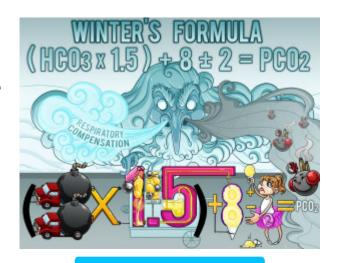


## Winter's Formula

Winter's Formula is used to evaluate respiratory compensation when metabolic acidosis is present in a patient. This is used to give an expected value for the patient's PCO2, which helps to assess whether or not the patient is adequately compensating for their acidotic state. Winter's formula yields the expected PCO2 =  $(HCO3 \times 1.5) + 8 \pm 2$ .



PLAY PICMONIC

#### **Evaluates Respiratory Compensation**

### Respiration Compensation

In cases of metabolic acidosis, the body should normally compensate physiologically. The normal PCO2 range is from 35-45, however, in cases of metabolic acidosis, it should change depending on the patient's bicarbonate (HCO3) level. Thus, the expected compensation can be calculated with this formula.

#### **Used in Metabolic Acidosis**

## Metal-ball Acidic-lemon

Winter's Formula is primarily used in metabolic acidosis, and uses the patient's bicarbonate level (HCO3) to help calculate what the appropriate respiratory compensation should be.

# **Equation**

## (HCO3 x 1.5) + 8 plus-minus 2 = PCO2

Bi-car-bomb x 1.5 + 8  $\pm$  (2) Tutu = CO2-exhaust

Winter's Formula calculates the expected PCO2 value with respiratory compensation in cases of metabolic acidosis. The formula is (HCO3  $\times$  1.5) + 8  $\pm$  2, which yields the expected PCO2 value.

#### Steps

## Bicarbonate (HCO3) x 1.5

Bi-car-bomb x 1.5

Initially the bicarbonate is multiplied by 1.5.

- + 8
- + 8 snow cone

Next, 8 is added to the value.

± 2

± (2) Tutu

This calculation is then given a range of  $\pm 2$ .



# = Expected Value for PCO2

CO2-exhaust

This should yield the expected value for PCO2 in a normal response to metabolic acidosis. This value should be compared to the patient's PCO2 value from their arterial-blood gas (ABG) analysis.