



Diabetes

An 86 yr old male from a low-level care facility is sent to the ED with drowsiness. He has a history of mild dementia and diabetes (type II, on insulin and oral hypoglycaemics).

The nurse who assesses the patient at triage notes him to be drowsy, a “bit dry”, but otherwise haemodynamically ok. She performs a VBG (see below) and shows it to you.

pH	7.28
pCO ₂	56
pO ₂	23
HCO ₃	25
BE	-1
Na	165
K	7.5
Cl	123
Creatinine	150
Lactate	2.5
Glucose	36

1. Describe the main abnormalities
2. What is your diagnosis?
3. Describe your assessment and management
4. How may your management differ from a patient presenting with DKA?

The patient now has a GCS of 11 post fluid resuscitation.

5. What are the potential complications and how would you treat them?