

# Medical therapy of AKI complications

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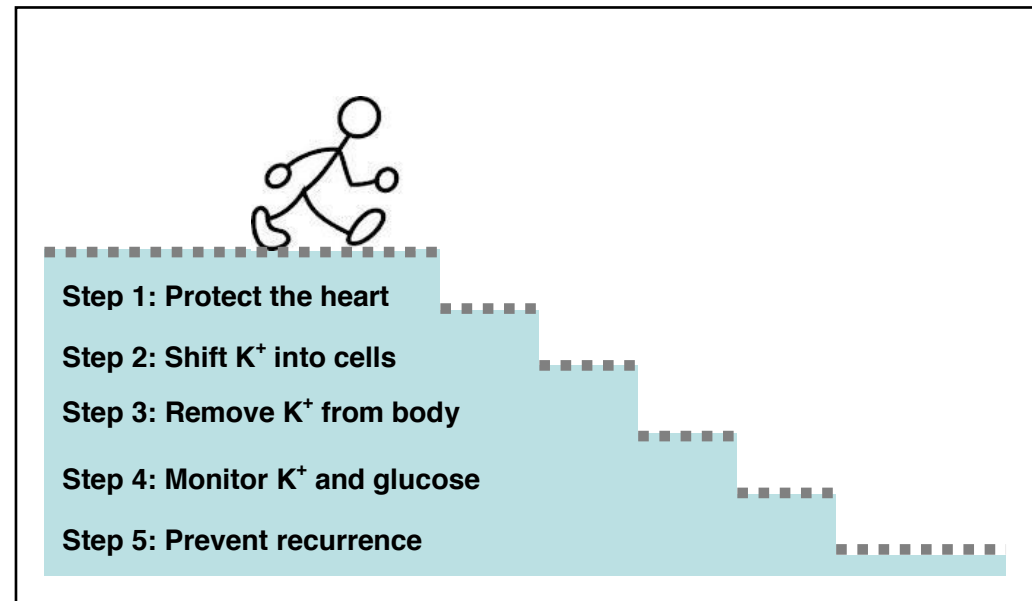


# Medical therapy of AKI complications

- Hyperkalaemia
- Volume status, fluid therapy
- Acidosis
- Calcium & phosphate
- Bleeding risk
- Sepsis
- Nutrition
- Follow up

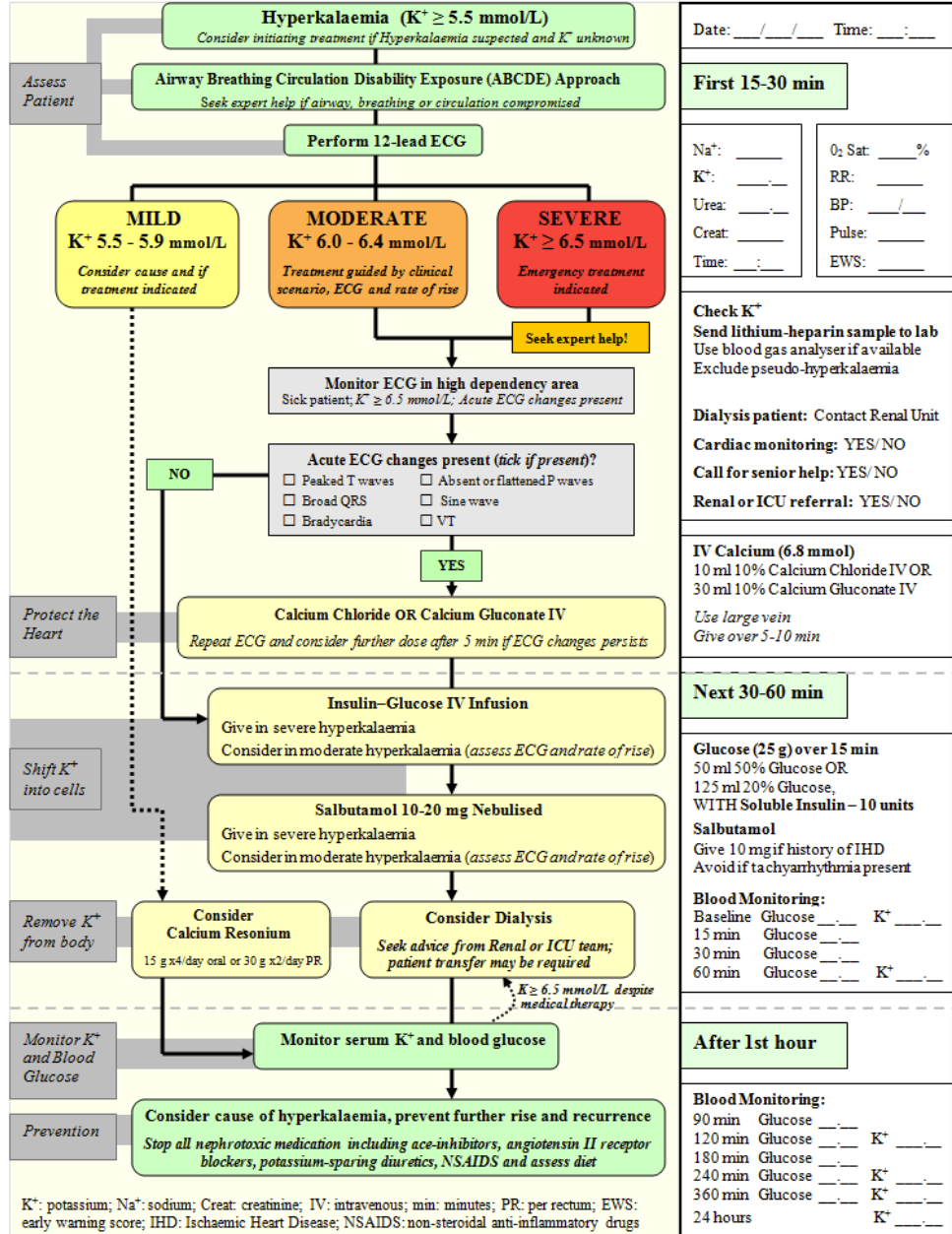
# Hyperkalaemia

- Serious, potentially life-threatening
- Particular danger if:
  - Acute rise
  - Oligo/anuria
  - Elderly
  - Cardiac arrhythmias



## Emergency Management of Hyperkalaemia in Adults

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 D.O.B.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHI: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_:\_\_\_

**First 15-30 min**

$Na^+$ : \_\_\_\_\_     $O_2$  Sat: \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 $K^+$ : \_\_\_\_\_    RR: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Urea: \_\_\_\_\_    BP: \_\_\_/\_\_\_  
 Creat: \_\_\_\_\_    Pulse: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Time: \_\_\_:\_\_\_    EWS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check  $K^+$**   
 Send lithium-heparin sample to lab  
 Use blood gas analyser if a viable  
 Exclude pseudo-hyperkalaemia

**Dialysis patient:** Contact Renal Unit  
**Cardiac monitoring:** YES/NO  
**Call for senior help:** YES/NO  
**Renal or ICU referral:** YES/NO

**IV Calcium (6.8 mmol)**  
 10 ml 10% Calcium Chloride IV OR  
 30 ml 10% Calcium Gluconate IV  
 Use large vein  
 Give over 5-10 min

**Next 30-60 min**

**Glucose (25 g) over 15 min**  
 50 ml 50% Glucose OR  
 125 ml 20% Glucose,  
 WITH Soluble Insulin – 10 units  
**Salbutamol**  
 Give 10 mg if history of IHD  
 Avoid if tachyarrhythmia present

**Blood Monitoring:**  
 Baseline Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  $K^+$  \_\_\_\_\_  
 15 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  
 30 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  
 60 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  $K^+$  \_\_\_\_\_

**After 1st hour**

**Blood Monitoring:**  
 90 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  
 120 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  $K^+$  \_\_\_\_\_  
 180 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  
 240 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  $K^+$  \_\_\_\_\_  
 360 min Glucose \_\_\_\_\_  $K^+$  \_\_\_\_\_  
 24 hours \_\_\_\_\_  $K^+$  \_\_\_\_\_





**KEEP  
CALM  
give  
CALCIUM  
INSULIN**

# ECG abnormalities in hyperkalaemia

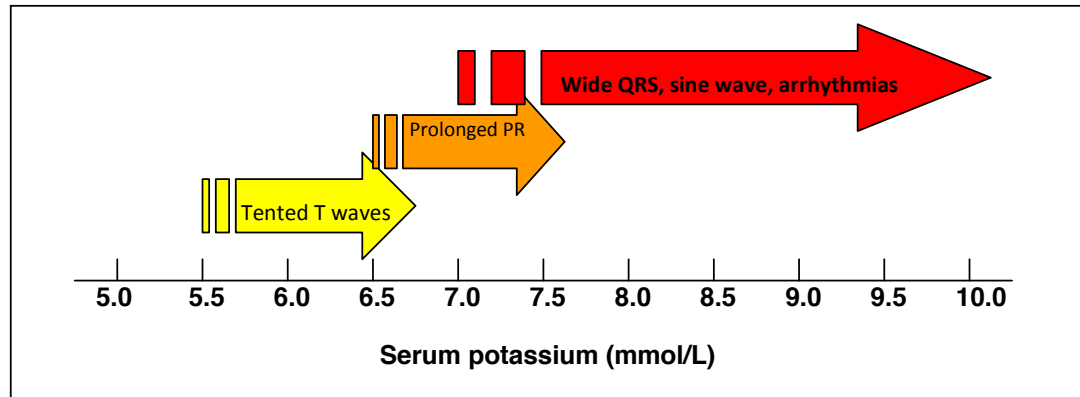
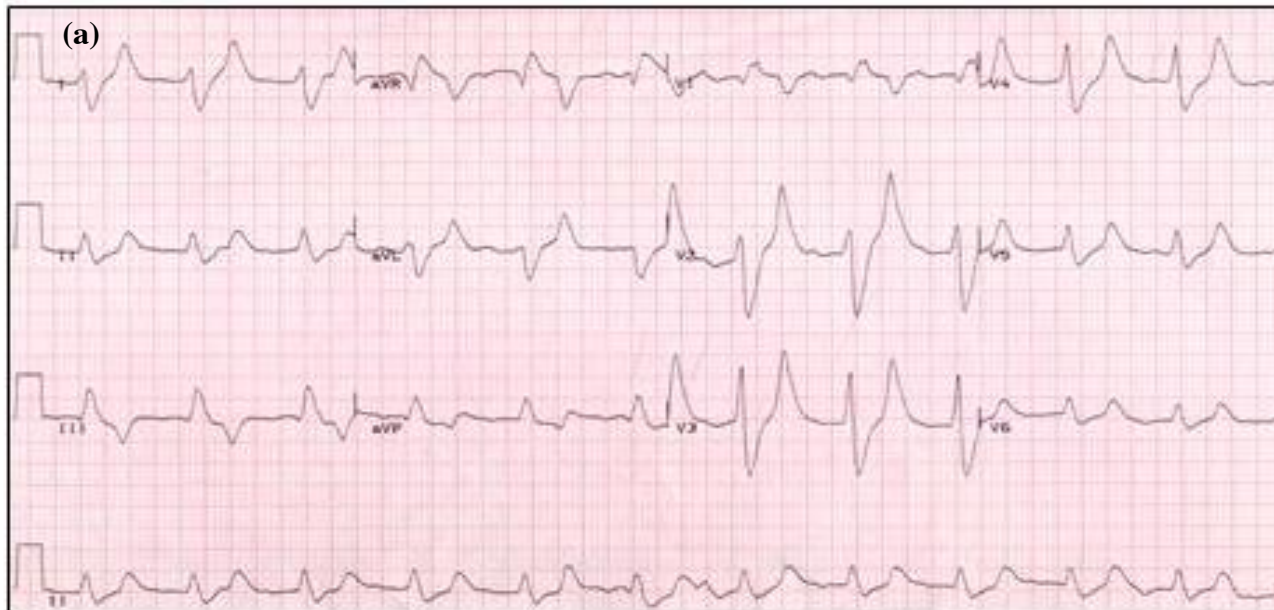


Figure 2: Progressive changes in ECG with increasing severity of hyperkalaemia.



# ECG abnormalities in hyperkalaemia

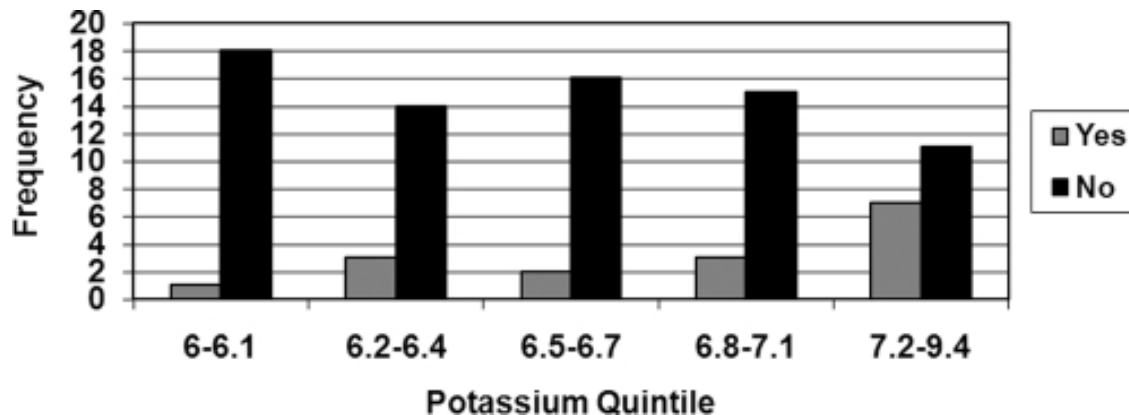
Montague BT, Ouellette JR, Buller GK. Retrospective review of the frequency of ECG changes. Clin J Am Soc Nephrol 2008;3:324-30

**Table 1.**

Criteria for assessment of ECG changes on the basis of reviewer assessment<sup>a</sup>

| Criteria Level | Details                                                                                                           |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Strict         | Baseline and follow-up available. New peaked and symmetric T waves noted, which completely resolved on follow-up. |
| Any            | Peaked or symmetric T waves noted, which were new or either partially or completely resolved on follow-up         |
| Peaked         | Peaked T waves noted, which were new or either partially or completely resolved on follow-up                      |
| Symmetric      | Symmetric T waves noted, which were new or either partially or completely resolved on follow-up                   |

<sup>a</sup>ECG, electrocardiogram.



# Calcium in hyperkalaemia

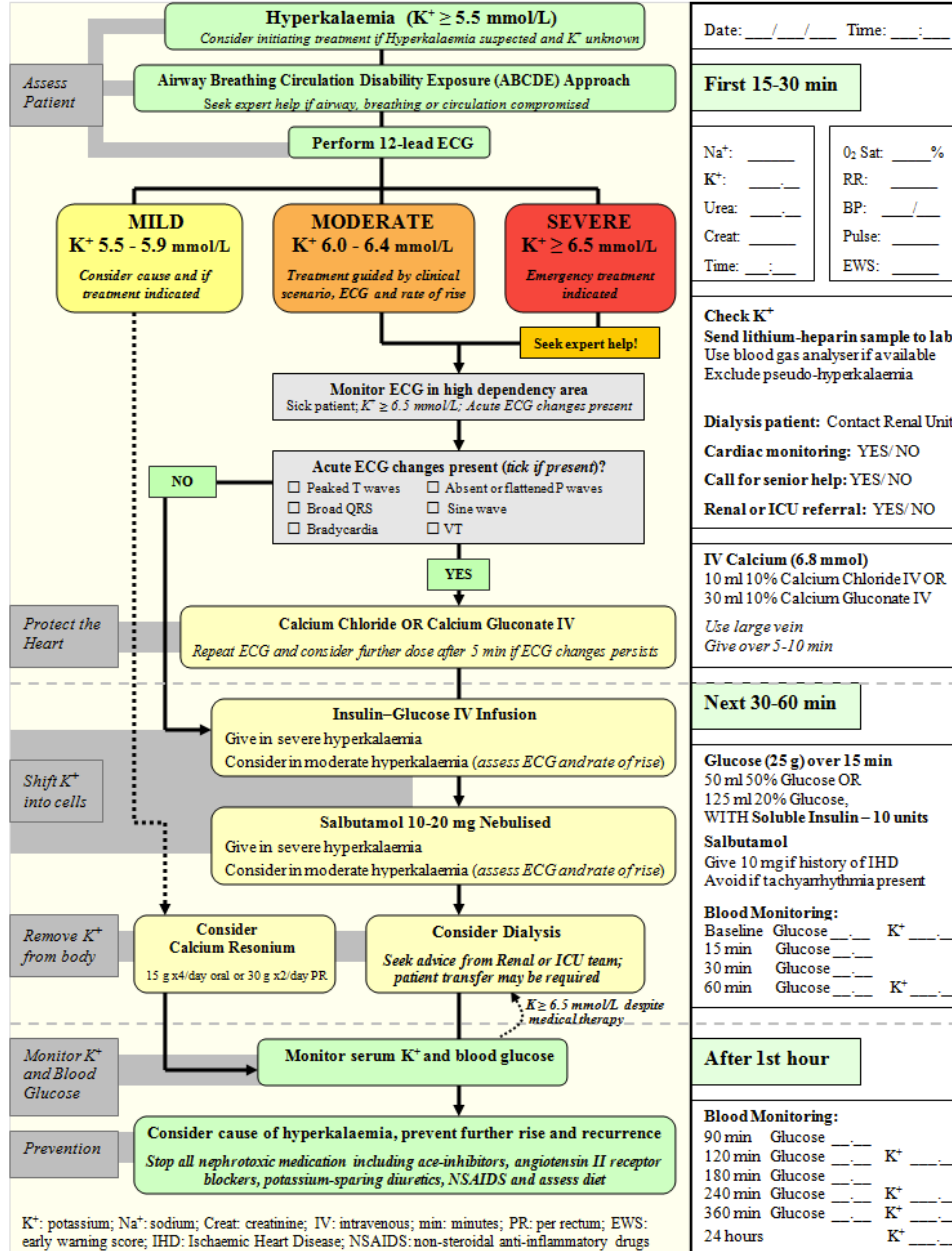
10 ml 10% Calcium Chloride = 6.8 mmol Ca<sup>2+</sup>

10 ml 10% Calcium Gluconate = 2.26 mmol Ca<sup>2+</sup>

- A single dose is often not enough
- Repeat ECG to assess response
- Can cause bradycardia
- Short duration of action: repeat until K treated

## Emergency Management of Hyperkalaemia in Adults

NAME:  
ADDRESS:  
D.O.B.:  
CHI:



$K^+$ : potassium; Na<sup>+</sup>: sodium; Creat: creatinine; IV: intravenous; min: minutes; PR: per rectum; EWS: early warning score; IHD: Ischaemic Heart Disease; NSAIDs: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

# Insulin - dextrose

| STUDY                         | N  | Dose of Soluble Insulin | Dose of Glucose | Mean initial K <sup>+</sup> (mmol/L) | Peak reduction in K <sup>+</sup> (mmol/L) | Time of max action | Duration of Effect (min) | Hypoglycaemia (%) |
|-------------------------------|----|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Lens <sup>13</sup><br>1989    | 10 | 10 units                | 40g             | 6.7                                  | 1.0                                       | 60                 | >360                     | 20                |
| Allon <sup>7</sup><br>1990    | 12 | 10 units                | 25g             | 5.48                                 | 0.65                                      | 45                 | >60                      | 75                |
| Ljusic <sup>11</sup><br>1993  | 9  | 10 units                | 25g             | 6.33                                 | 0.76                                      | 60                 | >60                      | 11                |
| Allon <sup>8</sup><br>1996    | 5  | 5<br>mU/kg/min          | 60g             | 4.28                                 | 0.85                                      | 60                 | >60                      | 0                 |
| Duranay <sup>12</sup><br>1996 | 20 | 10 units                | 30g             | >6.0                                 | 0.98                                      | 180                | >360                     | 0                 |
| Kim <sup>14</sup><br>1996     | 8  | 5<br>mU/kg/min          | 40g             | 6.3                                  | 0.7                                       | 60                 | >60                      | 0                 |
| Ngugi <sup>10</sup><br>1997   | 70 | 10 units                | 25g             | 6.9                                  | 0.9                                       | 60-<br>120         | >360                     | 20                |
| Mahajan <sup>9</sup><br>2001  | 30 | 12 units                | 25g             | 6.59                                 | 0.83                                      | 180                | >360                     | 3.3               |

**Table 4: Efficacy of insulin-glucose monotherapy.**

# Sodium bicarbonate

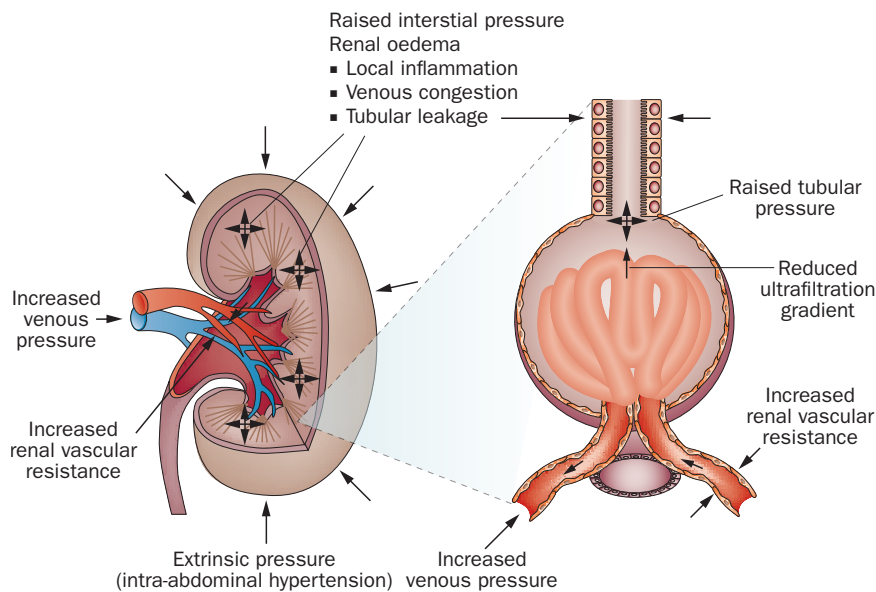
- Useful (necessary) if hyperkalaemia is accompanied by acidosis +/- volume depletion
- 1.26%  $\text{NaHCO}_3$
- Beware sodium load, drop in ionised calcium

# Removing $K^+$ from the body

- Cation exchange resins: calcium resonium
  - Probably overused
  - Risk of intestinal necrosis
- Furosemide + iv saline
- Fludrocortisone?
- Dialysis
  
- Review medications...

# Fluids & volume status

- Volume resuscitation in pre-renal AKI
  - ... which fluid, how much, how quickly?
- Importance of monitoring, reassessment
- Beware of causing volume overload



Prowle, J. R. *et al.* (2013) Fluid management for the prevention and attenuation of acute kidney injury  
*Nat. Rev. Nephrol.* doi:10.1038/nrneph.2013.232

# Fluid Balance, Diuretic Use, and Mortality in Acute Kidney Injury

Morgan E. Grams,<sup>\*†</sup> Michelle M. Estrella,<sup>\*†</sup> Josef Coresh,<sup>\*†‡</sup>, Roy G. Brower,<sup>\*</sup> and Kathleen D. Liu<sup>§</sup> for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome Network

## Summary

**Background and objectives** Management of volume status in patients with acute kidney injury (AKI) is complex, and the role of diuretics is controversial. The primary objective was to elucidate the association between fluid balance, diuretic use, and short-term mortality after AKI in critically ill patients.

**Design, setting, participants, & measurements** Using data from the Fluid and Catheter Treatment Trial (FACTT), a multicenter, randomized controlled trial evaluating a conservative *versus* liberal fluid-management strategy in 1000 patients with acute lung injury (ALI), we evaluated the association of post-renal injury fluid balance and diuretic use with 60-day mortality in patients who developed AKI, as defined by the AKI Network criteria.

**Results** 306 patients developed AKI in the first 2 study days and were included in our analysis. There were 137 in the fluid-liberal arm and 169 in the fluid-conservative arm ( $P = 0.04$ ). Baseline characteristics were similar between groups. Post-AKI fluid balance was significantly associated with mortality in both crude and adjusted analysis. Higher post-AKI furosemide doses had a protective effect on mortality but no significant effect after adjustment for post-AKI fluid balance. There was no threshold dose of furosemide above which mortality increased.

**Conclusions** A positive fluid balance after AKI was strongly associated with mortality. Post-AKI diuretic therapy was associated with 60-day patient survival in FACTT patients with ALI; this effect may be mediated by fluid balance.

# Managing fluid overload in AKI

- Nitrates
- Loop diuretic
- CPAP
- Dialysis

# Bicarbonate replacement for metabolic acidosis

- Particularly useful in the context of acidosis due to diarrhoeal loss
- Recommended in rhabdomyolysis
- Discuss with nephrology or critical care
- Beware sodium load, hypocalcaemia, respiratory disease

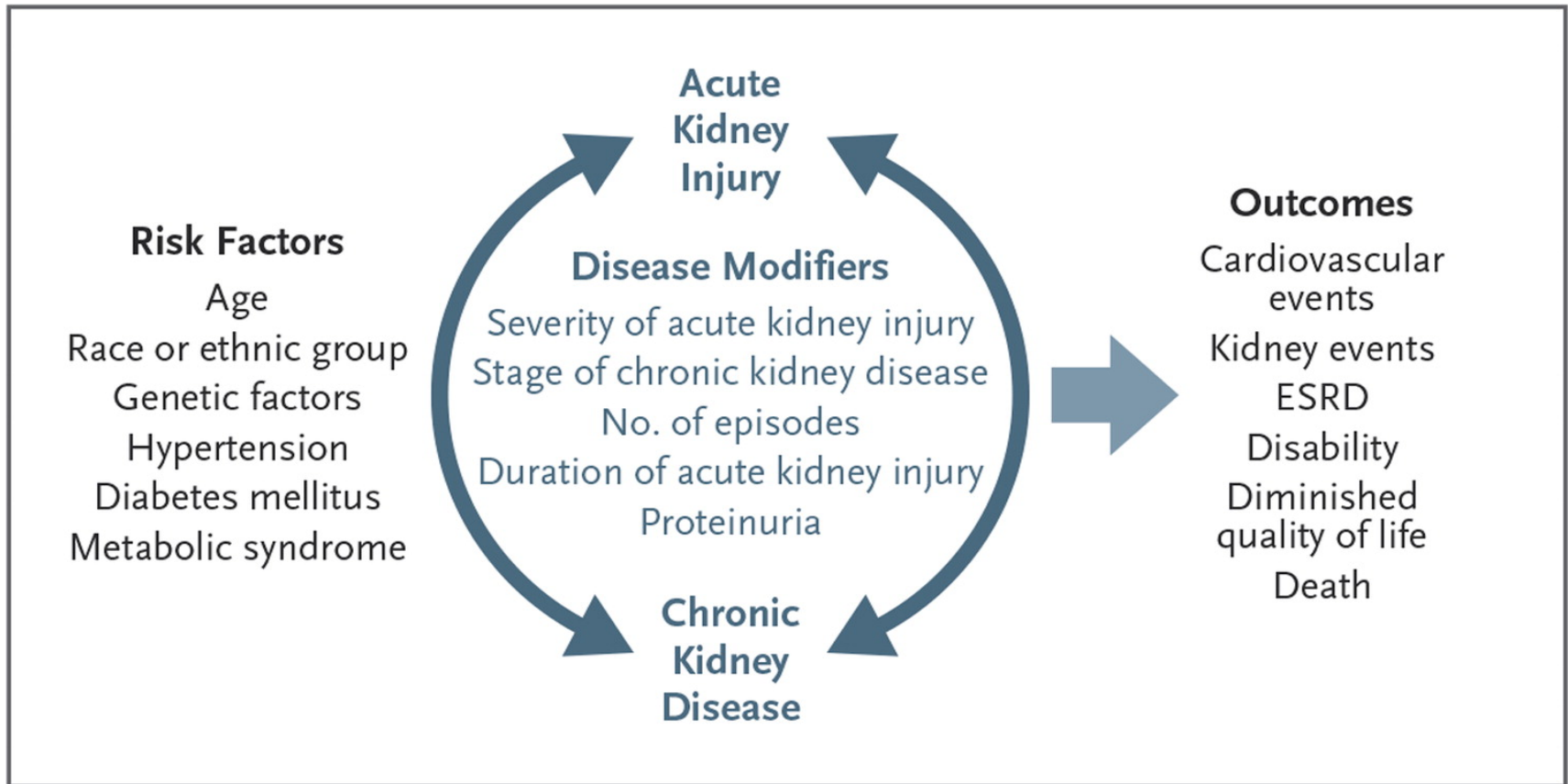
# Other complications

- Calcium & phosphate
  - Correct hypocalcaemia before correcting acidosis
  - Phosphate binders, alfacalcidol may be necessary
  - NB care with correcting hypocalcaemia in rhabdomyolysis or if phosphate very high
- Bleeding risk
  - Consider stopping anti-platelet agents
  - Gastroprotection: ranitidine / PPI
  - Care with thromboprophylaxis & dosing of LMWH
  - DDAVP if overt bleeding / invasive procedures – but beware of causing hyponatraemia

# Supportive management

- Think about **nutrition** early
  - Specialist dietitian input early
  - Help with potassium control
- Identify & treat **sepsis** early
- Identify & stop **nephrotoxins**
  - NSAIDs, ACEi/ARB, metformin, radiological contrast.
  - Consider withholding anti-hypertensives
- Make arrangements to recheck kidney function, review medications, consider cardiovascular risk

# Acute Kidney Injury and Chronic Kidney Disease as an Interconnected Syndrome.



# Questions