



The Critically Ill Overdose Patient

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Disclosure

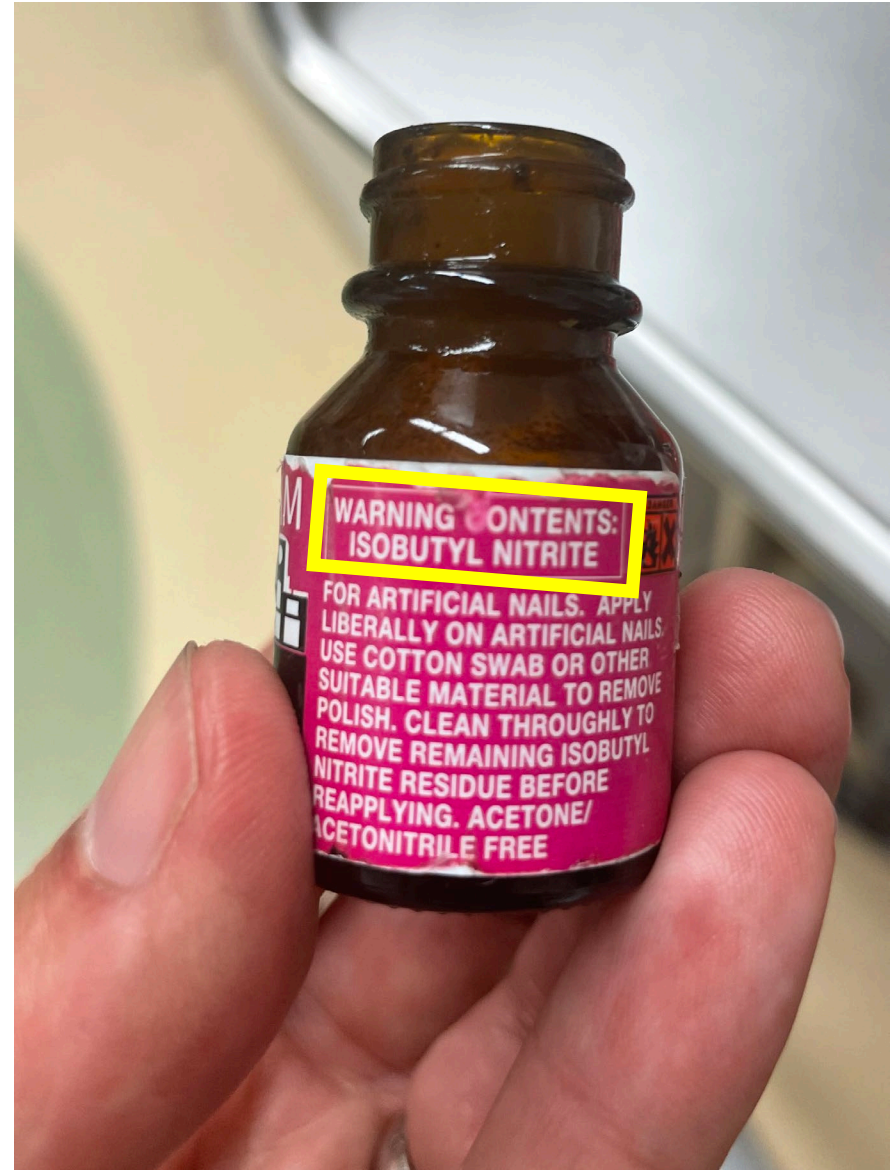
- I have no relevant financial relationships with the manufacturers of any commercial products discussed in this presentation.

Principles For Managing The “Sick” Poisoned Patient

- Don't forget the ABC's and good supportive care
- The history is often unreliable
- Collateral information is critical (What, Where, When, How?)
- Look for clues on the physical examination
- Look for clues in the laboratory data (something feels off)









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OF ITEMS SOLD 2



Three Crashing Toxicology Patients...

- Hyperthermia
- Acidosis
- Hypotension



Case #1 – “Hot and Bothered”

- A 33-year-old female presents to the ED with altered mental status.
- She was at a concert with friends using MDMA, and suddenly became less responsive.
- In the ED, she has a witness generalized tonic clonic seizure and is now post ictal.



Case #1: What would you do?

- A) Immediate intubation
- B) Tylenol 1 gram IV
- C) Start cold IV fluids
- D) Cool mist with fans
- E) Ice water bath

Drug-induced Hyperthermia

Drug-induced syndrome	Associated drugs
Neuroleptic malignant syndrome	Antipsychotics (haloperidol, olanzapine), some antiemetics (metoclopramide), withdrawal of antiparkinson drugs
Serotonin toxicity	Serotonin reuptake inhibitors, monoamine oxidase inhibitors, dextrometorphan, tramadol, tapentadol, linezolid, St John's wort (toxicity most often occurs when the drugs are used in combination)
Anticholinergic toxicity	Antispasmodics, anticholinergic drugs, plant alkaloids (such as belladonna, <i>Brugmansia</i>) and mushrooms (e.g. <i>Amanita</i>)
Sympathomimetic syndrome	Phenethylamines, e.g. amphetamines, methamphetamines (MDMA), cocaine, monoamine oxidase inhibitors
Malignant hyperthermia	Volatile anaesthetics and depolarising muscle relaxants, e.g. suxamethonium
Uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation	Salicylates in overdose, dinitrophenol

Main physiological effects of severe hyperthermia

System	Parameter	Clinical Implications
CV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tachycardia Volume depletion Hypotension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate fluid resuscitation
CNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encephalopathy Seizures Coma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat seizures with benzodiazepines May be confused with meningitis
Renal/Met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute Kidney Injury Rhabdomyolysis Electrolyte disturbances (hyponatremia, hyperkalemia) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate fluid resuscitation Treat hyperkalemia
Heme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminated intravascular coagulation Thrombocytopenia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of bleeding with invasive procedures
GI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edema and hemorrhage (regional ischemia) Elevation of liver function tests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will contribute to hypovolemia

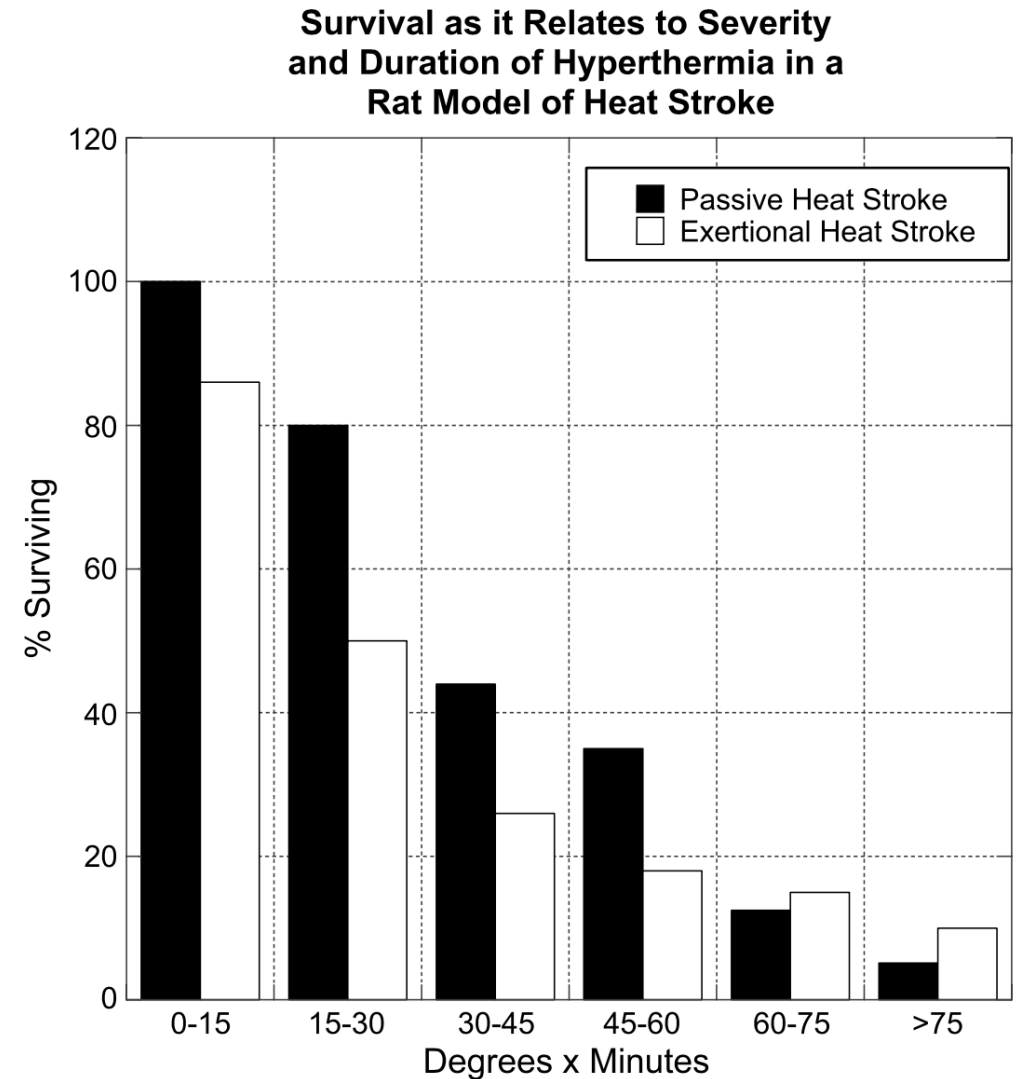
Multi-organ system dysfunction!!

Case #1 – Hot and Bothered

- Physical Exam:
 - Vitals: BP 170/100, HR 132, RR 24, O2 sat 99%, Temp 42° C
 - Pupils 7 mm and reactive bilaterally
 - Skin hot to touch and diaphoretic
 - Neuro eyes closed, not following commands, localizes to painful stimulus.

Hyperthermia – Management

- Severity of damage is related to the degree and duration of hyperthermia.

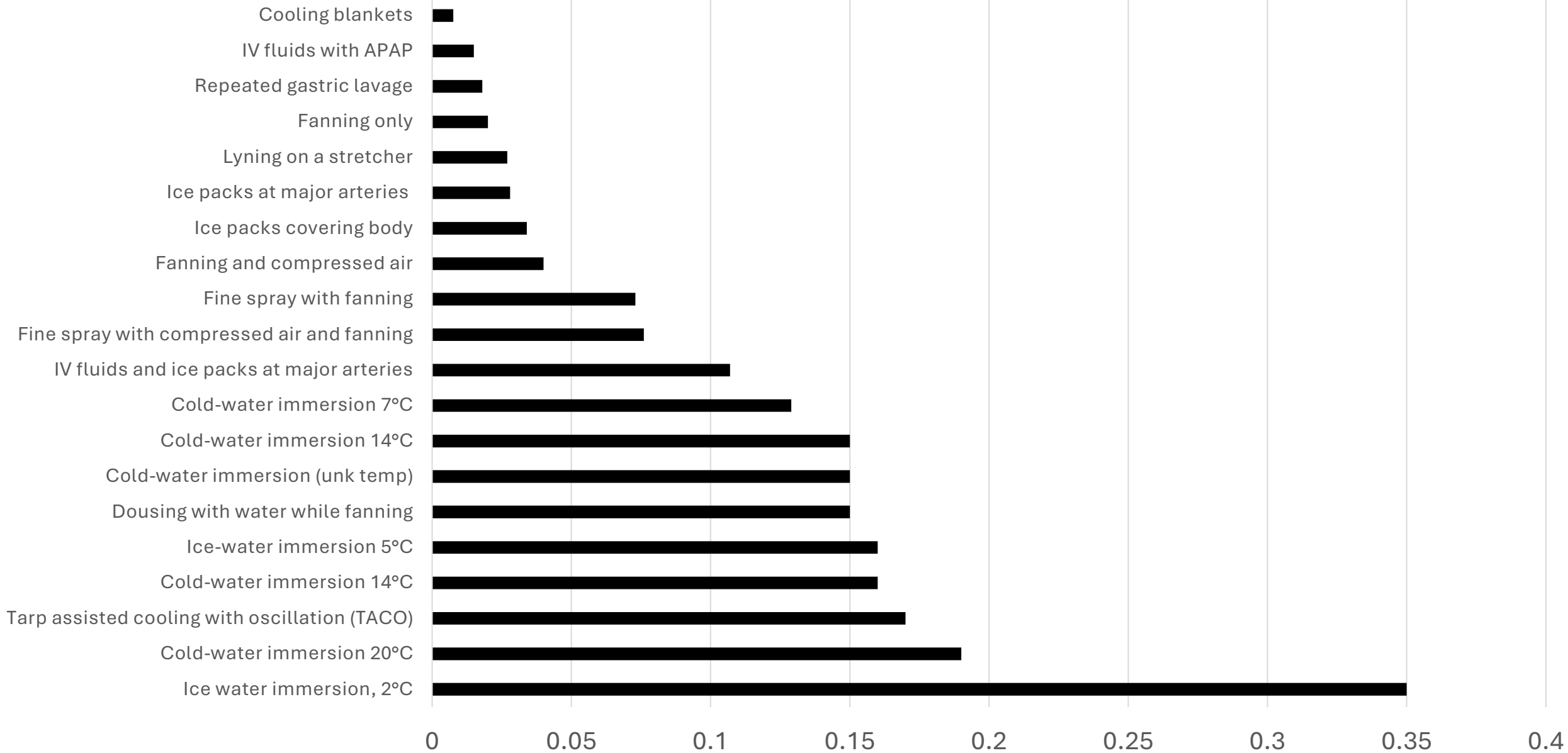


Hyperthermia – Management

- Target = 39°C (102.2°F)
- Within 30 minutes
- Ideally within 15 minutes!!
- 0.15 °C/min

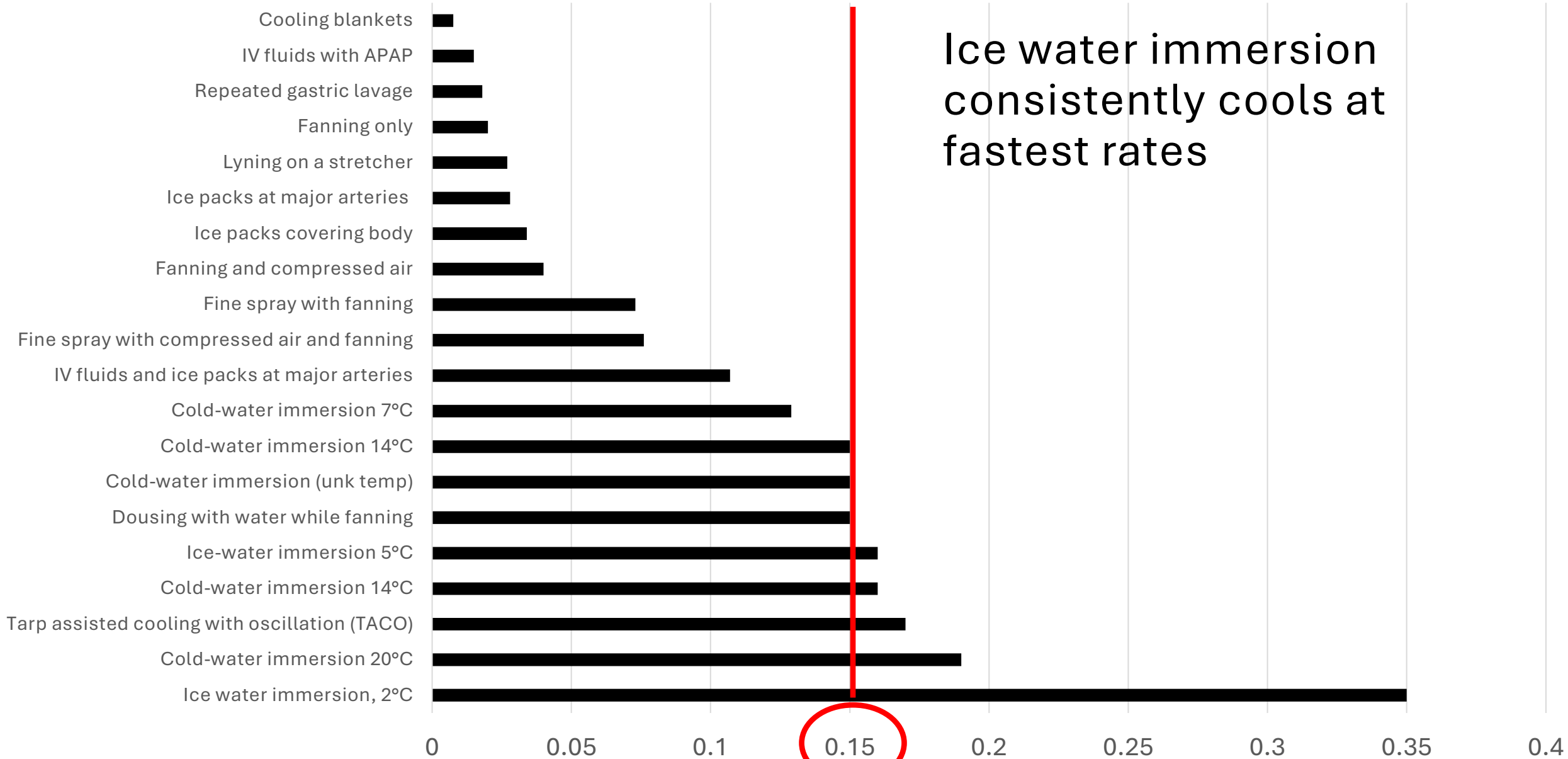


Cooling Rate (°C/min)



Adapted from McDermott et. al, Journal of athletic training, 2009

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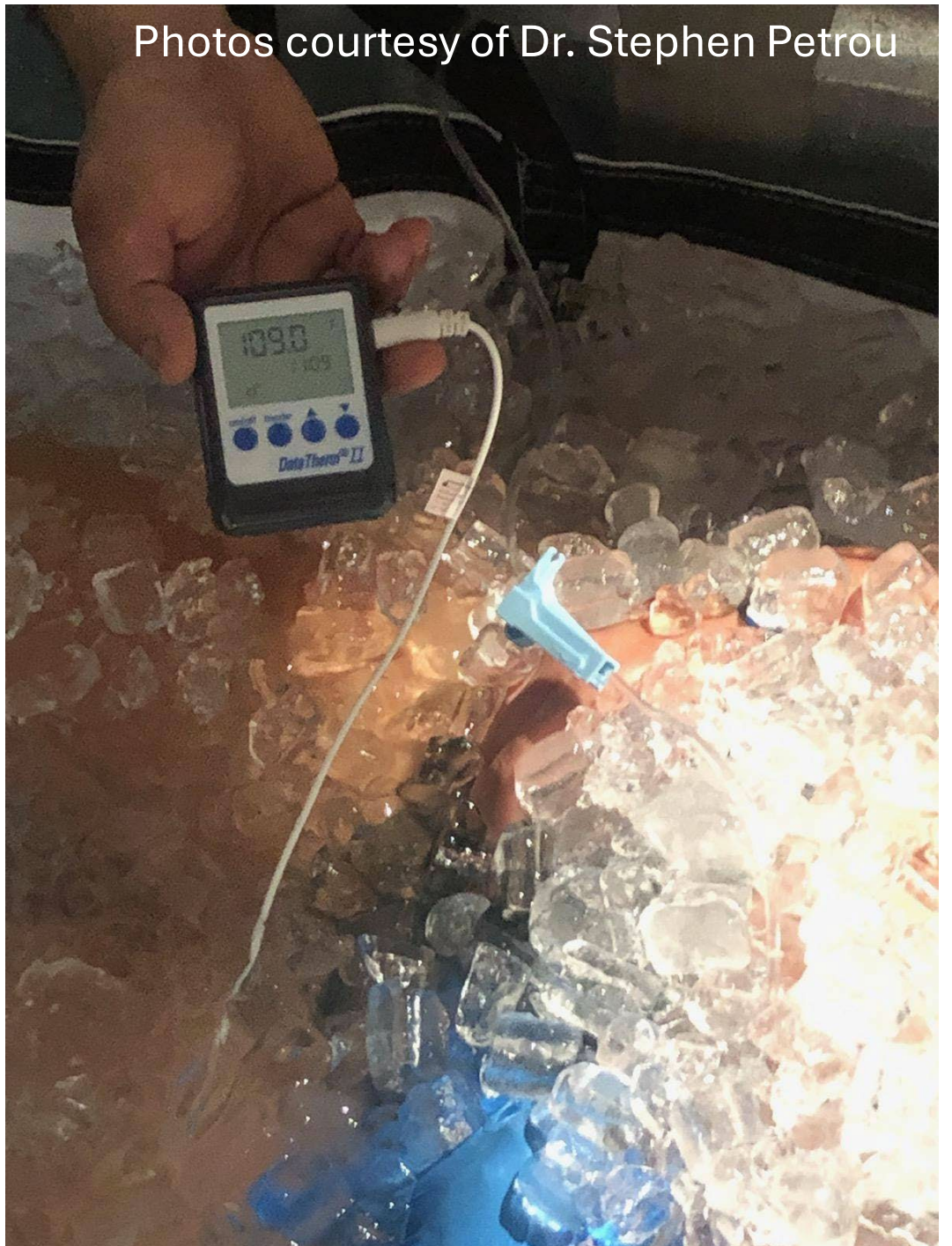


Photos courtesy of Dr. Stephen Petrou



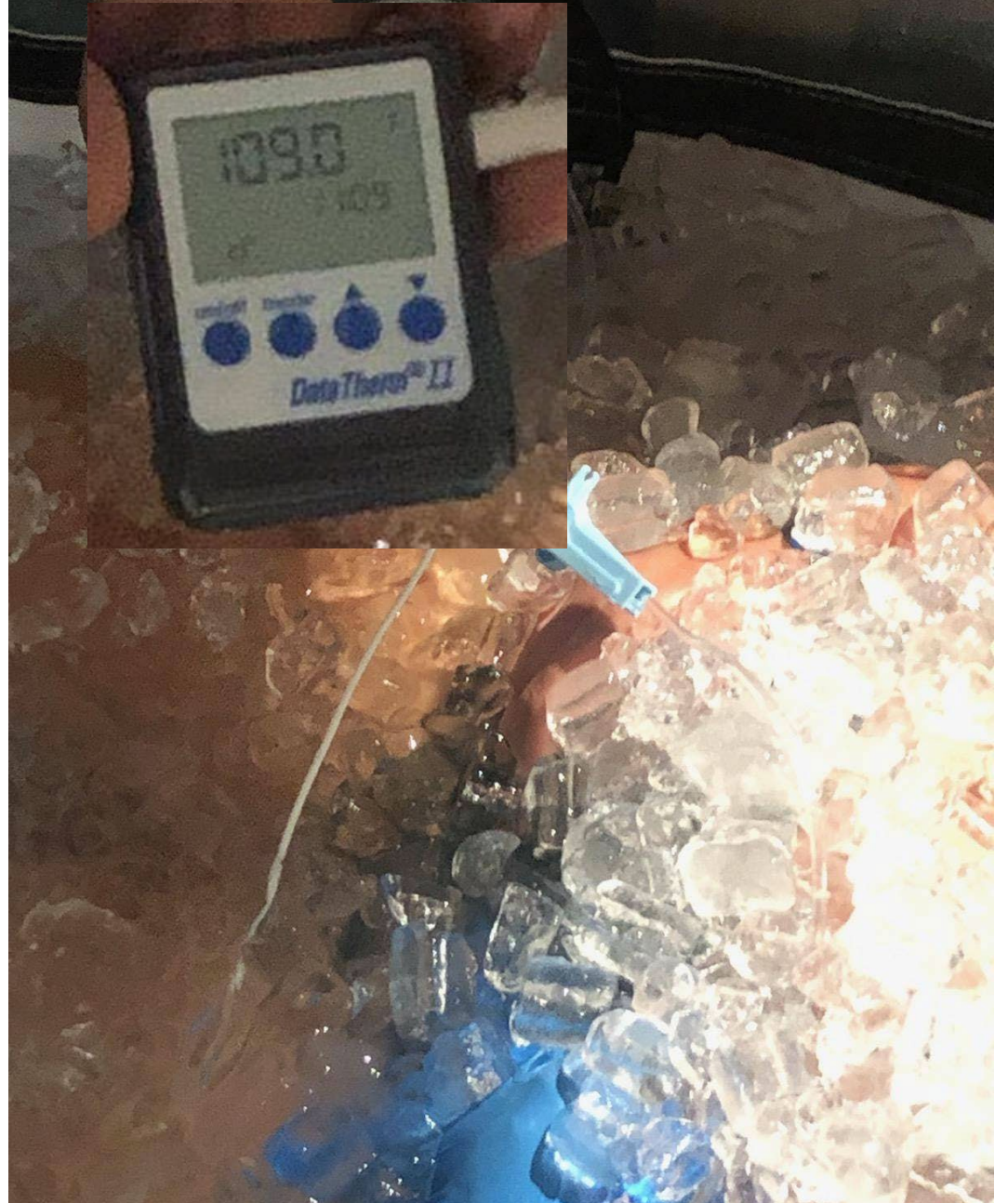


Photos courtesy of Dr. Stephen Petrou





Photos courtesy of Dr. Stephen Petrou



Tarp-Assisted Cooling as a Method of Whole-Body Cooling in Hyperthermic Individuals



Yuri Hosokawa, PhD, ATC*; William M. Adams, PhD, ATC; Luke N. Belval, MS, ATC;
Lesley W. Vandermark, PhD, ATC; Douglas J. Casa, PhD, ATC

**Corresponding Author. E-mail: yuri.hosokawa@uconn.edu, Twitter: [@K_S_Institute](https://twitter.com/K_S_Institute).*

Cooling Rate = 0.17°C/min



Tarp Assisted Cooling with Oscillation (TACO)

Malignant Hyperthermia

- Pharmacogenetic disorder (ryanodine receptor)
- Exposure to inhalation agents (halothane, isoflurane, sevoflurane etc.)
- And...succinylcholine (depolarizing neuromuscular blockers)
- Key clinical features: elevation of ETCO₂, muscle rigidity, rhabdomyolysis, hyperthermia, tachycardia, acidosis and hyperkalemia.
- Mortality of 80% without treatment → Give Dantrolene!

Toxin Induced Life Threatening Hyperthermia Pearls

- Supportive Care
- Benzodiazepines for agitation
- Intubation and paralysis
- Cold water/ice water emersion
- Temperature goal 39 °C within 15-30 minutes

Case #2: Profound Acidosis

- 36-year-old female was found in a hotel room with acute intoxication.
- Initial Vital Signs: HR 95 bpm, BP 131/77, RR 27, O2 Sat 100% Temp 97.5.
- Physical Exam: GCS 8, Lungs clear, Heart normal
- VBG: pH 7.02, pCO₂ 20

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Case #2: What would you do?

- A) Immediate intubation (“GCS 8 intubate”)
- B) Start sodium bicarbonate drip (“Base neutralizes acid”)
- C) Start broad spectrum antibiotics and call the ICU
- D) Send every laboratory test you can think of
- E) All of the above

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- Labs: Na 142, K 4.3, Cl 113, HCO₃ 6, BUN9, Cr 1.04, Gluc 120, AG = 27

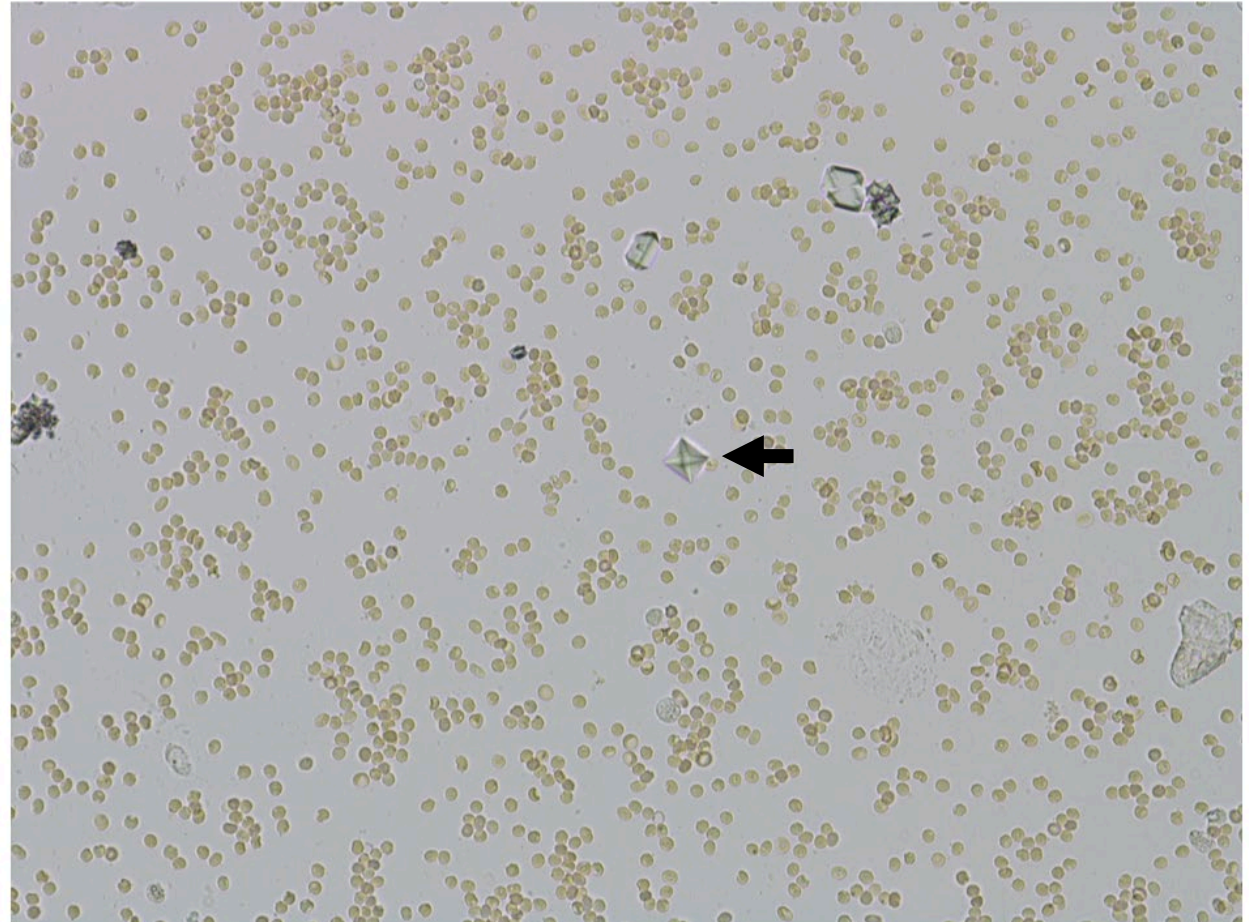
The “KULTO” of Anion Gap Acidosis

Ketones	Uremia	Lactate	Toxic Alcohol	Organic Acids
Alcoholic Ketoacidosis Diabetic Ketoacidosis Starvation Ketosis Salicylates Isopropyl alcohol	Renal Failure	Metformin Isoniazid Cyanide Carbon Monoxide Beta Agonists Un-couplers Dinitrophenol Salicylates NRTIs Non-tox: Sepsis hypoperfusion Others	Ethylene Glycol Methanol Rare alcohols (glycols)	Pyroglutamic Acid (APAP) Inborn errors of metabolism
SEND KETONES	CHECK RENAL FUNCTION	CHECK LACTATE	SUROGATE MARKERS SEND LEVELS	THINK ABOUT IT SEND APAP

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- Labs: Na 142, K 4.3, Cl 113, HCO₃ 6, BUN9, Cr 1.04, Gluc 120, AG = 27
- Additional Labs:
 - Lactate - 5 mmol/L
 - Ketone – undetectable
 - Ethanol - negative
 - Serum Osm – 350
 - Measured Osm – 294

Surrogate Markers



Surrogate Markers – Osmolar Gap

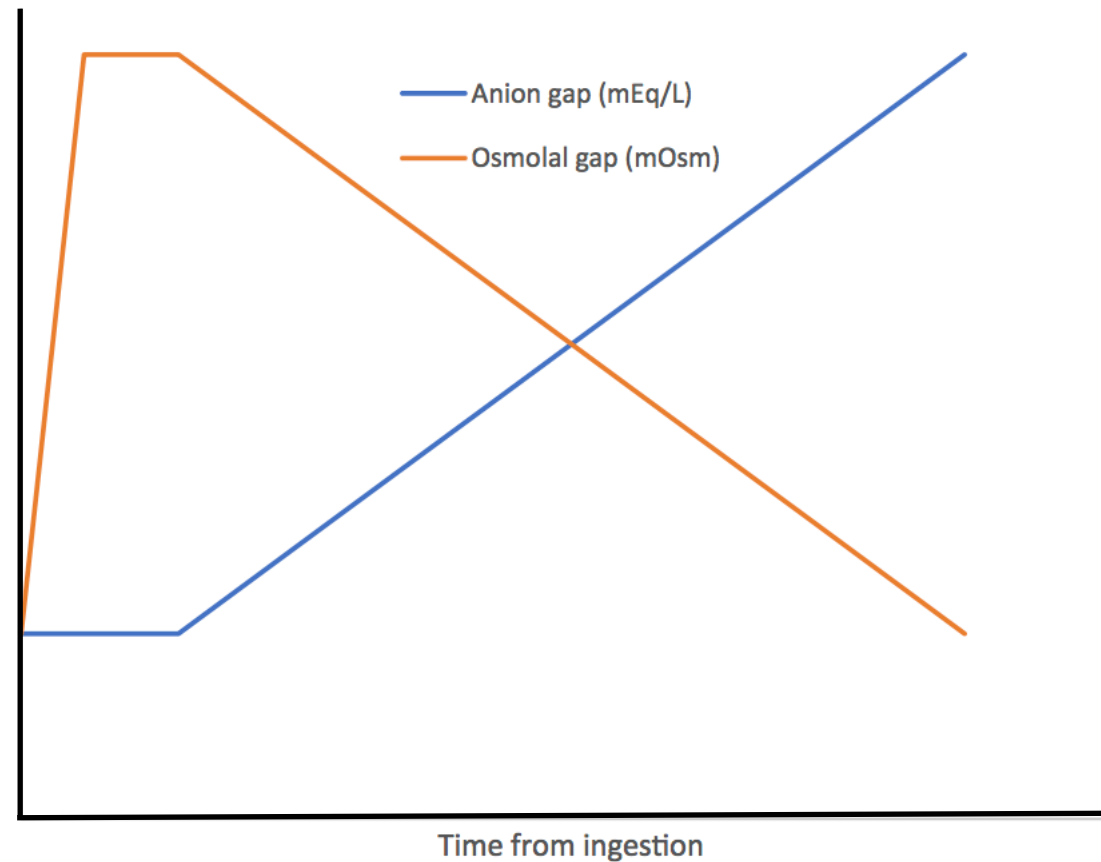


Fig. 3 Osmolal gap and anion gap in toxic alcohol poisoning

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- Labs: Na 142, K 4.3, Cl 113, HCO3 6, BUN9, Cr 1.04, Gluc 120, AG = 27
- Additional Labs:
 - Lactate - 5 mmol/L
 - Ketone – undetectable
 - Ethanol - negative
 - Serum Osm – 350
 - Measured Osm – 294

Management of toxic alcohols

- Supportive care
- Administer blocking agents
 - Fomepizole – Loading dose 15 mg/kg (up to 1.5 grams)
 - Ethanol
- Hemodialysis



Blood Purification in Toxicology: Reviewing the Evidence and Providing Recommendations

OBJECTIVES

PUBLICATIONS

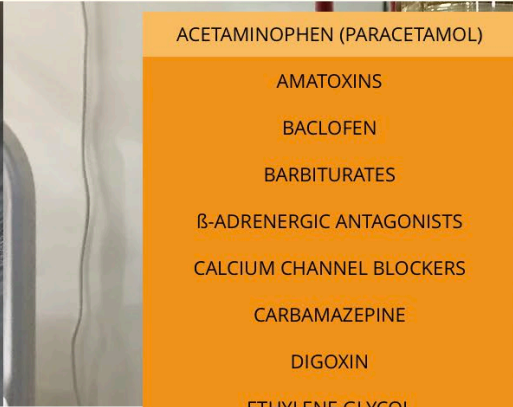
RECOMMENDATIONS

NEWS & EVENTS

PARTICIPANTS

REPRESENTED SOCIETIES

CONTACT US



ACETAMINOPHEN (PARACETAMOL)

AMATOXINS

BACLOFEN

BARBITURATES

β -ADRENERGIC ANTAGONISTS

CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS

CARBAMAZEPINE

DIGOXIN

ETHYLENE GLYCOL

GABAPENTIN / PREGABALIN

ISONIAZID

LITHIUM

METFORMIN

METHANOL

METHOTREXATE

PHENYTOIN

QUININE / CHLOROQUINE

SALICYLATES

THALLIUM

THEOPHYLLINE

TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS

VALPROIC ACID

Newsflash: New Ex

2021: Baclofen, Isoniazid, β -ad
2020: Calcium Chan
Pending

olished!

ntin / Pregabalin
quine

**Posts from
@ExtripWorkgroup**



**Nothing to see
here - yet**

When they post, their posts will
show up here.



Profound Acidosis and Toxic Alcohols Pearls

- Calculate the anion gap
- Use “KULTO” to narrow the differential diagnosis
- Think toxic alcohols when ketones and lactate are normal in the setting of profound acidosis
- Treat with blocking agents and hemodialysis

Case #3: Hypotension and Bradycardia

- 16-year-old female presents one hour after an intentional overdose of of an antihypertensive medication.
- Vital Signs: BP 73/50, HR 65, RR 18, O2 sat 98%

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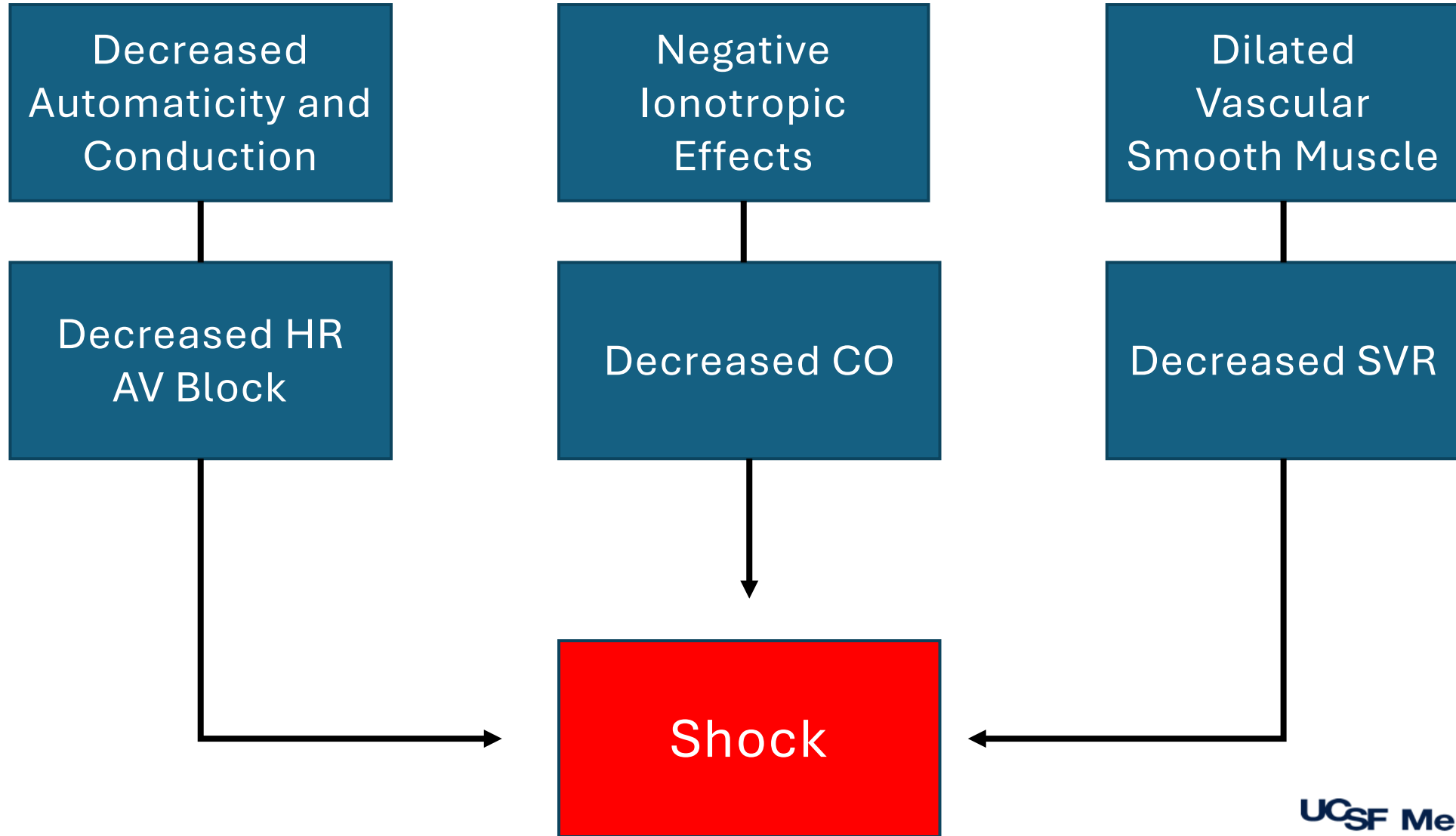
Toxicology DDx Hypotension and Bradycardia

- ABCD'S
 - A – Alpha 2 agonists (e.g. clonidine)
 - B – Beta Blockers
 - C – Calcium channel blockers
 - D – Digoxin
 - S – Sedative Hypnotics

Hypotension and Bradycardia

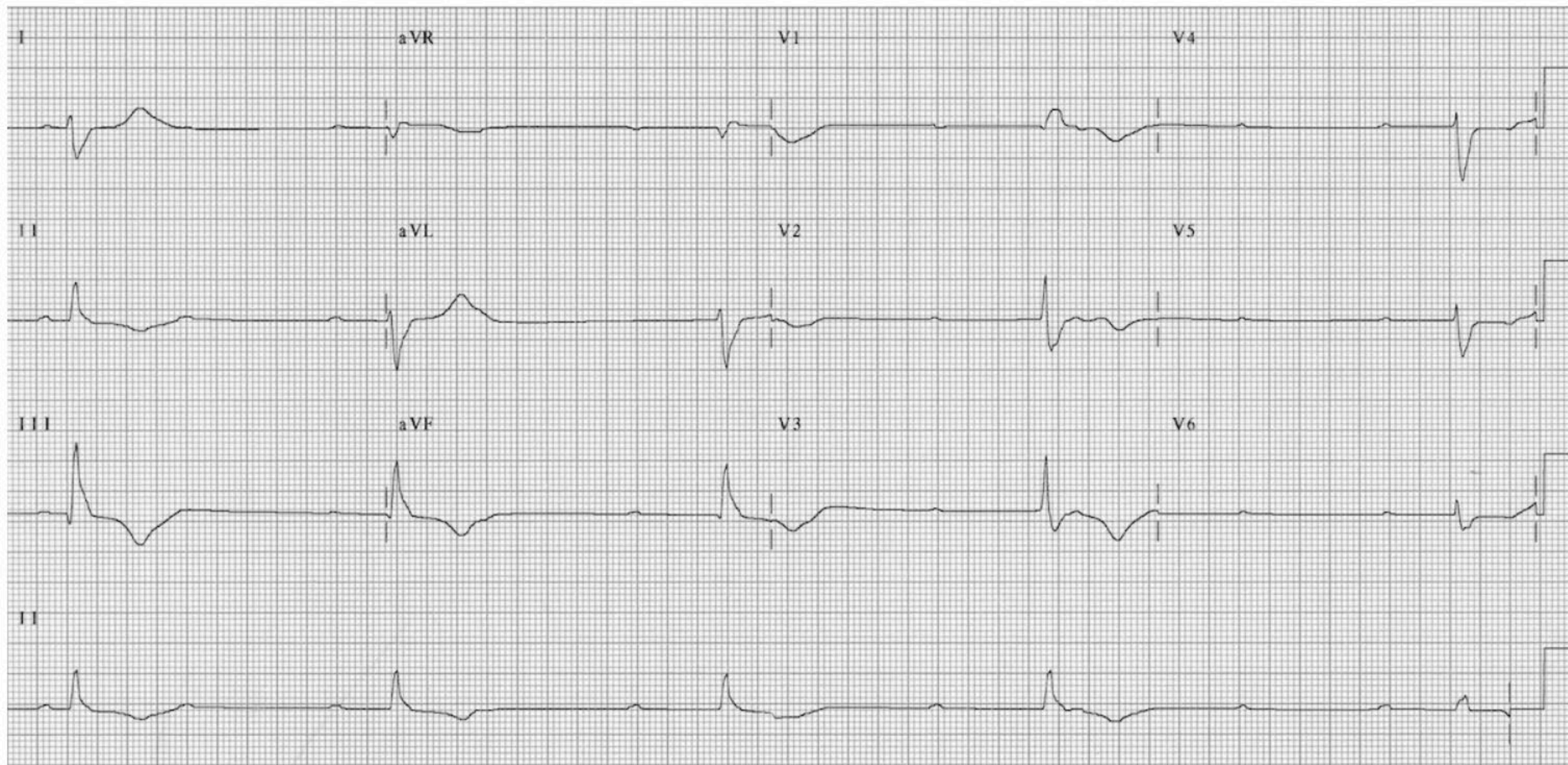
- 16-year-old female presents one hour after an intentional overdose of of an antihypertensive medication.
- Vital Signs: BP 83/50, HR 65, RR 18, O2 sat 98%
- Further history – She ingested verapamil.

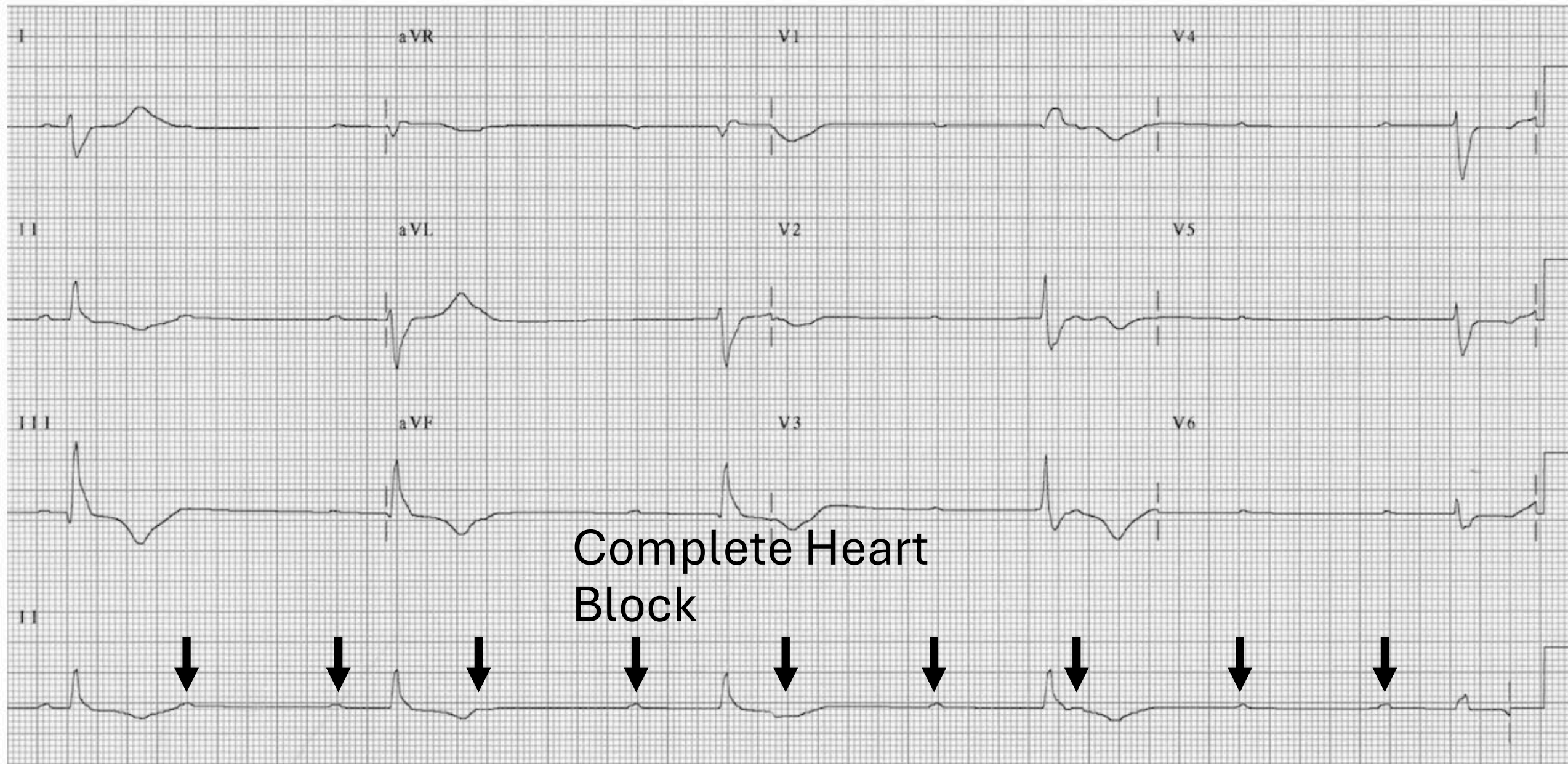
Calcium Channel Blocker Toxicity

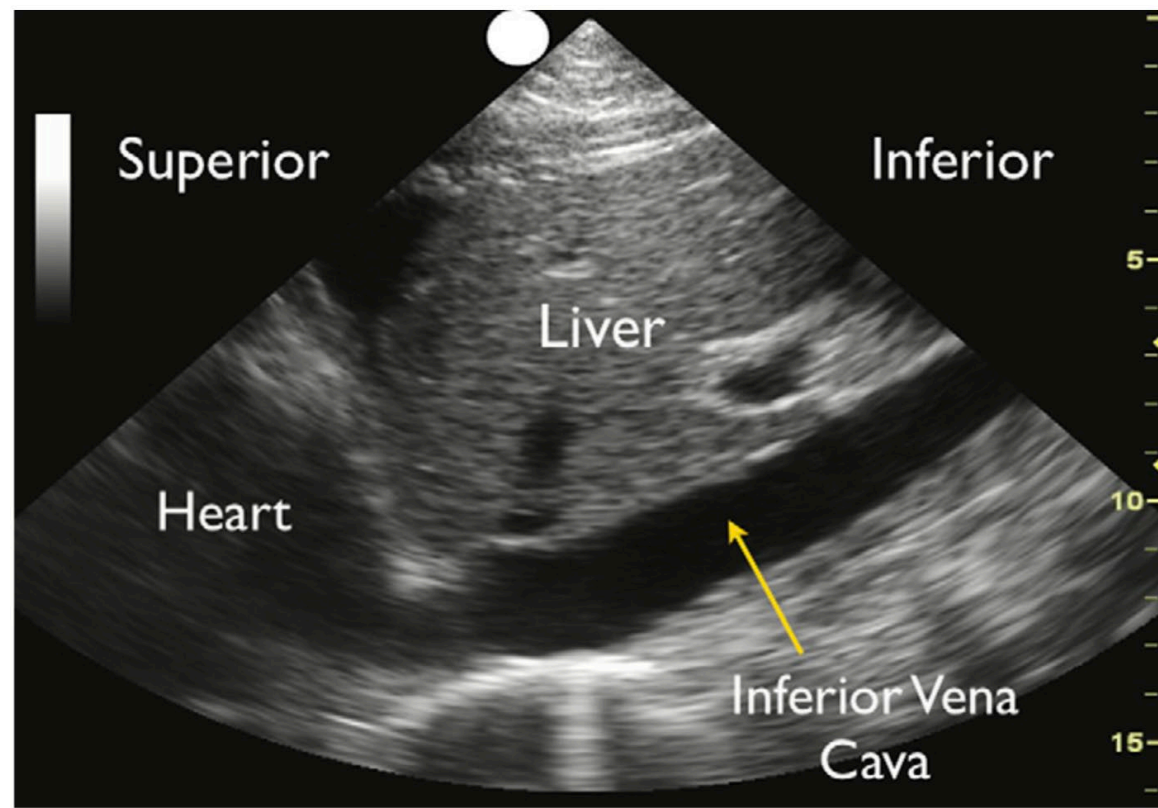
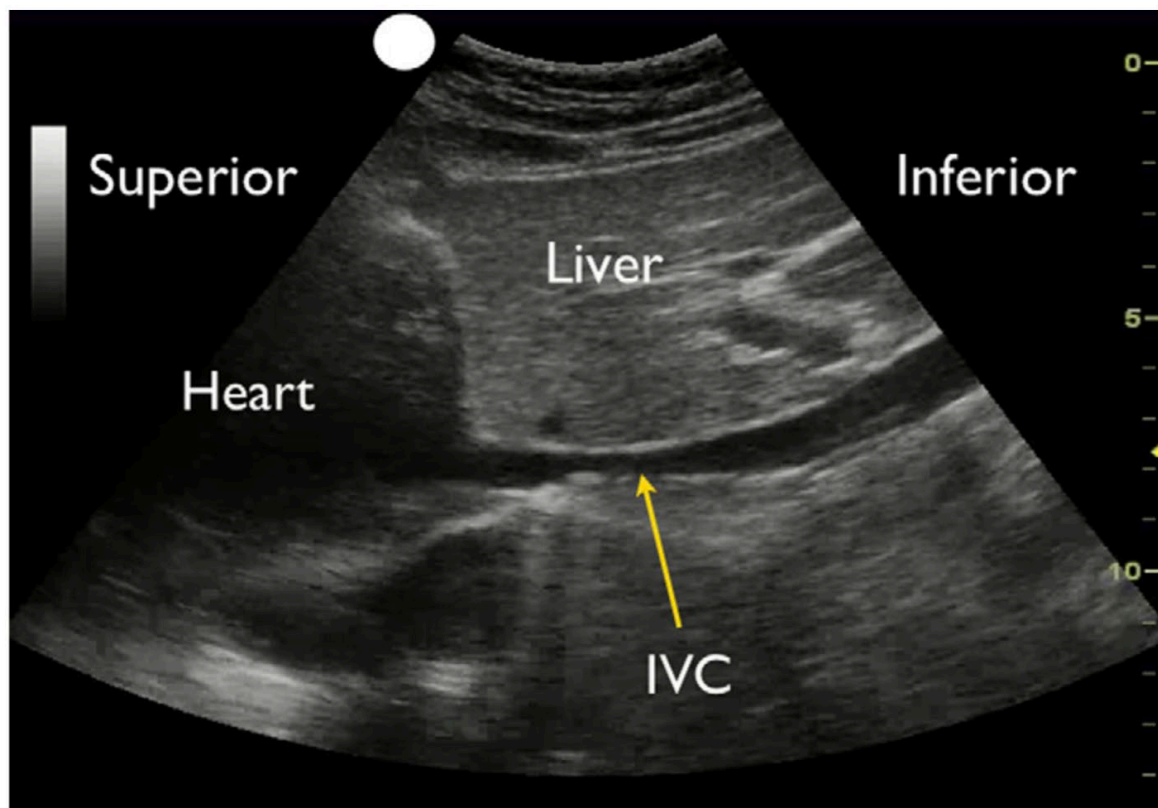


First Line Treatments and Desired Effects

Treatment	Desired Effect
Intravenous Fluids	Intravascular volume repletion, increase blood pressure
Intravenous Calcium	Increase cardiac contractility, increase blood pressure
Vasopressors Norepinephrine Epinephrine Dobutamine	Increase blood pressure Increase cardiac contractility, increase heart rate Increase cardiac contractility
High Dose Insulin with Glucose (HIE)	Increase cardiac contractility and blood pressure
Atropine	Increase heart rate







Critical Care Management of Verapamil and Diltiazem Overdose With a Focus on Vasopressors: A 25-Year Experience at a Single Center

Michael Levine, MD; Steven C. Curry, MD; Angela Padilla-Jones, RN; Anne-Michelle Ruha, MD

- 48 patients with verapamil or diltiazem overdose
- IV fluids and vasopressors used almost exclusively
- Doses of vasopressors higher than usual
 - Norepinephrine 100 ug/min
 - Dopamine 100 ug/kg/min
- Many patients required more than one pressor (up to five)

High Dose Insulin (HIE)



- Bolus 1 unit/kg
- Start drip at 1 unit/kg/hour
- Start dextrose infusion (D10)
- Measure glucose at frequent intervals initially

HIE Evidence?

- Case series

- Espinoza TR, Bryant SM, Aks SE. Hyperinsulin therapy for calcium channel antagonist poisoning: A seven-year retrospective study. *Am J Ther.* 2013;20:29–31.
- Boyer EW, Duic PA, Evans A. Hyperinsulinemia/euglycemia therapy for calcium channel blocker poisoning. *Pediatr Emerg Care.* 2002;18:36–37
- Boyer EW, Shannon M. Treatment of calcium-channel-blocker intoxication with insulin infusion. *N Engl J Med.* 2001;344:1721–1722.
- Yuan TH, Kerns WP, 2nd, Tomaszewski CA, et al. Insulin-glucose as adjunctive therapy for severe calcium channel antagonist poisoning. *J Toxicol Clin Toxicol.* 1999;37:463–474.

- Observational Studies

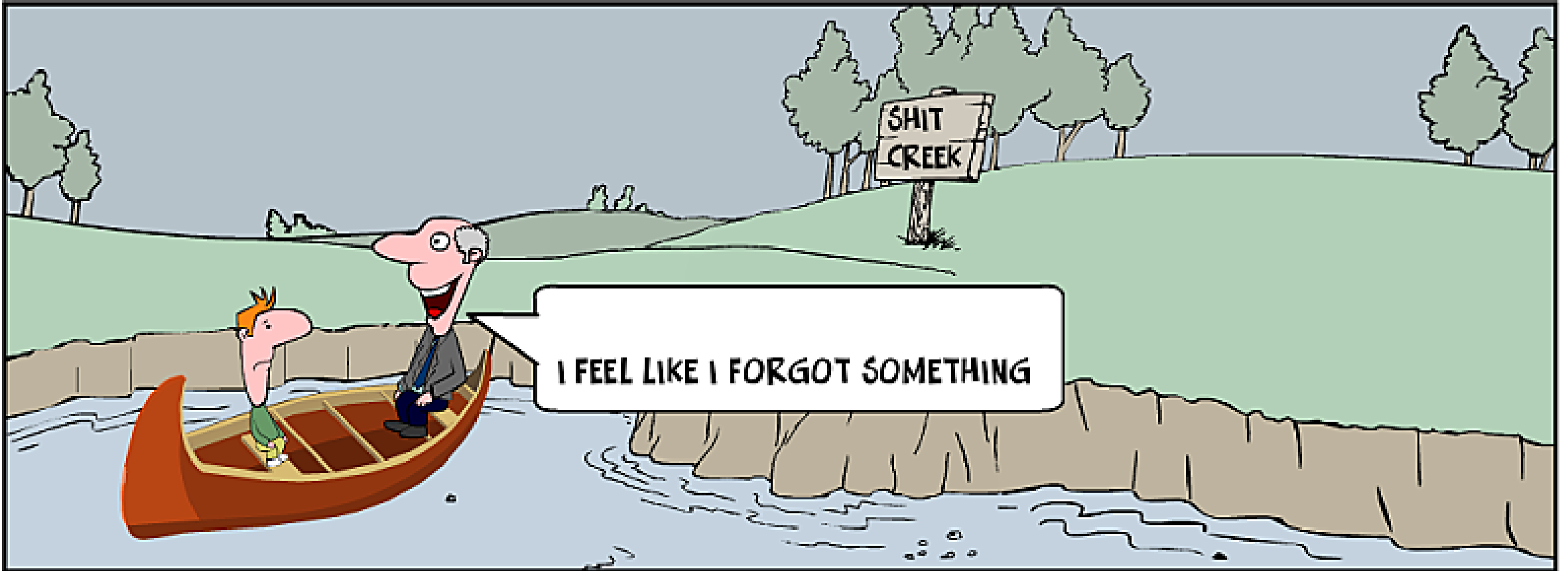
- Bryant SM, Espinoza TR, Aks SE. Seven years of high dose insulin therapy for calcium channel antagonist poisoning. *Clin Toxicol.* 2009;47:751.
- Greene SL, Gawarammana I, Wood DM, et al. Relative safety of hyperinsulinaemia/euglycaemia therapy in the management of calcium channel blocker overdose: A prospective observational study. *Intensive Care Med.* 2007;33:2019–2024.

- Animal Studies

Therapy for Patients Refractory to 1st Line Agents

UP SHIT CREEK - BY PREDALIEN

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Therapy for Patients Refractory to 1st Line Agents

- “higher” dose insulin – up to 10 units/kg/hour
- Pacing
- Methylene Blue
- Intralipid
- ECMO

CCB Overdose Pearls

- Remember the ABCDS of hypotension and bradycardia.
- Ultrasound and can be a useful tool for directing management.
- High dose vasopressors may be necessary.
- High dose insulin therapy is also an important adjunct.
- Consider ECMO if available.

Questions?

