



# WELCOME TO THIS EMS ECHO SESSION

Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> EMS ECHO Session



# Electrolytes in Emergencies

Cornelius Sendagire

Consultant - Anesthesiologist-  
Intensivist/Lecturer

Uganda Heart  
Institute/Makerere University

Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> EMS ECHO Session

## Major Electrolytes

Na+ 135 – 145 mmol/L

K+ 3.5 – 5.0 mmol/L

Cl- 95 – 108 mmol/L





# Sodium

Mostly affects the Brain

Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> EMS ECHO Session

The symptoms on both ends are similar.

## Hyponatremia

Significant symptoms  $<120$

- Lethargy
- Obtundation
- Seizures
- Coma

Replace with 3% NaCl 100ml  
over 20min - if Neurological  
symptoms present

Repeat twice if symptoms  
persist

## Hypernatremia

Significant symptoms  $\geq 160$

- Lethargy
- Obtundation
- Seizures
- Coma

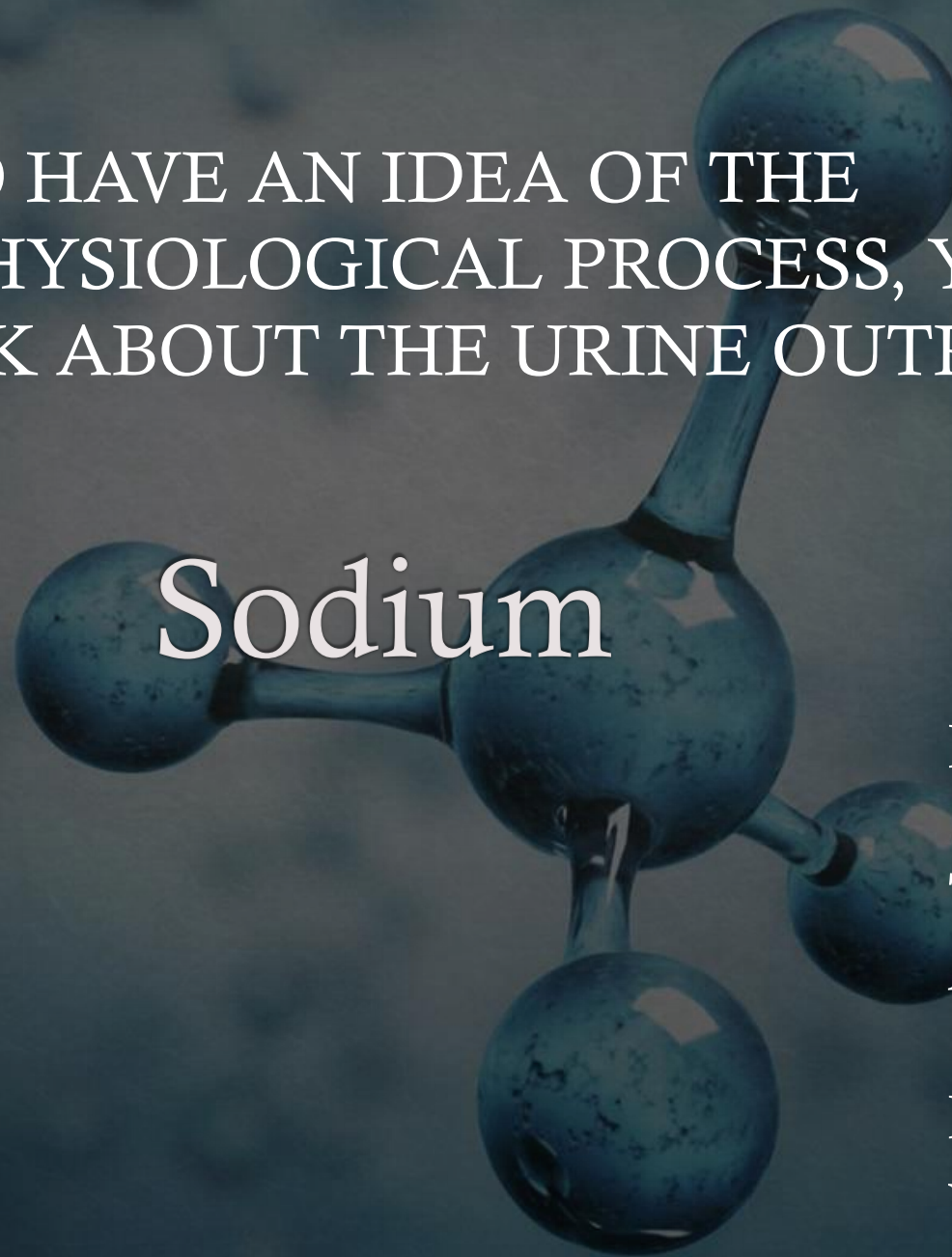
Replace with Free Water via  
NGT or Use IV D5 route



Sodium



TO HAVE AN IDEA OF THE  
PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL PROCESS, YOU  
MUST ASK ABOUT THE URINE OUTPUT?



Hyponatremia with  
Low urine output -  
Water Retention  
- Consider diuresis

Hyponatremia with  
high uop – Increased  
losses

Hypernatremia

Think of Losses  
ALWAYS

Replace with free  
water



# Potassium

Mostly affects the Heart

Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> EMS ECHO Session





# Potassium

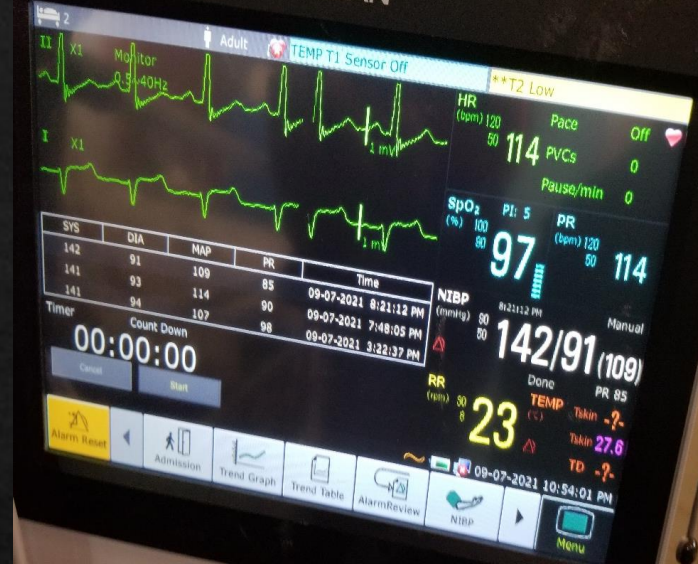
Critical Values  $\leq 2.5$  or  $\geq 6.5$

Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> EMS ECHO Session



## Treatment of Hypokalemia

- ◆ Replacement with IV KCl under ECG monitoring
  - ◆ Requires deficit calculation
- ◆ Sometimes IV MgSO<sub>4</sub> 50% is added



# Hyperkalemia

- ◇ Critical value  $\geq 6.5$
- ◇ BRADYCARDIA is common. Tall-tented T waves too.
- ◇ Kidney disease is a common cause
- ◇ Blood transfusion



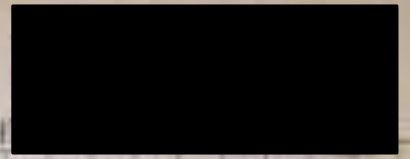
# Treatment of Hyperkalemia

- ◆ Stabilize Myocardium  
IMMEDIATELY
  - ◆ IV Calcium Chloride 10% or IV Calcium gluconate 10% over 5min
- ◆ Push K+ back into cells
  - ◆ Insulin 10IU/d50 50ml over 30min
  - ◆ IV NaHCO<sub>3</sub> 8.4% 0.5-1ml/kg
  - ◆ Neb Salbutamol 10-20mg
- ◆ Flush out K+ from blood
  - ◆ IV Lasix bolus
  - ◆ Dialysis
- ◆ Reduce K+ Absorption from the gut
  - ◆ Kayexalate PO

HR 104 bpm  
P 124 ms  
PR 118 ms  
QRS 123 ms  
QT/QTc 383/294 ms  
P/QRS/T -23/250/-70 deg  
RV/SV1 0.262/0.121 mV

profound Brady cardiac  
HR = 104

Report Cont





# Case discussion

- ◊ A 78Y/F with HTN on amlodipine and digoxin was admitted due to DIB, chest pain and cough for of one day Duration . Significant past history of RBBB
- ◊ Vitals: HR 45bpm, SPO2 79%, BP 105/58 , GCS 15/15
- ◊ On oxygen supplementation with NP at 5L/min SPO2 increased to 94%
- ◊ 16 hrs later during Physician review at the emergency her GCS had dropped to 12/15 , BP 80/unrecordable , HR 27 bpm, RR 22. ECG and ECHO had already been done

| Patient ID:          |        | Birthdate:        |           |               |                                  |
|----------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Sample ID: 21-01     |        | Draw date / time: |           |               |                                  |
| Location:            |        | Doctor:           |           |               |                                  |
| Assay                | Result | Units             | Flags     | Range         | Date Completed<br>Time completed |
| Albumin              | 35.3   | g/L               |           | 35.0 - 52.0   | 21.04.2022                       |
| ALP                  | 127    | U/L               |           | 40 - 160      | 21.04.2022                       |
| ALT                  | 20     | U/L               | CNTL      | 0 - 55        | 21.04.2022                       |
| AST                  | 48     | U/L               | HIGH      | 5 - 34        | 21.04.2022                       |
| TBA                  | 30.57  | umol/l            | HIGH      | 3.40 - 20.50  | 21.04.2022                       |
| DBil                 | 10.53  | umol/l            | HIGH      | 0.00 - 8.60   | 21.04.2022                       |
| GGT                  | 32     | U/L               |           | 9 - 84        | 21.04.2022                       |
| TP                   | 72.1   | g/l               |           | 64.0 - 83.0   | 21.04.2022                       |
| Creatinine           | 154.2  | umol/L            | HIGH      | 53.0 - 106.0  | 21.04.2022                       |
| Cl-C                 | 98.2   | mmol/L            |           | 96.0 - 107.0  | 21.04.2022                       |
| K-C                  | 7.08   | mmol/L            | HIGH      | 3.50 - 5.10   | 21.04.2022                       |
| Na-C                 | 121.2  | mmol/L            | LOW       | 136.0 - 145.0 | 21.04.2022                       |
| Urea                 | 8.7    | mmol/L            | CNTL HIGH | 2.5 - 7.2     | 21.04.2022                       |
| CRP                  | 10.99  | mg/L              | HIGH      | 0.00 - 5.00   | 21.04.2022                       |
| End of sample record |        |                   |           |               |                                  |

# Case discussion

- What electrolyte abnormalities do you see?
- Are the abnormalities consistent with clinical presentation?
- How should we treat the electrolyte abnormalities?

| Patient ID:          |        |        |           | Birthdate:        |                                  |       |
|----------------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Sample ID: 21-01     |        |        |           | Draw date / time: |                                  |       |
| Location:            |        |        |           | Doctor:           |                                  |       |
| Assay                | Result | Units  | Flags     | Range             | Date Completed<br>Time completed |       |
| Albumin              | 35.3   | g/L    |           | 35.0 - 52.0       | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| AlbP                 | 127    | U/L    |           | 40 - 160          | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| ALT                  | 20     | U/L    | CNTL      | 0 - 55            | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| AST                  | 48     | U/L    | HIGH      | 5 - 34            | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| TBA                  | 30.57  | umol/l | HIGH      | 3.40 - 20.50      | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| DBil                 | 10.53  | umol/l | HIGH      | 0.00 - 8.60       | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| GGT                  | 32     | U/L    |           | 9 - 84            | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| TP                   | 72.1   | g/l    |           | 64.0 - 83.0       | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| Creatinine           | 154.2  | umol/L | HIGH      | 53.0 - 106.0      | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| Cl-C                 | 98.2   | mmol/L |           | 96.0 - 107.0      | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| K-C                  | 7.08   | mmol/L | HIGH      | 3.50 - 5.10       | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| Na-C                 | 121.2  | mmol/L | LOW       | 136.0 - 145.0     | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| Urea                 | 8.7    | mmol/L | CNTL HIGH | 2.5 - 7.2         | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| CRP                  | 10.99  | mg/L   | HIGH      | 0.00 - 5.00       | 21.04.2022                       | 10:00 |
| End of sample record |        |        |           |                   |                                  |       |





Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> EMS ECHO Session