

VET 415 Fluid Therapy

How do we classify dehydration in a percentage?

Physical Exam

Skin Turgor: Decreased skin turgor = longer time to return to normal

Mucous Membrane Moisture: Tacky or dry mucous membranes

Body Weight

Eye Position: Sunken in eyes

Laboratory Data

Urine Specific Gravity: >1.030

Low Urine Output: $< 1 \text{ mL/kg/hr}$

Elevated PCV and TP

+/- Hyponatremia

Typical Percentages

Mild = 6%

Moderate = 9%

Severe = 12%

What factors are included in a fluid plan?

1. Deficit volume (dehydration)
2. Normal ongoing losses (maintenance rate)
3. +/- Abnormal ongoing losses

Rate: Typically 4-6 hours if no cardiac disease present

The larger the deficit, the faster it should be corrected

Determining Deficit Volume

Formula: % dehydration X body weight in kilograms = L of deficit

*% dehydration should be a number between 0.05 and 0.12 (5-12% dehydrated)

Normal Ongoing Losses

Formulas vary by species

Dogs: $80 \times (\text{body weight in kilograms})^{3/4}$

Cats: $70 \times (\text{body weight in kilograms})^{3/4}$

2-4 mL/kg/hr *most mammalian species **neonates have increased needs

Abnormal Ongoing Losses

*Vomiting, Diarrhea, Polyuria, or Cavitory Effusions

~This number is estimated based on the patient and the presentation

~Some like to estimate it at about half of the normal ongoing losses rate

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Calculation Example

Determined dehydration as 10% \rightarrow 0.1 for a 30kg dog

$$\text{Deficit: } 0.1 (30) = 3\text{L or } 3000\text{ml}$$

We want to replace this over 6 hours
*could have also chosen 4

$$3000\text{ml} / 6\text{hr} = 500\text{ml/hr}$$

Normal Ongoing losses

$$80 (30)^{.75} = 1,025.48\text{ml/day}$$

\downarrow

$$\frac{1,025.48\text{ml}}{1\text{day}} \times \frac{1\text{day}}{24\text{hr}} = 42.73\text{ml/hr}$$

Abnormal Ongoing losses

Estimated @ 25 ml/hr

$$\text{Total fluid rate for 6 hours} = 567\text{ml/hr}$$

After the first 6 hours are done you can reassess and then calculate a maintenance rate while still accounting for the abnormal ongoing losses if they are present

6 hours later ~ reassess

Now we just have to account for the normal ongoing losses and abnormal ongoing losses

$$\text{Normal losses: } 80 (30)^{.75} = 42\text{ml/hr}$$

$$\text{Abnormal losses: } 25\text{ml/hr}$$

$$\text{Total: } 67\text{ml/hr}$$

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Adding Potassium

NEVER BOLUS FLUIDS WITH ADDED POTASSIUM!!!!

Maximum safe amount of 0.5mEq/kg/hr

Typically added based on serum K⁺ levels:

Serum K ⁺ (mEq/L)	eEq/L KCl of Fluid	mEq/kg/hr @1x maint rate
3.5-5.5	20	0.027
3.0-3.5	30	0.041
2.5-2.9	40	0.054
<2.5	50	0.068

Example of calculating the potassium level using the data from our previous example

Adding in Potassium qs 20 mEq/L @ 67 ml/hr

1. get ml → L

$$\frac{67 \text{ ml}}{1000 \text{ ml/L}} = 0.067 \text{ L}$$
$$\frac{20 \text{ mEq}}{\text{L}} \times \frac{0.067 \text{ L}}{1} = 1.34 \text{ mEq K}^+$$
$$\frac{1.34 \text{ mEq K}^+}{30 \text{ kg}} = 0.045 \text{ mEq K}^+/\text{kg/hr}$$

Safe! 0.045 < 0.5

Anesthesia Fluids

Traditional Intraoperative Fluid Plan

10mL/kg/hr isotonic crystalloids

*There is a problem with this blanket approach...

Rates are likely excessive for many patients

Interstitial edema, impaired O₂ exchange and delivery, as well as increased morbidity can be caused by fluid retention

Not just about the fluid rate, fluid needs are likely to vary during the procedure so timing matters

Should you give a fluid bolus when there is anesthesia-induced hypotension?

*It depends....

Balanced isotonic crystalloids are poor volume expanders and their efficacy as a treatment for anesthesia-induced hypotension is variable. We have to consider the distribution of this fluid and understand that hypovolemia is ONE of many possible causes of hypotension in anesthetized patients

Colloids

- Artificial colloids can maintain (or increase) colloid oncotic pressure so they are a more effective treatment for anesthesia-induced hypotension than crystalloids

Systolic Pressure Variation

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- Measured during mechanical ventilation
 - Positive pressure during inspiration
 - Decreased venous return and decreased preload
 - A decreased preload leads to a decreased stroke volume
- The magnitude of this depends where the patient is at on the Frank-Starling curve
 - If there is undulation in the arterial BP tracing the patient would likely benefit from an increase in fluids

Recap/Current and Future Trends in Fluid Therapy

- Rates lower than in the past (3-5 mL/kg/hr)
- More individualized plans to match the patient's needs in the moment
- Volume AND timing of fluid administration is important