

Intravenous Fluid Prescription

Infants less than 1 year of age.

Dilutional Hyponatraemia does not appear to be a common problem in this age group. Blood chemistry and monitoring of fluid balance is as described above.

For normal serum sodium (Na^+ 135-145 mmol/l)
Give 0.18% NaCl in 4% Glucose at a rate of 4 mls per kg body weight per hour. *Eg For a 5 kg infant this is 20 mls per hour.*

For low or high sodium expert advice should be sought.

Children greater than 1 year of age.

Dilutional Hyponatraemia is well documented in this age group. Blood chemistry and monitoring of fluid balance is as described above.

For normal serum sodium (Na^+ 135-145 mmol/l)
Give 0.45% NaCl in 2.5% Glucose at a rate as above.

For low or high sodium expert advice should be sought.

REFERENCES

Arieff AI. Postoperative hyponatraemic encephalopathy following elective surgery in children. *Paediatric Anaesthesia* 1998;8:1-4

Halberthal M et al, Acute hyponatraemic in children admitted to hospital. *BMJ* 2001;322:780-2