

Shock: Definition and Recognition

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Shock: Definition and Recognition

- *The reduction of the oxygen amount given to the cells may be primarily due to a decrease of DO₂ consequent to a low CO or Hb decrease. In septic shock, despite normal or high DO₂, the capillary blood flow alterations determine very low cellular oxygen concentrations. This is in large part due to the increased distance between perfused vessels and cells with peripheral shunt and reduced cellular O₂ availability.*

Shock: Definition and Recognition

- *Oxygen demand is not coupled with oxygen supply*
- *Shock is often associated with low blood pressure*
- *Hypotension is one of the most common clinical presentations of the shock states*
- *peripheral hypoperfusion, Tachycardia*
- *The main feature of shock condition is the decrease in oxygen utilization at cellular level*

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- *However, shock may be also defined as a condition in which hypotension is associated with a variable degree of organ derangement (i.e., oliguria, mottled skin, confusion, dyspnea, etc*
- $DO_2 = CO \times CaO_2$
- $CaO_2 = (Hb \times SaO_2 \times 1.34) + (PaO_2 \times 0.003)$
- $VO_2 = CO \times (CaO_2 - CvO_2)$
- $CvO_2 = (Hb \times SvO_2 \times 1.34) + (PvO_2 \times 0.003)$

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- *The difference between arterial and mixed venous saturation ($SaO_2 - SvO_2$) is also defined as oxygen extraction rate ($O_2 ER$) and identifies the amount of oxygen extracted by peripheral tissues during each cardiac cycle.*
- *After critical $O_2 ER$ has been reached, aerobic metabolism begins to be impaired, and a shift toward anaerobic metabolism.*
- *Regardless the cause and the feature of each type of shock, shock states may be all defined as conditions implying an altered oxygen utilization at cellular level.*

Shock Classification

- *SvO₂ is another parameter which may be used to assess the existence of an imbalance between oxygen demand and supply, as well as the adequacy of CO. Normal value is about 65–70% . In low-CO shock, SvO₂ values are typically decreased, while in distributive shock, they are increased.*

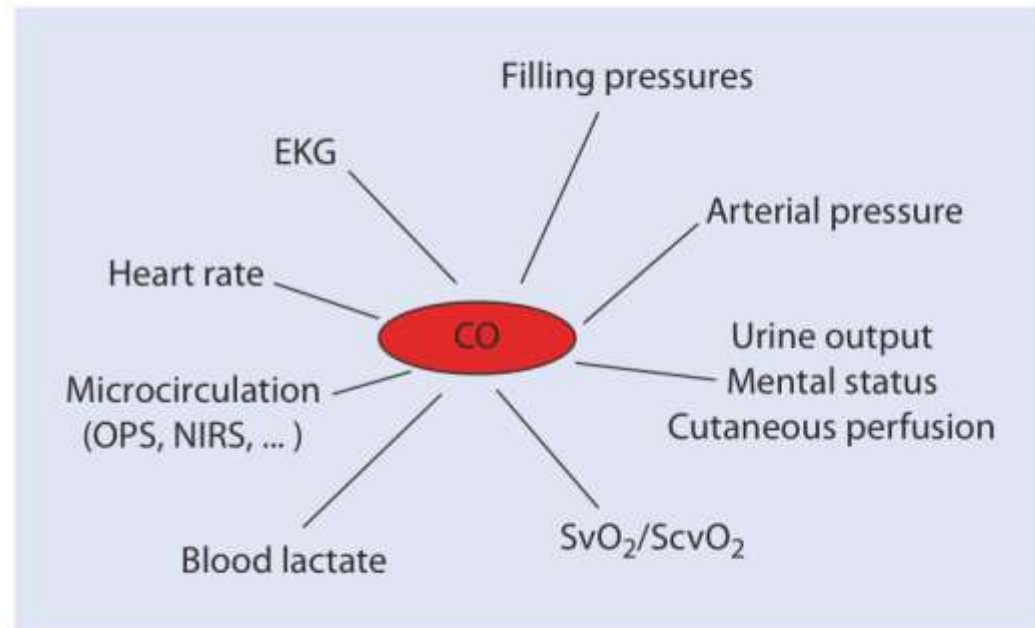
| | Low cardiac output | | | High cardiac output |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | Hypovolemic | Cardiogenic | Obstructive | Distributive |
| Filling pressure | Low | High | High | Low/normal |
| End-diastolic volumes | Low | High | Low (high in pulmonary embolism) | Low/Normal |
| SVR | High | High | High | Low |
| MAP | Normal/low (last phases) | High/normal/ low | Low | Low |
| SvO ₂ | Low | Low | Low | High |
| Echocardiography | Small cardiac chambers, preserved contractility | Dilated cardiac chambers, impaired contractility | In tamponade: pericardial effusion, small right and left ventricles In tension pneumothorax: small cardiac chambers In pulmonary embolism: small left ventricle, compressed by the dilated right ventricle | Normal cardiac chambers, preserved contractility (unless septic cardiomyopathy occurs) |
| Clinical signs | Cold and pale skin and | Cold extremities, dyspnea, | Jugular vein distention, dyspnea, increased | Mottled skin, tachycardia, |

■ **Table 2.2** Diagnostic tools available to diagnose shock state

| Diagnostic tool | Advantages | Limits |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Clinical signs | Available bedside Easy to detect | Low specificity |
| Lactate | Good marker of tissue hypoperfusion Available with ABG point of care Reliable prognostic value Trend over time has a prognostic value | Possibility of false positive Relatively slow normalization (hours) |
| ScvO ₂ -SvO ₂ | Available with ABG point of care Good marker of O ₂ debt in conditions of low DO ₂ | Normal values do not guarantee adequate perfusion |
| CO ₂ gap | Available with ABG point of care Correlates CO to metabolism | pH and temperature derangements may alter its interpretation ABGs must be drawn exactly at the same time |
| Respiratory quotient | Reliable marker of anaerobic CO ₂ production May predict response in terms of O ₂ consumption | CO ₂ content is complex to calculate bedside |
| Echocardiography | Available bedside Useful to identify different types of shock | It requires a skilled operator It does not give any functional information |

Cardiac Output as an Essential Component of DO₂

■ **Fig. 3.1** Some of the factors that can indicate the (in) adequacy of cardiac output. OPS orthogonal polarization spectral imaging, NIRS near-infrared spectroscopy, SvO₂ mixed venous oxygen saturation, ScvO₂ central venous oxygen saturation, EKG electrocardiogram



Cardiac Output as an Essential Component of

■ **Fig. 3.2** The four determinants of cardiac output, using an analogy to the speed of a bicycle. (Reproduced from [6])

