University *of* Limerick BSc Sport and Exercise Sciences



Nutrition, Exercise Metabolism and Sports Performance Fluid and Electrolyte Balance

Module SS4205 Year 3 Part II: Integrative Exercise Metabolism

Endurance Metabolism

(oxidative metabolism)

Glycolysis Gluconeogenesis Glycogen Metabolism Fatty Acid Metabolism Oxidative Phosphorylation Amino Acid Metabolism Carbohydrate and protein supplements

High Intensity Metabolism

(non-oxidative metabolism)

Anaerobic glycolysis Lactic acid metabolism Skeletal muscle buffering Role of β-alanine supplements High energy phosphate metabolism

Role of creatine supplements

Fluid Balance

Principles of Fluid Balance and Exercise.

- Dehydration by -2% of body mass is common at the end of 1.5 h of exercise with sweat rates (~1.0 l/h);
- Exercise performance is reduced when an individual is dehydrated by >2% of body mass (~ 1.5 litres);
- Different strategies are required to maintain fluid balance *during* exercise to those for restoration of fluid balance *after* exercise.

Fluid Balance

2 components

1. Fluid (water)

2. Sodium (salt)

Body Fluid and Sodium



Body Fluid Composition

mEq/ℓ	Na⁺	Cl-	K⁺	Mg++	mOsm/ℓ
Sweat	40-60	30-50	4-5	1.5-5	80-185
Plasma	140	101	4	1.5	302
Muscle	9	6	162	31	302

Note: 50 mEq/ ℓ Na⁺ = 50 mmol/ ℓ Na⁺ ~ 3g/ ℓ salt (NaCl)

g/ł	Sodium	Potassium	
as Na/KCI	Na+	K+	mOsm/ℓ
Sweat	3.0	0.4	80-185
Plasma	9.0	0.4	300
Muscle	0.5	12.2	300

Fluid Loss During Exercise

Monitor fluid **loss** by change in body mass

During exercise;

> Sweat rates can exceed 1.0 ℓ/h , especially in hot, humid environments;

➤ 'Typical' fluid loss of 1.5ℓ during 90-120min exercise results in ~ 2% loss of body mass (BM) depending on intensity of exercise, temperature and humidity;

> > 2% loss of BM through dehydration results in impaired exercise performance/capacity ('typical').

Sodium Loss During Exercise

Daily sodium intake is < 6g SALT (NaCI)per day

During exercise sodium is lost in sweat but;

➤ The concentration of sodium in sweat is less than in plasma. Sweat is therefore HYPOtonic vs. plasma.

> .: 2l sweat loss during exercise excretes 'normal' daily sodium intake!

g/ℓ	Sodium	Potassium	
as SALT	Na+	K+	mOsm/ℓ
Sweat	3.0	0.4	80-185
Plasma	9.0	0.4	300
Muscle	0.5	12.2	300

Sweat Loss and Plasma Sodium

75kg



> -2% ΔBM ~ 1.5ℓ TBW; -8% (240 ml) ΔPV;

: Sweat loss makes plasma **HYPER**tonic!

Intake of Fluid and Sodium

Recommended daily fluid intake is ~ 2-2.5? per day

> The rate of fluid intake is limited by the rate of emptying from the stomach - **gastric emptying**;

 \succ 'Typical' maximal rate of gastric emptying is 1 ℓ /h;

Gastric emptying is facilitated by low concentration of sodium and carbohydrate but retarded by high concentration (> 8g/100ml; 8%) carbohydrate drinks that are <u>HYPER</u>tonic and draw water into the stomach

... Use <u>HYPO</u>tonic drinks <u>during</u> exercise

<u>HYPO = < 300mOsm/ℓ</u>

Fluid and Sodium for hydration Recommended daily sodium intake is < 6g SALT per day The 'typical' hydration drink contains 50 mg/100ml of Na⁺ 50 mg/100ml Na⁺ = 22 mmol/l Na⁺ = 1.27 g/l of salt (NaCI)

1.27g of table salt ~ half a level teaspoon

plus 1g/100ml (1%) carbohydrate; energy 24kJ, 5.8 kcal

1% carbohydrate = 10 g/2 ~ 1 level tablespoon of sugar

Which combined is **HYPO**tonic @ **100-120mOsm/***ℓ*

Pre-exercise hydration utilises a HYPO tonic drink
➤ ~ 500-1000ml 1h prior to competition

Fluid Balance During Exercise:

- When possible, **HYPO**tonic fluid should be ingested at rates that most closely match sweating rate, ~250ml (1 cup) every 15-20 minimum up to maximum 800 to1000mℓ per hour;
- When not possible or practical, <u>some</u> athletes can tolerate body water losses up to -2% of body mass without significant risk to performance or physical well-being in a temperate environment (e.g., 21-22 °C);
- However when exercising in a hot / humid environment (i.e., > 30°C), dehydration by 2% BM impairs power production and predisposes individuals to heat stress.

Good Sense and Good Practice

Noakes and Martin [2002] recently advises;

"runners should aim to drink as needed between 400-800 ml per hour, with the higher rates for the faster, heavier runners competing in warm environmental conditions and the lower rates for the slower runners/walkers competing marathon races in cooler environmental conditions".

This is a reasonable starting point from which the **individual sportsperson should begin the trial and error process.**



-2% ΔBM ~ 1.5ℓ TBW; -8% (240 ml) ΔPV;
 FLUID FOLLOWS SODIUM to restore PV loss quickly and then slowly to restore ECW and ICW loss.

Rehydration Post-Exercise

- If, dehydrated by 1.5 kg (-2 % body mass) then;
 - Ioss of fluid as sweat = 1500ml
 - Ioss of sodium in sweat = 4g (~70 mmol)

To restore fluid and sodium loss

- Fluid volume = 1.5 times body mass loss (~2.25 l)
- How much SALT (sodium) should a <u>re</u>hydration drink contain?

1.5 g/ { (25 mmol/l Na⁺)

3.0 g/ ł (50 mmol/l Na+)

6.0 g/ ł (100 mmol/l Na⁺)

Post-Exercise <u>Re</u>hydration



Use HYPERtonic drinks for <u>rehydration;</u>
 Verify <u>rehydration</u> by BM @ 6h post-exercise.

Summary statements regarding fluid and electrolyte needs before and after exercise (I.O.C. 2004)

What we know and recommend with reasonable certainty – clear consensus FOR:

- Post-exercise rehydration can only be achieved if a fluid volume greater than the sweat volume lost is consumed.
- Replacement of the sodium lost in sweat is a pre-requisite for retention of drinks consumed after exercise.

What common practices and theories that we know to be unsound – clear consensus **AGAINST**:

• Plain water is not an effective post-exercise rehydration drink UNLESS sodium is ingested at the same time via food.

The controversial issues in which recommendations need very specific qualifiers:

- Plain water can be an effective rehydration drink IF a source of sodium is available at the same time via food.
- Pre-exercise hyperhydration with glycerol and sodium supplementation appear to give no consistent benefits over and above starting exercise in a euhydrated situation.

Recommended Hydration Assessment

Assessment Technique	Athlete Practicality	Acceptable Euhydration Cut-Off	
Change in Total Body Water (L)	Low	< 2%	
Plasma Osmolality (mOsm)	Medium	< 290	
Urine Specific Gravity (g/ml)	High	< 1.020	
Urine Osmolality (mOsm)	High	< 700	
Urine Color (#)	High	< 4	
Change in Body Mass (kg)	High	< 1%	

Fluid balance should be considered **adequate** when the combination of <u>any two</u> assessment outcomes is consistent with **euhydration**.

http://www.gssiweb.org/Article/sse-97-hydration-assessment-of-athletes

References on fluid balance:

Shirreffs, Susan M., and Ronald J. Maughan.

Volume repletion after exercise-induced volume depletion in humans: replacement of water and sodium losses. *Am. J. Physiol.* 274 (*Renal Physiol.* 43): F868–F875, 1998. PDF Copy in Sulis Folder

Ronald J. Maughan, Susan M. Shirreffs & John B. Leiper

Errors in the estimation of hydration status from changes in body mass, Journal of Sports Sciences 2007, 25; 797-804 PDF Copy in Sulis Folder http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02640410600875143

Gatorade Research Labs Article 97 <u>http://www.gssiweb.com/Article_Detail.aspx?articl</u> <u>eid=706&level=2&topic=1</u>

Electrolyte Containing Sports Drinks

	Na⁺	Na ⁺	NaCl
	mg/100mł	mmol/ł	g/ł
	50	21.7	1.26
FM Na+ =	23		
FM CI- =	35	1 Mol =	1 mmol =
FM NaCI =	58	58g/ł	58mg/ł

The average sports drink contains **50 mg/100ml of Na**⁺ 50 mg/100ml Na⁺ = 22 mmol/l Na⁺ = **1.27 g/l of salt (NaCI)**

1.27g of table salt ~ half a level teaspoon