

**TABLE 4.****Question:** Should half-strength Darrows/5% dextrose versus Ringer's lactate be used in children with severe acute malnutrition and shock?**Settings:** Hospital

Number of studies	Quality assessment						Number (%) of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Half-strength Darrows/5% dextrose	Ringer's lactate	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute		
Mortality until the end of hospitalization												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a</sup>	No serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	no serious indirectness	Serious <sup>c</sup>	None	15/26 (57.7)	13/29 (44.8)	RR 1.29 (0.76 to 2.17)	130 more per 1000 (from 108 fewer to 524 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Shock unresolved at 8 h												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a,d</sup>	no serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	No serious indirectness	Serious <sup>c</sup>	None	15/22 (68.2)	14/25 (56)	RR 1.22 (0.78 to 1.91)	123 more per 1000 (from 123 fewer to 510 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Shock unresolved at 24 h												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a,d</sup>	No serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	No serious indirectness	Serious <sup>c</sup>	None	14/18 (77.8)	14/25 (56)	RR 1.39 (0.91 to 2.13)	218 more per 1000 (from 50 fewer to 633 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Oliguria at 8 h												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a,d</sup>	No serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	No serious indirectness	Very serious <sup>e</sup>	None	9/22 (40.9)	3/25 (12)	RR 3.41 (1.05 to 11.03)	289 more per 1000 (from 6 more to 1000 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Oliguria at 24 h												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a,d</sup>	No serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	No serious indirectness	Serious <sup>c</sup>	None	8/18 (44.4)	6/25 (24)	RR 1.85 (0.78 to 4.41)	204 more per 1000 (from 53 fewer to 818 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL

**TABLE 4. Continued**

Tachycardia at 8 h												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a,d</sup>	No serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	No serious indirectness	Very serious <sup>e</sup>	None	7/22 (31.8)	2/25 (8)	RR 3.98 (0.92 to 17.18)	238 more per 1000 (from 6 fewer to 1000 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Tachycardia at 24 h												
1	Randomized trials	Very serious <sup>a,d</sup>	No serious inconsistency <sup>b</sup>	No serious indirectness	Very serious <sup>e</sup>	None	8/14 (57.1)	4/25 (16)	RR 3.57 (1.31 to 9.77)	411 more per 1000 (from 50 more to 1000 more)	+ VERY LOW	CRITICAL

CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio.

<sup>a</sup> Several limitations: non-blinded, small sample size (61 children), assessment restricted to the hospitalization period without further follow-up. One study arm was dropped.

<sup>b</sup> Only one study.

<sup>c</sup> Wide confidence intervals.

<sup>d</sup> Outcomes only presented for survivors and not for all those randomized.

<sup>e</sup> Very wide confidence intervals.