

# POTASSIUM

## Electrolyte Replacement Protocol

### Criteria for Usage:

- **Replacement to be oral if patient is not NPO and able to tolerate oral diet**
- **Protocol must be renewed every 72 hours by Physician**
- **Electrolyte replacement must be ordered within 4 hours of lab results**
- Notify physician if a patient is in the lowest bracket of replacement therapy
- Weight is greater than 50 kg
- Serum creatinine must be less than 2 mg/dL
- Estimated creatinine clearance must be greater than 30 mL/minute
- Patient does not have an active dialysis order
- DKA or HHS Insulin Advisor is not active
- Patient with active digoxin order requires Cardiac/Telemetry monitoring due to the risk of heart block

### Potassium Chloride – Oral & IV

Potassium Level (mg/dL)	Route	Replacement
less than 2.5, notify MD	Peripheral	potassium chloride - 10 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 6 Doses (Total Dose = 60 mEq potassium)
	Central	potassium chloride - 20 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 3 Doses (Total Dose = 60 mEq potassium)
2.5 – 2.9	Oral	potassium chloride - 40 mEq, Tab-ER/Capsule-ER/Package, Oral, q3H Interval, 2 Doses (Total Dose = 80 mEq potassium)
	Peripheral	potassium chloride - 10 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 6 Doses (Total Dose = 60 mEq potassium)
	Central	potassium chloride - 20 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 3 Doses (Total Dose = 60 mEq potassium)
3.0 – 3.4	Oral	potassium chloride - 30 mEq, Tab-ER/Capsule-ER/Package, Oral, q3H Interval, 2 Doses (Total Dose = 60 mEq potassium)
	Peripheral	potassium chloride - 10 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 4 Doses (Total Dose = 40 mEq potassium)
	Central	potassium chloride - 20 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 2 Doses (Total Dose = 40 mEq potassium)
3.5 – 3.9	Oral	potassium chloride - 40 mEq, Tab-ER/Capsule-ER/Package, Oral, Once (Total Dose = 40 mEq potassium)
	Peripheral	potassium chloride - 10 mEq, IV Piggyback, q1H Interval, 2 Doses (Total Dose = 20 mEq potassium)
	Central	potassium chloride - 20 mEq, IV Piggyback, Once, Administer over 1 hour (Total Dose = 20 mEq potassium)