

Adult – Understanding IV Fluids

Course Description: This comprehensive guide to understanding IV Fluids describes the indications for IV therapy, possible complications, and their causes. Osmolality and the differences between hypotonic, isotonic, and hypertonic solutions are explained. Volume status assessment and a quick-look fluid-replacement chart are provided. This course will boost the understanding of, and confidence with, IV fluids.

Course Objectives:

- Describe the indications for IV therapy and fluid replacement
- List the complications associated with IV therapy and possible causes
- Explain osmolality and relate its effects to the choice of IV fluids
- Differentiate between hypotonic, isotonic, and hypertonic IV solutions and list the indications for selecting each
- Compare and differentiate crystalloids, colloids, and blood products
- Present the signs and symptoms associated with volume overload and patient dehydration