

Causes

↓ H^+ , ↑ HCO_3^- or both

- Hypokalemia
- Hypochloremia
- Hypocalcemia
- Excessive acid loss from GI
- Diuretic therapy
- Cushing's disease
- Continuous NG suctioning
- Renal disease

METABOLIC ALKALOSIS

pH > 7.45
 HCO_3^- > 26

Caused by a ↓ in H^+ production

S/S

- Slow, shallow respirations
- EKG changes (similar to hypokalemic & hypocalcemic)
- Neuro
 - Twitching
 - Weakness
 - Tetany
 - Apathy, confusion
 - Seizures, Stupor, Coma
- GI
 - Anorexia
 - N, V
- Polyuria
- Arrhythmias
- Death

Associated Drugs

- Antacids
- Corticosteroids
- Thiazide & Loop Diuretics

Labs/Diagnostics

- pH > 7.45
- HCO_3^- > 26
- PCO_2 > 45 (if compensating)
- ↓ Serum K^+ , Ca^{++} , Cl^-
- EKG changes (low T wave that merges with P wave)

Tx

- IV ammonium chloride
- D/C Thiazide diuretics & NG suctioning
- Antiemetic
- Diamox

Created by Natalie Shelton 02.11.11

Not instructor approved – for personal study purposes only.