

# DIABETIC KETOACIDOSIS

**MODULE: ENDOCRINOLOGY / METABOLIC**

**TARGET: ALL PAEDIATRIC TRAINEES; NURSING STAFF**

## **BACKGROUND:**

DKA occurs when a relative or absolute lack of insulin leads to the inability to metabolise glucose. This leads to hyperglycaemia, osmotic diuresis, and dehydration.

In around one-in-four cases, DKA presents in people who were previously unaware they had diabetes. DKA accounts for around half of all diabetes-related hospital admissions in people with type 1 diabetes.

Whereas delay in diagnosis is the major cause of DKA in previously unrecognized disease in younger children, omission of insulin is the leading cause of recurrent DKA, most prevalent among adolescents. In this group, some 5% of patients account for >25% of all admission for DKA.

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) has set standards for training; by the completion of level one training, all trainees are expected to be able to initiate therapy in a child presenting with Diabetic Ketoacidosis.

## INFORMATION FOR FACULTY

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sessions participants should be able to:

1. Recognise symptoms and signs of DKA
2. Accurately assess degree of dehydration
3. Prescribe appropriate fluid and electrolyte replacement
4. Appropriately manage insulin infusion
5. Understand principles to minimise risk of cerebral oedema
6. Appropriately manage cerebral oedema if occurs

### SCENE SETTING

Location:	Paediatric Assessment Unit or Emergency Department		
Expected duration of scenario:	15 mins	Expected duration of debriefing:	30 mins

### EQUIPMENT AND CONSUMABLES

### PERSONNEL-IN-SCENARIO

Mannequin (child)	1 x ST1-3 trainee <i>and/or</i>
Monitoring	1 x ST4-8 trainee
Resuscitation trolley	1 x nurse (faculty or participant)
O <sub>2</sub> facemask	1 x mother (faculty)
Bag and mask	
IV cannula and sticker fixation	
Drug chart	
Internet access for BPSED fluid calculator	
DKA trust guidelines	
Fluids:	
- 0.9% saline	
- 0.9% saline with 10/20/40 mmolKCl	
- 0.45% saline + 5/10% dextrose	
Insulin infusion (actrapid) 50 units in 50ml	
Mannitol 0.5g/kg	
BPSED fluid calculator (if requested – see appendix 4)	
SORT Emergency drug chart (if requested – see appendix 5)	

**PARTICIPANT BRIEFING**

You have been asked to review two-year-old Freya, who has been referred by her GP with a history of vomiting, pallor and floppiness. She is tachypnoeac and tachycardic. Could this be pneumonia or another intercurrent infection?

**FACULTY BRIEFING****'VOICE OF THE MANIKIN' BRIEFING**

You are two years old. You initially respond to voice, by calling out 'mummy, mummy'. If cerebral oedema develops, become quieter and gradually unresponsive.

**IN-SCENARIO PERSONNEL BRIEFING (MOTHER)**

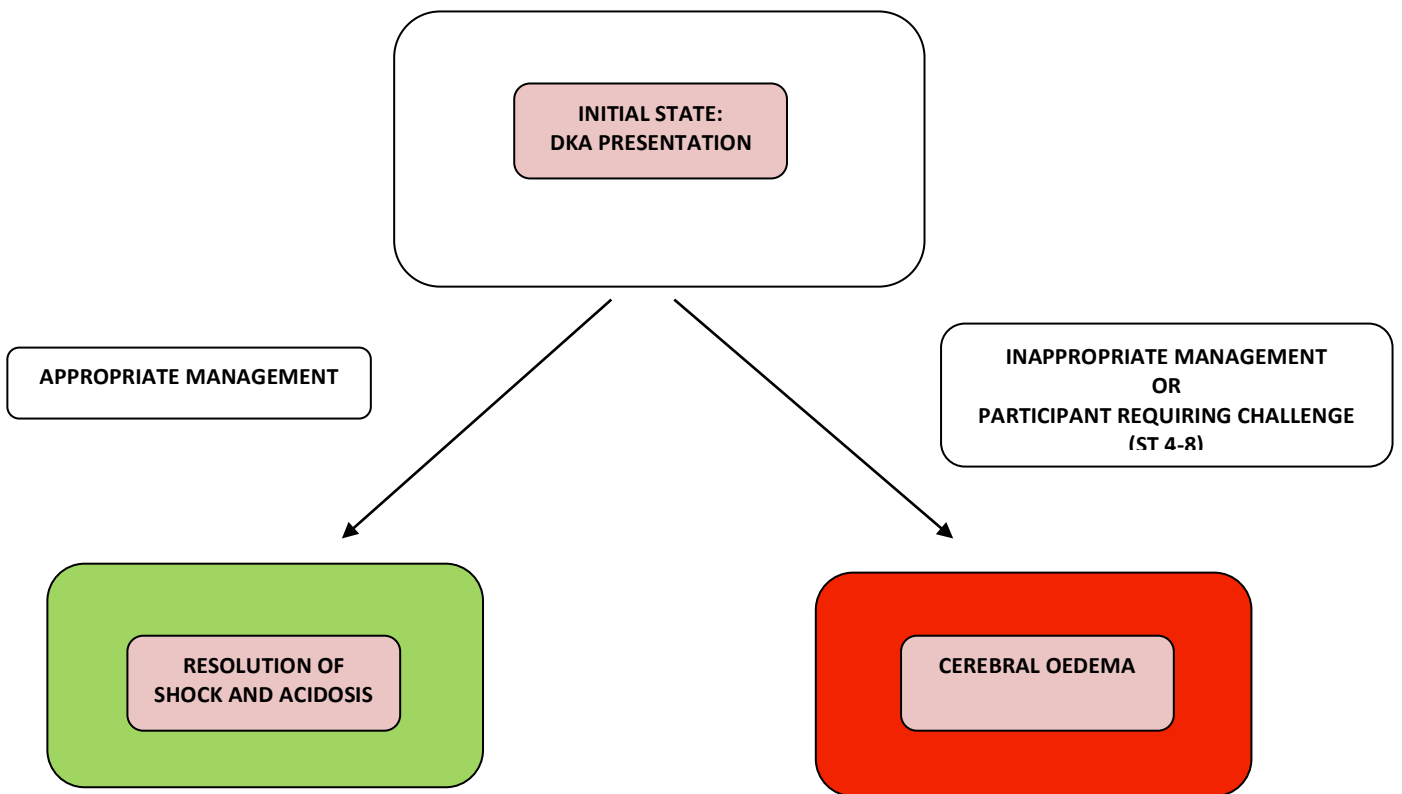
Freya is two years old and has been vomiting for 24 hours. You have noticed that she looks pale and is irritable. She hasn't had a fever, cough, or diarrhoea. You wonder if she might have a tummy bug because she has been vomiting.

If questioned: she is having plenty of wet nappies. You have also noticed over the past 3 weeks that she is drinking lots and has been losing weight.

**IN-SCENARIO PERSONNEL BRIEFING (NURSE)**

Two-year-old Freya has been brought in by her mother with a history of vomiting for 24 hours. You are worried about her because she has prolonged capillary refill, is tachycardic and tachypnoeac, and overall is floppy and slightly drowsy.

**CONDUCT OF SCENARIO**



**INITIAL STATE: DKA PRESENTATION**

VITAL SIGNS					
Rhythm	SR	HR	169	BP	80 / 45
Resp rate	45	SaO <sub>2</sub>	94%	ETCO <sub>2</sub>	
Temp	37.5	AVPU	A (GCS 14/15)	Pupils	4 ERL
Other	Weight = 15kg				
ASSESSMENT					
Pulses	Thready	Cap refill	3-4 sec	Skin	Cool
Airway	Maintained	Breathing	Deep breaths (Kussmaul)	Breath sounds	Normal
Work of breathing	Normal	Recession	Nil	Neuro	Alert
Other	Blood ketones = 6 mmol/l				
EXPECTED OUTCOMES					
<b>Participants should:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assess ABC</li> <li>- Administer 100% oxygen by facemask</li> <li>- Ask for blood gas and recognise DKA picture</li> <li>- Recognise poor perfusion in context of acidosis</li> <li>- Prescribe fluids:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 10ml/kg 0.9% saline bolus</li> <li>b. Maintenance + deficit over 48 hours (minus bolus)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Be aware of BPSED fluid calculation sheet and know how to access it online</li> <li>- Prioritise fluid resuscitation over commencement of insulin infusion</li> </ul>				
<b>Facilitators should:</b>	<p><u>Provide further information if requested:</u> Blood/gas results, drug charts, DKA protocol and BPSED documents Blood ketones</p> <p><u>Progression:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If managed well by junior trainee patient does not deteriorate Progress to <b>'Resolution of shock and acidosis'</b></li> <li>- If suboptimal management e.g. &gt;20ml/kg fluid bolus, bicarbonate, insulin infusion started (or if ST4-8 requiring increased difficulty to challenge participant), patient deteriorates. Progress to <b>'Cerebral oedema'</b></li> </ul>				

**STATE: RESOLUTION OF SHOCK AND ACIDOSIS**

VITAL SIGNS					
Rhythm	SR	HR	120	BP	90/50
Resp rate	30	SaO <sub>2</sub>	98%	ETCO <sub>2</sub>	
Temp	37	AVPU	A (GCS 15/15)	Pupils	4 ERL
Other					
ASSESSMENT					
Pulses	Normal	Cap refill	2 sec	Skin	Warm, well perfused
Airway	Maintained	Breathing	Normal	Breath sounds	Normal
Work of breathing	Normal	Recession	Nil	Neuro	Alert
Other	Blood ketones = 5 mmol/l				
EXPECTED OUTCOMES					
<b>Participants should:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reassess ABC</li> <li>- Recognise improving clinical state</li> <li>- Hold off further fluid boluses</li> <li>- Discuss need for HDU admission, and handover to member of HDU team</li> <li>- Give rationale for fluid choice and discuss plan if BM drops too quickly</li> <li>- Recheck blood gas and U+Es 2 hours after resuscitation and then at least 4 hourly.</li> <li>- Suggest hourly neuro observations, hourly BM monitoring, and strict fluid balance (+/- urinary catheterisation)</li> </ul>				
<b>Facilitators should:</b>	<p><u>Provide further information if requested:</u> Repeat blood/gas results Pulse volume, skin temperature and capillary refill normalises</p> <p><u>Progression:</u> - Move to debrief (see below)</p>				

**STATE: CEREBRAL OEDEMA**

VITAL SIGNS					
Rhythm	SR	HR	80	BP	138/60
Resp rate	15	SaO <sub>2</sub>	85%	ETCO <sub>2</sub>	
Temp	36	AVPU	U (GCS 6/15)	Pupils	Dilated, sluggish++
Other					
ASSESSMENT					
Pulses	Palpable	Cap refill	4 sec	Skin	Cool, mottled
Airway	Maintained	Breathing	Slowed	Breath sounds	Normal
Work of breathing	Normal	Recession	Nil	Neuro	Unresponsive
Other	Blood ketones = 5 mmol/l				
EXPECTED OUTCOMES					
<b>Participants should:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recognise deteriorated neurological state</li> <li>- Call for help (2222)</li> <li>- Reassess ABC</li> <li>- Initiate treatment of cerebral oedema:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Give hypertonic saline (2.7%) 5ml/kg over 5-10 minutes OR mannitol 0.5-1g/kg over 20 minutes</li> <li>b. Restrict IV fluids to ½ maintenance and replace deficit over 72 hours rather than 48 hours</li> <li>c. Position head up and aim low/normal CO<sub>2</sub>. Attempted intubation by inexperienced doctor can lead to transient rise in CO<sub>2</sub> and cardiac arrest due to severe acidosis or worsening of cerebral oedema</li> </ol> </li> </ul>				
<b>Facilitators should:</b>	<u>Progression:</u> - End of scenario once participant handed over the PICU team				

**APPENDIX 1 – BLOOD GAS – DKA PRESENTATION**
**RADIOMETER ABL SIMULATION SERIES**

 ABL725 ICU                      11:10 CO                      17-12-2012  
 PATIENT REPORT    Syringe - S 195uL    Sample#                      90396

**Identifications**

Patient ID	10183365
Patient First Name	Freya
Patient Last Name	Adams
Date of Birth	11/12/2010
Sample type	Venous
Operator	Emergency Department

**Blood Gas Values**

pH	7.01		[7.340 - 7.450]
<i>p</i> CO <sup>2</sup>	2.40	kPa	[ 4.70 - 6.00 ]
<i>p</i> O <sup>2</sup>	6.5	kPa	[ 10.0 - 13.3 ]
<i>p</i> O <sup>2</sup> (A-a)e		kPa	

**Oximetry Values**

ctHb	12.9	g/dL	[ 12.0 - 16.0]
sO <sup>2</sup>		%	[ 95.0 - 98.0]
F <sup>O<sup>2</sup></sup> Hb		%	[ 94.0 - 99.0]
FC <sup>O</sup> Hb		%	[ - - ]
FHHb		%	[ - - ]
FmethHb		%	[ 0.2 - 0.6 ]
Hctc		%	

**Electrolyte Values**

cK+	4.3	mmo1/L	[ 3.0 - 5.0 ]
cNa+	128	mmo1/L	[ 136 - 146 ]
cCa <sup>2+</sup>	1.12	mmoq/L	[ 1.15 - 1.29 ]
cCl-	89	mmo1/L	[ 98 - 106 ]

**Metabolite Values**

cGlu	28.2	mmo1/L	[ 3.5 - 10.0]
cLac	2.5	mmo1/L	[ 0.5 - 1.6 ]

**Oxygen Status**

ctO <sup>2</sup> c		vol%
<i>p</i> 50c		kPa

**Acid Base Status**

cBase(Ecf)c	-25	mmo1/L
cHCO <sup>3-</sup> (P,st)c	6	mmo1/L



## APPENDIX 2 – BLOOD GAS – RESOLUTION OF SHOCK AND ACIDOSIS

## RADIOMETER ABL SIMULATION SERIES

ABL725 ICU                                      11:18 C0                                      17-12-2012  
PATIENT REPORT      Syringe - S 195uL      Sample#                                      90396

**Identifications**

Patient ID                                      10183365  
Patient First Name                          Freya  
Patient Last Name                          Adams  
Date of Birth                                      11/12/2010  
Sample type                                      Venous  
Operator    Emergency Department

**Blood Gas Values**

pH	7.28		[7.340 - 7.450]
$p\text{CO}_2$	4.2	kPa	[ 4.70 - 6.00 ]
$p\text{O}_2$	6.8	kPa	[ 10.0 - 13.3 ]
$p\text{O}_2(\text{A-a})\text{e}$		kPa	

**Oximetry Values**

ctHb	11.5	g/dL	[ 12.0 - 16.0]
sO <sub>2</sub>		%	[ 95.0 - 98.0]
FO <sub>2</sub> Hb		%	[ 94.0 - 99.0]
FCOHb		%	[ - ]
FHHb		%	[ - ]
FmethHb		%	[ 0.2 - 0.6 ]
Hctc		%	

**Electrolyte Values**

cK <sup>+</sup>	4.2	mmo1/L	[ 3.0 - 5.0 ]
cNa <sup>+</sup>	131	mmo1/L	[ 136 - 146 ]
cCa <sup>2+</sup>	1.12	mmoq/L	[ 1.15 - 1.29 ]
cCl <sup>-</sup>	92	mmo1/L	[ 98 - 106 ]

**Metabolite Values**

cGlu	21.2	mmo1/L	[ 3.5 - 10.0]
cLac	1.9	mmo1/L	[ 0.5 - 1.6 ]

**Oxygen Status**

ctO <sub>2</sub> c		vol%
p50c		kPa

**Acid Base Status**

cBase(Ecf)c	-18	mmo1/L
cHCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> (P,st)c	19	mmo1/L

**APPENDIX 3 – BLOOD GAS – CEREBRAL OEDEMA**
**RADIOMETER ABL SIMULATION SERIES**

 ABL725 ICU                      11:10 C0                      17-12-2012  
 PATIENT REPORT      Syringe - S 195uL      Sample#                      90396

**Identifications**

Patient ID	10183365
Patient First Name	Freya
Patient Last Name	Adams
Date of Birth	11/12/2010
Sample type	Venous
Operator	Emergency Department

**Blood Gas Values**

pH	6.98		[7.340 - 7.450]
<i>p</i> CO <sup>2</sup>	5.9	kPa	[ 4.70 - 6.00 ]
<i>p</i> O <sup>2</sup>	6.3	kPa	[ 10.0 - 13.3 ]
<i>p</i> O <sup>2</sup> (A-a)e		kPa	

**Oximetry Values**

ctHb	11.2	g/dL	[ 12.0 - 16.0]
sO <sup>2</sup>		%	[ 95.0 - 98.0]
F <sub>O</sub> <sup>2</sup> Hb		%	[ 94.0 - 99.0]
F <sub>C</sub> OHb		%	[ - ]
F <sub>HHb</sub>		%	[ - ]
F <sub>metHb</sub>		%	[ 0.2 - 0.6 ]
Hctc		%	

**Electrolyte Values**

cK <sup>+</sup>	4.3	mmo1/L	[ 3.0 - 5.0 ]
cNa <sup>+</sup>	127	mmo1/L	[ 136 - 146 ]
cCa <sup>2+</sup>	1.12	mmoq/L	[ 1.15 - 1.29 ]
cCl <sup>-</sup>	100	mmo1/L	[ 98 - 106 ]

**Metabolite Values**

cGlu	18.1	mmo1/L	[ 3.5 - 10.0]
cLac	2.4	mmo1/L	[ 0.5 - 1.6 ]

**Oxygen Status**

ctO <sup>2</sup> c		vol%	
<i>p</i> 50c		kPa	

**Acid Base Status**

cBase(Ecf)c	-19	mmo1/L	
dHCO <sup>3-</sup> (P,st)c	10	mmo1/L	

**APPENDIX 4 – BPSD FLUID CALCULATOR (ASSUMPTIONS MADE)**

**Paediatric Diabetic Ketoacidosis**

PATIENT NAME **Freya Adams**

DATE **17 Dec 2012**

British Society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes

**Diagnosis of DKA** = blood glucose >11mmol/L and pH<7.3 bicarb <15 mEq/L  
Finger prick blood ketone > 3 mmol/L  
Use guideline if >5% dehydrated, vomiting, drowsy or clinically acidotic

**Emergency Management**  
1) Airway: if coma, insert airway, NGT if coma of vomiting  
2) Breathing: give 100% oxygen by face mask  
3) Circulation: Insert IV cannula, take blood samples  
4) If shocked, 10ml/kg 0.9% saline bolus, up to 30ml/kg  
5) Confirm diagnosis of DKA  
6) Investigations: blood glucose, plasma Na, Cl, Ur, Cr

**MONITORING:**  
1) Strict fluid balance (input / output)  
2) Hourly BP and vital signs  
3) Hourly blood glucose  
4) Blood ketones (1-2 hrly if available)  
5) Acid base, plasma Na, K, Cl (4 hrly)  
6) 12 hrly weight  
7) HDU /PICU if coma, pH<7.1, <1 yr

**FLUID THERAPY**

Weight	Fluid Maintenance
0 - 12.9 kg	80 ml/kg/24 hrs
13 -19.9 kg	65 ml/kg/24 hrs
20 -34.9 kg	55 ml/kg/24 hrs
35 -59.9 kg	45 ml/kg/24 hrs
> 60 kg	35 ml/kg/24 hrs

Neonates may need 100ml/kg/day

Use 0.9% saline for 1st 12 hrs

Calculate

Enter patient weight (kg)   
Degree dehydration (%)   
Total resus volume (ml)

Maintenance rate (ml/kg/day)	65ml/kg/day	TOTAL ML PER DAY*	1500
Maintenance volume over 48hrs (ml)	1950	TOTAL (ML/KG/DAY)	100
Rehydration volume over 48hrs (ml)	1200	TOTAL (ML/HOUR)	63
Total fluid /48hrs (ml) minus resus fluid	3000	TOTAL (ML/KG/HR)	4.2

\*includes subtracting resus fluid given from total fluid requirement over 48 hrs

**INSULIN** (Only start infusion after 1st hr of resus fluid)

Add 50 units insulin to 50ml solution of 0.9% saline (concentration 1 unit/ml, 0.1u/kg/hr = 0.1ml/kg/hr)

Required insulin infusion rate (units/kg/hr)

Run insulin infusion at 1.5 mls/hr

DO NOT REDUCE insulin rate until ketoacidosis improves  
If glucose falls (<14 mmol/L) add Glucose to IVI fluids.

**Corrected Na** (failure to increase = risk cerebral oedema)

	Sample1	Sample2
Glucose (mmol/L)	28.2	18.1
Plasma Na (mmol/L)	128	127
Corrected Na	134.8	130.8

Fall in corrected Na of 4 mmol/L

Simplified Corrected Na formula  
= plasma Na (0.3x (Gu - 5.5)

Corrected Na should rise with therapy (0.5-1mmol/hr)  
If associated with falling GCS: consider osmotherapy  
1) 5ml/kg of 2.7% saline or  
2) 0.5-1 grammm/kg mannitol  
3) Consider CT head  
4) 2.7% saline can be repeated (even if Na is high)  
See www.strs.nhs.uk for information

**GLUCOSE CALCULATOR**

Size infusion bag(ml)  % Glucose at Start  % Glucose needed   
Remove 55.6 mls from bag and replace with 55.6 mls of 50% Glucose

Reference: ESPR/LWPS consensus statement on diabetic ketoacidosis in children and adolescents Arch Dis Child. 2004 Feb;89(2):188-94



## APPENDIX 5 – EMERGENCY DRUG CHART

Southampton  
Oxford  
Retrieval  
Team

## DRUG CALCULATOR

WEIGHT  Kg

Enter weight and click calculate

Calculate

Print

## Emergency

Adrenaline 1:10,000	1.5 ml (0.1 ml/kg)
Atropine <del>600</del> mcg/ml	0.5 ml (20mcg/kg, min 100mcg)
Atropine <u>100</u> mcg/ml	3 ml (20mcg/kg min 100mcg)
Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4%	15 ml (1 ml/kg)
Calcium Gluconate 10%	7.5 ml (0.5 ml/kg)

## Respiratory

Magnesium Sulphate	600 mg (40 mg/kg over 20 minutes)
Salbutamol load	225 mcg (15 mcg/kg over 10 minutes)
Hydrocortisone	60 mg (4 mg/kg, max 100mg)
Aminophylline load	75 mg (5 mg/kg over 20 minutes)
Adrenaline 1:1000 Nebulised	5 ml (0.5 ml/kg, max 5 mls) Make up to 5 ml with saline

## Cardiac

Cardioversion (sync)	15 Joules (1J/kg) (use 2J/kg if fails)
Shockable rhythm (async)	60 Joules (4J/kg)
Adenosine	1500 mcg (100 mcg/kg)
Amlodarone Load	75 mg (5 mg/kg over 30 minutes to 4hrs)

## Anaesthesia

Ketamine	30 mg (2mg/kg)
Thiopentone	15 to 75 mg (1-5mg/kg)
Fentanyl	30 to 75 mcg (2-5mcg/kg)
Morphine	1.5 mg (0.1 mg/kg)
Rocuronium	15 mg (1mg/kg)
Atracurium	7.5 mg (0.5mg/kg)
Vecuronium	1.5 mg (0.1mg/kg)
Suxamethonium	22.5 mg (1.5mg/kg)

## Neuro

Lorazepam	1.5 mg (0.1 mg/kg)
Midazolam Buccal	1.5 mg (0.1 mg/kg)
Phenytoin	300 mg (20 mg/kg over 20 minutes)
Phenobarbitone	300 mg (20 mg/kg)
Paraldehyde PR	6 ml (0.4 ml/kg, mix 1:1 with oil)
3% Saline	45 ml (3ml/kg)
Mannitol 10%	75 ml (5ml/kg, eqivalent to 0.5g/kg)

## Anaphylaxis

Adrenaline IM	0.15 ml of 1:1000
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## Infusions

Calculations based on Southampton PICU infusions guidelines (2011)

Dopamine (central)	225 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	1 ml / hr =	5 mcg/kg/min
Dopamine (peripheral)	22.5 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	1 ml / hr =	0.5 mcg/kg/min
Adrenaline	4.5 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	1 ml / hr =	0.1 mcg/kg/min
Noradrenaline	4.5 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	1 ml / hr =	0.1 mcg/kg/min
Milrinone	10 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	2.25 ml / hr =	0.5 mcg/kg/min
Dinoprostone (Prostin E2)	0 mcg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	0 ml / hr =	0 ng/kg/min
Morphine	15 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	1 ml / hr =	20 mcg/kg/hr
Midazolam	15 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	1 ml / hr =	20 mcg/kg/hr
Salbutamol	10 mg In 50ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	4.5 ml / hr =	1 mcg/kg/min
Aminophylline	250 mg In 250ml of 0.9% Saline or 5% Glucose	15 ml / hr =	1 mg/kg/hr

It is the prescribers responsibility to ensure the correct dose is prescribed

Compiled by Tom Bennett - May 2012

**DEBRIEFING****POINTS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

Priority in this case is to treat shock and rehydrate gradually. Blood glucose will have an initial fall with just rehydration. Insulin infusion should be started *after* rehydration commenced. BPSSED recommends waiting at least an hour before starting insulin infusion, as there is some evidence that cerebral oedema is more likely if insulin is started early.

**Type of fluid for rehydration:**

- Initially 0.9% saline with 20 mmol KCl in 500ml
- Once blood glucose has fallen to 14 mmol/l add glucose to the fluid
- After 12 hours, if the plasma sodium is stable or increasing, can change to 0.45% saline with 5% dextrose and 20 mmol KCl.

Corrected sodium levels should rise as blood glucose fall during treatment. If they do not, the continue with 0.9% saline and do not change to 0.45% saline.

Adjust KCl in fluids as required. Serum potassium levels often fall with treatment as insulin drives glucose and potassium into cells via co-transporter channel.

**Insulin**

Do not start insulin infusion until at least 1 hour after IV fluids started. Run at 0.1 units/kg/hour. Once blood glucose falls below 14mmol, change IV fluids to include 5% dextrose (as well as NaCl and KCl). If continues to fall, change fluids to include 10% dextrose (as well as NaCl and KCl).

**Some statistics:**

1. In the UK around 70–80% of diabetes related deaths in children under 12 years of age are caused by cerebral oedema
2. Newly diagnosed diabetes is associated with about three times the risk of cerebral oedema associated with previously diagnosed diabetes
3. Although there is no evidence that the risk of cerebral oedema is related to age, sex, or season of occurrence, there was a non-significant trend towards an increased risk in younger patients, who tend to be the most ill at diagnosis
4. Cerebral oedema remains a major complication of DKA with a mortality rate of 25%, and 35% of survivors suffering severe neurological sequelae.

## DKA - HANDOUT

## INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

## KEY POINTS

Diabetic ketoacidosis is defined by BPSSED as:

- Hyperglycaemic (BM>11 mmol/l)
- pH <7.3
- Bicarbonate <14 mmol/l
- AND
- >3% dehydration
- and/or vomiting
- and/or drowsy
- and/or clinically acidotic

Assessment of dehydration:

Mild, 3%	is only just clinically detectable
Moderate, 5%	dry mucous membranes, reduced skin turgor,
Severe, 8%	above with sunken eyes, poor capillary return
+ Shock	May be severely ill with poor perfusion, thready rapid pulse. Reduced blood pressure is not likely and is a very late sign.

Over-estimation of degree of dehydration is dangerous. Therefore do not use more than 8% dehydration in calculations

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3. Although there is no evidence that the risk of cerebral oedema is related to age, sex, or season of occurrence, there was a non-significant trend towards an increased risk in younger patients, who tend to be the most ill at diagnosis
4. Cerebral oedema remains a major complication of DKA with a mortality rate of 25%, and 35% of survivors suffering severe neurological sequelae.

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**FURTHER RESOURCES**

The risk and outcome of cerebral oedema developing during diabetic ketoacidosis.

Edge JA, Hawkins MM, Winter DL, Dunger DB: *Arch Dis Child* **85** : 16 –22,2001

[http://adc.bmj.com/content/85/1/16.abstract?ijkey=3f14927d288c6d3d0890d5bde9bfe865e77e6abb&keytype=tf\\_ipsecsha](http://adc.bmj.com/content/85/1/16.abstract?ijkey=3f14927d288c6d3d0890d5bde9bfe865e77e6abb&keytype=tf_ipsecsha)

NHS choices patient information on DKA

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diabetic-ketoacidosis/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Clinical guideline from BPSSED(British Society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes)

<http://www.bsped.org.uk/clinical/docs/DKAGuideline.pdf>

Fluid calculator for DKA from BPSSED

<http://www.bsped.org.uk/clinical/docs/DKACalculator.pdf>

SORT (Southampton Oxford Retrieval Team) guideline for hypertonic saline – see below

<http://www.sort.nhs.uk/Media/Guidelines/HypertonicSaline3sodiumchlorideguideline.pdf>

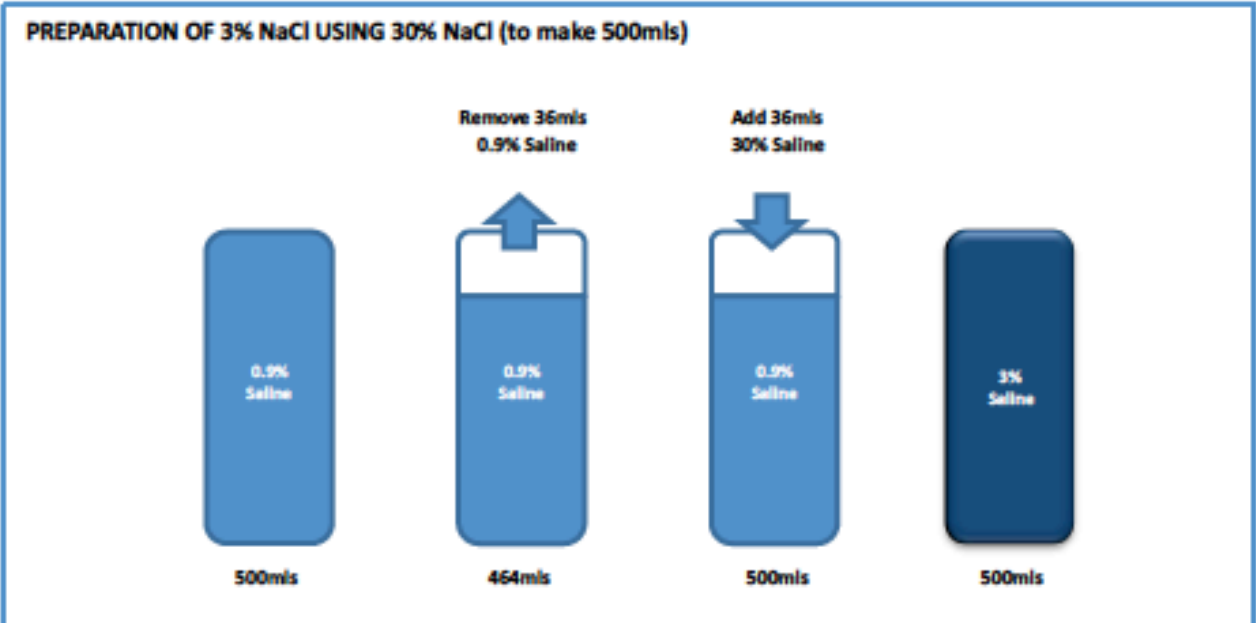
# Hypertonic saline (3% NaCl) guideline

- Indications for use of 3% NaCl**
- Cerebral oedema and raised ICP (e.g. head injury, DKA)
  - Hyponatraemic seizures

- Mechanism of action**
- Increases plasma sodium
  - Creates an osmotic gradient
  - Induces a shift of fluid from the intracellular to the extracellular space
  - Reduces brain water
  - Increases effective circulating volume

- 3% NaCl versus Mannitol**
- As effective for the treatment of raised ICP in traumatic brain injury
  - Less "rebound" ICP
  - No obligatory osmotic diuresis (plasma volume preserved/expanded)
  - Mannitol may be nephrotoxic
  - 3% NaCl is reno-protective.
  - Monitoring osmolality
    - For 3% NaCl one can use plasma Na
    - For mannitol need to infer osmolar gap

- Dose of 3% NaCl (or pre-made 2.7% NaCl when available)**
- Cerebral oedema (TBI or DKA) standard dose is **3-5 mls/kg** (over 10-20 minutes)
  - For seizures associated with acute hyponatraemia use aliquots of **1ml/kg** to raise the Na to **≥125 mmol/L**
  - Use **SAME** dose even if the pre-made 2.7% NaCl solutions is used
  - Repeat as clinically indicated
  - 3mls/kg of 3% saline will increase plasma Na by approximately 2-3 mmol/L. The increase may be greater if a large diuresis occurs. Check plasma Na if any doubt



**PREPARATION OF 3% NaCl USING 30% NaCl (to make 50mls)**  
 Take 5 ml NaCl 30%  
 Dilute with 45ml water for injection to give a final volume of 50ml and mix well

**⚠ DO NOT CONNECT THE 500ML BAG OF 3% SALINE DIRECTLY TO PATIENT IV LINE (RISK OF SERIOUS SODIUM OVERDOSE IF FULL BAG ACCIDENTALLY INFUSED). ALWAYS WITHDRAW THE PRESCRIBED VOLUME OF 3% SALINE (e.g. 3mls/kg) AND ADMINISTER TO PATIENT SEPARATELY**



## RELEVANT AREAS OF THE CURRICULUM

### Level One

L1_GEN_STA_02	Effective responses to challenge, complexity and stress in paediatrics
L1_GEN_STA_03	Advanced neonatal and paediatric life support skills
L1_GEN_STA_05	Effective skills in paediatric assessment
L1_GEN_STA_06	Skills in formulating an appropriate differential diagnosis in paediatrics
L1_GEN_STA_07	Effective initial management of ill-health and clinical conditions in paediatrics seeking additional advice and opinion as appropriate
L1_GEN_STA_09	Safe practical skills in paediatrics
L1_GEN_STA_15	Knowledge of common and serious paediatric conditions and their management
L1_GEN_STA_29	Effective communication and interpersonal skills with colleagues
L1_GEN_STA_30	Professional respect for the contribution of colleagues in a range of roles in paediatric practice
L1_GEN_STA_32	Effective handover, referral and discharge procedures in paediatrics
L1_GEN_STA_34	Ethical personal and professional practice in providing safe clinical care
L1_GEN_STA_35	Reliability and responsibility in ensuring their accessibility to colleagues and patients and their families
PAED_L1_ENDO_ACU_DKA_01	Understand the pathophysiology of diabetic ketoacidosis
PAED_L1_ENDO_ACU_DKA_02	Be aware of potential complications of DKA including cerebral oedema
PAED_L1_ENDO_ACU_DKA_03	Know how to treat and monitor progress in DKA
PAED_L1_ENDO_ACU_DKA_04	Be able to recognise the clinical features of DKA
PAED_L1_ENDO_ACU_DKA_05	Be able to lead the team when initiating resuscitation and early treatment of DKA
PAED_L1_ENDO_ACU_DKA_06	Be able to manage ongoing treatment of DKA safely with guidance
PAED_L1_NEURO_GCS_02	Understand the principles of treatment (of altered GCS)

### Level Two (as above plus):

L2_GEN_STA_02	Increasing credibility and independence in response to challenge and stress in paediatrics
L2_GEN_STA_03	Leadership skills in advanced neonatal and paediatric life support
L2_GEN_STA_04	Responsibility for conducting effective paediatric assessments and interpreting findings appropriately
L2_GEN_STA_06	Improving skills in formulating an appropriate differential diagnosis in paediatrics
L2_GEN_STA_09	Effective skills in performing and supervising practical procedures in paediatrics ensuring patient safety

L2_GEN_STA_15	Extended knowledge of common and serious paediatric conditions and their management
L2_GEN_STA_29	Skill in ensuring effective relationships between colleagues
L2_GEN_STA_32	Effective skills in ensuring handover, referral and discharge procedures in paediatrics
L2_GEN_STA_34	Sound ethical, personal and professional practice in providing safe clinical care
L2_GEN_STA_35	Continued responsibility and accessibility to colleagues, patients and their families
PAED_L2_ENDO_ACU_DKA_01	Recognise potential complications of DKA including cerebral oedema

### Level Three (as above plus):

L3_GEN_STA_02	Responsibility for an effective response to complex challenges and stress in paediatrics
L2_GEN_STA_03	Leadership skills in advanced neonatal and paediatric life support
L3_GEN_STA_06	Effective skills in making safe decisions about the most likely diagnoses in paediatrics
L3_GEN_STA_07	Leadership skills in the management of common and complex conditions in general paediatrics and paediatric subspecialties seeking additional advice and opinion as appropriate
L3_GEN_STA_09	Expertise in a range of practical procedures in paediatrics specific to general and sub-specialist training
L3_GEN_STA_15	Detailed knowledge of common and serious paediatric conditions and their management in General Paediatrics or in a paediatric sub-specialty
L3_GEN_STA_29	Positive and constructive relationships form a wide range of professional contexts
L3_GEN_STA_32	Effective leadership skills in the organisation of paediatric team-working and effective handover
L3_GEN_STA_34	Exemplary professional conduct so as to act as a role model to others in providing safe clinical care
L3_GEN_STA_35	Responsibility for ensuring their own reliability and accessibility and that of others in their team
PAED_L3_ENDO_ACU_DKA_01	Be able to manage ongoing treatment safely within guidelines (DKA)

## PARTICIPANT REFLECTION

What have you learned from this experience? (Please try and list 3 things)

How will your practice now change?

What other actions will you now take to meet any identified learning needs?

**PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK**

Date of training session:.....  
 ...

Profession and grade:.....  
 .....

What role(s) did you play in the scenario? (Please tick)

Primary/Initial Participant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary Participant (e.g. 'Call for Help' responder)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other health care professional (e.g. nurse/ODP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other role (please specify): ..... .....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Observer	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I found this scenario useful					
I understand more about the scenario subject					
I have more confidence to deal with this scenario					
The material covered was relevant to me					

Please write down one thing you have learned today, and that you will use in your clinical practice.

How could this scenario be improved for future participants? This is especially important if you have ticked anything in the disagree/strongly disagree box.

**FACULTY DEBRIEF – TO BE COMPLETED BY FACULTY TEAM**

What went particularly well during this scenario?

What did not go well, or as well as planned?

Why didn't it go well?

How could the scenario be improved for future participants?