

ACUTE RENAL FAILURE

ARF is a clinical syndrome in which a **sudden deterioration in renal function** results in the inability of kidneys to maintain fluid and

electrolyte homeostasis. **Et.**

☒ **Prerenal** (or azotemia) are due to ↓ renal perfusion e.g. Dehydration, Hemorrhage, Sepsis, Hypoalbuminemia, HF.

☒ **Intrinsic (Renal)** due to damage of renal parenchyma e.g. various types of Glomerulonephritis, HUS, ATN, Cortical necrosis, Renal vein

thrombosis, Acute interstitial nephritis, Rhabdomyolysis, Tumor lysis syndrome, Tumor infiltration. ☒ **Postrenal** due to bilateral obstruction of urine outflow e.g. Posterior

urethral valves, Neurogenic bladder, Bilateral UPJ or UVJ obstruction,

Ureterocele, Urolithiasis, Tumor. **C.M.** It varies according to the etiology, but many causes of ARF (especially prerenal) are usually associated with **oliguria**, i.e. ↓ **UOP < 0.5 ml/kg/hr.**

Note: Normal UOP ≈ 1 ml/kg/hr. **Inv. RFT, GUE, Renal US, Biopsy, CBP, CXR.** ☒ Metabolic disturbances in ARF include: ↑ **serum urea, creatinine, uric**

acid, K, PO₄; but ↓ Ca, Na, & pH.

Note: In high-risk patient, very early detection of ARF can be done by measuring serum or urine Neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin or Cystin level. ☒ **GUE** may differentiate between **Prerenal & Intrinsic** ARF:- ☒ Cells usually Non RBC, WBC, Cellular casts ☒ Specific gravity > 1.020 < 1.010 ☒ Urine osmolality > 400 < 350 (mOsm/kg) ☒ Urine Na (mEq/L) < 20 > 40 ☒ Fractional excretion of Na < 1% > 1% **Rx.** According to the cause of ARF. In **prerenal failure**, patients should have chart of fluid input & output with determination of volume status by

CVP, then therapy should be done according to the following steps:-

1. Restoration of volume status; if there is no evidence of volume overload or HF, give **NS 20 ml/kg over 30 min & can be repeated**

until blood volume is restored; hypovolemic patients will void within 2 hr, but failure to do so points toward the presence of renal or postrenal

ARF. **2. Diuretics** should be used only after adequate blood volume. **Furosemide (2–4 mg/kg)** or **Bumetanide (0.1 mg/kg)** may be initially administered as a single IV dose. **Mannitol (0.5 g/kg)** is especially of benefit in Hb- or Mb-induced renal failure. **3.** If patient still has anuria, give **continuous diuretic infusion +/-**

dopamine infusion (2–3 µg/kg/min) to ↑ renal cortical blood flow. **4.** If still anuria, **stop diuretics & restrict fluids to 400 ml/m²/24 hr**

which is the insensible loss (≈ 1/3 of maintenance fluid) + UOP + extrarenal losses (if present). **5.** If still anuria with evidence of volume overload, **restrict fluids further.**

6. If still anuria, do **renal dialysis.**

Management of other sequelae of ARF:-

Hyperkalemia; begin Rx when **serum K > 6 mEq/L** by the following:- **1. Eliminate** exogenous sources of K.

2. Give resin e.g. sodium polystyrene sulfonate (Kayexalate) 1 g/kg, orally or by retention enema. If serum **K > 7 mEq/L**, it requires emergency Rx to prevent arrhythmia

by the following:- **3. Calcium gluconate 10%** 1 ml/kg IV over 3–5 min. **4. Sodium bicarbonate** 1–2 mEq/kg by infusion over 5–10 min. **5. Insulin (regular)** 0.1 U/kg + **glucose** 50% solution 1 ml/kg over 1 hr. **6. β- adrenergic agonists** can be used as adjunct Rx by nebulization. **7.**

Dialysis if there is persistent hyperkalemia. **Metabolic acidosis;** it should be treated when it **severe** (arterial pH <7.15 or serum bicarbonate <8 mEq/L) or contributes to

hyperkalemia. Sodium bicarbonate initially is given IV to raise pH up to 7.20 & the remainder is given orally because high IV dose may precipitate tetany due to ↓ ionized Ca.

☒ **Hypocalcemia**; it can be treated by lowering serum phosphorus level through **low phosphorus diet & oral phosphate binders** e.g. Ca carbonate. **Note:** *Calcium should not be given IV (except in cases of tetany) to prevent deposition of calcium phosphate salts into tissues.* ☒ **Hyponatremia**; it is mainly **dilutional**, so must be corrected by **fluid**

restriction. Hypertonic saline (3%) should be limited to those with symptomatic hyponatremia or when serum Na <120 mEq/L. ☒ **Hypertension**; it should initially treated by salt and water **restriction**,

then by **diuretics** or other antihypertensive drugs. ☒ **Neurologic symptoms** e.g. headache, seizures, lethargy, and confusion should be treated symptomatically with correction of the underlying cause which may include: hyponatremia, hypocalcemia, hypertension, cerebral hemorrhage, cerebral vasculitis, or uremia. ☒ **GIT bleeding**; it mainly due to stress ulcer or uremic platelet dysfunction, it can be prevented & treated by **H2 blockers**.

☒ **Anemia**; it usually due to hemodilution & ↓ RBC survival. If Hb < 7 g/dl,

give **packed RBC** or better by **fresh, washed RBC**. If there is risk of hypervolemia, give RBC in dose 10 ml/kg slowly over 4-6 hr. ☒ **Nutrition**; ↑ caloric intake, but ↓ **intake of sodium, potassium, and**

phosphorus as well as protein (to ↓ production of urea & creatinine). In critically ill patient, give TPN with essential amino acids. **Pg**. It is entirely depend on the **cause of ARF**. Long term sequelae of ARF include: chronic renal insufficiency, hypertension, renal tubular acidosis, and urinary concentrating defect.