mL/min or 32 mL/kg/hr**

- $FF = Q_{\text{TotalUF}} / (Q_p + Q_{\text{Pre-filter RF}}) = 1500 / [(6000(1-0.30)) + 1500] = 0.26$

# Convection vs. Diffusion



- Clearance is proportional to effluent rate for small molecular weight particles
- Increasing effluent rate increases solute clearance
- CVVH clearance = CVVHD clearance for same effluent rates for small molecular weight particles

# Which CRRT Modality?

- Depends on CRRT device
- Depends on need for convective vs. diffusive therapy
- Depends on technical aspects of delivering dose (pre- vs. post dilution RF, filtration fraction, anticoagulation, etc.)

# CRRT Machines

NxStage



Prismaflex



# CRRT Machines

## NxStage

- Has 3 pumps
  - Blood
  - Effluent
  - Dialysate or replacement fluid (pre- or post- replacement fluid)
- Can be used for SCUF, CVVH and CVVHD modalities.
- Cannot perform CVVHDF

## Prismaflex

- Has 5 pumps
  - Blood
  - Effluent
  - Dialysate
  - Pre blood
  - Pre and/or Post Replacement fluid
- Can be used for SCUF, CVVH, CVVHD and CVVHDF modalities

# Replacement Fluid Consideration for Prismaflex

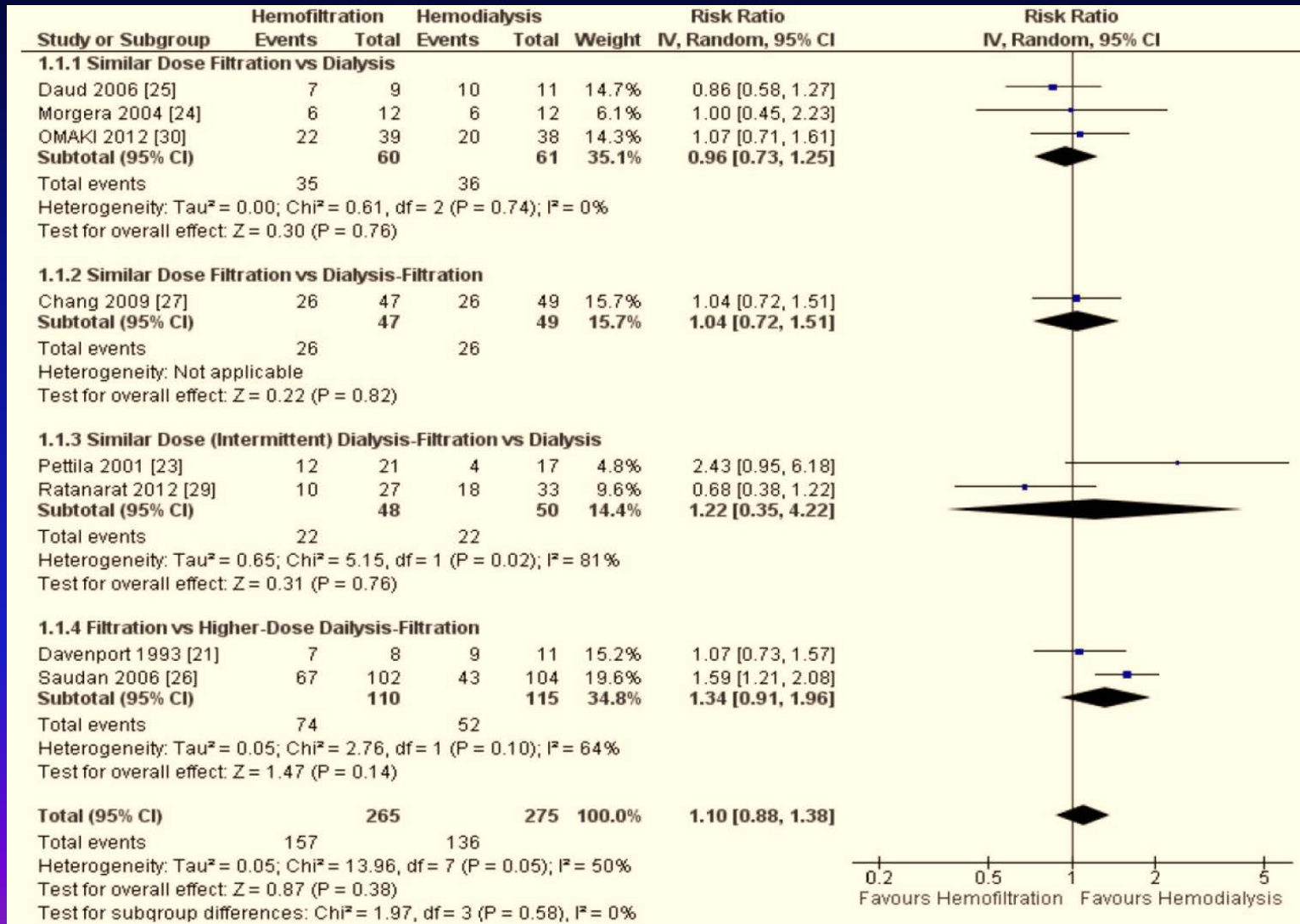


## DEAERATION CHAMBER

Manages air in the return line, the deaeration chamber provides a unique conveyance path that works like a vortex to propel all air out of the blood. Post-filter replacement solution is added into the deaeration chamber on top of the blood. Using a minimum of 200 to 500 ml/hr of post filter replacement will prevent air/blood interface. This is recommended to minimize clotting and foaming into deaeration chamber.



# Are convective therapies better than diffusive therapies?



- HF Compared to HD for AKI: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis
- 19 RCTs
- 16 used CRRT

# Dose of Acute RRT

- There are no well-established standard methods for assessing efficacy of RRT in AKI
- Assessment of Dose in AKI limited to:
  - Urea kinetics in for IHD
  - BUN levels
  - Effluent volume in CRRT

# Is There an Optimal Dose of RRT?



- 2008 VA/NIH Acute Renal Failure Trial (ATN) Network
- Large US multicenter RCT
- Primary endpoint: Death from any cause at day 60
- Objective: To determine the optimal intensity of RRT in critically ill patients with AKI



- 2009 RENAL Replacement Therapy Study Investigators
- Large Australian and New Zealand multicenter RCT
- Primary endpoint: Death within 90 days after randomization
- Objective: To determine the optimal intensity of RRT in critically ill patients with AKI

# ATN Trial

Modality	Intensive management strategy	Less-intensive management strategy
Hemodynamically stable patients: IHD*	6x/week	3x/week
Hemodynamically unstable patients: CVVHDF	35 mL/kg/hr	20 mL/kg/hr
Hemodynamically unstable patients: SLED*	6x/week	3x/week

\*target Kt/V: 1.2-1.4/treatment

# RENAL Trial

1508 patients  
35 sites  
3 years

Randomization

- Intensive CRRT (post-dilution CVVHDF 40 mL/kg/hr effluent)
- 747 patients

- Conventional CRRT (post-dilution CVVHDF 25 mL/kg/hr effluent)
- 761 patients

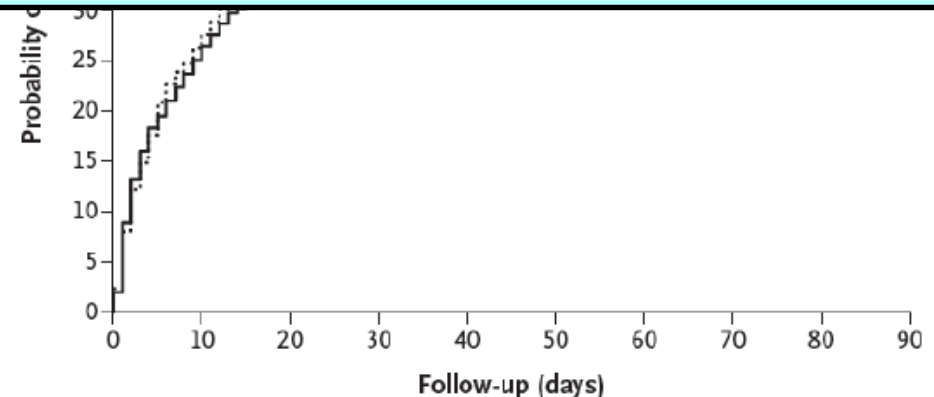
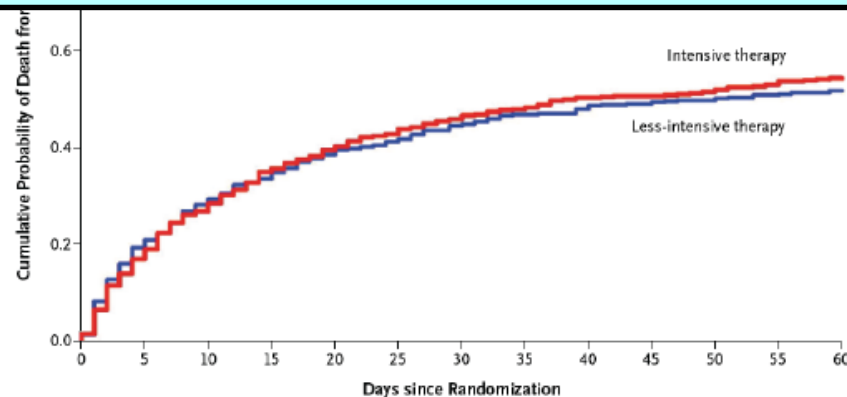


Mortality at day 60 (%)	52.5	NR
Mortality at day 90 (%)	NR	44.7
Survivors dependant on RRT at day 28 (%)	45.2	13.3
Survivors dependant on RRT at day 60 (%)	24.6	NR
Survivors dependant on RRT at day 90 (%)	NR	5.6

## Outcomes



An effluent flow of at least 20-25 mL/kg/hr is sufficient, so long as there is careful attention to ensuring that the target dose of therapy is actually delivered



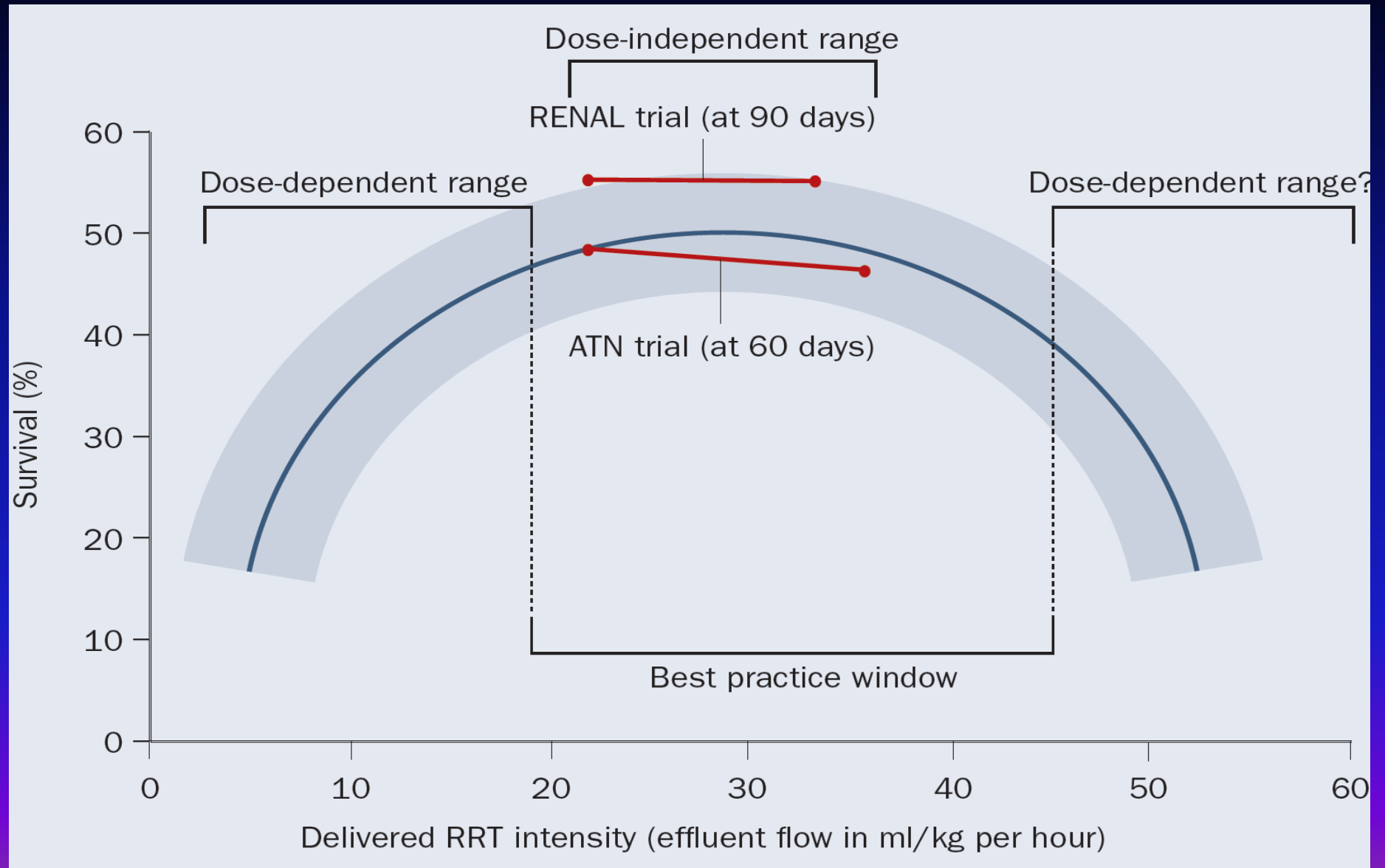
# Prescribed vs Actual Delivered Dose

	Standard dose (20 mg/kg/h)	High dose (35 mg/kg/h)	P
Prescribed clearance ( $K_p$ )	$17.62 \pm 0.96$	$28.10 \pm 1.44$	<0.0001
Estimated clearance ( $K_E$ )	$15.79 \pm 2.47$	$25.10 \pm 3.16$	<0.0001
Urea clearance ( $K_U$ )	$15.55 \pm 3.07$	$23.31 \pm 5.30$	<0.0001
Creatinine clearance ( $K_C$ )	$15.67 \pm 3.88$	$21.62 \pm 5.5$	<0.0001

## CVVHDF Clearance Comparisons



# Delivered RRT Dose and Survival





# Dosing of RRT in AKI

- Intermittent hemodialysis

No need to provide treatments more than 3x/week so long as a target  $Kt/V_{\text{urea}}$  of 1.2-1.4 per treatment is achieved

- Continuous renal replacement therapy

An effluent flow of at least 20 mL/kg/hr is sufficient, so long as there is careful attention to ensuring that the target dose of therapy is actually delivered

- Delivered dose is less than prescribed dose

Clearances should be measured in routine care and used to optimize dose

# What about high volume hemofiltration (HVHF) for sepsis?

## HVHF for Septic AKI: Meta-analysis

### Objective:

- To evaluate the effects of HVHF compared with SVHF for septic AKI

### Methods:

- Publications between 1966 and 2013
- RCTs that compared HVHF (effluent rate  $>50$  ml/kg/hr) vs. SVHF in the treatment of sepsis and septic shock

# What about high volume hemofiltration (HVHF) for sepsis?

Primary outcome: 28-day mortality

Secondary outcomes:

- Recovery of kidney function
- Lengths of ICU and hospital stay
- Vasopressor dose reduction

# HVHF for Septic AKI

Study	Location	Setting	Jadad scale	Primary endpoint	Follow-up
Boussekey 2008	France	Single-center ICU	3	75% decrease in vasopressor dose after 24 hrs	28 days
Sanchez (2010)	Spain	Single-center ICU	1	All cause mortality at 28 days	---
Zhang (2012)	China	Single-center ICU	2	All cause mortality at 28 days	90 days
Joannes-Boyau (2013)	France, Belgium, the Netherlands	18 ICUS	3	All cause mortality at 28 days	90 days

# HVHF for Septic AKI

Details of high-volume and standard-volume hemofiltration (CVVH) for included studies

Study	Prescribed effluent rate (mL/kg/hr) HVHF	Prescribed effluent rate (mL/kg/hr) control HVHF	Delivered effluent rate (mL/kg/hr) HVHF	Delivered effluent rate (mL/kg/hr) control HVHF	Days in ICU prior to enrollment HVHF	Days in ICU prior to enrollment control HVHF	Duration of HF (days) HVHF	Duration of HF (days) control HVHF
Boussekey 2008	65	35	62	32	Not stated	Not stated	7	6
Sanchez (2010)	55	35	---	---	---	---	5.7	6.4
Zhang (2012)	85	50	87.54	49.99	5.4	6.2	9.38	8.88
Joannes-Boyau (2013)	70	35	65.6	33.2	2.4	1.9	6	7

# HVHF for Septic AKI

## Results



No difference in  
renal recovery

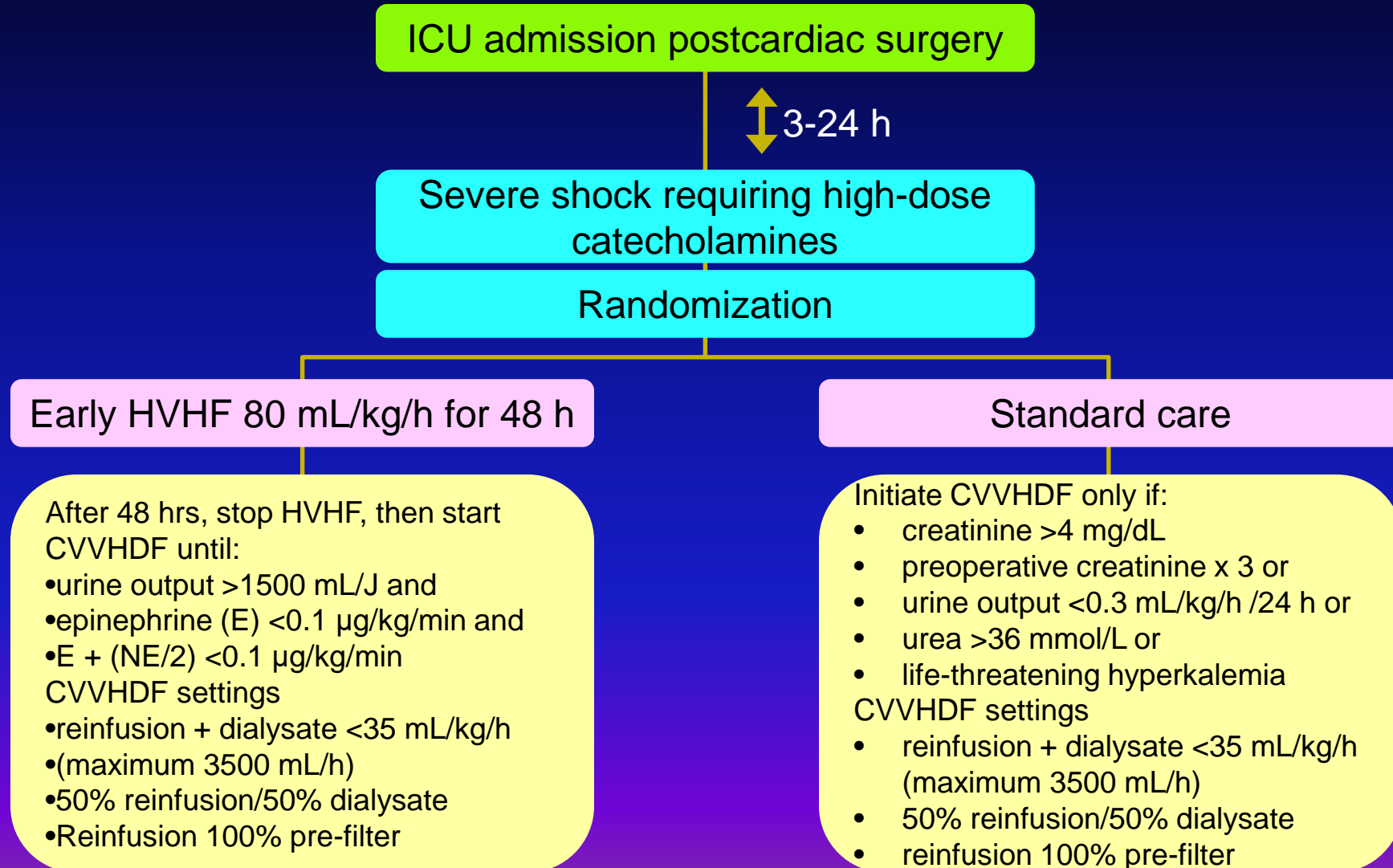


No reduction in  
vasopressor  
requirements

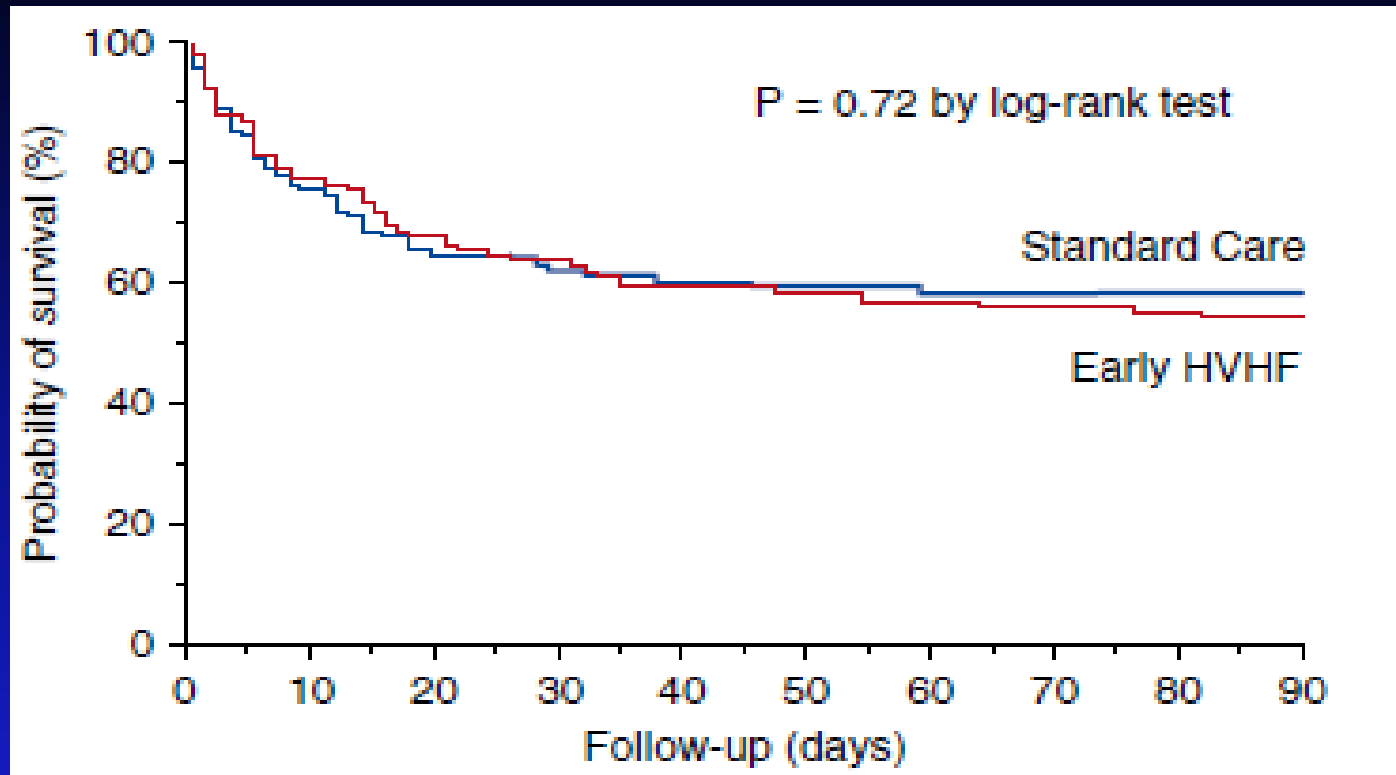


No mortality  
reduction  
with HVHF

# Early HVHF vs Standard Care for Post-Cardiac Surgery Shock: HEROICS Study



# Results



- Early HVHF did not lower Day-30 mortality and did not impact other important patient-centered outcomes compared with delayed CVVHDF initiation for patients with persistent, severe AKI
- HVHF patients experienced faster correction of metabolic acidosis and tended to be more rapidly weaned off catecholamines but had more frequent hypophosphatemia, metabolic alkalosis, and thrombocytopenia



# High-Dose vs. Conventional-Dose CVVHDF and Patient and Kidney Survival and Cytokine Removal in Sepsis-AKI: A RCT

- SETTING & PARTICIPANTS:
  - Septic patients with AKI receiving CVVHDF for AKI
- INTERVENTION:
  - Conventional (40mL/kg/h) and high (80mL/kg/h) doses of CVVHDF
- OUTCOMES:
  - Patient and kidney survival at 28 and 90 days, circulating cytokine levels
- RESULTS:
  - 212 patients randomized
  - No differences in 28-day mortality (HR, 1.02; 95% CI, 0.73-1.43; P=0.9) or 28-day kidney survival (HR, 0.96; 95% CI, 0.48-1.93; P=0.9) between groups
  - High-dose CVVHDF, but not the conventional dose, significantly reduced interleukin 6 (IL-6), IL-8, IL-1b, and IL-10 levels

# Case

A 24YOM with HTN and OSA presents with acute pancreatitis. Despite aggressive fluid resuscitation and antibiotics for sepsis, he develops oliguric AKI with hyperkalemia. He is intubated on FIO<sub>2</sub> 80% and is requiring vasopressin and norepinephrine. He is febrile and weighs 100 kg. He is on antibiotics and IV bicarbonate infusion. His labs are as follows:

Na 138 meq/L, K 6.5 meq/L, Cl 109 meq/L, HCO<sub>3</sub> 22 meq/L, BUN 22 mg/dL, Creatinine 3.1 mg/dL; ABG: 7.21/pCO<sub>2</sub> 40 mmHg/pO<sub>2</sub> 108 mmHg on 80% FIO<sub>2</sub>; WBC 13,000, Hct 30%, Platelets 104,000; Lactic acid 1.8 mmol/L; INR 1.6; Total Bili 3.2 mg/dL; ALT 694 U/L; AST 640 U/L; and CPK 22,000 U/L. He is 9 liters positive over last 24 hours.

# Case

Which CRRT modality do you place him on?

- A. CVVH with pre-filter RF
- B. CVVH with post-filter RF
- C. CVVH with pre- and post-filter RF
- D. CVVHD
- E. CVVHDF with pre-filter RF
- F. CVVHDF with post-filter RF
- G. CVVHDF with pre- and post- filter RF
- H. Any of the above
- I. None of the above
- J. I don't know

# Patient is placed on the following CRRT Rx:

## CRRT Parameters:

- CVVH with NxStage
- BF: 100 ml/min
- Post-filter RF: 1500 ml/hr
- Fluid Removal: 200 ml/hr
- No anticoagulation

## What are your thoughts on prescription?

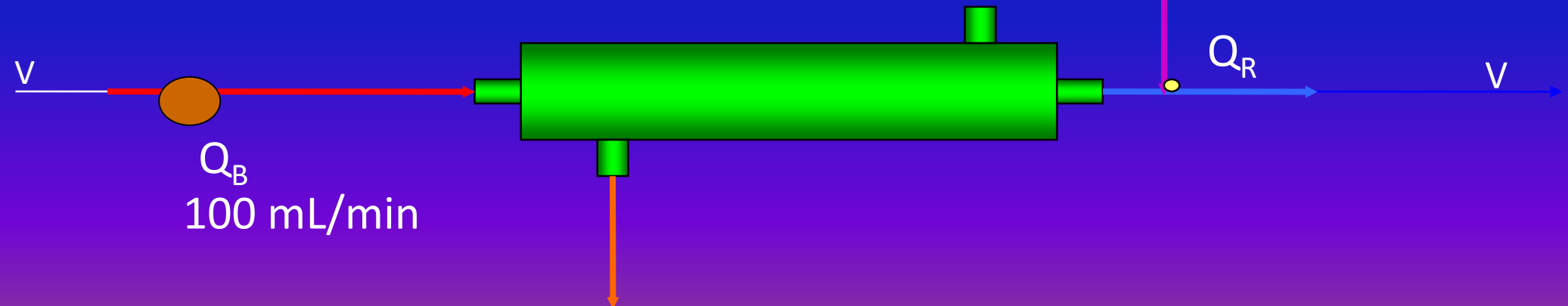
- CRRT modality?
- Dose?
- Filtration fraction?
- Anticoagulation?

# Dose?

- CVVH
- BF: 100 ml/min
- Post-filter RF: 1500 ml/hr
- Fluid Removal: 200 ml/hr
- Patient weight: 100 kg
- Hct: 30%

- Effluent Rate = 1500 ml/hr + 200 ml/hr = 1700 ml/hr
- Dose = 1700 / 100 kg = 17 ml/kg/hr

Post-filter Replacement Fluid  
Rate: 1500 mL/hr



# Filtration Fraction?

- BF: 100 ml/min
- Post-filter RF: 1500 ml/hr
- Fluid Removal: 200 ml/hr
- Patient weight: 100 kg
- Hct: 30%

- $FF = Q_{UF} / (Q_p + Q_{\text{Pre-filter RF}})$
- $Q_p = [Q_B \times (1 - \text{Hct})]$
- $FF = (Q_R + Q_{\text{netUF}}) / [Q_B (1 - 0.3)]$
- $FF = (1500 + 200) / [(6000 \times 0.7)] = 40\%$
- $FF > 25\text{-}30\%$ , clotting can occur

# Patient is placed on following CRRT prescription:

## CRRT Parameters:

- CVVH with Prismaflex
- BF: 200 ml/min
- Pre-filter RF: 2000 ml/hr
- Fluid Removal: 200 ml/hr
- Post-filter RF: 200 ml/hr
- Anticoagulation: ACD-A 2.2% 300 ml/hr delivered through PBP

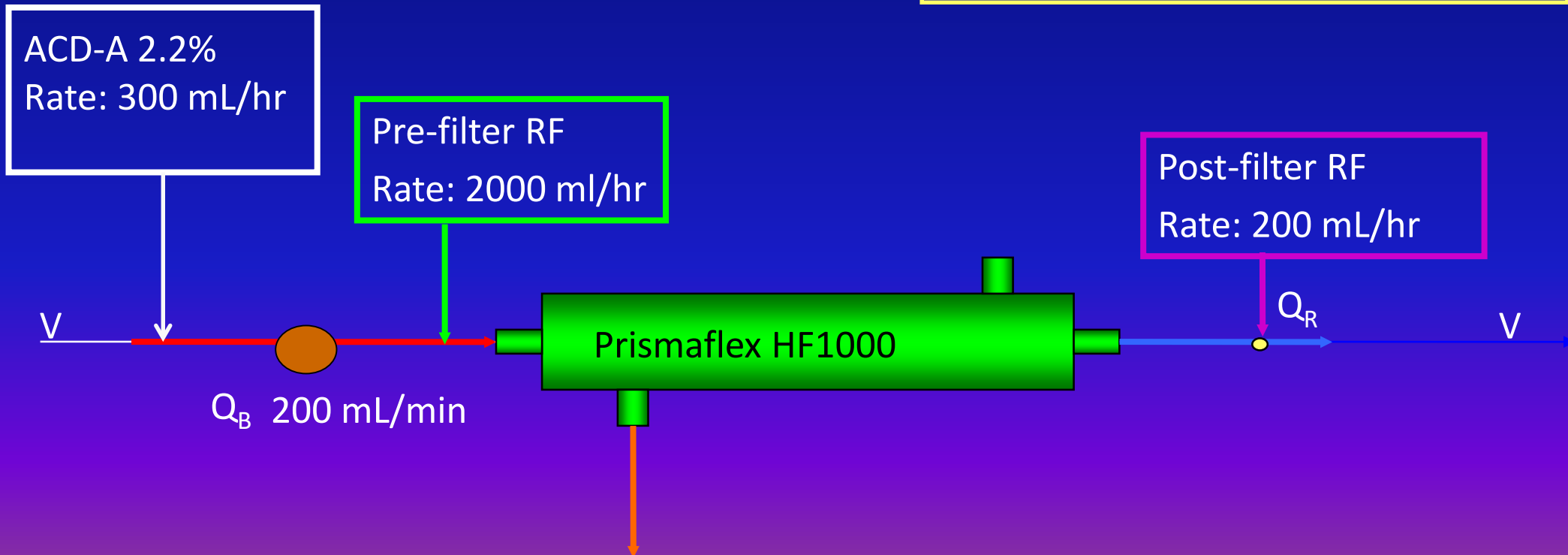
## What are your thoughts on prescription?

- CRRT modality?
- Dose (prescribed and delivered)?
- Filtration fraction?
- Anticoagulation?

# Dose?

- Effluent Rate = 2000 ml/hr + 200 ml/hr + 200 ml/hr + 300 ml/hr = 2700 ml/hr
- Dose = 2700 / 100 kg = 27 ml/kg/hr
- Dilution factor =  $(12000 \times 0.7) / [(12000 \times 0.7) + 2300] = 0.81$
- Dose = 27 ml/kg/hr  $\times$  0.81 = 22 ml/kg/hr

- CVVH
- BF: 200 ml/min
- Pre-filter RF: 2000 ml/hr
- Post-filter RF: 200 ml/hr
- Fluid Removal: 200 ml/hr
- Patient weight: 100 kg
- AC: ACD-A 300 ml/hr
- Hct: 30%





# Filtration Fraction?

- $FF = Q_{UF} / (Q_p + Q_{\text{Pre-filter RF}})$
- $FF = (Q_{\text{Pre-filter}} + Q_{\text{Post-filter}} + Q_{\text{NetUF}} + Q_{\text{PBP}}) / [Q_B (1 - 0.3) + 2000 + 300]$
- $FF = (2000 + 200 + 200 + 300) / [(12000 \times 0.7) + 2300] = 25\%$
- $FF > 25\text{-}30\%$ , clotting can occur

- CVVH
- BF: 200 ml/min
- Pre-dilution: 2000 ml/hr
- Post-filter RF: 200 ml/hr
- Fluid Removal: 200 ml/hr
- Patient weight: 100 kg
- AC: ACD-A 300 ml/hr
- Hct: 30%