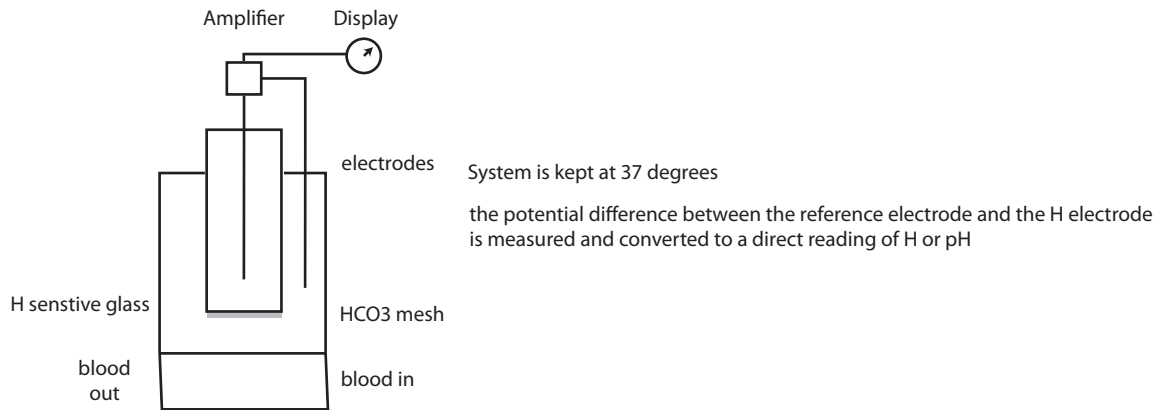


pCO₂

is a measure for the partial pressure of CO₂ in the blood
normal value is 35-45 mmHg



Measurement using a Severinghaus electrode

CO₂ diffuses from the blood
combines with H₂O and forms hydrogen ions
these diffuse across the H sensitive glass.
a potential occurs which is measured

Limitations

delay results due the time taken for CO₂ to diffuse and disassociate
electrodes must be kept clean
if there is a hole in the membrane the system is inaccurate
only measures the pCO₂ not the total CO₂ content