

CH.11.

Applications of Electricity and Magnetism In Medicine

**Electrical Shock:** When an electrode is connected to each hand & 60 Hz currents of different levels are passed through the body, various reactions are produced

1. About 50% of adult men feel a 60 Hz <sup>current</sup> about 1.0 m A.
2. Women feel lower levels, about 0.67 m A.

**The perception levels rise as the frequency increases above 100 Hz.**

1. As a 60 Hz current is increased above the perception level, it causes a tingling sensation in the hands or body.
2. At currents of 10 to 20 m A, a sustained muscular contraction takes place in the hands & many subjects do not have the ability to control their muscle contractions.
3. As the current is increased still further, pain & in some cases fainting occur
4. Near the 100 m A level, the portion of the 60 Hz current passing through the heart is sufficient to cause ventricular fibrillation (**rapid irregular & ineffectual, contraction of the ventricles**).

The heart is especially vulnerable to fibrillation during one portion of its cycle. This portion is beginning repolarization of the ventricle (**the upswing of the T-Wave**) <sub>T-time</sub>

**Note:**

The current level that will induce fibrillation decreases as the duration of the shock increases.

**The damage depends upon :**

1. The individual dampness of the skin.
2. The contact of the skin with the conductor.

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**Macro shock** : when the electrical contact is made on the surface of the body and the level of current that cause damage and fibrillation is in mA.

**Micro shock** : it is the shock which occurs when the current is applied inside the body . it does not move to pass through the high resistance of the skin .

\*ventricular fibrillation can be induced with very much smaller than the current level of macro shock.

It has been estimated 30  $\mu$ A through human heart would cause ventricular fibrillation .

#### Electrical hazard

\*to protect patients from microshock , modern power cores have three wires ; two that supply the AC power and one that serves as a ground.

\***leakage current** : in all electronical equipment , there is some current flow from the AC power parts to the metal case of the instrument or appliance . this leakage current usually flowes to ground through the ground wire in the power cord.

The main source of the leakage current is the capacitance between the AC power wires & ground or between the power transformer & its case.

#### Wayes to reduce shock hazards in hospitals

1. By using DC current to operate the equipment because human body is less sensitivity to this current .

ie  $X_c = 1/2\pi f c$  &  $f = 0$  in D.c (  $X_c = \infty$  )

So there is no leakage current ie I (LEAKGE) =  $v/X_c = v/\infty = 0$

2. By operated electrical equipment of frequency much higher than 60 Hz, where the sensitive of the heart to ventricular fibrillation is much less.

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3. By using rechargeable battery powered instrument in diagnostic therapeutic and monitoring situation.

4. By using AC current with connecting safe ground wire with high frequency

**Types of electricity :**

( I ) - high - frequency electricity (HFE) in medicine used in :

A. heat therapy : the heating effects of (HFE) is done by using :

1. short wave diathermy. (diathermy)

2. long wave diathermy.

3. microwave diathermy.

B. Electro surgery : uses of (HFE) to :

1. control hemorrhage during surgery.

2. Electro surgery = cut through tissues.

3. Electro cauterizing = coagulate small or moderate - size blood vessels that are too small to tie. Fig-11-8

( II ) - Low frequency electricity (LFE) & magnetism in medicine it is used to:

**A. measure the blood flow by electromagnetic methods.**

When an electrical conductor is moved  $\perp$  perpendicular to a magnetic field, a voltage is induced.

Blood act as a conducting fluid. if it passed with a mean velocity  $v$  through magnetic field  $B$ .

A voltage  $V$  is induced between the electrodes such that

$V = Bdv$                        $d =$  diameter of blood vessel.

The volume flow of blood ( $Q$ ) = mean velocity  $\times$  the area of the vessel Fig-11-9

$$Q = (V/Bd) \times \pi d^2 / 4 \text{ (cm}^3/\text{s)}$$

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B. Measure the skin resistance by LFE to monitor psychological change :

\*perspiration depends on sweat gland activity that concentrated in the palm of the hand and sole of the foot.

\*change perspiration (sweat gland activity) are related to skin resistance. a decrease in skin resistance indicates increased sweat gland activity, while an increased in skin resistance indicates reduced sweat gland activity.

\*The variation from the basal skin resistance due to psychological changes or external stimuli is called "GSR" (galvanic skin response).

\*The "GSR" can be easily measure where there is a concentration of sweat gland, such as the palm of the hand or the sole of the foot.

\*"GSR" depends on the activity of sweat gland, only & not upon the amount of visible perspiration

\* an active electrode is placed on the palm of the hand & a second neutral electrode is placed on the wrist or the back of the hand.

Usually a constant direct current ( $\sim 10 \mu A/cm^2$ ) is passed through the electrodes. The resulting voltage indicate the "GSR", since the voltage is proportional to resistance. Fig. 11-10

\*The problem with using a "DC" is that polarizing voltage is developed between the electrodes & the skin. That is indistinguishable.

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To reduce this problem , we use a :

1. silver \_ silver chloride electrode
2. with an electrode jelly between the electrodes & the skin.

Absorption of microwave beam depend on :

**1. The amount of water in the tissue.**

The energy is deposited more effectively in tissue with high water content , microwave energy is absorbed better in muscle tissue which have less water.

**2. The frequency of microwaves :**

The energy is absorbed is very high at frequency 20 GHz (GHz= $10^9$  Hz) . its poorly absorbed at lower frequency nearly 100MHz & at very high frequency  $>1000$ GHz.

\*2450MHz for kitchen uses but best frequency for medical treatment uses is 900 MHz.

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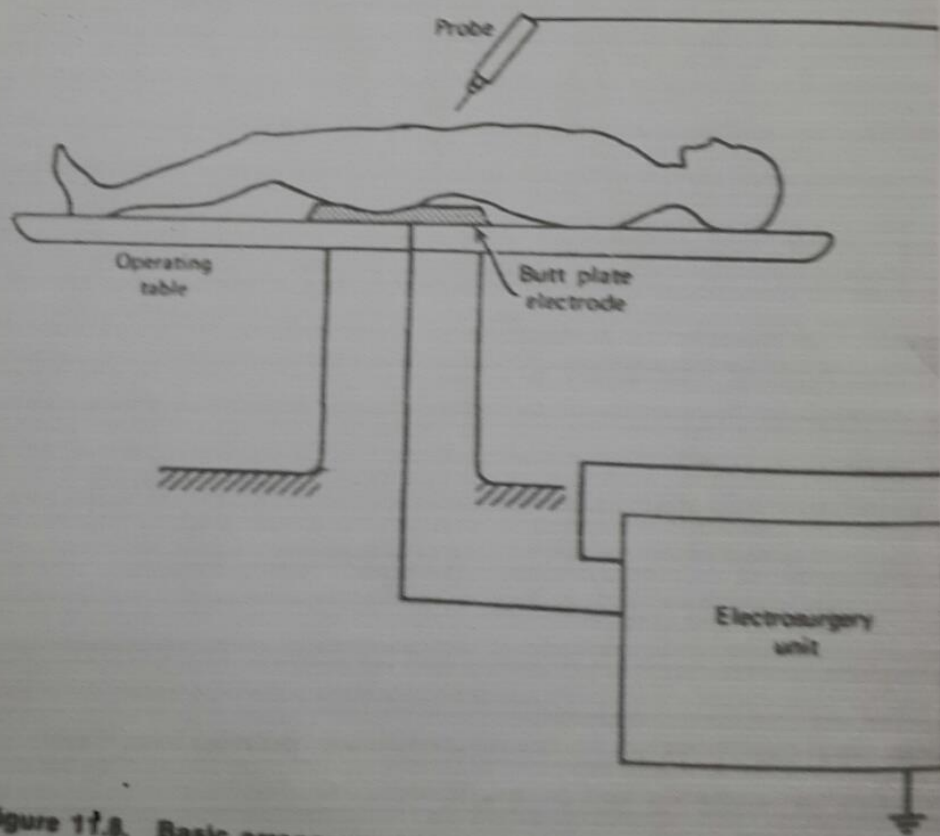


Figure 1f.8. Basic arrangement for electrocautery and electrocautery

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$$V = Bdv$$

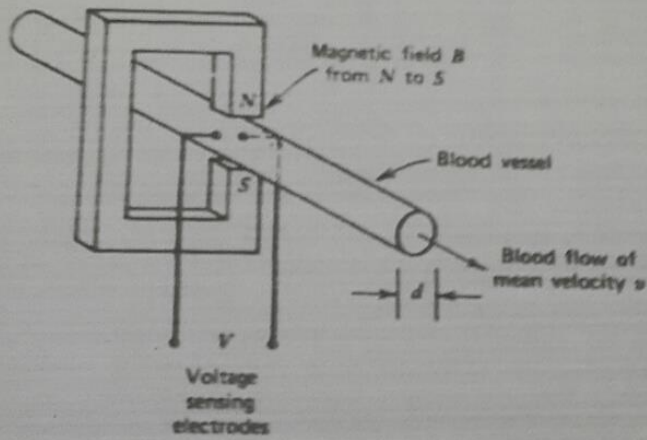


Figure 11.9. Schematic of a magnetic blood flow meter. When blood, a conducting fluid, passes through the magnetic field, positive and negative charges are separated, producing the voltage  $V$ .

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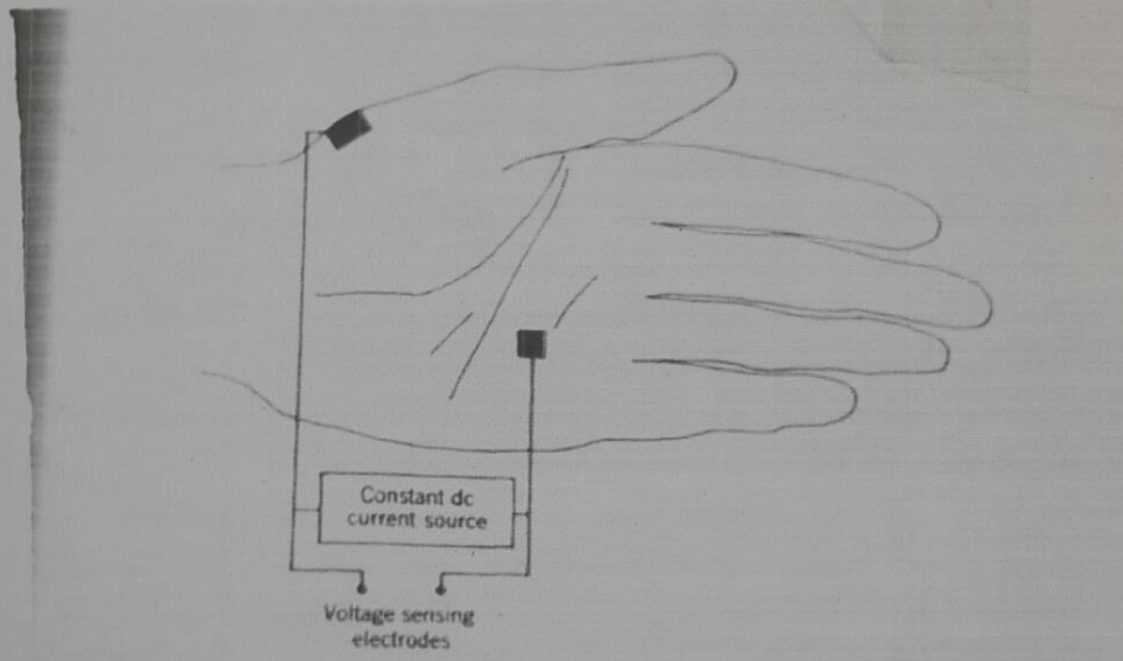


Figure 11.10. Method of measuring the galvanic skin response (GSR). The palm of the hand has a high sweat gland concentration, while the wrist region contains few sweat glands. The constant current source passes a current between the electrodes at these locations. The voltage produced depends upon the resistance (sweat gland activity) between the electrodes.

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