ICU GUIDELINE: PARENTERAL NUTRITION (PN)

PN to be delivered <10 days and patient well-nourished?

Yes

1) Provide hypocaloric PN*.  
2) Withhold IV lipids*.

No

1) Provide required energy level.  
2) Provide IV lipids.

All strategies to maximize EN implemented? (e.g. protocol outlining acceptable gastric residual volume of 250 ml; prokinetic(s)* provided; small bowel feeding tube placed).

Yes

1) Provide low dose EN*.  
2) Provide IV glutamine*. If IV N/A consider enteral glutamine (0.25 gm/kg/day - 0.5 gm/kg/day mixed in 50 ml saline; delivered in divided doses).

No

1) Implement strategies as noted above.  
2) Increase EN to goal rate as tolerated.

♦ In critically ill patients hyperglycemia should be avoided (blood sugar > 10 mmol/L). Target blood glucose 8.0 mmol/L (7.0 – 9.0 mmol/L)

* Unless contraindicated  
♦ Evidence-based recommendation; all other information opinion-based.

Formatted by: J. Greenwood, RD. for CCN. Update 7/4/2010