

Children's Maintenance Fluids

Nursing

The three-band per-kilogram method for a routine maintenance rate.

Work maintenance out in three weight bands, add them, then have the total independently checked.

4 mL/kg first 10 · 2 mL/kg next 10 · 1 mL/kg after

8 kg child

8×4

32 mL/h

16 kg child

$40 + (6 \times 2)$

52 mL/h

30 kg child

$40 + 20 + 10$

70 mL/h

THE COMMON MISTAKE

✗ **Applying maintenance to a dehydrated child.**

✓ **Treating deficit and losses separately.**

Maintenance replaces only ongoing normal requirement. Deficit, continuing losses and resuscitation volumes are calculated and prescribed separately.

Educational reference. Hypothetical figures for method only. Illness alters requirement; paediatric fluids are prescribed and checked.