Medication – DKA-Two Bag Method

Application: Inpatient

Affected Role: Physician, RN, Pharmacist

Revision Date: 4/21/22

Epic Version: May 2021

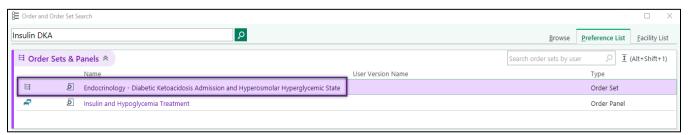
The Diabetic Ketoacidosis - Two Bag Method was developed to improve on conventional DKA management and will be the Trinity Health standard. The "two bags" of the two-bag method are:

- 1. Normal or half-normal saline with or without potassium
- 2. D10 with half-normal saline

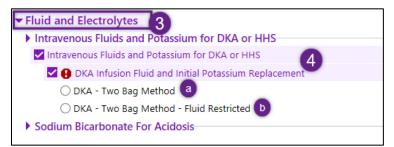
These are infused at a total combined rate of 250 mL per hour, and they will be available as pre-made solutions stored on the nursing units.

Try It Out - Ordering Two-Bag Method for DKA

- 1. Search for Insulin DKA
- 2. Select Endocrinology Diabetic Ketoacidosis Admission and Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State.



- With the order set open, scroll down to Fluid and Electrolytes (near the bottom) where you will encounter cascading selections indicated by the .
- 4. Under Intravenous Fluids and Potassium for DKA or HHS, DKA Infusion Fluid and Initial Potassium Replacement is pre-selected. This allows you the choice of one of the two cascading options:
 - a. Either the standard **DKA Two Bag Method** option
 - b. Or the **DKA Two Bag Method Fluid Restricted** option



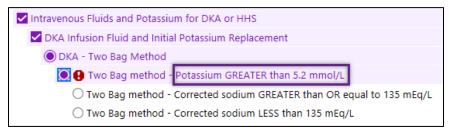
5. Now select fluids based on the patient's current potassium level.

○ Two Bag method - Potassium GREATER than 5.2 mmol/L	
Two Bag method - Potassium LESS than OR equal to 5.2 mmol/L	





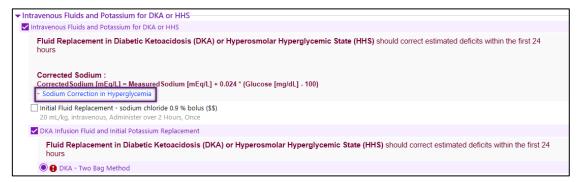
a. Orders for Potassium greater than 5.2 mmol/L will contain only fluid orders.



- b. Orders for **Potassium less than or equal to 5.2 mmol/L** will contain fluid orders with potassium in the non-dextrose bag and orders for the initial potassium replacement.
- 6. The Two Bag methods require that the fluid level be based on the **Corrected Sodium** level. Two infusion orders with administration instructions for nursing are opened for your review.



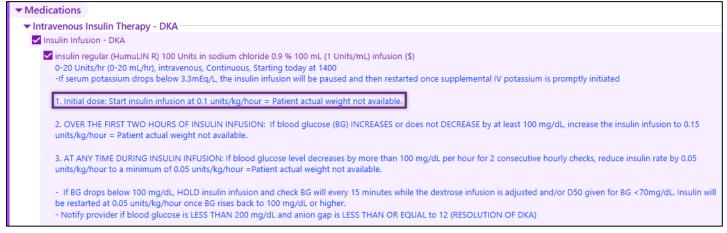
7. There is a link provided to assist in the calculation of the Corrected Sodium level







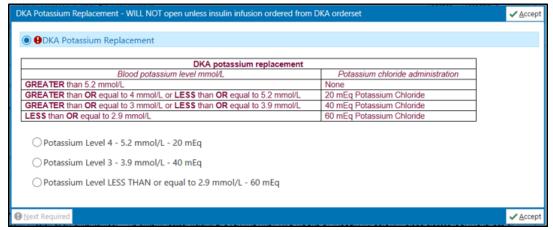
- 8. Scroll down and **Medications** is the next section of the Order Set.
 - Notice that insulin is administered based on patient weight and is not titrated unless the special circumstances shown are fulfilled.
 - b. Also, all Hypoglycemia Treatments are prechecked for patient safety.



Try It Out – DKA Infusion and Initial Potassium Replacement Orders – DKA Two Bag Method

- INITIAL one-time Potassium Replacement orders are built into the fluid selection during ordering of the twobag method.
- 2. If subsequent potassium replacement is required while in ED based on repeat lab levels, the potassium DKA panel is available to order for patients with an active DKA insulin infusion order:





The Potassium dose is based on potassium level, IV access (peripheral or central line), and ability to tolerate PO.

