

James E. Cottrell
Piyush Patel

Cottrell and Patel's
NEUROANESTHESIA
SIXTH EDITION

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Foreword by
David S. Warner

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NEUROANESTHESIA

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SIXTH EDITION

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Dedication to William L. Young, MD (1954 – 2013)



William (Bill) Young served as co-editor of the previous edition. Working with Bill was like having problems solved before I noticed them.

Bill was a remarkable clinician scientist who made a number of seminal contributions. Chief amongst these was the fundamental change in our understanding of the pathogenesis and treatment of arteriovenous malformations. Bill proposed a radical hypothesis wherein he posited that AVMs are an acquired postnatal phenomenon in patients who have an underlying genetic susceptibility and that vascular growth factors are key to the unregulated vessel growth. With the support of preclinical data, generated primarily by Bill, he initiated Phase I trials of bevacizumab for high-risk patients with AVMs for whom conventional therapy was not feasible. This was the first new *medical* treatment of AVMs for two decades. A logical extension of the premise that AVMs are acquired in genetically susceptible individuals is genetic screening to identify at-risk patients and the development of biomarkers for purposes of risk stratification. Bill organized an international collaboration to evaluate gene loci associated with AVM development and identification of risk factors for AVM rupture. This is a remarkable record of achievement. Bill was one of the few clinician scientists able to bring basic discoveries in the laboratory to the clinic for the difficult management of patients with AVMs.

I first met Bill at NYU when he started as a resident, all hungry for knowledge and with a relentless energy. Bill's many contributions were outlined in a tribute by David S. Warner and William Lanier in the *Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology* Vol. 26, #1, January 2014. Perhaps his greatest contribution was bringing like-minded people together, whether it was in music, science, travel or simply friendship.

Thank you, Bill.

Acknowledgment

We thank our respective departments of anesthesiology, each of which has provided, despite recent economic adversity, the practical and intellectual background that makes it possible for colleagues like ourselves to write, assemble, and edit such books as *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia*. Special thanks are also due to David S. Warner for the new Foreword; Theon Doobay for editorial assistance; Tania Baron for coordinating the project; the publishing staff at Elsevier, Helen

Leng and William R. Schmitt; and especially the contributing authors whose expertise has been particularly important in making this edition possible. We also thank our families for helping us find time to complete such an undertaking.

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Foreword

I have generally believed that textbooks present a suboptimal medium for communicating the science and practice of medicine. They are not peer-reviewed, the writing is often relegated to authors just entering the field, and publication delays may allow an out-of-date perspective while the ink is still drying. Hence, the authoritative nature of textbook content can be easily questioned. *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia* refutes this view in that it offers an example of how a textbook can serve as a valid foundation for learning and practice at all levels of experience.

The subspecialty of neuroanesthesiology has always prided itself on pursuing and inculcating scientific evidence into our practice and educational endeavors. Science is different from art in that art is intended to present a personal perception and interpretation of a real or imagined existence. It is for the viewer to determine validity and that determination cannot be tested. In contrast, science is an assemblage of physical properties that should hold true through time, space, and for all individuals, regardless of persuasion. But science and art share a precious element. Beauty. Beauty can be immediately apparent or may require knowledge of the structure and history behind a project to understand its significance. After reviewing the galley proofs for *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia*, I must call it a beautiful work.

As an erudite neuroanesthesiologist, I approached the galley proofs for *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia* with skepticism. It became clear within moments that this work is exceptional. The reader is instantly drawn to the high-quality images and the progression of concepts from the most elementary principles to complex and state-of-the-art science and implications. The book is comprehensive, detailed, and wholly relevant to the practice of neuroanesthesiology. There simply is no other

source for this level of organization of our knowledge. It will enable the initiate to quickly grasp key concepts, while experienced clinicians and scientists can not only refresh but also extend their understanding of how and why we do what we do for our patients. It is a must read for all.

There are bastions that define our specialty including the Society for Neurosciences in Anesthesiology and Critical Care and the Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology, both of which James Cottrell served to found. These entities represent the best and brightest of our scientists and clinicians. The authorship of *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia* reflects the same population and is edited by two of the most longstanding and innovative authorities in our field. The 5th edition of *Neuroanesthesia* was substantially advanced by the inclusion of William L. Young, M.D. as co-editor. Dr. Young was a paramount scientist and set the tone for evidence-based medicine the reader will encounter in the current edition of *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia*. Dr. Young's untimely passing left a space almost impossible to fill. Having known Bill closely, I am certain that he would be thrilled that Piyush Patel accepted the challenge of maintaining a quality of scientific excellence worthy of our specialty in this authoritative text. Dr. Patel has succeeded. Congratulations to all of the authors for providing this superb compendium of knowledge that can only serve to advance patient care.

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Preface

With a new co-editor, Piyush Patel, twenty-three new authors, five new chapters, eight chapters with all new authors, fifteen new chapters with one or more new authors and the incorporation of suggestions made in reviews of the fifth edition, this edition of *Cottrell and Patel's Neuroanesthesia* is both track-tested and up to date.

We have added a new chapter on neurocritical care issues, added a section on diagnosis and management of brain death and end-of-life care, added a section on neuroanatomy, and added more on multimodality monitoring, brain tissue oxygenation, oximetry, microdialysis and depth of anesthesia monitors. Sections were also added on stereotactic surgery, deep brain stimulation, brain biopsy, and gene therapies. There was, of course, no option. Ours is a fast moving field.

As the Red Queen said to Alice in Wonderland, "Now, *here* you see, it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place." In this case, "*here*" is neurosurgical anesthesiology, and "*the same place*" is state-of-the-art knowledge.

Medicine advances through a sort of trickle-down process. Information flows from basic scientists to laboratory animal researchers to clinical investigators to scientific journals to clinical textbooks, and finally, to clinicians. The closer the connections between the first four way stations and the textbook, the better clinicians are served. We have kept those connections tight by gathering authors who are, in various combinations, basic scientists, laboratory researchers, clinical investigators, journal authors, journal editors, and of course, clinicians.

The emphasis of this book has always been clinical application of tested basic science principals and that focus has only been sharpened in this sixth edition. We want this book to serve its readers by helping them serve their patients.

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Brain Metabolism, the Pathophysiology of Brain Injury, and Potential Beneficial Agents and Techniques

1

I.S. Kass • J.E. Cottrell • A.E. Abramowicz • J.Y. Hou • B. Lei

Brain metabolism involves both the production and the utilization of energy; catabolism is the breakdown and anabolism is the synthesis of components and molecules in the cells. For energy formation the main catabolic process is the breakdown of glucose with the ultimate formation of high-energy phosphate in the form of adenosine triphosphate (ATP). Other catabolic processes break down structural and enzymatic proteins, lipids, and carbohydrates; these processes are necessary to replace damaged and nonfunctional molecules. These molecules are resynthesized by anabolic processes that renew the cells and maintain optimal function. Cellular function also requires the maintenance of ionic homeostasis, which for neurons requires a large amount of energy. The pathophysiologic mechanisms of brain injury are incompletely understood but ultimately represent a failure of anabolic processes to maintain normal cell function. In this chapter we explore the putative mechanisms of brain injury. The causes of neuronal damage are multifaceted, and one pathway alone cannot explain how the injury occurs. Some pathophysiologic mechanisms are common to damage caused by ischemic, epileptogenic, and traumatic injury, whereas others are discrete for each of these processes. This review focuses on some common triggers of neuronal damage, such as altered ionic gradients, and explores how they in turn lead to long-term damage. We also discuss pharmacologic agents and clinical procedures that may lead to a reduction in long-term brain damage.

BRAIN METABOLISM

The main substance used for energy production in the brain is glucose. Because glucose is not freely permeable across the blood–brain barrier, it requires a transporter to enter the brain. This transporter does not require energy and can move glucose only down its concentration gradient, from a higher to a lower concentration. Normally the blood levels of glucose are well regulated so glucose concentrations in the brain are adequate; however, if blood levels of glucose fall the supply of glucose cannot meet the energy requirements of the brain. Thus adequate blood glucose levels are critical for normal brain activity. During insulin shock or other conditions that cause a reduction in blood glucose, unconsciousness can result from insufficient energy due to low brain glucose levels. When glucose and oxygen levels are sufficient, glucose is metabolized to pyruvate in the glycolytic pathway (Fig. 1.1). This biochemical process generates ATP from adenosine diphosphate (ADP) and inorganic phosphate and produces nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide reduced (NADH) from nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺). Pyruvate from this reaction then enters the citric acid cycle which, with regard to energy production, primarily generates NADH from NAD⁺. The mitochondria use oxygen to couple the conversion of NADH back to NAD⁺ with the production of ATP from ADP and inorganic phosphate. This process, called *oxidative phosphorylation*, forms three ATP molecules for each NADH converted and yields

a maximum of 38 ATP molecules for each glucose molecule metabolized.¹ Because numerous parts of this pathway supply other metabolic requirements, such as amino acid synthesis and the formation of reducing equivalents for other synthetic pathways, the normal yield of this energy pathway is approximately 30 to 35 ATP molecules for each glucose molecule.

This pathway requires oxygen; if oxygen is not present the mitochondria can neither make ATP nor regenerate NAD⁺ from NADH. The metabolism of glucose requires NAD⁺ as a cofactor and is blocked in its absence. Thus, in the absence of oxygen, glycolysis proceeds by a modified pathway termed “anaerobic glycolysis”; this modification involves the conversion of pyruvate to lactate, regenerating NAD⁺. This process produces hydrogen ion, which may accentuate neuronal damage if the intracellular pH falls. A major problem with anaerobic glycolysis, in addition to lowering pH, is that only two molecules of ATP are formed for each molecule of glucose metabolized. This level of ATP production is insufficient to meet the brain’s energy needs. In addition, ischemia curtails the supply of glucose so even anaerobic glycolysis is blocked.

When the oxygen supply to a neuron is reduced, mechanisms that reduce and/or slow the fall in ATP levels include the following: (1) the utilization of phosphocreatine stores (a high-energy phosphate that can donate its energy to maintain ATP levels), (2) the production of ATP at low levels by anaerobic glycolysis, and (3) a rapid cessation of spontaneous electrophysiologic activity.

CELLULAR PROCESSES THAT REQUIRE ENERGY

Pumping ions across the cell membrane is the largest energy requirement in the brain. The sodium, potassium, and calcium concentrations in a neuron are maintained against large electrochemical gradients with respect to the outside of the cell. When sodium (Na), calcium (Ca) and potassium (K) are mentioned throughout the chapter we are referring to their ionic form (Na⁺, Ca⁺⁺ and K⁺); this is the only form of these compounds that is present in living cells. When a neuron is not excited, there are slow leaks of potassium out of the cells and of sodium into the cells. The resting potential of a neuron depends mainly on the electrochemical equilibrium potential for potassium, which in most neurons is approximately -94 mV. There is some permeability to sodium and calcium so the resting potential for a neuron is usually -60 to -70 mV. Because the cell’s membrane potential is not equal to the equilibrium potential for an ion, there is leakage of ions down their electrochemical gradients. If this leakage were not corrected by energy-dependent ion pumps, the membrane potential would fall to 0 mV and the cell would depolarize and die. The ion pumps fall into two major categories: (1) those that use ATP directly to pump ions and (2) those that use the energy of the Na gradient to cotransport another ion or molecule. The ultimate energy for the latter pumps comes from ATP via the Na/K

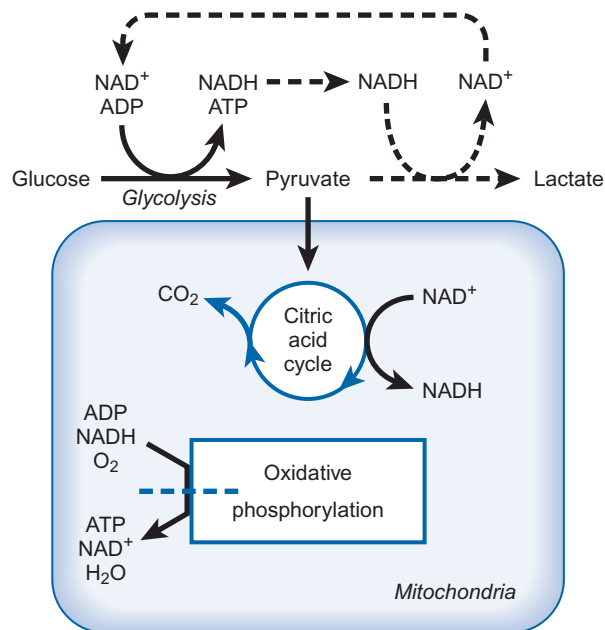


Fig. 1.1 Energy metabolism in the brain. Lines indicate metabolic pathways, dashed lines indicate anaerobic glycolysis. The *dashed line* across the oxidative phosphorylation reaction indicates this reaction is blocked during ischemia. ADP, adenosine diphosphate; ATP, adenosine triphosphate; NAD, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide; NADH, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide reduced.

ATPase, which transports Na ions and maintains the energy gradient of Na; examples of these exchange pumps include the Na/Ca, the Na/H and the Na/glutamate transporters. Examples of the former category of pump are the Na/K ATPase, the major user of energy in neurons, and the Ca ATPase. The primary ion pumps that directly use ATP are important because they establish the electrochemical gradients necessary for the secondary pumps, the ion exchange pumps, to work in the desired direction. Indeed, during ischemia these pumps do not have enough energy to operate, and this condition is a primary cause of neuronal depolarization and cell death. Neuronal activity markedly increases the flow of sodium, potassium, and calcium by opening Na, K, and Ca ion channels; this opening raises the rate of ion pumping required to maintain normal cellular ion concentrations. Because ion pumping uses ATP as an energy source, the ATP requirement of active neurons is greater than that of unexcited neurons. Approximately 60% of the energy the brain uses is required for functional activity, and the remainder is used to maintain cellular integrity. Anesthetics reduce neuronal activity and thereby ATP utilization by functional activity, but they do not reduce the energy required for the integrity of the brain. If energy production does not meet the demand of energy use in the brain, the neurons become first unexcitable and then irreversibly damaged.

Neurons require energy to maintain their structure and internal function. Each cell's membranes, internal organelles, and cytoplasm are made of carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins that require energy for their synthesis. Ion channels, enzymes, and cell structural components are important protein molecules that are continuously formed, modified, and broken down in the cell. If ATP is not available, protein synthesis cannot continue, and the neuron will die. Carbohydrates and lipids are also continuously synthesized and degraded in normally functioning neurons; their metabolism also requires energy. Most cellular synthesis takes place in the cell body, and energy is required for transport of components down the axon to the nerve terminals. Thus, energy is required to maintain

the integrity of neurons even in the absence of electrophysiological activity.

NEUROANATOMY

The brain is regionally differentiated structurally and functionally; this section will provide an overview of the functionality of the different brain regions. This is important with regard to stroke, since when an artery is blocked the function of the neurons in the region perfused by that artery is compromised. The details of the neuroanatomy and neurophysiology of the brain would require a book of its own; two that are recommended for detail are *Clinical Neuroanatomy*, by RS Snell and *Neurophysiology and Principles of Neural Science* by Kandel et al.^{2,3}

The cerebral cortex has four main lobes on each side: the frontal, parietal, occipital, and temporal lobes (Fig. 1.2). Sensory pathways from one side of the body cross the midline and provide input to the opposite somatosensory cortex. Motor pathways that originate from the motor cortex on one side decussate in the medulla, travel down the spinal cord in the lateral corticospinal tracts, synapse on ventral motor neurons in the gray matter of the cord and deliver motor output to the opposite side of the body. The anterior part of the frontal lobe (prefrontal area) influences personality, orientation, concentration, and judgment; it is important for directing intellectual activity towards a goal. The precentral gyrus of the frontal lobe is the primary motor cortex, has output to the motor neurons in the spinal cord, and controls fine movement. Premotor association areas are located rostral to it and receive input from other motor areas of the brain, such as the basal ganglia, cerebellum, and red nucleus. Thus the premotor and motor cortex are responsible for integrating input from motor areas throughout the brain leading to purposeful movement. Adjacent to the precentral gyrus, across the central sulcus is the postcentral gyrus of the parietal lobe; this is the primary somatosensory cortex and receives information about fine touch. Posterior to the postcentral gyrus are the somatosensory association areas which help interpret and analyze touch sensations. All primary sensory areas of the brain have sensory association areas which further analyze and interpret these signals. The temporal lobe is located below the frontal and parietal lobe and contains the primary auditory and auditory association areas. One hemisphere in the brain is considered dominant and one particular area in it is important for the interpretation of language and the production of speech; this area has been labelled Wernicke's area. Wernicke's area is of critical importance and lesions in it lead to profound aphasia; it is generally considered to include the posterior part of superior temporal gyrus and the angular gyrus in the dominant cerebral hemisphere. The angular gyrus is an important multimodal association area in the parietal lobe adjacent to the temporal lobe. Multimodal association areas analyze input from single sensory association areas and provide complex analysis of the inputs and determine the response to complex stimuli. Wernicke's area of the brain is most carefully mapped out during neurosurgery and damage to it is assiduously avoided if possible. It is supplied by the middle cerebral artery and there are profound deficits following occlusion of this artery due to ischemic stroke. Lesions in this area are isolating to the person and he/she cannot communicate or understand verbal or written communication. This area directly activates Broca's area in the frontal lobe, a premotor speech area. Lesions to the parietal lobe of the nondominant hemisphere lead to visuospatial deficits and hemi-neglect (ignoring half of external space).

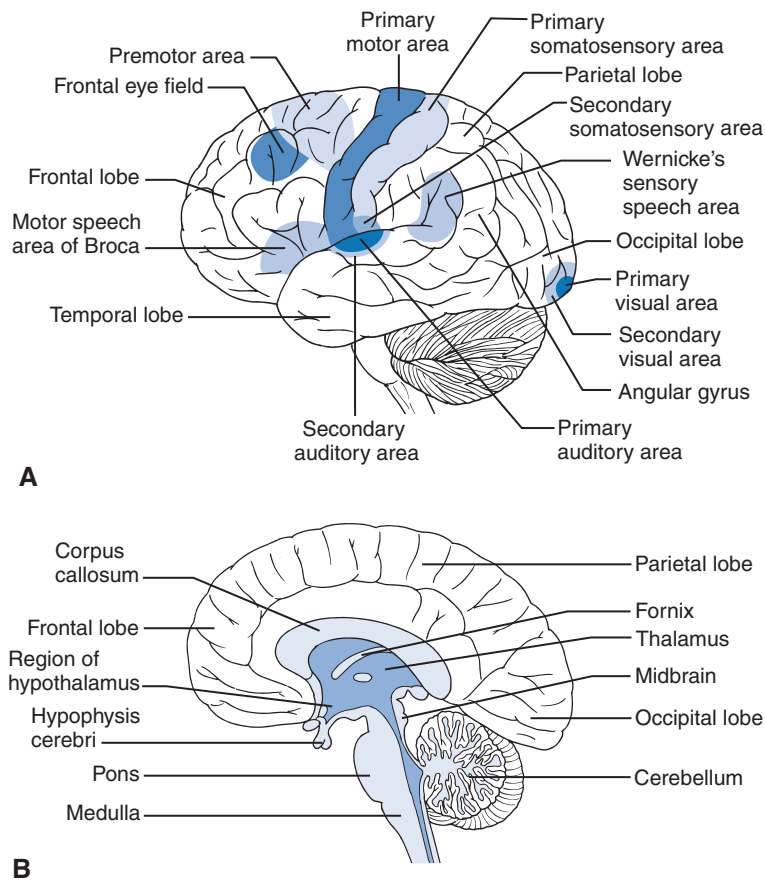


Fig. 1.2 Neuroanatomy of the brain. **A**, A lateral view of the left cerebral cortex. **B**, A medial view of the right cortex. (Modified from Snell RS. *Clinical Neuroanatomy*. 9th ed. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis; 2009.)

The thalamus is located medially and is an important relay center for information to and from the cerebral cortex. The hypothalamus, located below the thalamus, is important for a number of regulatory functions of the body such as hunger, thirst, and temperature regulation and the hypothalamus integrates behavioral and motivational activity from the limbic system with autonomic responses. The limbic system includes limbic cortex, hippocampus, and amygdala and is associated with feelings of reward and punishment, emotional behavior, learning, and memory. The hippocampus and the medial temporal lobe are important for long-term memory formation; the amygdala conveys the emotional content of memory. The basal ganglia are also located medial to the cortex and are important for motor function and the initiation of movements. Parkinson's disease is due to lesions in the substantia nigra, a dopaminergic area, leading to resting tremor and bradykinesia. Dementia is a nonmotor correlate of basal ganglia diseases and indicates these areas, primarily thought to be motor, can also profoundly influence behavior.

The cerebellum is located above the brainstem and plays an important role in rapid learned motor activity as well as postural control; it receives input from the motor cortex and proprioceptive feedback from the body to compare the intended movement with the actual movement caused by the muscles. It is important to know that the lateral cerebellum is not crossed and controls the same side of the body; e.g., the right cerebellum controls muscles on the right side of the body, which is also controlled by the left motor cortex. Thus information from the cerebellar cortex crosses the midline on its way to the cerebral cortex.

The brainstem consists of the midbrain, pons, and medulla and is structurally continuous with the spinal cord. The cranial

nerves III to XII originate from the brainstem and/or brainstem nuclei. Ascending and descending neuronal pathways traverse this part of the brain and synapse with neurons in it; this area contains the reticular formation and the reticular activating system, an area responsible for maintaining alertness and consciousness. This area is important for the control of blood pressure, heart rate, breathing, swallowing, and other bodily functions. Lesions in this area can lead to coma or rapid death.

The spinal cord allows the brain and the body to communicate and contains ascending sensory pathways and descending motor pathways. The anterolateral spinothalamic tracts convey crude touch, temperature, and pain; they enter the gray matter of the cord, synapse in the dorsal horn; the axons of the postsynaptic neurons cross the midline and ascend the spinal cord to the brainstem and thalamus in the anterolateral tracts. The dorsal columns convey fine touch and proprioception and ascend the cord on the same side of the body and cross the midline after first synapsing in nuclei in the medulla. The final destination of these axons is the thalamus and information is relayed from there to the somatosensory cortex on the postcentral gyrus. The dorsal column axons also send branches into the spinal cord at or near to the level of the spinal cord they enter. The spinal cord has neuronal circuitry that modifies input to the brain and also mediates local reflexes such as withdrawal from pain and the control of muscle tension and tone.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Ischemia

When the blood supply to the brain is limited, ischemic damage to neurons can occur; the brain is the organ most sensitive to ischemic damage. The area of the brain corresponding to

the territory of the cerebral artery blocked determines what functions are altered or lost subsequent to focal ischemia; this corresponds to the functional anatomy described in the previous section. The neurons in the ischemic areas are damaged by the loss of energy; the rest of this section describes the cellular events subsequent to ischemia that lead to this damage.

The central event precipitating damage by hypoxia or ischemia is reduced energy production due to blockage of oxidative phosphorylation. This causes ATP production per molecule of glucose to be reduced by 95%. At this rate of production, ATP levels fall, leading to the loss of energy-dependent homeostatic mechanisms. Additionally, during ischemia the supply of glucose is interrupted, as is the wash-out of metabolites. The activity of ATP-dependent ion pumps is reduced and the intracellular levels of sodium and calcium increase, whereas intracellular potassium levels decrease (Fig. 1.3).⁴ These ion changes cause the neurons to depolarize and release excitatory amino acids such as glutamate.⁵ In addition, glutamate is released from neurons owing to the reversal of the glutamate transporter, which pumps glutamate into the extracellular compartment when the cellular sodium and potassium ion gradients are disrupted.⁶ High levels of glutamate further depolarize the neurons by activating AMPA (α -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole-propionate) and NMDA (*N*-methyl-D-aspartate) receptors, increasing sodium and potassium ion conductance.⁷ The NMDA receptor also allows calcium to enter, triggering additional damaging pathways. Glutamate activates metabotropic receptors, which via second-messenger systems can increase the release of calcium from intracellular stores and activate other biochemical processes.⁸ The damage due to excess glutamate has been termed *excitotoxicity* and is caused by activation of glutamate receptors and the accompanying ionic and biochemical changes.⁵

In addition to increased influx through membrane channels, cytosolic calcium is increased through reduced calcium pumping from the cell and the enhanced release of calcium from intracellular organelles such as the endoplasmic

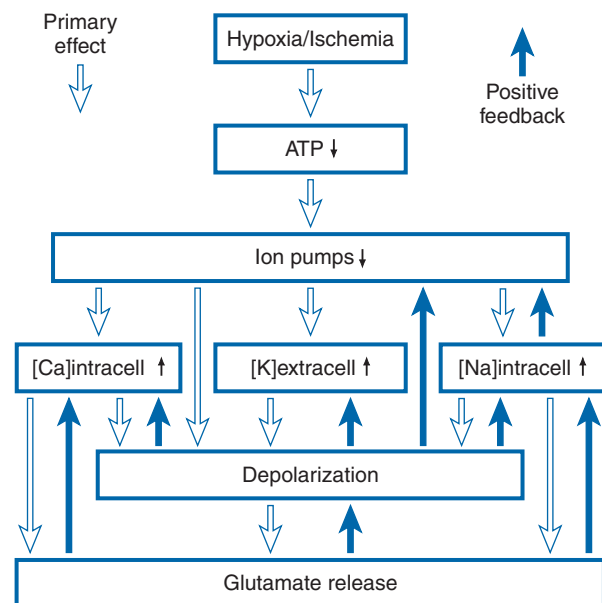


Fig. 1.3 Line diagram of cellular ionic events occurring during anoxia or ischemia. The events indicated are the primary triggers of events leading to neuronal cell death. Positive feedback loops are unstable and rapidly worsen events. ATP, adenosine triphosphate; extracell, extracellular; intracell, intracellular; \uparrow , increase; \downarrow , decrease.

reticulum (Fig. 1.4).⁹ The high cytoplasmic calcium level is thought to trigger a number of events that lead to the ischemic damage. These include increasing the activity of proteases and phospholipases. Phospholipases raise the levels of free fatty acids, such as arachidonic acid, and free radicals. Free radicals are also generated by incomplete mitochondrial oxidation.⁹ One of the most damaging free radicals is peroxynitrite, which is formed by the combination of nitric oxide and another free radical.⁹ Free radicals are known to damage proteins and lipids, whereas free fatty acids interfere with membrane function.

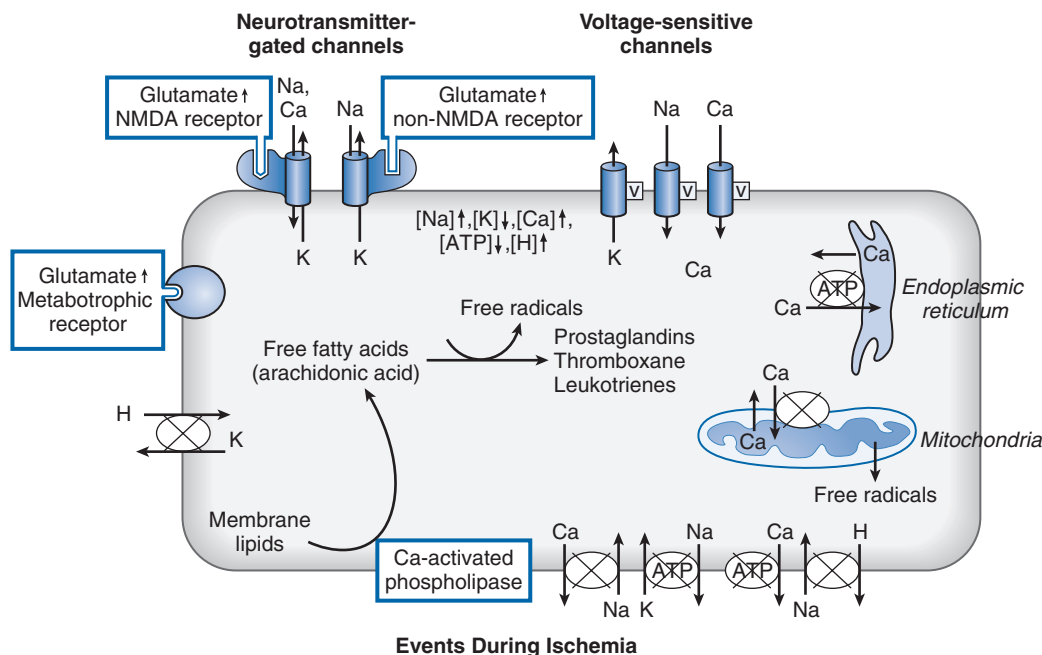


Fig. 1.4 The effect of ischemia on ion and metabolite levels in neurons. For clarity, ion channels are shown on the *top* membrane and ion pumps on the *bottom* membrane; their actual location can be on any membrane surface. *Circles* indicate energy-driven pumps; an *x* through a *circle* indicates that the pump is blocked or has reduced activity during ischemia. *V* indicates a voltage-dependent channel. ATP, adenosine triphosphate; NMDA, *N*-methyl-D-aspartate.

BOX 1.1 Brain Metabolism and Cell Death: Triggers, Effectors, and Functional Changes

Triggers

Adenosine triphosphate ↓
 Extracellular potassium ↑
 Intracellular sodium ↑
 Intracellular calcium ↑
 Free radical levels ↑
 Depolarization ↑
 Glutamate level ↑

Effectors

Protease activity ↑
 Free radical action ↑
 DNA damage ↑
 Phospholipase activity ↑
 Mitochondrial factors ↑ (cytochrome *c* → caspase activation)

Critical Functional Changes

Mitochondrial damage ↑
 Apoptotic cascade activation ↑
 Antiapoptotic factors ↓
 Protein damage ↑
 Protein synthesis ↓
 Cytoskeletal damage ↑

End Stage

Apoptosis ↑ (programmed cell death)
 Necrosis ↑ (cell disintegration)

↑, increases; ↓, decreases; →, leads to

Adapted from Lipton P. Ischemic cell death in brain neurons. *Physiol Rev* 1999; 79:1431–1568.

There is a buildup of lactate and hydrogen ions during ischemia, which lowers the intracellular pH and this can lead to further formation of free radicals.¹⁰ All of these processes, coupled with the reduced ability to synthesize proteins and lipids, contribute to the irreversible damage that occurs with ischemia (Box 1.1).

Additionally, phospholipase activation leads to the production of excess arachidonic acid, which upon reoxygenation can form eicosanoids, including thromboxane, prostaglandins, and leukotrienes. These substances can cause strong vasoconstriction, reduce blood flow in the postischemic period, alter the blood–brain barrier, and enhance free radical formation after reperfusion.^{11,12}

Procedures that protect against ischemic damage should interfere with the cellular changes brought on by ischemia (Box 1.2). In addition to these direct triggering events, there is long-term damage that becomes apparent hours and days after the ischemic insult. Some of this delayed damage is necrotic and the lysis of the cells causes microglial activation.¹³ Lymphocytes, polymorphonuclear cells, and macrophages can invade the central nervous system, leading to additional damage.^{14,15} Although histamine receptor activation is generally associated with immune system activation, the histamine receptor involved with this is the H₁ receptor. In the central nervous system, the H₂ receptor is the one primarily activated, and it reduces immunologic processes and improves recovery from ischemia.^{16,17} Blocking immune system activation can reduce damage.¹⁶ It is clear there is also programmed cell death as a result of the insult.¹⁸ This apoptotic programmed cell death, which is similar to the cell death that occurs during neuronal development, can continue days after the initial insult.

Necrosis versus Apoptosis

There are two major processes leading to neuronal death. The first, necrosis, is due to a more severe insult in which mitochondrial function is lost; it is characterized by a disintegration

BOX 1.2 Consequences of Ischemia

Vascular Changes

Vasospasm
 Red cell sludging
 Hypoperfusion
 Platelet aggregation
 Endothelial injury
 Leukocyte-endothelial adhesion
 Blood–brain barrier disruption

Neuronal Changes

Adenosine triphosphate reduction
 Sodium influx
 Potassium efflux
 Intracellular acidosis
 High cellular calcium concentrations
 Calcium-activated proteases
 Caspase activation
 Phospholipase activation
 Arachidonic acid formation and breakdown
 Free radical production
 Excitatory amino acid release
 Disruption of ion and amino acid transporters
 Autophagy
 Apoptosis
 Necrosis

of the cell and an activation of microglia and the immune response.¹³ The immune response and inflammation activate and recruit neutrophils and macrophages, which produce free radicals and damage adjacent neurons. This process expands the lesion in volume and time, allowing for continued and expanded neuronal damage.¹³ In the second, apoptosis, the cell dies without breaking apart and there is no microglial or immune system involvement with the potential for excess damage to adjacent neurons. This process is frequently delayed and can lead to the activation of immediate early genes (IEGs) such as *c-Jun* and *c-Fos*; these genes are thought to affect gene expression and lead to the production of apoptotic or antiapoptotic proteins, which determine whether the neurons will survive or die.^{18,19} One set of proteins that lead to neuronal death are the cysteine proteinases, referred to as *caspases*. These enzymes are expressed as proenzymes, which undergo proteolytic processing to yield active enzymes that degrade important proteins in the cell (Fig. 1.5).^{20,21} There are both intrinsic and extrinsic pathways to activate caspases and apoptosis, Fig. 1.5 shows the intrinsic pathway activated by mitochondrial cytochrome *c* release. In addition cell death receptors on the neuron membrane may be activated by death factors such as Fas ligand or tumor necrosis factor, which directly activate caspases. The final apoptotic pathway to cell death converges and is the same for both the intrinsic or extrinsically activated pathways.²² Blockade of caspases has been shown to block apoptosis.²³ Because these enzymes are now known to be present as proenzymes before ischemia, new protein synthesis is not needed to induce apoptosis.²² However, proapoptotic proteins are synthesized under certain conditions, and their synthesis may lead to delayed neuronal cell death. Another set of proteins can be induced that block apoptosis and promote neuronal survival after ischemia; examples of these proteins are neuronal apoptosis inhibitory protein, heat shock proteins, and certain antiapoptotic Bcl-2 family proteins.^{22,24} Thus the fate of ischemic neurons rests on the balance between apoptotic inhibitory and activating processes (Fig. 1.6).^{24,25} The synthesis of certain trophic factors can improve neuronal survival by inhibiting apoptosis (see Fig. 1.5). The activation and

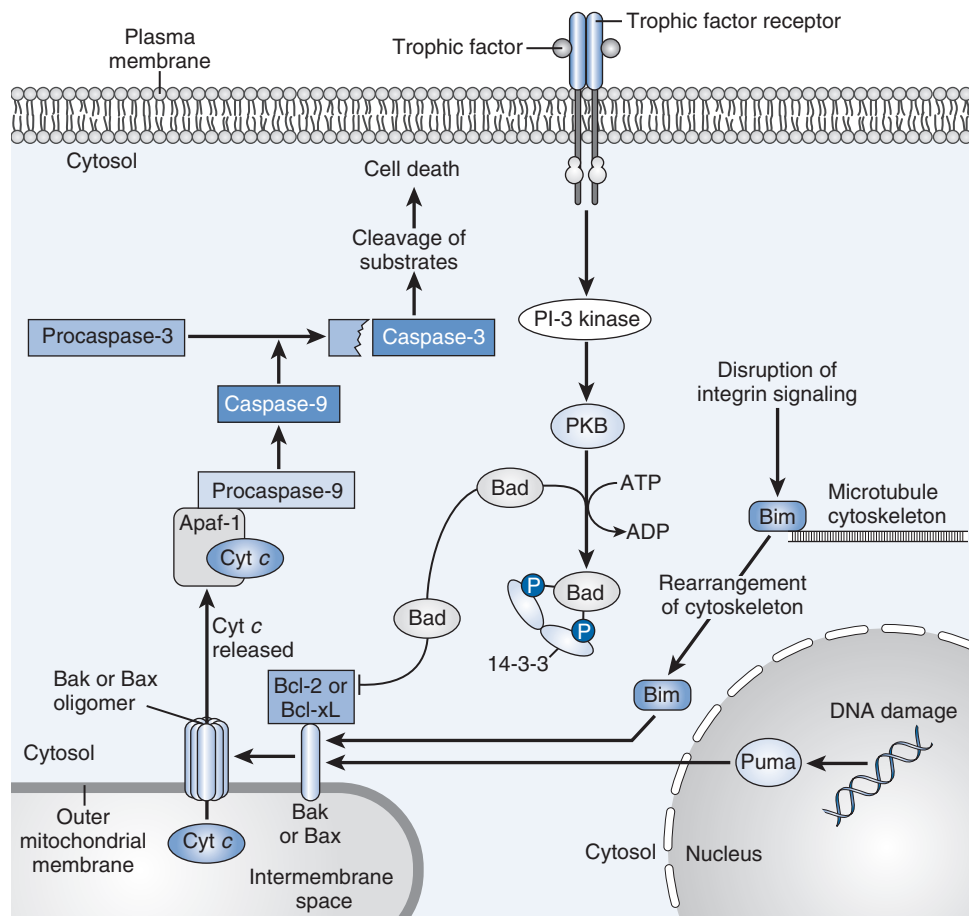


Fig. 1.5 Trophic factors and apoptosis. ADP, adenosine diphosphate; ATP, adenosine triphosphate; Cyt c, cytochrome c; PI, phosphoinositide; PKB, protein kinase B (also called Akt); other abbreviations (Akt, Apaf, Bad, Bax, Bcl, 14-3-3) are names of proteins. When the intrinsic apoptotic pathway is activated: (1) Bad protein inhibits Bcl-2, Bcl-xL proteins; (2) these proteins can no longer inhibit Bax or Bak and, therefore, Bax and Bak form a channel that allows (3) cytochrome c release from the mitochondria to the cytosol and the activation of Apaf 1 which, finally, (4) activates caspase 9 and apoptosis. When apoptosis is inhibited (1) trophic factor binds to a receptor and activates protein kinases; (2) this leads to the phosphorylation of Bad and its inactivation; (3) Bad can no longer inhibit Bcl-2 and Bcl-xL and these 2 proteins can now inhibit Bax and Bak, blocking channel formation, cytochrome c release and apoptosis. (From Lodish H, Berk A, Kaiser, et al [Eds]: *Molecular Cell Biology*, 7th ed. New York, WH Freeman and Co, 2012; page1012, information from D. Ren et al 2010, *Science* 330:1390.)

release of certain cytokines, such as tumor necrosis factor and interleukin-1 β , are thought to be damaging.^{26,27}

Thus necrosis and apoptosis can be contrasted, with the former being a result of more severe ischemia and leading to the damage of adjacent tissue (Fig. 1.7). Apoptosis is subject to modulation, so once started down the apoptotic pathway, cells have a chance of being rescued by trophic substances (see Fig. 1.6).

Global versus Focal Ischemia

Ischemia can be either global or focal in nature; an example of the former would be cardiac arrest, and of the latter, localized stroke. Although the mechanisms leading to neuronal damage are probably similar for the two types of ischemia, there are important distinctions between them. In focal ischemia there are three regions. The first region, called the ischemic core, receives no blood flow and responds in the same way as globally ischemic tissue; the second region, called the *penumbra*, receives collateral flow and is partially ischemic; the third region is normally perfused. If the insult is maintained for a prolonged period, the neurons in the penumbra die and the infarct (ischemic core) increases in size. More neurons in the penumbra region survive if collateral blood flow is increased or if reperfusion is established in a timely manner by opening the blocked vessel. With total global ischemia, the time until the circulation is re-established is critical, and only very short

ischemic times (on the order of minutes) are survivable. The selective neurologic damage after survival subsequent to global ischemia is mainly due to the differential sensitivity of certain neurons and brain regions. The hippocampus, especially the cornu ammonis 1 (CA1) pyramidal cell region, is extremely vulnerable to ischemic damage; loss of learning and memory is common after global ischemia and hypoxia.^{28,29} Other areas of enhanced sensitivity to global ischemia and hypoxia are the caudate, and putamen, as well as certain areas of the cerebellum and cerebral cortex.^{30,31}

Genetic Influences on Neuronal Damage

Genetic factors play an important role in an individual's susceptibility to ischemic stroke. Both environmental (such as diet and stress) and genetic factors combine to determine the risk of stroke. A study of the Icelandic population found that polymorphisms (genetic changes) in genetic locus ALOX5AP, which encodes 5-lipoxygenase-activating protein, and PDE4D, which encodes phosphodiesterase 4D, increase the susceptibility to stroke.^{32,33} In addition, polymorphisms of both apolipoprotein B and apolipoprotein E have been found to enhance the susceptibility to stroke.^{34,35} The genetic factors could target neuronal risk but more likely raise the vascular risk, which is associated with an increase in both stroke and cardiac disease. If a patient's genetic susceptibility to injury were known, it would be possible to choose

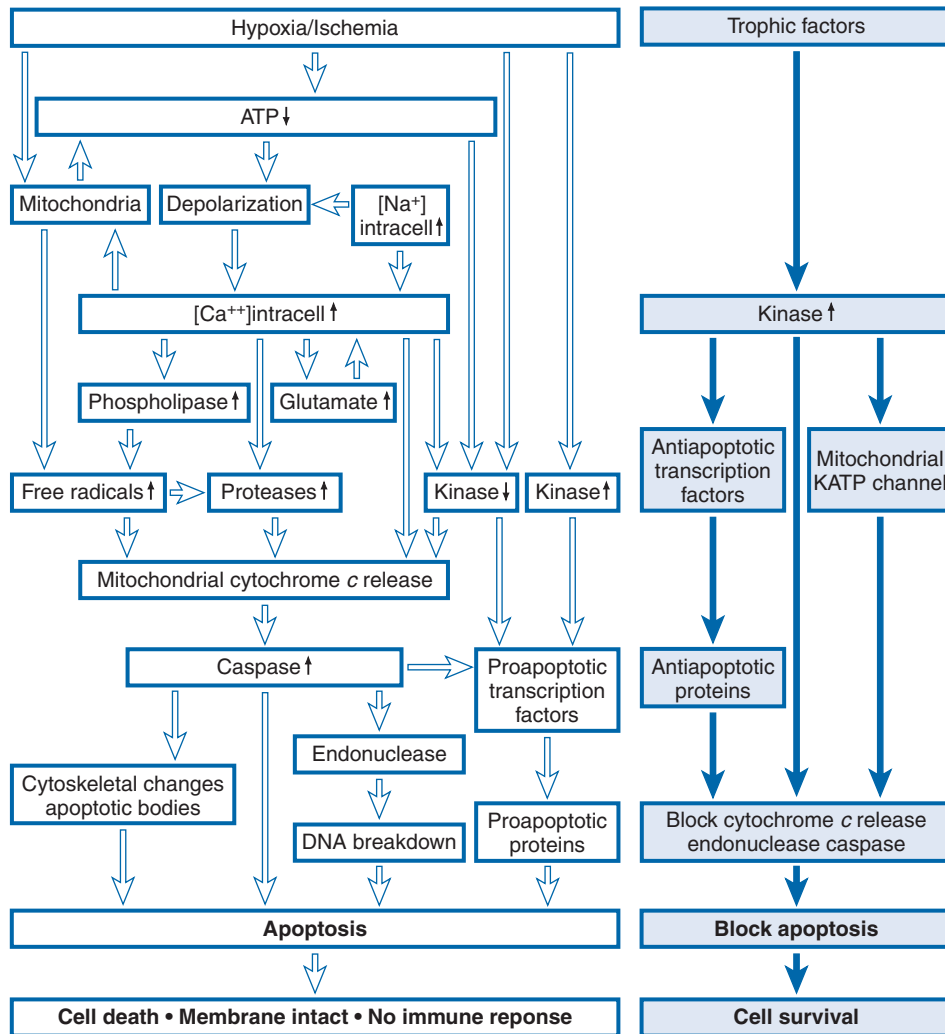


Fig. 1.6 Apoptosis subsequent to hypoxia or ischemia. The apoptotic cascade of biochemical changes evoked by hypoxia or ischemia. Similar events may also be occurring during epileptic and trauma-induced damage; they lead to depolarization, reduced adenosine triphosphate (ATP), sodium influx, and high cytosolic calcium levels. There is no cellular membrane disruption during apoptosis, and inflammation is not triggered. The apoptotic biochemical cascade can be modulated and opposed by trophic factors. intracell, intracellular; KATP channel, ATP-sensitive potassium channel; ↑, increase; ↓, decrease; the large open arrows indicate damaging pathways, the large closed arrows indicate protective pathways.

therapeutic strategies individually for the patient to improve outcome.

Genetic factors have been shown to influence cardiovascular risk, particularly with respect to hyperlipidemia; controlling these factors with statins not only reduces cardiac disease but also reduces cerebral vascular disease and stroke rates.³⁶

POTENTIAL TREATMENTS FOR CEREBRAL ISCHEMIA

Reperfusion Strategies

The goal for treatment of ischemic stroke is to achieve prompt restoration of perfusion and to preserve brain tissue in the ischemic penumbra. Reperfusion therapies include intravenous thrombolysis, intra-arterial thrombolysis, and endovascular mechanical thrombectomy. Comprehensive guidelines for early management of acute ischemic stroke were updated in 2013; this chapter can only very briefly summarize some of these important guidelines.³⁶ Throughout this section recommendations that are not directly referenced are from this paper, any deviation from these guidelines will be explicitly stated. The most successful technique for improving recovery

from embolic stroke is prompt restoration of spontaneous perfusion as soon as possible after the onset of a stroke. To date, despite recent evidence that for large vessel occlusion, intracranial mechanical thrombectomy is superior to pharmacological intervention alone,^{37–41} the only U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved method is the use of the thrombolytic agent, recombinant tissue plasminogen activator (rtPA); as one would predict, the effects of rtPA would markedly worsen hemorrhagic stroke.^{36,42,43} Thus detecting, classifying, and treating stroke rapidly after its onset is critical to a successful outcome.⁴⁴ Thrombolytics cannot be used in patients with a high risk of bleeding; such as those with head trauma, recent surgery or with reduced clotting ability due to drugs such as warfarin, direct thrombin inhibitors and direct factor Xa inhibitors. Warfarin treated patients with an INR below 1.4 can be given rtPA treatment; however, the newer agents create a problem since the ability to assess coagulation function in patients taking these drugs is difficult and recommendations are under review.³⁶

The major side effect of rtPA is intracerebral hemorrhage, which can be devastating. It is essential that a noncontrast computed tomography scan be performed and analyzed shortly after patient presentation to the hospital in order to rule out a hemorrhagic stroke, because rtPA must be administered

provide clinical benefit in selected patients with acute ischemic stroke. Systems of care should be organized to facilitate the delivery of this care.⁵⁰ Patients for mechanical thrombectomy should have confirmed occlusions in the proximal anterior intracranial circulation and an absence of large ischemic-core lesions.⁴⁰ As yet, however, there is no consensus as to the type of neuroimaging and the exact imaging criteria for patient eligibility, the rapidity of the assessment is critical, since delays lead to more infarcted brain. The accepted time window for treatment with mechanical thrombectomy is 6 hours from the onset of symptoms. For now, the most widely used effective treatment for ischemic stroke remains the administration of intravenous rtPA within 3 hours of stroke onset, or for up to 4.5 hours for certain patients.^{36,51} This treatment is underutilized because of the short time window for safe administration of rtPA, the many contraindications to its use, and the frequent delay in presentation of patients to the hospital after the onset of symptoms. This problem can and is being addressed by community education about the signs of stroke through the FAST campaign (FACE, ARMS, SPEECH, TIME to call 911) and the need for emergency transport to an appropriate hospital with a stroke center. The guidelines for early management and treatment of stroke are frequently updated and should be consulted and examined for the latest recommendations.³⁶

Hypothermia

Deep hypothermia has long been used in neonatal heart surgery to provide protection against irreversible brain injury during circulatory arrest. It has also been used during the repair of giant aneurysms. However, there are numerous complications of profound hypothermia (27°C or lower) that limit its usefulness (Box 1.3). Profound hypothermia reduces cerebral metabolism to such an extent that the brain can survive relatively long periods without perfusion (Box 1.4). Experimental studies indicate that moderate hypothermia has a protective effect without many of the complications of profound hypothermia, although myocardial depression has been documented.⁵²⁻⁵⁴ There are many *in vitro* and *in vivo* animal studies to support the use of moderate hypothermia to protect against ischemic damage. Indeed, moderate hypothermia has come into common use even though it has not been unequivocally shown to improve recovery in a major clinical trial.⁵⁵ A

BOX 1.3 Complications of Deep Hypothermia

Cardiovascular Complications
 Myocardial depression
 Dysrhythmia including ventricular fibrillation
 Hypotension
 Inadequate tissue perfusion
 Ischemia
 Coagulation
 Thrombocytopenia
 Fibrinolysis
 Platelet dysfunction
 Increased bleeding
 Metabolism
 Slowed metabolism of anesthetic agents
 Prolonged neuromuscular blockade
 Increased protein catabolism
 Shivering
 Increased oxygen consumption
 Increased carbon dioxide production
 Increased cardiac output
 Arterial oxygen desaturation
 Hemodynamic instability

BOX 1.4 Proposed Mechanisms of Protection by Hypothermia

Decrease in cerebral metabolism
 Delayed anoxic/ischemic depolarization
 Preservation of ion homeostasis
 Decrease excitatory neurotransmission
 Prevention or reduction of damaging secondary biochemical changes

European study published in 2002 indicates that mild hypothermia, target temperature 32° to 34°C, after cardiac arrest improves neurologic outcome and survival 6 months after the arrest.⁵⁶ However, recent larger studies have found no benefit to mild hypothermia compared to maintaining the temperature below 36°C; avoiding hyperthermia appears to be important and may explain the benefit found in earlier studies.^{57,58} The recommendation for hypothermia following cardiac arrest may soon be replaced by the avoidance of hyperthermia. However, with respect to hypothermia after stroke there is no Class I evidence of benefit; cooling to levels between 34° and 35°C leads to fewer complications and slow rewarming is important to reduce deleterious effects.³⁶ Mild hypothermia did not improve outcome from surgery for intracranial aneurysm surgery and a Cochrane systematic review did not find benefit or harm from hypothermia during acute stroke.^{55,59} If hypothermia does demonstrate some benefit for certain types of stroke patients, its degree and duration as well as the rate of rewarming will need to be better determined.

It is clear that even minor amounts of hyperthermia worsen clinical outcome of ischemia and increase neuronal damage, and this must be carefully guarded against.^{57,58}

Glucose

Glucose is the main source of energy for neurons in the brain, and some *in vitro* studies reported improved recovery with hyperglycemia. However, *in vivo* and clinical studies found a clear worsening of damage with hyperglycemia, which is thought to be due to enhanced cellular acidosis.^{10,61} The precise mechanism by which hyperglycemia exacerbates damage is not known. Clinical recommendations are to maintain normal serum glucose levels and to treat hyperglycemia greater than 180 mg/dL in order to reduce the glucose value closer to normal.⁶² It is important for the patient not to be hypoglycemic, as hypoglycemia would also worsen outcome. Intensive tight glucose control did not improve outcome after stroke and a more recent study demonstrated a higher mortality in patients managed with levels from 81 to 108 mg per deciliter compared to patients managed to a target of 140–180 mg per deciliter.^{63,64} Episodes of hypoglycemia due to excessive insulin used to control glucose levels likely explains the worsened outcome with intensive glucose control. Control to maintain glucose below 180 is recommended but tight control is clearly detrimental; stronger evidence indicates treatment of hypoglycemia if glucose falls below 60 mg/dL.³⁶

Pharmacologic Agents

Animal studies have demonstrated that a number of agents can improve outcome from experimental stroke; there is controversy why none of these agents have led to clinical improvement. Many drugs have been proposed as potential agents to reduce permanent neuronal damage subsequent to ischemia, but none has proved useful in clinical trials.^{36,65} The theoretical basis for choosing drugs that block specific damaging pathways is sound. Blocking one pathway to damage may not be