Module 5 Overview: Severe Dehydration

Learning objectives

- Identify causes of severe dehydration.
- Understand the importance of recognizing children with severe acute malnutrition.
- Recognize children with severe acute malnutrition.
- Recognize clinical signs of severe dehydration.
- Determine the amount and type of intravenous fluids required to treat for well-nourished children with severe dehydration.
- Determine the amount of ORS required for well-nourished children with severe dehydration.
- Determine the amount, type, and preferred route of fluid therapy for children with severe malnutrition and severe dehydration.
- Demonstrate how to accurately calculate drip rates.

Participants

- Healthcare providers in any facility who are likely to manage sick patients, including physicians, nurses, and assistants.
- Teachers and trainers for healthcare professionals

Teaching tools

- Lecture: The purpose of the lecture in this module is to emphasize the importance of identifying children with severe acute malnutrition and for participants to understand the principles for managing well-nourished and malnourished children who are severely dehydrated (including how to use plan C). The facilitator should not emphasize calculation of drip rates during the lecture. Participants will be given job aids to use during the skills station and case scenarios.
- Lecture: During this didactic session, the facilitator will review plan C and calculation of drip rates (drill from ETAT facilitator manual, p. 37)
- Skills station: There are instructions for facilitators that describe general principles for teaching a skills station as well as each procedure that the participants should learn and demonstrate. Participants will learn how to place an NG tube and to calculate fluid rates for oral rehydration.
- Case scenarios: Scripted case scenarios review the evaluation and management of severe dehydration for children with and without severe malnutrition.

Equipment (see facilitator manual, p 62)

- Skills station
  1. Manikin for demonstration and practice of nasogastric tube placement
  2. Nasogastric tubes, syringes, lubricant
  3. Job aids for IV and oral fluid calculation
- Case scenarios: manikin and assorted equipment as available for role playing

Assessment questions: Pre and post test questions and answers to be used with Module 5 when course is given in a modular fashion are included in the course material. There are also homework questions on
pages 49-51 of the ETAT participant manual. The answers to the questions are on pages 76-77 of the ETAT facilitator manual.