



# Metabolic complications

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The Lennard-Jones  
Intestinal Failure Unit



# Overview

- Gallstones
- Renal stones
- PN associated metabolic bone disease
- D-lactic acidosis
- Diabetes

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# Gallstones - prevalence

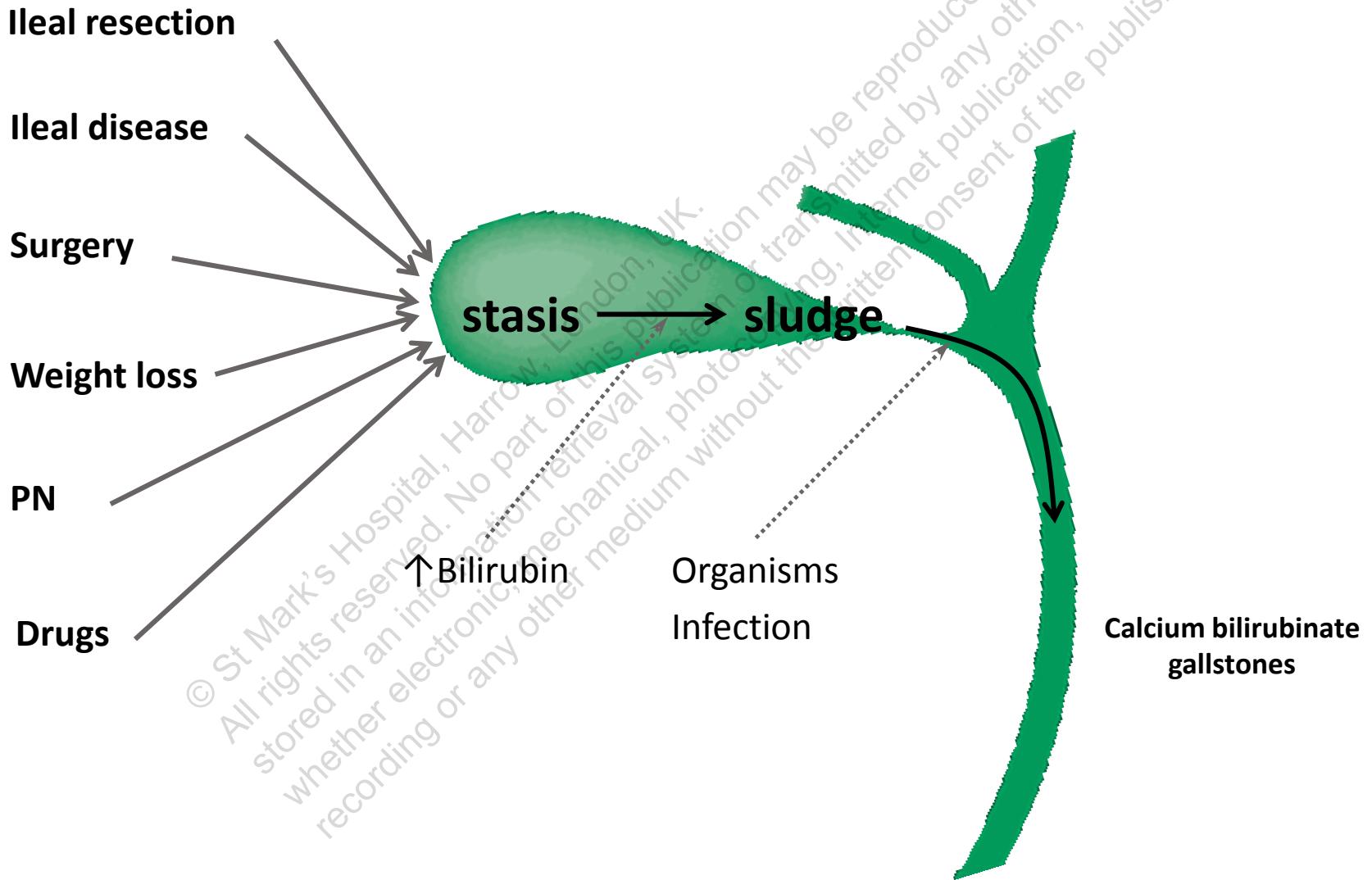
## **Cholesterol**

## **Intermediate**

## **Pigment**

- 44% patients with jejuno-colonic anastomosis
- 43% patients with jejunostomy
- 63% men vs 32% women ( $p<0.05$ )
- Presence of the colon is not protective

# Gallstones - causes



# Prevention & management

## Prevention

### Remove gallbladder

- Prophylactic cholecystectomy

### Promote gallbladder emptying

- Oral/enteral nutrition
- Cholecystokinin (stimulates emptying)
- Avoid octreotide

### Change bile composition

- Ursodeoxycholic acid
- Antibiotics (bacteria required for pigment stones)

## Management

### Cholecystectomy

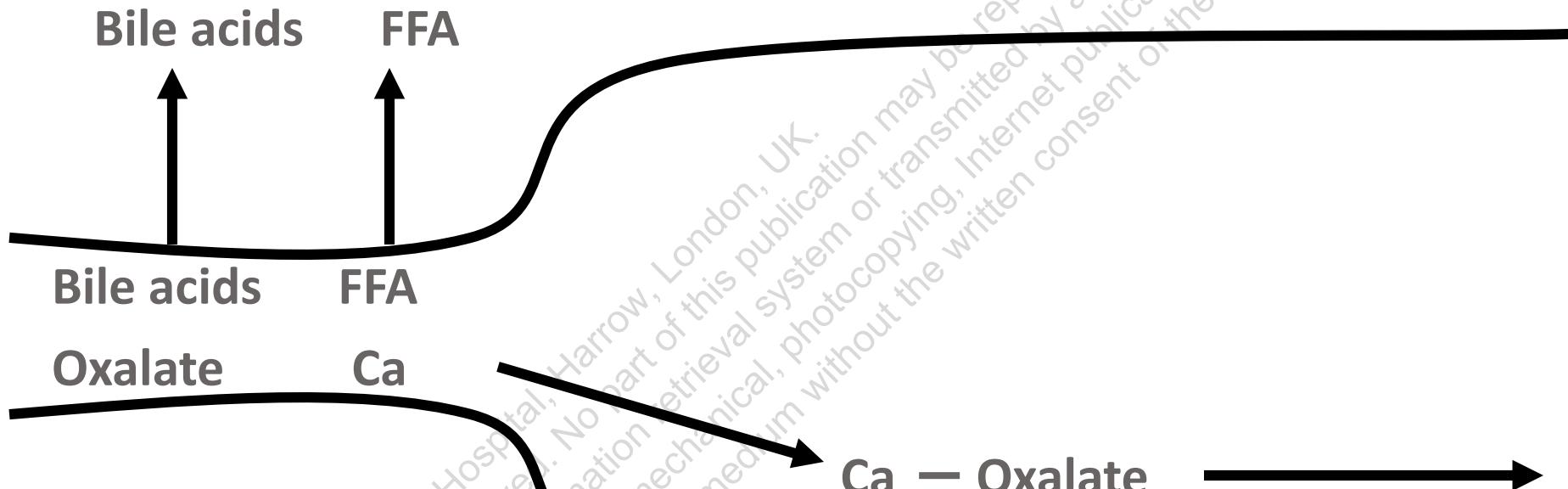
- Symptomatic gallstones
- Stones in the CBD
- Cholecystitis

# Renal stones

25% jejunocolonic patients  
develop symptomatic renal  
stones

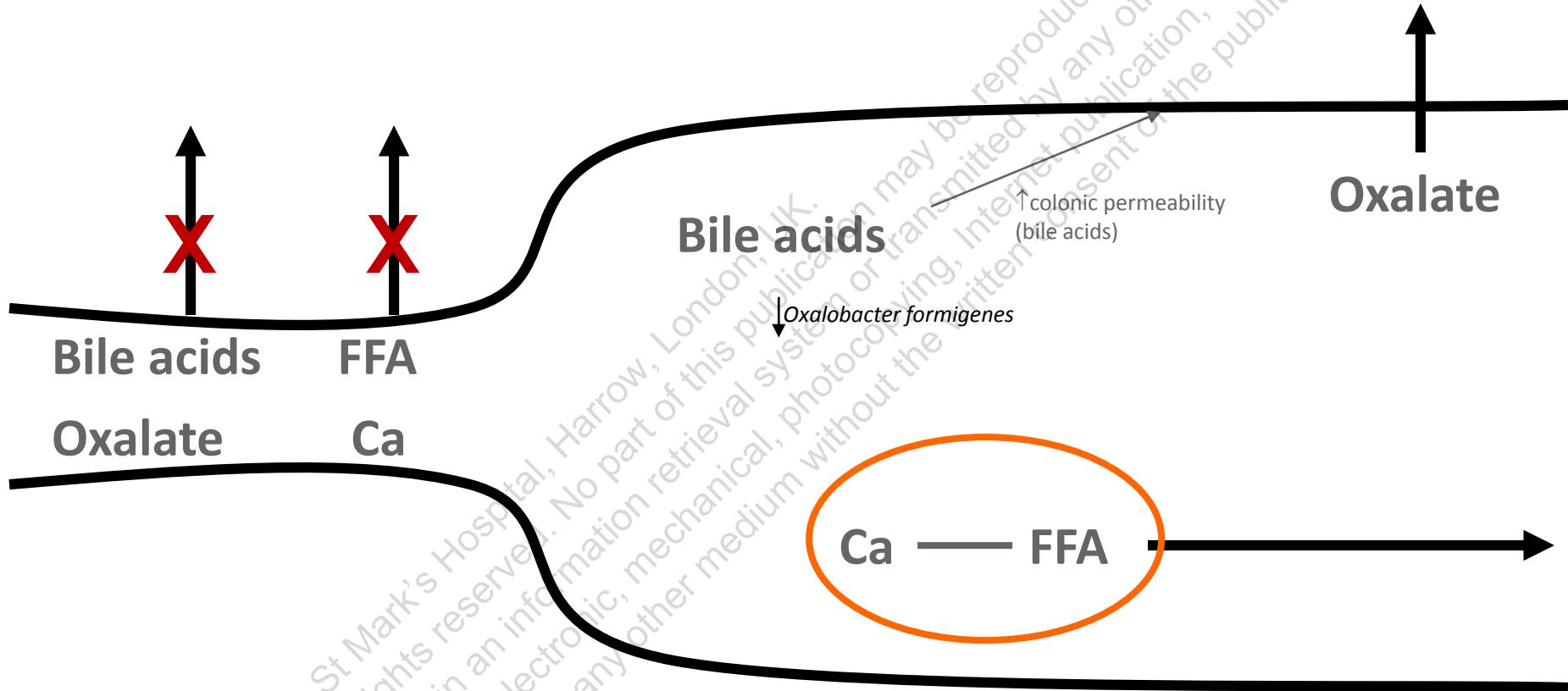
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# Normal absorption



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# Jejuno-colic anastomosis



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# Renal Stones: Prevention

- Avoid high oxalate
  - Spinach, beetroot, rhubarb, peanuts, branflakes, nuts, soya, chocolate, parsley & tea
- Fat in moderation
- Encourage calcium intake
- Avoid chronic dehydration



# PN associated metabolic bone disease

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# Incidence

- Incidence unknown but estimated between 67-75%  
Many patients are asymptomatic
- Common symptoms are:
  - Bone pain - mainly in the lower joints
  - Back pain
  - Fractures particularly vertebral
  - Loss of height

# Causes

- Likely multi-factorial
- General and lifestyle factors - age, sex, menopause, alcohol and smoking, reduced sunlight, immobility
- Other drugs - corticosteroids & heparin
- Underlying disease
  - ▣ Malabsorption of Ca, Mg & Vitamins D & K
  - ▣ Metabolic acidosis due to bacterial overgrowth
  - ▣ Chronic malnutrition
  - ▣ Chronic inflammation

# HPN related factors

- Aluminium toxicity
  - High concentrations in 1980s.
- Deficiency or toxicity of micronutrients
- Increased calcium excretion induced by various causes
  - High concentrations of amino acids, glucose, sodium, calcium
  - Reversed by high concentrations of phosphate

# ESPEN-HAN working group

No. centres / patients	9 / 165
Age (years)	$52 \pm 16$ (19-85)
M:F	76:89
BMI ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$ )	$21.8 \pm 3.4$ (13-36)
Duration of HPN (m)	$61 \pm 53$ (6-295)
<b>Osteopaenia</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Osteoporosis</b>	<b>41%</b>

# ESPEN-HAN follow-up study

65 patients

Repeat DEXA after  $18 \pm 6$  months

Mean Z score

- ↑ lumbar spine
- unchanged at femoral neck

Multiple regression

- Female sex
- Age starting HPN

HPN not associated with reduced bone density  
Low bone density relates to general risk factors

# Metabolic bone disease & HPN

## Prevention & treatment

- NICE, 2006
  - ▣ Recommends baseline DEXA scan & every 2 years
- Lifestyle
  - ▣ Regular exercise, stop smoking
  - ▣ Sunlight exposure, limit alcohol
  - ▣ Healthy BMI
- Amending the HPN formula
  - ▣ Review nitrogen, Vit D, PO<sub>4</sub>, Ca & Mg
- Monitor vitamin D, phosphate, Ca, Mg & PTH
- Wean steroids
- Bisphosphates (pamidronate & zolendronate)

# D-lactic acidosis

- Fermentation of carbohydrate in the colon
- Jejuno-colon patients
- Ataxia, slurred speech, altered affect
- Suspect if →

Acidosis  
Large anion gap  
Normal blood L-lactate

## Treatment to reduce colonic lactate

Diet: ↓ mono & oligo-saccharides  
↑ polysaccharides  
Oral neomycin or vancomycin

# Essential fatty acid deficiency

- Patients at risk if on PN with limited oral intake
- Can develop signs and symptoms within 3 weeks
- Dermatitis, steatosis, haematological disturbances, reduced immune function
- Observational studies
  - ▣ 56 HPN patients, assessed EFA status
  - ▣ At risk if <200cm and no IV lipid
  - ▣ 500ml 20% Intralipid x1/week was adequate

Jeppesen et al (1998) Am J Clin Nutr, 68:128

- ▣ Oral & cutaneous sunflower & safflower oil
- ▣ Can treat EFAD if on lipid free PN

Richardson & Sgoutas (1975) Am J Clin Nutr, 28:258  
Miller et al (1987) Am J Clin Nutr, 46:419

# Metabolic complications

Nutrient	Effect of deficiency
Glucose	Hypoglycaemia, weight loss
Essential fatty acids	Hair loss, dermatitis, delayed wound healing
Nitrogen/protein	Poor wound healing and lack of muscle mass/growth
Electrolytes	Reduced serum concentrations, refeeding
Zinc	Dermatitis, diarrhoea, rash, ↓ immunity
Selenium	Skeletal & cardiomyopathy
Copper	Anaemia, neutropenia, bleeding, arrhythmia
Chromium	Glucose intolerance, neuropathy
Water soluble vitamins	Cardiomyopathy, neuropathy, mouth lesions, anaemia, pellagra, Wernicke-Korsakoff encephalopathy
Vitamin A	Night blindness
Vitamin D	Osteomalacia

# Metabolic complications

Nutrient	Effect of excess
Glucose	Hyperglycaemia, hyperosmolar dehydration, ↑ CO <sub>2</sub> production, refeeding syndrome, steatosis
Fat	Hyperlipidaemia, cholestasis
Nitrogen	Uremia
Electrolytes	Elevated serum concentrations
Zinc	Nausea/vomiting, Cu & Fe deficiency
Selenium	Nail dystrophy and GI disturbances
Copper	Associated with cholestasis
Manganese	Associated with cholestasis, neurological impairment
Vitamin A	Liver disease, skin rash
Vitamin D	Hypercalcaemia

# (T1) Diabetes management in PN

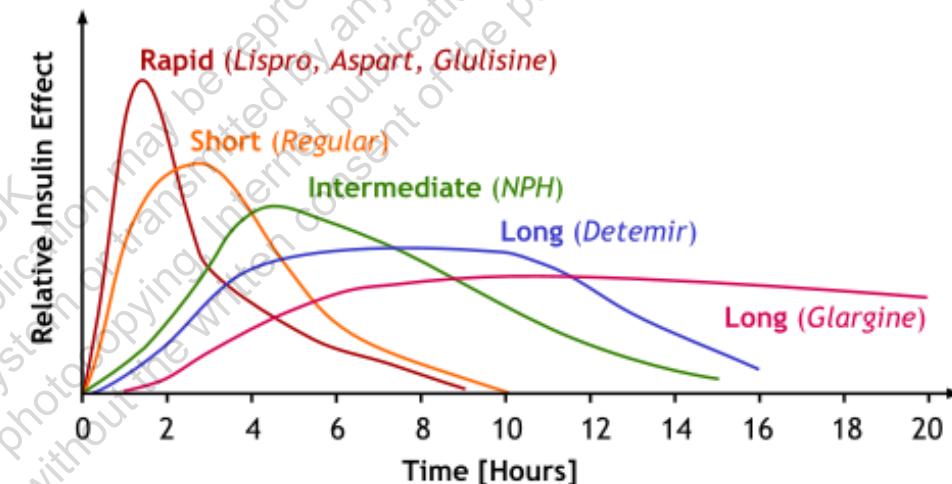
- Difficult – get DM team in early
- Night feed and oral intake during day
  - ▣ Easier to dose if same thing done each day
  - ▣ Know the g CHO in PN (1:10-20)
- No national guidelines exist
  - ▣ JBDS guidelines for enteral feeding in stroke principles apply
- 4 hourly blood sugar monitoring with ketone testing above 15mmol/L
- Review doses after 48 hours, or after hypo

# Diabetes insulin regimes

- **ALWAYS KEEP USUAL BACKGROUND INSULIN**
- VRII until at target feed volume (and rate)
  - ▣ Gives idea of insulin requirement
- Get off iv insulin ASAP
- Always give insulin to cover PN at the start of feed

# Diabetes insulin regimes starting point

- Calculate the total insulin dose required from VRII
- If feed around 24 hours
  - ▣ isophane insulin (Insulatard, Humulin I) 12 hour apart
  - ▣ watch longer acting analogue insulins (Lantus, Levemir) flat profile, half life too long
- If feed 16-20 hours
  - ▣ use 30% mix insulin (Mixtard 30, Humulin M3) with isophane mid way (Insulatard, Humulin I)
- If feed under 10 hours
  - ▣ use 30% mixed insulin at the start of feed



Type of action	Chemical name	Brand name
Rapid	Insulin lispro	Humalog
	Insulin aspart	NovoRapid
	Insulin Glulisine	Apidra
Short	Soluble insulin	Actrapid
		Humulin S
		Insuman Rapid
Intermediate	Isophane insulin suspension/NPH	Humulin I and Insulatard
	Insulin zinc suspension	Hypurine Bovine
Long	Insulin glargine	Lantus
	Insulin detemir	Levemir
	Insulin degludec	Tresiba

# Hypoglycaemia and PN in non DM

## Hypoglycaemia

- Can happen at the start or end of feed
- More common in chronically low BMI
- Tremulous after feed stops, improves with food
- Slower rate at first/ last 2 hours feed

## Nesidioblastosis

- RARE
- Hypos at random times during the day/night on and off PN/feed
- Hyperinsulinaemia causing hypo-not insulinoma
- Treat with pancreatic reduction surgery (drastic) or diazoxide

# Summary

<b>Gallstones</b>	Pigment stones 44% patients with jejunocolonic anastomosis 43% patients with jejunostomy
<b>Renal stones</b>	Calcium oxalate stones 25% jejunum-colon patients
<b>Bone disease</b>	High prevalence but PN not causative Review HPN formula & lifestyle
<b>D-lactic acidosis</b>	Jejunocolic patients More frequent when coexisting renal failure
<b>EFA deficiency</b>	Patients at risk if on lipid-free PN with limited oral intake
<b>Diabetes</b>	Involve DM team early