

# IV FLUID CONSERVATION MEASURES

## Fluid management

- Consider fluid-restrictive strategies (under close monitoring and daily assessment)
- Optimize fluid management protocols (including regular change of bags, selection of the right volume, avoidance of spill and waste, extending the use of bags beyond 24h if possible/permitted)
- Promote oral hydration



## Line/catheter management

- Review the practice of 'Keep vein open (KVO)' (i.e. use of continuous fluid infusion to keep catheters patent). Assess the need for KVO orders and use the lowest flow rate. Consider catheter locks where appropriate.



## Medication management

- Administer medications as injections instead of infusions if possible.
- Dilute drugs in lowest possible volume (ask your pharmacist for advice)
- Use oral medications where appropriate



## Stock management

- Check whether expiry date of fluids has been extended (<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/updates-2024-hurricane-season/hurricane-helene-baxters-manufacturing-recovery-north-carolina>)



## General management

- To be as effective as possible, it is recommended to set up a 'fluid team'. The team can be responsible for implementation of IV fluid conservation measures, communication (posters, intranet messages etc), continuous review of the actual results (audits) and regular feedback to the clinical teams.



NB: in some countries, compounding (e.g. preparation by a specialized pharmacy) of IV fluid is possible. Check if this is possible in your country.