

# Nutrition in acute pancreatitis (A.P)

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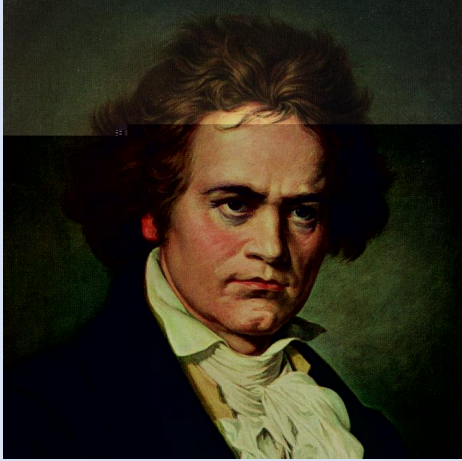
# Aim & Objectives

## Aim

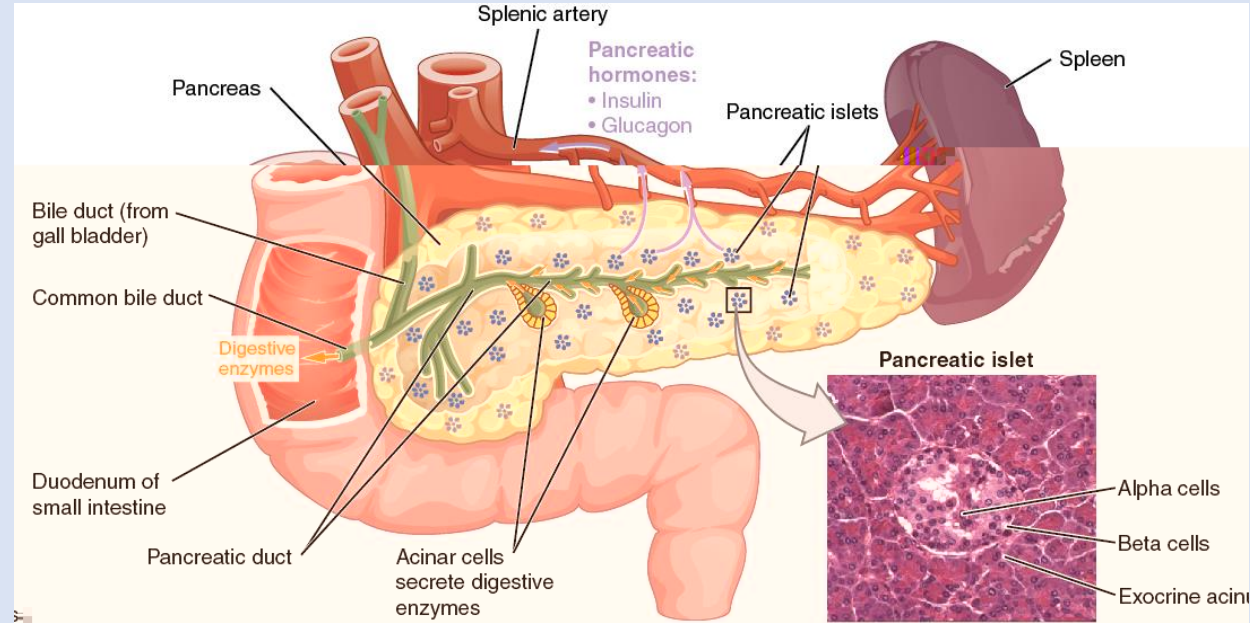
- To update Dietitians on nutritional management of patients with A.P

## Objectives

- To provide an overview of A.P
- To assist Dietitians in recognising how to assess & manage dietary aspects of A.P



# The Pancreas



Bing images

## Endocrine

- Cells arranged in diffusely distributed nests (islets)
- Only about 1% of weight, higher concentration in tail
- Insulin (anabolic hormone)
- Glucagon (induces hyperglycaemia)

## Exocrine

- 95-98% of pancreas per weight
- Acinar, centroacinar, ductal cells
- 2.5L of exocrine fluid per day
- Nutrients in the intestines stimulate exocrine function
- Influenced by caloric content, nutrient composition, physical properties

# Acute pancreatitis (A.P)

*An acute inflammatory process of the pancreas that frequently involves peri-pancreatic tissue and/or remote organ systems*  
(Atlanta, 2012)

## **Requires 2 of 3 features**

1. Abdo pain suggestive of A.P
2. Serum lipase (or amylase) activity
3. Imaging consistent with A.P

**(revised Atlanta classification, 2016)**

## **Severity in AP**

**Mild** – No organ failure or local/systemic complications

**Moderately severe** – Transient organ failure or local systemic complications (resolves within 48hrs)

**Severe** – Persistent organ failure, for more than 48hrs

(revised Atlanta, 2016)

## **Predicting severity**

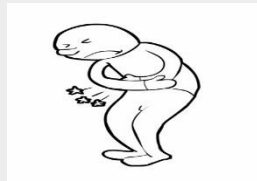
- Imrie Glasgow score
- APACHE II
- CRP
- CT – severity index

## **Sub-types**

# Clinical Aspects

## Presentation

- Abdominal pain - obvious and severe
- Radiates towards back
- Vomiting and diarrhoea
- Shock



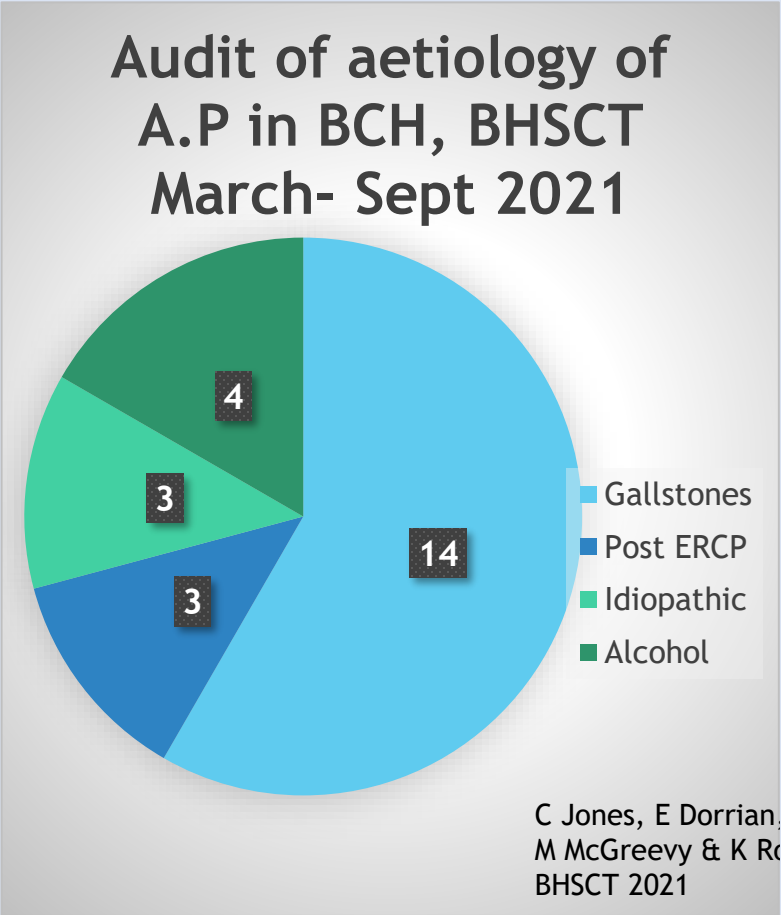
## Aetiology

- Alcohol & gallstones (80%)
- Post ERCP
- Metabolic (Trigs)
- Microlithiasis
- Hereditary causes
- Autoimmune pancreatitis
- Duct obstruction (e.g. tumour)
- Medications
- Anatomical anomalies (NICE, 2018)



## Incidence

- Rising
- N.I – 530 cases/year (NCEPOD, 2016)



# Nutrition in A.P

## Mild A.P

- Low mortality, uncomplicated disease
- Patient usually re-starts diet within days
- **No benefit to feeding**
  - RCT (NG vs NPO), less abdo pain, better food tolerance in NG group (Petrov 2013)
  - Already malnourished patient?

### Controversies in feeding

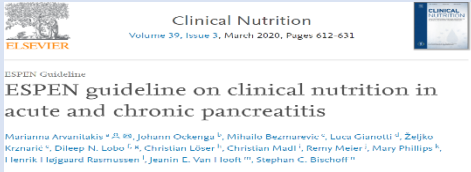
- Timing?
- How to feed?
- Feed types?
- Pancreatic exocrine insufficiency?

## Severe A.P

- High mortality
- Complications, SIRS, increased metabolic demands
- Higher TEE, catabolic, negative nitrogen balance
- **Feeding considered essential**
- Considerations
  - Under-nutrition
  - Alcoholism
  - Obesity

# Guidelines

## ESPEN



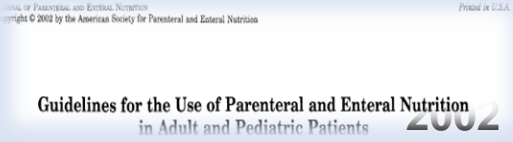
2020

2009

2006

2002

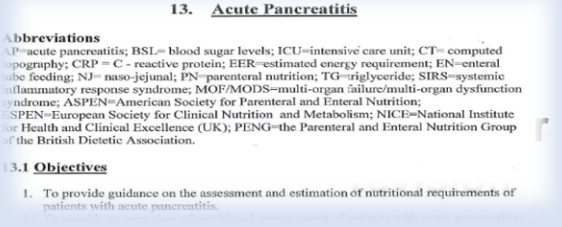
## ASPEN



## BSG



## INDI



## PENG



2018 & 2013

## NICE



2018



**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence



NICE guideline

Published: 5 September 2018 [nice.org.uk/guidance/ng104](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng104)



## Clinical Nutrition

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ESPEN Guideline

# ESPEN guideline on clinical nutrition in acute and chronic pancreatitis

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# Consensus for the management of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency: UK practical guidelines

Mary E Phillips <sup>1</sup>, Andrew D Hopper,<sup>2</sup> John S Leeds <sup>3</sup>, Keith J Roberts <sup>4</sup>,  
Laura McGeeney,<sup>5</sup> Sinead N Duggan,<sup>6</sup> Rajesh Kumar<sup>7</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction** Pancreatic exocrine insufficiency is a finding in many conditions, predominantly affecting those with chronic pancreatitis, pancreatic cancer and acute necrotising pancreatitis. Patients with pancreatic exocrine insufficiency can experience gastrointestinal symptoms, maldigestion, malnutrition and adverse effects on quality of life and even survival.

There is a need for readily accessible, pragmatic advice for healthcare professionals on the management of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency.

**Methods and analysis** A review of the literature was conducted by a multidisciplinary panel of experts in pancreatology, and recommendations for clinical practice were produced and the strength of the evidence graded. Consensus voting by 48 pancreatic specialists from across the UK took place at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Pancreatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland annual scientific meeting.

**Results** Recommendations for clinical practice in the diagnosis, initial management, patient education and long term follow up were developed. All recommendations achieved over 85% consensus and are included within these comprehensive guidelines.

with improved survival and quality of life (QoL) in patients with PEI.<sup>8–10</sup>

PEI may be underdiagnosed and undertreated in the UK, as demonstrated in other European countries.<sup>11</sup> Patient support groups report management of PEI as the most common concern raised on their patient helpline (Pancreatic Cancer UK, 2015), and ‘difficulty in managing GI problems, diet and digestion’ are documented as the primary unmet need in patients with pancreatic cancer (PC).<sup>12</sup> In addition, patients with chronic pancreatitis (CP) feel unsupported by healthcare professionals (HCPs) in the management of PEI (Pancreatitis Supporters Network, 2015). Consequently, there is a need for readily accessible, pragmatic advice for both specialist and non-specialist HCPs. The aim of this article is to provide evidence-based guidance on the diagnosis and management of PEI, including differential diagnosis and follow-up. This article does not make detailed recommendations regarding the management of cystic fibrosis (CF) as this is

# Timing – when to feed?

- Early oral Vs delayed oral?
- Early EN Vs on-demand EN?
- Early EN Vs delayed EN?



# Poll Questions –timing - when to feed?

Q1. When should oral diet be offered for a pt with acute pancreatitis (mild-moderate)?

- A) as soon as clinically tolerated
- B) within 24hours
- C) within 48hours
- D) within 72hours

Q2. When should EN be initiated for pts with moderately severe A.P in case of intolerance to oral intake?

- A) within 24hours
- B) within 48hours
- C) within 72hours
- D) within 1 week

# When to feed?

- Ensure no *nil by mouth* & do not have food withheld unless there is a clear reason (NICE, 2018)
- Offer EN to anyone with severe or moderately severe A.P (& not tolerating oral) - Start within 72 hours of presentation & aim to meet nutritional requirements A.S.A.P (NICE, 2018, ESPEN 2020, Rec B 24-72 hours)
- Other considerations: lay members & Committee (NICE, 2018)

# How to feed -which route?

**PN:** quick, easy to start, well-tolerated, expensive

**EN:** safe, cheaper, likely better health outcomes

## **EN**

- Safest first line
- Lower mortality
- Reduced pancreatic & systemic infections
- Lower hospital LOS
- Less severe adverse incident
- Less Sx interventions required

## **PN**

- Where EN not possible or tolerated, central route
- Do not give lipid-containing PN if Trigs >12 mmol/L (ESPEN, 2009)

## **NICE 2018**

- EN should be offered to anyone with moderate / severe A.P
- Offer PN only if EN has failed or is contra-indicated

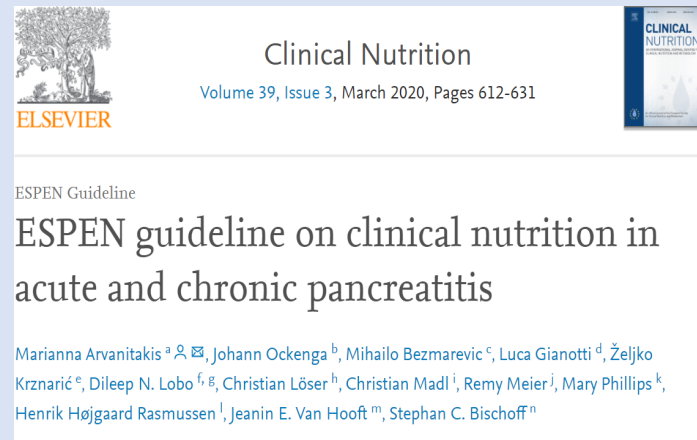
## **ESPEN 2020**

- With A.P pts & inability to feed orally EN shall be preferred to PN (Rec A)
- PN should be administered when EN not tolerated / unable to tolerate targeted nutritional requirements (GPP)

# Immuno-nutrition

## Glutamine

- 0.2g/kg/day glutamine added to PN is indicated (GRADE B evidence), otherwise no role
- Meta-analyses of RCTs show reduced mortality rate in moderate pancreatitis, reduced complications and shorter length of stay. No data comparing optimal dose.
- No recommendations for enteral glutamine



# Poll Question – which route to feed?

Q3. A 50 year old male is day 3 with moderately severe A.P. He has ongoing abdominal pain and nausea & is not meeting nutritional requirements orally (diet & ONS). What route of EN would you suggest?

- A) NG (nasogastric)
- B) NJ (nasojejunal)
- C) Either



# Which EN route – NG / NJ?

## EN route

- Majority of studies low or very low quality, imprecision & bias
- Jejunal feeding shown to be safe & NOT less effective than PN
- NO evidence to support belief that NG feeding is inappropriate
- Evidence debates benefits & harms, outcomes, quality of the evidence

## NICE 2018

- Not specified
- Clinical judgement & case-by-case basis

## ESPEN 2020 (Rec B)

- NG first
- NJ in case of digestive intolerance



Bing images

# Type of feeds

- Standard polymeric feed (ESPEN 2020, Rec A)
- EN should be peptide & MCT based (Phillips *et al.* 2021)
- Both polymeric & semi-elemental formulas feasible, safe & well tolerated: small RCT, Tiengou *et al.* 2006 VS meta-analysis studies that show no difference between formulas but in severe AP with malabsorption, semi-elemental may be of interest.
- Lower feed rates over long periods may decrease the risk of overwhelming digestive capacity

	Kcal / 1000mls, Protein(g) /1000ml	Protein source	Fat Source	Osmolality Mosm/kg
			% MCT	
Peptamen (Nestle, UK)	1000 kcal 40g	Peptide	70.3%	265
Peptamen HN (Nestle, UK)	1330 kcal 66g	Peptide	69.4%	430
Vital 1.5 (Abbott, UK)	1501 kcal 67.5g	Peptide	63.6%	630
Perative (Abbott, UK)	1309kcal 67g	Peptide	37%	385
Survimed OPD (Fresenius, UK)	1000 kcal 45g	Peptide	51.4%	350
Survimed OPD HN (Fresenius, UK)	1330 kcal 67g	Peptide	51.9%	460
Nutrison Peptisorb (Nutricia, UK)	1000 kcal 40g	Peptide	47%	535
Nutrison MCT (Nutricia, UK)	1000 kcal 50g	Peptide	60.6%	315
Emsogen (Nutricia, UK)	880 kcal 25g	Amino acid	83%	Depends on dilution used
Elemental 028 Extra Liquid (Nutricia, UK)	860 kcal 25g	Amino acid	35%	725

Table adapted from Phillips, 2012

# Pancreatic Exocrine Insufficiency (PEI)

- Definition: a reduction of pancreatic exocrine activity in the intestine at a level that prevents normal digestion (Hoffmeister *et al.* 2015; Toouli *et al.* 2010)
- ~ 30 enzymes produced by pancreas, focus on 3
  - Amylase - CHO
  - Protease (trypsin) - protein
  - Lipase - fat
- Degree of PEI correlates with disease severity (Dumsay *et al.* 2004)

# Signs and symptoms of PEI

Steatorrhoea (pale, floating, oily stool)

Loose, watery stool

Undigested food in stools

Post-prandial abdominal pain

Nausea / colicky abdominal pain

Gastro-oesophageal reflux

Bloating / food intolerance

Malnutrition

Weight loss

Vitamin deficiencies (especially A, D, E, K)

Hypoglycaemia in diabetes

} **Late  
symptoms**

PENG, British Dietetic Association, A Pocket Guide to Clinical Nutrition (2018), 5th Edition. Table 19.7 Chapter authors (Pancreatic disease in adults): Philips, M; Freeman, K; McGeeney, L; Griffin, O; Dann, S.

# Use of PERT in A.P

- Should not be supplemented generally EXCEPT if obvious PEI (ESPEN, 2020)
- Likely high benefit in severe necrotising pancreatitis (Phillips *et al.* 2021)
- Peptide feeds require less PERT to achieve complete lipolysis (Phillips *et al.* 2021) but may not remove the need for PERT
  
- In BHSCT if pt unable to take PERT orally & has enteral feeding tube – tend to recommend powder form of PERT, 2hourly with feed
- If in doubt / need advice contact specialist RD

# Other issues

## Re-introducing diet

### Following mild AP

- Once pain controlled, as soon as clinically tolerated, allow to start eating (ESPEN Rec A)
- Low fat, soft diet (ESPEN Rec A)
- Revert to oral fluids if pain worsens on eating

### Following severe AP

- Insufficient evidence re: optimal timing / type of diet
- Start with small amounts CHO/protein-rich foods.
- Careful reintroduction of fat x3-6 days.
- Restart 'normal' diet.
- PERT may be required for some.
- Counsel re: alcohol avoidance.

# Other Issues

- **Probiotics**

Unsafe and are *not* recommended in severe AP due to risk of gut ischaemia and higher mortality (ESPEN, 2020)

- **Nutritional Screening**

ALL patients with A.P should be screened (ESPEN, 2020 Grade B; NCEPOD, 2016)

Those with predicted severe A.P should always be considered at nutritional risk (ESPEN, 2020, Grade B;



# Post D/C

- 20-50% develop new onset DM
- >40% ongoing abdominal symptoms
- 3-13% incidence of chronic pancreatitis
- “post traumatic stress” effects of prolonged ITU stay

# Case-study

- 53yr old, male, T/F from other hospital

**Diagnosis:** necrotising acute pancreatitis, developed pancreatic pseudo-cyst, for drainage in MIH.

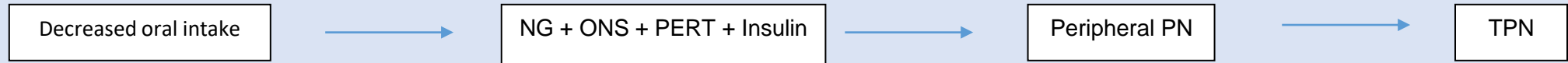
**PMHx:** autism, DM secondary to pancreatitis

**SHx:** lives with Mum, non-smoker, no alcohol

**DHx:** risperidone

**Usual wt:** 90kg, BMI 29.4kg/m<sup>2</sup>

# Case-study 1



# Take home messages

- Complex, many prolonged stays
- Roller-coaster / close monitoring with changing nutritional needs
- Aggressive nutritional support needed
- Polymeric / Semi-elemental feed
- Monitor need for PERT
- High risk of DM
- Contact specialist RD for advice if needed

*Thank-you for listening!*

