

# Adult Medical Hyperkalemia

**Designation of Condition:** Any patient with a pulse for whom a diagnosis of hyperkalemia (serum  $K^+ > 5.2$ ) has been confirmed by sending facility (e.g., urgent care, clinic, SNF, etc.), or for whom hyperkalemia is highly suspected based upon history of known renal failure and, most commonly, missed dialysis. Consider hyperkalemia in traumatic events including crush injury/compartament syndrome/rhabdomyolysis.

<b>B</b>	<p>ABC's Vital signs including BGL Oxygen titrated to a saturation of <math>\geq 90\%</math> <a href="#">Capnography</a> Apply <a href="#">12-lead EKG</a></p>
<b>I</b>	Obtain IV/IO access
<b>P</b>	Apply cardiac monitor and obtain <a href="#">12-lead EKG</a>

## ECG evidence of of hyperkalemia

YES

NO

**Mild:** Peaked T waves, increases in PR interval and decrease in P wave amplitude

Give:

[Albuterol 15 mg nebulized](#)

**Moderate–Severe:** Peaked T waves with widening of QRS  $> 120\text{ms}$ , loss of p wave or possible “sine wave” pattern and/or bradycardia:

In addition to above interventions: administer

[Calcium Chloride 1gm](#) or  
[Calcium Gluconate 3gm](#) IV/IO

and consider:

[Sodium Bicarbonate 1mEq/kg](#) IV/IO  
(give Sodium Bicarb in a dedicated line)

**P**

Continue cardiac monitoring  
repeat serial EKGs q 5–10 mins

**P**

Repeat EKG

If no change, repeat albuterol, give additional dose of calcium, place pads in anticipation of cardiac arrest

**P**