



Medical management of EC fistula

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Types of intestinal failure

Type 1

Self-limiting
intestinal failure

Acute post-op ileus

Type 2

Significant &
prolonged PN
support
(>28 days)

GI surgery
complicated by EC
fistulation

Type 3

Chronic IF
(long term PN
support)

Short bowel
syndrome
Motility disorder

Enterocutaneous fistulae

Medical & surgical challenge

Significant health care costs

High mortality



45%

1940's



5-20%

Since 1960's

Sepsis is the main cause of death



What is a high output fistula?

>200ml/day

>500ml/day

>1L/day

>1.5L/day



Mortality & EC fistulae

Poor prognostic factors

Altomare et al,
1990

- ↑ APACHE score
- ↓ albumin

Campos et al,
1999

- High output
- Presence of complications

Maudsley et al,
2008

- High output
- ↑ age

Fistula related mortality

Multivariate analysis for patients managed conservatively

277 patients with ECF: 10.8% fistula related mortality

Variable	Group	OR (95%CI)	P value
Age		1.7 (1.3, 2.4)	0.001
Fistula output	Low	1	0.003
	High (>500ml/day)	4.7 (1.7, 13.3)	



Acute IF management: EC fistula

S Immediate	Fluid balance
	Sepsis
	Wound management
	Pain control
Early	Fluid balance (maintenance)
	Nutrition (refeeding risks)
	Psychosocial, mobility
Late	Anatomy (site of fistula, drainage)
	Planned procedure (not days 10 – 100)

EC fistula: standard or usual care

6 weeks TPN



nil by mouth



Parenteral nutrition





EC fistulae

What do you do at your hospital?

6 weeks TPN (\pm octreotide)

Allow to eat

Allow to drink (\pm IV nutrition)

Allow to eat and drink (\pm IV nutrition)

Other

Somatostatin Receptor Subtypes

Binding affinities

	Receptor subtype				
	<i>SSTR 1</i>	<i>SSTR 2</i>	<i>SSTR 3</i>	<i>SSTR 4</i>	<i>SSTR 5</i>
Somatostatin-14	++	++	++	++	++
Octreotide	—	++	+	—	++

++ , high affinity; + , moderate affinity; — , does not bind

All 5 receptor subtypes are expressed in the GI tract (esp SSTR 3)

Fistula closure

Meta analysis

Study or Subgroup	Somatostatin		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio	
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% CI
Isenmann et al 1994	14	25	3	20	22.4%	3.73	[1.24, 11.21]
Leondros et al 2004	16	19	4	15	25.1%	3.16	[1.33, 7.47]
Spiliotis et al 1990	14	18	20	30	29.7%	1.17	[0.82, 1.66]
Torres et al 1992	17	20	3	20	22.9%	5.67	[1.96, 16.35]
Total (95% CI)		82		85	100.0%	2.79	[1.03, 7.56]

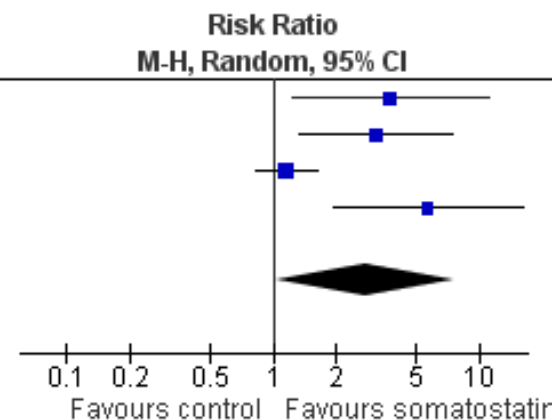
Total events

61

30

Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.84$; $\chi^2 = 19.07$, $df = 3$ ($P = 0.0003$); $I^2 = 84\%$

Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.02$ ($P = 0.04$)



Study or Subgroup	Somatostatin analogue		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio		Year
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	
Scott et al 1993	1	11	3	8	4.6%	0.24	[0.03, 1.92]	1993
Sancho et al 1995	8	14	6	17	7.2%	1.62	[0.74, 3.56]	1995
Hernandez et al 1996	30	40	30	45	37.6%	1.13	[0.86, 1.48]	1996
Leondros et al 2004	11	17	4	15	5.7%	2.43	[0.98, 6.03]	2004
Jamil et al 2004	15	16	14	17	18.1%	1.14	[0.88, 1.47]	2004
Gayral et al 2009	35	54	20	53	26.9%	1.72	[1.15, 2.56]	2009
Total (95% CI)		152		155	100.0%	1.36	[1.12, 1.63]	

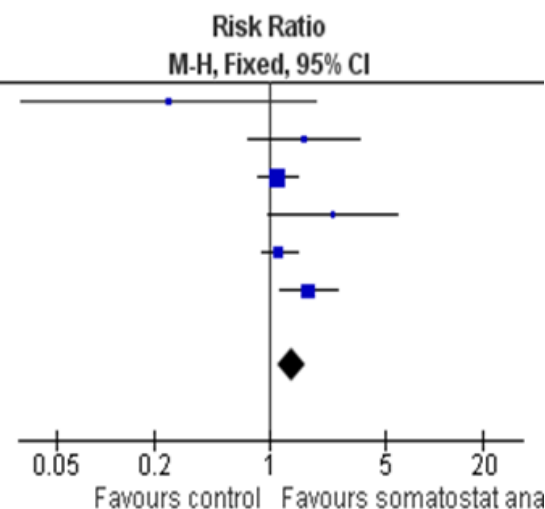
Total events

100

77

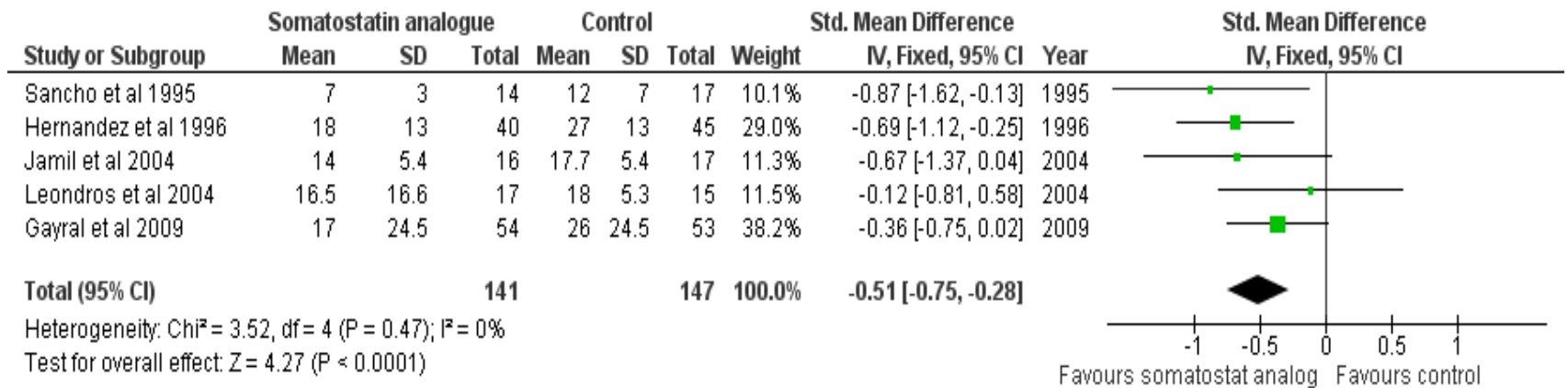
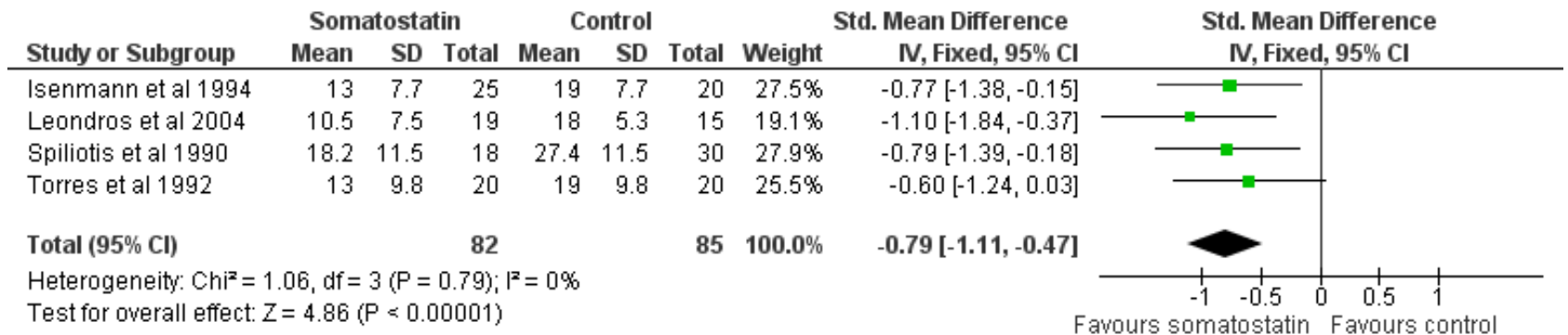
Heterogeneity: $\chi^2 = 9.38$, $df = 5$ ($P = 0.09$); $I^2 = 47\%$

Test for overall effect: $Z = 3.17$ ($P = 0.002$)



Time to fistula closure

Meta analysis

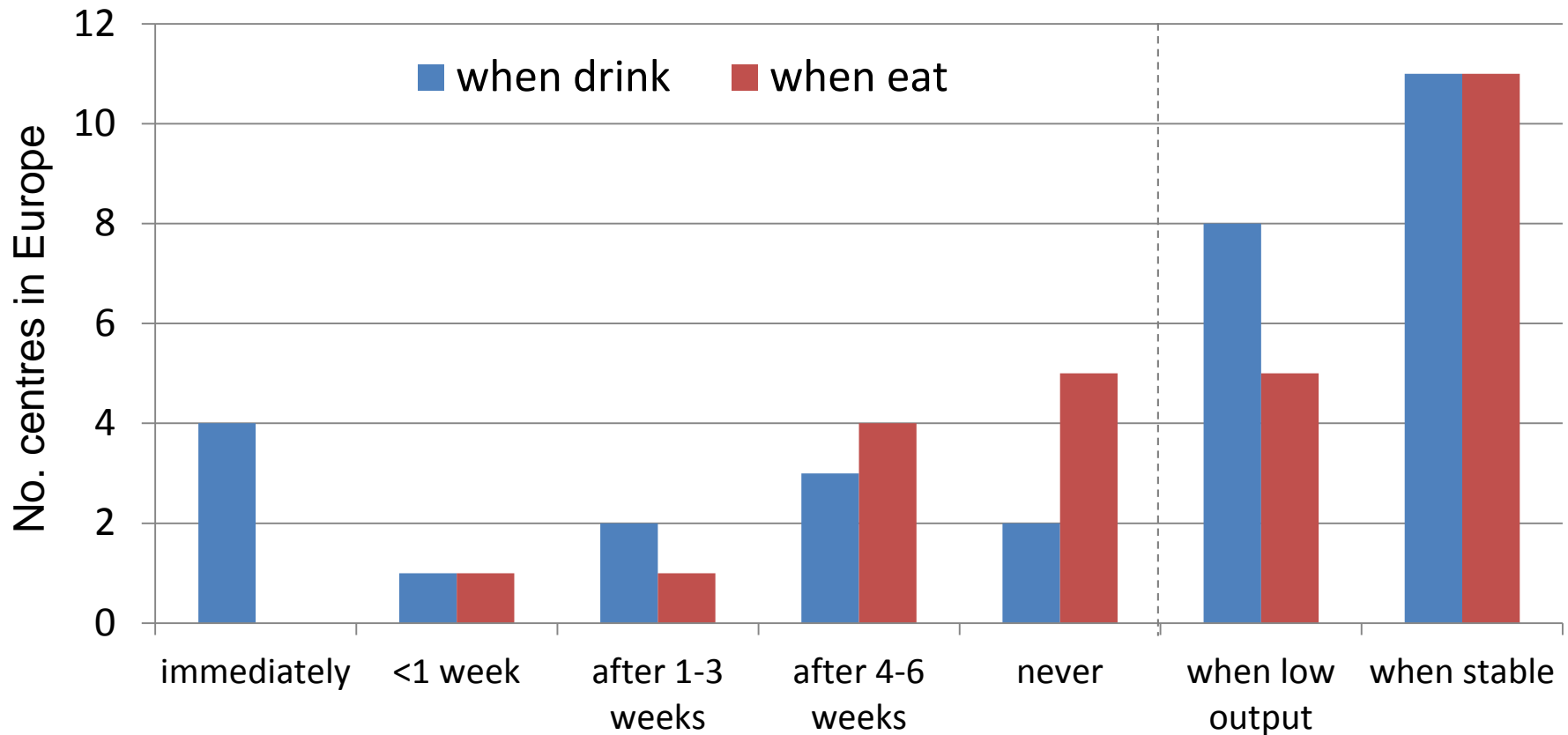


EC fistula management

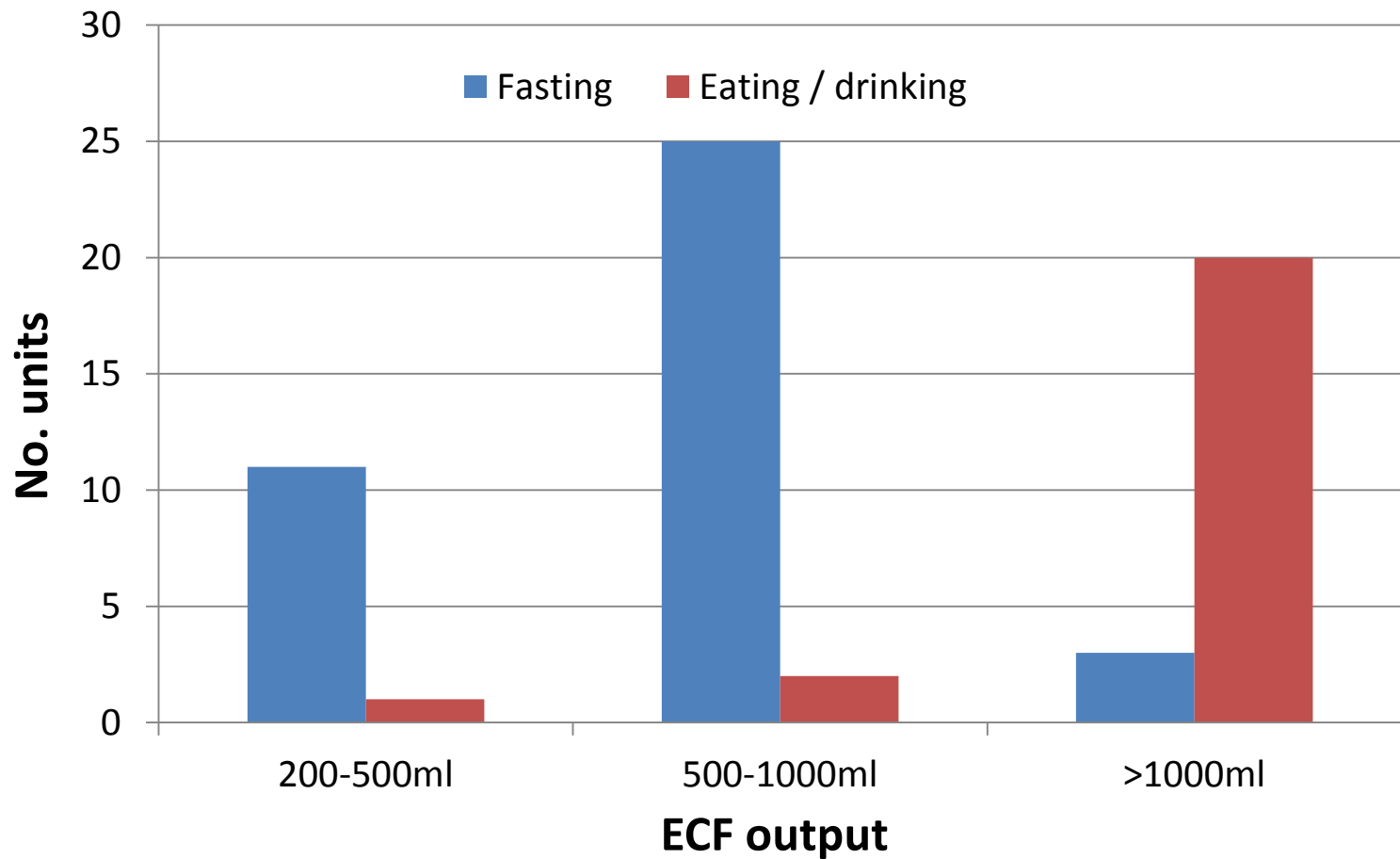
European survey: 41 hospitals in 12 different countries

ECF management	%	Note
Acid suppression	100	
Opiates	82	
Octreotide	78	
Oral rehydration solution	65	
Enteroclysis (ever performed)	74	Av 3 in past year (range 1-7)
Fistuloclysis (ever performed)	54	Av 3 in past year (range 1-7)

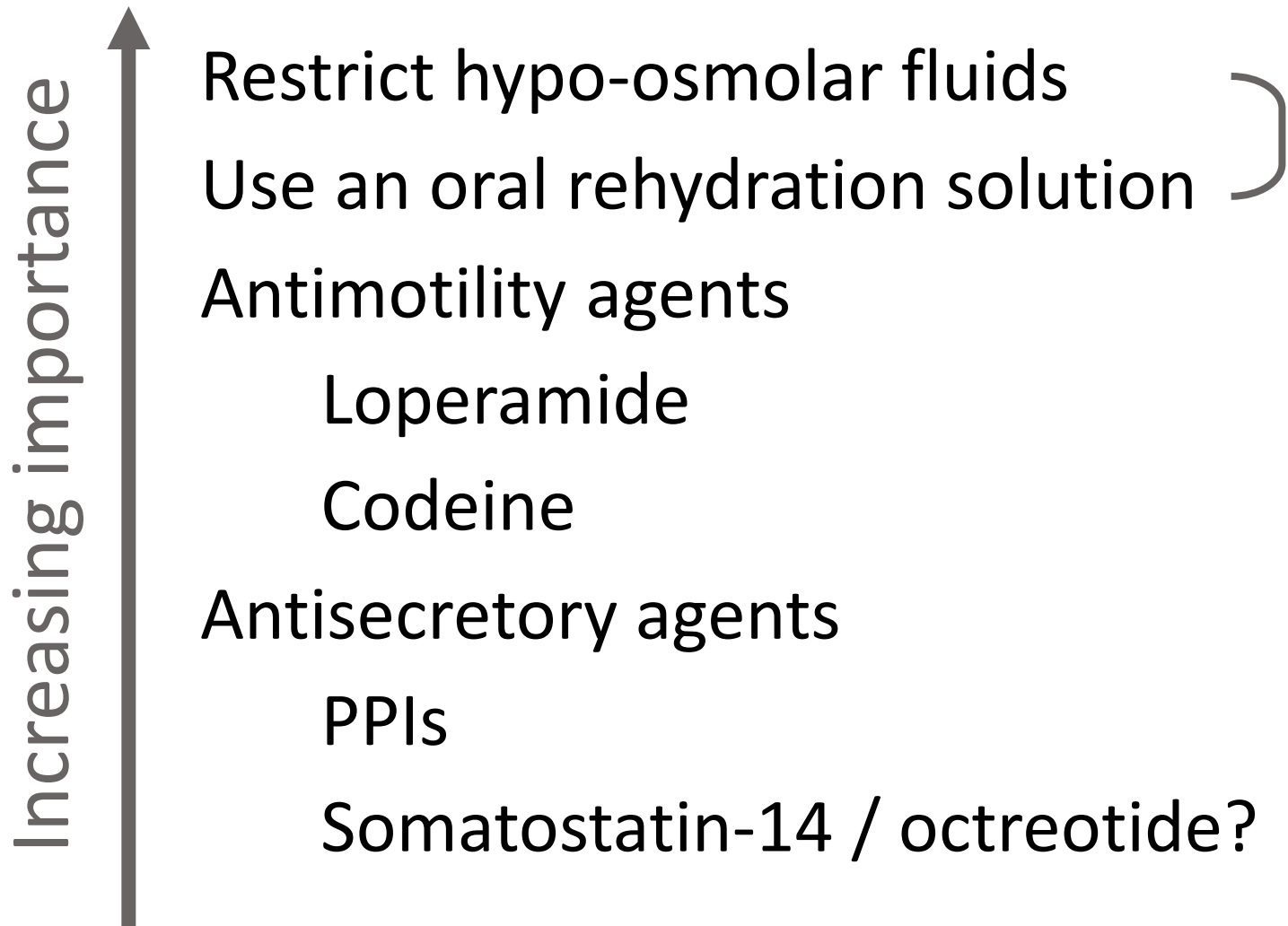
When do you allow a patient with a new ECF to eat & drink?



What is a high output ECF?



Reducing fistula output





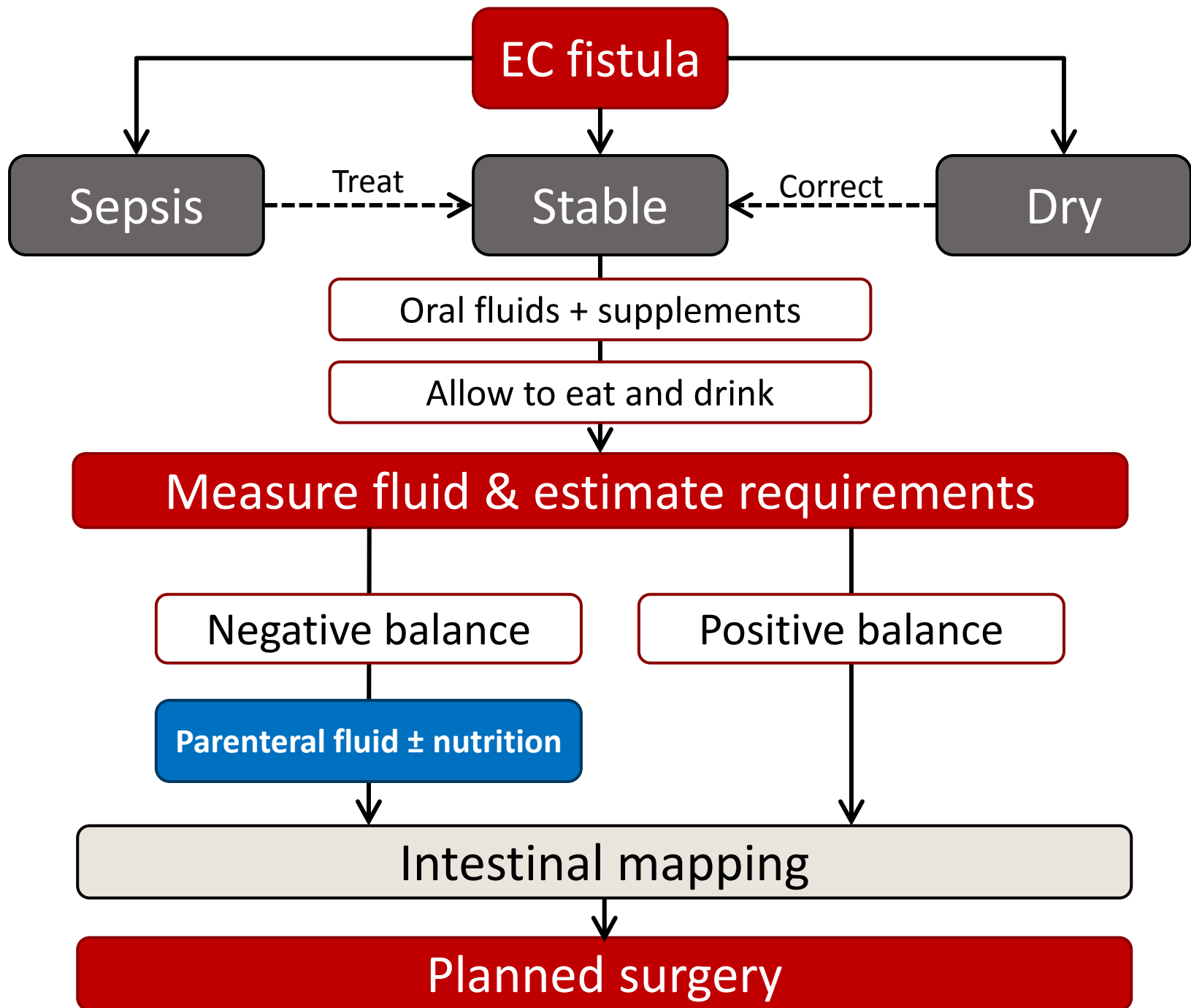
EC fistulae: when to feed

Acute (new) fistula

- If patient septic / toxic
 - Treat the sepsis
 - Drain any collections
 - Correct fluid & electrolyte imbalances
 - Avoid parenteral nutrition in the first 48h*
- Once sepsis controlled
 - PN is reasonable

Established fistula

- 1-2 weeks?
- Can start oral fluids ± nutrition



EC fistula repair: timing of surgery

	Early	3-12 weeks	6-12 months	>12 months
Mortality	30-100%	7-20%	3-9%	0-3%
ECF recurrence	40-60%	17-31%	10-14%	3%

References

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Summary: EC fistula management

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