

Quality assessment of maintenance fluids in general surgery, Newham University Hospital, London, UK

Kristine Joyce Cadiz

Newham University Hospital, UK

During a day on-call, there is an average of 5-10 surgical patients seen in Newham University Hospital, Accident and Emergency Department. These patients will be either managed conservatively or will be treated surgically. For any of these patients, IV fluids are one of the prescriptions given to the patients. In these circumstances, a junior doctor with minimal, no training or just on the mere basis of one's stock knowledge from medical school, is now tasked to write a prescription of maintenance fluids for these said patients. This now poses a concern about being a safe doctor, as well as patient's safety. The reason for this lies in the intricacy in terms of prescribing fluids in a sense that, a careful consideration of patient's clinical status, fluid balance as well as electrolytes calls for attention prior to writing one's prescription. During the study there were 30 drug charts were assessed which showed: 76.66% received saline only, 6.66% received Hartmann's only, 3.33% received saline with KCl in combination with Hartmann's, 3.33% received saline with KCl and dextrose and 10% received saline and Hartmann's combination. After the study, a lecture series was done followed by re-audit was done assessed 30 drug charts which showed the following observations: 26.66% were given saline only, 20% received Hartmann's only, 10% received saline with KCl and dextrose combination, 26.66% dextrose and Hartmann's, 16.66% received saline and Hartmann's combination.

Biography

Kristine Joyce Cadiz is a Senior House Officer in Newham University Hospital. She has worked in GP setting in Toronto for 6 years after pursuing General Surgery. She is involved in teaching with medical students as well as amongst peers and she is keen in getting into core surgical training.