

Final Med  
**Fluids and Electrolytes**

Adrian P. Ireland

Academic RCSI Department of Surgery, Beaumont Hospital

**Overview**

Fluids and electrolytes are very interesting

- Common important treatment of patients in hospital
- Common job for intern
- Common question for examiners to ask students

**Fluids and electrolytes**

- Milieu Interieur
- Normal volumes, fluid compartments
- Normal compositions
- Volume of secretions into the gastrointestinal tract
- Composition of secretions into the gastrointestinal tract
- Clinical assessment of fluid status
- Types of fluids available for administration
- Normal fluid and electrolyte requirements

Final Med - p.155

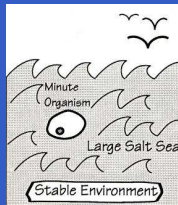
Final Med - p.205

Final Med - p.335

**Milieu Interieur... Amoeba**

Simple unicellular organism in sea

- Nutritional needs supplied
- Waste products removed

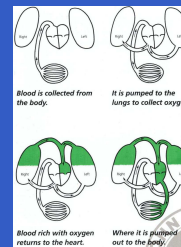


Final Med - p.422

**Milieu Interieur... Humans**

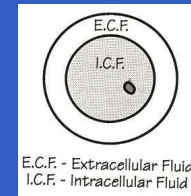
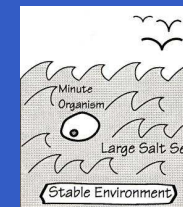
Complex multicellular organism

- Needs circulatory system
- Needs special organs



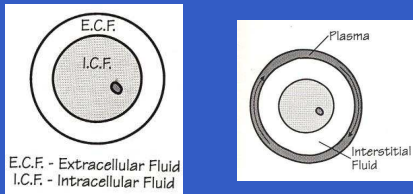
Final Med - p.205

**Fluid compartments... Amoeba**

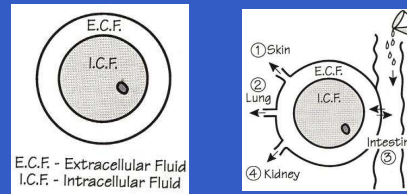


Final Med - p.525

### Fluid compartments ... Humans



### Fluid compartments ... In-Out



### Fluid compartments

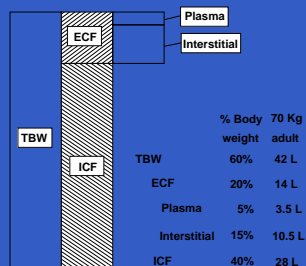
$$70 \times 0.6 = 42 \text{ Litres} \dots \text{Total body water}$$

$$42 \times 0.66 = 28 \text{ Litres} \dots \text{ICF}$$

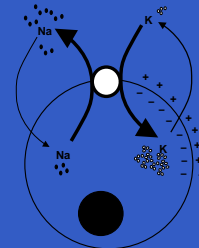
$$42 - 28 = 14 \text{ Litres} \dots \text{ECF}$$

$$14 \times 0.25 = 3.5 \text{ Litres} \dots \text{Plasma}$$

### Normal volumes



### The pump



- Na out K in
- ATP dependent
- Gradient of 140 mmol
- K leaks out faster than Na leaks in

### Normal composition

ECF (154)		ICF (200)	
cations (+ve)	anions (-ve)	cations (+ve)	anions (-ve)
Na (142)	Cl (103)	K (150)	HPO <sub>4</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (150)
	HCO <sub>3</sub> (27)		
	AGap		
K (4)	Protein (16)	Mg (40)	Protein (40)
Ca (5)		Na (10)	HCO <sub>3</sub> (10)
Mg (3)			

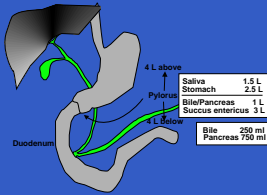
- Anode is positive
- Anions go to the anode
- Negative ions are anions
- Positive balanced by negative

### Anion gap: sodium - (chloride + bicarbonate)

- Unmeasured anion contribution of phosphate and sulphate
- Calculated as sodium - (chloride + bicarbonate)
- If AG is increased - more acid in blood
- If normal then - bicarbonate loss, renal tubule dysfunction or acid loading

Final Med - p.13/35

### Secretions into GI tract



- 4 L above 4 L below
- Spit is 1.5 L
- Succus entericus is 3 L
- Bile 250 ml

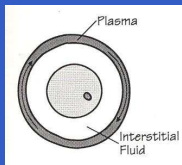
Final Med - p.14/35

### Composition of GI secretions

	Plasma	Saliva	Stomach	Pancreas	Bile
Na <sup>+</sup>	140	10	60	140	145
K <sup>+</sup>	4	26	10	5	5
Cl <sup>-</sup>	110	10	130	75	100
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	30	30	0	115	35

Final Med - p.15/35

### Clinical assessment of fluid status



- Body water up or down
- Which compartments
- Changes in ICF hardest to detect (hidden by the ECF)
- In ECF changes in plasma easier to detect than changes in interstitium

Final Med - p.16/35

### Symptoms of low body water

- Thirst
- Confusion
- Altered level of consciousness

Final Med - p.17/35

### Signs of low body water

- Dry mucous membranes
- Decreased skin elasticity
- Decreased intraocular pressure
- Cardiovascular decompensation

Final Med - p.18/35

## Dehydration

Symptom or sign	Deficit	Volume (70Kg man)
Thirst	3%	1.5 L
Dry Mucosae	5%	2 L
Decreased skin elasticity	8%	3.5 L
Fall in intraocular pressure	10%	4.5 L
Tachycardia Hypotension	> 15 %	6.5 L

Final Med - p.19/25

## Changes in plasma volume

### Forward compartment

- Pulse (ECG)
- Blood pressure (Arterial Line)
- Tissue perfusion (Urinary output, ABG)

### Backward compartment

- Change in venous pressure (CVP)

Final Med - p.20/25

## ATLS Classes of Haemorrhage

	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV
Blood loss (ml)	Up to 750	750-1500	1500-2000	>2000
Blood loss (% blood volume)	Up to 15%	15-30%	30-40%	>40%
Pulse Rate (beats per minute)	<100	>100	>120	>140
Blood Pressure	Normal	Normal	Decreased	Decreased
Pulse Pressure	Normal or ↑	Decreased	Decreased	Decreased
Respiratory Rate (breaths per minute)	14-20	20-30	30-40	>35
Urine Output (ml/hr)	>30	20-30	5-15	Negligible
CNS/Mental Status	Slightly anxious	Mildly anxious	Anxious/confused	Confused, lethargic
Fluid Replacement (3:1 rule)	Crystalloid	Crystalloid	Crystalloid and blood	Crystalloid and blood

Final Med - p.21/25

## Changes in interstitium

- Expansion - oedema (check dependent part, auscultate lungs, CXR)
- Contraction - dry mucosae, decreased skin elasticity, decreased intra-ocular pressure

Final Med - p.22/25

## Changes in ICF

- Difficult to assess
- Brain is main organ affected
- Headaches and confusion due to contraction or expansion of ICF
- Expansion dangerous due to limited space in skull
- Contraction dangerous as it may cause bleeding

Final Med - p.23/25

## Examine patients fluid status

- History - thirst, losses, confusion
- Examination - pulse, blood pressure, central venous pressure, mucosae, skin elasticity, intraocular pressure, gallop rhythm, mitral incompetence, cardiomegally, fine bibasal creps, oedema of dependent parts
- Inspect input - output chart, weights

Final Med - p.24/25

## Oedema



Final Med - p.25/35

## Fluids available for therapy

- Crystalloids
- Colloids
- Crystalloids are in solution
- Colloids are in suspension
- Tindal effect

Final Med - p.26/35

## Crystalloids

Name	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Glucose
Normal Saline	150	0	150	0	0	0
Hartman's	131	5	111	29	2	0
Dextrose Saline	30	0	30	0	0	43 g/L
Dextrose 5%	0	0	0	0	0	50 g/L

Final Med - p.27/35

## Colloids in common use

- Gelofusin
- Whole blood
- Packed red blood cells
- Fresh frozen plasma

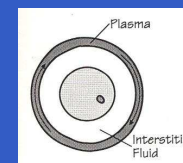
Final Med - p.28/35

## Why these fluids?

- Must not be toxic
- Must not cause haemolysis (too much water)
- Must not damage vein too much (too little water)

Final Med - p.29/35

## Where do the fluids go?



- Colloids into plasma
- Saline and Hartman's into ECF
- Dextrose 5% into total body water

Final Med - p.30/35

### Normal volume requirements - Holliday-Segar regimen

Volume of fluid (ml) / (kg body weight) per hour	
Up to 10 kg	4 mls/kg
From 10 – 20 kg	2 mls/kg
In excess of 20 kg	1 ml/kg for every kg after

$$10 \text{ kg} @ 4 \text{ mls/kg} = 40 \text{ ml/hr}$$

$$10 \text{ kg} @ 2 \text{ mls/kg} = 20 \text{ ml/hr}$$

$$50 \text{ kg} @ 1 \text{ ml/kg} = 50 \text{ ml/hr}$$

Final Med - p.31/35

### Normal volume requirements - alternative

35 ml per kg per day

Final Med - p.32/35

### Electrolyte requirements

Sodium (Na <sup>+</sup> )	1 mmol/kg/24 hours
Potassium (K <sup>+</sup> )	0.5 mmol/kg/24hours

Final Med - p.33/35

### Normal fluid and volume requirements

- 3 litre H<sub>2</sub>O / 24 hr
- 80-100 mmol Na<sup>+</sup> / 24hr
- 60 mmol K<sup>+</sup> / 24hr

eg. 1L Soln 18 with 20mmol K<sup>+</sup> over 8 hours (repeat times 3)

Final Med - p.34/35

### Fluid prescription

- Existing deficit (Based upon your clinical assessment)
- Maintenance (See above)
- Ongoing loss, (Fluid for fluid, eg NaCl 0.9% for NG loss)

Monitor clinical status, weight, input output and urea and electrolytes

Final Med - p.35/35