Subject: Medical Physics (Lecture Notes) 1/9

Instructor: Dr. Mohamed Saleh Ahmed

CH.5

Energy, Work, and Power of the body

The body‘s basic energy (fuel) source is food (consider Krebs cycle).

Under resting (basal) conditions about 25% of the body, s energy is being used by the skeletal muscles and the heart, 19% by the brain, 10% by the kidneys, and 27% by liver and spleen. (5%) is excreted in feces and urine, the remaining is stored as body fat.

5.1 Conservation of Energy in the Body

Conservation of energy in the body can be written as a (the first law of thermodynamics) simple equation

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Also can be written as

ΔU= ΔQ – ΔW (conventionally, ΔQ= ΔU +ΔW)

Where ΔU is the change in stored energy

ΔQ is the heat lost or gained

ΔW is the work done by the body

* A body doing no work ΔW=0, and at a constant temperature ΔQ(also ΔU) is negative

In a short interval of time, = -

is the rate of change of stored energy

is the rate of heat loss or gain

is the rate of doing work( mechanical power) 2/9

5.2 Energy Changes by the Body

Several energy and power (energy rate) units are used in relation to the body.

1 kcal (kilocalories) = 4184J --for food energy—

1 J (newton-meter or joule (J)) =107 ergs=0.737 ft-lb (foot-pound)

For the rate of heat production we use:

1 kcal/min = 69.7 W (joules per sec. or watts (W))= 0.094hp (horse power)

Note: a diet of 2500 C (Calorie) is actually 2500 kcal/day

100 W =1.43 kcal/min

1 hp =642 kacl/hr =746 W=550 ft.lb/sec

1 met =50 kcal/m2hr of body surface area per hour=58W/m2, where met is a convenient unit for expressing the rate of energy consumption of the body.

1 kcal/hr =1.162 W

* A typical man has about 1.85m2 of surface area (a woman of 1.4m2), thus for a typical man 1 met is about 92kcal/hr or 107W.
* In the oxidation process within the body heat is released as energy of metabolism. The rate of oxidation is called metabolic rate.

Example: Consider the oxidation of glucose

The oxidation equation for 1 mole of glucose is:

C6H12O6 +6O2  6H2O + 6CO2  +686 kcal

1 mole (180g) +6moles (192) 6moles (108g) + 6moles (246g) +646kcal (heat)

* 1 mole of a gas at normal temperature and pressure has a volume of 22.4 liters.
* *Mole (L or NA): the basic SI unit of amount of substance; the amount that contains as many elementary entities as there are atoms in 0.012 kilogram of carbon 12.*

Kilocalories of energy released per gram of fuel = =3.80 3/9

Kilocalories released per liter of O2 used = =5.1

Liters of O2 used per gram of fuel = =0.75

Liters of CO2 produced per gram of fuel = =0.75

*Respiratory quotient (R) =1, is the ratio of moles of CO2 produced to moles of O2 used. (0.75/0.75)*

Similarly for fats, proteins, and other carbohydrates.

Table5.1 Typical Energy Relationships for Some Foods and Fuels

Energy Released per Caloric

Liter of O2 Used Value

Food or Fuel (kcal/liters) (kcal/g)

Carbohydrates 5.3 4.1

Proteins 4.3 4.1

Fats 4.7 9.3

Typical diet 4.8-5.0 ---

Gasoline - --- 11.4

Coal ----- 8.0

Wood (pine) ----- 4.5

* Measuring the oxygen consumed by the body gives estimation of the energy released.
* Unburned (Incomplete combustion) products released in feces, urine, and flatus. The remaining is the metabolized energy.
* Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR) is the amount of energy (lowest rate) needed to perform minimal body functions (breathing and pumping the blood through the arteries) under resting condition.

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* BMR depends primarily upon thyroid function. Overactive thyroid has a high BMR than normal thyroid function.
* BMR is related (proportional) to the surface area or to the mass of the body, see Fig. 5.1.
* MR depends on the temperature of the body. (10% for 10C change). For a patient of 40 0C, MR is about 30% greater than normal. Similarly, for a body temperature of 34 0C, MR decreases by about 30%.

Ex. 5.1 a- How long would you have to work at an activity of 15 kcal/min to lose 4.54 kg of fat? (caloric value for fats is 9.3 kcal/g)

Sol: Energy of 4.54 kg fat = 4.54 \* 103 g \* 9.3 kcal/g =4.2\* 104 kcal

(T)(15 kcal/min) = 4.2 \* 104 kcal

T= 4.2 \*104/15 =2810 min 47 hr.

b- How long must you diet at 2000 kcal/day to lose 4.54 kg of fat if you normally use 2500 kcal/day?

Sol:

T = = 84 days

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* The BMR is sometimes determined from the oxygen consumption when resting;

Table 5.2 Oxygen Cost of Everyday Activities for a Man with Surface Area of 1.75 m2, Height of 175 cm, and Mass of 76 kg.

Equivalent

Heat Energy

O2 Production Consumption

Consumption \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (mets-50

Activity (liters/min) kcal/min W kcal/m2 hr)

Sleeping 0.24 1.2 83 0.82

Sitting at rest 0.34 1.7 120 1.15

Sitting at lecture (awake) 0.60 3.0 210 2.05

Walking slow (4.8 km/hr) 0.76 3.8 265 2.60

Cycling at 13-17.7 km/hr 1.14 5.7 400 3.90

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5.3 Work and Power

Chemical energy stored in the body is converted into external mechanical work as well as into life-preserving functions. External work (ΔW) is a force F moved through a distance ΔX (both in the same direction) thus:

ΔW = F ΔX

The power (the rate of doing work) P =ΔW/Δt = FΔX/Δt =Fν, where ν is the velocity

* When climbing a hill or walking up stairs

ΔW = (mg) (weight) \* (h) (vertical distance)

* When walking or running (most forces are perpendicular to the motion), thus ΔW appears to be zero. However, the muscles are doing internal work

(heat in the muscle and temperature rising). Additional heat is removed by blood (by conduction to the skin and by sweating).

* The ergometer (a stationary bicycle) can be used to measure the external work done and power supplied by a subject. Also to measure the oxygen consumed during this activity. The total food energy consumed can be calculated since 4.5 to 5.0 kcal are produced for each liter of oxygen consumed.
* The efficiency ε of the human body (as a machine) is defined as:

ε

Examples

Cycling ε (our most efficient activities)

Swimming (on surface) ε2% (under water) ε 4%

Gasoline engine ε =38%

Ex. 5.2 Given:

* Caloric value of gasoline is 11.4 kcal/g and its density is 0.68 kg/liter, and assuming 8.5 km/liter.
* The energy consumption for bicycling at 15 kg/hr is 5.7 kcal/min.

Compare the energy required to travel 20 km on a bicycle to that needed by an auto.

Sol: For the auto (20km)/ (8.5km/liter) = 2.35 liters of gasoline required

(2.35 liters) \* (0.68 kg/liter) =1.6 kg of gasoline

(1.6 \* 103g) (11.4kcal/g) = 1.8 \* 104 kcal for 20 km.

For the bicycling Time needed to travel 20 km (at 15 km/hr) = 80 min.

(5.7 kcal/min) (80 min) = 456 kcal is needed for 20 km.

Thus: (1.8 \* 104) /456 = 40 times more energy to move by car than by bicycle.

Note: The body supplies instantaneous energy for short –term power needs by splitting energy- rich phosphates and glycogen, leaving an oxygen deficit in the body. This process can only last about a minute and is called *anaerobic* (without oxygen) phase of work; long- term activity requires oxygen (*aerobic* work). 6/9

5.4 Heat Losses from the Body 7/9

Birds and mammals (keeping body temperature constant) are referred to as *homeothermic* (warm-blooded), other animals, are considered *poikilothermic*

(cold-blooded), (note that frog or a snake will have a higher body temperature on a hot day than a mammal).

* Although the normal body (core) temperature is often given as 370C, or 98.60F, only a small percentage of people have exactly that temperature; distribution of temperature falling within 0C ( 10F) may be found.
* The temperature depends upon 1- the time of the day, 2-the temperature of the environment, 3- the amount of recent physical activity, 4- the amount of clothing, and 5- the health of the individual.
* Body, s heating system: The heat is generated in the organs and tissues of the body.
* Body, s cooling system: The main heat loss mechanism are, 1- radiation, 2- convection, 3- evaporation (of perspiration), and 4- respiration. This loss depends on a number of factors: a-the temperature of the surroundings, b- physical activity of the body, c-the amount of the body exposed, and d- the amount of insulation on the body (clothes and fat).
* The hypothalamus of the brain contains the body, s thermostat. If the core temperature rises, it initiates sweating and vasodilation, which increases the skin temperature (thus heat loss to environment). If the skin temperature drops, the thermoreceptors on the skin inform the hypothalamus and it initiates shivering, which causes an increase in the core temperature.
* The rate of heat production of the body for a 2400 kcal/day diet is about 1.7 kcal/min or 120 J/sec (120 W).

First :Consider the case of nude body.

1-The heat loss due radiation

Under normal conditions a large fraction of our energy loss is due to radiation.

The approximate difference between the energy radiated by the body and the energy absorbed from the surroundings can be calculated from the equation

*Hr = Kr Ar e (Ts – Tw)* 8/9

Where Hr is the rate of energy loss (or gain) due to radiation,

*Ar*is the effective body surface area emitting the radiation,

*e* is the emissivity of the surface, (nearly equal to 1 for IR skin radiation),

*Ts*is the skin temperature (o C), and

*Tw*is the temperature of the surrounding walls (o C).

*Kr*is constant (about 5.0 kcal/m2 hr o C).

Ex. If a nude body has an effective surface area of 1.2 m2 and a skin temperature of 34 o C and the temperature of the surrounding walls is (maintained at) 25 o C, calculate the energy loss due to radiation.

Sol: Hr = 5.0 \* 1.2 \*1 (34 – 25) = 54 kcal/hr (about 54% of the body, s heat loss)

Most of the remaining heat loss is due to convection.

2-The heat loss due to convection

The heat convection due to convection (*Hc*) is given approximately by the equation *Hc = Kc Ac (Ts - Ta)*

Where *Kc*(convection coefficient) is a constant that depends on air movement; it increases with the air movement so that *Kc =10.45- ν+ 10*  , where ν is the wind speed in m/sec,

*A*c is the effective surface area,

*Ts*is the temperature of the skin, and

*Ta* is the temperature of the air.

Ex. When the body (nude) is resting and there is no apparent wind, Kc is about 2.3 kcal/m2 hr o C. Suppose Ta = 25o C, Ts = 34o C, and Ac =1.2 m2, calculate the body, s heat loss by convection.

Sol: Hc = 2.3\* 1.2 (34-25) = 24.84 or about 25 kcal/hr

This amount is about 25% of the body, s heat loss.

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Note: The equivalent temperature due to moving air is called the wind chill factor and is determined by the actual temperature and wind speed. For example, when T=0O C and ν = 5 m/sec the equivalent temperature (cooling effect on the body) is the same as – 7o C on a calm day.

3- The heat loss due to sweat evaporation (perspiration) and respiration.

Under extreme conditions of heat and exercise, a man may sweat more than 1liter of liquid per hour. 1gm of evaporated water gives 580 calories, hence 1 liter carries with it 580 kcal. Even when the body does not feel sweaty, there is about 7 kcal/hr, or 7% of the body, s heat loss.

A similar loss of heat is due to the evaporation of moisture in the lungs; consider 7% loss for breathe in air, and 7% for inspire cold air. Under typical conditions the total respiratory heat loss will be about 14% of the body, s heat.

* The body has the ability to select the path for blood returning from the hands and feet. In cold weather we have *counter-current*; heat exchange (between internal veins and arteries) lowers the temperature of the extremities and reduces the heat loss to the environment. In warm environment the returning venous blood flows near the skin, raising the temperature of the skin and thus increasing the heat loss from the body.

Second: Consider the case of including the insulation of clothing.

The optimum skin temperature for comfort is about 33o C (92o F).

The cb; a unit of clothing which corresponds to the insulating value of clothing needed to maintain a subject sitting at rest in comfort in a room at 21o C (70o F) with air movement of 0.1 m/sec and air humidity of less than 50%.

* 1 clo of insulation is equal to a lightweight business suit.
* 2 clos enable a man to withstand a colder temperature than 1 clo. (Fox fur has 6 cols).

