

# Congestive Heart Failure

more interesting stuff...



**by the end of this lecture**

- **you should be able to formulate a prioritised treatment plan for an animal with congestive heart failure**



# congestive heart failure

- rest
- low salt diet
- diuretics
- vasodilators
- long acting inotropes
- (antiarrhythmics)



# 7 yr old Doberman

- cough
- lethargy / exercise intolerance
- anorexia
- ascites
- sudden onset 1 week ago



# examination

- soft systolic murmur
- heart rate 148
- harsh lung sounds



# positive inotropes

- sympathomimetics
- cardiac glycosides
- phosphodiesterase inhibitors



# cardiac glycosides

- = digitalis

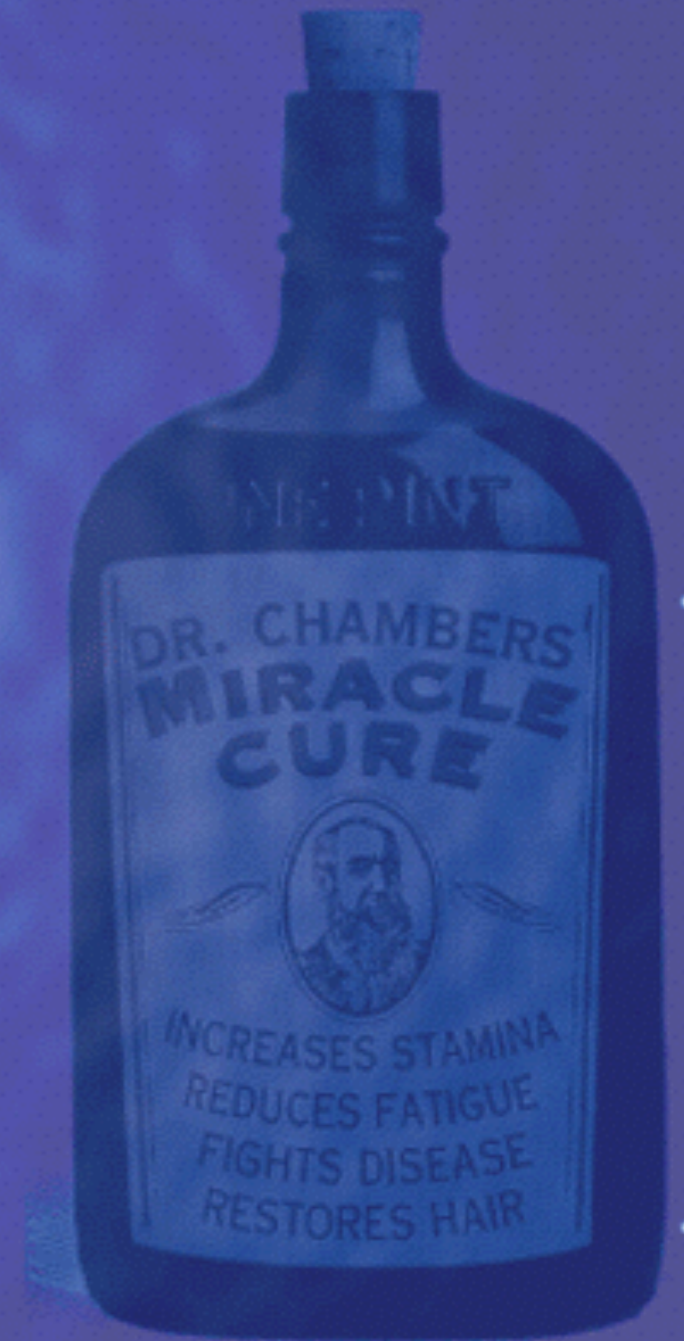






# cardiac glycosides

- **digoxin**
- **digitoxin**
- **ouabain**
- **lanatoside C**
- **strophanthin**
- **squill**
- **convallotoxin**
- **some toads' skin**



# chemistry

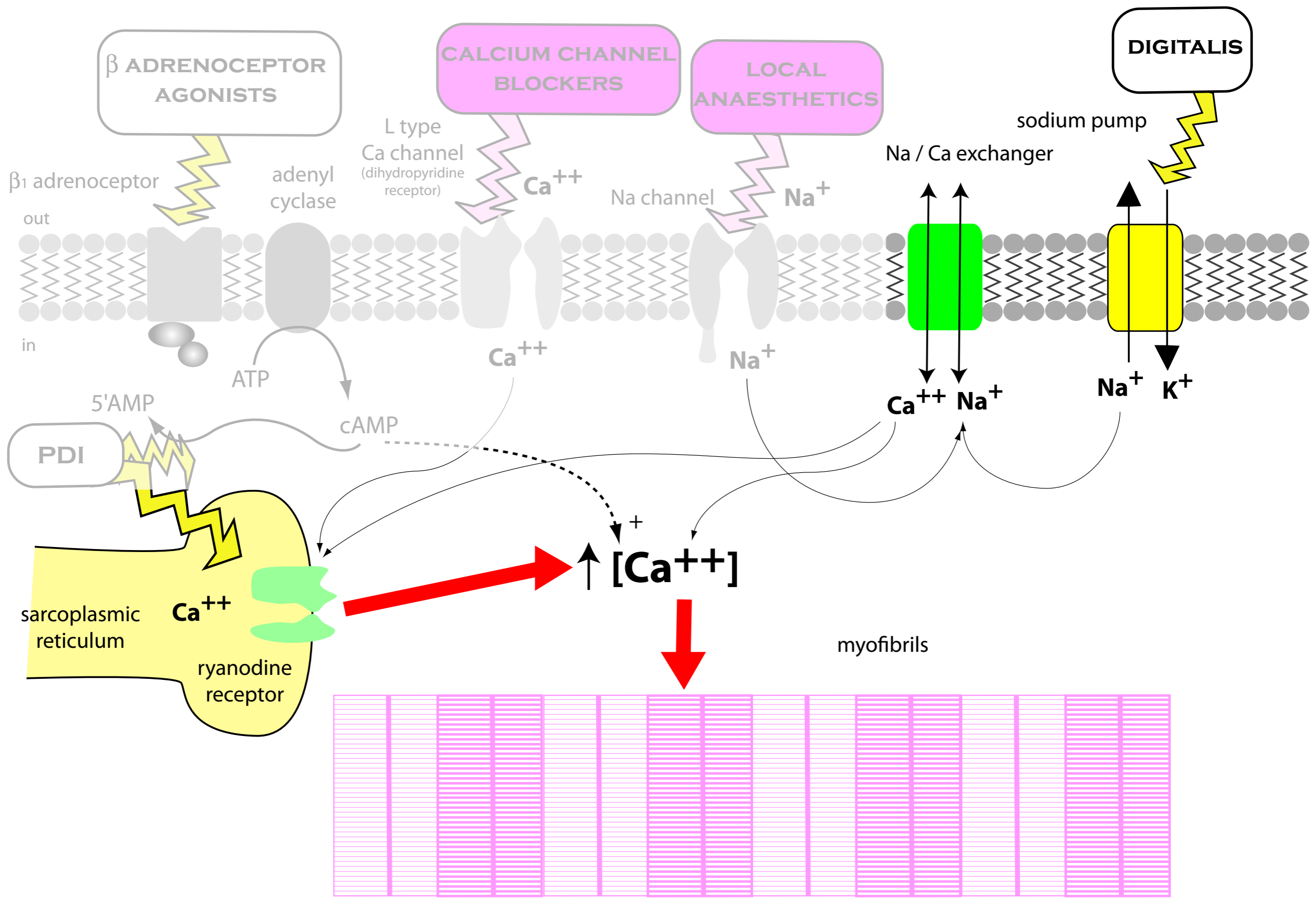
- steroid nucleus
- lactone group
- 3 sugars



# effects

- positive inotropic
- negative chronotropic





# negative chronotropy

- vagal stimulation
- potentiation of ACh
- SA & AV node



# indications

- **congestive heart failure**
  - especially DCM
- **supraventricular tachycardias**
  - atrial fibrillation



# side effects

- **cardiac**
  - ventricular tachyarrhythmias
  - heart block
- **generalised**
  - nausea / anorexia
  - vomiting



# contra-indications

- ventricular tachycardias
- pericardial disease





# toxicity

- **mild**
  - reduce dose / withdraw drug
- **ventricular tachyarrhythmias**
  - lignocaine, phenytoin
  - Ca blockers
- **accidental overdose**
  - cholestyramine
  - digoxin antibodies



# pharmacokinetics

- **half life**

  - dog 24 - 36h

  - cat 33 - 58h

- **elimination**

  - 85% renal



# clinical use

- loading dose then maintenance dose
  - not recommended
- small dose and work up



# monitoring

- nausea / vomiting
- plasma levels



# interactions

- **do not use with**
  - quinidine
  - verapamil
- **care with**
  - diuretics
  - altered  $K^+$  concentrations



# positive inotropes

- sympathomimetics
- cardiac glycosides
- phosphodiesterase inhibitors



# phosphodiesterase inhibitors

- **methylxanthines**

- caffeine

- theophylline

- aminophylline

- etamiphylline

- theobromine

- **synthetic**



# phosphodiesterase inhibitors

- methylxanthines
- synthetic
  - milrinone
  - oxpentifylline
  - sildenafil
  - pimobendan





# phosphodiesterase

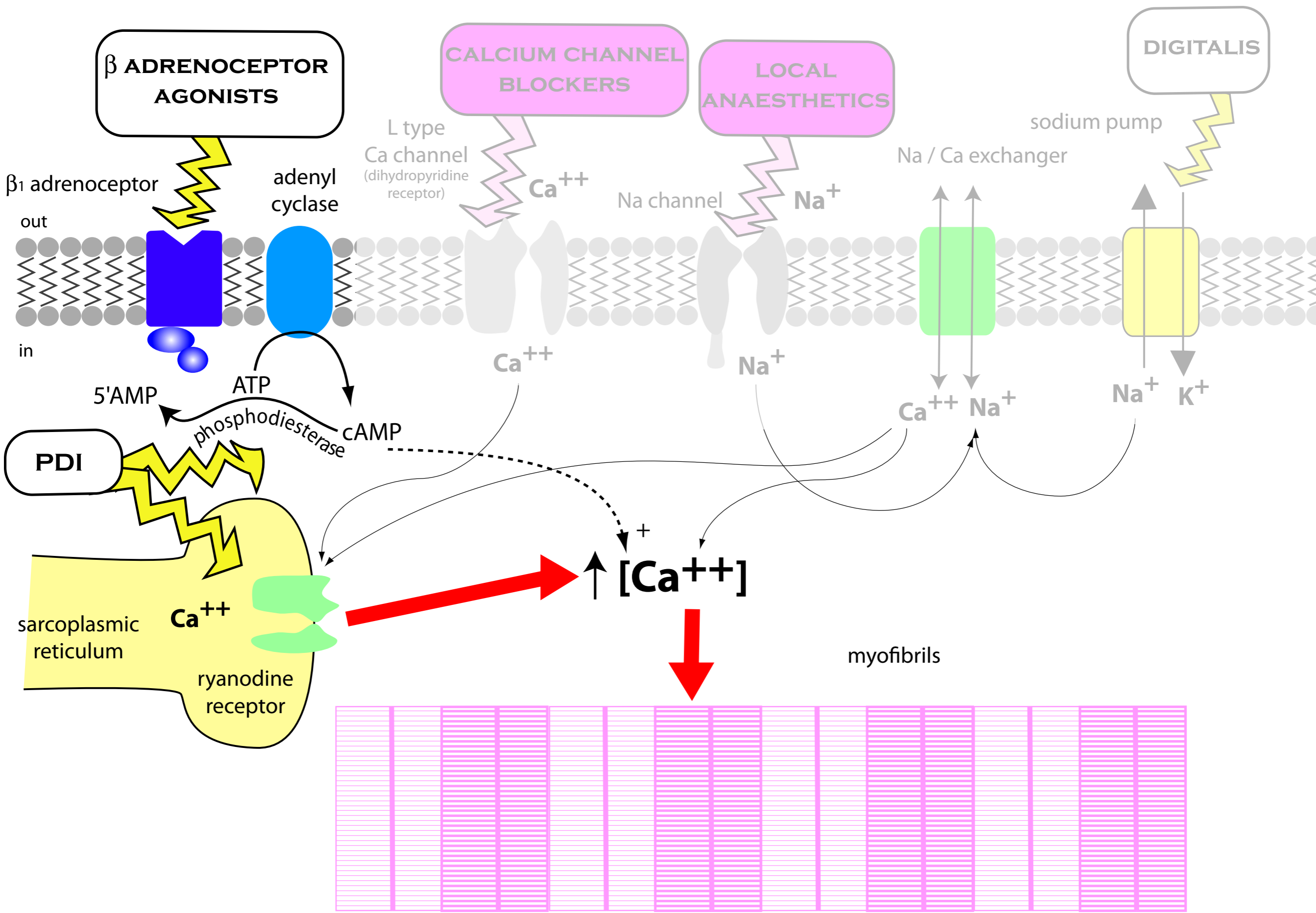
- **PDE 3**
  - milrinone
  - pimobendan?
- **PDE 4**
  - oxpentifylline
- **PDE 5**
  - sildenafil
- **all & A2**
  - theophylline



# PDI effects

- positive inotropy
- vasodilatation
- bronchodilatation
- CNS stimulation
- diuresis





# effects

- **pimobendan**
  - PDE inhibition
  - “calcium sensitisation”



# indications

- mild - moderate CHF



# side effects

- sudden death in people
- none obvious in dogs



# overdose

- tachyarrhythmias
- convulsions



# diuretics

- act on the kidney to increase urine flow
- most block reabsorption of ions from tubules
- water kept in tubules by osmotic pressure

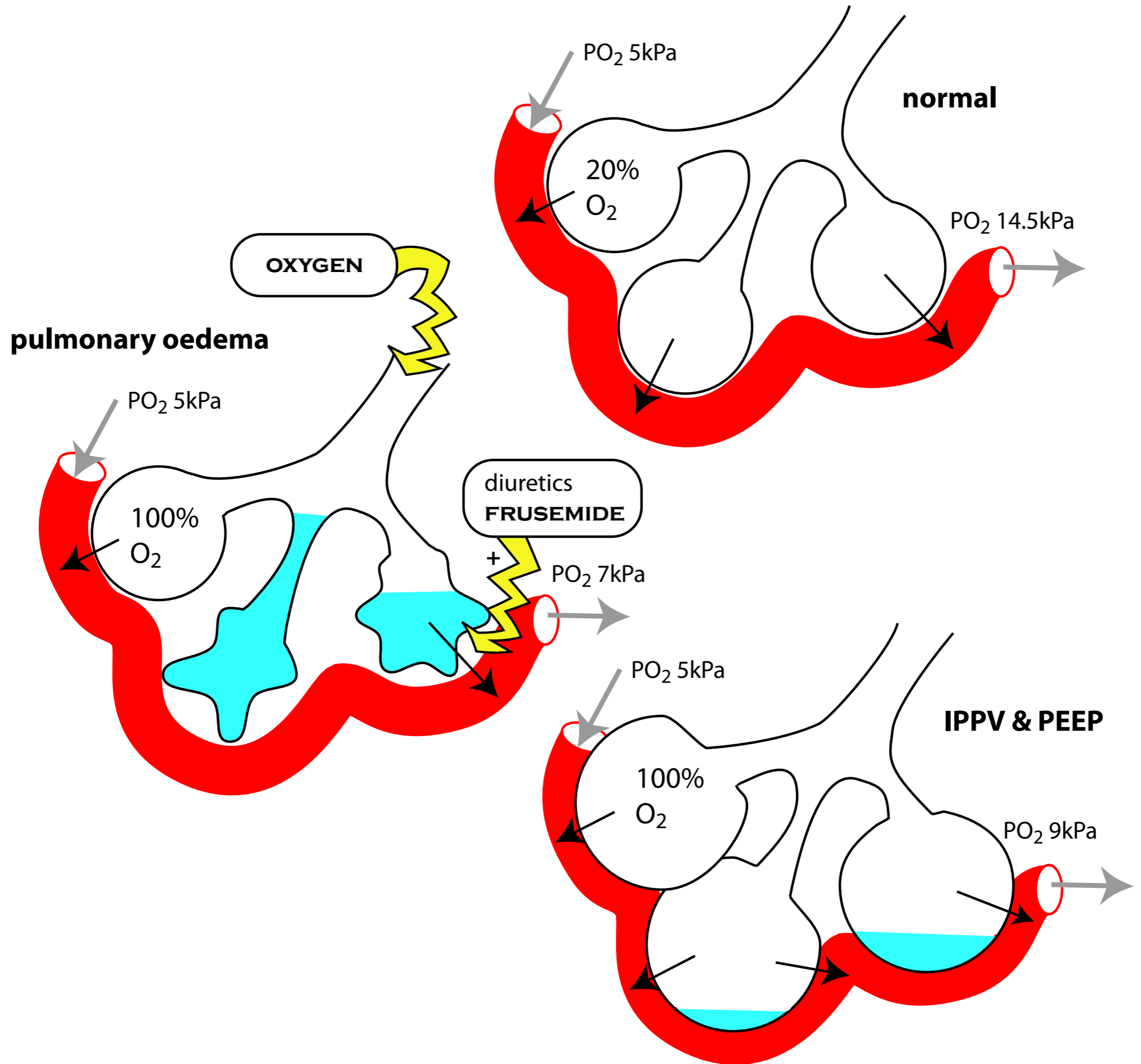


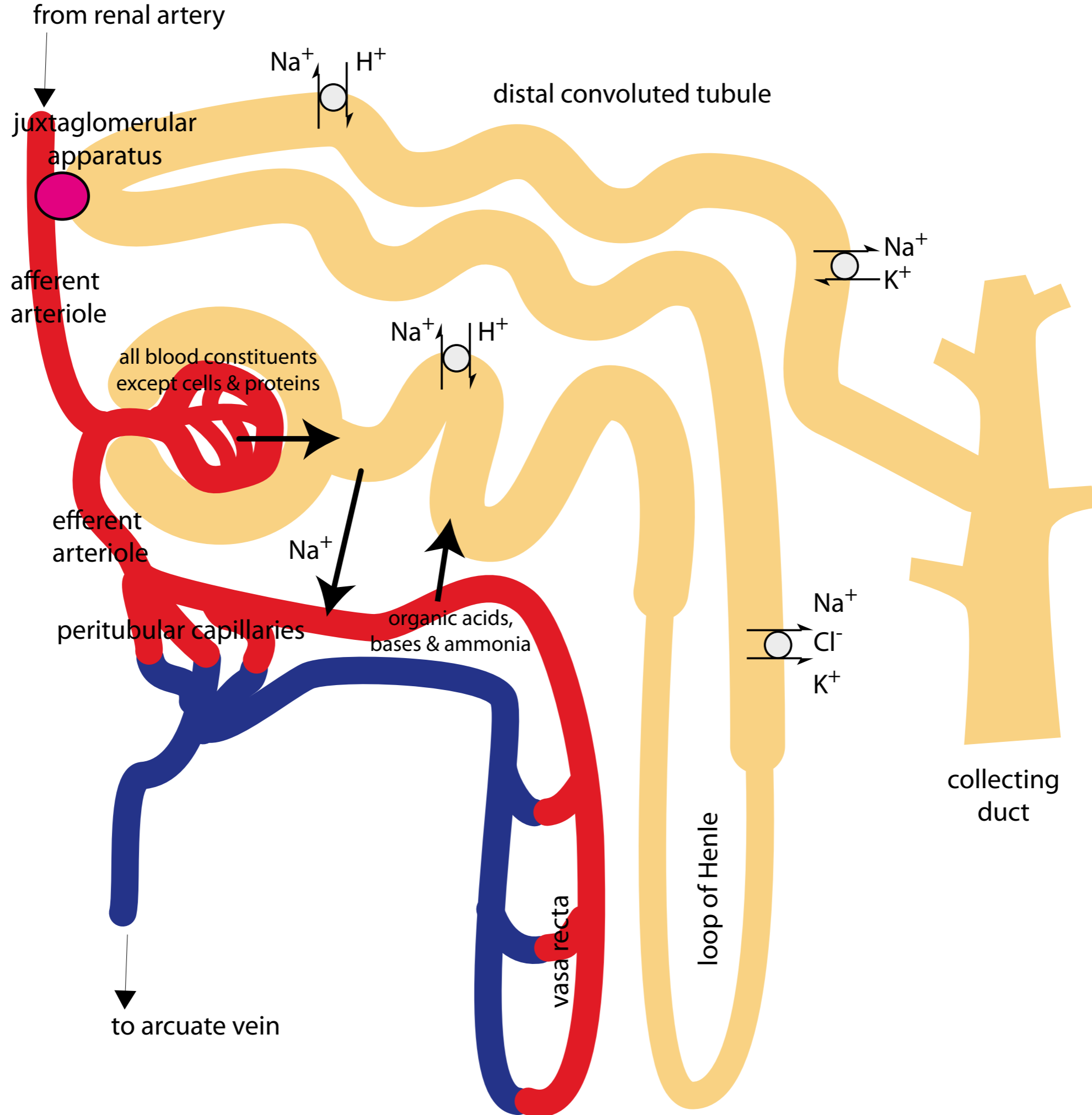


# diuretics & CHF

- reduce pulmonary oedema
- reduce preload







# groups of drugs

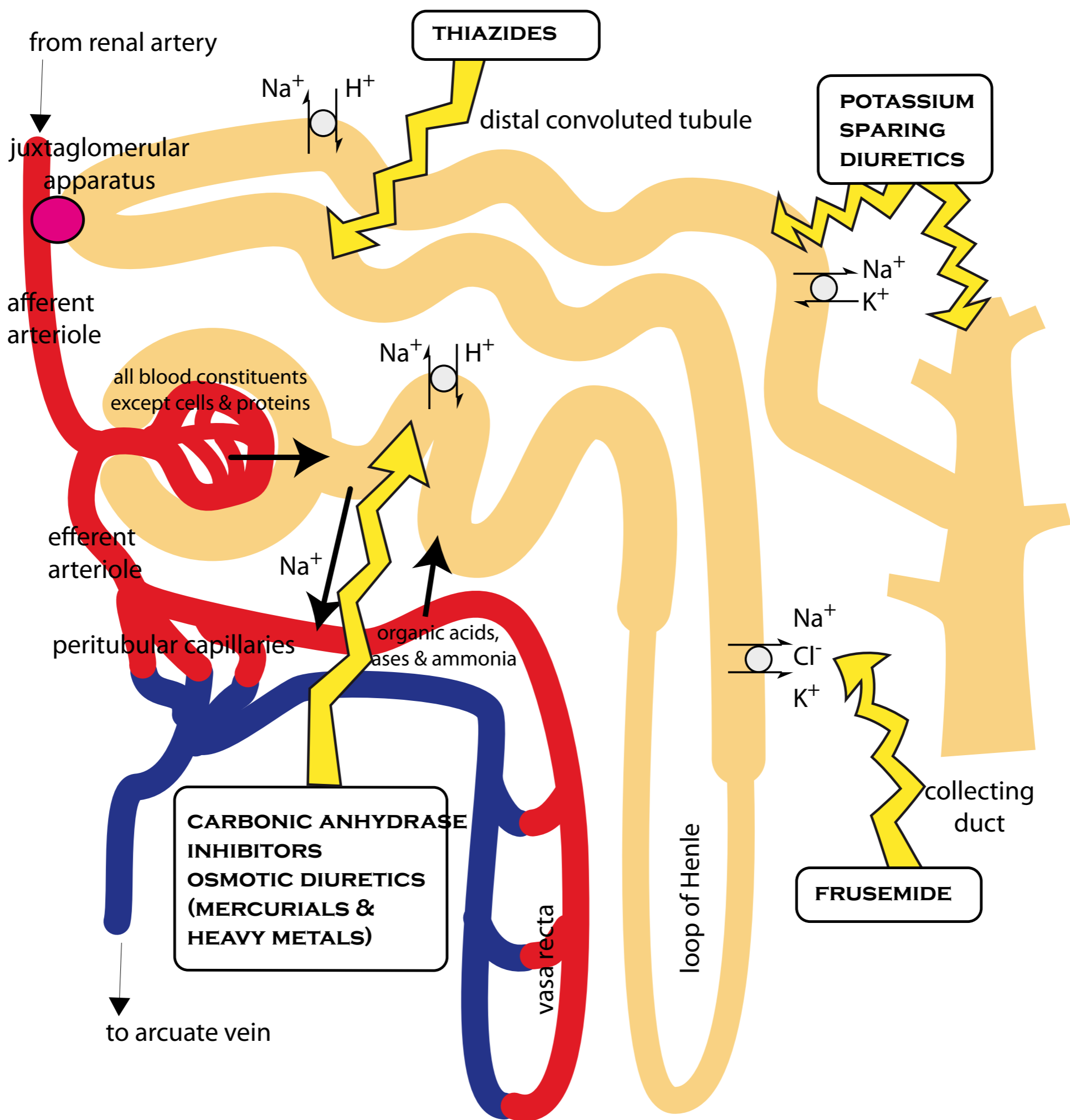
- loop diuretics
- thiazides
- osmotic diuretics
- potassium sparing diuretics
- carbonic anhydrase inhibitors
- (mercurials)



# common drugs

- frusemide
- (hydrochlorothiazide)
- (mannitol)

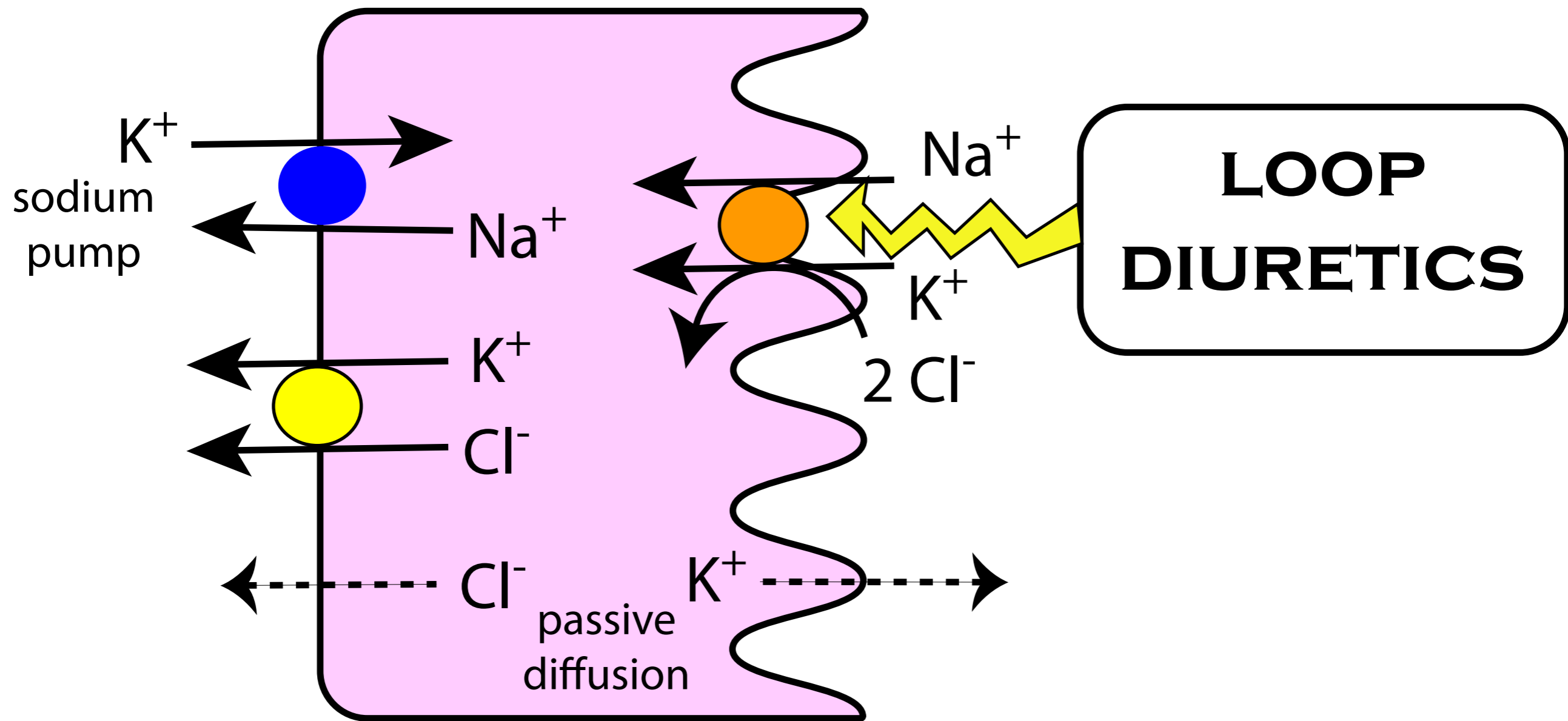




# loop of Henle

**ECF**

**urine**



# frusemide

- **potent**
  - up to 20% of filtered  $\text{Na}^+$  excreted
- **cheap**
- **very widely used**





# frusemide indications

- reduce oedema
- reduce cardiac preload
- (acute renal failure)



# minor indications

- hyperkalaemia
- hypercalcaemia
- uraemia
- epistaxis
- hypertension



# abuse

- speeding up / slowing racehorses



# pharmacokinetics

- **iv**

- onset minutes
- peak 30 mins
- duration 2 hours

- **po**

- onset 30 - 60 mins
- peak 2 hours
- duration 4 - 6 hours



# pharmacokinetics

- **metabolism**

- negligible

- **elimination**

- secreted into PCT by anion pump

- passes out in urine

- horses which eat their bedding may take it in again



# side effects

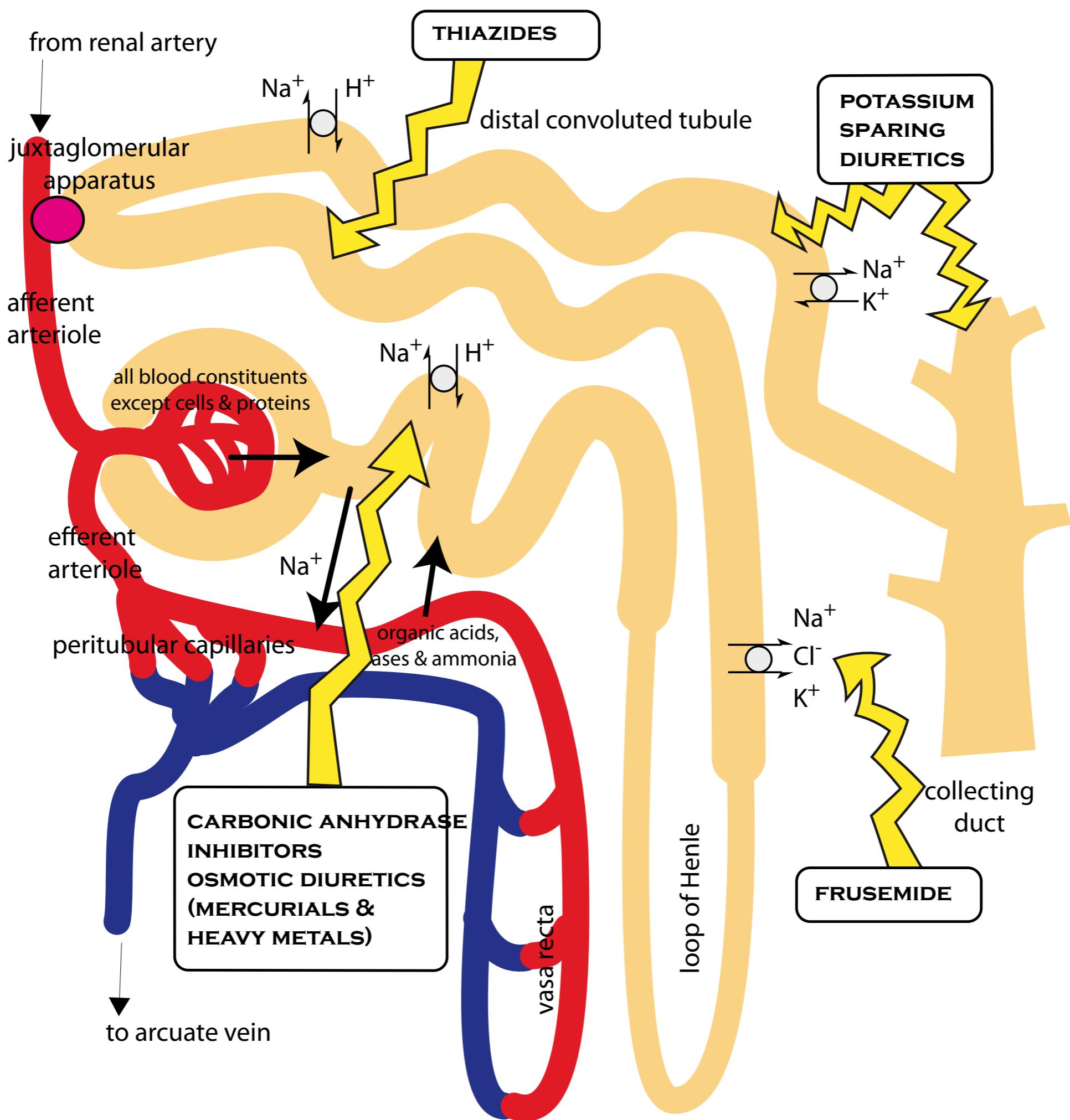
- **hypovolaemia**
  - reduced glomerular filtration
  - reduced excretion of other drugs
  - collapse
  - direct vasodilatation?
- **hypokalaemia**
- **metabolic alkalosis**
- **hypocalcaemia / hypomagnesaemia**
- **tolerance**



# side effects

- hypovolaemia
- hypokalaemia
  - digoxin!!!
- metabolic alkalosis
- hypocalcaemia / hypomagnesaemia
- tolerance

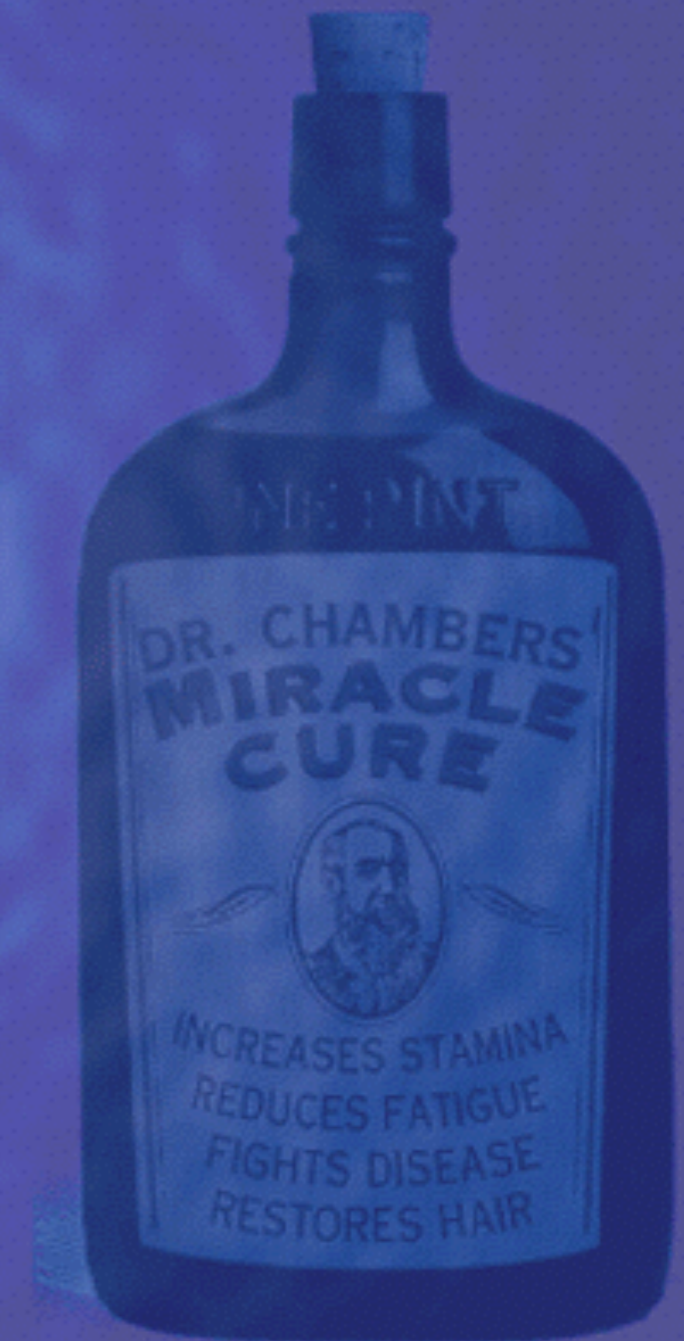






# side effects

- hypovolaemia
- hypokalaemia
- metabolic alkalosis
- hypocalcaemia / hypomagnesaemia
- tolerance



# interactions

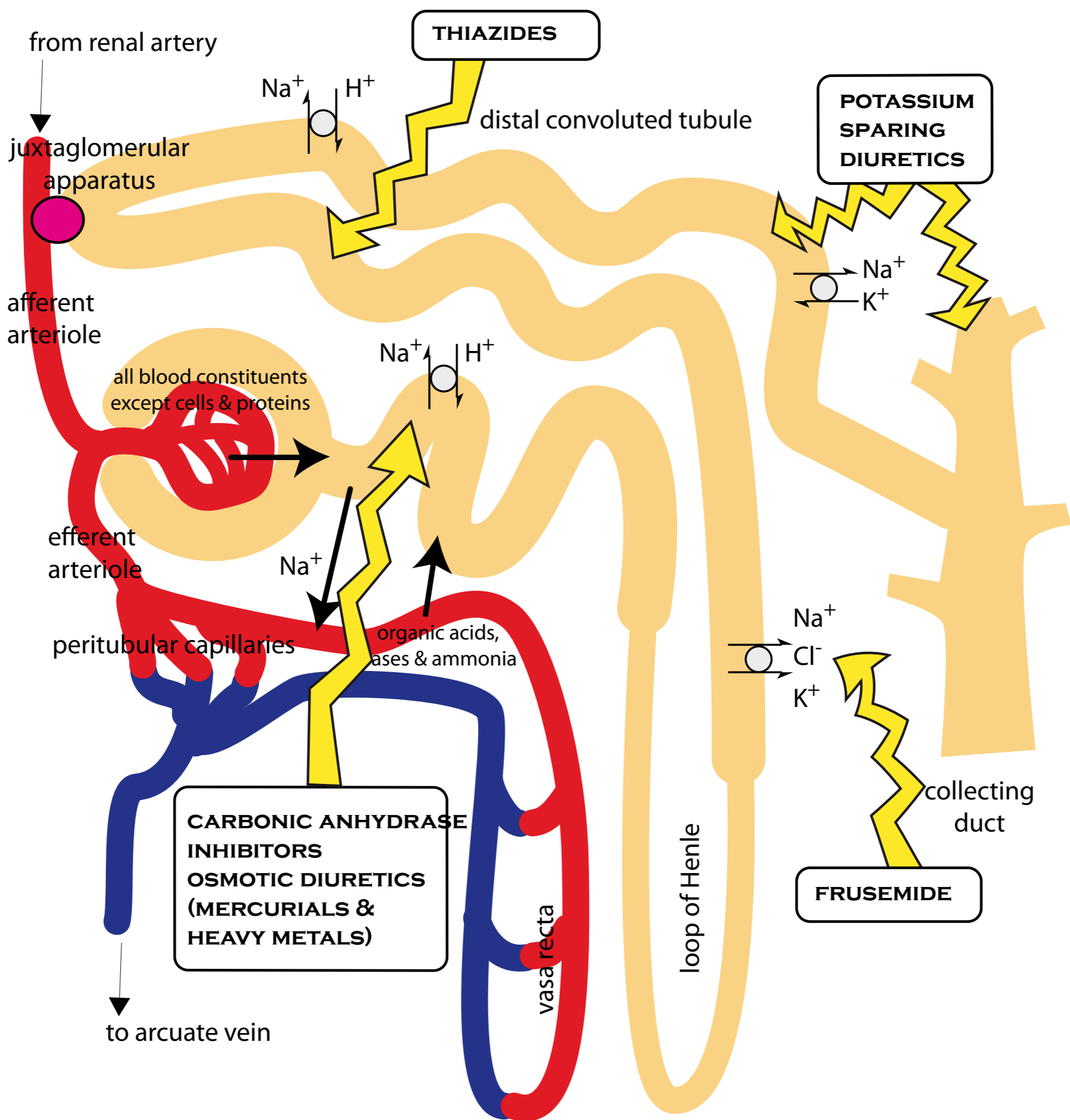
- **increased PCT toxicity**
  - aminoglycosides
  - out of date tetracyclines
  - some obsolete cephalosporins
- **potentiates digoxin**
- **ACE inhibitors?**



# common drugs

- frusemide
- (hydrochlorothiazide)
- (mannitol)

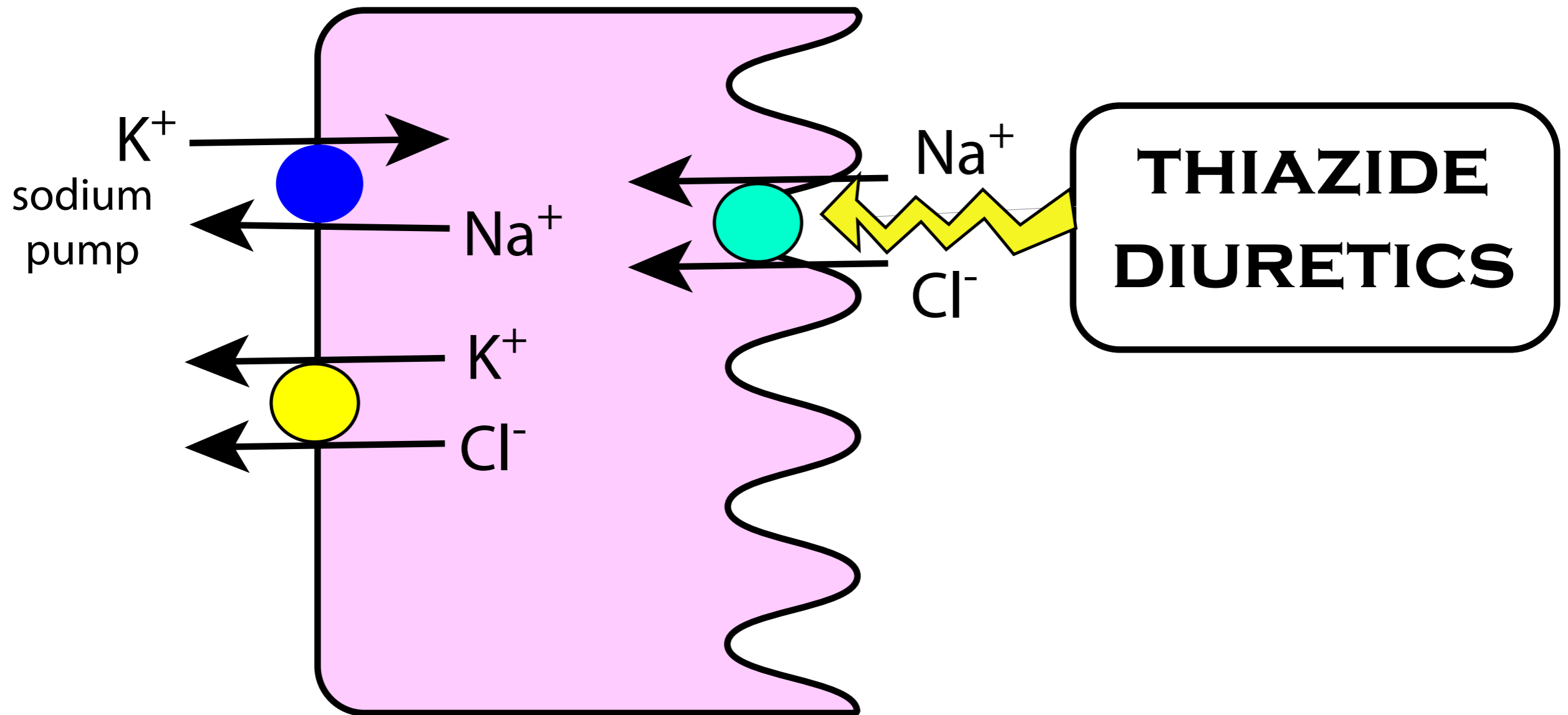




# early DCT

**ECF**

**urine**



# thiazides

- many drugs available
  - hydrochlorothiazide
  - bendrofluazide, etc
- moderately potent
- cheap



# thiazide side effects

- hypokalaemia
  - digoxin!!
- metabolic alkalosis
- increased plasma uric acid
- hyperglycaemia



# kinetics

- always given po
- onset 1 - 2 hours
- peak effect 4 - 6 h
- duration 8 - 12 h





# indications

- mild / moderate heart failure
- (diabetes insipidus)



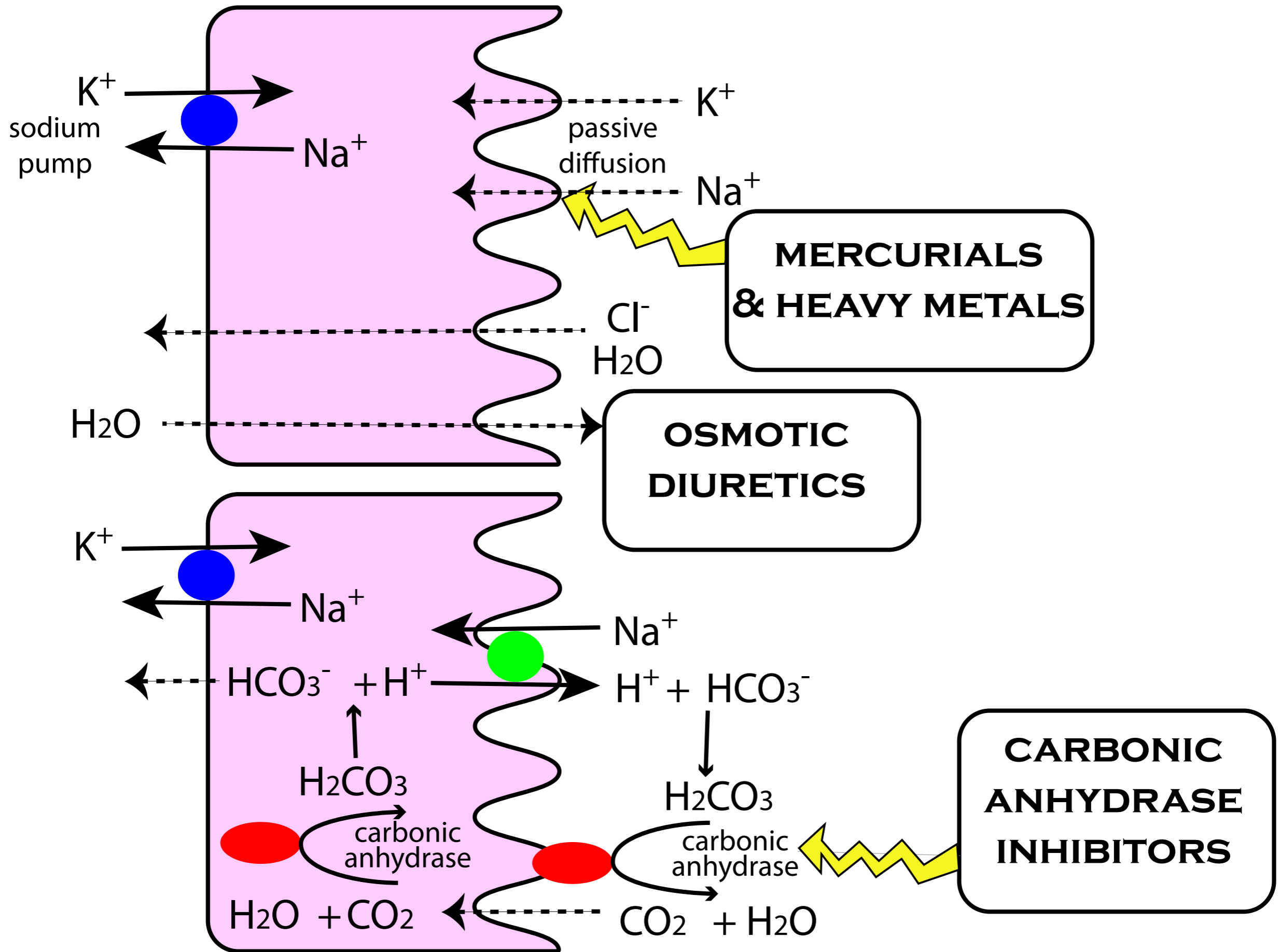
# osmotic diuretics

- mannitol
- glycerol
- glucose



**ECF**

**urine**



# mannitol

- **indications**
  - glaucoma
  - cerebral oedema
  - acute renal failure
- **contraindications**
  - heart disease
- **caution**
  - **must** be given iv



# K<sup>+</sup> sparing diuretics

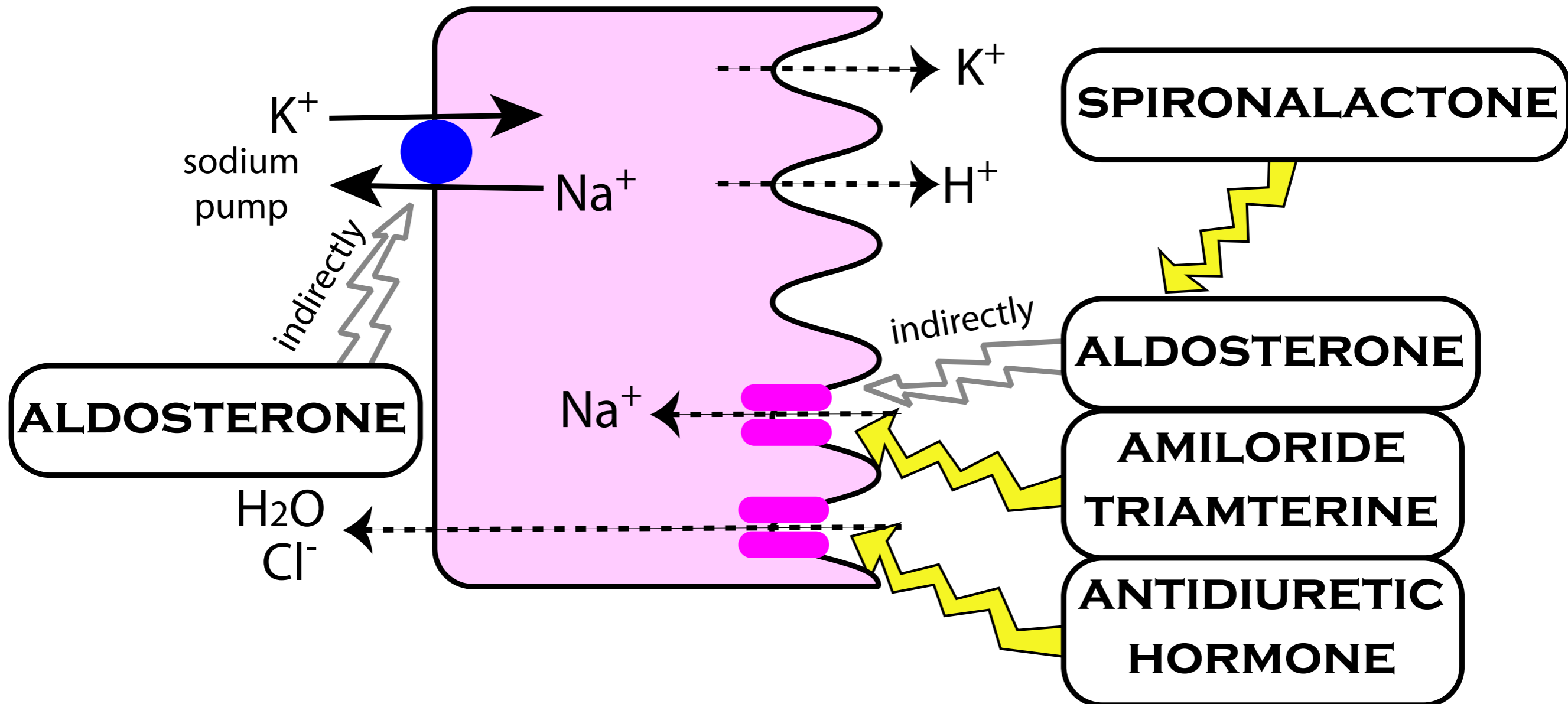
- amiloride
- triamterene
- spironolactone



# late DCT

**ECF**

**urine**



# K<sup>+</sup> sparing diuretics

- weak diuretics
- expensive
- caution with ACE inhibitors
- rarely used in animals



# CA inhibitors

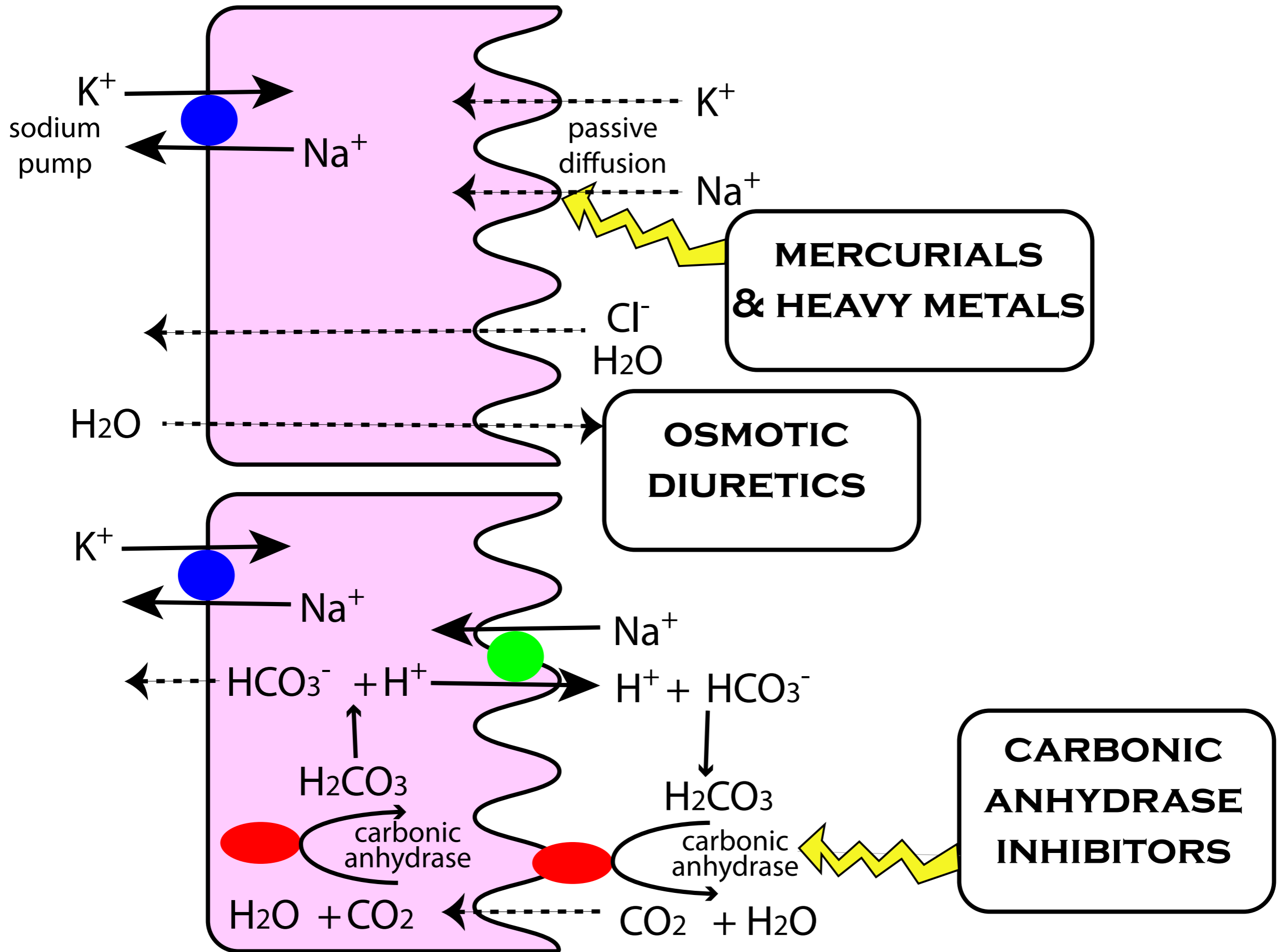
- acetazolamide
- (dorzolamide - eye drops only)





**ECF**

**urine**



# CA inhibitors

- weak diuretics
- rarely used as diuretics
  - used for glaucoma
- cause mild metabolic acidosis



# 7 yr old Doberman

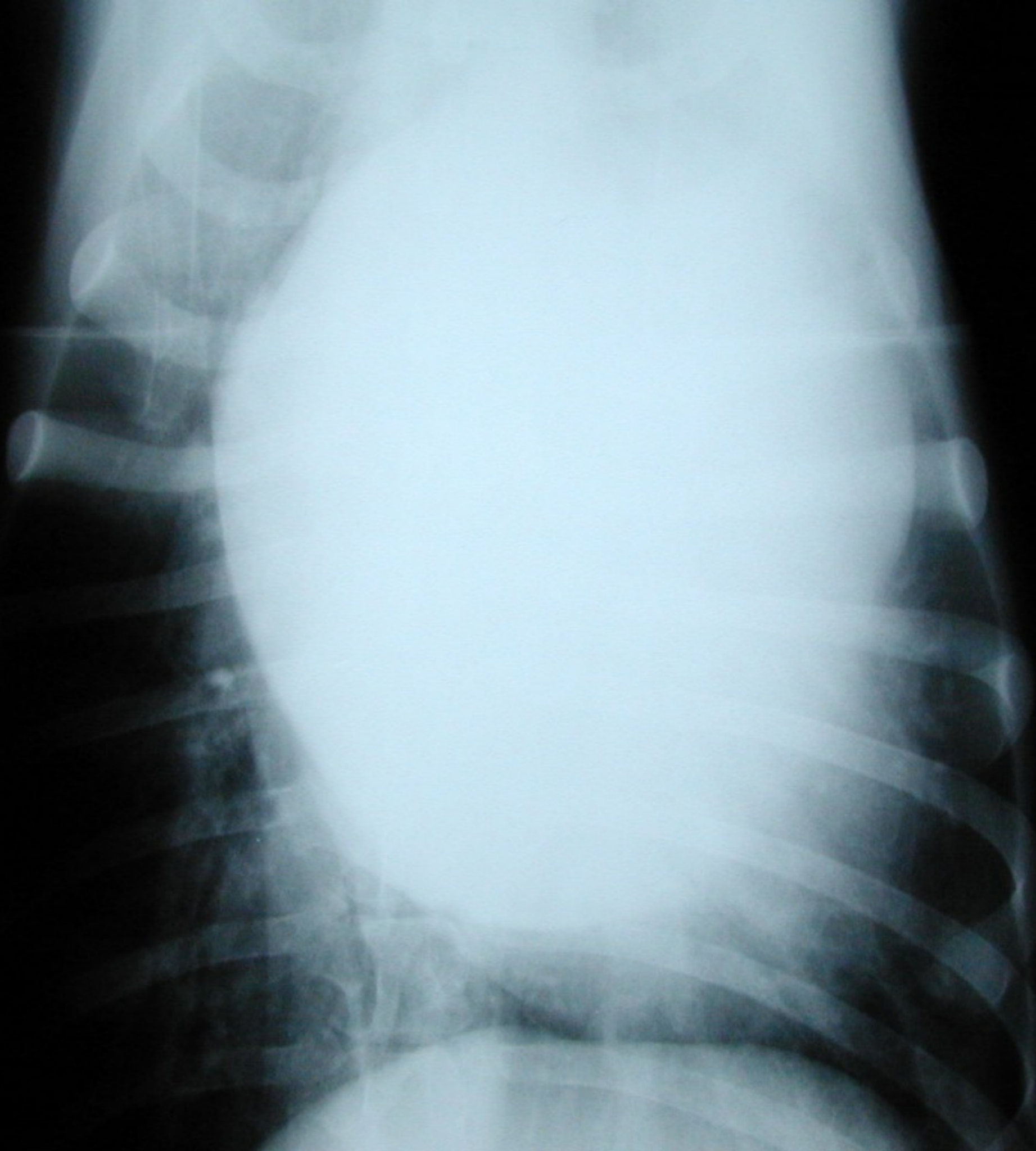
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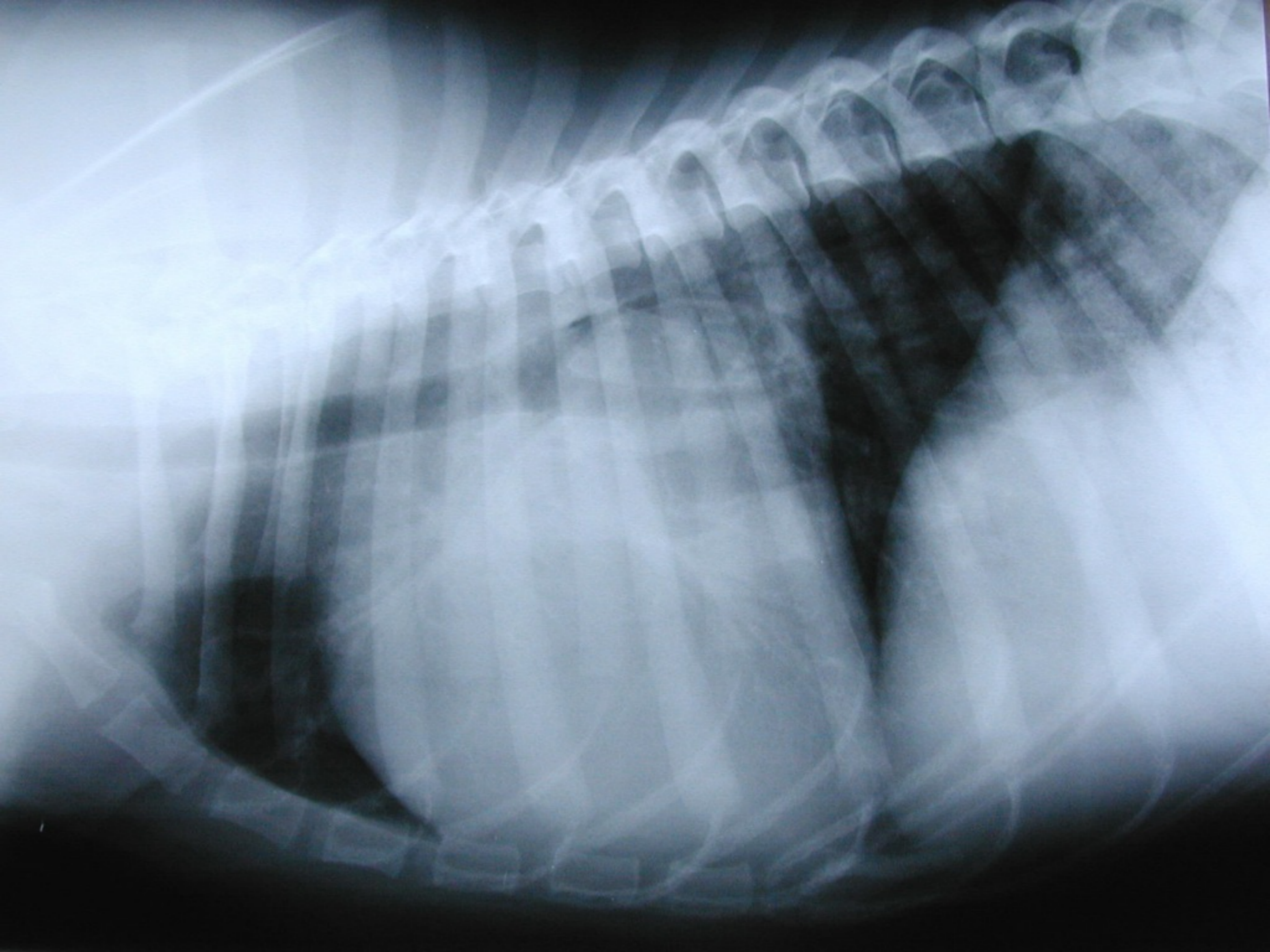


# examination

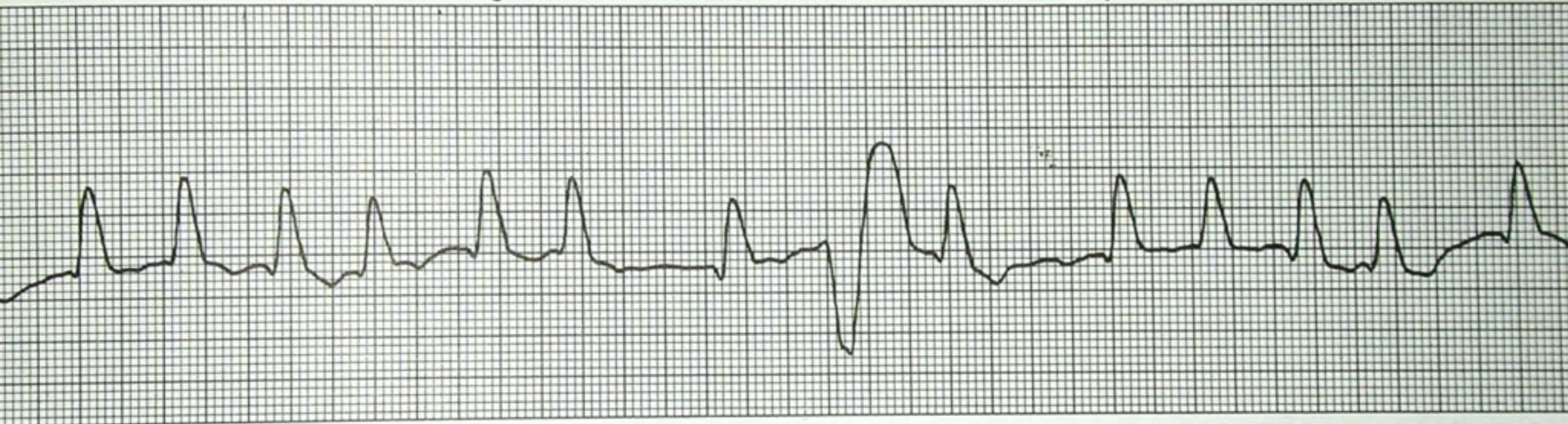
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# ECG lead II



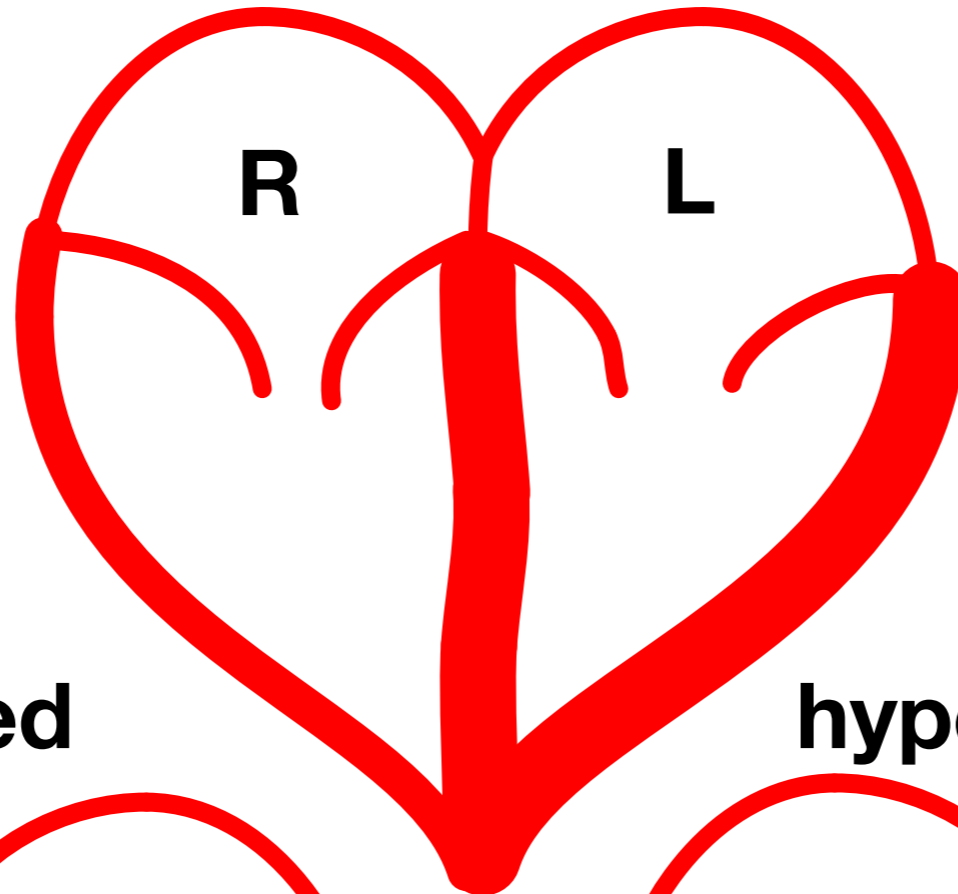
# diagnosis

- dilated cardiomyopathy

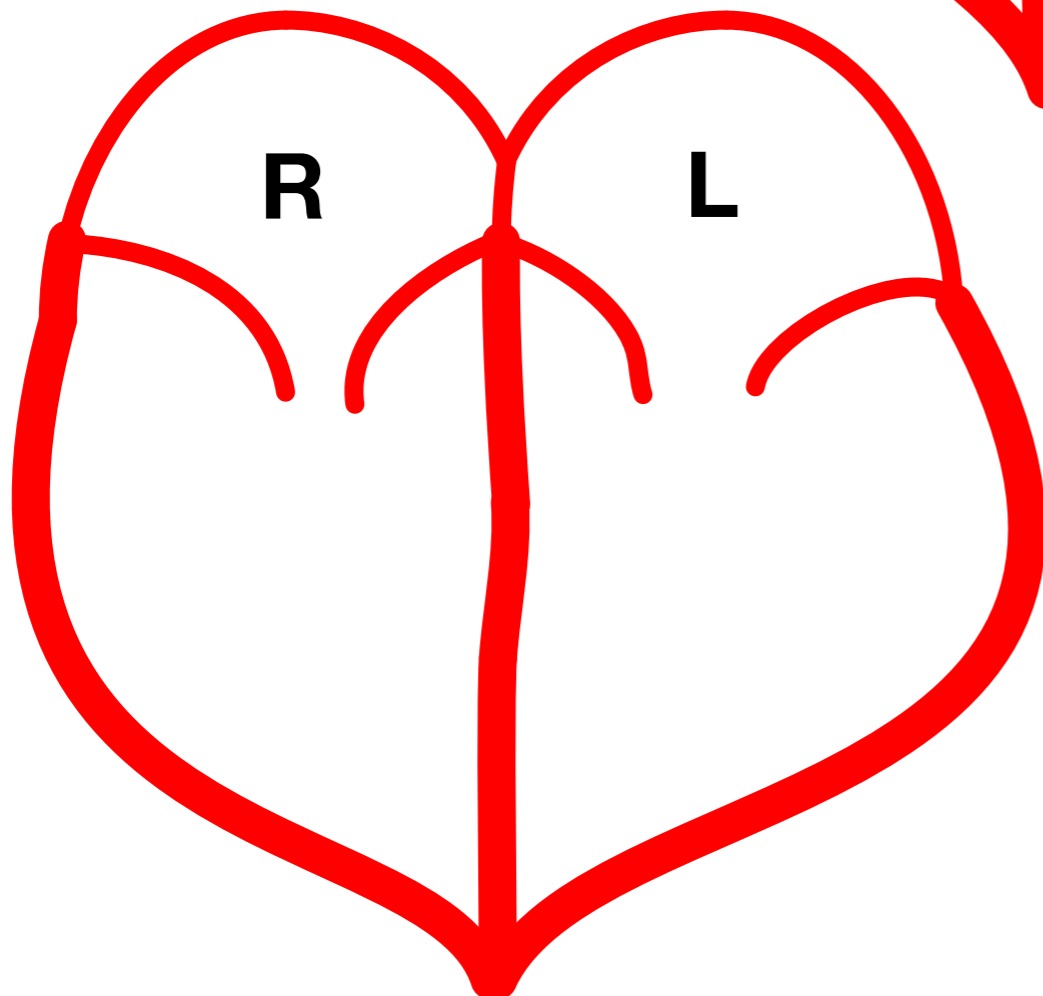




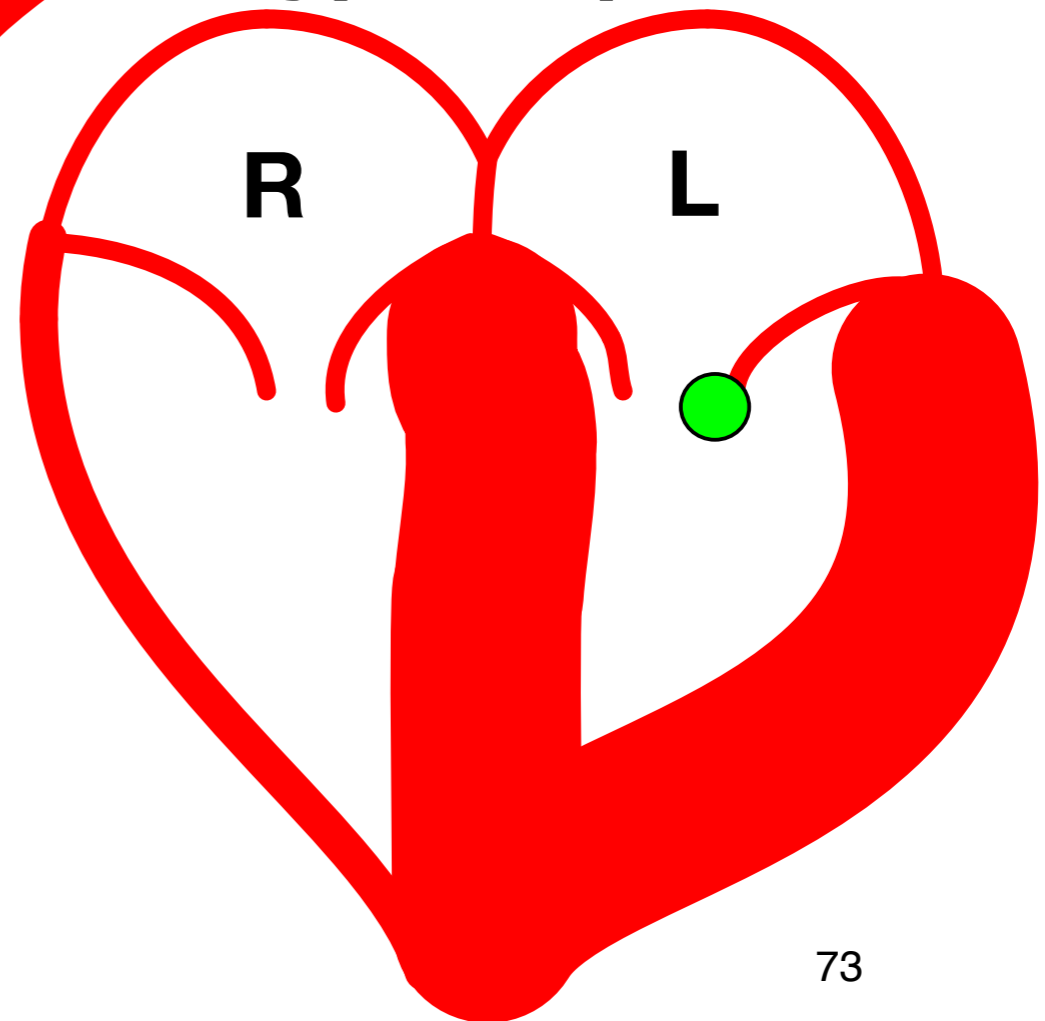
**normal**



**dilated**



**hypertrophic**



# Dobermann DCM

- frusemide
- digoxin
- pimobendan?
- beta blocker?



# congestive heart failure

- digoxin binds competitively to potassium binding site of sodium pump
- low potassium increases effect
- positive inotrope, negative chronotrope
- side effects - vomiting & anorexia, ventricular tachycardia
- indications - atrial fibrillation with tachycardia, congestive heart failure
- phosphodiesterase inhibitors are useful and safe in mild / moderate CHF

