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Dr M McCarthy
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Dear Dr ^{Miriam} McCarthy

GUIDANCE ON THE PREVENTION OF HYPONATRAEMIA IN CHILDREN

Thank you for your letter of 5 July 2004 requesting suggestions for any additions or amendments to the current guidance. I think it would be best if suggestions come from the relevant expert clinicians, and note that you have written to a number of people. The only suggestion I have (which was one I made at the time the original guidance was being prepared) was whether there is a need to mention that care must be taken to ensure that Kgs are not confused with Lbs when weighing a child on scales which give both measurements. Dr Bob Taylor, Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist on the original working group did mention that there have been some "near misses" from staff making errors in this way when calculating the amount of intravenous fluids (or drug dosage) required for a child. I still feel this is a very simple but important point that could be included in the guidelines.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Fiona

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