Reviewer’s report

Title: Fluid Overload in the ICU: Evaluation and Management

Version: 0 Date: 22 Sep 2015

Reviewer: Scott Sutherland

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting review article that nicely summarizes fluid resuscitation, fluid overload, and management strategies. While I enjoyed reading the manuscript, I do think it could be written more clearly; some editorial work will vastly improve its readability. I have some thoughts/comments below:

Introduction

1. The comment "intakes should be minimized when possible" is not necessarily true. I think overall fluid balance is more important than intake alone. For example, I would not want people to get the sense that withholding nutrition is appropriate just to "minimize intake." The balance is more important that the ins or outs in isolation. If the authors wanted to say something to the effect that patients should only get the fluids they need, that would be a reasonable statement.

Discussion

2. The statement "Prompt treatment can also prevent or limit subsequent AKI" needs referencing.

Fluid Overload and Outcomes

3. The discussion of reference 16 is confusing. I think that it supports the point the authors are trying to make but it is not entirely clear.

4. Similar issue with reference 5. I'm confused as to which data elements go with each group. I think the data is there to support the authors argument, they have just not presented it effectively.
Fluid overload recognition and assessment

5. This section is well put together and I think is very, very helpful. I have not seen all these data put together in this fashion before. This is useful information.

Management

6. In the section on loop diuretics I think it's worthwhile discussing the potential need for higher diuretic doses (especially lasix) when AKI is present. It might be worth discussing data for lasix vs. bumex in AKI.

7. The extracorporeal section could be longer. I would like to see a discussion of intermittent HD vs CRRT. I think it is worth mentioning any available data for newer, small ultrafiltration devices.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published
Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal