

Original Date	07/2003	Revision Date	10/2007	Withdrawn Date	
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Purpose: To maintain potassium within a safe range (3.8-5.0) and prevent the complications of hypokalemia. **Once Potassium Level > 4.0 Serum K+ every other day.**

(Please complete check boxes for desired orders)

Serum Potassium Level 3.0-4.0 mEq/liter (oral replacement)

- For K+ of 3.8 to 4.0**
Potassium 20mEq tablet po x 1 dose; serum K+ in AM
- For K+ of 3.5-3.7**
Potassium 20mEq tablet po x 2 doses 2 hours apart; serum K+ in AM
- For K+ of 3.1-3.4**
Potassium 20mEq tablet po x3 doses, 2 hours apart; serum K+ in AM
- Use Potassium **10mEq Capsules instead** of Potassium 20mEq Tablets
- Use Klor-Con (**Potassium 20mEq packets**) Dissolve in at least 4oz cold water or juice and drink slowly

Serum Potassium Level < or = 3.0 mEq/liter (IV replacement)

Do NOT give as IV push bolus or give IM

(Note: If the patient is not allergic to Lidocaine and has a peripheral IV add 20 mg (2ml of 1%) Lidocaine HCl injection (**no epinephrine**), USP to the 100 ml bag (10 mEq) bag of potassium chloride injection.)

- For K+ of 2.8 to 3.0**
Give Potassium 10mEq/100ml over a minimum of 1 hour x2 doses
(Total of 20mEq KCl IV)
Draw serum K+ 60 minutes after end of infusion.
Repeat appropriate orders for K+ level.
- For K+ of 2.5 to 2.7**
Give Potassium 10mEq/100ml over a minimum of 1 hour x4 doses
(Total of 40mEq KCl IV)
Draw serum K+ 60 minutes after end of last infusion
Repeat appropriate orders for K+ level.
- For K+ < 2.5**
Give Potassium 10mEq/100ml over a minimum of 1 hour x6 doses
(Total of 60mEq KCl IV)
Draw serum K+ 60 minutes after end of last infusion.
Repeat appropriate orders for K+ level.

If there is no response to Potassium therapy in 24 hours, order a serum MG++ lab and notify the physician if level is less than 1.7mg/dL

A warm, moist towel wrapped around the arm taking the Infusion will increase venous flow and decrease pain. A large vein is much preferred to a hand vein for infusion.

Approved P&T 10/07

Physician Signature

____/____/____ :____
Date Time

PATIENT STICKER