

antidiuresis. While antidiuretic hormone secretion appears to be the result of an efferent limb of a reflex arc, the afferent limb still is not clearly defined. There may be peripheral receptors responding to the elevated PaCO<sub>2</sub> or accompanying pH changes, or a direct central effect resulting in the release of ADH. Changes in PaCO<sub>2</sub> are known to affect renal blood flow and glomerular filtration directly, and possibly reflexly, via sympathetic stimulation, but our data indicate that in these studies ADH plays the dominant role.

### References

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### Surgery

**HYPERPYREXIA** Sudden unexplained hyperpyrexia during general anesthesia is often fatal. In some instances there is associated tonic contraction of the musculature. The evidence suggests that muscle rigidity, tonic muscle contractions, and abnormal posturing are the result rather than the cause of the hyperthermia. They are common findings in heat stroke. It is essential to monitor the temperatures of patients continuously during anesthesia. (*Thomford, N. R., and others: Sudden Hyperpyrexia during General Anesthesia, Surgery* 66: 850 (Nov.) 1969.)

**HEAD INJURIES** Patients with acute hematomas ordinarily require little or no anesthesia, but an endotracheal tube must be inserted and an anesthetist must be present throughout the procedure to monitor vital functions, maintain respiratory exchange, and regulate fluid administration. For the cooperative patient with chronic subdural hematoma, local infiltration anesthesia may be adequate, but general anesthesia is necessary for the confused or anxious patient. (*Craigmile, T. K.: Operative Treatment of Acute Craniocebral Injuries, Surg. Clin. N. Amer.* 49: 1425 (Dec.) 1969.)