Title: Pentastarch for Hypovolemic Shock: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines for Use

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Research question:

1. What is the clinical safety of an intravenous infusion of pentastarch compared with intravenous infusions of crystalloids, blood products or albumin for hypovolemic shock?

2. What are the guidelines for use of pentastarch for hypovolemic shock?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 2, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2000 and May 2008, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

Results:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, observational studies and evidence-based guidelines.

Two systematic reviews, one randomized controlled trial, and four observational studies were identified from the literature search results. No relevant health technology assessments or evidence-based guidelines were identified. Additional literature of interest may be found in the Appendix.
Health technology assessments  
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations  
No literature identified

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Appendix – Further information:

Review articles

   Note: free full text available through link


Additional references

   Note: see 8.9 Pentaspan, page 102