FLUID REQUIREMENTS FOR A FORMULA FED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, PRETERM AND SMALL FOR GESTATIONAL AGE BABY

Keywords: Preterm neonate fluid requirements, formula feed calculations, LBW, SGA, preterm neonate feeding

Days 1 and 2: 80 - 100mL per kilogram (birth weight) per day
Days 3-7: 100-150mL per kilogram (birth weight) per day
Thereafter: 150-200mL per kilogram (birth weight) per day

SMALL INFANTS:

Calculation of fluid to be offered in 24 hours

\[
\frac{\text{Baby's Weight} \times \text{Amount per kg per day}}{1000} \times 1
\]

e.g. 1st day 100mL per kg of body weight per day.

Baby weighs 2000g

\[
\frac{2000 \times 100}{1000} = 25\text{mL every 3 hours}
\]

or 35mL every 4 hours

In the case of infants requiring fortified calorie feeding, a paediatrician must be consulted.

REFERENCES /STANDARDS

National Standards – 1 Clinical Care is Guided by Current Best Practice
Legislation – Nil

Related Policies / Guidelines – KEMH Newborn Feeding
Other related documents – NCCU Nutrition: Enteral and Parenteral

RESPONSIBILITY

Policy Sponsor: Nursing and Midwifery Director OGCCU
Initial Endorsement: November 2001
Last Reviewed: March 2016
Last Amended: March 2019
Review date: March 2019

Do not keep printed versions of guidelines as currency of information cannot be guaranteed. Access the current version from the WNHS website.

© Department of Health Western Australia 2016