

Queensland Paediatric Flowchart

Emergency

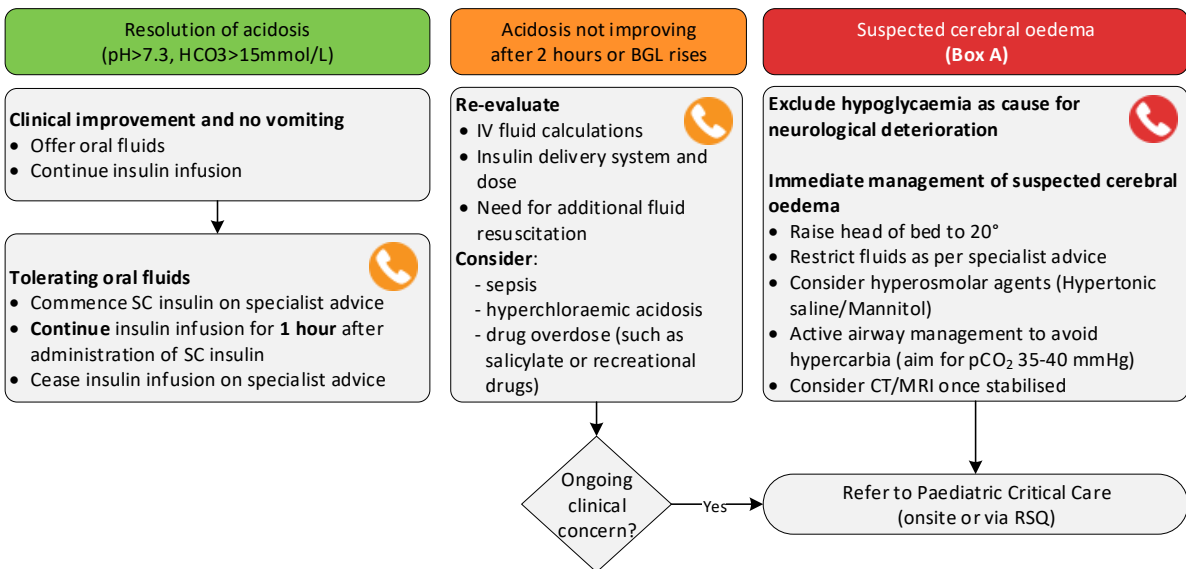
DKA – Ongoing management of DKA in children – Flowchart



Seek Paediatric Endocrine/Critical Care advice (onsite or via Retrieval Services Queensland (RSQ)) if electrolyte abnormalities are identified

Ongoing management of child with moderate to severe DKA		
BGL	Fluids IV	Insulin
Falls at rate of greater than 5 mmol/L/hr	Only add Glucose if BGL is less than or equal to 15 mmol/L (see below)	DO NOT reduce rate
Falls to less than or equal to 15 mmol/L	Add Glucose 5% to Sodium Chloride 0.9% + 40 mmol Potassium Chloride	DO NOT reduce rate
Issues maintaining 5-10 mmol/L despite running a solution containing Glucose 5%	Increase the Glucose concentration to Sodium Chloride 0.9% + Glucose 10% + 40 mmol Potassium Chloride/L	Only reduce the rate if BGL remains below the target range despite this glucose supplementation. Consider Insulin error (infusion may need to be made up again and recommenced).
Falls below 4 mmol/L	Administer a bolus of 2 mL/kg of Glucose 10% over 3 minutes. Ensure fluid running has Glucose 5% and consider Glucose 10%	Temporarily reduce by 50% and seek urgent specialist advice. DO NOT stop infusion.

Management of possible clinical scenarios



BOX A: When to suspect cerebral oedema	
Signs and symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> headache inappropriate slowing of heart rate recurrence of vomiting change in neurological status (restlessness, irritability, increased drowsiness, incontinence) specific neurological signs rising BP decreased oxygen saturation 	Biochemical red flags: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rapid fall in the calculated osmolarity with treatment (usually serum sodium rises as the glucose falls resulting in a relatively stable calculated osmolarity) development of hyponatraemia during therapy or rapidly falling sodium initial sodium in the hypernatraemic range

Consider seeking senior paediatric/endocrine advice as per local practice.

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Seek urgent paediatric critical care / endocrine advice (onsite or via Retrieval Services Queensland (RSQ) on 1300 799 127)

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For more information refer to [CHQ-GDL-60016 - Diabetic Ketoacidosis \(DKA\) – Emergency management in children](#)

