

References :

- 1- the_washington_manual_of_critical_care [CRITICAL CARE SOURCES]
- 2- the icu book paul marino 2014 (4th ed.)
- 3- Oxford Handook of Nephrology and Hypertension 2nd Ed
- 4- Applied Therapeutics 2013 - The Clinical Use Of Drugs
- 5- Dipiro Pharmacotherapy Handbook 9th Edition
- 6- Fluids,_Electrolytes,_and_Nutrition_Workbook

Hypophosphatemia

Serum phosphate < 2.8 mg/dl ¹

Reference Range: 2.5–4.5 mg/dL or 0.80–1.45 mmol/L ⁴

Check 24 hrs urine PO₄ excretion and/or FE PO₄ ¹

FE PO₄ >5% OR Urine PO₄ >100mg/d ¹

Renal losses

Check PTH, Calcidiol and Calcium

↓ Calcidiol + ↓

Vitamin D
Deficiency¹

↑ Ca⁺⁺ + ↑ PTH¹

Primary
Hyperparathyroidism¹

Causes :

- Chronic Alcoholism¹
- Osmotic Diuresis¹
- Volume Expansion¹
- Corticosteroid or theophylline use¹

FE PO₄ <5% OR Urine PO₄

Causes :

1- GI Losses : ¹

*Phosphate Binders (Sucralfate², CaCO₃ ³)

*Malnutrition/Diarrhea → Prevent hypophosphatemia by supplementing IV fluid with 10–30 mmol/L IV phosphorus ⁶

2- Transcellular shifts : ¹

*Insulin Administration - *Post parathyroidectomy

*Refeeding syndrome → prevent by giving nutrition gradually for the first few days to avoid ↓PO₄. ²

*Intensive continuous dialysis¹ (Patients on continuous venous hemodialysis (CVVHD) → check PO₄ levels every 12 to 24 hours → if ↓PO₄ → dialysate flow rate may need to be reduced¹

Treatment

Symptomatic

OR intolerant to PO ¹ **OR** patient suffers from hypophosphatemia of any degree & also have cardiac dysfunction, respiratory failure, muscle weakness, or impaired tissue oxygenation ²

Begin IV replacement

PO₄ Replacement IV by Body Weight†

Serum PO ₄ (mg/dL)	40–60 kg	61–80 kg	81–120 kg	
<1	30 mmol	40 mmol	50 mmol	Over 6 to 8 hrs
1–1.7	20 mmol	30 mmol	40 mmol	Over 6 to 8 hrs
1.8–2.5	10 mmol	15 mmol	20 mmol	Over 8 to 12 hrs

- Administer IV doses over 6 hr, if hypotension results, suspect ↓ Ca⁺⁺ & discontinue infusion¹

- Use K⁺ phosphate if normal renal function or [K⁺] <4 mEq/L¹

- Use Na⁺ phosphate if renal function is impaired or [K⁺] >4 mEq/L. ¹

- In case of renal insufficiency, IV PO₄ should be given at lower doses (33% of usual doses in severe renal failure) ¹

- Can switch to oral therapy when the PO₄ is > 1.5 mg/dl but it may result in diarrhea & nausea. ¹

Asymptomatic

0.5–1 g elemental
phosphorus PO bid-tid;
this should correct most
deficits by 1 week¹