

# Flowchart For A Better Compliance To Intravenous Fluid (IVF) Prescription

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## Introduction

- IVFs are one of the most prescribed drugs in any surgical department.
- It is prescribed based on patient's clinical needs and can have a direct or indirect effect on a patient's prognosis, including post-operative recovery.
- Based on previous audit done (October 2020), it is found that we have poor compliance to the NICE guidelines CG174.
- Aim of re-audit is to ensure IVF prescribed were tailored to individual patient requirements post-intervention.

## Methodology

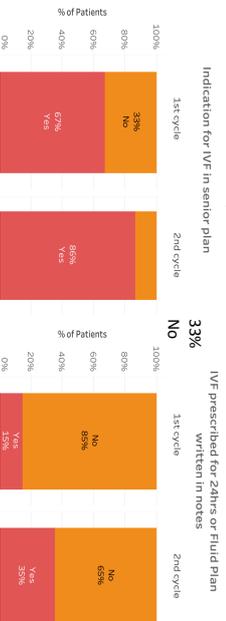
- Re-audit begins 2 weeks following the intervention.
- A retrospective review of 88-108 prescriptions were randomly selected from both general surgery and urology patients.

## Result

- IVF prescriptions are 82% (General Surgery) and 18% (Urology)
- Improvements in fluids being documented in notes when prescribed (19% to 44%).



- Improvement in indications being noted in senior plans (67% to 86%) and fluid plan in notes (15% to 35%).



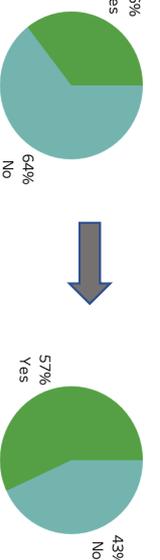
- Potassium additives were prescribed or omitted correctly in 85.5% of cases, dextrose was correctly prescribed or not prescribed in 84% of cases.

- U&Es monitoring has shown excellent performance with 98% compliance in both audits.

- However, compliance rate to fluid balance recorded in 24 hours and weight recorded in 7 days are 24% lower and 26% respectively compared to the first audit.

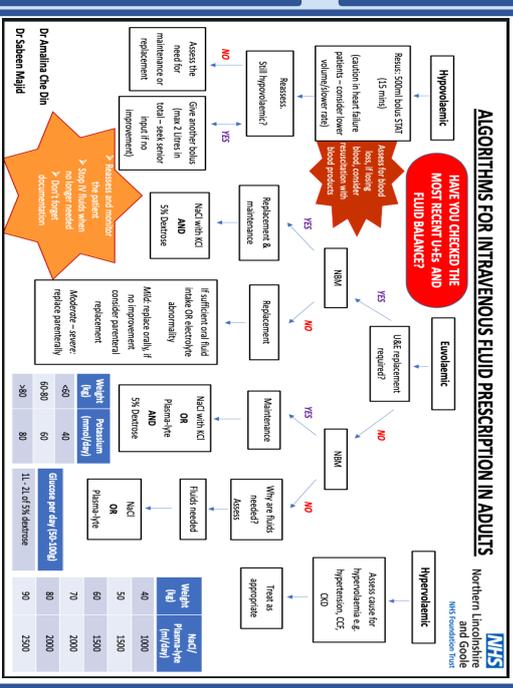


- Improvement is seen in the documentation of fluid status prior to prescription (36% to 57%).



## Intervention

Created a more condenser and user-friendly format of IVF prescription flowchart and display it in surgical ward offices as references when prescribing.



## Discussion

- Significant compliance improvement seen in most standard.
- However, not 100% was achieved.
- Thus, we liaised with clinical lead to have an IV fluid prescription teaching for new surgical doctors prior commencing on their rotations and to further re-audit including other surgical departments.