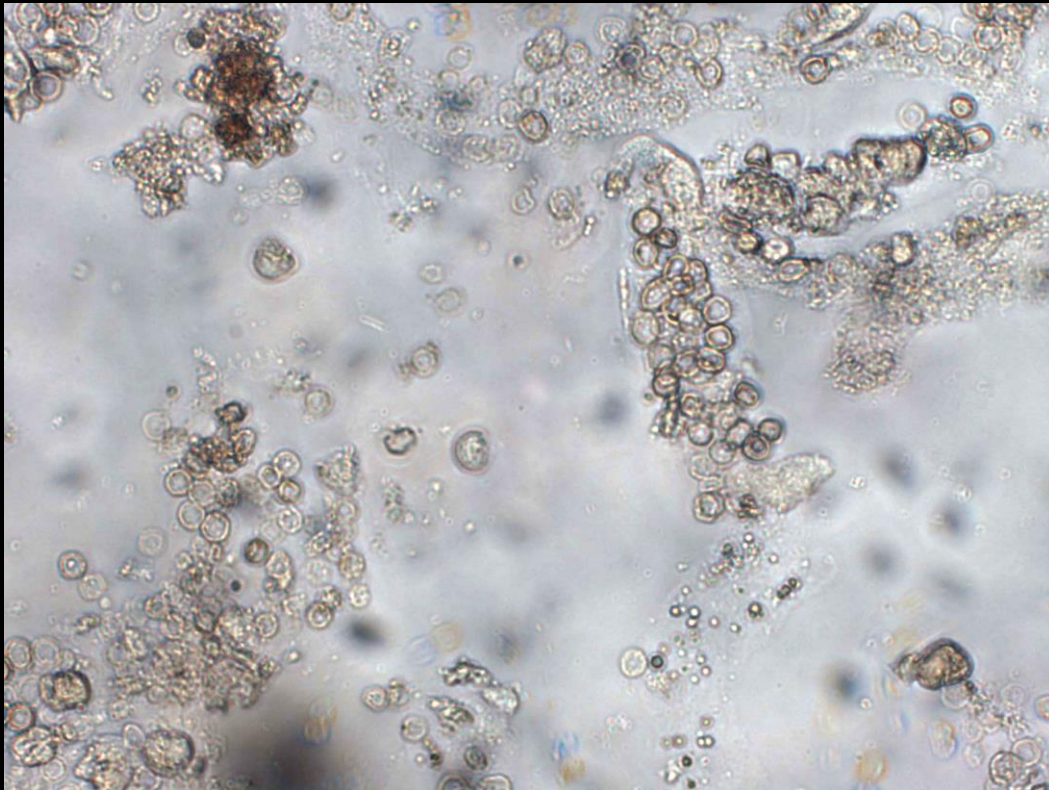


# NEPHROLOGY REVIEW

Greg Dodaro, MD

01/29/2019

# QUESTION 5 IMAGE



# CORRECTION TO QUESTION 15 LABS

## Laboratory studies:

**Potassium**

5.6 mEq/L (5.6 mmol/L)

**Sodium**

Normal

**Estimated  
glomerular  
filtration rate**


90mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

1) A 38-year-old man is evaluated in the emergency department for acute abdominal pain. Medical history is significant for excessive alcohol use and recurrent **acute pancreatitis**. He drinks six beers daily. He takes no medications.

On physical examination, the patient is in acute distress and indicates epigastric pain. Temperature is 38.0 °C (100.4 °F), blood pressure is 160/88 mm Hg, pulse rate is 88/min, and respiration rate is 20/min. BMI is 25. Chest and heart examinations are normal. The abdomen is slightly distended, with tenderness to minimal palpation in the epigastric area. There is no peripheral edema.

Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's hyponatremia?

Laboratory studies:	
Leukocyte count	10,000/ $\mu$ L ( $10 \times 10^9$ /L)
Blood urea nitrogen	15 mg/dL (5.4 mmol/L)
Creatinine	1.2 mg/dL (106.1 $\mu$ mol/L)
Electrolytes:	
<b>Sodium</b>	<b>128 mEq/L (128 mmol/L)</b>
Potassium	4.0 mEq/L (4.0 mmol/L)
Chloride	99 mEq/L (99 mmol/L)
Bicarbonate	24 mEq/L (24 mmol/L)
Glucose	90 mg/dL (5 mmol/L)
<b>Lipase</b>	<b>620 U/L</b>
<b>Plasma osmolality</b>	<b>290 mOsm/kg H<sub>2</sub>O</b>
Urine osmolality	400 mOsm/kg H <sub>2</sub> O



#1

PSEUDOHYPONATREMIA

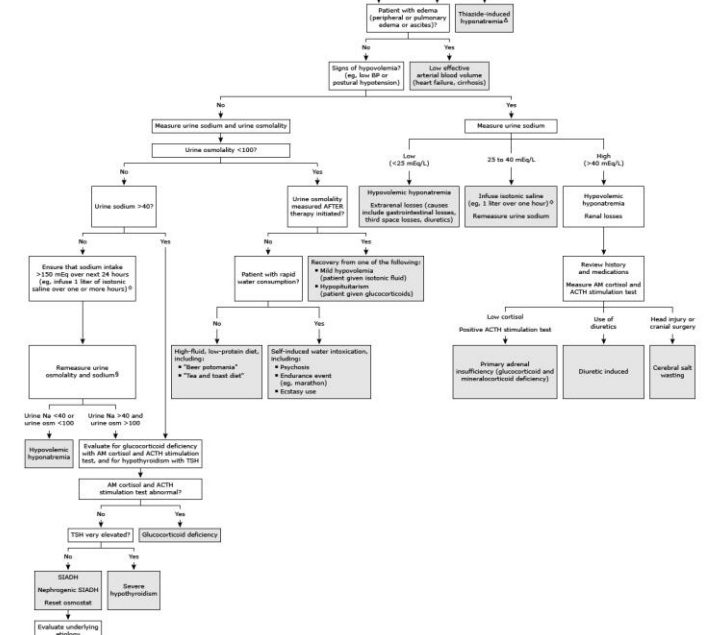
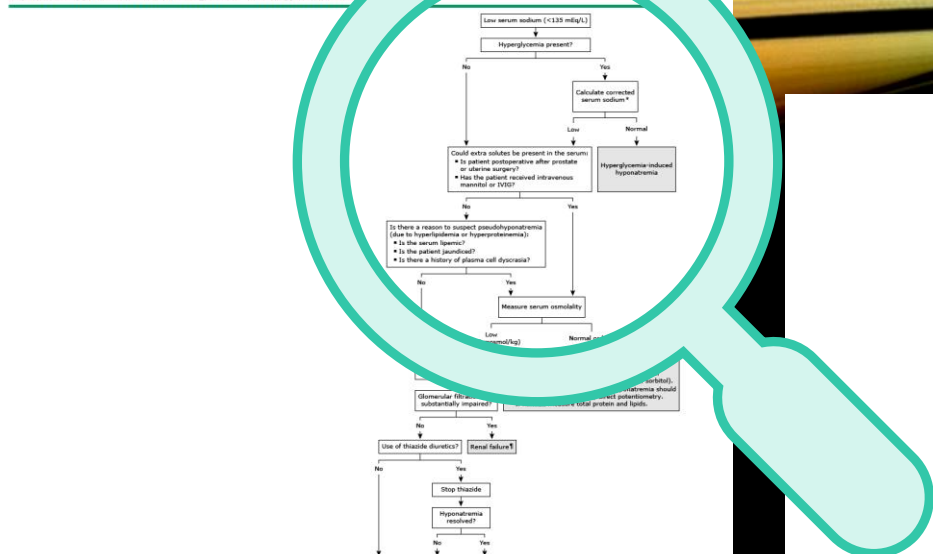


# PSEUDOHYPONATREMIA

- Pseudohyponatremia is caused by a laboratory error in the measurement of serum sodium due to the presence in the serum of other material. The lab measures the proportion of sodium in PLASMA. Normally, plasma is 93% water. However, foreign substances decrease the proportion of plasma that is water, causing the concentration to look off. Common causes of **paraproteins like myeloma proteins**, and **triglycerides**, which this patient may have from his pancreatitis.

$2\text{Na (mEq/L)} + 2\text{K (mEq/L)} + \frac{\text{glucose (mg/dL)}}{18} + \frac{\text{BUN (mg/dL)}}{2.8}$
<i>that is,</i>
$2(\text{Na} + \text{K}) + \frac{\text{BUN}}{2.8} + \frac{\text{glucose}}{18}$

- Calculated = 266, but measured = normal (275-295)
- This means he either ingested other uncalculated osmoles like methanol or ethylene glycol, OR has pseudohyponatremia!
- Importantly – all of the other choices on this question should have LOW osms!



IVIG: intravenous immune globulin; TURP: transurethral resection of the prostate; BP: blood pressure; ACTH: adrenocorticotropic hormone; ADH: antidiuretic hormone; TSH: thyroid-stimulating hormone; SIADH: syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion.

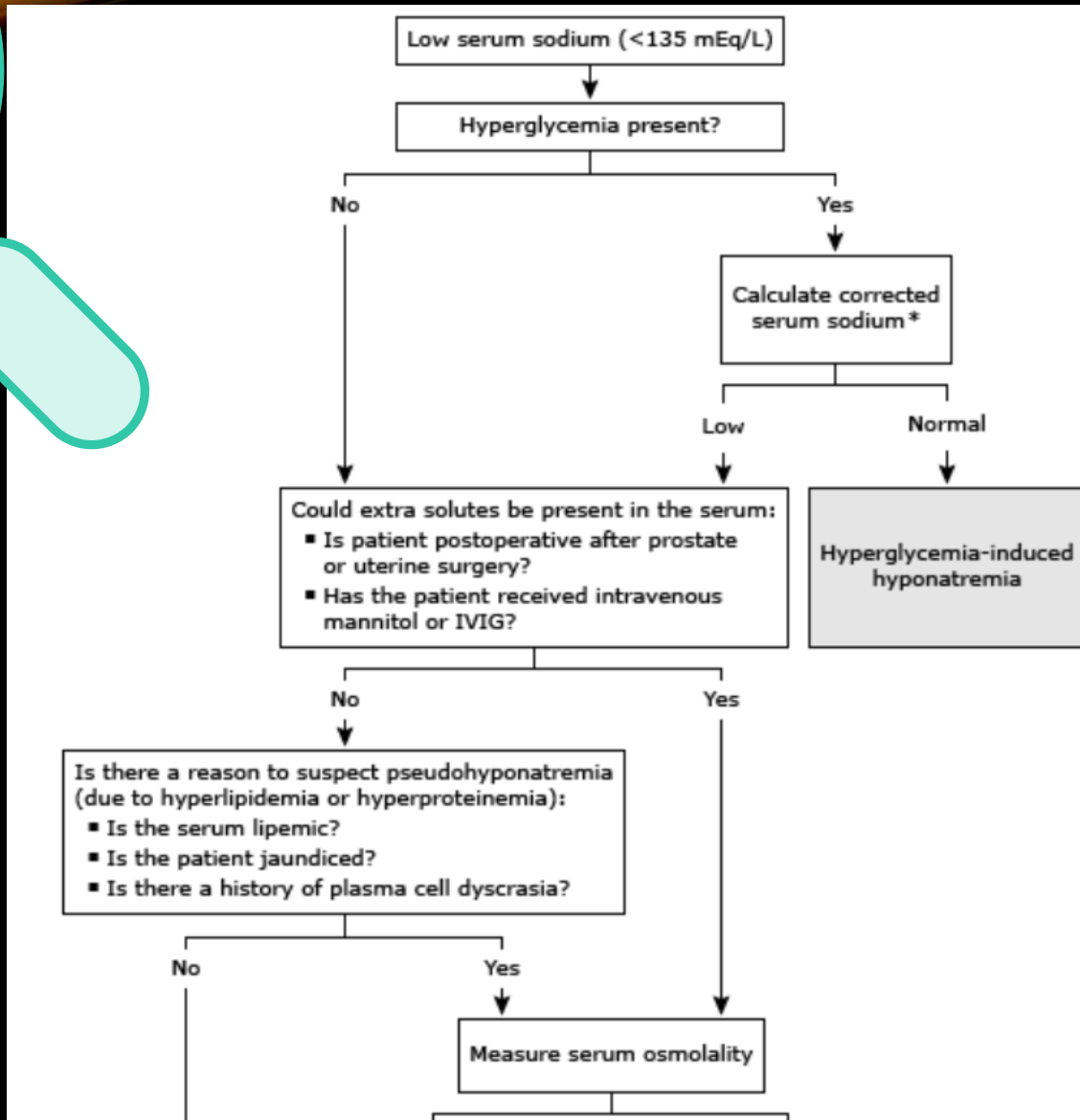
\* A simple and convenient correction of the serum sodium for hyperglycemia is as follows: Add 2 mEq/L to the serum sodium for every 100 mg/dL of serum glucose above the normal value.

† Impaired water excretion in renal failure occurs if there is severe impairment in glomerular filtration rate. Patients with mild-to-moderate impairment in glomerular filtration rate are typically able to excrete water loads. The measured plasma osmolality may be high in patients with renal failure because of high urea concentrations. However, urea is an ineffective osmole, and such patients have hyponatremic hyponatremia even if the plasma osmolality is normal.

‡ Thiazide-induced hyponatremia may be protracted. An extensive evaluation for other etiologies can be delayed for several weeks in mildly hyponatremic patients.

§ If the serum sodium is 125 mEq/L or less, we do not give isotonic saline. In such patients, the evaluation can be delayed until the sodium is slowly raised to higher levels.

¶ Although patients with hyponatremia due to heart failure or cirrhosis will usually have edema that is clinically apparent, hypovolemia may not always be apparent by clinical exam. Thus, in a patient who appears to be euvolemic but whose urine chemistries are consistent with hypovolemia, infusion of isotonic saline (eg, 1 liter over one hour) can be helpful.



This is actually step number one in almost every hyponatremia algorithm, but very easy to forget!

2) A 65-year-old woman is evaluated in the emergency department for dysuria, urgency, and polyuria occurring for 4 days. She has no neurologic symptoms. Medical history is significant for depression. Her only medication is **fluoxetine**, which was started 8 weeks ago.

On physical examination, temperature is 38.0 °C (100.4 °F), blood pressure is 140/90 mm Hg, pulse rate is 85/min, and respiration rate is 15/min. BMI is 30. Cardiovascular, pulmonary, and neurologic examinations are normal. Mild tenderness to palpation of the mid lower abdomen is noted. There is no costovertebral angle tenderness.

Antibiotics for a urinary tract infection are started.

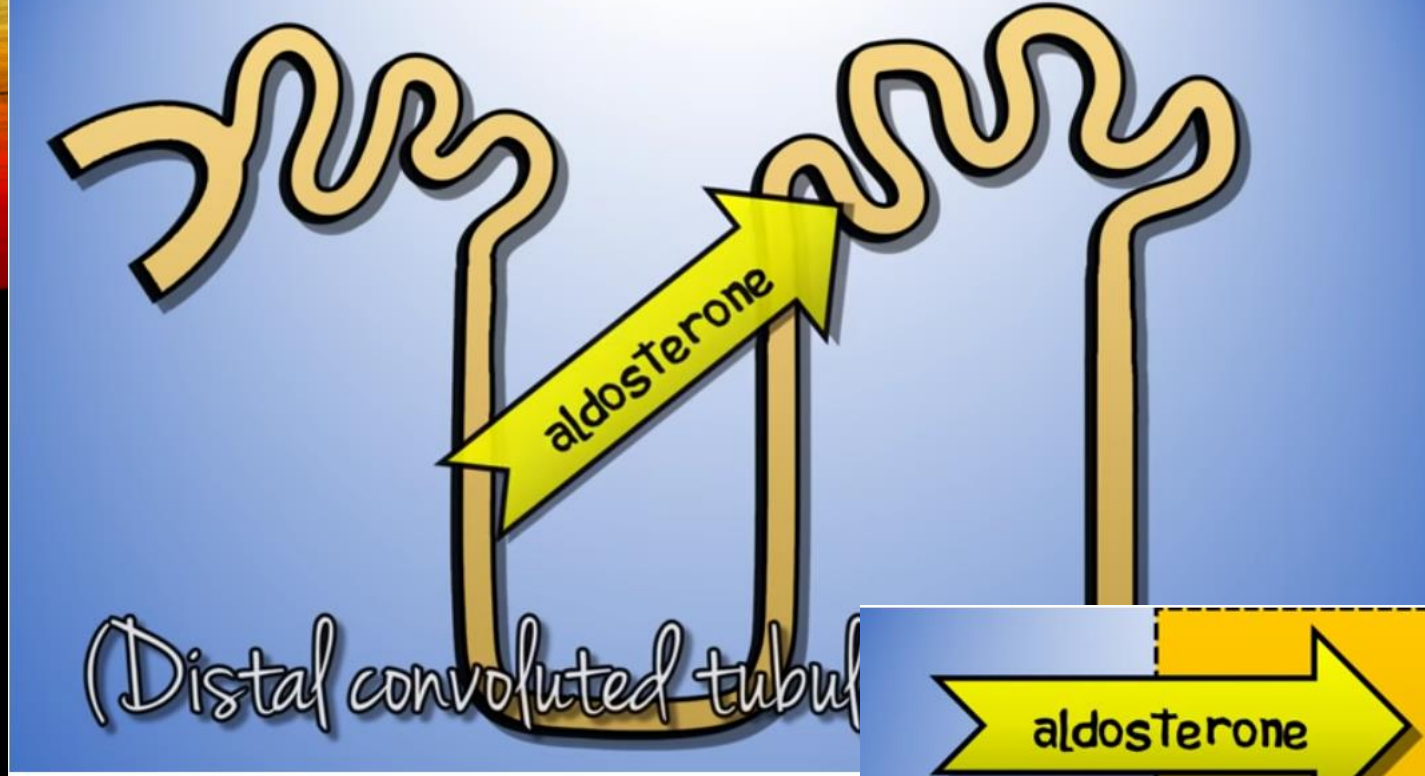
In addition to discontinuing fluoxetine, which of the following is the most appropriate management of this patient's hyponatremia?

Laboratory studies:	
Blood urea nitrogen	10 mg/dL (3.6 mmol/L)
Creatinine	1.0 mg/dL (88.4 µmol/L)
Electrolytes:	
Sodium	123 mEq/L (123 mmol/L)
Potassium	4.0 mEq/L (4.0 mmol/L)
Chloride	91 mEq/L (91 mmol/L)
Bicarbonate	24 mEq/L (24 mmol/L)
Glucose	120 mg/dL (6.7 mmol/L)
Plasma osmolality	260 mOsm/kg/H <sub>2</sub> O
Urine sodium	40 mEq/L (40 mmol/L)
Urine osmolality	600 mOsm/kg/H <sub>2</sub> O
Urinalysis	Too numerous to count leukocytes/hpf

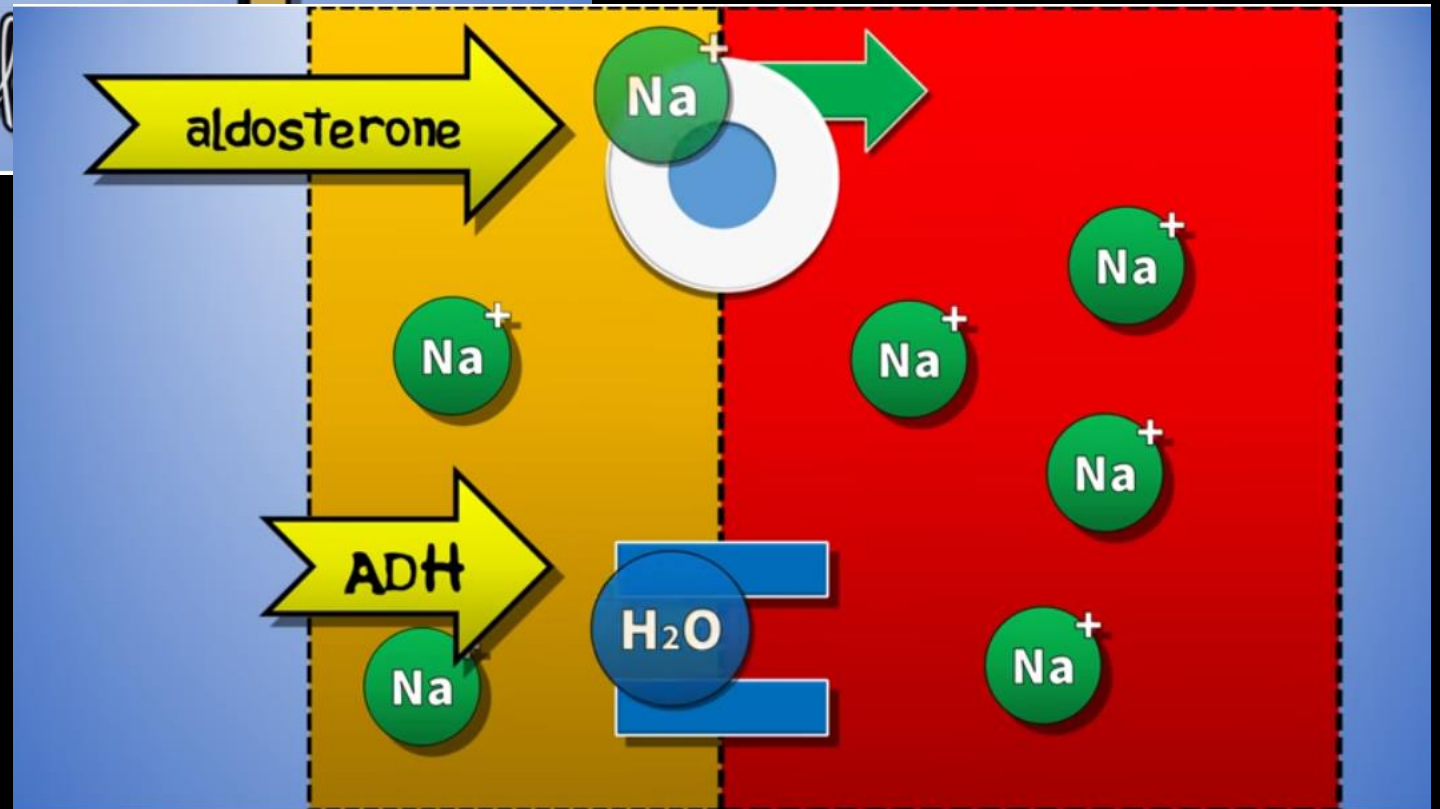


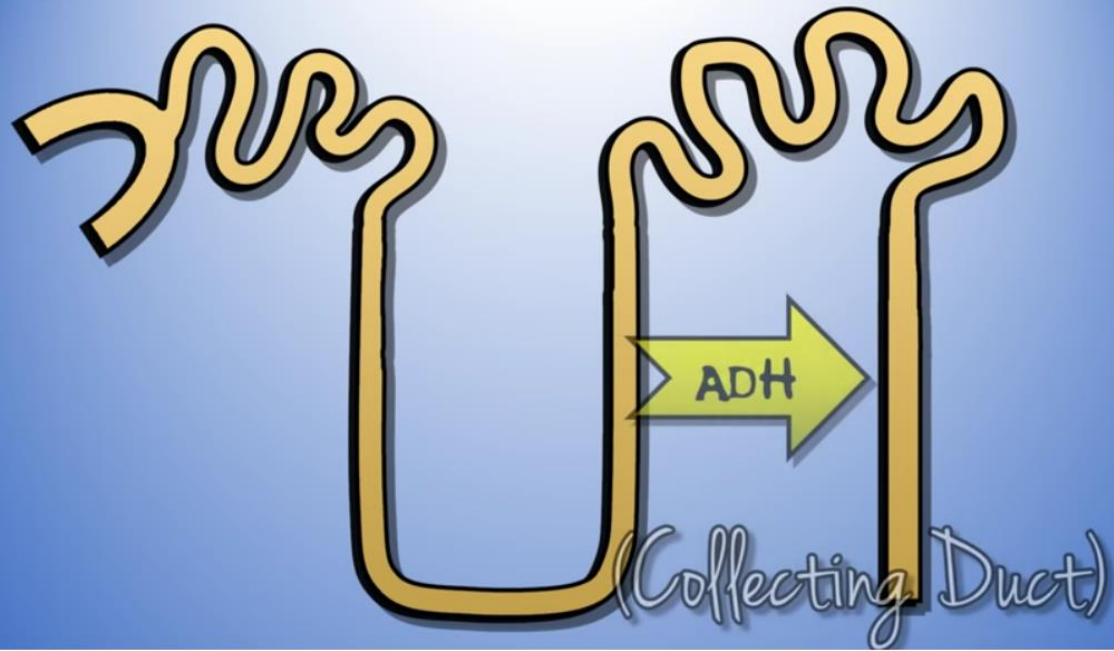
# #2 FLUID RESTRICTION



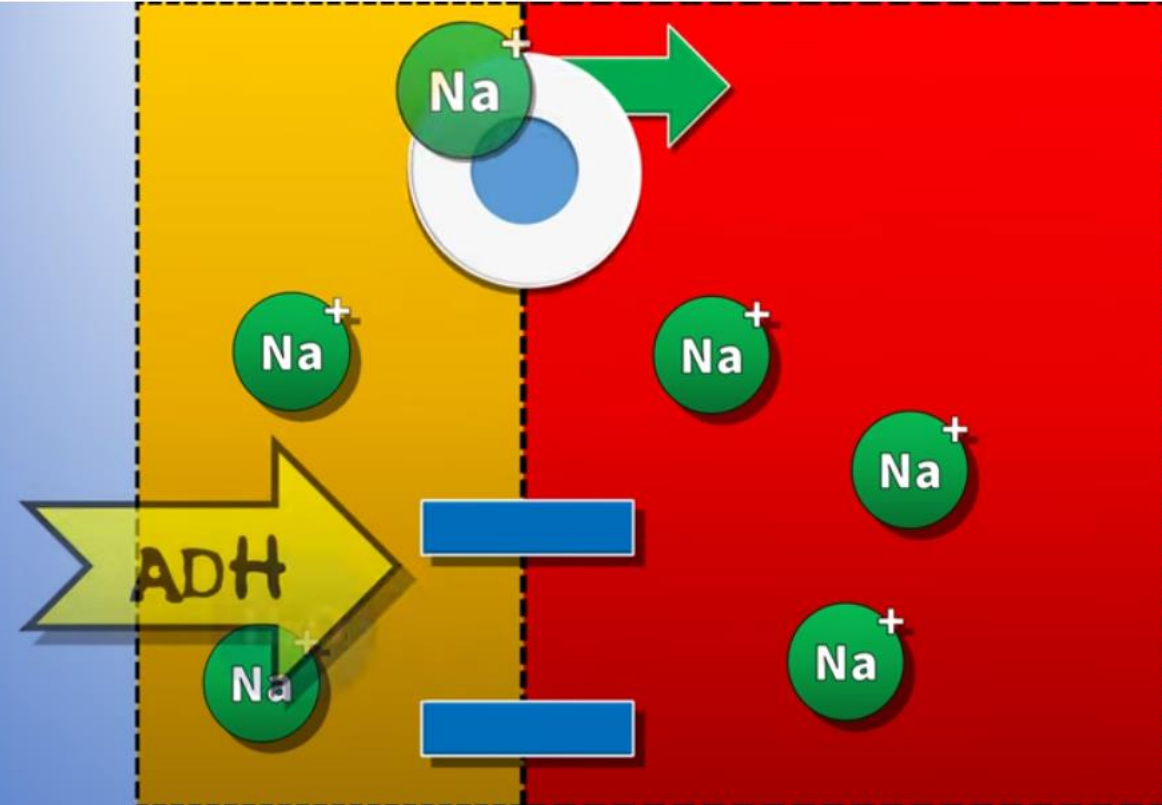


Aldosterone works in the DCT to increase Sodium-Potassium transports, effectively pumping sodium from the urine into the blood and bringing water and volume with it.





ADH works in the collecting duct to up-regulate aquaporins, which allow water to return to the blood stream (causing dilution).

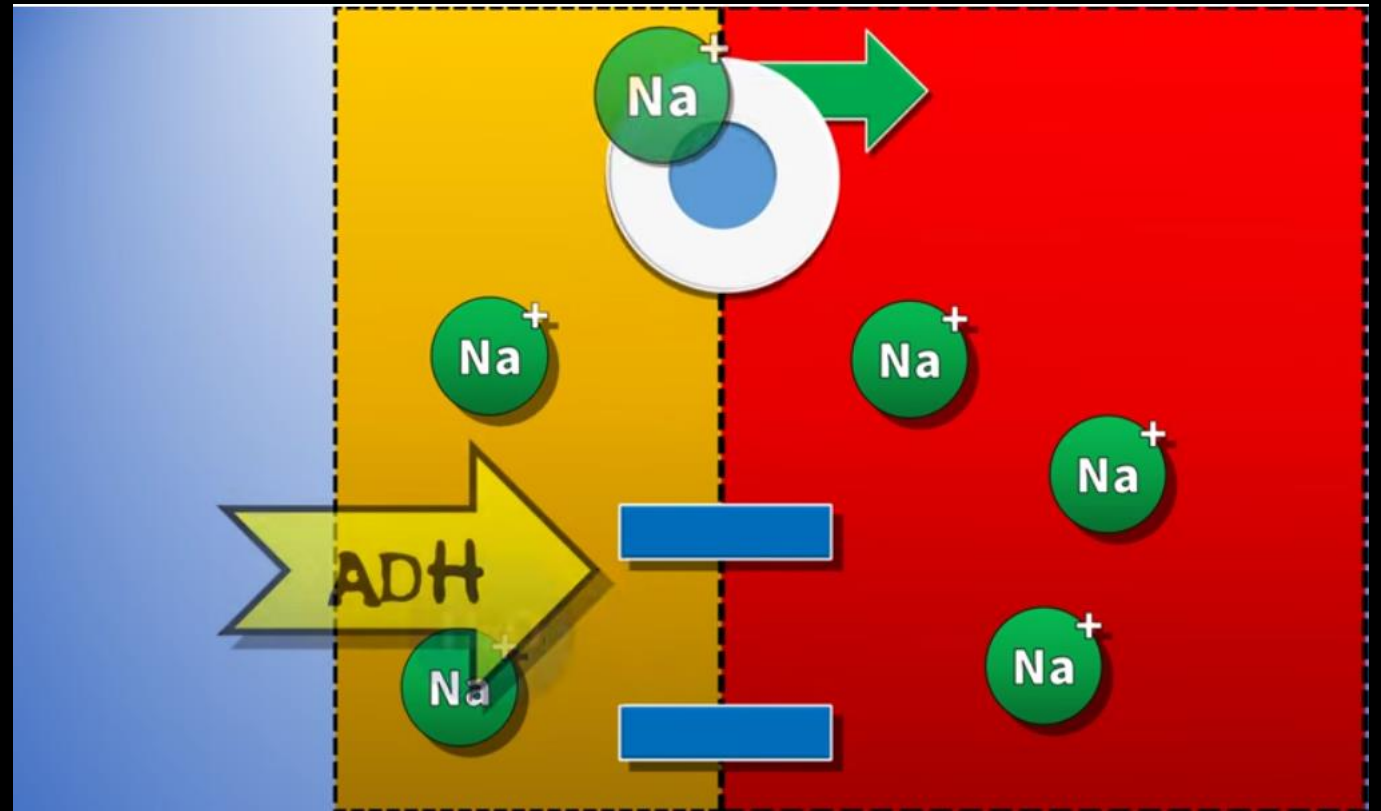


# What is SIADH?

SIADH is simply unregulated ADH, which pumps too much water back into the blood stream, diluting the blood, and concentrating the urine.

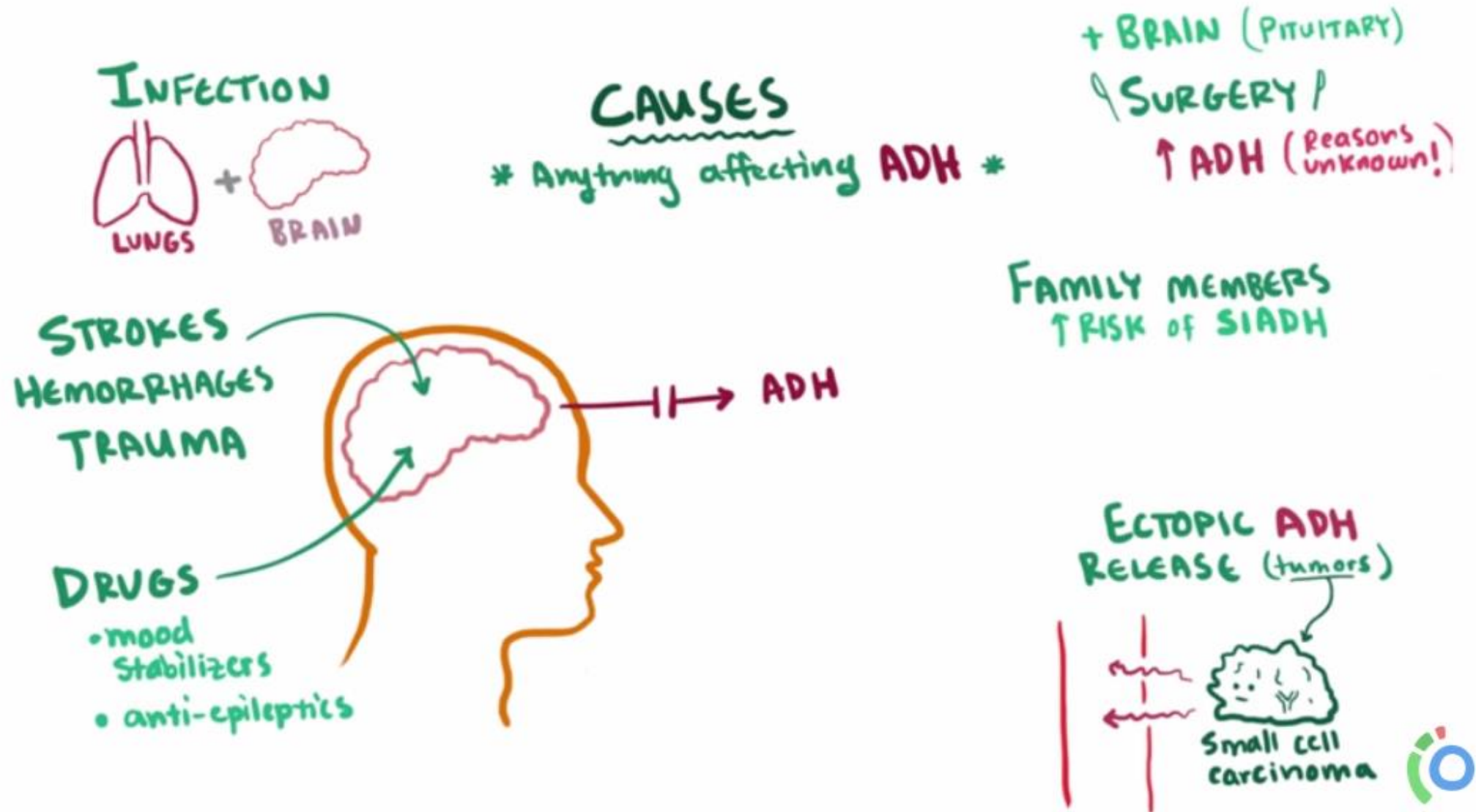
But wait – why are they EUVOLEMIC?

As the renal tubule starts to see a higher volume of water/plasma, it regulates the RAAS syndrome, and decreases aldosterone production, which results in not seeing sodium and water return to the blood from the urine. Thus the volume gets managed appropriately and you stay euvolemic, but the upregulated aquaporins result in progressive dilution and hyponatremia.





# Causes of increased ADH production:





# LAB CRITERIA:

- You must have a low serum sodium  $<135$
- A low serum osm  $<165$
- A HIGH urine osm  $>100$
- Normal TSH and adrenal function
- And be euvolemic on exam

## Treatment:

- When asymptomatic, treatment is to restrict free water intake and overcome the ADH drive
- ALWAYS try to treat the underlying cause (Stop Fluoxetine!)
- If symptomatic, hypertonic solutions are appropriate, but pose risk of rapidly overcorrecting.
- Demeclocycline is reserved because of its potential to cause kidney injury, and vaptans are reserved because of inconsistent responses between patients.

3) A 37-year-old man is evaluated in the emergency department for nausea and vomiting of 12 hours' duration. The patient states that he has been drinking large amounts of alcohol for several weeks and **has eaten very little for the past week**. His last alcoholic drink was more than 24 hours ago. He also reports intermittent diarrhea for the past 2 months. History is notable for chronic alcoholism. He takes no medications.

On physical examination, the patient is cachectic. Blood pressure is 100/65 mm Hg, and pulse rate is 105/min. **BMI is 17**. Proximal muscle wasting is noted. There is no evidence of jaundice or ascites. The liver is enlarged and mildly tender. There is no asterixis. Neurologic examination is unremarkable.

While awaiting the results of laboratory studies, the patient is given intravenous saline with dextrose and vitamins. His respiration rate becomes markedly diminished, and he requires intubation. His laboratory studies return and show the following:

Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's respiratory failure?

Laboratory studies:	
Albumin	3.0 g/dL (30 g/L)
Calcium	8.0 mg/dL (2.0 mmol/L)
Electrolytes:	
Sodium	132 mEq/L (132 mmol/L)
Potassium	3.4 mEq/L (3.4 mmol/L)
Chloride	90 mEq/L (90 mmol/L)
Bicarbonate	32 mEq/L (32 mmol/L)
Magnesium	1.7 mg/dL (0.7 mmol/L)
Phosphorus	1.5 mg/dL (0.48 mmol/L)



#3

HYPOPHOSPHATEMIA

# REFEEDING SYNDROME

- The refeeding syndrome is defined as the clinical complications that can occur as a result of fluid and electrolyte shifts during aggressive nutritional rehabilitation of malnourished patients. These complications are potentially fatal.

★ Hypophosphatemia - This is the hallmark feature that leads to physiological manifestations

- Hypokalemia
  - Vitamin (e.g. thiamine) deficiencies
  - Congestive heart failure
  - Peripheral edema
  - Rhabdomyolysis
  - Seizures
  - Hemolysis
- 
- Symptoms rarely occur unless the serum phosphate concentration is  $<2.0$ .
  - Symptoms include weakness, myalgia, rhabdomyolysis, arrhythmias, heart failure, respiratory failure, seizures, coma, and hemolysis.



# MECHANISM OF HYPOPHOSPHATEMIA

- When nutritional replenishment starts and patients are fed carbohydrates, glucose causes release of insulin, which triggers cellular uptake of phosphate (and potassium and magnesium).
- Insulin also causes cells to produce a variety of depleted molecules that require phosphate (eg, adenosine triphosphate and 2,3-diphosphoglycerate), which further depletes the body's stores of phosphate.
- The lack of phosphorylated intermediates causes tissue hypoxia and resultant myocardial dysfunction and respiratory failure due to an inability of the diaphragm to contract.

4) A 54-year-old woman is evaluated during a follow-up visit for chronic osteomyelitis. She has type 2 diabetes mellitus complicated by nephropathy and peripheral neuropathy and was recently diagnosed with osteomyelitis of the left foot associated with a chronic neuropathic ulcer. Bone biopsy and culture demonstrated methicillin-sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus*, and 1 week ago she was **started on oral high-dose trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole** and rifampin based on sensitivity data for a planned 6-week course of therapy. Medical history is also significant for hypertension. Medications are trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, rifampin, glipizide, and atorvastatin.

On physical examination today, temperature is 37.2 °C (99.0 °F), blood pressure is 126/66 mm Hg, and pulse rate is 78/min. Chest, heart, and abdominal examinations are unremarkable. There is loss of sensation to light touch on the feet bilaterally to the ankles. The ulcer overlying the first metatarsal head on the plantar aspect of the left foot is clean and dry.

Which of the following is the most appropriate management?

Current laboratory studies:	
Blood urea nitrogen	28 mg/dL (10 mmol/L) (pretreatment baseline: 26 mg/dL [9.3 mmol/L])
<b>Creatinine</b>	1.8 mg/dL (159.1 µmol/L) (pretreatment baseline: 1.4 mg/dL [123.8 µmol/L])
<b>Potassium</b>	4.7 mEq/L (4.7 mmol/L)



#4

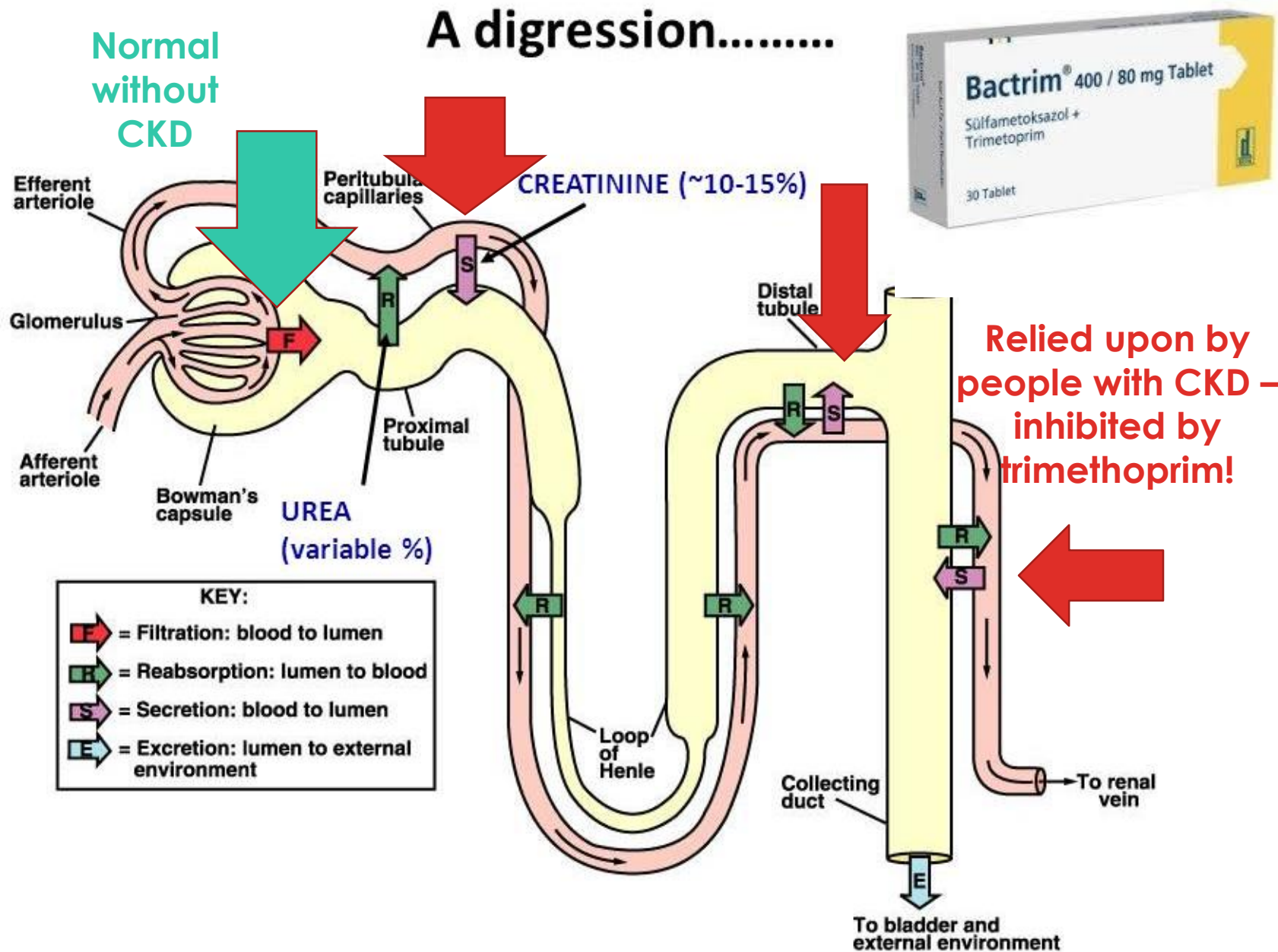
# CONTINUE CURRENT THERAPY

# TRIMETHOPRIM AND CREATININE

- Trimethoprim is known to interfere with creatinine secretion without affecting the glomerular filtration rate and can cause increases in serum creatinine of **up to 0.5 mg/dL** – this is not a kidney injury!
- Creatinine is normally filtered by the kidney from the serum, although a smaller amount is also secreted by the proximal tubule (and tiny amounts in Distal Conv. Tubule and Collecting Duct).
- With more advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD), up to 50% of urine creatinine may be secreted instead of filtered through the glomerulus.
- Reversible upon discontinuation of the medication!
- Trimethoprim also inhibits the epithelial sodium channel in the collecting tubule, effectively acting as a potassium-sparing diuretic and potentially increasing the serum potassium level.



# TRIMETHOPRIM AND CREATININE



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With more advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD), up to 50% of urine creatinine may be secreted instead of filtered through the glomerulus.

Reversible upon discontinuation of the medication!

Trimethoprim also inhibits the epithelial sodium channel in the collecting tubule, effectively acting as a potassium-sparing diuretic and potentially increasing the serum potassium level.

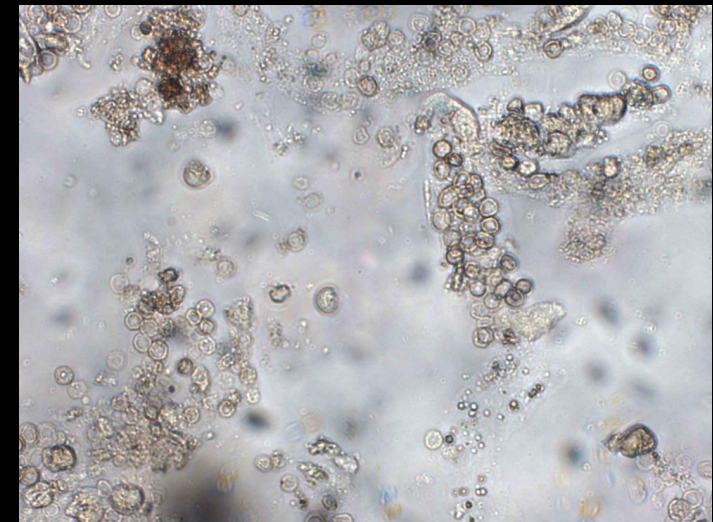
5) A 37-year-old woman is evaluated for an episode of **blood in her urine**. She notes the passage of red-colored urine that resolved spontaneously and was not associated with her menstrual cycle. She reports having had several similar episodes in the past. She has no other symptoms such as abdominal pain or dysuria. Medical history is otherwise unremarkable, and she takes no medications.

On physical examination, the patient is afebrile. Blood pressure is 128/78 mm Hg, pulse rate is 82/min, and respiration rate is 13/min. Cardiopulmonary and abdominal examinations are normal. There is no flank tenderness to palpation. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable.

Laboratory studies show a normal complete blood count and metabolic profile and a serum creatinine level of 0.9 mg/dL (79.6  $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ). Dipstick urinalysis is positive for blood and protein but is negative for leukocyte esterase and nitrites.

Microscopy of the urine sediment is shown.

Which of the following is the most appropriate next step in evaluation of this patient?

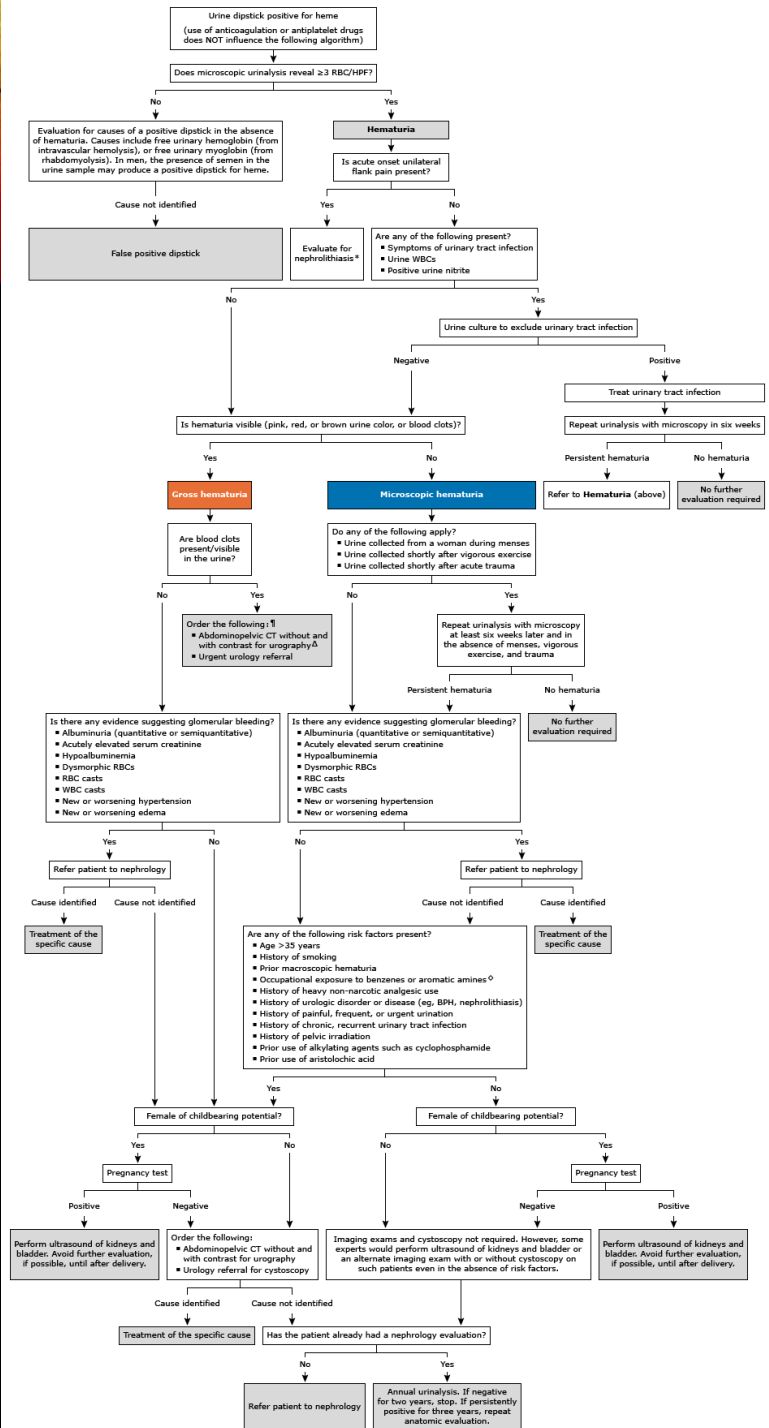




#5

# EVALUATION FOR GLOMERULAR DISEASE





# HEMATURIA

## MEMORIZE THIS!



6) A 26-year-old woman is evaluated for **muscle weakness** developing over the past several months. She has no focal symptoms and states that she otherwise feels well. Medical history is unremarkable, and there is no pertinent family history. She takes no medications.

On physical examination, blood pressure is **98/62** mm Hg, pulse rate is 98/min, and respiration rate is 16/min. **BMI is 19**. There is no lower extremity edema. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable.

Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's acid-base and electrolyte abnormalities?

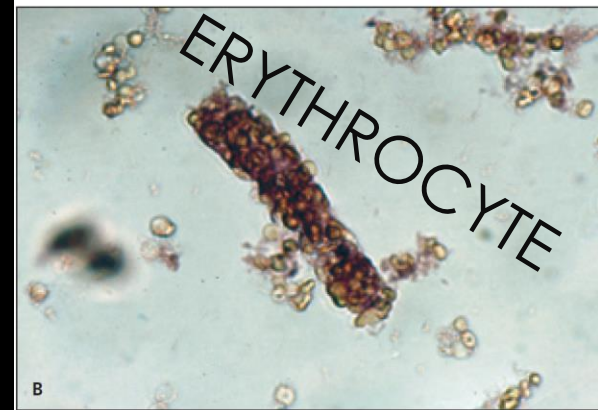
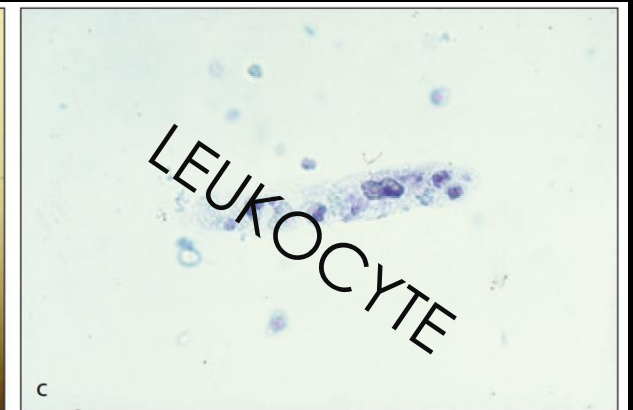
$$\text{ANION GAP} = 7$$

Laboratory studies:	
Serum electrolytes:	
Sodium	142 mEq/L (142 mmol/L)
<b>Potassium</b>	<b>3.1 mEq/L (3.1 mmol/L)</b>
Chloride	120 mEq/L (120 mmol/L)
<b>Bicarbonate</b>	<b>15 mEq/L (15 mmol/L)</b>
Serum creatinine	1.2 mg/dL (106.1 $\mu$ mol/L)
Urine electrolytes:	
Sodium	18 mEq/L (18 mmol/L)
Potassium	8.0 mEq/L (8.0 mmol/L)
Chloride	32 mEq/L (32 mmol/L)
Urine pH	5.0
Urine dipstick	No blood or protein

## NAME THAT CAST!

Hematuria =  $\geq 3$  RBC/hpf

- Dipstick + but no RBCs?
  - Hemoglobinuria (PNH or hemolysis)
  - Myoglobinuria (Rhabdomyolysis)
- Exclude stones and UTI
  - Need to make sure hematuria clears after UTI
- Exercise induced hematuria
  - Repeat UA in 6 weeks without exercising beforehand



## GLOMERULAR HEMATURIA

### “ACTIVE UA”

- Erythrocyte casts
- Proteinuria
- Dysmorphic RBCs

What does evaluate for glomerular disease even mean?

- Complement levels
- ANA, dsDNA
- ANCA
- Strep ASO
- Anti-GBM antibody
- Kidney biopsy

## NONGLOMERULAR HEMATURIA

- MUST RULE OUT MALIGNANCY

- 1) CT urogram
- 2) Cystoscopy



6) A 26-year-old woman is evaluated for **muscle weakness** developing over the past several months. She has no focal symptoms and states that she otherwise feels well. Medical history is unremarkable, and there is no pertinent family history. She takes no medications.

On physical examination, blood pressure is **98/62** mm Hg, pulse rate is 98/min, and respiration rate is 16/min. **BMI is 19**. There is no lower extremity edema. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable.

Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's acid-base and electrolyte abnormalities?

$$\text{ANION GAP} = 7$$

Laboratory studies:	
Serum electrolytes:	
Sodium	142 mEq/L (142 mmol/L)
Potassium	3.1 mEq/L (3.1 mmol/L)
Chloride	120 mEq/L (120 mmol/L)
Bicarbonate	15 mEq/L (15 mmol/L)
Serum creatinine	1.2 mg/dL (106.1 $\mu$ mol/L)
Urine electrolytes:	
Sodium	18 mEq/L (18 mmol/L)
Potassium	8.0 mEq/L (8.0 mmol/L)
Chloride	32 mEq/L (32 mmol/L)
Urine pH	5.0
Urine dipstick	No blood or protein





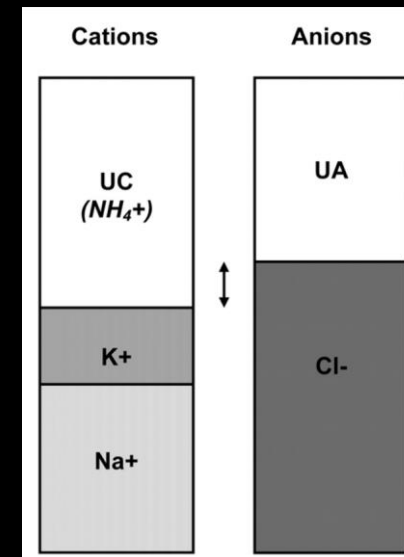
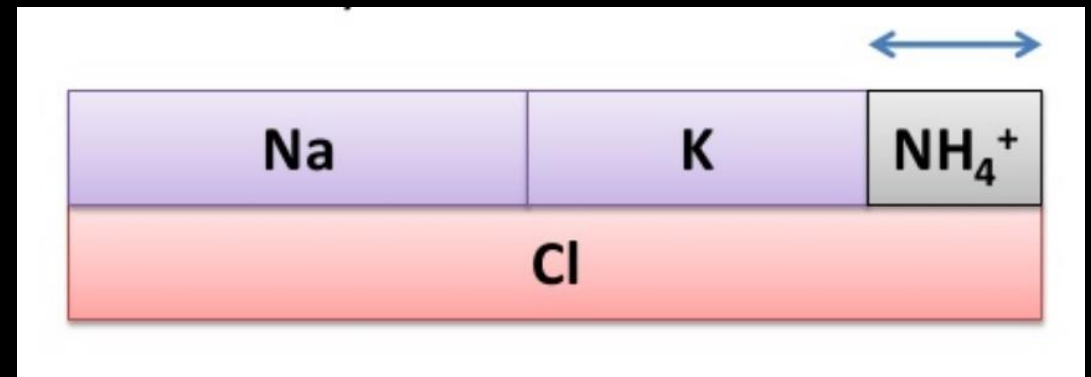
# #6 LAXATIVE ABUSE

# NORMAL ANION GAP METABOLIC ACIDOSIS

## 1) URINE ANION GAP

- $\text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{Cl} = \text{UAG}$
- **Positive = renal**
  - Typically an RTA
- **Negative = GI (neGUTive)**
  - Bicarb loss in GI tract

Calculates unmeasured ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) in urine, which is how the kidney excretes excess acid



7) A 34-year-old woman is evaluated for laboratory abnormalities discovered as part of an evaluation for joint pain. She describes the pain as being diffuse and associated with chronically **dry eyes and mouth**. She also notes recent-onset mild nocturia. Medical history is otherwise negative, and she takes acetaminophen daily for her joint pain.

On physical examination, vital signs are normal. BMI is 23. Mucous membranes and conjunctivae are dry, and **mild parotid enlargement is present**. There is no evidence of **joint inflammation**. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable.

Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's laboratory findings?

**ANION GAP = 8**

Laboratory studies:	
Creatinine	0.9 mg/dL (79.6 $\mu$ mol/L)
Electrolytes:	
Sodium	138 mEq/L (138 mmol/L)
Potassium	3.1 mEq/L (3.1 mmol/L)
Chloride	118 mEq/L (118 mmol/L)
Bicarbonate	12 mEq/L (12 mmol/L)
Glucose	74 mg/dL (4.1 mmol/L)
Urinalysis	<b>pH 7.0</b>



#7

# TYPE 1 (HYPOKALEMIC DISTAL) RENAL TUBULAR ACIDOSIS

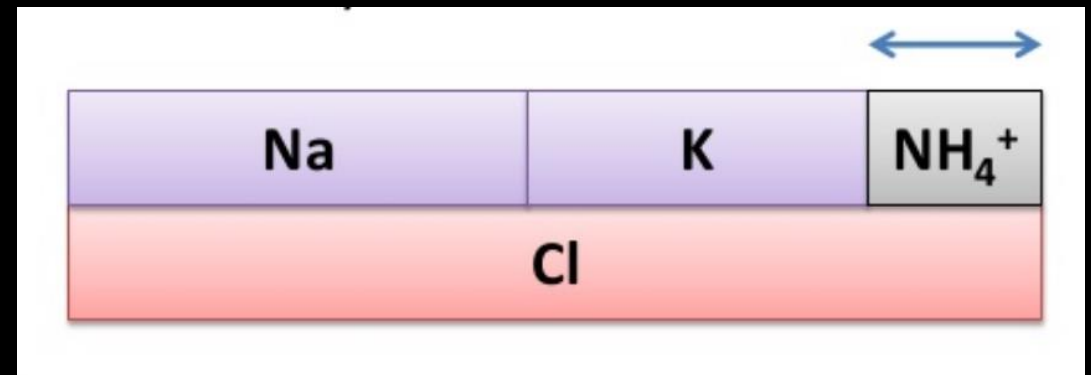


# NORMAL ANION GAP METABOLIC ACIDOSIS

## 1) URINE ANION GAP

- $\text{Na} + \text{K} - \text{Cl} = \text{UAG}$
- Positive = renal
  - Typically an RTA
- Negative = GI (neGUTive)

Calculates unmeasured ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) in urine, which is how the kidney excretes excess acid



	Hypokalemic RTA		Hyperkalemic RTA	
	Type 1 RTA	Type 2 RTA	Hypoaldosteronism (Type 4 RTA)	Distal tubule sodium transport defects
<b>Primary defect</b>	Impaired distal acidification.	Reduced proximal $\text{HCO}_3$ reabsorption.	Decreased aldosterone secretion or aldosterone resistance.	Reduced sodium reabsorption.
<b>Plasma <math>\text{HCO}_3</math></b>	Variable. May be below 10 mEq/L.	Usually 12 to 20 mEq/L.	Usually greater than 17 mEq/L.	Usually greater than 17 mEq/L.
<b>Urine pH</b>	Greater than 5.3.	Variable. Greater than 5.3 if the serum $\text{HCO}_3$ exceeds the proximal tubule's $\text{HCO}_3$ reabsorptive threshold. Less than 5.3 when the serum $\text{HCO}_3$ is reduced to levels that can be reabsorbed despite defective proximal tubule $\text{HCO}_3$ reabsorption.	Variable. Usually greater than 5.3.	Variable. Usually greater than 5.3.
<b>Plasma potassium</b>	Usually reduced, but hyperkalemic forms exist; hypokalemia largely corrects with alkali therapy.	Normal or reduced; made worse by bicarbonaturia induced by alkali therapy.	Increased; correcting the hyperkalemia alone will improve the acidosis by increasing ammonium availability.	Increased; correcting the hyperkalemia alone will improve the acidosis by increasing ammonium availability.
<b>Urine anion gap</b>	Positive	Negative	Positive	Positive
<b>Urine calcium/creatinine ratio</b>	Increased	Normal	Normal	Normal
<b>Nephrolithiasis/nephrocalcinosis</b>	Yes	No	No	No

## Type I RTA

- Distal
- Impaired acid secretion
- High urine pH
- Hypokalemia
- Causes: Sjogrens, autoimmune hepatitis, lithium, amphotericin, kidney stones, amyloidosis/cryoglobulinemia, NSAIDs

## Type II RTA

- Proximal
- Impaired bicarbonate reabsorption
- Variable urine pH
  - Low if normal bicarb intake
  - High if high bicarb intake
- Hypokalemic
- Causes: Fanconi syndrome, multiple myeloma, acetazolamide, topiramate

## Type IV RTA

- Distal
- Think hypoadosteronism
- Hyperkalemic
- Diabetes, Lupus, AIDs, hypoadosteronism

8) A 46-year-old woman is evaluated in the emergency department for fatigue and weakness of 5 days' duration. The patient also reports recurrent lower extremity swelling. **She is vague when asked about medication or drug use.**

On physical examination, blood pressure is 108/62 mm Hg, pulse rate is 98/min, and respiration rate is 16/min. **Upon standing, systolic blood pressure decreases by 15 mm Hg**, and pulse rate increases by 10/min. BMI is 26. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable, with no evidence of lower extremity edema.

Which of the following is the most appropriate diagnostic test to perform next?

Laboratory studies:	
<b>Serum bicarbonate</b>	29 mEq/L (29 mmol/L)
<b>Serum creatinine</b>	1.2 mg/dL (106.1 $\mu$ mol/L)
<b>Serum potassium</b>	3.1 mEq/L (3.1 mmol/L)
<b>Urine chloride</b>	53 mEq/L (53 mmol/L)
<b>Urine potassium</b>	25 mEq/L (25 mmol/L)
<b>Urine sodium</b>	42 mEq/L (42 mmol/L)





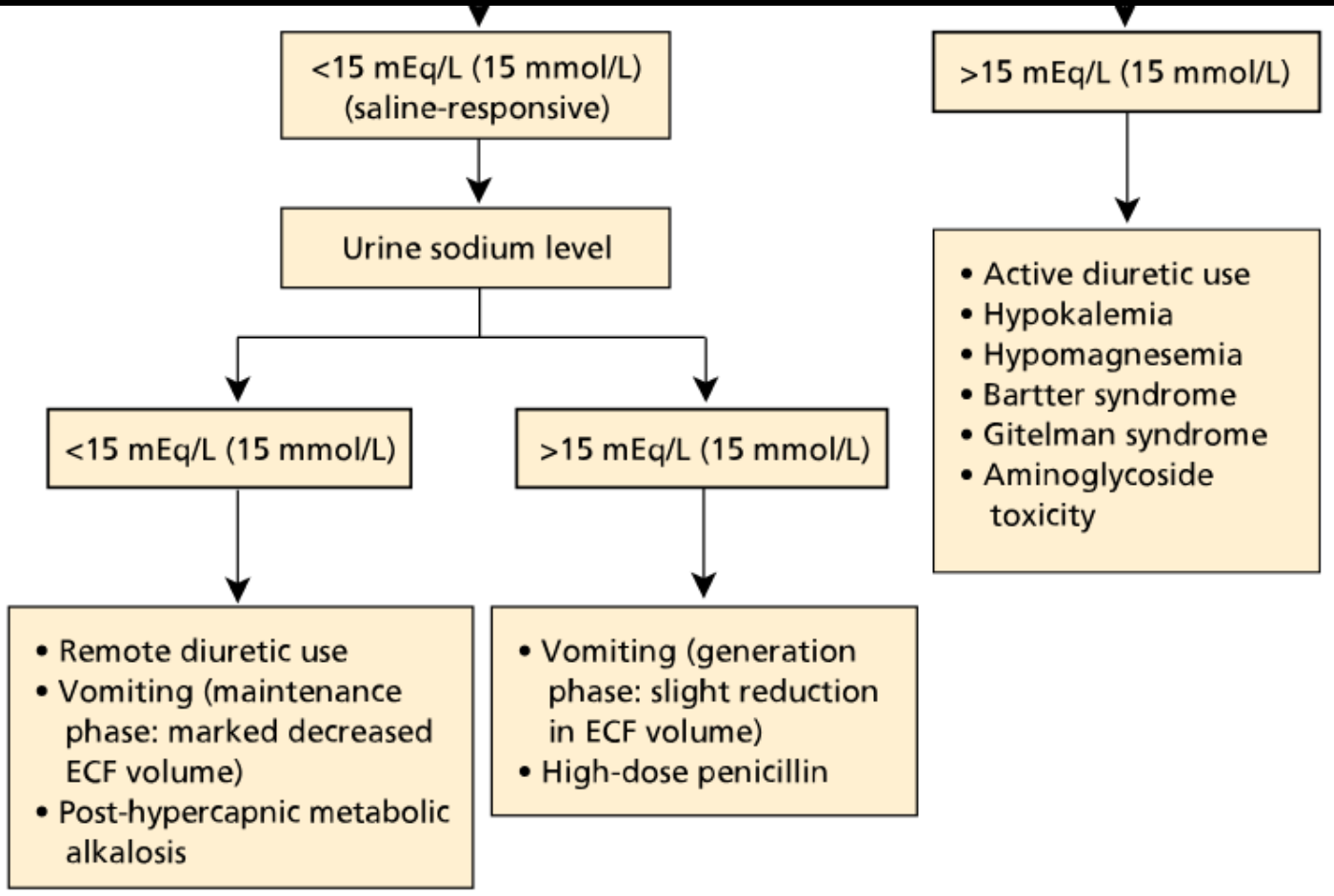
#8

URINE DIURETIC SCREEN

# METABOLIC ALKALOSIS

## SALINE RESPONSIVE

Measure urine chloride



1. Check volume status
  - **Saline resistant** (hypervolemia & hypertension)
  - **Saline responsive** (hypovolemia & low urine chloride)
2. Check urine chloride  
Why chloride?

Bartter syndrome – loop diuretic  
Gitelman – thiazide diuretics

## SALINE RESPONSIVE

- Severe metabolic alkalosis can lead to hypoventilation, seizures, delirium, stupor.
- Treatment in this case:
  - Fluid replacement
  - Potassium replacement if low
  - Mechanical ventilation
  - Dialysis

- Blood pressure and ECF increased
- Urine sodium and chloride >15 mEq/L (15 mmol/L) (saline-resistant)

- Renin-secreting tumor
- Malignant hypertension
- Renovascular hypertension
- Primary hyperaldosteronism
- Exogenous mineralocorticoid
- Familial hyperaldosteronism
- Syndrome of apparent mineralocorticoid excess:
  - Glycyrrhetic acid (licorice)
  - Familial syndrome of apparent mineralocorticoid excess (11- $\beta$ -HSD deficiency)
  - Increased nonaldosterone mineralocorticoid receptor agonist (congenital adrenal hyperplasia; Cushing syndrome; deoxycorticosterone-producing tumor; 5- $\alpha$ -reductase deficiency)
  - Ectopic ACTH syndrome
  - Liddle syndrome

**THINK HYPERALDOSTERONISM**

9) A 35-year-old man is evaluated in the emergency department for dyspnea of 24 hours' duration. He also reports progressive lower extremity edema for 1 month. He has no other pertinent personal or family medical history, and he takes no medications.

On physical examination, the patient is afebrile, blood pressure is 120/78 mm Hg, pulse rate is 100/min, and respiration rate is 22/min. Oxygen saturation on ambient air is 88%. BMI is 25. The chest is clear. Examination of the heart is unremarkable. There is bilateral lower extremity pitting edema to the knees. The remainder of the examination is normal.

Chest radiograph is normal. CT angiogram of the chest shows a **right pulmonary artery embolism**.

The patient is started on supplemental oxygen and heparin.

Which of the following is the most likely underlying diagnosis?

Laboratory studies:	
Albumin	1.8 g/dL (18 g/L)
Creatinine	1.1 mg/dL (97.2 μmol/L)
Urinalysis	3+ protein
Urine protein-creatinine ratio	5500 mg/g





# #9 MEMBRANOUS GLOMERULOPATHY

# NEPHROTIC SYNDROME

## Features

- Proteinuria  $>3500$  mg/g
  - “Nephrotic proteinuria”
- Hypoalbuminemia
- Hypercholesterolemia
- Edema/Anasarca
  
- Infection
- Blood clots

## Types:

- Membranous glomerulopathy
- Minimal Change disease
- Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis
- Diabetic nephropathy

None of these end in -itis!

## MEMBRANOUS GLOMERULOPATHY

- Primary: **PLA2R antigen** (75%)
- Secondary:
  - Hepatitis B
  - **Solid organ tumors**
- Spikes on glomerular BM
- Blood clots (**renal vein thrombosis**) and solid organ tumors
- Treatment:
  - 6 months: Monitor, ACE/ARB, diuresis
  - High risk or > 6 months: steroids, cyclophosphamide, calcineurin inhibitors

## FSGS

- Most common cause in **black patients**.
- Idiopathic or secondary (DM, HTN, obesity)
- Treat: steroids and immunosuppression

## MINIMAL CHANGE

- Most common cause in **children**
- Associated with **lymphoma**
- Treat: Steroids and immunosuppression

## DIABETIC NEPHROPATHY

10) A 24-year-old woman is evaluated for fever, lower extremity edema, and worsening malar rash. She was diagnosed with **systemic lupus erythematosus** 2 years ago. Her initial evaluation showed normal kidney function, trace proteinuria, and an otherwise normal urinalysis; periodic monitoring of her kidney function and urinalysis has been unchanged. She has been treated with hydroxychloroquine and prednisone, 5 mg/d, since the time of her diagnosis with good control of her symptoms. Medical history is otherwise unremarkable, and she takes no additional medications.

On physical examination, blood pressure is 140/92 mm Hg. A **malar rash** is present. Mild erythema and effusion in the left knee and bilateral wrist joints are noted. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable.

A kidney biopsy shows a **diffuse proliferative glomerulonephritis** with immunofluorescence microscopy showing granular deposits in the subendothelial, mesangial, and subepithelial areas (IgG, IgM, IgA, C3, and C1q), which are confirmed by electron microscopy, and is **classified as class IV lupus nephritis**.

Which of the following is the most appropriate treatment?

Laboratory studies:	
Hemoglobin	9.2 g/dL (92 g/L)
C3	Low
C4	Low
Creatinine	1.0 mg/dL (88.4 μmol/L)
Liver chemistry tests	Normal
Anti-double-stranded DNA antibodies	Elevated
Urinalysis	3+ blood; 2+ protein; 20-30 erythrocytes/hpf; 5-10 leukocytes/hpf
Urine protein-creatinine ratio	2200 mg/g





#10

INCREASE PREDNISONONE AND ADD  
MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL

# LUPUS NEPHRITIS

- Most patients with class III lupus nephritis and all patients with class IV lupus nephritis benefit from aggressive combination immunosuppressive therapy.
- This patient has class IV, and thus warrants immunosuppressive therapy.
- Group III vs IV = focal vs. diffuse

## WHO Classification of Lupus Nephritis

CLASS I	<b>Minimal Mesangial Glomerulonephritis</b> - histologically normal on light microscopy but with mesangial deposits on electron microscopy
CLASS II	<b>Mesangial Proliferative Lupus Nephritis</b> - typically responds completely to treatment with corticosteroids
CLASS III	<b>Focal Proliferative Nephritis</b> - often successfully responds to treatment with high doses of corticosteroids
CLASS IV	<b>Diffuse Proliferative Nephritis</b> - mainly treated with corticosteroids and immunosuppressant drugs
CLASS V	<b>Membranous Nephritis</b> - characterized by extreme edema and protein loss
CLASS VI	<b>Glomerulosclerosis</b>

# LUPUS NEPHRITIS

- Occurs in up to 70% of SLE patients
- dsDNA antibodies are marker for risk
- Check everybody for LN at the time of SLE diagnosis
- Patients with class I or II LN may have minimal or no kidney findings, and those with classes III and IV present with varying degrees of the nephritic syndrome.
- Patients with class V LN present predominantly with proteinuria. Class VI is the end stage of long-standing LN.

11) A 65-year-old man is hospitalized for an ischemic, nonhealing right lower extremity ulcer with associated biopsy-proven osteomyelitis. On hospital day 1, he was started on cefazolin and underwent angiography and stenting of the iliac artery using a low osmolar contrast agent. On day 2, he became febrile and was switched to vancomycin and gentamicin based on culture sensitivity data. On day 3, his fever resolved and his serum creatinine was at baseline (1.5 mg/dL [132.6 μmol/L]). On day 10, his serum creatinine increased to 3.0 mg/dL (265.2 μmol/L) with a urine output of 0.5 mL/kg/h. Medical history is notable for type 2 diabetes mellitus, hypertension, dyslipidemia, coronary artery disease, and chronic kidney disease. Medications are rosuvastatin, amlodipine, carvedilol, aspirin, insulin, vancomycin, and gentamicin.

On physical examination, blood pressure is 150/78 mm Hg, and pulse rate is 72/min. There is no rash. The lower extremities have decreased peripheral pulses. The right foot has a 1-cm clean-appearing ulcer on the tip of the second toe. The remainder of the physical examination is normal.

Kidney ultrasound is normal.

Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's acute kidney injury?

Laboratory studies on day 10:	
Hemoglobin	11.2 g/dL (112 g/L)
Leukocyte count	8500/μL (8.5 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L) with 58% polymorphonuclear leukocytes, 20% lymphocytes, 3% eosinophils
Creatinine	3.0 mg/dL (265.2 μmol/L) (baseline, 1.5 mg/dL [132.6 μmol/L])
Urine sodium	40 mEq/L (40 mmol/L)
Fractional excretion of sodium	2.1%
Urinalysis	trace blood trace protein  granular casts tubular epithelial cells





# #11 GENTAMICIN

# AMINOGLYCOSIDE INDUCED ATN

## ...TIMING IS EVERYTHING

### Aminoglycosides

- Cause nonoliguric ATN
  - Granular casts, high FENa
- Renal potassium and magnesium wasting
- **Timing: 5-10 days**
- Stop aminoglycoside



### Contrast induced nephropathy

- **Timing: 1-2 days**

### Acute interstitial nephritis

- Beta-lactams, PPI, NSAIDs
- Urine WBC, WBC casts, rash, eosinophilia
- **Timing: 3-5 days after 2<sup>nd</sup> exposure**

### Cholesterol emboli

- Typically following vascular procedure
- Livedo reticularis
- Eosinophilia/eosinophiluria

11) A 69-year-old woman is evaluated during a follow-up visit for stage G4/A1 chronic kidney disease due to hypertensive nephrosclerosis. History is also significant for peripheral arterial disease with right femoral-popliteal bypass 1 year ago. Medications are metoprolol, atorvastatin, aspirin, and calcium acetate.

On physical examination, temperature is 37.0 °C (98.6 °F), blood pressure is 132/89 mm Hg, pulse rate is 61/min, and respiration rate is 13/min. BMI is 27. There is an audible S<sub>4</sub> gallop and reduced pedal pulses. The lungs are clear. The lower extremities are warm with normal capillary refill. There is no peripheral edema.

Review of a previous chest radiograph is remarkable for a heavily calcified aorta but is otherwise clear.

In addition to dietary counseling regarding a low phosphate diet, which of the following is the most appropriate treatment?

Laboratory studies:	
Albumin	4.2 g/dL (42 g/L)
Calcium	8.3 mg/dL (2.1 mmol/L)
Creatinine	2.6 mg/dL (229.8 µmol/L)
Phosphorus	6.9 mg/dL (2.23 mmol/L)
Intact parathyroid hormone	95 pg/mL (95 ng/L)
Estimated glomerular filtration rate	22 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>

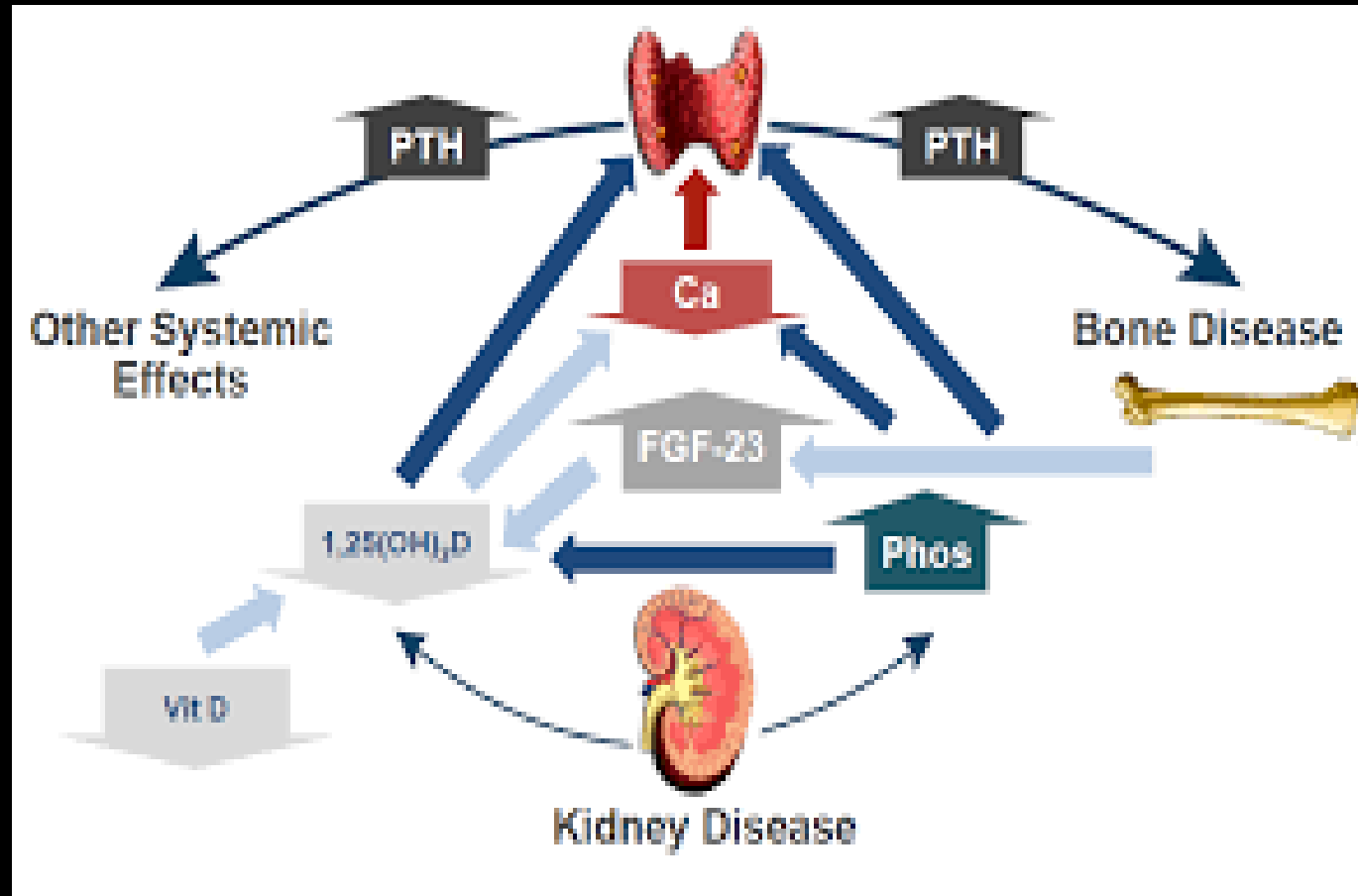


# #12 SEVELAMER



# HYPERPHOSPHATEMIA

- 3 hormones
  - PTH
  - Vitamin D
  - FGF-23
- CKD leads to increased FGF-23, decrease renal conversion of 25-hydroxy-D to 1,25 dihydroxy-D
- Calcium and phos absorption decreases
- **PTH increase**
  - Increases calcium and phos excretion by kidney
  - Increases bone resorption
- Eventually kidney function is bad enough, it can't keep up with phos excretion.



## SECONDARY HYPERPARATHYROIDISM

- eGFR <60: Goal is normal PTH level
  - First **treat 25-OH vit D deficiency**, normalize calcium and phosphorus levels
  - Second: **calcitriol to suppress PTH**
    - **Only if normal Ca and Phos**
    - Risk of hyperphosphatemia or hypercalcemia (increases gut absorption)

## TERTIARY HYPERPARATHYROIDISM

- Due to prolonged PTH stimulation needed to maintain normal calcium levels
- Causes parathyroid hyperplasia with elevated PTH levels not responding to phosphate binders and calcitriol
- Treat: parathyroidectomy

# PHOSPHATE BINDERS

## Calcium containing

- Calcium carbonate
- Calcium acetate
- Avoid if hypercalcemia

## No calcium

- Sevelamer
- Lanthanum
- Ferric citrate

13) A 72-year-old man is evaluated for a 3-month history of slowly progressive anemia and fatigue. He has a 3-year history of **end-stage kidney disease** and receives hemodialysis three times weekly. Prior to starting hemodialysis, he was able to maintain adequate iron stores with oral iron therapy. Erythropoietin for symptomatic anemia was initiated 3 years ago with the onset of dialysis; he responded well, with an increase in his hemoglobin level to 11 g/dL (110 g/L) and a decrease in symptoms. There have been no changes in his medications, which consist of erythropoietin, three times weekly; oral iron sulfate, 325 mg three times daily; lisinopril; metoprolol; nifedipine; sevelamer; and aspirin.

On physical examination, the patient is afebrile. Blood pressure is 144/94 mm Hg, pulse rate is 76/min, and respiration rate is 16/min. The lungs are clear. There is no edema.

Which of the following is the most appropriate management?

Laboratory studies:	
Hemoglobin	9.8 g/dL (98 g/L)
Ferritin	80 ng/mL (80 µg/L)
Transferrin saturation	12%





#13

ADMINISTER IV IRON

# ANEMIA OF CKD

Normocytic anemia

Diagnosis of exclusion

EPO level will be low, but not useful for testing

Start ESAs for Hgb <10

Avoid if Hgb >11.5, history of stroke, active malignancy

Monitoring:

CKD III: yearly

CKD IV-V: Every 6 months

Dialysis: Every 3 months

Iron studies every 3 months while on ESA

- KDIGO goals

- Hemoglobin
- Transferrin saturation level
- Ferritin

- 10.0-11.5 mg/dL
- >30%
- >500 µg/L

14) A 65-year-old woman is evaluated during a follow-up visit. She has **end-stage kidney disease** due to IgA nephropathy; she started peritoneal dialysis 3 months ago. She also has a 10-year history of hypertension. She has done well since starting dialysis, is without current complaints, and has recently resumed exercising regularly. She has three adult children who are encouraging her to explore kidney transplantation and are willing to be evaluated as kidney donors; however, the patient feels that she is “too old.” Medications are amlodipine, ramipril, calcitriol, epoetin alfa, and calcium acetate.

On physical examination, temperature is 37.0 °C (98.6 °F), blood pressure is 135/75 mm Hg, pulse rate is 72/min, and respiration rate is 14/min. BMI is 27. The peritoneal dialysis catheter site is nontender without induration or exudate. Cardiac examination reveals normal heart sounds. The lungs are clear. The abdomen is nontender. There is no peripheral edema.

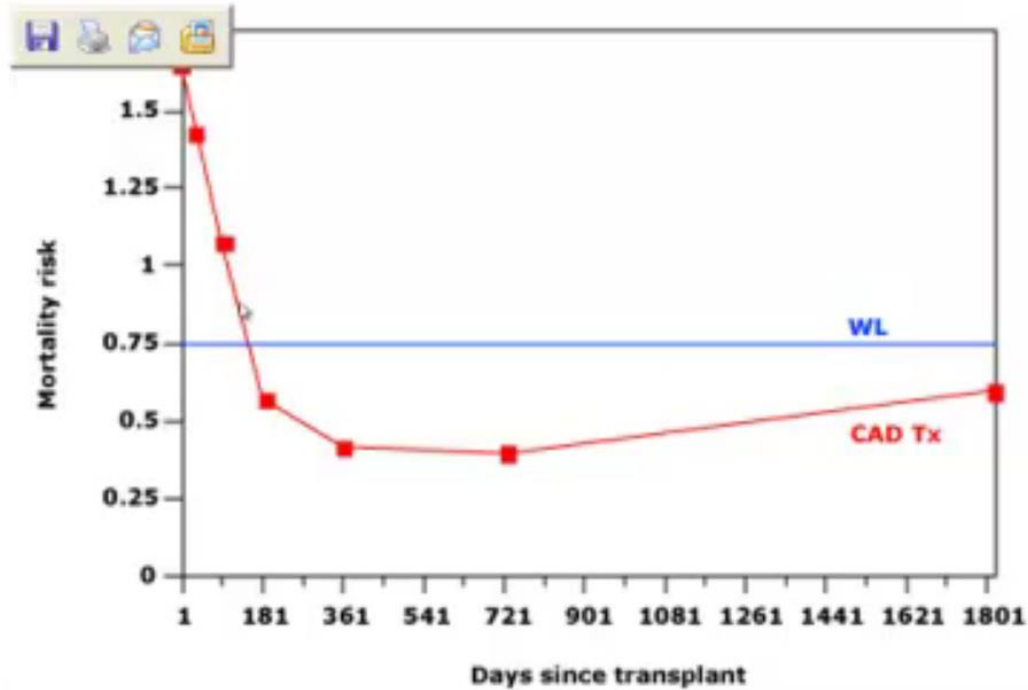
Which of the following kidney replacement strategies is most likely to provide this patient with the **best long-term survival**?



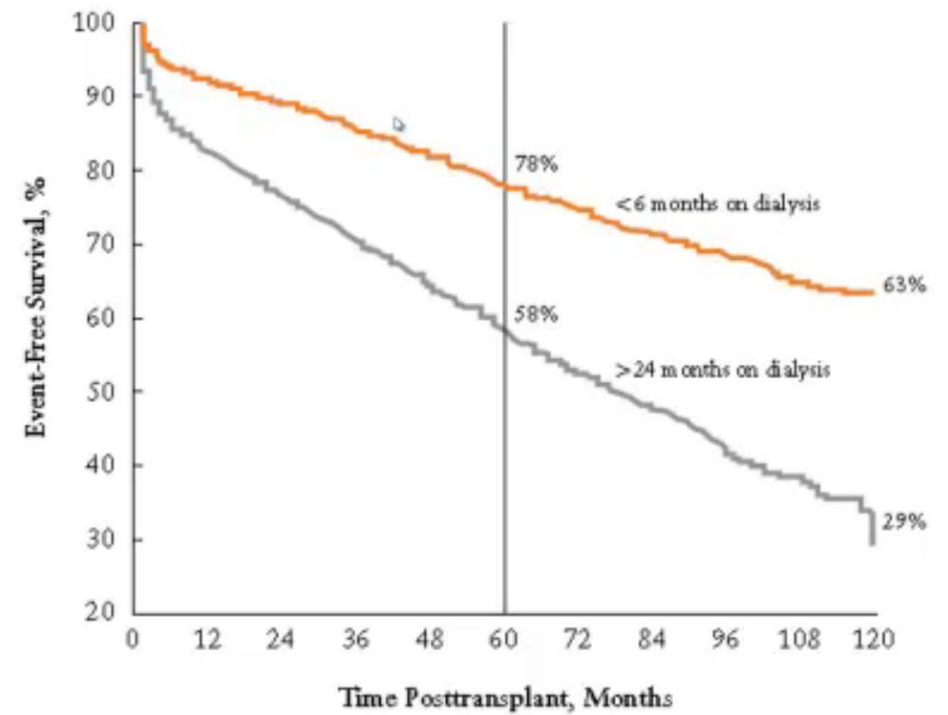
#14

REFER FOR  
TRANSPLANTATION NOW

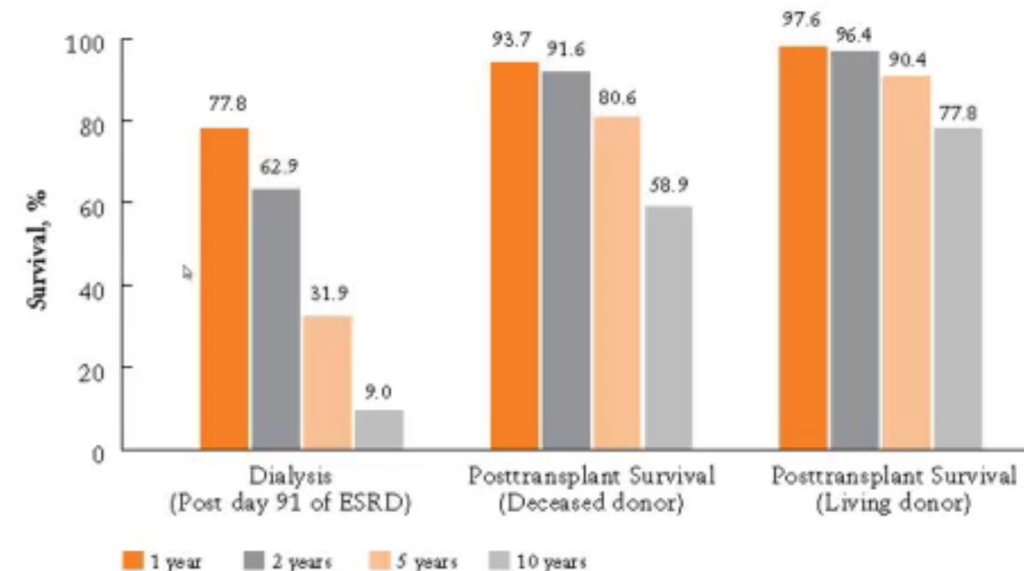
# Mortality risk of recipients of cadaveric renal transplants vs. wait-listed patients with ESRD who were on dialysis for at least 2 years



- Kidney transplant improves long term mortality
- Mortality improves if transplanted prior to initiating dialysis
- Long term survival is better in patients receiving living donor transplants



Rep  
risk





15) A 40-year old man is evaluated during a follow-up visit for a kidney transplant he received 2 years ago. History is also significant for hypertension. Medications are **tacrolimus**, mycophenolate mofetil, prednisone, and nifedipine.

On physical examination, blood pressure is **150/95 mmHg**; other vital signs are normal. BMI is 26. The cardiovascular and pulmonary examinations are normal. The abdomen and renal allograft are nontender to palpation. Trace pedal edema is noted.

Duplex ultrasound of the kidneys shows no evidence of transplant renal artery stenosis.

Which of the following is the most appropriate treatment?

Laboratory studies:	
<b>Potassium</b>	5.6 mEq/L (5.6 mmol/L)
<b>Sodium</b>	Normal
<b>Estimated glomerular filtration rate</b>	90mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>



#15

CHLORTHALIDONE

# CALCINEURIN INHIBITORS

- Tacrolimus and cyclosporine
- Side effects: Hypertension, hyperkalemia, increased creatinine, GI upset
- Activate sodium chloride cotransporter in distal convoluted tubule, causing sodium and chloride reabsorption and hypertension.
- Decreased distal tubular flow impairs potassium secretion in the connecting tubule and collecting duct

**Table 1. Drugs Used in Maintenance Immunosuppression of Kidney Transplant Recipients**

Drug	Mechanisms of Action	Adverse Effects	Common Signs of Acute Toxicity	How Drug Dose is Monitored/Adjusted	Important Drug Interactions
Glucocorticoids	Blockade of cytokine gene transcription in lymphocytes, antigen-presenting cells, and other immune cells	Glucose intolerance, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, osteoporosis, osteonecrosis, myopathy, cosmetic defects, growth suppression in children	Multiple	Standard center protocol	Cyclosporine and tacrolimus potentiate diabetogenic effects
Cyclosporine	Inhibits calcineurin and ultimately lymphocyte synthesis of IL-2	Nephrotoxicity (acute and chronic), hyperlipidemia, hypertension, glucose intolerance, hirsutism, gum enlargement	Rising plasma creatinine, tremor	Trough blood concentrations or 2 hours after dosing	Inducers and inhibitors of cytochrome P450 decrease and increase blood concentrations, respectively
Tacrolimus	Inhibits calcineurin and ultimately lymphocyte synthesis of IL-2	Broadly similar to those of cyclosporine; diabetes mellitus more common; hypertension, hyperlipidemia and cosmetic defects less common	Rising plasma creatinine, tremor, GI upset	Trough blood concentrations	Same as for cyclosporine
Azathioprine	Inhibits leukocyte proliferation	Bone marrow suppression; rarely, hepatitis and/or pancreatitis	Marrow suppression	Initially, 1-2 mg/kg per day; dose reduced in case of marrow suppression	Allopurinol inhibits metabolism of drug, thereby greatly increasing toxicity
Mycophenolate mofetil	Inhibits leukocyte proliferation; relatively more selective for lymphocytes than azathioprine	Bone marrow suppression, nausea, abdominal pain, diarrhea; invasive CMV disease more common than with azathioprine	Marrow suppression, diarrhea	Initially 500-1000 mg bid; dose reduced in case of marrow suppression or GI adverse effects	GI symptoms exacerbated by tacrolimus
Sirolimus	Inhibits leukocyte proliferation	Bone marrow suppression, hyperlipidemia, diarrhea, interstitial pneumonitis (rare)	Marrow suppression, diarrhea	Trough blood concentrations	Inducers and inhibitors of cytochrome P450 decrease and increase blood concentrations, respectively; sirolimus enhances nephrotoxicity of cyclosporine and tacrolimus

16) A 65- year old man is evaluated for a 2-month history of **low back pain**. The pain is worse with movement, but it does not radiate. He reports associated fatigue and a 4.5-kg (10-lb) weight loss. He has osteoarthritis and gastroesophageal reflux disease. He has been taking ibuprofen without any pain relief. His only other medication is omeprazole.

The physical examination, including vital signs and neurologic examination, is normal.

Ultrasound reveals normal-sized kidneys with slightly increased echogenicity; no hydronephrosis or abnormalities of the collecting system are seen.

In addition to discontinuing ibuprofen, which of the following is the most appropriate next step in management?

Laboratory studies:	
Hemoglobin	9.2g/dL (92g/L)
Creatinine	3.0 mg/dL (265.2 umol/L)
Urinalysis	Trace protein
Urine protein-creatinine ratio	2500 mg/g





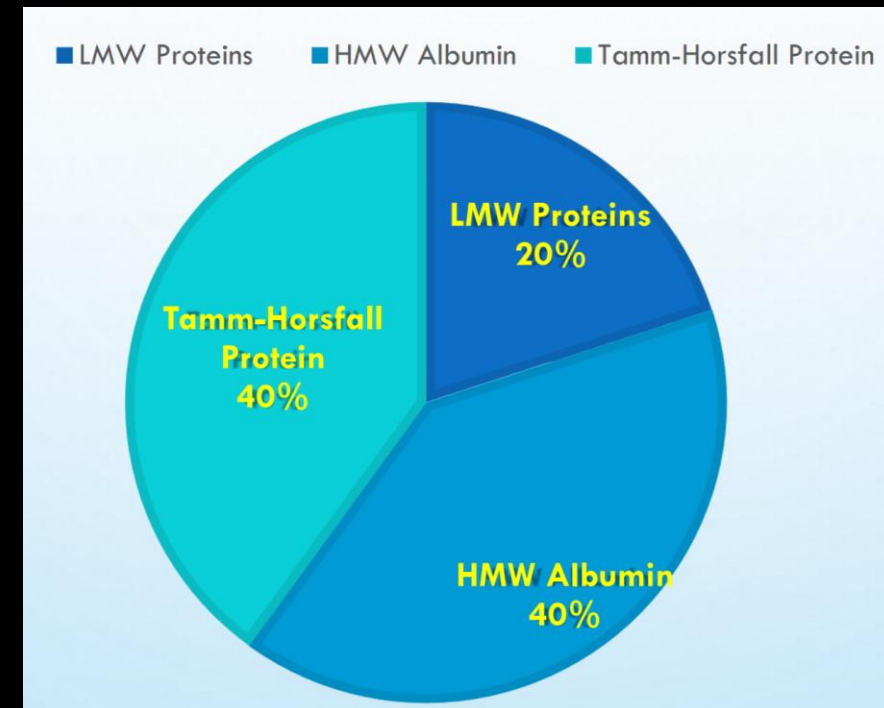
#16

# OBTAIN URINE PROTEIN ELECTROPHORESIS

# PROTEINURIA

- Urine dip stick is more sensitive to albumin than other proteins such as Bence-Jones proteins or immune globulins.

Urine Dipstick Protein Reading	Urinalysis Protein Excretion mg/dL	Protein Excretion mg/ 24 Hours
Negative	< 10	< 100 mg
Trace	15	100 - 300
+1	30	200 – 500
+2	100	500 - 1500
+3	300	2000 - 5000
+4	> 1000	> 5000



17) A 36-year-old man is evaluated following his second episode of nephrolithiasis. His initial kidney stone occurred 6 months ago and passed spontaneously. The stone was recovered and on analysis was found to be a pure **uric acid stone**. He was advised to increase his urine output to at least 2 L/d and has been adherent to this recommendation. His second episode occurred last week. He again passed the stone spontaneously, which was submitted for analysis and shown to be a pure uric acid stone. Medical history is significant for type 2 diabetes mellitus, but he has never had evidence of gout. Medications are metformin and rosuvastatin.

On physical examination, temperature is 36.9 °C (98.5 °F), blood pressure is 135/87 mm Hg, pulse rate is 78/min, and respiration rate is 12/min. BMI is 31. There is no costovertebral angle tenderness. No joint abnormalities or gouty tophi are noted.

In addition to continuing oral hydration, which of the following is the most appropriate next step in therapy?

Laboratory studies:	
Electrolytes	Normal
Kidney function studies	Normal
Urate	7.6 mg/dL (0.45 mmol/L)
Urinalysis	pH 5.8; no blood; no cells or crystals
24-Hour uric acid excretion	850 mg/24 h (5 mmol/24 h)



#17

URINE ALKALINIZATION



# KIDNEY STONES

## Calcium oxalate

- Most common form
- Causes
  - Hypercalciuria – hyperparathyroidism, sarcoidosis, vitamin D excess
  - Hyperoxaluria – increased dietary oxalate, malabsorption, low dietary calcium, high vitamin C intake, Orlistat.
- Treatment: fluids, thiazide diuretics, potassium citrate or bicarbonate (urine alkalinization)
- Do not decrease dietary calcium intake

## Calcium phosphate

- Common with alkaline urine
  - Distal RTA
  - Acetazolamide
  - Topiramate
  - Hyperparathyroidism

## Struvite

- Caused by urea splitting bacteria
  - Proteus
  - Klebsiella
- Urea is split into ammonium, increasing urine pH – magnesium ammonium phosphate precipitates
- Treatment: treat infection, lithotripsy

## Uric acid

- Causes: gout, chronic diarrhea, metabolic syndrome
- Radiolucent stones! (X-ray)
- Treatment
  - Alkalinize urine first
  - Allopurinol second

## Cystine

- Caused by cystinuria
  - Autosomal recessive disorder
- Hexagonal crystals





## HIGH URINE Ph

- Calcium phosphate
- Struvite

## LOW URINE pH

- Uric acid
- Cystine

18) A 44-year old man is evaluated during a follow up visit for treatment of persistently elevated blood pressure. He takes no medications.

Physical examination reveals a well-developed muscular man in no apparent distress. Blood pressure is **165/98 mmHg**, and pulse rate is 70/min; other vital signs are normal. BMI is 26. Jugular venous pressure is normal. Cardiac examination is unremarkable.

Electrocardiogram reveals normal sinus rhythm; **voltage criteria for left ventricular hypertrophy are present.**

Which of the following is the most appropriate treatment?

Laboratory studies:	
Bicarbonate	27 mEq/L (27 mmol/L)
<b>Creatinine</b>	<b>1.3 mg/dL (114.9 umol/L)</b>
Potassium	4.5 mEq/L (4.5 mmol/L)
Estimated glomerular filtration rate	>60 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>
Urine toxicology screen	Negative



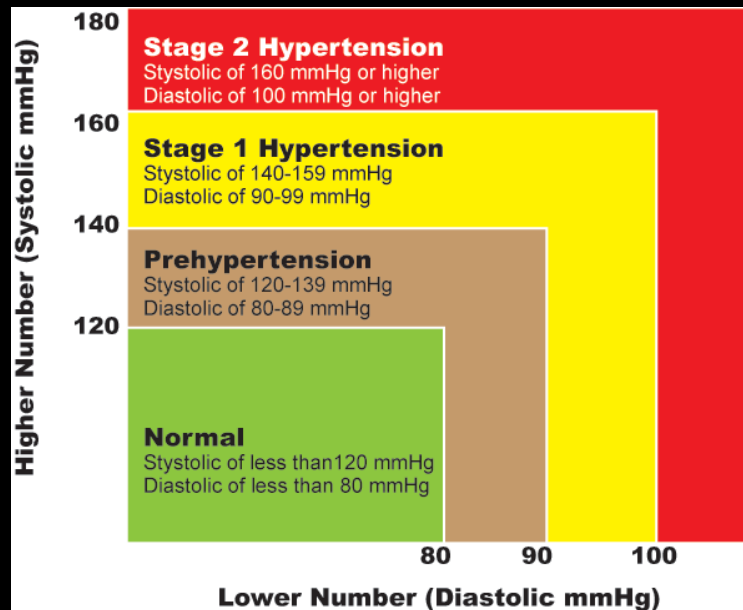
#18

AMLODIPINE/BENAZEPRIL  
COMBINATION ONCE DAILY

ACC/AHA recommends combination of 2 first line antihypertensives for stage 2 hypertension

There is a nonlinear diminishing blood pressure-lowering effect when titrating antihypertensive medication doses above 50% maximum dose.

- Addition of a second medication will achieve greater blood pressure reduction.



- First line antihypertensives
  - Thiazide diuretics
  - Calcium channel blockers
  - ACE inhibitors

Not Recommended:

- Beta-blockers: higher rate of cardiovascular related events and mortality compared to ARBs
- Alpha-blockers: Higher rate of cardiovascular related events and mortality compared to thiazides.
- ACE and ARB combination has higher rates of hyperkalemia, hypotension, AKI without proven cardiovascular or renal benefits.

19) A 45-year old man is seen for a routine evaluation of his blood pressure. He has **gained 1.5 kg (3.3 lb)** since his last visit 3 weeks ago. History is significant for stage G4 chronic kidney disease, hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, and coronary artery disease. Medications are **amlodipine, lisinopril, carvedilol, chlorthalidone, basal and prandial insulin, atorvastatin, and low-dose aspirin.**

On physical examination, blood pressure is **165/100 mmHg**, pulse rate is 58/min, and respiration rate is 16/min. There is **1+ bilateral leg edema**. The remainder of the physical examination is noncontributory.

In addition to maintaining a low sodium diet, which of the following is the most appropriate treatment of this patient's blood pressure?

Laboratory studies:	
Blood urea nitrogen	44mg/dL (15.7 mmol/L)
<b>Creatinine</b>	<b>2.8 mg/dL (247.5 umol/L)</b>
Potassium	5.4 mEq/L (5.4 mmol/L)
Estimated glomerular filtration rate	26 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>
Urinalysis	Normal





#19

STOP CHLORTHALIDONE;  
BEGIN FUROSEMIDE

# CKD AND HYPERTENSION

## SECONDARY HYPERTENSION

- CKD
  - Renovascular hypertension
    - Atherosclerotic (older)
    - Fibromuscular dysplasia (younger)
  - Primary hyperaldosteronism
  - Pheochromocytoma
  - OSA
  - Thyroid disease
  - Hyperparathyroidism
  - Cushing syndrome
  - Liddle syndrome
- ACC/AHA goal BP <130/80 mmHg
  - ACE inhibitor or ARB first line
  - Diuretic resistance increases as GFR decreases.
  - When GFR falls below 30, switch to loop diuretic
  - Volume overload will precipitate uncontrolled hypertension. BP control improves when euvolemic.

20) A 45-year old woman is evaluated for the recent onset of resistant hypertension. During her last visit, chlorthalidone was added to her medication regimen. She reports no symptoms, and review of the systems is otherwise unremarkable. Current medications are **metoprolol, amlodipine, hydralazine, and chlorthalidone**.

On physical examination, blood pressure is **160/96 mmHg**, and pulse rate is 65/min; other vital signs are normal. BMI is 24. There is no proptosis. The thyroid gland is not enlarged. The remainder of the examination is unremarkable.

Which of the following is the most appropriate diagnostic test to perform next?

Laboratory studies:	
<b>Bicarbonate</b>	34mEq/L (34mmol/L)
<b>Creatinine</b>	0.8 mg/dL (70.7 umol/L)
<b>Potassium</b>	2.9 mEq/L (2.9 mmol/L)
<b>Urine albumin- creatinine ratio</b>	10mg/g



#20

PLASMA ALDOSTERONE  
CONCENTRATION/PLASMA  
RENIN ACTIVITY RATIO

## SALINE NONRESPONSIVE METABOLIC ALKALOSIS

### RESISTANT HYPERTENSION

- BP above goal despite 3 antihypertensives
- 1 must be a diuretic

### Interventions

- Addition of spironolactone
- Taking one of the medications at night.

### SECONDARY HYPERTENSION

- Hyperaldosteronism
  1. Stop diuretics, aldosterone antagonists, ACE-I
  2. Check PAC/PRA ratio
    - High ratio is suggestive (PRA<1, PAC>10)
    - **Ratio >20 and hypokalemia is diagnostic**
  3. Confirmatory testing
    1. Salt load
      - 3 days salt load should suppress urine aldosterone below 12 mcg/24 hours
    2. Fludrocortisone suppression test
    3. Captopril challenge test
      - Single dose should suppress aldosterone levels below 15 ng/dL

