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# BLOOD & PLASMA EXPANDERS

#### **BLOOD:**

Blood is a fluid connective tissue that circulates continuosly around the body, allowing constant communication between tissues distant from each other.

#### **PLASMA:**

A clear, straw coloured, watery fluid in which several different types of blood cells are suspended.

#### **BLOOD & PLASMA VOLUME EXPANDERS**

- Plasma expanders are agents that have relatively high molecular weight and boost the plasma volume by increasing the osmotic pressure.
- They are bused to treat patients who have suffered hemorrhage or shock.

#### **VOLUME EXPANDERS Contd...**

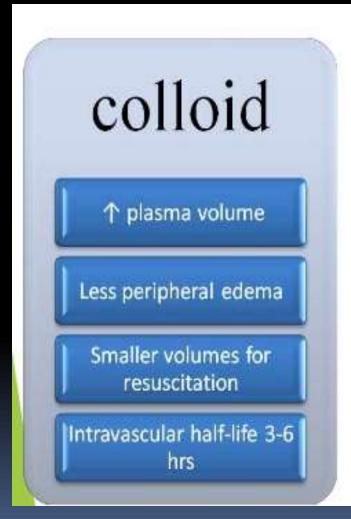
- Volume expanders are the i.v., fluid solutions that are used to increase or retain the volume of fluid in the circulating blood.
- Generally volume expanders are used to replace fluids that are lost due to illness, trauma, surgery, burns & extensive tissue damage
- These are used to correct hypovolemia due to loss of plasma or blood .

#### TYPES OF VOLUME EXPANDERS :-

1. Crystalloids: Crystalloids are aqueous solutions of mineral salts or other water soluble molecules. E.g, normal saline, dextrose, ringers solution etc,

2. Colloids: colloids are larger insoluble molecules, such as dextran, human albumin, gelatin, blood.

### WHAT DO THEY DO??





# IS IT COLLOIDS OR CRYSTALLOIDS

#### IDEAL PROPERTIES OF PVES

2

• Iso-oncotic with plasma

• Distributed to i.v., compartement only

• \

• Pharmacodynamically inert

• Non-pyrogenic, non-allergic &non-antigenic

 No interference with blood grouping or cross matching

• Stable, easily sterlizable and cheap.

## **SOME VOLUME EXPANDERS:**

# Human albumin

Dextran

Polygeline/ PVP

DX40

DX70

Hetastarch

### **MECHANISM OF ACTION:**

- Generally works on the principle of osmosis.
- Increases plasma osmotic pressure, drawing water into plasma from intestinal fluid.
- Since the lost blood is replaced with a suitable fluid, the diluted blood flows more easily, even in small vessels.

# SOME CRYSTALLOIDS:

Normal saline

Lactate ringer's solution

Dextrose solution

#### **USES OF PLASMA EXPANDERS:**

- Used in conditions where blood or plasma has been lost or has moved to extra vascular compartments e.g., burns, hypovolaemic shock, severe trauma, endotoxin shock and extensive tissue damage.
  - Can also be used as a temperory measure in cases of whole blood loss till the same can be arranged.

NOTE: They do not have any o2 carrying capacity.

# CONTRADICTIONS TO PLASMA EXPANDERS:

- ★ Allergy
- Heart failure
- Severe anemia
- ★ Thrombocytopenia
- ★ Pulmonary edema
- Renal insufficiency.

#### Comparison with Whole Blood

	Gelatin	Whole Blood
рН	7.0-7.6	7.3 – 7.4
Oncotic pressure	Iso-oncotic	Iso-oncotic
Intravascular/interstitial fluid balance	Restored/maintained	Restored/ maintained
	Unlikely	possible
Plasma half-life	4–6 hours	Varies according to fraction
Effect on renal function	Renal function maintained/ improved	Usually not impaired
Effect on blood coagulation/ haemostasis	Dilution only	Possible (factor activation)
Effect on subsequent blood typing and cross-matching	None	Usually none
Adverse reactions/ side effects	Local cutaneous reactions, Transient hypotension, Histamine release	Allergic reactions, incompatibility reactions
Transmissions of diseases	None	Significant risk of viral infection as
Shelf-life	5 years. If stored at above +25°C: 3 years	hepatitis B, C and AIDS 3 weeks
	2–25° C	4-6° C
Storage		Manager Co.

