Osmosis

Learning Targets:

- Predict the effect of osmotic solutions on plant and animal cells.
- Compare and contrast different types of passive transport.

Background Information

• Cells are constantly subjected to the flow of water across their membrane because they CANNOT control it.

• Water is small, fast, and everywhere in a cell's environment.

How does water enter and leave a cell?

Osmosis: The diffusion of water across a membrane.

- a special kind of diffusion (only for water)

What are the different types of osmotic solutions?

Hypertonic: more water **inside** of the cell.

Isotonic: even amount of water inside and outside the cell.



What is isotonic?

- When the concentration of water is the same inside and outside the cell (equilibrium).
 - Water moves equally in an out of cells.
 - No change in the size of the cell.



What is hypotonic?

- When the concentration of water is greater OUTSIDE the cell (less solutes outside).
 - Net water movement into the cell.

• Cell gains water and swells.



What is hypertonic?

- When the concentration of water is greater INSIDE the cell (more solutes outside).
 - Net movement of water is OUT of the cell.
 - Cells lose water and shrink.



Outside the cell:

97% water 3% other molecules Inside the cell: 97% water 3% other molecules

There is the same amount of water INSIDE and OUTSIDE of the cell, so the solution is **ISOTONIC**. There is no NET movement of water. There is no change in cell shape.

Outside the cell:

99% water 1% other molecules Inside the cell: 97% water 3% other molecules

There is more water OUTSIDE of the cell, so the solution is **HYPOTONIC**. Water will move INTO the cell and its size will get larger.

Outside the cell: 95% water 5% other molecules Inside the cell: 97% water 3% other molecules

There is more INSIDE of the cell, so the solution is **HYPERTONIC**. Water will move OUT of the cell and its size will shrink.











