The Mammalian Diving Response: The most powerful autonomic reflex known?
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- An **APNEA**
  - the animal cannot breathe or it will drown
  - CAN YOU HOLD YOUR BREATH UNTIL YOU DIE?
Apparently yes! But only if the DR is activated.
Blood gases change and should induce ventilation. 2mm increase in pCO2 should double ventilation.
My work focusses on the neural control of the diving response. You can read about it if interested.
We have shown the mammalian diving response inhibits basic homeostatic reflexes such as the baroreceptor reflex and chemoreceptor reflex.

We also have shown it may provide the etiology of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

I propose the mammalian diving response to be the most powerful autonomic reflex known.

QUESTIONS?