A high-speed photograph of a single water droplet suspended in mid-air above a pool of water. The droplet is perfectly spherical and reflects the surrounding environment. Below it, the water surface is disturbed, creating concentric ripples that spread outwards. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white, suggesting a bright, clean environment.

# Paediatric Resuscitation and Maintenance Fluid Therapy

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health

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Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# **Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List for South Africa**

**PAEDIATRIC HOSPITAL LEVEL  
2023 EDITION**

# Variations in intravenous fluid management for paediatric hypernatraemia in South Africa: A survey of junior and senior South African paediatric doctors

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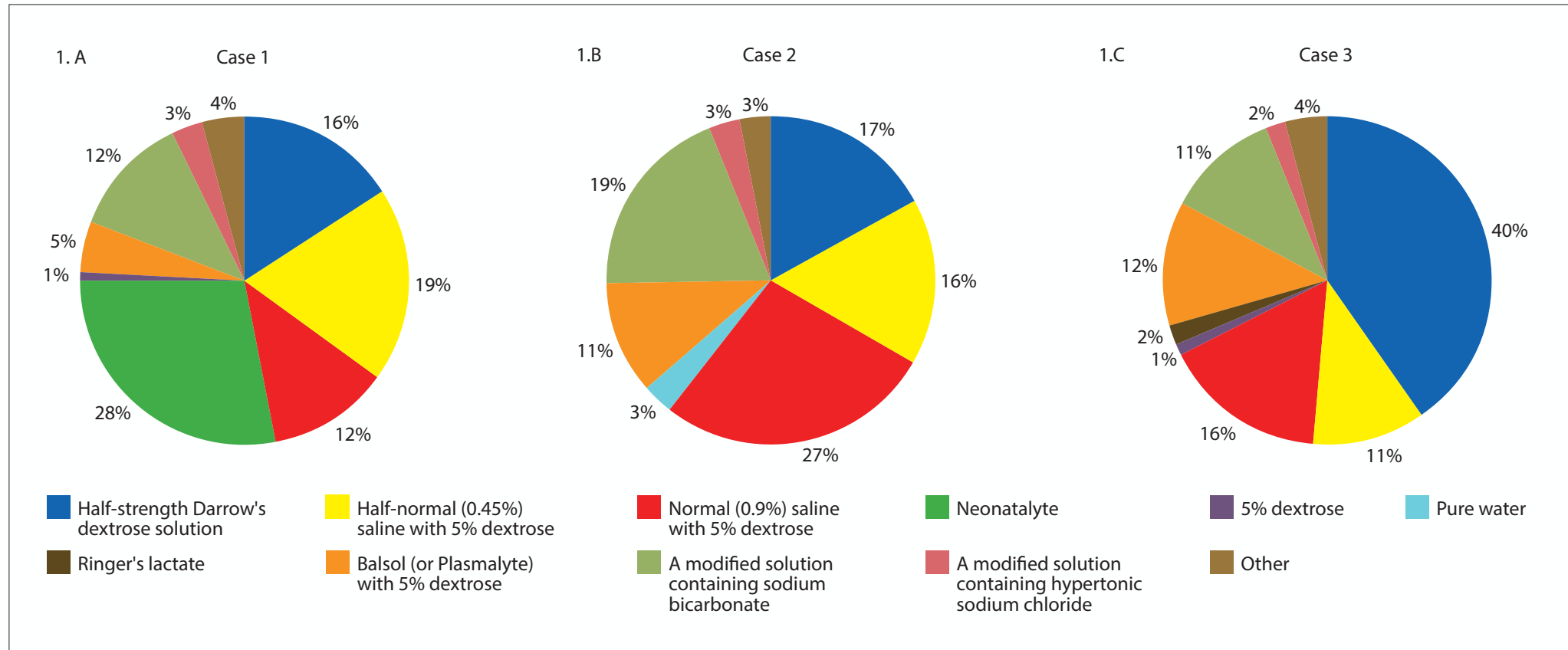


Fig. 1. Clinician-prescribed infusate for maintenance intravenous requirements in children for scenarios one (A), two (B), and three (C).

# Consideration about dehydration

- Concern about **fluid** and **electrolyte** shifts
- Compensation mechanisms of the body
- Degree of dehydration is essential

# Considerations about fluids

- Fluids are drugs
- Consider
  - Indication
  - Route of administration
  - Duration
  - Adverse effects



*Primum non nocere*

# Fluid composition

	Resuscitation		Maintenance			
	Modified Ringer's lactate	Sodium chloride, 0.9%	½ Darrows Dextrose, 5%	Sodium chloride, 0.9%/Dextrose, 5%	Paediatric Maintenance Solution	Balanced solution
<b>Na</b>	130	154	61	154	35	130
<b>K</b>	4		18		12	4
<b>Cl</b>	109	154	51	154	47	110
<b>Bicarb</b>			27			27
<b>Lactate</b>	28					
<b>Dextrose</b>			50	50	50	
<b>Osmolality</b>	272	308	434	560	372	273
<b>Tonicity</b>	Isotonic	Isotonic	Hypotonic	Hypertonic	Hypotonic	Isotonic
<b>pH</b>	6,5		5			7,4

Values expressed in mmol/L, except osmolality and pH

# Resuscitation Fluids: Saline versus Ringers Lactate

- The previous edition of the Paediatric STGs and EML only recommended Sodium Chloride, 0.9% .
- The consideration of Modified Ringers Lactate was evaluated during the current review cycle.



A randomized trial comparing the effectiveness of Ringer lactate and normal saline for correction of paediatric acute severe diarrhoeal dehydration found that 38% of patients on Ringers lactate and 23% of patient on normal saline had improvement in clinical status and  $\text{pH} \geq 7.35$  after 6 hours, RR =1.63, 95% CI 0.8 to 3.4). No significant differences were seen secondary outcomes regarding electrolyte, renal and blood gas parameters, or hospital stay duration.



# Resuscitation Fluids: Saline versus Ringers Lactate

- Comparable in efficacy, then consider the costs:

Item	Price*
<b>Sodium Chloride; 0.9%; Infusion (parenteral); 1 L</b>	R12.37
<b>Ringer Lactate; Infusion (parenteral); 1 L</b>	R10.75

\*January 2024

*Note: Much large volume on National Contract for NaCl compared to Ringers Lactate. As volumes of Ringers increase, it would be expected this price to go down*

Modified Ringers Lactate was thus added as an alternative resuscitation fluid to sodium chloride, 0.9% in a shock, anaphylaxis, cardiac arrest and burns.

# Resuscitation fluids

## Sodium Chloride, 0.9%

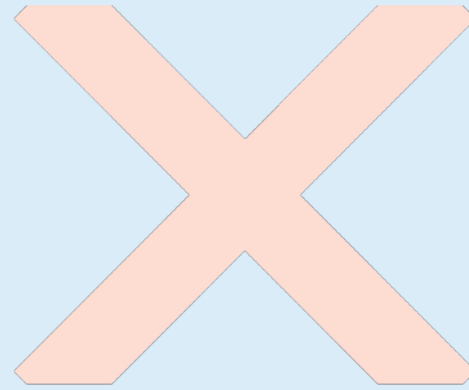
- Historical recommendation retained

## Modified Ringers Lactate

- Alternative included

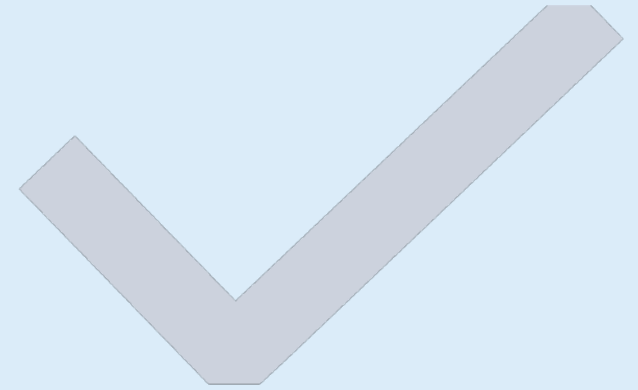
# Maintenance fluids

Major change in fluid recommendations throughout



## Previous recommendation

- ½ Darrow dextrose, 5%



## Updated recommendation

- Saline, 0.9% with dextrose, 5%

# Update in maintenance fluid recommendation for children

- Half-strength Darrow's solution has been used extensively for childhood dehydration in treatment internationally.
- Major adverse effect: **iatrogenic hyponatraemia**.

## SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

### ESPNIC clinical practice guidelines: intravenous maintenance fluid therapy in acute and critically ill children— a systematic review and meta-analysis



# Five PICOs

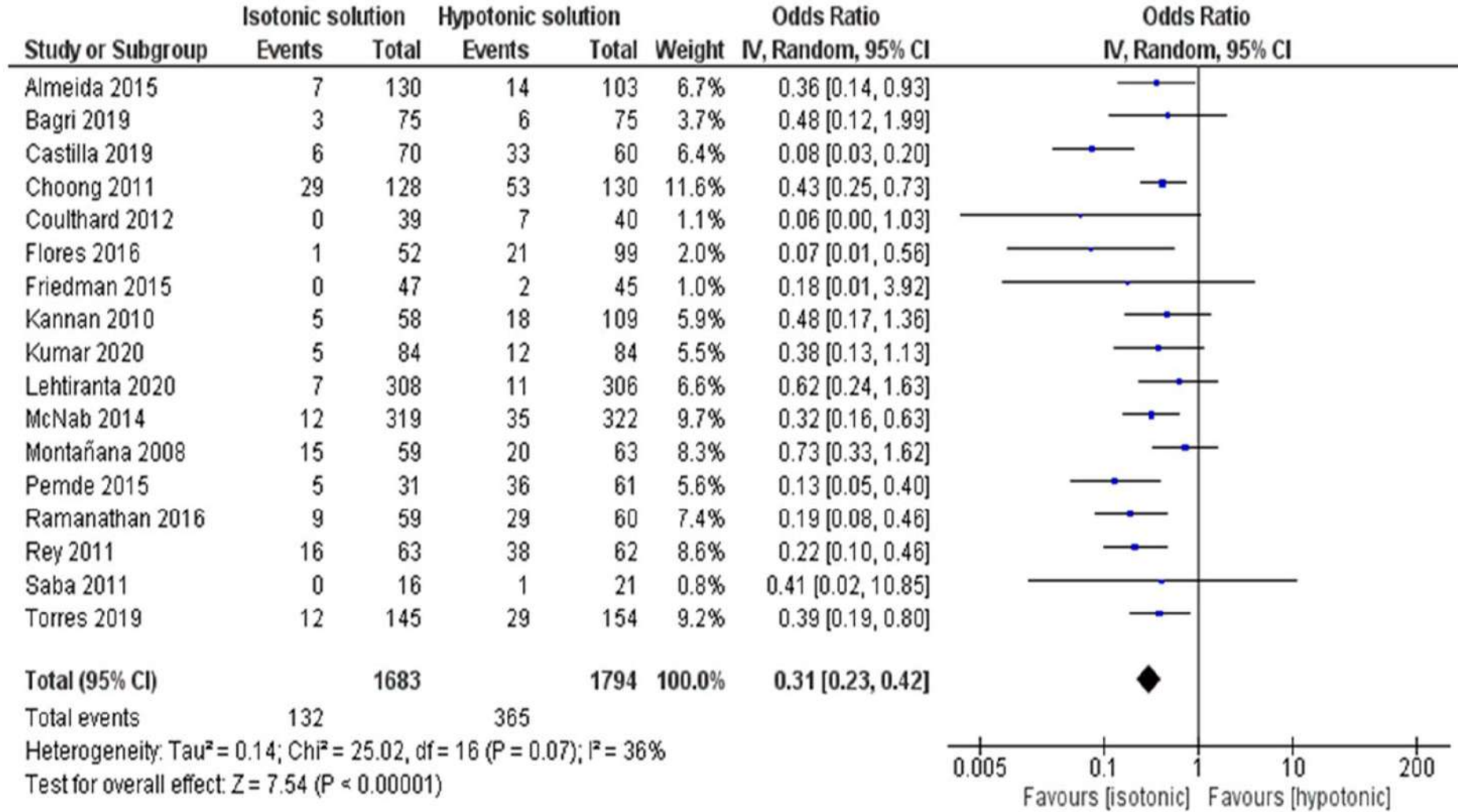
Indications for IV maintenance fluid therapy (IV-MFT)

Use of isotonic fluids

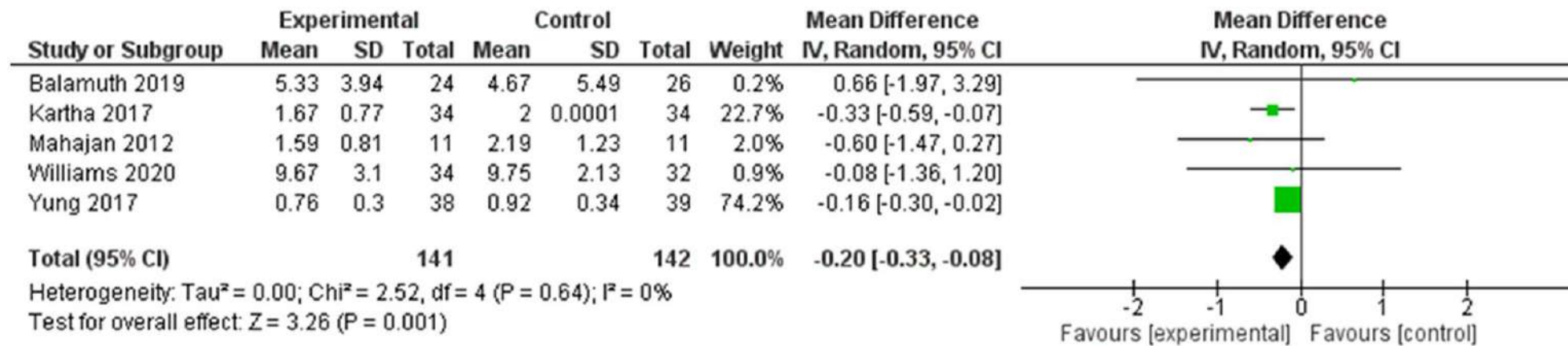
Use of balanced solutions

IV-MFT composition

Volume of IV-MFT administered



**Fig. 3** Meta-analysis of studies comparing the impact on hyponatremia occurrence of isotonic versus hypotonic solutions



Experimental: Balanced solution  
 Control: Non-balanced solution

**Fig. 4** Meta-analysis of studies comparing the impact on acute or critical care stay of balanced versus non-balanced solutions

# Update in maintenance fluid recommendation for children

## PICO1

**Indication:** Does IV-MFT versus other hydration therapies (none, oral or enteral route) impact on clinical outcomes?

**No significant difference** in length of stay but trend towards a reduction in length of hospital stay in patients receiving enteral fluids

## PICO2

**Tonicity:** Do isotonic solutions versus hypotonic solutions (as IV-MFT) impact on clinical outcomes?

**Yes**, isotonic solutions significantly decrease the risk of hyponatremia compared with hypotonic fluids

## PICO3

**Balanced fluids:** Do balanced solutions versus non-balanced solutions (as IV-MFT) impact on clinical outcomes?

**Yes**, the length of acute care or PICU stay were slightly but significantly decreased in children receiving balanced solutions

## PICO4

**Composition:** Does the composition of IV-MFT in terms of glucose, electrolytes (P, Mg, Ca K), vitamins and trace elements impact on clinical outcomes?

**Not able to be answered** in a meta-analysis

## PICO5

**Amounts:** Does the use of a restrictive IV-MFT volume versus the standard Holliday and Segar calculated volume impact on clinical outcomes?

**Yes**, a restrictive strategy was significantly associated with a lower change in plasma sodium



# Update in maintenance fluid recommendation for children

Half strength Darrow with glucose 5% is the **more costly** option compared to saline 0.9%/dextrose 5% option

	<b>Half Darrow With Glucose; 5%; Infusion (parenteral); 500 ml</b>	<b>Sodium Chloride, Dextrose; 0.9%, 5%; Infusion (parenteral); 1 L</b>	<b>Sodium Chloride, 0.9% Dextrose, 5%; Infusion (parenteral); 200 ml</b>
<b>Current contract price*</b>	R12.86	R12.37	R22.28
<b>Price per litre</b>	R25.72	R12.37	R111,40

\*January 2024

Thus removed: replaced with Sodium Chloride 0.9%/Dextrose 5% solution

# Update in maintenance fluid recommendation for children

Balanced solutions..?

	Half Darrow With Glucose; 5%; Infusion (parenteral); 500 ml	Sodium Chloride, Dextrose; 0.9%, 5%; Infusion (parenteral); 1 L	Sodium Chloride, 0.9% Dextrose, 5%; Infusion (parenteral); 200 ml	Plasmalyte B (Balsol); 1 L
<b>Current contract price*</b>	R12.86	R12.37	R22.28	R21.58 <sup>#</sup>
<b>Price per litre</b>	R25.72	R12.37	R111,40	R21.58

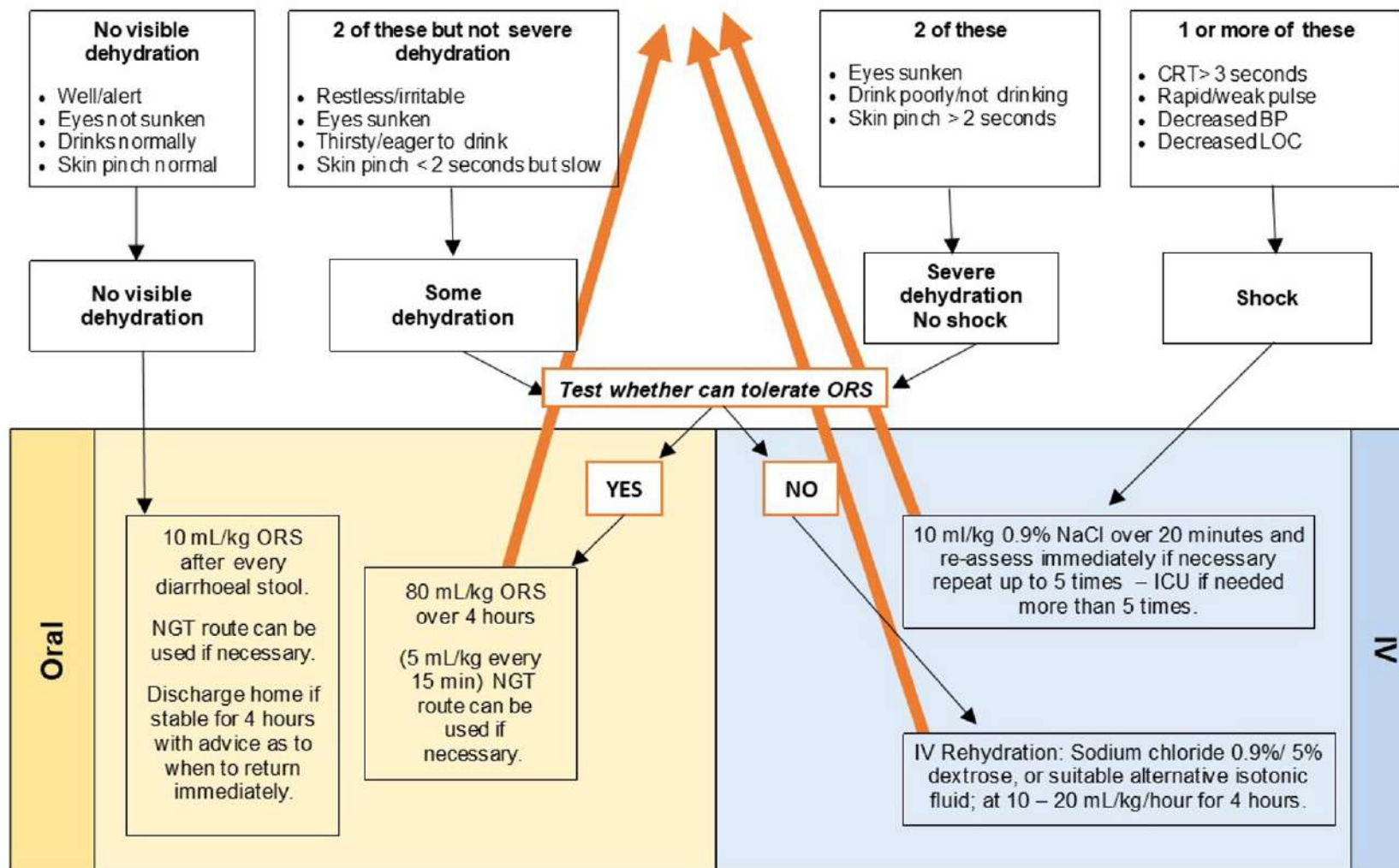
\*January 2024

<sup>#</sup>Non-EML

Thus removed: replaced with Sodium Chloride 0.9%/Dextrose 5% solution

## Diarrhoeal Diseases Fluid Flow Chart Overview – “In Hospital” Care

### Assessment (baseline and 4 hourly)



# The Case for Oral Rehydration Therapy

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**The human body has strict physiologic control to maintain a balance of fluid and electrolytes.**

# The case for oral rehydration therapy

## Physiology

- Antidiuretic hormone
  - Renal regulation of urinary water losses
  - Thirst centre to regulate intake
-

# The case for oral rehydration therapy

## Evidence

- Equal efficacy
- Fewer complications, e.g. phlebitis
- Shorter duration of hospitalisation
- Lower cost
- Easier to administer
- Quicker to treatment commencement

## Also...

- Opportunity to empower the caregiver
-

# IMCI





## Key points to note

**Most children should receive maintenance fluids orally or via nasogastric tube**

**All children receiving IV fluid should be re-assessed frequently (4 hourly)**

**For rehydration, the oral or nasogastric route is preferred**

**Rapid rehydration over 4 hours (vs slow rehydration) is preferred**

## Key points to note

**Encourage normal nutrition**

**Be extremely cautious with IV fluid in SAM patients**

**Rehydration is additional to nutrition  
(not a replacement)**

**Zinc 10 mg daily for 14 days to all**

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- PERC & secretariate of Affordable Medicines Directorate
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