The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

May 2017

Safety Alert: Insulin errors in the ED



Do you know the insulin prescriptions for: Hyperkalemia? Sliding Scale or fixed rate? NRLS data proves we get it wrong... <u>THEY ARE DIFFERENT</u>

HYPERKALEMIA INFUSION			INSULIN INFUSION		
	Added	Checked		Added	Checked
50 MLS 50% Dextrose	by	by	50 Units Actrapid Insulin	by	by
10 Units Actrapid Insulin Infuse over 30 minutes			50 mls sodium chloride 0.9%		
Patient Name	Date	Time	Patient Name	Date	Time
Hospital No			Hospital No		

Know it, check it, safety net it

For other RCEM issued Safety Alerts and Safety Newsflashes see: www.rcem.ac.uk/safetyalerts