Introduction of a 24hr IV Fluid Prescription Chart

1 Details of Serious Incident
- Medical patient admitted with:
  - Sepsis
  - Dehydration
  - AKI
- Prescribed 4500ml 0.6% sodium chloride + 4000ml of 5% dextrose = 8500ml IV fluid in <48hrs.
- Excess inappropriate IV fluid caused hyperchloremic metabolic acidosis and pulmonary edema.
- Patient died.

2 Actions
- Introduction of a 24hr fluid chart guiding correct type of fluid and rate to use (July 2014)
- Avoid IV fluid wherever possible — use oral/NG route
- Daily medical assessment of all patients on IV fluids
- Daily UEs
- Daily prescription of fluids

3 Outcomes
- No further serious incidents
- 50% reduction in hypokalaemia
- 10% reduction in IV fluid usage

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