

## MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY GUIDELINES

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This guidance has been produced in line with the recommendations from the London Acute Kidney Injury Network. The Network guidelines are consistent with available national guidelines (UK Renal Association, Intensive Care Society, NCEPOD, National Imaging Board and NICE Clinical Guideline 50 on acute admissions)

This information is also available on the Network website at  
[www.londonaki.net](http://www.londonaki.net)

## Risk, Prevention & Recognition

Some AKI is Predictable, Preventable and/or Recognised Late

### Risk Assess for AKI

The risk of AKI is contributed to by the acute insult and background morbidity

#### Background

Elderly  
CKD  
Cardiac failure  
Liver disease  
Diabetes  
Vascular disease  
Background nephrotoxic medications

#### ACUTE 'STOP'

Sepsis and hypoperfusion  
Toxicity  
Obstruction  
Parenchymal kidney disease

### Prevent AKI – the 4 'M's

#### Monitor Patient

(observations and MET, regular blood tests, pathology alerts, fluid charts, urine volumes)

#### Maintain Circulation

(hydration, resuscitation, oxygenation)

#### Minimise Kidney Insults

(e.g. nephrotoxic medications, surgery or high risk interventions, iodinated contrast and prophylaxis, hospital acquired infection)

#### Manage The Acute Illness

(e.g. sepsis, heart failure, liver failure)

### Recognise AKI

1.5x increase from most recent baseline creatinine or 6 hours of oliguria

### AKI Develops

### INSTITUTE CARE BUNDLE

Prevent AKI progression by rapid diagnosis, supportive care, specific therapy and appropriate referral

## AKI Care Bundle

Institute in all patients with a 1.5 x rise in creatinine or oliguria (<0.5mls/kg/hr) for >6 hours

### This is a Medical Emergency

Full set of physiological observations  
Assess for signs of shock/hypoperfusion  
If MET triggering give oxygen, begin resuscitation and contact critical care outreach team

### Fluid therapy in AKI

Assess heart rate, blood pressure, jugular venous pressure, capillary refill (should be <3 secs), conscious level.  
If hypovolaemic give bolus fluids (e.g. 250-500mls) until volume replete with regular review of response.  
Middle grade review if >2 litres filling in oliguria.  
If the patient is euvolaemic give maintenance fluids (estimated output plus 500mls) and set daily fluid target.

### Monitoring in AKI

Do arterial blood gas and lactate if venous bicarbonate is low or evidence of severe sepsis or hypoperfusion.  
Consider insertion of urinary catheter and measurement of hourly urine volumes.  
Measure urea, creatinine, bone, other electrolytes and venous bicarbonate at least daily while creatinine rising.  
Measure daily weights, keep a fluid chart and perform a minimum of 4 hourly observations.  
Perform regular fluid assessments and check for signs of uraemia.

### Investigation of AKI

*Investigate the cause of all AKI unless multi-organ failure or obvious precipitant*  
Urine dipstick. If proteinuria is present perform urgent spot urine protein creatinine ratio (PCR).  
USS should be performed within 24 hours unless AKI cause is obvious or AKI is recovering or within 6 hours if obstruction with infection (pyelonephritis) is suspected. Check liver function (hepatorenal), CRP and CK (rhabdomyolysis). If platelets low do blood film/LDH/Bili/retics (HUS/TTP). If PCR high, consider urgent Bence Jones protein & serum free light chains.

### Supportive AKI Care

Treat sepsis – in severe sepsis intravenous antibiotics should be administered within 1 hour of recognition.  
Stop NSAIDs/ACE/ARB/metformin/K-sparing diuretics and review all drug dosages.  
Give proton pump inhibitor and perform dietetic assessment.  
Stop anti-hypertensives if relative hypotension. If hypovolaemic consider stopping diuretics.  
Avoid radiological contrast if possible. If given follow prophylaxis protocol.

### Causes Think 'STOP AKI'

Sepsis and hypoperfusion, Toxicity (drugs/contrast), Obstruction, Parenchymal kidney disease (acute GN)

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## AKI Care Bundle Checklist

### URGENT ASSESSMENT

	YES	NO	N/A
ABC and full set of observations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oxygen therapy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early warning system triggering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Critical care outreach called (if triggering)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### FLUID THERAPY IN AKI

	YES	NO	N/A
Clinical assessment of volume status and perfusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bolus fluids with reassessment to achieve euvolaemia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintenance fluid requirements estimated and prescribed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### MONITORING IN AKI

	YES	NO	N/A
Physiological monitoring plan decided (minimum 4 hourly)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arterial blood gas and lactate if indicated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urinary catheter and hourly volumes (if indicated)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily blood tests while creatinine rising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily weights instituted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fluid chart instituted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### INVESTIGATION OF AKI

	YES	NO	N/A
Urine dipstick and documentation of result	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If proteinuria, protein creatinine ration checked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USS <24hrs requested (AKI not recovering or cause not clear)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bone, liver function, CK,CRP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Myleoma screen (if appropriate)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Autoimmune screen (if appropriate)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If platelets low, microangiopathy screen (blood film, retics, LDH)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### SUPPORTIVE AKI CARE

	YES	NO	N/A
Sepsis treated (IV antibiotics <1 hour if severe)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug chart and dosages reviewed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NSAIDS/ACE/ARB/K-sparing diuretics/metformin stopped	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consider gastric protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Antihypertensives stopped if relative hypotension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dietetic assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### AKI REFERRAL

	YES	NO	N/A
Senior review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral nephrology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral critical care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: .....

Job Title: .....

Date: .....

Bleep No: .....

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## 'STOP' AKI and Checklist

The London AKI Network has developed the 'STOP' Acronym to improve awareness of AKI causes



**S**epsis & hypoperfusion **T**oxicity **O**bstruction **P**arenchymal kidney disease

### SEPSIS & HYPOPERFUSION

	YES	NO	N/A
Severe Sepsis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haemorrhage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dehydration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cardiac Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liver Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renovascular Insult (E.g. Aortic Surgery)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### TOXICITY

	YES	NO	N/A
Nephrotoxic Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Iodinated radiological Contrast	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### OBSTRUCTION

	YES	NO	N/A
Bladder Outflow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tumour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surgical Ligation of Ureters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extrinsic Compression (E.g. Lymph Nodes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retroperitoneal Fibrosis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### PARENCHYMAL KIDNEY DISEASE

	YES	NO	N/A
Glomerulonephritis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tubulointerstitial Nephritis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhabdomyolysis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Myeloma Kidney	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Malignant Hypertension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: .....

Job Title: .....

Date: .....

Bleep No: .....

## **AKI Complications**

**Hyperkalaemia, Acidosis, Pulmonary Oedema, reduced Conscious Level**

**Begin Medical Therapy and Get Help**

**Local Critical Care Team  
and  
Local Nephrology Team (if onsite)**

### **Hyperkalaemia**

Medical therapy of hyperkalaemia is a transient measure pending imminent recovery in renal function or transfer to kidney unit or critical care for renal replacement therapy.

If ECG changes give calcium gluconate 10mls 10% over 10 minutes.

If bicarbonate  $<22\text{mmol/L}$  and no fluid overload give 500mls 1.4% sodium bicarbonate over 3-4 hours.

$\text{K}^+ > 6.5\text{mmol/L}$  or ECG changes give Actrapid 10 units in 50mls of 50% dextrose over 15 minutes & salbutamol 5 mg nebulised (caution with salbutamol in tachycardia or ischaemic heart disease).

Actrapid and salbutamol reduce ECF potassium for  $<4$  hours only. See Management of Hyperkalaemia guidelines for ongoing hyperkalaemia or if ECG not normalised

### **Acidosis**

Medical therapy of acidosis with bicarbonate should be reserved for emergency management of hyperkalaemia (as above) pending specialist help.  
 $\text{pH} < 7.15$  requires immediate critical care referral.

### **Pulmonary Oedema**

Sit the patient up and give oxygen (60-100% unless contraindicated).

If haemodynamically stable give furosemide 80mg IV. Consider repeat bolus and infusion at 10mg/hour and/or commence Glyceryl Trinitrate 1-10mg/hour titrating dose.

### **Reduced Conscious Level**

Manage uraemic coma as per all reduced consciousness (airway management) pending critical care transfer and emergency renal replacement therapy.

**These are Holding Measures Prior to Specialist Help from Critical Care or Nephrology Services**

# Fluids

## Adult Maintenance Fluids

### Baseline Requirements

50-100mmol sodium, 40-80mol potassium and 1.5-2.5L water per 24 hours Oral, enteral or parenteral route

**Adjust estimated requirements according to changes in sensible or insensible losses**

### Sensible Losses

(measurable)  
Surgical drains  
Vomiting  
Diarrhoea  
Urine  
(variable amounts of electrolytes)

### Insensible Losses

Respiration  
Perspiration  
Metabolism  
Increase in pyrexia or tachypnoea  
(Mainly water)

**Regular assessment of volume and hydration status**  
Daily weights  
Fluid charts  
Measured electrolytes

**Available parenteral solutions (if required)**

Hartmann's solution  
Sodium chloride 0.9%  
5% dextrose

**Consider Potassium containing bags if correction of electrolyte required**

## Adult Resuscitation or Replacement Fluids

**Give According to Clinical Scenario**

### General Volume Replacement or Expansion

**Give balanced crystalloid solutions (Hartmann's solution)**

These contain small amounts of potassium. Avoid in hyperkalaemia. If AKI only use these if close (HDU) monitoring of potassium

**Or**

**Colloids**

Avoid high molecular weight (>200kDa) starches in severe sepsis due to risk of AKI  
Assess vital signs, postural blood pressure, capillary refill, JVP and consider invasive or non-invasive measurement using flow-based technology

### Haemorrhage

**Give blood and blood products**

Balanced crystalloid or colloid may be given while blood awaited  
Clinical assessment as above

### Severe Free Water Losses (hypernatraemia)

**5% dextrose or Hartmann's solution**

### Hypochloraemia

(vomiting, NG drainage)  
Give sodium chloride 0.9%  
(Potassium repletion usually also required)