

**Unit II - Problem 6**

**Respiratory System Physiology: Neural & Chemical Control of Respiration**

Dr. Amer AlAnsari Slides + Dr. Najeeb's Video Notes

❖ **Neural (or Central) Control of Respiration:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Function</b>
<i>Dorsal Respiratory Group</i>	Found in the dorsal side of the medulla oblongata, most of its neurons in nucleus of Tractus Solitarius	Provides a *ramp* signal which causes inspiration by supplying the phrenic & intercostal nerves causing the contraction of the diaphragm & the external intercostal muscles, & when stopped expiration starts.
<i>Ventral Respiratory Group</i>	Found in each sides of the ventral view of the medulla oblongata in the nucleus ambiguus & retroambiguus	Excite internal intercostal muscles, abdominal muscles, ..etc resulting in forceful expiration. And it also
<i>Pneumotaxic Centre</i>	Found in the nucleus parabrachialis in the upper pons	Inhibiting inspiration
<i>Apneustic Centre</i>	Lower pons	Excite the inspiratory area / Apneusis
<i>Cerebro-spinal Neurons</i>	In the cerebral cortex	+ or - the dorsal inspiratory center (voluntary control)
<i>Emotional control of Respiration</i>	Hypothalamus & limbic system	+ or - the inspiratory center by having descending neurons that reach there.

❖ **Chemical Control of Respiration:**

Name	Location	Function
<i>Central Chemoreceptors</i>	Bilaterally beneath the ventral surface of the medulla oblongata	Excitation of this area is mainly done by H <sup>+</sup> found in the cerebral ISF due to ↑ [CO <sub>2</sub> ] in blood, and this stimulates the respiratory centers → ↑ the rate & depth of breathing
<i>Peripheral Chemoreceptors (Carotid &amp; Aortic bodies)</i>	Carotid & aortic bodies	Stimulate the medullary inspiratory center through the glossopharyngeal & vagus nerve when the PO <sub>2</sub> is ↓
<i>Juxtacapillary receptors "J cells"</i>	Present in the wall of the alveoli and have close contact with the pulmonary capillaries	Stimulated when there is pulmonary edema, that leads to increased respiratory rate (shallow and rapid breathing) → dyspnea
<i>Irritant receptors</i>	On the wall of the bronchi & bronchioles (between the airway epithelial cells)	Produces hyperventilation & bronchospasm
<i>Lung stretch receptors</i>	In smooth muscles of the bronchi & bronchioles	Termination of inspiration (inspiration interval ↑ & expiration interval ↓) * <b>Hering-Breuer Inflation Reflex</b> *
<i>Proprioceptors</i>	Locomotor (joints, muscles, and tendons)	Stimulated during exercise to cause hyperventilation
<i>Thermoreceptors</i>	Cutaneous layer	Give response to change in the body temperature causing hyperventilation
<i>Pain receptors</i>	-	Give response to pain stimulus causing hyperventilation