

Drowsy male

A 64 yr old west Indian male is admitted to your ED after his daughter has noticed he has become increasingly drowsy over the past 48 hrs. He has a 10 yr history of diabetes for which he was taking chlorpropamide. Before the deterioration he had complained of increasing urinary frequency and excessive thirst. He recently saw his GP and was noted to have a BP of 170/100 for which he was prescribed bendrofluazide.

O/E drowsy, apyrexial, answers appropriately. Decreased skin turgor. HR 110 regular, BP 115/60. HS normal, chest clear. Abdo and Neuro exam normal.

Hb 15.0
WCC 13.0
Plt 179

Na⁺ 151
K⁺ 5.0
U 17
Cr 140

Urine Gluc +++
Protein +

What is the diagnosis? (1 marks)

HONK (hyper Osmolar non Ketotic Diabetic coma)

List six investigations for this patient (3 marks)

Plasma osmolality, Blood glucose, Blood cultures, Urine culture, Chest Xray, ECG

List 2 possible precipitants

MI, infection, thiazide diuretics, consumption of sugary drinks

List 4 steps in your management (4 marks)

Rehydration

Insulin infusion 1-3 units/hr

Anticoagulation

Treat underlying cause