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# **Vascular Physics**

A QUESTION / ANSWER / REFERENCE REVIEW FOR THE VASCULAR PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES & INSTRUMENTATION EXAM



Barton A. Bean, RVT Editor

Donald P. Ridgway, RVT Sergio X. Salles-Cunha, PhD James A. Zagzebski, PhD Associate Editors We dedicate this work to Dr. Eugene Bernstein. His untimely death has stilled a giant in our field.

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## **Ultrasound Physics**

DEFINITION OF SOUND PROPAGATION OF SOUND IN TISSUE TRANSDUCERS DOPPLER SIGNAL PROCESSING DOPPLER INSTRUMENTS

#### **DEFINITION OF SOUND**

- Sound versus ultrasound
- Propagation velocity
- Frequency
- Wavelength
- Frequency versus depth
- Frequency ranges

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

- 1.1 Sound wave frequency is determined by:
  - A. The medium through which sound travels.
  - B. The propagation speed.
  - C. The sound source.
  - D. The boundary layer.
  - E. The number of reflections.
- 1.2 Sound wave variables include all the following EXCEPT:
  - A. Frequency.
  - B. Amplitude.
  - C. Perpendicular incidence.
  - D. Period.
  - E. Propagation speed.

- 1.3 As the frequency of the sound wave increases, the wavelength:
  - A. Decreases.
  - B. Increases.
  - C. Stays the same.
  - D. Wavelength is not related to frequency changes.
  - E. Doubles.
- 1.4 The term "period" is related to frequency by the fact that it:
  - A. Equals frequency.
  - B. Increases as frequency increases.
  - C. Is one tenth of frequency.
  - D. Is the reciprocal of frequency.
  - E. Equals frequency squared.



#### Figure 1.

See Question 1.5—What is the frequency?

- 1.5 What is the frequency of the sound wave in Figure 1?
  - A. 10 Hertz.
  - B. 7 Hertz.
  - C. 5 Hertz.
  - D. 2.5 Hertz.
  - E. 16 Hertz.

- 1.6 What is the period of the signal in Figure 1?
  - A. 0.5 seconds.
  - B. 0.25 seconds.
  - C. 2.0 seconds.
  - D. 0.20 seconds.
  - E. 0.02 seconds.
- 1.7 Wavelength may be measured in:
  - A. Hertz.
  - B. Microseconds.
  - C. Millimeters.
  - D. Newtons.
  - E. Rayls.
- 1.8 With an ultrasound frequency of 10 MHz the period is:
  - A. 1.00 microseconds.
  - B. 1.00 seconds.
  - C. 0.13 microseconds.
  - D. 0.20 microseconds.
  - E. 0.10 microseconds.
- 1.9 Which of the following ultrasound frequencies would result in the shallowest penetration depth?
  - A. 2 MHz.
  - B. 20 MHz.
  - C. 8 MHz.
  - D. 10 MHz.
  - E. 4 MHz.
- 1.10 To be classified as ultrasound, the frequency of the sound wave must be:
  - A. Less than 20 Hz.
  - B. Greater than 20 Hz.
  - C. Less than 20 kHz.
  - D. Greater than 20 kHz.
  - E. Greater than 20 MHz.

- 1.11 Which of the following is NOT true regarding frequency?
  - A. It is defined as the number of complete cycles per unit of time.
  - B. 1 cycle per second equals 1 hertz.
  - C. 1000 cycles per second equals 1 kilohertz.
  - D. It is the inverse of period.
  - E. It is measured in units of time (seconds).
- 1.12 Which ONE of the following cannot travel through a vacuum:
  - A. Radio waves.
  - B. Sound.
  - C. Light.
  - D. X-rays.
  - E. Infrared light.

1.13 Which of the following terms refers to regions of decreased particle density:

- A. Attenuation.
- B. Transmission.
- C. Compression.
- D. Rarefaction.
- E. Reverberation.

1.14 Hertz is a unit of measure used to quantify the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of a sound wave:

- A. Frequency.
- B. Amplitude.
- C. Power.
- D. Intensity.
- E. Half wave height.
- 1.15 Units of measure used to quantify intensity are:
  - A. Hertz.
  - B. Milliwatts.
  - C. Watts/meter<sup>2</sup>.
  - D. Meters/second.
  - E. Megahertz.

- 1.16 A decrease in sound beam intensity in a fixed area is accompanied by \_\_\_\_\_\_ in pressure amplitude:
  - A. A decrease.
  - B. An increase.
  - C. No change.
  - D. A doubling.
  - E. A tripling.
- 1.17 10<sup>-3</sup> = \_\_\_\_\_:
  - A. +1000.
  - B. -1000.
  - C. +1/1000.
  - D. -1/1000.
  - E. +10000.
- 1.18 If the intensity of one sound wave is 1000 times as great as the intensity of a second sound wave, the ratio of the two intensities can be expressed as decibels:
  - A. 3.
  - B. 30.
  - C. 3000.
  - D. 10,000.
  - E. 2<sup>10</sup>.
- 1.19 The number 1215 can be expressed in scientific notation as:
  - A. 0.1215.
  - B.  $0.1215 \times 10^3$ .
  - C. 1215 x 10<sup>1</sup>.
  - D. 1215 x 10<sup>-1</sup>.
  - E. 1.215 x 10<sup>3</sup>.

- 1.20 One Megahertz = \_\_\_\_\_ hertz:
  - A. 10<sup>3</sup>.
  - **B.** 10<sup>-3</sup>.
  - C. 10<sup>6</sup>.
  - D. 10<sup>-6</sup>.
  - E. 10<sup>10</sup>.
- 1.21 Ultrasound used for medical diagnosis falls within which of the following frequency ranges:
  - A. <20 kHz.
  - B. 20 kHz to 2 MHz.
  - C. 2 to 20 MHz.
  - D. 500 to 20,000 Hz.
  - E. 1 to 20 kHz.
- 1.22 For a sinusoidal ultrasound wave:
  - A. Frequency is proportional to period.
  - B. Period is proportional to frequency.
  - C. Frequency and period are unrelated.
  - D. Frequency divided by period is equal to 1.
  - E. Frequency multiplied by period is equal to 1.
- 1.23 The strength of a sound beam is best described by:
  - A. Amplitude and impedance
  - B. Amplitude and wavelength.
  - C. Amplitude and intensity.
  - D. Intensity and impedance.
  - E. Frequency and wavelength.