

Trauma & Orthopaedic Protocol on Intravenous Potassium Replacement



- Normal potassium requirements: **1mmol/kg/day**.
- The agreed protocol in trauma and orthopaedics is to follow **AMU guidance on electrolyte replacement** available on Staffnet.
- Fastest safe rate of replacing IV potassium via **PVC: 10mmol per hour**. Therefore 40mmol Potassium over 4 hours is the fastest it can be replaced.
- Potassium replacement of **more than 10mmol per hour** needs to be via central line and with cardiac monitoring
- 40mmol potassium in 0.9% NaCl/5 % Dextrose is necessary for patients with low potassium who have **congestive heart failure** or are **fluid overloaded**. It is **available on** the following wards:
18, 19, AMU, 22, 42