



**RWANDA  
MILITARY HOSPITAL**

# APPROACH TO DKA

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# OUTLINE

## Part 1

- Case

## Part 2

- introduction to T1 DM,
- Epidemiology
- DKA & Physiopathology

## Part 3

- Clinical presentation of DKA
- Management
- Monitoring
- complications of management
- recommendations



# Part I: Case

- 15 months old F, presents to a random clinic with oral thrush. As she is unable to feed well, she is admitted for intravenous fluids. Elsewhere NAD
- Hx of polydipsia noted one week ago
- DOA 2, glycemia of 300mg/dl not taken seriously
- DOA 4 found drowsy GCS:13/15, dehydrated with RD plus fruity smell...



# Case cont'd

- Glycaemia was in 400mg/dl
- PH:6,89 HCO<sub>3</sub>: 2,8
- Urine ketone +++



# Part II: Introduction to T1DM

- Type 1 DM is due to lack of insulin: autoimmune destruction of Beta cells in the pancreas
- Insulin deficiency causes hyperglycemia hence ketone production from lipid catabolism
- Mgt is insulin
- Genetic susceptibility



# EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Worldwide variation, highest in Finland(37-65/100,000), lowest in china, Venezuela (0.1-1,9/100,000)
- 45% present <10 years
- incidence of childhood T1DM is reported to be rising worldwide, increases of 2-5%per yr in Europe, the Middle East, and Australia.
- Incidence studies in lower-income countries in Africa and other regions may underestimate true incidence as new cases are frequently missed and die undiagnosed.
- Rwanda, the number of newly diagnosed children per year(1000s):0.05; number of children with T1DM (1000s): 0.3
- Chris peterson et al. diabetes in the young-a global view and worldwide estimatesof numbers ofchildren with type 1 biabetes. Diabetes research and clinical practice10392014) 161-175



# DKA

## Definition

- Hyperglycemia: plasma glucose >200 mg/dL
- Metabolic acidosis: PH <7.30 or bicarbonate <15 mmol/L
- ketosis (ketonuria or ketonemia)

	<u>DKA severity</u>		
	Mild	Moderate	Severe
pH <sub>venous</sub>	7.3-7.2	7.1-7.20	<7.10
Serum HCO <sub>3</sub> mmol/L	10-15	5-10	<5

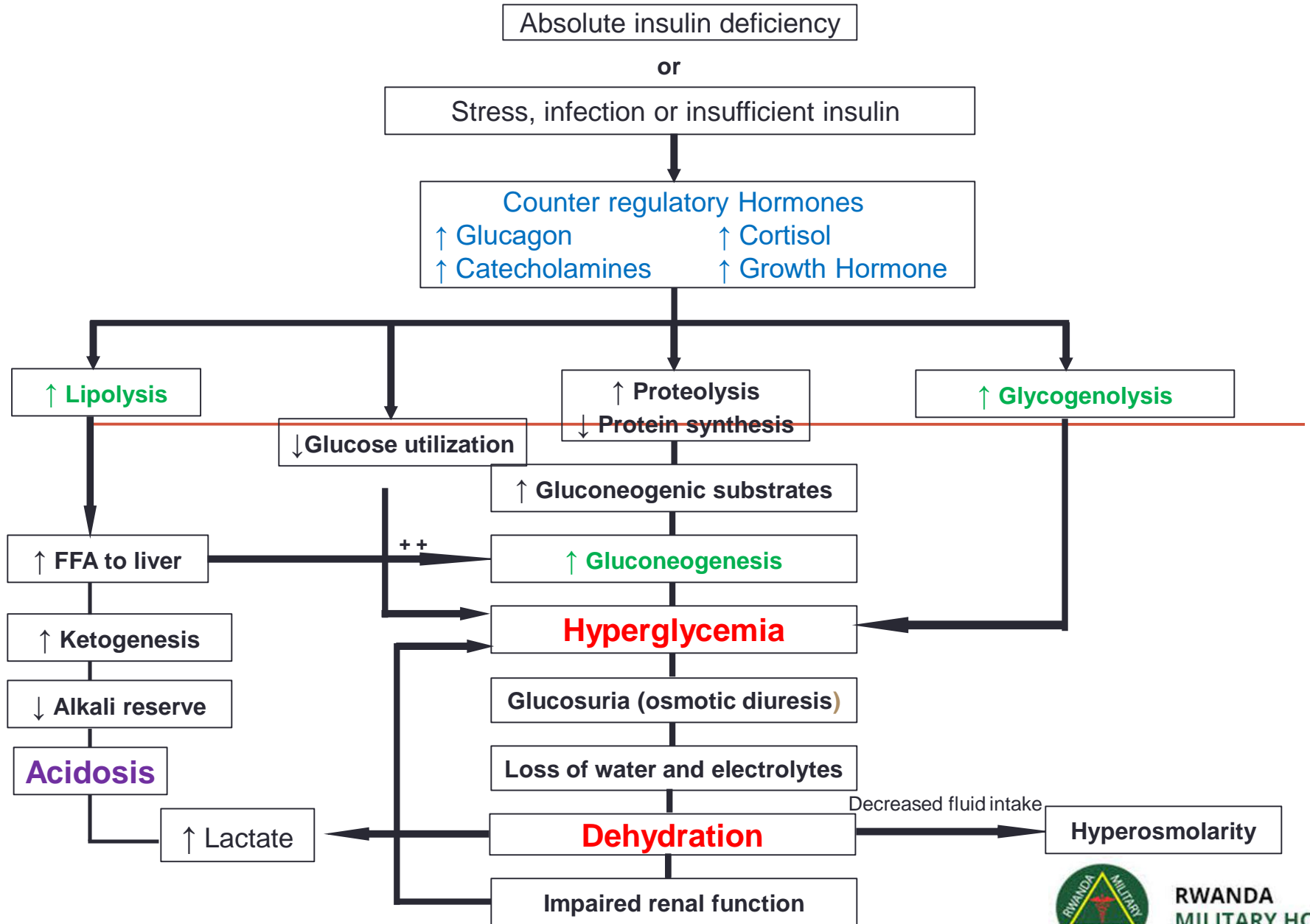
# DKA

- Leading cause of mortality and morbidity of T1DM
- Occurs at 1<sup>st</sup> Dg of T1DM in about 1/3 in the US
- 15-85% newly diagnosed infants and children present with DKA depending on regional incidence
- In established T1DM, rate of DKA is 6-8%/yr





# PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF DIABETIC KETOACIDOSIS



# Part III: Clinical presentation

- Polyuria; polydipsia less obvious in infants
- fatigue;
- signs of dehydration (underestimated due to increased serum osmolality, then fluid shifts from intracellular to extracellular
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain (can mimic acute abd?)
- Rapid, deep (Kussmaul) respiration
- Decreasing LOC related to severity acidosis
- weight loss, nocturia,...
- Occasionally diaper candidiasis



# Management

- **Initial evaluation:**

- Vital signs
- Signs of shock
- Level of dehydration, calculate fluid deficit (5-10%)
- weight
- Level of consciousness

- **Lab investigations:**

- blood glucose.
- Venous pH and serum HCO<sub>3</sub>
- Ketosis (ketonemia, ketonuria)
- Electrolytes (Na, K, Cl)
- Urea, creatinine.
- pCO<sub>2</sub>
- FBC
- Ca, phos, Mg
- Calculate anion gap
- Severity of DKA



# Management goals

- Treatment of dehydration
- Insulin
  - Correct acidosis and reverse ketosis
  - Restore glucose to near normal
- Treatment of precipitating cause
- Close monitoring
- Avoid complications of therapy
  - Cerebral edema
  - Hypokalemia



# Fluid & Electrolyte Therapy

- During **1<sup>st</sup> HOUR**: Resuscitate in case necessary to restore perfusion if impaired
- 10-20 mL/kg of NaCl 0.9% over 1-2 hours
- Dehydration should be corrected slowly to avoid cerebral edema
- Deficit to be corrected over 48h to be added on daily requirement : usually rate is 1.5-2x daily maintenance
- Provide maintenance fluid and electrolytes



# Fluid & Electrolyte Therapy

- For at least 4-6 hours: 0.9% NaCl + K<sup>+</sup>
- Then later ½ NaCl+ K<sup>+</sup>
- Add 5% dextrose when glycaemia 250 mg/dL
- Adjust dextrose concentration (5%-12.5%) according to glycaemia to avoid hypoglycemia if BG < 150mg/dl before ketoacidosis resolves
- Continue IV fluid therapy until acidosis has been corrected (pH: ≥7.30 or HCO<sub>3</sub>: ≥ 15; anion gap near-normal) and patient is able to eat and drink



# Insulin treatment

- Start **continuous IV insulin infusion**. Dose is 0.05-0.1 unit/kg/hour of Regular insulin.
- Start with the lowest effective insulin dose
- If no syringe pump available, give 0.05-0.1 unit/kg IV every hour or 0.1 unit/kg SC 2 hourly
- Check glycaemia hourly
- Once glucose is below 250 mg/dl (14 mmol/L), change IV fluid to D5%1/2NS with 20meq of KCl/L



# Potassium treatment

- if **hyperkalemia** or impaired renal function: none until levels fall to normal and adequate kidney function.
- **normokalemic and voiding**, initiate K replacement with the start of insulin therapy at the concentration of 40mEq/L (40 mmol/L).
- If **hypokalemic**, K replacement to be started immediately. Insulin should be delayed until serum K has been restored to a near normal concentration.
- Potassium replacement therapy should continue as long as IV insulin and fluid therapy is still running.





**Complete Clinical Evaluation**

**Evaluate peripheral perfusion**

**Shock**

0.9% NaCl  
20cc/kg  
Repeat PRN

**Decreased,  
no shock**

0.9% NaCl 10cc/kg  
over 1-2 hours

**normal**

**Slow rehydration in 48h.** Begin with 0.9% NaCl:  
4-9 kg: 6 cc/kg/hr  
10-19 kg: 5 cc/kg/hr  
20-39 kg: 4 cc/kg/hr  
40-59 kg: 3.5 cc/kg/hr  
60-80 kg: 3 cc/kg/hr

- No IV fluids available
- Urgent transfer to other hospital
- Rehydrate PO with ORS 5cc/kg/hr in small sips or via NG tube
- Give ½ of fluids as fruit juice or coconut juice if ORS is not available

**Hyperlycemia**

Glycosuria  
Ketonuria

**Start insulin** IV or SQ 1-2 hrs  
AFTER hydration therapy  
Child 5y or older → 0.1U/kg/h  
Child <5 y → 0.05U/kg/h

Blood glucose Q1H  
Goal ↓BG by 100 mg/dl/hr

BG >100mg/dl  
→ ↓ insulin by 20%

BG <50mg/dl  
→ ↑ insulin by 20%

**BG <250 mg/dl**

**Change IV fluid to D5% (+NaCl)**  
at same rate (see above)  
+  
Continue insulin as above  
Blood sugar goal: 150-200 mg/dl

**Resolution of DKA + NPO**  
Insulin R 0.1 U/kg Q4H IV  
for every 50 mg/dl that  
BG is >150 mg/dl;  
maximum dose 0.3 units/kg

**Potassium**

K <3.3 mEq/L  
→ give 40 mEq/L KCl per hr until K >3.3 mEq/L

UOP >2cc/kg/hr + 10cc/kg bolus complete

K >5.5 mEq/L  
→ no KCl; repeat K in 2 hrs

20-30 mEq/L until taking PO

- No serum K available
- No UOP → do NOT give K
- UOP present: give 20mEq/L x4h, then increase to 40 mEq/L/hr

**Resolution of DKA + PO**  
Insulin SQ: Combination of multi-injection per day  
<3y = 0.3U/kg/day  
3-12y = 0.5-0.75U/kg/day  
12-16y = 0.75-1.0U/kg/day  
>16y = 0.75U/kg/day

# Monitoring

Parameter	Frequency
Vital signs	Hourly
Fluid balance (In/Out)	Hourly
Level of consciousness (neuro status)	Hourly
Blood glucose	Hourly
U&Es, venous blood gaz	2-4h
ketosis	2-4h



# Discontinuing the insulin infusion

The insulin infusion should continue until all of the following conditions are met:

- Venous pH  $>7.30$ , or serum bicarbonate ( $\text{HCO}_3$ )  $>15$  mEq/L
- Blood glucose  $<200$  mg/dL (11.1 mmol/L)
- Serum anion gap reduced to normal ( $12 \pm 2$  mEq/L) **or** serum BOHB  $\leq 1$  mmol/L (10.4 mg/dL)
- Patient is tolerating oral intake



# Discontinuing the insulin infusion

- There might be mild hyperchloremic acidosis and/or ketonuria for some time after the above conditions are met.
- So Hyperchloremic acidosis with a normal anion gap is not a contraindication for switching the patient to subcutaneous insulin.
- SC insulin to be initiated at least 30 min before stopping continuous insulin



# Complication of mgt

- **Cerebral edema**
- insufficient rehydration
- Hypoglycemia
- Hypokalemia
- Hyperchloremic acidosis



# Cerebral edema

- Risk factors:

Severe acidosis at presentation.

Substantially elevated BUN at presentation.

Severe hypocapnia.

Young child (<5 years) and/or new onset of diabetes

# Cerebral edema

- **Diagnosis**

## **Minor criteria (moderately suspicious findings)**

Headache – Although headache is frequently present at diagnosis, worsening or recurrence of headache during treatment is suspicious for cerebral injury.

Vomiting – Vomiting is suspicious if it develops or recurs during treatment.

Irritability, lethargy, or not easily aroused from sleep – These features are suspicious particularly if they occur or worsen after initiation of therapy.

Elevated blood pressure (eg, diastolic BP >90 mmHg).

## **Major criteria (very suspicious findings)**

Abnormal or deteriorating mental status after initiation of therapy, agitated behavior, or fluctuating level of consciousness.

Incontinence inappropriate for age.

Inappropriate slowing of heart rate – eg, decline more than 20 beats per minute that is not attributable to improved intravascular volume or sleep state.

## **Diagnostic criteria (signs of significant brain injury, increased intracranial pressure, or brain herniation)**

Muir AB. Cerebral edema in childhood diabetic ketoacidosis. Diabetes Care 2004; 27:1541.



# Cerebral edema: mgt

## Indications:

- Child with DKA and One diagnostic criterion, or
- Two major criteria, or
- One major and two minor criteria, or
- One major and one minor criterion (if child under 5 years of age)

**The decision to treat should be based on signs and symptoms. Do not rely on neuroimaging to make or exclude the diagnosis.**

## Interventions:

- Give mannitol, 0.5 to 1 g/kg intravenously over 15 minutes. The mannitol dose may be repeated in 30 minutes, if there is no initial response.<sup>Δ</sup>
- Adjust fluid administration as indicated to maintain normal blood pressure and optimize cerebral perfusion.
- Avoid hypotension that might compromise cerebral perfusion pressure.
- Neurosurgery consultation regarding further management, including possible invasive monitoring of intracranial pressure in selected cases.



# Recommendations

- Full assessment of patient (Hx, P/E..) and... to repeat if something is not correlating with current working Dg
- Remember to take glycaemia and interpret patient investigation results !!!
- Use of protocol in mgt of DKA



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- Thank you
- Comments???

