

Cerebral blood flow

Cerebral [blood flow](#) (CBF) is the blood supply to the [brain](#) in a given period of time. In an adult, CBF is typically 750 millilitres per minute or 15% of the cardiac output. This equates to an average perfusion of 50 to 54 millilitres of blood per 100 grams of brain tissue per minute.

Comparison: Cerebral Blood Flow Testing vs Monitoring

Term	Definition	Temporal Nature	Purpose	Example Tools
Cerebral Blood Flow Testing	One-time or episodic assessment of cerebral perfusion to answer a specific diagnostic question.	Snapshot / Single time point	Diagnosis or confirmation (e.g. brain death, no cerebral perfusion in TA-NRP)	CT/MR perfusion, radionuclide scan, transcranial Doppler (spot), angiography
Cerebral Blood Flow Monitoring	Continuous or repeated observation of cerebral perfusion over time.	Ongoing / Real-time or repeated	Trend analysis, intraoperative safety, critical care surveillance	Continuous TCD, cerebral NIRS, brain tissue oxygen sensors

Key distinction: *Cerebral blood flow testing* provides a diagnostic snapshot. *Cerebral blood flow monitoring* tracks changes over time for clinical management.

Cerebral blood flow regulation

[Cerebral blood flow regulation](#)

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