

Kidz First: **Diabetic Ketoacidosis Management**

Please refer to the following Starship Guidelines and obtain advice from Paediatric Endocrinologist 021974804:

[Diabetic Ketoacidosis](#)

[Diabetes Mellitus Type 1 and surgery](#)

The following are local variations in the management of children with Diabetes and Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) who present to Kidz First Emergency care. GP referrals should be directed to present to CED, Starship Hospital.

Disposition

- The Regional Policy is that ALL children with Type I Diabetes (including DKA) who require admission are transferred to Starship Hospital, following discussion with the Endocrinologist on call. **These children cannot currently be managed on the Kidz First inpatient wards.**
- Liaise with MMH ICU and PICU for very unwell children and all those who have had ICU review in Kidz First ED.
- Surgery at Middlemore should only be considered if:
 - The child is admitted to Intensive Care.
 - The surgery is deemed to be life or time critical.
- If they go to theatre here for the above reasons, they will require post-operative transfer to SSH (unless on Intensive care).

Key treatment features for DKA:

- Always use 0.9% NaCl as initial fluid.
- Never bolus insulin.
- Insulin infusion to start at 1 hour after initial fluids (depending on clinical severity).
- A majority of patients do not need fluid boluses.
- Consult the SSH Endocrinologist early 021-974-804.

Intensive Care Consultation

Consult with MMH ICU and PICU to facilitate transfer if:

- pH<7.1.
- Altered level of consciousness.
- Severe hyperosmolar dehydration.

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