## **Heat Stress Factors**

- Environmental Factors
  - Temperature
  - Humidity
  - Air movement
  - Radiant heat
- Work Level (Metabolic factor)
- Worker Factors:
  - Age, weight, degree of physical fitness
  - Use of alcohol or drugs, and medical conditions
  - Clothing factor
  - Degree of acclimatization







## **Knowledge Check**

The 3 primary factors contributing to heat stress are:

- a. Metabolic, Physiology, Environmental
- b. Work, PPE, and Environmental
- c. Metabolic, Environmental, Worker
- d. Worker, Engineering, Environmental









# **Physiology of Heat Stress**

- Hot weather, work-related heat sources, and physical exertion (hard work) raise the body's core temperature.
- Heated blood is pumped to the skin's surface, where body heat transfers to the environment (maybe...).
- Sweating helps to cool your body even faster through evaporative cooling.







# **Physiology of Heat Stress**

- During heavy work, your body can lose up to 2 liters of water per hour.
- After 2-3 hours of losing fluids at that rate, an individual is likely to:
  - Lose endurance
  - Become uncomfortable
  - Feel hot
  - Become thirsty



### Heat and the Human Body







# Heat and the Human Body

Heat Storage Rate (S) is dependent on several factors:

- Metabolic rate (M)
- External work rate (W)
- Radiant heat exchange rate (R)
- Convective heat exchange rate (C)
- Convective heat exchange rate by respiration (Cresp
- Conductive heat exchange rate (K)
- Rate of evaporative heat loss by respiration (Eresp)
- Rate of evaporative heat loss (H)







## **Always Remember**

#### **Key Elements of HRI Prevention Programs:**

- Major Heat Stress Factors:
  - Environment
  - Work
  - Worker
- Will always require a combination of engineering and work practice controls
- Heat Illness Prevention Training:
  - Water
  - Rest
  - Shade



