

Preface

Hyponatremia is a common medical condition that crosses all disciplines. This volume is intended to appeal to a wide cross section of the medical community. The emphasis is on the management of hyponatremia from diagnosis to treatment. Basic studies are included insofar as they enhance understanding of the clinical management. I have been fortunate to enlist the help of many of the world's experts on the topic.

By design, each chapter was written so it may be read in isolation. As such, there is some inevitable overlap. The first chapter summarizes the magnitude of the problem of hyponatremia in various clinical settings with some attention paid to etiologies and outcomes. Chapter 2 provides a comprehensive approach to the patient with hyponatremia. The concept of electrolyte-free water, relevant to both the pathophysiology and treatment, is next presented to expound on this concept in more depth than provided in other chapters. The controversial issue of renal/cerebral salt wasting is presented in Chap. 4. After these introductory chapters, the major consequences of hyponatremia, namely central nervous system manifestations, are discussed. This includes the direct effects of hyponatremia, the adaptations to hyponatremia, and the potential adverse effects of treatment, namely osmotic demyelination. Next follow chapters on hyponatremia in various settings including medications, heart failure, cirrhosis, psychosis, and exercise. The latter topic has now entered the lay public's awareness. Finally, there are two chapters on treatment. Chapter 11 specifically discusses the use of the new ADH analogs, the vaptans. At this time, the indications for use of vaptans are still fluid. The final chapter provides a comprehensive approach to treatment which provides a guide through this hazardous minefield.

New Orleans, LA, USA

Eric E. Simon, MD



<http://www.springer.com/978-1-4614-6644-4>

Hyponatremia

Evaluation and Treatment

Simon, E.E. (Ed.)

2013, XIII, 256 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-4614-6644-4